

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Randolph Partnership for Children Celebrates Successful Gala for the Children Fundraiser, Raising Over \$72,000

ASHEBORO, N.C. (May 4, 2023) — The Randolph Partnership for Children is proud to announce the tremendous success of its Gala for the Children fundraiser held on April 29th at the Historic Lucks Cannery in Seagrove. This magical evening, featuring beloved children's book character Pete the Cat, raised an impressive \$72,545 to support the Partnership's early literacy and comprehensive early childhood mission efforts throughout the county. The presenting sponsor was Acme-McCrary & Sapona Foundation.

The event was expertly chaired by philanthropists Dr. Jonathan and Katherine Thill, who brought their passion for children's well-being and a keen eye for detail to create an unforgettable evening for over 230 attendees. Guests were treated to mouth-watering bar-b-que provided by Black Powder Smokehouse, a fabulous popcorn bar provided by Asheboro Popcorn Co., and sampled various entries from the Partnership's first Most Creative Dessert in Randolph County contest. Visit the Partnership's Facebook page to check out the dessert entries and cast your vote, simply by liking the post!



Jonathan Thill shares the importance of early literacy before the guests of the Gala for the Children. Photo Credit: Joshua Pugh

Student artists transformed the event hall into a site fitting for the imaginative! Pete the Cat served as a most inspiring muse for students at Uwharrie Charter Academy, student painters at The Preppy Possum, and our local child care programs who drew, painted, and created a visual feast.

The evening's entertainment was a hit, with Tyler Millard Music performing live and filling the venue with a lively atmosphere that had guests dancing and singing along. Four Saints Brewery, the generous Beer Sponsor, ensured that guests enjoyed a variety of their finest brews, while The General Wine and Brew supplied a selection of exquisite wines as the Wine Sponsor.

Businesses and individuals throughout the county and beyond donated more than 115 items and experiences for the Gala's live and silent auctions. Volunteers, under the leadership of Auction Chair Stephanie Moore, crisscrossed the county for a number of weeks, procuring generous donations.



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The highlight of the evening was the Fund-A-Need event where Jonathan donned a blonde wig and convinced the audience to donate enough for 349 children to receive Dolly Parton Imagination Library books for a year, a total of 4,188 books! The total \$72,545 raised throughout the evening will enable the Randolph Partnership for Children to continue providing essential services, resources, and advocacy to improve the health, education, and overall well-being of children in the community.

The Randolph Partnership for Children would like to extend its deepest gratitude to Jonathan and Katherine Thill, Black Powder Smokehouse, Asheboro Popcorn Co., Tyler Millard Music, Four Saints Brewery, The General Wine & Brew, and all the volunteers and attendees for making the Gala for the Children a resounding success.

[CUT LINE: Jonathan Thill shares the importance of early literacy before the guests of the Gala for the Children. Photo Credit: Joshua Pugh]

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About the Randolph Partnership for Children: Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has positively impacted the lives of Randolph County's young children. As the community's lead organization for young children and their families, RPC works with and through diverse agencies, individuals, organizations, and communities to ensure all children enter school healthy and ready to succeed in school and life. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit www.randolphkids.org.

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