



PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Randolph Partnership for Children and Randolph-Asheboro YMCA partner to honor Hoovers

Once Upon A Book Nook dedicated during annual fundraiser virtual event

ASHEBORO, N.C. (September 9, 2020) — Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC) Executive Director Lisa Hayworth announced during the agency’s live-stream broadcast of its virtual Gala for the Children event the unveiling of the Once Upon a Book Nook at the Randolph-Asheboro YMCA, celebrating Ann Hoover and her late husband Bill for their dedication to early literacy in Randolph County.

The announcement was followed by a pre-recorded unveiling of the literacy rich corner in the nursery at the YMCA. Hayworth and YMCA Director Patrick O’Hara were featured in the clip.

“Ann and Bill have done so much for this YMCA and we’re so proud to be able to have this (reading) area,” O’Hara said in the video. “They are definitely champions of early literacy in Randolph County.”

Ann and Bill Hoover helped the Partnership establish itself as the administrator for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library more than a decade ago and have supported it both financially and with their time ever since. In the wake of Bill’s untimely passing early in 2020, Ann has continued to support the work of the Partnership, the YMCA, and other organizations in our community.

“I have always loved the way the Hoovers inspire others to join them in championing young children’s discovery of reading as one of life’s greatest blessings and fundamental building blocks of personal growth,” Hayworth said. “Many of our organization’s early literacy donors made their first gift because of Ann and Bill’s call to step up in support of the young children of Randolph County.”

The Once Upon A Book Nook was made possible by the Partnership and the patrons of the 2020 Gala for the Children in coordination with the YMCA. It is part of the nursery to be enjoyed by children birth to 5 who visit the YMCA. Books will be replenished as needed through donations made to the Partnership. Information about Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library and other early literacy programs in Randolph County are available to parents using nursery services.

[CUTLINE photo 1: The plaque for the Once Upon A Book nook at Randolph-Asheboro YMCA]

[CUTLINE photo 2: Lisa Hayworth, left, and Patrick O’Hara unveil Once Upon A Book Nook]

[CUTLINE photo 3: Bill and Ann Hoover at the 2018 Gala for the Children event]

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About the Randolph Partnership for Children: Since 1999, the Randolph Partnership for Children (RPC), a non-profit organization, has been the community's lead organization for young children and their families. RPC brings together diverse agencies, individuals, organizations and communities to ensure all children enter school ready to succeed. RPC is a United Way agency. For more information, visit www.randolphkids.org.

About the Randolph-Asheboro YMCA: Driven by its founding mission, the Y has served as a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening our community. The Y empowers everyone, no matter who they are or where they're from, by ensuring access to resources, relationship and opportunities for all to learn, grow and thrive. By bringing together people from different backgrounds, perspectives and generations, the Y's goal is to improve overall health and well-being, ignite youth empowerment and demonstrate the importance of connections in and across our community.

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