

Partnership for Childrens Says, "Let's Talk"

In a release from Kim Wilson at the Anson County Partnership for Children: At Wadesboro's People Fest festival 120 families participated in surveys entitled "How Well Do You Know Your Children?" and "How Well Do You Know Your Parents?" between parents/grandparents and youth. Participants were entered in a drawing to win a gift card valued at \$50, and the winners were Ms. Hattie Little and Ms. Georgia Medley.

The surveys were distributed by the Anson County Partnership for Children to celebrate October as "National Let's Talk Month" on Saturday, October 8th. In addition to the survey, parents/grandparents were given timely information about effective communication with their children/grandchildren. This information was disseminated through APPCNC (Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign of North Carolina) and adapted with permission from the Family Health Council, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA:

We know it's easy to say, "Kids are just different today!" However, parents still matter! Good research tells us that parents still have the most important voice when it comes to young people's views about sex - more than friends or the media. Eight out of ten teens say it would be easier to avoid sex if they could have more open communications with their parents about sex. Education and information help young people take personal responsibility for important life decisions - parent/child communications will always be one of the most important parts of helping young people become solid, healthy adults.

Drawing winners had the following comments about the experience: Ms. Medley said that she knew certain things about her grandson, but was surprised to find out that he liked the sport of boxing. She stated, "We have a good relationship." Ms. Little credited her faith for the relationship she has with her children and grandchildren. She commented, "I go to church and pray. God guides me to have that good relationship with my children and grandchildren."

The communication and conversations can be inter-generational. The trick is just to keep the lines of communication open. To date the Partnership has collaborations with Anson County Schools to address House Bill 88 to enact the Healthy Youth Act in our schools, and with the local grassroots organization HOLLA! (Helping Our Loved Ones Learn and Achieve). Holla hosts the Teen Outreach Program (TOP) youth development sessions at the Mary E. Little Center in Morven. These organizations recognize that a child's parent is his/her first and most important teacher. Communicating with children daily is one of the many hats parents wear as they parent in today's world. Fortunately parents in Anson County are not alone in these communication efforts with young people. The Anson County Partnership for Children, Anson County Schools, Holla, churches and community organizations all offer support and resources to help parents be ready when his / her child says, "Let's talk."

Civic Builders Club of Lilesville Fundraisers

In a release from Susan Poe: The Civic Builders Club of Lilesville is in the process of doing fundraisers. On Thursday evening October 20th, join us from 5 to 8 p.m. for supper. Sonic will donate 20% of sales to the club. On Monday October 24th, from 5 to 8 p.m., join us at Kentucky Fried Chicken and KFC will donate 10% of sales to the club.

The Civic Builders Club of Lilesville has been organized for more than 30 years. They have been a very strong non-profit organization, helping with Special Olympics, purchasing library books for Lilesville Elementary School, as well as supporting Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

The Civic Builders Club of Lilesville meets the first Thursday of each month. We would love to have you come out at 7 p.m. and join us with our Pot-Luck supper and business meeting. President Juanita Williams hopes you will join us on Thursday evening November 3rd. We are located on Highway 74 directly across from Apple Orchard Road.

Legislative Update

From Rep. Frank McGuirt: The work of our interim committees has begun and I am preparing to return to Raleigh for a session scheduled to begin on November 7th. In the meantime I have been in the district hearing from you and your neighbors. I have had the pleasure of meeting with groups in Marshville and Wadesboro and dealing with a number of citizen concerns.

Speaker Tillis has appointed me to the House Select Committee on Agricultural Regulations and also to a commission to study the current laws governing mentally ill persons standing trial in criminal cases. As a former sheriff I have long been concerned with the plight of the mentally ill in regards to adequate treatment and with accountability when charged with a crime. The Select Committee on Agricultural Regulations will be studying the appropriateness of rules and regulations governing our farmers and agribusinesses as well as accessing insurance products available to agriculture and issues involving contract growers in our state. Being aware of the importance of agriculture to our District 69 I am very concerned with matters related there.

While most of us long term residents of Anson and Union Counties are aware of the importance of agriculture here many of our newer residents are not. Agriculture is responsible for 22% of the jobs in Anson County and 15% of those in Union. There are 1107 bona fide farms in Union and 487 in Anson. Last year agriculture cash receipts totaled \$112,421,000 in Anson County and \$423,037,580 in Union. Ag is of utmost importance in our communities today, it's our history and in our culture and I am thankful for what it means to our economy as well as our health and our environment. Farming was the original "green" industry.

There are a number of potential topics that could be considered during the November session, including redistricting and local bills. We may also consider a relief package for the tens of thousands of people who suffered damage or injury as a result of Hurricane Irene in August. The state has been very engaged in providing relief to the people in the 38 counties that have been declared federal disasters areas. To date, the total estimated cost of recovery is \$139 million. The state's share of that is \$29.6 million. The state is also preparing an aid package that it will present to federal legislators next week.

Here are a few more Hurricane Irene facts: 210,000 tons of debris has been cleared from public roadsides; Removal of debris from some private roads is ongoing; 52 temporary housing units are occupied in Beaufort and Pamlico counties and 73 more have been approved for placement; 157 families are in transitional shelter. The program has been extended until Oct. 29 because of the limited availability of affordable rental housing in Beaufort, Dare, Halifax, Hyde, Pamlico and Tyrrell counties; Seven of the 27 disaster recovery centers opened to assist those who suffered losses in the storm remain open; 32,176 people have registered with FEMA for state and federal assistance; 15,928 visits to Disaster Recovery Centers; 23,946 damaged homes have been inspected and paperwork sent to FEMA; 363 homes awaiting inspection; \$25.4 million approved in federal disaster grants to homeowners and renters; and \$23.5 million in Small Business Administration loans.

Thank you for your interest in state government. Please let me know if I can be of service to you in any way. My email address is Frank.McGuirt@ncleg.net and my office phone number is 919-715-3007.

Thank You

To all the friends and family of my Mom, Wanita Barbour, I would like to Thank All of You for being so supportive and thoughtful through this time of loss for my daughter Danielle and me (Eric).

I would like to give a special thanks to Preacher Randy and his wife and all of the church members who were a very big part of Mom's life. I know she loved all of you.

Thanks so much!
Eric and Danielle Barbour

Bowman Class of 1982 Meeting

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1982 will have a class reunion meeting on Saturday, October 29 at 3 p.m. at the Lady Bug Restaurant in Wadesboro. All class members are asked to attend and help in preparations for the 30th reunion.

For information call Carolyn Tillman at 704-851-3091.

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