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Relay For Life of Anson County Kickoff is Thursday, January 26

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Anson will host a community kickoff on Thursday, January 26 at 5:30 p.m. on the Wadesboro Town Square. Everyone is invited to join the festivities and learn about how to help the American Cancer Society save more lives from cancer.

The event will celebrate and honor local cancer survivors, patients and caregivers, and showcase how funds raised benefit the local community. Rocky River Baptist Church Children's Choir will perform. Guests will have the opportunity to register a team for the Relay For Life event, which will be held on Friday, May 19 at Anson High School.

The Relay For Life movement is the world's largest fundraising event to save lives from cancer. Uniting communities across the globe, we celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for lifesaving change. During Relay For Life events, members of each team take turns walking or running around the track or path. Teams participate in fundraising in the months leading up to the event.

"This is our community's opportunity to help save lives from cancer by taking action to move us closer to a world free from the pain and suffering of cancer," said Amy Turner, member of the local planning committee. "Funds raised from our event helps the American Cancer Society provide free information and support for people facing cancer, and funds cancer research that will help protect future generations."

Visit RelayForLife.org/ansonnc to learn more about the event, or contact Cameron Whitley at 704-552-6147 or Cameron.whitley@cancer.org.



Bowman High School Junior Marshalls for 1981

Pictured above are the 1981 Junior Marshalls at Bowman High School. These young students are members of the Class of 1982.

They are, from left, front: Maresa Dutton, Deidre Lewis, Denise Taylor, Brenda Allen, Crystal Almond, Janice Hyatt and Margaret Little. Second row: Cindy Gulledege, Lisa Huntley, Robin Austin, Gayle Black, Becky Carpenter and Ginger Edwards. Back row: Susan Henry, Annette Koulouris, Joey Williams, Thomasina Robinson and Michael Weaver.

Town of Wadesboro Begins Distribution of New Trash Carts

The Town of Wadesboro is beginning a more efficient trash collection method where a truck with a mechanical arm will collect each customer's town-issued trash cart. The town has begun distributing new 96-gallon trash carts to customers. It is projected to take several months to distribute new trash carts to all customers.



Public Services Director Hugh James said, "The town asks that each cart be placed facing the street by 7 a.m. on pickup day, about 4 feet away from any obstruction like a car or mailbox. This will allow our staff to spend less time on trash pickup

and more time enhancing other services. Customers receiving assisted pickup due to a physical disability should continue to follow the same procedures."

Each cart comes with an informational pamphlet complete with picture examples on how to place out the cart which can also be viewed at www.townofwadesboro.com/public-works. If one 96-gallon trash cart is not enough, a customer may purchase a second cart at cost. Customers are encouraged to call Town Hall with any concerns at (704) 694-5171.

Anticipated benefits of this new collection method include increasing operational efficiency which should allow more manpower to be dedicated to other services such as limb pickup and street maintenance, reducing staff injuries and associated costs by reducing physical handling of trash, reducing litter by preventing more animals from getting into trash, and enhancing aesthetics by having uniform trash carts town wide.

Town Manager Alex Sewell stated, "We're excited to get started for our customers. Thank you to the Town Council for striving to enhance services, to Pee Dee Electric for providing financial support to make this a reality, Town staff for working hard on this project, and most importantly the citizens."

Cervical Cancer Awareness Information

January is Cervical Health Awareness Month, and the Anson County Health Department wants you to know that there's a lot you can do to prevent cervical cancer.

HPV (human papillomavirus) is a very common infection that spreads through sexual activity. About 79 million Americans currently have HPV, but many people with HPV don't know they are infected. HPV is also a major cause of cervical cancer. Each year, more than 11,000 women in the United States get cervical cancer.

The good news?

- The HPV vaccine (shot) can prevent HPV.
- Cervical cancer can often be prevented with regular screening tests (called Pap tests) and follow-up care.

In honor of National Cervical Health Awareness Month, Anson County Health Department encourages:

- Women to start getting regular Pap tests at age 21
- Parents to make sure pre-teens get the HPV vaccine at age 11 or 12

Teens and young adults also need to get the HPV vaccine if they didn't get it as pre-teens. Women up to age 26 and men up to age 21 can still get the vaccine.

Thanks to the health care reform law, you and your family members may be able to get these services at no cost to you. Check with your insurance company to learn more.

Taking small steps can help keep you safe and healthy. Call for a yearly appointment with your primary doctor or with Anson County Health Department's Family Planning or Well Woman clinic.

The Anson County Health Department is located at 110 Ashe Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is (704) 694-5188.

Ladies Out at Grace Senior Center

Ladies Out is held every Monday at 1 p.m. at Grace Senior Center. To find out what that means, and to register, call 704-694-6616.

Anson County 4-H Clover Crawl Social is Back!

Anson County 4-H and 4-H Youth Promise are pleased to announce that the Clover Crawl is back. The event will be held Friday, March 10 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro, from 6 until 11 p.m. The Clover Crawl, an adult event 21 and over, will be sure to bring an evening of fun, food, dancing and great socializing. Heavy Hors D'oeuvres and drinks will be served. The DJ again this year is 4-H alumnus Ryan Short of Ryan Short Entertainment (www.ryanshort.net). Funds raised will be used to support ongoing 4-H youth programs in Anson County.



Advance tickets are \$30 per person. They can be purchased at the Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro, Lacy's, or from committee members and staff. Ticket price at the door will be \$40. Tables can be purchased, which includes eight tickets for \$300. Only 12 tables will be sold. If you are interested in purchasing a table please call the Extension Office.

The money raised from the Clover Crawl will support programs that address the well being of youth, families, and communities in Anson County. 4-H programs annually reach over 1,087 young people in the community. Youth participate in activities and programs such as school enrichment, summer camps, after school programming, community service and other year-round educational programs. Anson 4-H and 4-H Youth Promise also work with adults, volunteer leaders and youth to provide community projects, parenting skills and enhanced leadership abilities. All 4-H programming is available to any youth between ages 5-19.

"Our fundraiser has been a success in previous years. We are optimistic that we will have an even better response this year. 4-H programs have had much impact on the youth in this county through the years," said Anson County 4-H Agent Roshunda Terry. "With the public's help and support programs can continue to make significant contributions to their future, and the future of our county."

If you would like to learn more information about this event please contact Roshunda Terry at 704-694-2915.

No Cause for Alarm: Prescribed Burns Benefit Wildlife and Habitat

In January, North Carolina residents may start to see smoke in the vicinity of N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission game lands. What they're witnessing is usually a prescribed burn—one of the most beneficial and cost-effective methods of managing habitat for wildlife. A prescribed burn is an intentional burning of vegetation that the Commission employs to restore and maintain wildlife habitat on most of the 2 million acres of state game lands used by hunters, anglers and wildlife watchers throughout North Carolina.

Optimal conditions for a prescribed burn occur on cool-weather days with moisture in the air and minimal wind. The Commission's burn season typically runs January through March. Some burns, however, are conducted into spring and summer, as warm season burning provides for better control of young hardwoods in certain habitats.

Many of North Carolina's declining or rare wildlife species, such as the red-cockaded woodpecker, are adapted to fire or found only in fire-dependent habitat. Commission staff typically conducts maintenance burns in multi-year cycles to open groundcover for quail, grassland birds, deer and turkeys. Burning encourages production of native grasses and herbaceous vegetation, which provides valuable food and cover for a wide variety of wildlife species. Prescribed burns are also used to help reduce high levels of forest fuels (such as leaf litter and pine straw) that can cause deadly wildfires and to control disease and insects.

The Commission regularly gets calls from people who are concerned about animals not being able to escape the fire, particularly during turkey hunting season in the spring. "Fire is a natural occurrence that animals have adapted to," said Isaac Harrold, the Commission's lands program coordinator. "But we go further to protect the native wildlife by using burning techniques that ensure animals have time and room to escape. After an area is burned, we typically see new vegetation within a few weeks, which means the animals won't be far behind."

For more information on prescribed burns, view No Cause for Alarm on YouTube and visit Prescribed Fire: What NC Citizens Need to Know at www.ncwildlife.org. For more information on the Commission's game lands program, including an interactive game land map, visit www.ncwildlife.org/gamelands.

Dancercise Class Offered at Grace Senior Center

Dancercise, which is exercising while dancing, is being offered at Grace Senior Center. Dancercise is a blend of aerobics and dance moves, something that many people find to be lots of fun. Participants enjoy great music and learn actual dance moves. The class being offered is a beginners class. There is no registration and no charge for the class.

The class is ongoing. So, if you didn't make it to the first class there is still plenty of opportunity to join in later. Each month the schedules will be given out with class dates and times.

The Dancercise class will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays, and 1 to 2 p.m. on Mondays.

This class is open to anyone who wants to exercise! For more information and to register call Findey Knotts or Eva Diggs at 704-694-6616.

Free Movie is Saved By Grace

The Hampton B. Allen Library announces the free movie *Saved By Grace* showing Monday, January 23 at 10 a.m. in the Little Theatre. The movie stars Joey Lawrence, Catalina Rodriguez, Muse Watson and Robin Riker. A retired police officer, despondent over the loss of his family, contemplates a dramatic decision which will change his life forever until he meets a mysterious woman. Everyone is invited to come.

For more information call the library at 704-694-5177.

Board Meeting January 24

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 24 at 10:00 a.m. at the BCSWCD office, located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro. For more information call 704-694-3516.

Forum to Help with High School Selection Process

Anson County Schools will host a forum for high school selection process on Tuesday, February 21 at 6:00 p.m. at Anson Middle School. This forum will provide information to help parents and students choose which high school to attend.

Do You Need a Coat or Blanket? Would You Like to Donate?

The Faith-Based Center of Hope continues their "Warm Coats, Warm Hearts" program. They have distributed coats to several of the churches and schools in Anson County. Blankets for the elderly are also available.

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is the pickup site, or you can deliver donated items there too. Just call to schedule it.

To donate coats and blankets or to request help, please contact Vincine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.