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Mrs. Patricia "Pat" Ann O'Connor

Mrs. Patricia "Pat" Ann O'Connor, 74, died Saturday, January 13, 2018, at her home following a sudden brief illness.

A memorial service was held on Sunday January 21, 2018, at Brown Creek

Obituaries

Baptist Church in Wadesboro. A second service (on a date to be announced later) will be held upon her interment at Rosedale Cemetery in MontClair, NJ for her PA and NJ loved ones.

Pat was born in Flushing Long Island, NY on July 23, 1943, a daughter of the late Thomas James O'Connor and Edythe Mae Stevens O'Connor. She grew up in East Hanover, NJ, graduating from Hanover Park High in 1961. She lived in the Ocean and Monmouth counties of NJ for many years where she raised her family, and loved her career as a 911 Dispatcher and special Police Officer. She was also a First Aid volunteer & Lieutenant for 25 years in the Howell and Jackson Twps.

Pat moved to the Pocono Mountains in PA with her daughter Melissa and family in 1995 and became involved with the county Children & Youth services, fostering dozens of teenage girls. She returned to school at Penn

State Extension where she became a Master Gardener. She was very involved with the Cooperative Extension, volunteering her time and efforts at county fairs, writing articles, answering the helpline, working in the community gardens, teaching classes, etc. Pat was also an active foster parent and volunteer for Camp Papillion, a no-kill shelter in Reeders, PA.

A devoted born again Christian, Pat was a faithful member of Berean Bible Fellowship Church and a long-time volunteer at the Pinebrook Bible Conference Center, both of Stroudsburg, PA. At Pinebrook Pat would roll up her sleeves and help out in the kitchen or gift shop when needed, but her regular 'jobs' there were to teach arts and crafts every summer and to design, organize, plant and maintain the center's gardens year after year.

She relocated to the Polkton/Wadesboro area in September 2016, and soon found her new church home at Brown Creek Baptist Church. She looked forward to returning to work at Waddell

Farms in February where she had fallen in love with her job in the summer and fall of 2017.

In addition to her parents, Ms. O'Connor was predeceased by her brother Thomas J. O'Connor, II; her daughter Rebecca F. King; and grandson Andrew T. Clayton who died January 10, 2018.

She is survived by two daughters, Tammy P. Shepard-Werkheiser (Bob) of Hickory, NC; and Melissa Baer-Long of the home; sister Barbara Scott (Charles, dec.) of Denver, CO.; four nephews, their spouses and children, Michael King (Elizabeth), Brenden and Caitlín of CO, Jeffrey King (Laura Bagwell), C. Drew Scott (Heather), Benjamin, Avery and Charlotte all of NJ and Lowell Scott (Anna), Nina and Kira of PA; She was a proud "Grams" to seven: Amanda Proko (Greg), Jeremy Scott (Amanda), Danielle Clayton (widow to Andrew), Wally Jamison, II (Gina), Amber-Jenn Soldo (Mike), Joshua Jamison (Amanda) and Argo "Jason" Cesareo, IV. A

great-grandmother, Pat cherished being called GG Pat or Pat-Pat by Valerie Jamison, Matthew Jamison, Remi, Rebecca and soon to be Rosalynn Soldo, Lily and baby to come Clayton, Evan Elizabeth and Argo "Grant" Cesareo, V.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made in Pat's name to

one of the following: Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Anson Animal Shelter, Camp Papillion, Brown Creek Baptist Church or to the gofundme drive for Andrew Clayton's widow and children.

Leavitt Funeral Home was in charge of local arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

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Wingate University Health and Wellness Fair is Saturday

70 organizations to offer free services - open to the public

Whether you're diligently keeping your New Year's health resolution or a staunch opponent of even making one, you can benefit from the Wingate University Health and Wellness Fair, set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. this Saturday, January 27 at the Union County Agricultural Center at 3230 Presson Road in Monroe. Hearing and vision screenings, glucose and triglyceride testing, blood pressure checks and flu shots - all free of charge - are among the many services to be offered that day. More than 70 organizations will be part of the fair

Carolyn Ford, the University's director of community health outreach and a professor in its School of Pharmacy, said uninsured residents - which make up over 13 percent of Union County's total population and one in four of those in the lowest income bracket - often fail to get the care they need. She hopes the fair can help remedy that problem by immediately linking screened patients with a free clinic.

"A lot of times, people go get screened and are alerted to a problem, but they don't necessarily know what to do next," Ford says. She said recommending that they see their primary care physician isn't helpful if they don't have one.

Ford said the fair's overarching goal is to improve the health of the whole community. "The primary way we can do that is to help people connect with needed services and to educate them about how to make lifestyle changes that will improve their health," she said.

Wingate University physical therapy students will perform fall-risk assessments, and pharmacy students will offer medication counseling and take-back. A section of the 6,000-square-foot Agricultural Center will be reserved for children and their parents.

"The library will have representatives there. We'll have dental screenings, and nursing students will do some physical fitness activities," Ford said. Also, children who are not up-to-date with their preventive care can get free vaccinations via Novant Health's Community Care Cruiser.

Free flu shots will be offered. And families will be able to sample some healthy recipes and enjoy demonstration classes in Zumba and yoga. The Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center will provide fitness information; and a range of agencies will fill participants in on nutrition, mental health, hydration, contraception, hand-washing, e-cigarettes and more. Information on health issues such as cancer, diabetes, strokes and dementia will also be provided.

Giveaways will include pedometers, water bottles and totes, all aimed at reminding participants of ways to improve their health, a key goal for insurance provider Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

"In the over 80 years of BCBSNC, we have always focused on the health and well-being of all those living in North Carolina," said Michael Restaino, director of community relations for the company's Charlotte office. "Events such as the Wingate Health Fair help educate individuals about their healthcare while encouraging them to take an active role and have ownership in their personal health as well as their family members'. If we all strive for these goals, we can help control the health-care costs of our families and to our members across the state."

Learn to Make Kitchen Towel Angels

Learn what a kitchen towel angle is, and how to make one at Grace Senior Center on Wednesday, January 31 at 2 p.m. Call Mary Jones, Activity Director at Grace Senior Center, to register at 704-694-6616.

Wadesboro Lions Club Welcomes New Members

The Wadesboro Lions Club meets at the Papa Joe's Restaurant the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For more information about these meetings or becoming a member, please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.

TOWN OF WADESBORO JOB OPENING



TOWN MANAGER

Wadesboro, NC Population 5,503

Located in the Charlotte metropolitan area, Wadesboro is conveniently located for those who want quick access to big-city amenities but enjoy a more rural small-town environment with a low cost-of-living and abundant outdoor recreation opportunities.

The Town Manager serves as the Town's chief executive officer, overseeing over \$8 million in budgets, 57 full-time employees, and all operations including finance, police, fire, sanitation, street, parks, water, sewer, planning, and human resources. The Town Manager reports to a 6-member Town Council that respects the Council-Manager form of government and is stable (no turnover in over 5 years and all incumbents just reelected). The successful candidate will inherit a dedicated 5-member department head team with a combined 64 years' experience working for the Town (no individual member has less than 9 years).

The ideal candidate will have considerable experience working in local government and be an energetic leader with excellent communication skills, strong interpersonal characteristics, excellent planning and decision-making abilities, a problem-solver, an excellent financial manager, and be a tactful community representative. Required bachelor's degree in public administration or related field, MPA preferred, and considerable experience.

Salary Dependent on qualifications.

Please submit a cover letter, resume, and 4 professional references by mail to:

Attn: Interim Town Manager, PO Box 697, Wadesboro, NC 28170

or via email at wadesboroclerk@windstream.net.

Position is open until filled but applicants should apply by February 21, 2018 to ensure full consideration.

To view the full job advertisement please visit:
www.townofwadesboro.org.

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