

**Scouting For Food Community Service Project**

On Saturday, February 4th Anson County Boy Scouts will be participating in a national community service project called Scouting for Food. Starting now, scouts will distribute grocery bags in our local areas, churches and neighborhoods to be filled with non-perishable food items. Filled bags will then be collected the first weekend in February to be donated to Anson Crisis Ministry to help replenish their Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is generally at its lowest level in the winter months and after a holiday season.

All donations are appreciated, but the most needed items are meals in a can (such as soup, stew and chili), tuna or canned chicken, peanut butter, canned foods with pop-top lids, fruit canned in juice or water, low-sodium canned vegetables, olive or canola oil, spices, low-sugar whole-grain cereal, and healthy snacks like granola bars, nuts and dried fruit.

According to Hunger Research, a consortium based out of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 27.2% of the children of Anson County live in food insecure homes. Food insecurity is when children and families do not have consistent access to food due to limited income or resources, so they are hungry or faced by the threat of hunger. Additionally, North Carolina ranks as the 5th worst state in the U.S. for childhood obesity due to limited opportunity for a balanced diet including fruits, vegetables and whole grains.

Monetary donations are also accepted, as just \$1 provides 7 pounds of food to families in need. If your church, civic or neighborhood organization would like to help please contact Christopher Ratliff at [christopher.ratliff@scouting.org](mailto:christopher.ratliff@scouting.org) or at 919-441-7143.

**Oil Painting Workshop**

Charleston artist Joyce Hall will return to Cheraw on February 24-26 for a three day workshop. Joyce is an international award winning oil painter and has exhibited in galleries and museums nationally. [www.thestudiosc.com](http://www.thestudiosc.com)

The focus of the February workshop is Impressionist Landscapes. Beginning artists through advanced are welcomed for this workshop.

The workshop will be held at the Cheraw Police Department Community Room - 258 Second Street from 9:00 am until 4:00pm. Cost for the three day workshop is \$200. A supply list will be provided upon registration. Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission at 843.537.8420 x 12 for additional information.

*Remembering.....*  
By Ed McBride



**Service Distributing Company, Inc.**

This is one of many signs that I designed and painted for Service Distributing Company. Of course I have used some pictures previously, but felt like it would be very appropriate now to do another one.

Russ Holderman began with a small service station in 1933 - later opening a small station here in Wadesboro in 1937...some of that history is what this week's column is about.

Russ was very kind to us, often calling to tell me what station and town to do signs for, informing me to use "your ideas." Pictured above is one of those times, October 4, 1972, at the station's original location in Wadesboro, at the corner of Caswell and Rutherford streets. The building was a small concrete block building about 20 feet by 25 feet in size. Henry Welch and J. D. Rorie, with

others, ran this station for many years - changed oil, greased cars, installed mufflers, etc. Over open pits - all outdoors, not inside a warm building. They washed your windshield, checked tire pressure, checked fluid levels under the hood - you know all those things!!!

And now - times have changed - J. D., Henry and Russ are deceased as are many others. Many are retired too. I do appreciate those through the years. Not only here, but all the locations we served.

The Wadesboro station and others are now Wilco Hess. This makes me think - do you remember some of the others that are not here now: Beachum's Atlantic White Flash, Bill Hook's Texaco, Pigg's Pure Oil Station, Randles Esso, Rufus Ingold's Shell, "Mr. Buddy's" Gulf - and more and more!

**Grants Available for Agricultural Projects**

Supporting the agricultural industry, impacting rural communities and stimulating economic development are key objectives for the 2017 NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission (NCTTFC) grant cycle. Funds will be awarded in the fall of 2017 for innovative projects.

Applications are now online at [www.tobaccotrustfund.org](http://www.tobaccotrustfund.org) for qualifying organizations, government agencies and non-profits. "Grant ideas that target job creation in current or former tobacco-dependent regions or have the potential to generate additional income for farming sectors will be given top priority," said William H. "Bill" Teague, NCTTFC Chairman. "The Commission has served hundreds of thousands of farmers and consumers through its programs, and we will fund a wide variety of projects later this year."

The Commission's funding comes from state budget appropriations. The Commission was established in 2000 by the N.C. General Assembly to help members of the tobacco community including farmers, tobacco workers and related businesses. Its original funding was established through tobacco industry annual payments as a result of the Master Settlement Agreement. Funding is now appropriated to the Commission which then reviews, selects and disperses the funds to grant projects.

The list of current Commission projects includes cost-share grant programs for small farmers, training for qualified farm family members in community colleges and support of 30+ high school agricultural education programs.

More information can be found at the at the Commission's website, [tobaccotrustfund.org](http://tobaccotrustfund.org), or by calling 919-733-2160. The deadline for applications is March 7, 2017.

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