

North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein has written to U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta in opposition to his proposal to rescind a rule that allows employees to keep the tips they have earned. The rule, issued in 2011, clarified that, consistent with long-established cultural and legal understanding, gratuities are the sole property of employees. Under the proposed rule change, employees who are paid the federal minimum wage could be forced to hand over the tips they earn to their employers.

"Restaurant servers and bartenders work hard for their tips," said Attorney General Stein. "When customers leave a gratuity, they expect that money to go to the workers, not the owners. I oppose this U.S. Department of Labor rule because owners shouldn't pocket their servers' tips."

According to the Economic Policy Institute, this rule change could result in employers taking up to \$5.8 billion of workers' earned tips. More than 91,000 people in North Carolina work as waiters or bartenders.

Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), employers are required to pay their employees the federal minimum wage. Employers can meet this requirement either by paying employees the full cash federal minimum wage - currently \$7.25 per hour - or by paying a lower cash wage, no less than \$2.13 per hour, and making up the difference with the tips that the employee earns. The latter practice is known as a "tip credit." The proposed rescission of the 2011 rule would allow employers who pay employees the federal minimum wage to claim the employees' tips for any purpose.

Attorney General Stein took the action with the Attorneys General of California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington, Virginia, Vermont, and the District of Columbia.

Stein to Utilities Commission: People Deserve Benefits of Tax Cut, Not Utilities

On February 1 North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein submitted comments to the North Carolina Utilities Commission regarding utility rates and the Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

"The federal government recently slashed corporate income tax rates - a change that will lead to significant cost savings for utilities like Duke Energy, as well as natural gas and water utilities in our state," Stein said. "The rates we pay utilities have been set assuming higher taxes. It would be wrong for us to pay the utilities for an expense they are not incurring. So, today, I urged the Utilities Commission to order utilities to pass those savings on to the people of North Carolina."

Stein concluded, "I commend Duke Energy for agreeing with this request and hope to see other utilities do the same."

Discover Your Inner Artist in February

Charleston artist Joyce Hall returns to Cheraw on February 23-25 with an oil painting workshop. Flat Brush Impression will be the topic for the workshop which will be offered to artists of all skill levels including beginners. Participants will learn the basic principles of flat brush painting in the impressionist style.

Cost for the 3 day workshop is \$200. A supply list will be provided to participants. Time for the workshop will be from 9am until 4pm. Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission at 843.537.8420 x 12 for additional information about the workshop.

Church News

FEBRUARY 10
Building Fund Program
At Red Hill MBC, 5:30pm w/gospel singing
Leadership Workshop
Part 2 at Divine Unity Church, 11am. Open to all congregations. Lunch served. All are invited
FEBRUARY 11
Women's Heart Health Month Program
At Ebenezer MBC at morning worship. Requesting that you wear red
Family & Friends Day
At Madison Grove Baptist Church w/Rev Fred Leak at 11am & Dr. Billy Casey at 2:30pm
February Birthday Program
at Johnson Chapel Holiness Church, 3:30pm w/Apostle Annette Ross. All are invited
FEBRUARY 14
Poor Man's Supper
At Lilesville Baptist Church, 5pm w/pinto beans, potatoes, fatback, cabbage & cornbread. Donations requested with all proceeds going toward world hunger
FEBRUARY 14 - 16
Women of Fire
At Johnson Chapel Holiness Church. Different speakers at 7:30pm nightly
FEBRUARY 17
14th Anniversary
Of Overseer McLendon at Lindsey Chapel, 4pm. Dinner served after
FEBRUARY 24
Musical Program
'United We Stand' by Senior Ministry at New Grove MBC, 6pm. Area choirs invited. 1782 Poplar Hill Church Rd in Polkton
FEBRUARY 25
Appreciation Service
For Min Rosa Ellerbe at new Life Ministry & Faith Center. Rev Sallie Clemmons 11:15, followed by dinner. Elder Joshua Matthews 3pm
Black History Program
At Ramsey Chapel Church in Wadesboro, 2:30pm w/Sheriff Landric Reid & Mistress of Ceremony Commissioner Vancine Sturdivant. All are invited
Family & Friends Day
At Henry Grove Baptist Church, 2:30pm w/Pastor Michael McLeod
1st Anniversary
Of Divine Unity Church, 3pm w/Bishop William Tay-

lor Johnson Chapel Church. Dinner served. All are invited

MARCH 7 - 9
Missionary & Ushers
Revival at Greater St Mark COD, 7pm nightly
MARCH 11
Appreciation Service
For Bishop James Glenn at Victory Temple Miracle Center, 4pm w/Apostle Billy Gaskin
ONGOING
Bible Study Classes
Every Tuesday-Evangelistic Outreach Center on Hwy 74 in Polkton at 6:30pm
Bible Study
Every Wednesday night at 7pm at New Grove MBC. Need a ride? Call 704-272-8884
Bible Studies
By Women of Worth at N Wadesboro Baptist Church every 2nd & 4th Thursday 10am & every Thursday 7pm at Goodwind home, 116 Sunset Dr, Wadesboro
Bible Study
Every Tuesday at 6:30pm at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church of Ansonville
Bible Class
At Red Hill Baptist Church, 12noon, Wednesdays, public invited
Free Exercise Class
Every Wed & Thu, 5:30-6:30pm at New Grove MBC. Need a ride? Call 704-272-8884
Wednesday Bible Study
At New Meltonville MBC, 7pm
Brotherhood Meetings
Every 3rd Saturday at N Wadesboro Baptist Church, 6pm. Bible study & meal, all men welcome
Wednesday Intercessory
Prayer at New Meltonville MBC, 6:30pm
Bible Study
At Sneedsboro Church, Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm, everyone invited
Prayer Line
Each Wednesday, Reaching the Lost Church of God from 7-8pm. Call 704-695-1842. Someone will be available to assist you and pray with you
Sunday Youth Day
Every 5th Sunday at Cedar Creek MBC
Bible Study
Every Tuesday night at 7pm at Garris Grove MBC

The Church Calendar is Brought to You by These Sponsors

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Every Saturday at 11:30am at Pathway to Peace, 11775 Hwy 109S, Peachland. Info 704-695-1441

Tools for Christian Living
Academy, fourth Saturdays, New Piney Grove Ministries, 6pm

Events

FEBRUARY 12
50+ Club Meets
10:30am at Hampton B. Allen Library w/music program by Stan Harward, Joe Dutton & friends. Everyone is invited. Info 704-694-5177
FEBRUARY 13
Soup Luncheon
By Anson Women's League, 11am-1:30pm w/homemade vege soup, toasted cheese sandwich, drink & dessert for only \$7. At First Baptist Church, Lee Ave in Wadesboro. Tickets & bulk orders call 704-695-5373
FEBRUARY 15
Family Support Group
Connections meets at Hampton B. Allen Library, 1pm. Topic is Gangs & Opioid Use. Refreshments & materials provided. Info & register 910-627-1769 or connectionsfsp@gmail.com
FEBRUARY 16 - 18
Annie the Musical
At the Ansonia Theatre. Fri & Sat 7:30pm & Sun 3pm. Tickets & info 704-694-4950
FEBRUARY 18
Open House Reception
at the Hampton B. Allen Library, 2-4pm. Everyone is invited for refreshments & a chance to learn more about the library, its impact on the community & how you can help. Also, a dedication of the memorial for Joyce Liles. Info 704-694-5177
FEBRUARY 22
Square Foot Gardening
Free seminar by John Marek at H.W. Little & Co, 5-6pm. Learn to grow more in less space with least work. Refreshments, prizes & special offers

FEBRUARY 23 - 25
Annie the Musical
At the Ansonia Theatre. Fri & Sat 7:30pm & Sun 3pm. Tickets & info 704-694-4950
FEBRUARY 24
Taste of Soul Dinner Program
presented by the East Polkton School Alumni, 4-8pm at Anson High School. Great food, fun, entertainment, fellowship & more! Tickets \$15 advance, \$20 at door. Call 703-272-7622
MARCH 7
Free Tax Help
At Grace Senior Center for seniors over 60 of low or moderate income. Info & register at 704-694-6616
MARCH 9
Clover Crawl Social
Event for Anson County 4-H & 4-H Youth Promise, 6-11pm at Lockhart-Taylor Center. This adult event features an evening of fun, food, dancing & great socializing. Tickets \$30 per person in advance, \$40 at the door. Tables for 8 \$300. Info & tickets 704-694-2915
MARCH 18
Reception
For artist Elizabeth Schafer at the Drake Gallery. Open to the public. Info 704-694-4950
APRIL 4
Free Tax Help
At Grace Senior Center for seniors over 60 of low or moderate income. Info & register at 704-694-6616
ONGOING EVENTS
Regular Monthly Meeting
of Wadesboro Housing Authority 2nd Tuesday each month at 12noon at Papa Joes
Anson County Board of Commissioners
Monthly Meetings
are held the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm in Board Rm (Suite 209) of Government Bldg, 101 S. Greene St in

Wadesboro. Info 704-994-3201
After School Program
Kid Cafe Mon-Fri from 2:30-5:30p.m. at the Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center, 704-826-8737
Lions Club Welcomes New Members
The Wadesboro Lions Club meets at Papa Joes Restaurant the 2nd & 4th Thursday each month at 6:30pm. For more info or to purchase a broom please call Jim Chandler 910-571-1448
Childcare Association
Meets every 3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30pm. Info 704-695-1666
Ansonville Museum
Ansonville Historical Society Museum open by appointment. Call 704-826-8129
Free Movies
4th Monday of the month at Hampton B. Allen Library, 10am. Info 704-694-5177
Afternoon Out
For ladies & gentlemen at Grace Senior Center each Monday from 2-4pm. Enjoy bingo & activities led by someone from the center. Register & info at 704-694-6616
Children's Group Meets
Every Thursday at Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition, 5-6pm to discuss how to keep you & your children safe 704-694-4499
MoMs Meeting
Support group for mothers of multiples, third Tuesdays, 6:30pm, Lockhart-Taylor Center, 704-695-1031
Family Caregiver Support Group
First Mondays, 7-8:30pm, Peachland United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, anyone concerned with Alzheimer's disease invited

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