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**Writers' Club
Welcomes
New Members**

The Anson County Writers' Club meets on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, except in July and December. All of the meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

For more information call Sandy Bruney at 704-694-5211 or email sandybruney@gmail.com.

Harvest Ministries Outreach Center Hosts Black History Program

On Sunday February 24 the annual Black History Program was held at Harvest Ministries in Wadesboro. This year's theme "The History that Unites Us" featured guest speakers and a soul food dinner after the program.

Special Guests included Anson County native and cancer survivor Angela Tina Caraway. Miss Caraway shared the names of various African American inventors and others who made a significant contribution to mankind. In addition, she shared her experiences and how the drive that those before her has played a role in her desire to give back to Anson County and those in need.

Following Caraway, Anson County's first African American Sheriff Landric Reid shared how his life has been shaped by many African American leaders and powerful African American women throughout history. Reid added that Black History is every day of every year, not just one month. Sheriff Reid added that his life would not be where it is today without the influence of some many powerful African Americans. Final speaker, Commissioner Vancine Sturdivant, the first female African American commissioner in Lilesville, reminded the crowd that Black History is our history, and that we make history by our choices and decisions, good or bad. Commissioner Sturdivant encouraged the youth in attendance to get educated, make sure you can read...and success can be yours.

Founder of Harvest Ministries, Pastor Tim Adams, shared the impact of each speaker on his life, and the desire to continue to celebrate those who have faced great odds, but have found great success. Adams said, "Without trailblazers like these folks where would our society be?"

In concluding the program, Lead Pastor of Harvest Steve Adams thanked all of the speakers, and shared with those in attendance that without the impact, the sacrifice, and the persistence of great African American men and women a church like Harvest may never have been able to exist. Adams said, "We celebrate Black History because without those who saw the value of unity and equality, many of us would never have met, never have conversed, and surely never have been able to attend a multi-racial church in the south. The different races, backgrounds, and cultures in this room can be a foreshadowing of what the tapestry of heaven will be like."

Pastor Steve would like to thank each presenter, and the people of Harvest for their dedication to ALL people of Anson County. A special thanks to Harvest Elder Board Member Amethra Crawford for spearheading this year's event. For more information and upcoming events please reach 704-695-2879.



Sheriff Landric Reid addresses the audience with a moving message.

Knitting Group Gathers at Marshville Museum Monthly

The Marshville Museum and Cultural Center hosts a knitting group that meets the first Tuesday of the month, from 2 to 4 p.m. Margaret Pigg said, "Our little knitting group has been very busy turning out Prayer shawls, as well as red, white and blue lap robes to be given to veterans at Hospice. A couple of the ladies are taking on another project - scarves to be sent to the soldiers stationed in cold locations. We were already knitting caps for the newborn babies at CMC Union and dish cloths to sell at the Museum, and then we added prayer shawls when we merged with the Marshville Methodist Church group."

Pigg continued, "Of course, not everyone is involved in these projects. Some of us are working on personal projects. Some ladies come as beginners to learn and some come to get help with problems. I've been teaching knitting for more than 45 years, so I can probably help with problems."

The gathering is not limited to knitters. Crocheters are welcome, too. For more information contact Margaret Pigg at 704-624-2602. The Marshville Museum is located at 201 North Elm Street.

The Economic Power of Buying Local Foods

Interest in locally sourced products has spurred the creation of new farms and agricultural businesses in local communities from the mountains to the coast. But if we look beyond each individual farm and business, and view this food system as a whole, could we say that local food benefits the greater community and economy? I would suggest that the benefits are great and far reaching

Let's look at the economic benefits that local food systems bring to local economies. To do this we can look at a concept called the "multiplier effect". This is the concept that money spent buying local food is more likely to be re-spent within the local economy. Studies have estimated multiplier effects for money spent on local food to be between \$1.32 and \$1.90, this means that for every dollar spent buying local foods an additional \$0.32 to \$0.90 of economic activity take place.

Now, the calculations behind those values are well beyond my economic knowledge but we can look at this concept from another angle. Let's use tomatoes as an example, two tomatoes have been purchased by a grocery store in Stanly County. One tomato is coming from a farm here in Stanly County and the other being shipped in from a farm in California. Now, let's suppose each tomato sells for one dollar. The dollar from the Stanly County tomato is used to pay the distributor who then pays the Stanly county Farmer. That Stanly County farmer then goes and pays for seed at the local farm supply store, who pays their employees, who go to a local restaurant for lunch. That restaurant pays a contractor to upgrade their kitchen and so on. That dollar has stayed in the local economy and contributed to further economic activity. The dollar from the California tomato is used to pay the distributor who pays the farmer in California that then spends that money in their own local economy.

Now I know that we can't keep every penny inside our own communities. but thinking about where our money goes once it leaves our pocket can help us send our hard-earned dollars where we want them to go. If we want to broaden our view of local, then we need to look beyond the county and look at our State as a whole. Did you know that collectively North Carolina residents spend 35 billion dollars a year on food? If each person spent 10% of those food dollars (about \$1.05 per day) on local products there would be 3.5 billion dollars available in our state economy. When you add it all up, that equals a lot of money staying right here in North Carolina.

So how do we shop local and keep our food dollars close by? Here are some tips to get you started. Go to your local farmers markets. This is a great way to meet the farmers in your surrounding area and learn about the products they produce. Some farmers offer a CSA (community supported agriculture) where a customer pre-pays for a share of what the farmer produces. Usually, CSAs run for a certain number of weeks and have a weekly pickup for the customer. Restaurants that buy locally-grown products provide great opportunities to experience the fresh and diverse selections of crops and meats in the area, as well as specialty products like honey or mushrooms. Agritourism is another great way to find local products in your community. Examples of agritourism could be wineries or pick-your-own operations where you can go to enjoy the unique character these farms add to the landscape and culture of North Carolina. So, go explore your local food system and the next time you purchase a locally-grown product you can feel confident that your purchase has made a difference in your community.

By Aaron Moore, Anson County Cooperative Extension

Registration for the 3rd Annual Conservation Classic

Three Rivers Land Trust will host the 3rd annual Conservation Classic Sporting Clays Tournament on Saturday, March 9. The tournament, held at the Fork Farm and Stables near Norwood, invites participants to come out for a bit of friendly competition while raising money for local conservation.

Four-person teams will tackle the Fork's challenging 14-station sporting clay course. Team registration includes ammunition, a catered lunch, raffles, and cash prizes/gift cards for the winners.

The Land Trust has a separate category and special pricing for active duty military, military veteran teams, law enforcement, and Fire/EMS. Multi-level corporate sponsorships are available. They are a great way to highlight your support of conservation at a local level.

More information is available at threeriverslandtrust.org or you can call (704) 647-0302.

THE TOWN OF MORVEN IS ACCEPTING BIDS

The Town of Morven is accepting bids for patching the Pot Holes on the following streets in town:

Moore Street • Cox Street
White Oak Street • Southern Avenue

Submit a written bid to:

Town of Morven
PO Box 295
Morven, NC 28119

Or

Submit bid in person at:

Morven Town Hall
301 East Main Street
Morven, NC 28119

Completed and final bids should be submitted by 4 p.m. on Friday, March 8, 2019. For any questions, please feel free to call the Morven Town Hall at 704-851-9321.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PAYROLL / ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / UTILITIES SPECIALIST

The Town of Marshville is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Payroll, Accounts Payable, and Utilities Specialist. This position will provide office support for multiple departments including administration, public utilities, finance, and planning. Working under the supervision of the Town Clerk/Finance Officer, this position is responsible for handling a wide range of administrative and executive support related tasks including payroll, accounts payables, daily utility operations, and other duties as required.

Applicants must have a knowledge of fiscal responsibility, with the ability to analyze, understand, and exercise judgment in areas of responsibility. Applicant must be able to operate productively and consistently with continuous interruption while performing precise and detailed work.

High School diploma or GED required. Associate degree in finance or business related field and special training in accounting, data entry, clerical and customer service work preferred. Two years of local government experience preferred; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills (e.g. language, mathematical, reasoning) and abilities.

Salary DOQ. Full job posting and application are made available at www.marshville.org or may be obtained at Town Hall.

Applications accepted until position if filled. Please submit applications & resumes to:

Town of Marshville
Attn: Town Clerk, 118 East Union Street, Marshville, NC 28103
Or email to: asutton@marshville.org

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James Holbrook Building at 400 N Greene St in Wadesboro. Includes tables, chairs, linen, china & centerpieces. Find with Facebook! Call Kathy at Crider & Crider Properties 704-694-3030

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