

Upper PeeDee Farm and Food Council Seeks New Director

The Upper PeeDee Farm and Food Council (UPFFC) is seeking a new Director to take over the administration of the Council. From the birth of UPFFC through the present, Nancy Bryant, a Norwood area resident, has been serving as the unpaid Interim Director, but she will be "retiring" at the end of June.

In reflecting on her work with the Council, Nancy says, "It has been personally very rewarding to serve the tri-county region of Anson, Montgomery and Stanly Counties. As Director, I've been involved with our Council in promoting almost every aspect of local farms and local food, meeting farmers and others not only here but also throughout the Charlotte region. Awareness of the benefits of growing and consuming local food is one of my passions, and I would certainly recommend the position to anyone who shares the UPFFC vision."

The Upper PeeDee Farm and Food Council (UPFFC) encourages, supports and coordinates programming to build a sustainable, locally based, economically resilient farm and food system throughout Anson, Montgomery and Stanly counties. The UPFFC job listing is formally posted at www.NCWorks.gov, but can also be seen in part at the UPFFC website, www.upffc.org. Or anyone interested can also email info@upffc.org. The listing will be open through April 30, 2014.

Anyone wishing to learn more about UPFFC and how the Council is serving the region is invited to attend one of two free, fun Community Forums: Thursday, April 10, at The Commons, Albemarle, or Tuesday, April 15, at Lockhart-Taylor Center, Wadesboro. At 6 p.m. local farmers will have displays, along with a food tasting of local food products. At 6:30 UPFFC will share its work with the attendees, and Jared Cates, a speaker from the CONNECT Our Future Food Systems project will talk about the recent assessment of and recommendations for the farm and food system in our region. The public will be invited to participate in the discussions. To register for the Forums, either as a farmer or as an attendee, go to www.upffc.org or call 704-474-9134.

Autism Expo in Raleigh April 5 & 6

Problem: Families in the Autism community are struggling to find help and guidance
Solution: Autism Expo in Raleigh to bring families, experts, and answers together under one roof

Families dealing with Autism are overwhelmed with the magnitude of potential solutions and not knowing where to turn to get them, which only leads to more feelings of confusion, frustration and isolation. Promotional Affairs, will be holding the annual Autism Expo in Raleigh, at the NC fairgrounds on April 5 & 6, 2014, from 10am-5pm to unite families, experts, and answers.

At the expo you will hear from speakers on topics such as: Newly diagnosed, variety of therapies, Individual Education Plans, family guidance, and more. Some of our speakers include: Linda King Thomas, Geri Smith, Mark Stafford, Erin Whiteley and many more. Demonstrations on a variety of products and services. Entertainment provided by A(u)r(t)istic Xpressions, a group of talented young adults that are all on the spectrum. There will be exhibitors setup to share information on their products and services, including some of the area's private schools. The PlayZone will also give families a chance to bring their children and let them have fun with games, activities and crafts. A Silent Auction will be taking place on Saturday. The proceeds from the Silent Auction will go to families in financial need to allow their children to participate in activities that are not covered under insurance, but very crucial to their social development and life skills.

The majority of autism conferences focus on one area of resources for their audience and most are expensive. While these conferences are very informative and are great to attend, most families are already struggling financially from therapy, special diets, etc... The All About Autism Expo is truly for the families and directly benefits them. For attendees, it's very affordable, while allowing one to select whatever topics they want to learn about, and allow time for browsing the exhibitor floor of products and services.

If you'd like more information about this event please call 301-401-5775 or email Michele Swing at michele@allaboutautismexpo.com.

Big Gospel Spring Singing Program at BRLC Saturday

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center invites everyone to come enjoy their big Gospel Spring Singing Program on Saturday, April 5. The event features legendary Robert Rose and the Gospel Troops from Charlotte, Johnny Belin and the Gospel Travelers of Lancaster, SC and Rev. Robert Turner and Queens of Heaven of Charlotte.

Early bird tickets are only \$8, at the door tickets are \$10. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show begins at 6:30.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information call 704-826-8737.

Wildlife Commission Seeks Public Input for Pee Dee River Game Land Planning

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is holding a public meeting on April 3 in Rockingham to seek input in developing a management plan for the Pee Dee River Game Land in Richmond County. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Hinson Lake Rotary Lodge, located on 152 Hinson Lake Road.

Wildlife Commission staff will use input from the meeting to help guide management and user activities on the state-owned portions of the Pee Dee River Game Land for the next 10 years. This game land is located between Rockingham and Lilesville. Two tracts, encompassing approximately 2,270 acres, are popular for deer, turkey and small game hunting opportunities.

"We are seeking input from all users of the Pee Dee River Game Land and others who are interested in how the property is managed," said Lands Program Manager Isaac Harrold.

"This meeting is not just for hunters and anglers. It is for wildlife watchers and photographers, birding groups, hikers and others who have interest in the Pee Dee River Game Land. Everyone is encouraged to provide input."

The Wildlife Commission also is accepting comments and suggestions from people who do not attend the meeting. Beginning April 1, comments regarding the Pee Dee River Game Land may be submitted online at www.ncwildlife.org. Click on "Comment on Game Land Plans from the scrolling icons at the bottom of the page. Comments also can be emailed to gamelandplan@ncwildlife.org. Type "PDRGL" on the subject line to comment specifically on the Pee Dee River Game Land. Comments for the Pee Dee River Game Land will be accepted until May 15.

The Wildlife Commission will provide updates on development of the new management plan for the Pee Dee River Game Land on Facebook (ncwildliferesourcescommission) and Twitter (NCWildlife).

Las Amigas Virtuous Woman Event

The Morven Chapter of Las Amigas, Inc. is sponsoring a program on Saturday afternoon, April 5 at 5 p.m. called The Virtuous Woman Event. It will be held at Harris Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church in Morven. Local women will be introduced and featured. The speaker for the event will be Ms. Carolyn Quick of Rockingham. Her topic will be "Getting Your Life in Order: Are You Living a Virtuous Life?" The program is free and open to the public.

For more information contact Ms. Winnie M. Bennett at 704-851-9269.

The Morven Chapter of Las Amigas is a local, women's organization that devotes itself to providing programs and events designed to enhance and improve the local community.

Program Helps You Learn How to Feel Better...Healthier...Happier

Living with or caring for someone with diabetes can affect your quality of life. Grace Senior Center is offering a free, six-week Living Healthy with Diabetes Workshop. It is designed to help you better manage your diabetes and live a happier, healthier life!

You don't have to stop doing the things you love to do. The key to getting the most out of life is learning to manage your symptoms. No matter your situation, Living Healthy with Diabetes can assist you in taking control.

This workshop will give the support you need to find practical ways to deal with your stress, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health.

The Living Healthy with Diabetes classes will be held at the Grace Senior Center in Wadesboro. This is a six week class that is scheduled for every Monday, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. It starts on April 7 and runs through May 12.

Class size is limited and registration is required. Call Rita Short at 704-694-6217 and start living healthy!

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- 10 Years Supervisory Experience
- 10 Years Military Service
- NCJA Certified Criminal Investigator
- Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice
- Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate
- Law Enforcement Advisory Board Member for Both Stanly & South Piedmont Community Colleges
- Chief Deputy - Anson County
- Patrol Lieutenant • Patrol Sergeant

- Criminal Investigations Supervisor
- Narcotics Detective • SRT Commander
- Field Training Officer Supervisor
- Department Training Coordinator
- Recruitment Officer
- DARE Officer • Firearms Instructor
- Military Police Investigator
- NC Concealed Carry Instructor
- BLET Instructor
- Court Liaison Officer
- NCJA Management Development Graduate

RECOGNIZED STATEWIDE BY PEERS

- President of the NC Justice Academy Management Development Program Alumni Association
- Vice President of the NC Law Enforcement Training Officers Association
- Professional & Personal Relationships with All Local, State & Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- 32 Year Resident of Anson County • Graduate of Anson High School
- Married with 4 Children & 2 Grandchildren • Member of Hope Church

"My top priority as the next Sheriff of Anson County is the safety and security of all citizens. I am ready to bring 25 years of experience and proven leadership abilities to ensure the Sheriff's Office keeps that priority in focus.

This will be accomplished by a combined effort of community involvement, the latest in law enforcement technology, the best training for our officers, as well as a concentration on aggressive drug enforcement and property crime investigations.

My plan is to provide these services with professionalism, compassion, fairness and humility.

I respectfully ask for your vote."

www.MikeSmithForSheriff.com

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