

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

## MEDICAL ASSISTANT NEEDED

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Must be a CNA, willing to train.

Please call 704-994-2300

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THE ROBOT



## Anson County Robowolves Take 1st Place at District Competition

A huge shoutout to the Anson County Robowolves Robotics Team for placing First at the District Robotics competition the weekend of April 1-3 at UNC Pembroke.

Thank you for your hard work Domingo Rios, Trinity Spencer and Hannah Turner. Good Job RoboWolves! The Robotics Team thanks all of their sponsors and supporters. "You guys are greatly appreciated."

## NCDOT Program Helps Airports Minimize Wildlife Risks to Aircraft

### Wildlife strike aircraft on average once a day at airports across North Carolina

North Carolina airports report that birds and other wildlife strike aircraft an average of once a day. A wildlife hazard mitigation program operated by the N.C. Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation aims to reduce the risk of wildlife hazards by providing training and support.

"Flocks of birds taking flight, deer crossing runways and other such hazards can cause serious damage to property and even loss of life. Our program focuses on reducing that risk and increasing safety for aircraft that fly in and out of airports across our state," said Division of Aviation Statewide Program Manager Rajendra Kondapalli.

The Federal Aviation Administration Wildlife Strike Database, which tracks wildlife strikes, estimates that only one in five strikes are reported, which adds up to a significant threat to property and life. A 2018 aircraft landing at a general aviation airport, for instance, sustained more than \$800,000 in damage when it struck two of six white-tailed deer crossing the runway.

The wildlife program, offered through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services, provides five regional trainings and assessments of one-third of the state's 72 public airports each year. It also provides "quick-response", direct management activities for airports experiencing wildlife hazards.

The quick response program provides both proactive and reactive management such as harassing geese, gulls, raptors and other birds using pyrotechnics, habitat management and, if warranted, lethal control. The USDA may live trap and relocate hazardous raptors such as hawks and falcons to suitable habitats miles away from the airport.

Trainings provide instruction and hands-on practice identifying common animal species, potential habitats and food sources that attract animals to airports and methods to safely deter wildlife from interfering with airport operations.

"These trainings are very important because they help the airports better understand the hazards on their airfields and what they can do to mitigate them, short-term and long-term," said Chris Willis, western district supervisor for the USDA Wildlife Services in North Carolina, who provides the training. "It also helps the Division of Aviation understand the needs the airport may have or what hazards exist."

Trainings have already been completed this fiscal year at Kinston Regional Airport and Smith Reynolds Airport, as well as one virtual training offered. The next two training events will be held May 18 at the Rocky-Mount Wilson Regional Airport and July 13 at the Hickory Regional Airport.

The wildlife management assessments offered through the program include an airport site visit to conduct a bird and mammal hazard survey and an assessment report with wildlife observations, habitat attractants and mitigation recommendations based on USDA's observations. This can range from proper grass height, tree removal, proper fencing and agriculture near the airfield.

## Personal Safety Tip: Substance Abuse

Listed below are some steps that parents can take to help set limits in their household concerning drug and alcohol use:

- Set a good example: Do not abuse alcohol or drugs. Do not allow friends or relatives who abuse drugs or alcohol into your home.
- Establish good communication with your children about drugs and alcohol.
- Set limits. Let your children know exactly what is and is not acceptable to you.
- Do not ignore the problem.
- Teach your children that drugs are dangerous and expensive.
- Know the signs of drug abuse; be willing to recognize and acknowledge them.
- Be vigilant.
- Prepare children to make hard decisions. Teach them to say no.
- Let your children know that they can come to you when frightened, apprehensive or in need of help.

**Trouble Signs** The following may indicate the presence of a substance abuse problem:

- Change in behavior, attitude, opinions, friends or drug use
  - Mood swings
  - Defensiveness
  - Drop in grades; unusual school problems
  - Drops old friends and adopts new ones
  - Doesn't want you to meet new friends
  - Unexplained increase or decrease in finances
  - Stealing or borrowing money frequently
  - Spends time in unusual places (storage room, basement, garage, etc.)
  - Lack of energy or endurance
  - Weight loss or gain
  - Drastic change in appearance
- If the Worst Happens** Investigate and confront. Maintain or reopen communications. Focus on specific, suspicious behavior. Do not confront your children while you are angry or while they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Do not jump to conclusions; what you suspect may not be fact. Get your family into counseling or therapy. For referrals, call the county health department or other local public agency.

Learn more about mental health and substance abuse and what resources are available from the NC Department of Health and Human Services, [ncdhhs.gov/assstance/mental-health-and-substance-abuse](http://ncdhhs.gov/assstance/mental-health-and-substance-abuse).

Thank you for reading The Express!

# Spring Fashions

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### PUBLIC LEGISLATIVE HEARING NOTICE

For the "Town of Morven 2040 Land Use Plan" Ordinance

**When:** Monday May 2, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** Hearing will be held at the Glennie R. Bennett Community Center 207 West NC-145 Morven, NC 28119

The Town of Morven, in preparation for the effects of growth in the Town and in accordance with G.S. 160D-501, under direction of the Mayor & Town Council, have directed the Planning Board to complete preparation of a new Town Land Use Plan.

On Thursday April 28, 2022, the Town of Morven Planning Board concluded their work and voted to recommend the adoption of "Town of Morven 2040 Land Use Plan" to inform and guide decisions made by property owners, businesses, leadership and those seeking to invest in the Town.

The Mayor and Town Council of Morven invite you to attend a public legislative hearing to learn about the new plan and to share your comments. The Town's draft 2040 Plan is available for inspection at the Town Hall during normal business hours and may be viewed on the website at <https://www.townofmorven.org/> anytime.

Hearing impaired persons requiring assistance should contact the ADA Coordinator/Town Clerk Ms. Corinthia L. Lewis-Lemon at (704) 851-9321 or via email at [clewislemon@townofmorven.org](mailto:clewislemon@townofmorven.org) at least 24 hours prior to the hearing to request special accommodations.

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