

Space Experts Look to the Stars During Aerospace Symposium Tonight at Wingate

Free event features Andrew Aldrin, son of Astronaut Buzz Aldrin who walked on the moon during Apollo 11 mission

Stargazers who join Wingate University astronomer Grant Thompson on the lawn for a look through a telescope Wednesday night may see the sky in a whole new light after attending an aerospace symposium to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11. The event, featuring Andy Aldrin, son of the mission's lunar-module pilot, Buzz Aldrin, begins at 6 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

"Humans have gazed at the heavens with wonder, amazement and aspirations throughout history," Dr. Thompson says. "Humanity fulfilled one such aspiration nearly a half-century ago when Apollo 11 touched down on the lunar surface on July 20, 1969. In commemoration of mankind's 'giant leap,' Wingate University is taking a 'small step' toward recognizing this achievement and bringing it to life for a new generation."

The symposium begins in the Batte Center's Plyler-Griffin Recital Hall with Dr. Aldrin, director of the Aldrin Space Institute, and four-mission veteran astronaut Dr. Kathryn Thornton discussing the state of space exploration and future possibilities. At 7 p.m., Dr. Jim Rice, a planetary scientist on the Mars Exploration Rover project, and Chris Plate, executive director of Monroe-Union County Economic Development, will join Aldrin and Thornton on the stage to discuss a variety of topics related to the aerospace industry and answer questions.

The panel discussion will be followed by a reception. Then, attendees will have their choice of three activities beginning at 8:30 p.m. The movie *Hidden Figures* will be shown in Austin Auditorium while *Apollo II the Documentary* runs in the Recital Hall. Thompson will have telescopes set up near the Talley Fountain in front of the Batte Center for sky scanning.

"We hope that adults, children, families and friends will join us as we pause to hear some stories about our nation's space program, gaze upon the moon, and simply remember to just look up," Thompson says.

Anyone who would like to submit a question for the symposium panel discussion may email it to him at g.thompson@wingate.edu. There is no charge for any of Wednesday's events.

BRL Center Annual Easter Eggs Hunt is Friday

The Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center's after school will host their Annual Easter Egg Hunt this Friday, April 19. This special event will start at 2:00 p.m. and last until 5:00 p.m. The community is invited to take part in this Good Friday Celebration. Volunteers Tekesha Hammond and Nathan Sikes are the contacts for this event.

The Easter Egg Hunt is designed for all children ages 3 to 12 years of age. Older students are invited to come and volunteer their support in all areas where needed. Students' volunteer service hours can be earned during this event.

Special guest She She the Bunny will be on hand to make pictures with children. There will be time for creative activities and fun games with all those in attendance.

Children's bikes along with other gifts will be raffled off during the Easter Egg Hunt activities. Tickets will need to be purchased in order to be considered for the raffle. Tickets are available from any BRLC volunteer.

The five children who find the most eggs will be awarded. The child who finds the Golden Egg will be awarded a special gift.

Children are encouraged to wear their Easter bonnets or Easter hats if they like. All children who wear their bonnets or hats, boys or girls, will also be awarded a special prize.

The three children who bring the most friends will receive awards. All children are asked to bring their own baskets for finding eggs. All children will receive gifts for their participation.

Parents are asked to accompany their smaller children. Food will be provided by the BRLC volunteers and others.

Call BRLC at 704-826-8737 for more information Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Joletha Little Represents Las Amigas at Regional Meeting



Ms. Joletha Little of Wadesboro represented the Morven Chapter of Las Amigas at the annual Queen's Contest held during the meeting of the Southwest Region of Las Amigas, Incorporated. The meeting was held on Saturday, March 23 in Kings Mountain, NC.

Five members of the Morven Chapter of Las Amigas traveled to Kings Mountain to attend the semi-annual regional meeting: Marilyn Bennett, Judy Simon, Joletha Little, Johnie Pettiford, Pat McCoy and Elizabeth Kersey. Five chapters were represented at the meeting: Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Gastonia, Greenville, Mooresville and Morven.

The Southwest Regional meeting usually includes a business session, a workshop on a meaningful and timely topic, and a luncheon. A highlight of the spring meeting is also the Queen's Contest. Each chapter has a means by which they select a Queen to represent their organization. The Morven Chapter of Las Amigas crowned Ms. Joletha Little as their new Queen in Wadesboro on Saturday, December 15 at Twin Valley Country Club in Wadesboro.

During the Queen's Contest each chapter sends a representative and the Regional Queen is selected. The Regional Queen will go on to compete in the National Queen's Contest, where twenty four chapters will contend for the national title. Ms. Little placed as a runner-up in the regional contest.

Anson County Parks and Recreation Swim Lessons

Summer is coming, and Anson County Parks & Recreation will be teaching swim lessons. The lessons cost \$18.

Here are the class dates:

• Class #1: June 17-27

• Class #2: July 8-18

• Class #3: July 22 - August 1

Here are the class times:

• 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. Youth Beginners

• 10:15 to 11:00 a.m. Youth Advanced

• 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. Parent and Child (Preschool)

There must be a minimum of 10 in each class time in order to have the class.

Classes are open for registration until the first day of class.

There will be no swim lessons the week of July 4th.

You can register at Little Park, 845 Airport Road in Wadesboro. For more information call Jeff Waisner at 704-695-2550, Wendell Small at 704-695-2782 or Allen Jackson at 704-694-5751.

Anson County 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 meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

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

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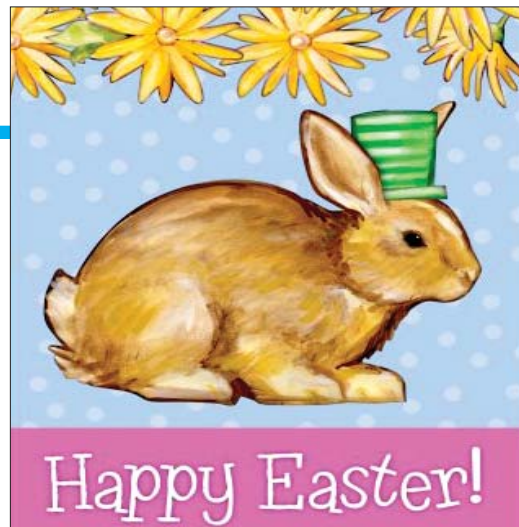


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