

### Chamber Open Won by Wadesboro Tire and Auto

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce held its 14th annual "Chamber Open," better known as the "Premier Golf Event of Anson County," on Friday April 11th at Twin Valley Country Club. With 34 teams booked and many volunteers lined up, everyone was prepared for a great tournament. Players had their choice of an 8 a.m. or 1 p.m. tee time, and with weather looking very nice, it was sure to be a great day for golf!

"This premier golf event would not be as successful without the support of our sponsors, volunteers and especially the golfers," said Chamber Director Lynn Edwards. "Deepest thanks goes to our Presenting Sponsor for this year, Carolinas HealthCare System. Special thanks also to Coca-Cola, Pepsi, Tyson, Refreshment Services Inc., R.A. Jefferies, and IGA of Wadesboro. Also a very special thanks to Russell Sikes of Plank Road Realty for cooking all the chicken. There are many others to thank for their contributions to this event as well, including Rep. Mark Brody who was the Lunch Sponsor, Senator Gene McLaurin who sponsored the registration table, and Frank McGuirt Advertising for donating the goody bags. Several folks donated goody bag items, the team and hole sign sponsors, and we are very grateful to Holly and Jason Kiker for being the Drink Cart Sponsors this year through Anson Family Optometric and Kiker Forestry Service. Thank you also to the four candidates running for Anson County Sheriff, Josh Beam, Ricky Little, Landric Reid and Mike Smith, for sponsoring the On the Course Prizes. A special thank you goes to Mitch Moretz and the staff at Twin Valley Country Club for their support."

Edwards added, "I certainly have to give my warmest thank-you to our Golf Committee: Jilla Gathings, Jeff Rodgers, Todd Moore, Terri Martin, Tommy Allen and Freddie Vega. Without these wonderful volunteers this event would not be as successful, and I appreciate each one of them. Big thanks also to the 2014 Leadership Anson Class for helping out on this day as well."

First place winners of the tournament were Wadesboro Tire and Auto. In at second was Hornwood, Inc., and coming in third was NCEMC. The winner of the Split the Pot was Stan Brock.

"Thank you to Chris Baxley of Pee Dee Electric for operating the bucket truck again this year for the ball drop event," Edwards said. "Although it got a little windy we were able to get the Ball Drop in. Everyone loves to see this part of the tournament." The winner of the Golf Ball Drop was Greg Eudy.

Longest Putt went to Mike Edwards for the morning and Alvin Bates for the afternoon. Longest Drive went to Jimmy Flake for the morning and Chance Emrich for the afternoon. Closest to the Pin was Gary Bell for the morning and Brandon Chewing for the afternoon. Congratulations to all of the winners!

Next year's event has been scheduled for April 17.

### Black Bear Sightings Can Be Common in the Spring

Black bear sightings throughout North Carolina are becoming more common as the bear population increases and bears expand their home range. While black bears are not inherently dangerous and are rarely aggressive toward people, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission advises caution to reduce potential conflicts.

In spring, juvenile bears from 1-2 years old disperse beyond their previous home range, while adult bears can roam extensively searching for food and mates. This can include roaming into residential areas. If left alone, most transient bears will find their way quickly out of town and back to natural habitat. People are urged not to approach or follow bears, or put themselves between bears and possible escape routes.

"Sometimes when a bear is seen, crowds may gather. This seemingly harmless situation can become dangerous for both humans and bear," said Ann May, the Commission's extension wildlife biologist. "But the best option is to stay away, not interfere and allow the bear to move out on its own."

The Wildlife Commission rarely relocates bears, because it can be dangerous to humans and the bear, and relocation is generally unsuccessful. Relocated bears often return to where they were originally captured. Additionally, there are few remote areas remaining in North Carolina where bears can be relocated. Luckily, most situations do not warrant trapping and relocating bears, because removing attractants and leaving the bear alone resolve many conflicts.

The Wildlife Commission cautions people to not feed bears, whether intentionally or unintentionally. Bears can become bold when they grow accustomed to feeding on pet food, garbage and birdseed. Residents can best avoid problems with bears by:

- Securing bags of trash inside cans stored in a garage, basement or other secure area, and placing the cans outside as late as possible on trash pick-up days - not the night before.
- Purchasing bear-proof garbage cans or bear proofing existing garbage containers with a secure latching system.
- Discontinuing the feeding of wild birds during spring and summer, even with feeders advertised as "bear-proof."
- Bears are still attracted to seed that spills on the ground.
- Avoiding open and unattended outdoor pet food containers. If you must feed pets outdoors, make sure all food is consumed and empty bowls are promptly removed.
- Cleaning all food and grease from barbecue grills after each use. Bears are attracted to food odors.

For more information, go to [www.ncwildlife.org/bear](http://www.ncwildlife.org/bear) or call 919-707-0050.

### 4-H'ers Participate in Annual 4-H Fashion Revue and Talent Show

On Thursday, May 1 thirty proud parents, friends, and relatives attended Anson County 4-H's annual Fashion Revue and Creative Talent show that was held at the Cooperative Extension Center. In competition at the event for scholarship prizes and ribbons were ten 4-H'ers. The Fashion Revue consisted of 4-H'ers modeling garments they had made for the spring. All garments were made with the help of 4-H volunteer leaders at sewing classes held this past fall and early spring. Creative talents were exhibit competition.

The Fashion Revue was judged earlier in the week, although winners were not announced until Thursday night festivities. Judging the fashion competition were Mrs. Jesse Blakney of Marshville and Ms. Fannie Clyburn of Wadesboro.

Winners for the evening were: *Cloverbud Fashion* - Janiaya Maxwell, Janiyah Maxwell and Kendall Duncan. *Junior Teen Fashion* - 1st Akira LeGrand and 2nd Katherine Brown. Other participants were Milayjah Smith and Quenton Cromartie.

*Senior Teen Fashion* - 1st Na'La Brown. *Cloverbud Creative Exhibits* - Kendall Duncan. *Junior Creative Talent Crafts/Hobby* - 1st Milayjah Smith. *Junior Creative Writing* - 1st Katherine Brown, 2nd Justin Duncan. Other participant was Quenton Cromartie.

*Junior Art* - 1st Cameron Tillman, 2nd Quenton Cromartie. *Junior Photography* - 1st Justin Duncan, 2nd Katherine Brown. Other participants were Milayjah Smith and Quenton Cromartie. *Senior Photography* - 1st Na'La Brown. *Senior Creative Writing* - 1st Na'La Brown.

All 1st and 2nd place winners in the Fashion Revue received \$20 and \$15 scholarships to be used towards a 4-H event or trip, while Cloverbud participants received \$10 scholarships.

In Creative Talent Exhibits, winners received \$12 and \$8 for 1st and 2nd place. All Cloverbuds received \$5 participant scholarships. Scholarship money is provided through program fundraising efforts.

The 4-H Fashion Revue and Creative Talent Show is an annual event. 4-H Volunteer leaders and youth helped organize and put on the show, from decorating and set up to rehearsals and background music. A special thank you to Betty Garris, Hannah Dunlap, Addie Richardson and Pearl Blount for volunteering their time and talents to assist the youth to create such beautiful garments.

4-H participation is open to all youth regardless of sex, race, religion or national origin. For more information about 4-H in Anson County, contact Roshunda Blount, 4-H Agent at 704-694-2915.

### Baby Bottle Fundraiser for HOPE Pregnancy Resource Center

HOPE Pregnancy Resource Center is holding a Baby Bottle Drive. The HOPE Center is asking businesses, churches and individuals to fill baby bottles with checks, coins or currency from now until the end of May. You may drop your bottles off at the Anson Baptist Association, Chamber of Commerce or call 704-690-6689 to schedule a pick-up time.

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