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Serving Anson County and the Municipalities of Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro.

Sheriff Election Not Decided Yet

The Primary Election in Anson County, which included the four Democratic candidates for Sheriff, was held on Tuesday, May 6.

Here are the results as of Monday, May 12 (winners in bold):

• **ANSON COUNTY SHERIFF** (Democratic Candidates Only): **Landric Reid 1,656 votes (39.6%)**, Mike Smith 1,402 votes (33.52%), Ricky Little 970 votes (23.19%), Josh Beam 154 votes (3.68%)

• **ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER AT LARGE** (Democratic Candidates Only): **Marilynn Bennett 2,220 votes (54.53%)**, Russell Sikes 1,153 votes (28.32%), Mary Taylor-Moore 512 votes (12.58%), Joshua LeViner 186 votes (4.57%)

• **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 2** (Lilesville Only, Democratic Candidates Only): **Vancine Sturdivant 409 votes (53.05%)**, Robert Smith 232 votes (30.09%), George Hodge 130 votes (16.86%)

• **US SENATE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES** - **Kay Hagan 2,720 votes (370,409 votes statewide)**, Will Stewart 642 votes (66,597 votes statewide), Ernest T. Reeves 493 votes (43,050 votes statewide)

• **REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES** - **Thom Tillis 142 votes (222,463 votes statewide)**, Mark Harris 175 (85,444 votes statewide), Greg Brannon 83 votes (132,149 votes statewide), Heather Grant 23 votes (22,861 votes statewide) Jim Snyder 3 votes (9,374 votes statewide), Ted Alexander 9 votes (9,222 votes statewide), Alex Lee Bradshaw 1 vote (3,510 votes statewide), Edward Kryn 3 votes (1,844 votes statewide)

• **LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATES** - **Sean Haugh 2 votes (1,215 votes statewide)**, Tim D'Annunzio 1 vote (789 votes statewide)

• **NC SUPREME COURT ASSOCIATE JUSTICE** (Non-partisan): Robin Hudson 2,694 votes (380,179 votes statewide), Eric Levinson 1,136 votes (326,789 votes statewide), Jeanette Doran 469 votes (186,401 votes statewide)

The Anson Board of Elections conducted a Discretionary Recount in the Morven Precinct on Tuesday morning, May 13 at 11 a.m. The results of that recount changed the Sheriff's race counts slightly. It put Landric Reid at 1,651 votes (39.6%), Mike Smith at 1,399 votes (33.56%), Ricky Little at 965 votes (23.15%) and Josh Beam at 154 votes (3.69%).

All of the races on the ballot were decided except the Sheriff's race because the results had Landric Reid and Mike Smith so close. According to state election rules a primary runoff can be requested if no candidate receives 40% of the vote plus one vote. Because Reid received 39.6% and Smith received 33.56%, Smith has until noon on Thursday, May 15 to request a runoff. If no runoff is requested, then Reid will win the nomination. As of press time on Tuesday, May 13 Smith had not requested the runoff.

If Smith does request a runoff, here is the schedule for that process:

- **Early Voting** runs July 3 - 12
- **Last day to request Absentee Ballots** is July 8
- **Election Day** is July 15. All precincts open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Who can vote in the runoff? In a Democratic runoff voters are Democrats who did not vote in the first primary, Democrats who did vote, and Unaffiliated who voted Democrat in the Primary.

In other local races Marilynn Bennett won Board of Education At Large and Vancine Sturdivant won Board of Commissioners District 2.

Schools Bomb Threat Perpetrators Arrested

Anson County Sheriff Tommy Allen announced that three juveniles have been charged with making the recent bomb threats to the local high school and middle school. Allen said that three 13 year olds were taken into custody late Wednesday afternoon, April 30 and taken to a juvenile detention center in Gaston County.

On Thursday, April 24 a bomb threat was called in about Anson High School. On Friday, April 25 a bomb threat was called in about Anson Middle School. On Monday, April 28 a third bomb threat was called in, again for Anson Middle School. On all three occasions the schools were orderly evacuated and searched. No bomb or explosives were found.

"In addition to the seriousness of something like this, we spend precious man hours and man power by our officers, and then there is the disruption it causes the schools and the disruption of school classes," Sheriff Allen said. "Fortunately, and most often, and without going into details, I can tell you that we can trace these kinds of calls fairly quickly. The suspects were trying to be a little more careful with these calls this time and it took us a little longer. But now we have the phone that was used, we have the correct individuals, and we know who their buddies are. And although they are only 13 years old, they are now seeing what the inside of a detention center looks like. I hope this sends a clear message that we take these kinds of situations very seriously and will come down as hard as we can on offenders."

Because they are juveniles the Sheriff did not release their names. The three will be returned to Anson County on Monday (May 5th) for a first appearance hearing, and the Sheriff said it will be up to a judge if they will be returned to detention until their case is heard in Juvenile Court in a few more weeks. The juveniles also face discipline from the schools that could result in them being expelled for the rest of this school year or longer.

Special Wadesboro Town Council Meeting Called for this Thursday

Alex Sewell, Wadesboro Town Manager has called for a special meeting of the Wadesboro Town Council on Thursday, May 15 at 5 p.m. in Town Hall. The items to be discussed are: budget presentation and workshop, insurance, and trash collection. This meeting is open to the public.

Free Healthy Living and Eating Seminar to be Offered this Sunday

Pathway to Peace Ministries presents ANEWSTART, healthy living seminar and cooking class on Sunday, May 18, from 3 to 5 p.m. Learn how to cook plant-based foods that will heal you. Learn how to lose weight, have more energy, reduce cholesterol, reverse diabetes, lower blood pressure, and much more. Interested? Come! Seminar and cooking class is FREE! It will be held at 11775 Highway 109 South in Peachland. For more information call 704-695-1441. The shelter is located at 7257 Highway 74 West in Polkton, in the former Brown Creek Animal Hospital facility.



Anson County Relay for Life Held Friday, Raised Over \$28,000

On Friday, May 9 Anson County Relay for Life raised over \$28,000 in an effort to battle cancer and help find a cure. The American Cancer Society sponsors Relay for Life.

Coordinator Carrie Bunn indicated that the final tally would not be known until after June 10, but said, "We will meet our goal and even exceed it this year. Thank you to all who participated."

Over 200 people represented one of the largest teams this year, Anson County Schools. The schools team raised over \$13,000 by themselves! They were spearheaded jointly by Anne and Luke Hyatt. Superintendent Michael Freeman said, "I am very pleased at the wonderful response from our faculty, staff and students and am very proud of their efforts."

Many in attendance walked the track as survivors, in honor of those lost and as cheerleaders of hope in finding a cure soon. Congratulations to Anson County Relay for Life!
By Melanie Lyon Photo by Anne Hyatt

On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive Campaign

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will kick-off "On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive," a multi-agency safety initiative aimed at summer holiday travel, with a news conference on May 19 at Upper Barton Creek Boating Access Area on Falls Lake. The campaign will work to reduce accidents on the state's roadways and waterways, which see increased traffic during summer months. Many accidents are alcohol-related. In North Carolina, a driver or vessel operator with a blood-alcohol concentration that meets or exceeds .08, or is appreciably impaired by alcohol and/or drugs, is subject to arrest.

Participating agencies will highlight the importance of having a designated driver, whether operating a vehicle or vessel. Law enforcement officers will conduct sobriety checkpoints and increase patrols during busy summer holiday weekends.

The campaign is supported and coordinated by the Wildlife Commission, State Highway Patrol, Alcohol Law Enforcement, Forensic Tests for Alcohol, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Governor's Highway Safety Program, U.S. Coast Guard and local police and sheriff's offices, along with participating non-governmental organizations such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

"The annual 'On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive' campaign has gained momentum each year, with more recognition and new partnerships," said Sgt. Allen Carlisle, a Commission wildlife officer who is area supervisor for Catawba, Lincoln and Gaston counties. "But the most important partner remains a safe and responsible public."

For more information on boating safety and regulations, visit www.ncwildlife.org/boating or call 919-707-0031.

4-H Lunch Fundraiser is this Friday

The Anson County 4-H Program is planning a lunch fundraiser on Friday, May 16 at the Cooperative Extension Center on McLaurin Street in Wadesboro, from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.. The lunch will raise money to help supplement funds to their county programs, assist youth in attending 4-H summer programs and other activities throughout the year.

The cost is \$7. Take-outs and deliveries only are available. Dining in will not be available. The menu includes marinated grilled chicken sandwich with spread, slaw, chips, and homemade dessert.

Business and organizations ordering at least 6 plates may request deliveries. Deliveries will be available from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Contact Roshunda Blount, Erin Dempsey or Pam Layfield at 704-694-2915 to place orders. If you would like to fax your order in please send to 704-694-2248.

Also the Anson County 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association are having a raffle drawing for a 26 inch flat screen TV, a \$75 gas card and a \$35 gift card. Tickets are \$2 each and you can purchase them from any 4-H volunteer leader or from the Extension office. The drawing will be May 16th. You do not have to be present to win.

For more information contact Roshunda Blount, Extension 4-H Agent, at 704-694-2915.

Dana Maness Honored at Smart Start Conference

Dana A. Maness, Anson Market President of Uwharrie Bank in Wadesboro, was awarded the Ashley O. Thrift Volunteer Award at the 2014 National Smart Start Conference. The award, named for the longstanding, former chair of board of the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc., is given annually to honor a current or past Smart Start Local Partnership Board Chair who embodies Thrift's dedication and service to young children and families in North Carolina. A \$1,000 cash award will be made to the Anson County Partnership for Children in his name.



"Dana is truly deserving of the Ashley O. Thrift Volunteer Award," said Dr. Nancy H. Brown, Board Chair of the North Carolina Partnership for Children. "He is a tireless supporter of the Anson County community and its children and youth."

Dana became a member of the Anson County Partnership for Children Board of Directors in July 2006, served as Board Treasurer in 2007, served as Board Chair for four consecutive years from 2009 through 2013, and currently serves on the Partnership Board and Executive Committee. Besides the Anson County Partnership for Children, his community involvements include leadership positions on the Anson County Boy Scout Council, Wadesboro Rotary Club, Anson County Chamber of Commerce, Anson County Economic Development Corporation, and Anson United Way.

Maness is a veteran of the United States Army and Army Reserve, a 1994 graduate of Wingate College, 2003 Leadership Anson graduate, 2006 graduate of the ABA National Commercial Lending School, 2007 graduate of the ABA Graduate Commercial Lending School, and 2013 graduate of the American Leadership Forum, Charlotte Region.

Smart Start, a network of nonprofit local partnerships led by the North Carolina Partnership for Children, Inc. (NCPC), creates innovative solutions to measurably increase learning and the healthy development of children birth to five. Smart Start gives local communities the freedom and responsibility to determine how to increase the health, well-being and development of their children based on the needs and resources of their local communities. NCPC establishes measurable statewide goals and communities determine the best approach to achieving them.

Anson Middle School Softball Team Wins Conference Tournament

The Anson Middle School Lady Cats Softball Team ended their 2014 season as Conference Tournament Champs! They cinched the win with a victory over the Hamlet Red Rams in the Conference Championship matchup on Thursday, May 8.

The Lady Cats came out on fire, hitting the ball well, and posted an 8-0 lead at the bottom of the second inning. The team played solid on both sides of the ball throughout the game, and came out on top with a final score of 9-2. Big hitters for the game were Taylor Austin (5 for 5), Grace Morgan (3 for 5), Cydney Livingston, Jordan Sikes and Kamryn Flake (each 2 for 4). Cydney Livingston was also strong on the mound, allowing only 4 hits.

The team had a very successful season, boasting a 12-4 overall record, and was 9-2 in conference play. In the Conference Tournament they only allowed four total runs, defeating their first round opponent, Sycamore Lane, 12-2.

Congratulations to the AMS Softball players and their coaches for a job well done! Members of the 2014 Softball team include: Taylor Austin, Brooke Baucom, Jaserah Bennett, Kayla Davis, Kaz DeBerry, Kamryn Flake, Savannah Houser, Carli Jackson, Cydney Livingston, Grace Morgan, Tierra Presson, Jordan Sikes, Brooke Stovall, Blake Treadaway, and Hanna Williams.

