

"We have a wonderful program being offered this spring and summer to our seniors of Anson County," said Wanda Talbert of Grace Senior Center. "The Operation Heat Fan Relief Project is being offered at Grace Senior Center this spring and summer. Contributions from Duke Energy Progress through the Division of Aging and Adult Services are made available to Area Agencies on Aging to purchase fans in support of Operation Fan Heat Relief, a summer program intended to provide a more comfortable living environment and reduce heat related illnesses.

The Eligibility Criteria are: Must reside in Anson County • Must be an adult: 60 years of age or older or with a disability • Must have a home situation where a threat to health and well being exists

If you meet the eligibility criteria and are in need of a fan (limited supply), please call Grace's new temporary phone number (704) 690-6729 or come by the Center (199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro) during office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Mrs. Willie Horne Nance

Mrs. Willie Horne Nance passed away Sunday, May 23, 2021 at the age of 89.

There will be a memorial service at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2021, in the Sanctuary of Hickory Grove United Methodist Church, 6401 Hickory Grove Road in Charlotte. The family will greet friends from 1:00 p.m. until time for the service.

Willie was born on August 21, 1931, in Wadesboro to John and Ora Horne. She was a graduate of Wadesboro High School and was a longtime employee of United Carolina Bank (BB&T). She was an active member in the Epworth SundaySchool Class of Hickory Grove United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 69 years, David Nance; her children, Susan Murray, Wayne Nance and Becky Francis; grandsons, Brandon Francis and Chase Francis; great-grandchildren, Ryker, Genevieve and Zephie; and her brother Charlie Horne.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers and sisters, James Wallace Horne, Harvey Horne, Frank Horne, Gertrude Wallace, Sarah Brantley and Eloise Coley.

Willie was an avid gardener, and after losing her sight to a rare disease she began making dolls for Dolls on Mission. The purpose of these dolls is to bring joy to children and others in need.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Dolls on Mission, Attention: Joanne Mucci, 4036 St James Way, Monroe, NC 28110 or to FNCLBPH, NC Library for the Blind, 1841 Capital Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27635.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home and online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

Governor Cooper Releases American Rescue Plan Investment Recommendations

On Wednesday, May 19 Governor Roy Cooper shared his recommendations for how North Carolina can most effectively invest in its recovery through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). The \$5.7 billion in federal funds offer a once-in-a-generation opportunity to invest in North Carolina and ensure a shared recovery from the global pandemic. The Governor's recommendations include assisting families most impacted by the pandemic, upgrading our infrastructure, helping more people get a degree or trade after high school, preparing the state's workforce and promoting business development and innovation.

"This pandemic brought us a once-in-a-generation challenge. And these funds have brought us a once-in-a-generation opportunity," said Governor Cooper. "North Carolina's funding from the American Rescue Plan positions our state for a shared recovery and allows us to create a North Carolina that works for all."

Closing the Digital Divide The recommendation invests \$1.2 billion in broadband access and affordability to close the digital divide in North Carolina. While North Carolina's economy recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, the gap between residents enjoying economic growth and those struggling to secure jobs, find housing, and pursue educational resources is widening. The funds will provide access to affordable, high-speed internet in every corner of the state and will ensure high-speed internet is equitably adopted and residents are able to access education, healthcare, and business opportunities.

Expanding Access to Affordable Education: NC Guarantee Scholarships and Other Financial Aid Governor Cooper recommends investing \$350 million in the NC Guarantee Scholarship. The scholarship promises that students from families making \$60,000 a year or less will be guaranteed at least \$6,000 per year to cover the cost of attending any UNC institution or NC community college or receive a smaller award to attend a private college. In conjunction with aid targeted at the neediest students and flexible funding to support degree acceleration through summer school and cover unexpected financial emergencies, this proposal makes significant strides in making college more affordable and accessible to North Carolinians.

Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Investments to Help Communities Grow and Thrive The recommendation invests \$800 million to support clean drinking water and reduce water pollution by fixing North Carolina's water and wastewater systems. More than a hundred communities in the state have aging water systems they can't afford to fix, many of which are getting some funds directly from the federal government. North Carolina has a plan to match state and local American Rescue Plan funds to rebuild these systems in a smart, regional way so families can have clean water and these small communities can attract more economic growth. In the recommendations outlined, \$440 million is reserved for water, sewer, and stormwater projects for distressed and at-risk water and wastewater units and \$360 million is available for all units statewide.

Reconnect the Workforce The Governor's recommendation invests \$25 million to support people who are disconnected from the workforce and increase their access to education, training, and support needed to obtain quality employment. The state will use the funds for initiatives such as work-based learning, rural youth mentorship, and programs to target underrepresented populations. Funds will also support a reentry program partnership with the Department of Public Safety and a program aiding veterans and their families.

The Governor's recommendation also invests \$575 million to address North Carolina's housing needs exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, with an emphasis on increasing housing affordability and availability. This includes down payment assistance to first time homebuyers, including enhanced assistance for eligible public-school teachers.

Hospitality Industry Business Assistance and Recovery Grants The Governor's recommendation invests \$350 million to promote economic recovery in the hardest-hit industries across the state through two programs that target restaurants and other food services, accommodations such as hotels, recreation and leisure, and personal services businesses. These funds will accelerate economic recovery in communities across the state by helping small businesses.

Sound Basic Public Education In order to meet North Carolina's constitutional obligation to provide a sound, basic education for all students, Governor Cooper recommends investing \$300 million to build the educator pipeline, expand NC Pre-K, support high-quality child care, and promote early literacy development. The funds will develop a skilled educator pipeline and build educator capacity, support Science of Reading literacy coaches, and build a strong foundation for North Carolina's children age birth to five by expanding NC Pre-K and investing in home-based early childhood literacy interventions.

Extra Credit Grants 2.0 The recommendation invests \$250 million in grants to low- and middle-income families with children to help alleviate widespread financial hardship across the state. The state will distribute grants of \$250 or \$500 to eligible families, with lower-income families eligible for the higher amount. Many North Carolina families, especially families with children, continue to struggle to afford basic household expenses as the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic persists.

Don't Drink and Boat. Don't Drink and Drive.

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, N.C. Highway Patrol and Mothers Against Drunk Driving will kick off the annual "On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive" campaign with events and safety check points throughout the state on Memorial Day Weekend, May 28-31.

The multi-agency safety initiative works to reduce alcohol-related incidents on the state's roadways and waterways, both which see increased traffic during summer months.

"If your holidays include drinking alcohol, make sure to designate a sober driver whether you're in a vehicle or on a boat" said Lieutenant Forrest Orr of the Wildlife Commission. "Undoubtedly a designated driver will prevent alcohol-related incidents on the road and in the water and make everyone's holiday weekend more enjoyable."

Starting May 28, law enforcement officers will be conducting sobriety checkpoints and promoting public awareness to deter impaired operation of cars and boats on various bodies of water and highways. In North Carolina, a driver or vessel operator with a blood-alcohol concentration that meets or exceeds .08 or is substantially impaired by alcohol and/or drugs, is subject to arrest.

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

Wadesboro Lions Broom Sale

Now that the Covid-19 pandemic appears to be waning, everyone is flocking to Lacy's, Martin Furniture and Northcutt Affordables to purchase the Original Soft Sweep Magnetic Action Brooms offered by the Wadesboro Lions Club.

With the magnetic cleaning action, the brooms picks up lint and dust, especially human and pet hair. It will not scratch any floor, rinses clean and dries quickly. The kitten soft bristle is approximately 12" long and comes with a metal handle.

Pick up yours at one of the above locations for only \$10. The Lions Club's purple handled straw broom is also available for \$10.

For information about the different projects of the Wadesboro Lions Club please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.

Access to family planning health care is critical to reaching your life's goals.



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Unauthorized Hydrant Use

The use of Anson County Water Department fire hydrants for obtaining water for agricultural or any other purpose without written consent of the Water Department is a violation of state and federal law. Hydrants are for use by written-permitted users, water company or fire department personnel only.

The Anson County Water Department will take legal action against any individual or business that unlawfully obtains water from the Anson County water system. Please report suspicious activity to the Anson County Sheriff's Office or the Water Department.

Hydrant use permit information is available from the Anson County Water Department. Information is available at 704-694-5208.

