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

April Unemployment Rate Lowest in a Long Time

Anson County's unemployment rate for April was 10.2%. That number is still too high, but is the lowest than the unemployment rate has been in several years. In March the rate was 10.9%. The state of North Carolina's unemployment rate for April was 8.5%, down from March's 8.9%.

In April 2012 Anson County's unemployment rate was 10.5%. Anson's total labor force in April was 10,884. Of that number 9,774 were employed and 1,110 were unemployed. In March the total labor force was 10,910, with 9,723 employed and 1,187 unemployed.

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 97 of North Carolina's counties in April, increased in two and remained the same in one. All 14 of the State's metro areas experienced rate decreases.

Graham County had the highest unemployment rate at 15.9 percent while Orange County had the lowest at 5.3 percent. Among the Metro areas, Rocky Mount at 12.3 percent experienced the highest rate and Durham-Chapel Hill at 6.3 percent had the lowest. The April not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 8.5 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates fell in 76 counties, increased in 19 and remained unchanged in five. Twelve metro areas experienced rate decreases, while two experienced rate increases.

Statewide the number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in April by 17,251 to 4,291,469, while those unemployed fell 19,921 to 398,043. Since April 2012, the number of workers employed statewide increased 26,567, while those unemployed decreased 20,171.



Logan Goodwin Donates Stuffed Animals for Seventh Year

For the previous six years Logan Goodwin and his grandmother Diane Goodwin have given the Anson County Sheriff's Office a new supply of stuffed animal and figures to be given out to children in crisis situations. This year Logan had his fifth grade class at Wadesboro Elementary School help and it became a class project that resulted in dozens of new stuffed animals and figures collected. They were given to the Sheriff's Office on Wednesday, June 5th.

The Sheriff's Office uses them and distributes them to other law enforcement agencies, DSS and Domestic Violence Coalition. These agencies along with the Sheriff's Office give them out to children at accident scenes, police calls, domestic violence situations or any situation where small children are frightened and need something to "hug" or hold on to.

Sheriff Tommy Allen said, "Sometimes children are in the middle of very harsh situations. Life's not always fair and little children seem to be where it's the most unfair. I've seen these stuffed animals dry up tears and give a trembling child something secure to hold on to. I want to thank Logan, his grandmother Diane and the classmates from Logan's fifth grade class for continuing this project for the seventh year in a row."

Since this project was begun seven years ago by Logan, churches, civic organizations and many individuals now help keep a good supply on hand at the Sheriff's Office.

Logan is the son of Bruce and Kitt Goodwin, and the grandson of Diane and Billy Goodwin of Wadesboro.

Pictured above are, from left, front: Jaliyah Wall, Hannah Goodson, Garet Smothers, Logan Goodwin, Caitlyn Arant, Christopher Hamilton, Trinity Reeves and Austin Langley. Second row: Shanda Shaw (teacher), Ebony Stewart, Latara Rushing, Sheriff Allen, Cameron Sellers, Rickasia Liles and Willie Owens (WES Principal).

Wadesboro Drinking Water Quality Report: No Violations

The Town of Wadesboro released its Annual Drinking Water Quality Report which shows the water system did not have a single violation for 2012. This report is designed to keep customers aware of drinking water quality including details about water sources, containments, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Wadesboro Mayor Bill Thacker commented, "Thanks for our staff in the Water Department for helping with this good report. They are to be commended for their hard work."

Customers can view the report at Town Hall or by following the link listed on their water bill. Further, it can be viewed directly using the following address: www.cityofwadesboro.org/AnnualDrinkingWaterQualityReport.pdf (Make sure you type all spaces and capital letters).

Town Manager Alex Sewell said, "All the credit for our excellent water quality goes to Hugh James, Robbie Carpenter, Kenny Capel, John Register and Earl Huntley. Our staff does an incredible job ensuring our community has safe drinking water with limited resources. This Report is a testament to the quality of their work."

Wadesboro Police Bust Three for Drug Dealing

On Monday, June 3 officers with the Wadesboro Police Department served a search warrant at 100 Settle Street in Wadesboro. Wadesboro Police began the investigation into that location after receiving complaints of drug activity from concerned citizens. Once on the scene officers seized a quantity of marijuana, firearms, drug paraphernalia and US Currency from inside the residence. Three suspects were arrested in connection with the marijuana and firearms. The suspects each received a \$20,000 secured bond and were placed in the Anson County Jail. Their first court appearance was set for June 11.

Arrested were Angela Michelle Colson, 45, of 501 Madison Avenue in Wadesboro; Elvis Charles White, 55, of Albemarle; and LaJames Jawand Buchanan, 20, of 44 Lewis Street in Wadesboro. The three were charged with Possession with Intent to Sell, Deliver Marijuana, Possession of a Firearm by Felon, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Anyone with tips or information on drug activity is requested to call the Wadesboro Police Department at 704-694-2167.



Angela Colson



L. Buchanan



Elvis White

Anson Farm Service Agency County Committee Nomination Period Has Begun

Area producers needed for important decisions

The nomination period for Anson Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees began on Monday, June 17. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said, "I encourage all eligible farmers and ranchers to participate in this year's county committee elections by nominating candidates by the August 1 deadline. County committees are a vital link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and provide an opportunity to farmers and ranchers for their opinions and ideas to be heard. We have been seeing an increase in the number of nominations of women and minority candidates and I hope that trend continues."

To be eligible to serve on the FSA Anson County Committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate.

Anson County farmers and producers may nominate themselves or others, and organizations representing minorities and women also may nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available online at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. Nomination forms for the 2013 election must be postmarked or received in the Anson County USDA Service Center by close of business on August 1, 2013. Elections take place this fall.

While FSA Anson County Committee does not approve or deny farm ownership or operating loans, it makes decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide, there are about 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. Committees consist of three to 11 members that are elected by eligible producers.

FSA will mail ballots to eligible voters beginning November 4. The voted ballots are due back to the local county office either via mail or in person by December 2. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office on January 1, 2014.

Contact the Anson County Farm Service Agency office for election information, or on FSA programs and assistance. It is located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-3516.

Town of Wadesboro Limb Truck Temporarily Out of Service

The Town of Wadesboro's limb truck has suffered mechanical problems that require it to be out of service temporarily. No leaves or limbs will be picked up during this time. They are hopeful the truck will be back in service in about a week. The Town is sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Denise Cannon Earns \$10,000 Grant for Sheriff's Office

Anson County Sheriff Tommy Allen announced that his department has been notified by the Governor's Crime Commission that they will be awarded a \$10,000 grant for dealing with gangs in Anson County. The grant required no local matching monies. Sheriff Allen said that the funds will be used to purchase various equipment and supplies regarding gang activities and investigations.

Since 2005 the Sheriff's Office has received \$1,425,955 in various grants from state and federal programs that have gone to pay for equipment, radios, vehicles, salaries and training. "These are local tax dollars we didn't have to spend. We've worked hard to get these grants over the years. It's very competitive," Sheriff Allen said. "My office assistant Denise Cannon has had to work very hard and extra hours to successfully apply and win these grants over these years. I want to publically say how much I appreciate her enthusiasm, dedication and extra hard work."

The Sheriff said that he would expect the money to come to the county sometime after October 1st, when state and federal budgets are all in place.

Family Searching for Diabetic 4 Year Old's Missing Service Dog

A family in Anson County is asking for help finding their little boy's missing service dog. 'Buckshot' has been missing for over a week. His owner, Candy Allen, said he jumped out of their car to chase a cat and he hasn't been seen since.

For Allen's son, 4-year-old Remington, finding Buckshot is a matter of life or death. Remington has diabetes and Buckshot is trained to sense when he's going into a diabetic shock, and get help for him.

Over last weekend about 30 soldiers joined the family in their search, but found nothing. Buckshot weighs about 70 pounds and has been microchipped. Allen is offering a reward and if you have any information. Contact her at 704-475-7321.

Thoughts about Blood Donation on World Sickle Cell Day - June 19

The Community Blood Center of the Carolinas (CBC) is commemorating World Sickle Cell Day on Wednesday, June 19 by helping raise awareness about the role donors play in the treatment of sickle cell. "While experienced around the globe, World Sickle Cell Day is also experienced by patients in our own community," said Martin Grable, president and CEO of Community Blood Center of the Carolinas. "We are working with our local hospitals, patients and donor community to 'reshape' understanding about sickle cell and bring attention to the ongoing need our local sickle cell patients have for blood products. Their lives depend on blood donations."

Research shows that sickle cell affects more than 80,000 people in the U.S., 98 percent of whom are African-American. According to studies, more than half of all persons with sickle cell will require a blood transfusion in their lifetime and the majority will require multiple transfusions, using an average of four units per month. "While not an African-American disease, sickle cell is most often experienced by African Americans in our community," Grable said. "Because of the need to be frequently transfused, the best matches for blood type come from African-American donors."

To learn more about CBC's Sickle Cell Program, donate blood or sponsor a blood drive, call 704-972-4700 or visit www.cbcc.us.

Father's Day Car Show this Saturday at Meadowview

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the Father's Day Car Show this coming Saturday at Meadowview Terrace Assisted Living Center, from 2 to 4 p.m. Car lovers, come see the interesting vehicles, and bring your own special ride too. The residents at Meadowview will be on hand too, ready to visit and interact with family and friends.

Meadowview Terrace is located at 123 Anson High School Road right across the street from the high school.

Filing Dates for 2013 Municipal Elections

The Board of Elections has released the filing dates for the upcoming Municipal Elections. Filing begins on Friday, July 5 at noon and runs until Friday, July 19 at noon. The filing fee is \$5.

Municipalities with elections are:

- Lilesville - Mayor and 5 council seats
- Morven - 2 Council Seats
- Peachland - 3 Council Seats
- Polkton - Mayor and 5 council seats
- Wadesboro - 3 Council Seats

More information is available at the Anson County Board of Elections, 704-994-3223.

Chamber of Commerce to Release Anson County Board Game

In celebration of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce's 50th anniversary, Chamber Director Lynn Edwards has created a board game of Anson County. At this point the game has not been named, but Edwards promises it will be fun and interesting to play.

The Chamber is pre-selling Limited Editions of the game now. These numbered, pre-order games are available for \$35. The regular price for the game is \$50. The pre-order form will be available on the Chamber's website: www.ansoncounty.org on June 24th.

The Chamber is also offering spaces on the board and the back side of the playing cards for businesses and individuals to purchase. This is a fun and effective way to expose your message to game players, while you are also supporting the Chamber's mission of promoting commerce right here in Anson County. Spaces on the board are available for \$200 to Chamber members, \$300 for non members. The backs of the playing cards cost \$100 for a set of four cards. According to Edwards the spaces and cards are selling fast, so if you want to be a part of the game call her ASAP! Her number is 704-694-4181.

Edwards said, "Tshe spaces and cards are selling very fast. This unique game is great exposure for businesses and people who have a vested interest or family history in Anson County. We are looking forward to releasing our game and hope everyone will enjoy it."

Edwards concluded by saying that because of high demand the boards, spaces and cards will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

Class of 1971 Reunion Meeting

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1971 will have a meeting on Saturday, June 22 at 2 p.m. at the Lady Bug Restaurant to make plans for the reunion to be held in 2014. For details contact Winnie Brown at (704) 475-0755 or Patricia Little at (704) 848-8165. All classmates are asked to be present.

BCSWCD Board Meeting is June 25

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 25 at 10 a.m. at the BCSWCD office located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro.

School Board Meets June 26

The Anson County Board of Education will meet in regular session on Wednesday, June 26 at the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Open Session to the public will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Farmer's Market is Open

Fresh vegetables, fruits and lots more are available twice a week at the Anson County Farmer's Market. Everyone is invited to come purchase fresh, local food on Wednesdays and Saturdays, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Farmer's Market is located on Highway 52 South of Wadesboro beside Cobb Vantress.