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

Municipal Election Filings as of July 12

Wadesboro Council race includes new candidates Rick Beam and Harold Skipper

The Anson County Board of Elections has released the names of candidates who have filed as of July 12 for the upcoming Municipal Election which will be held on November 5. The filing period runs through July 19 at noon. Here is a list of the candidates:

- Lilesville Commissioner - Bernice Bennett, Jason Clarke, Frank McAllister and Juanita Williams
- Morven Council - Theodore Carr and Marjoie Cole
- Peachland Council - James Thomas Hamilton, Bennie Garrett McLendon, Michael Jason Mullis and Kenneth Rowell
- Polkton Commissioner - Jimmy Hildreth, Neva Lee, Janice Stegall, Lindsay Wallace and Cynthia Williams
- Wadesboro Council - Rick Beam, Fred Davis, James David Lee, Harold Skipper and Bobby Usrey

Veteran Services and Community Enhancement Fair

The Anson County Veterans Service Office is hosting their second annual Veteran Services and Community Enhancement Fair, to be held on Saturday, August 3, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The event will be held in the Ingram Room at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro. Representatives with the US Department of Veterans Affairs from the W. G. (Bill) Hefner Medical Center in Salisbury, NC will be in attendance. Former military personnel, families and friends all are invited to come and receive information and assistance.

Admission is free and the information is abundant. Among the services available that day are:

- First hand advice from Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Experts.
- Talk to the Counselors from the Vet Centers about you concerns.
- Get guidance and information from VA Staff on the many programs the VA has to offer.
- Speak directly with local programs on health care and community resources services.
- Get one-on-one assistance on how to enroll for Health Care Benefits from Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Staff. (Bring a copy of your DD-214.)
- Games and prizes - fun for all ages!

For more information contact Anson County Veteran Services Officer Ted Ward at 704-694-4418 or ward@co.anson.nc.us.

Back To School with Pride Event is August 17 & 18

The "Back to School with Pride" outing will be held Saturday, August 17 and Sunday, August 18. The event will be at Hatcher Park in Lilesville on Saturday beginning at 2 p.m. and on Sunday at 11 a.m. at Centenary A.M.E. Zion Church. The theme again this year is "Back to School with Pride."

Various county officials, legal and medical advisers and special guests are invited. There will be games and music for all provided by HOLLA/Leon Gatewood and M&L Fun-Fun located in Morven. School age youth from 4 to 18 years old are cordially invited to attend. The kids will be given bags with school supplies at the end of the evening.

If you or your youth would like to attend you are invited. Or, if you would like to help make this a success, you may donate school supplies, new/slightly used uniforms or monetary gifts. For more information, registration cards, or to donate please contact Vancine Sturdivant at 704 848-4412 or Ester Lindsey at 704 848-8452.

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

418 people charged for drinking and driving over July 4th Holiday

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission, along with the State Highway Patrol and the Alcohol Law Enforcement division, has released results of the "On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive" campaign for the July 4 through July 7 holiday period.

Of the 418 people charged with drinking and driving over the July 4 holiday weekend, 50 were charged by Wildlife Enforcement Officers for operating a vessel while impaired. Summary information from the Wildlife Commission, State Highway Patrol and Alcohol Law Enforcement follows:

Wildlife Resources Commission - Operating While Impaired: 50 • Boating Citations: 451 • Boating Warnings: 850

State Highway Patrol - Driving While Impaired: 368 • Seatbelt Violations: 1,518 • Child Restraint Violations: 176 • Total Violations: 9,239

Alcohol Law Enforcement - ALE officers made five arrests, including an Underage Possession of Alcohol charge and a Carrying a Concealed Weapon violation.

The "On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive" campaign is a multi-agency initiative designed to ensure that all motorists travel safely on highways and waterways during the summer. Campaign patrols focus on three key summer travel holiday weekends: Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day.

The next phase of the campaign is scheduled for Labor Day.

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

NCDOT Announces "Booze It & Lose It: Operation Firecracker" Campaign Yields 1,737 DWI Arrests

DWI Task Forces aide local agencies to keep drunk drivers off the road

The North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Governor's Highway Safety Program announced today that nearly 1,800 DWI arrests were made during "Booze It & Lose It: Operation Firecracker" over the Independence Day holiday, which was held June 28-July 7.

"Law enforcement officials statewide continue to play a pivotal role in keeping those who drink and drive off the roads," said Don Nail, director of the NC Governor's Highway Safety Program. "Year round and especially during 'Booze It & Lose It' officers are going above and beyond the call of duty to keep our highways safe."

To help combat drunk driving, and make our roads safer, over the Independence Day holiday and throughout the year, the Governor's Highway Safety Program - in conjunction with the NC Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - has provided grants to create DWI task forces in areas with the highest number of DWI-related deaths.

There are currently seven DWI task forces across the state whose sole purpose is to get drunk drivers off the roads. Those seven counties that have DWI task forces were responsible for 455 of the 1,737 DWI arrests.

Guilford County is one of the newest task forces and is already making an impact. During the 2012 "Operation Firecracker" campaign there were 50 DWI arrests and in 2013 there were 146 DWI arrests.

In addition to DWI arrests, there were a total of 56,774 traffic and criminal citations issued statewide. Officers issued 4,194 safety belt and 729 child passenger safety violations, 15,972 speeding violations and 1,665 drug charges. In addition, they apprehended 1,379 fugitives from justice and recovered 92 stolen vehicles.

For more information regarding "Booze It & Lose It: Operation Firecracker" activities, contact Heather Jeffreys at (919) 707-2665, or visit www.ncdot.gov/programs/GHSP.

James D. Henderson VFW Post News

The James D. Henderson Post 10403 Veterans of Foreign Wars of Wadesboro has been busy this year with many activities. They have attended meetings at the district and state levels. The district meeting was held in Southern Pines and the state meeting was held in Greensboro. Post members held a Valentine's Day Family Night Out with entertainment, refreshments and prizes for all to enjoy. Post members visited the area nursing homes and gave out Valentine's Day cards to all the veterans as well as other residents in each facility. Approximately 200 cards were given out along with hugs to the residents.

In recognition of Memorial Day US flags were placed on the graves of veterans throughout the county. Also, flags were given to many veterans in the county along with cards. Members of Post 10403 attended the Memorial Day celebration held on the steps of the Anson County Courthouse. Col. Paul Little, a former resident of the Anson County, gave an inspiring speech to all in attendance.

Independence Day was celebrated by flying our United States of America flag during the month of July boldly and proudly!



Ann James showed her patriotism during this past Memorial Day. Her home looked beautiful.



Saturday in Uptown Wadesboro, Circa the Early 1940's

This picture shows uptown Wadesboro in the early 1940's on a Saturday. This is looking up West Wade Street from the southwest corner of Wade and Rutherford Streets. The Kyle's sign on the right is mounted on the building that was last used as Mack's Record Rack in the recent past.

The United States was in the depths of World War II at this time, and if you look closely you can see several men in uniform on the sidewalks. Nonetheless, a Saturday in uptown Wadesboro was a lively time with lots of people on the sidewalks and many different stores selling everything anyone could want or need.

Such a busy scene on a Saturday in Wadesboro was a normal thing until the 1970's. It was not uncommon for families to drive to town just to spend the day walking, shopping, eating at the many restaurants or taking in a movie. It was a social event! Wadesboro even had two movie theatres at one time. Also, farmers would come to town to bring their goods to sell and to purchase provisions. H. W. Little & Company was a popular gathering place for the farmers, with benches out front for them to visit and catch up on news.

You will notice on the right side of the street that all those buildings are gone now except for Parsons Drug. On the left you can see the Fox & Lyon Building on the square and the former Woods dime store just below it, both destroyed by fire in 1983.

Oh yes, there was not a stoplight in Anson County at the time of this picture! Anson's first traffic signal was placed on the square in the early 1970's.

Town of Wadesboro is Seeking Community Input on its Website

In a release from the Town of Wadesboro: After listening to citizen concerns, the Wadesboro Town Council recently approved website improvements. The Town is seeking citizen input on its website at the next Town Council meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, August 5. Any citizen who cannot attend is encouraged to submit his or her written comments at Town Hall.

Town Manager Alex Sewell commented, "The Town is seeking to increase community engagement by giving more opportunities for citizen input. Other than being cost-efficient, the Town's goals for the website are: 1) Promote and market the Town; 2) Make the site attractive; 3) Make the site informative; and 4) Keep the site current."

Classes to Help You Find Employment, Start Business or Enroll in School

In a release from ACCESS: Become part of something that will help you grow personally, professionally and spiritually. With Access you will learn how to:

- Find employment (even if you have a criminal record),
- Start a business, or
- Enroll in school

An information session will be held on Monday, July 22 at 11 a.m. at the Anson County Job Link Career Center, located at 116 West Wade Street in Wadesboro. Program classes start on August 19 at 9 a.m.

For more information call 866-474-2212 or email info@sharingaccess.org.

Have a Superlative Summer in NC

Biggest, Highest, Fastest give you plenty to write home about

Come to push your limits or to take in the unrivaled views. North Carolina is home to attractions that top lists of lighthouses, bridges and rivers based on measurable qualities. The height of summer is a perfect time to catch the action.

- Steepest zipline in the Continental United States: Newly opened in Saluda, The Gorge Zip Line drops 1,100 vertical feet on a course that includes 11 ziplines, three rappels and a sky bridge. Hear the roar of the Green River as you soar across 125 acres of old growth forest overlooking 18,000 acres of protected wilderness on this memory-making canopy tour.
- North America's tallest brick lighthouse: Cast your eyes across the sea and sound from atop the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse in Buxton. The only way to the top of the 208-foot structure, a signature attraction of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, is the spiral staircase.
- East Coast's tallest natural sand dune: Launch a hang-gliding adventure, soar on a replica of Orville Wright's glider or fly a kite on Jockey's Ridge in Nags Head. The world's largest hang-gliding school, Kitty Hawk Kites, is on site to help make your adventure happen.
- Highest point in Eastern North America: Hardy hikers reach the 6,684-foot summit at Mount Mitchell via a steep, 5½-mile trail. But the view - which extends 85 miles on a clear day - is just as awesome if you opt for the 850-foot path from the parking lot to the observatory.
- America's highest suspension footbridge: The Mile High Swinging Bridge crosses an 80-foot chasm at Grandfather Mountain, a wondrous natural attraction. A plank in the middle of the 228-foot bridge, which is wheelchair friendly, notes the spot that sits 5,280 feet above sea level.
- World's largest manmade whitewater river: The centerpiece of the US National Whitewater Center is no less exciting for being manmade. Thrill seekers opt for Rodeo Rafting, but the Charlotte attraction offers gentler whitewater tours as well as activities on land and flat water.
- Nation's busiest river (per river mile): Rafters, kayakers and trout fishermen find the endlessly scenic Nantahala River irresistible. In September, the Nanty will become the first river in the United States to host the ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championships.

Find more top-of-the-list experiences plus travel-planning information at VisitNC.com.

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center Food Pantry Hours for July

The Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center Emergency Food Pantry hours have changed for July. The Food Pantry will continue to be open on Wednesdays, but the time will be at 1:30 p.m. This will remain throughout July.

The Food Pantry will distribute USDA food Commodities on Tuesday, July 16 and Tuesday, July 23 to all Ansonians who qualify. The volunteers will distribute beginning at 1:30 p.m. Please do not arrive before 1 p.m. You will need to be at the BRLC by 2 p.m. in order to be served.

These time adjustments were made due the Summer Fun Day Camp for children. BRLC Director Carol Smith said, "If you have already received your USDA allotment for the month of June you will not be eligible for the July 16th distribution. We ask that you please bring documentation to verify your weekly, monthly or annual income. We do not discriminate, and we practice justice for all."

Free Movie is Secret World of Arrietty

The movie *Secret World of Arrietty*, based on the children's book written by Mary Norton, will be shown in the Little Theatre at Hampton B. Allen Library on Monday, July 22 at 10 a.m. This animated movie is rated G and is free to the public. Please come and bring a friend.

If you have any questions or need additional information please call the library at 704-694-5177.

Free Movie is Escape from Planet Earth

Anson County Parks and Recreation is presenting a free movie, *Escape from Planet Earth*, on Tuesday, July 23 at 2 p.m. in the Little Theatre at Hampton B. Allen Library. If you plan to attend please preregister by calling 704-694-5868.