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Stride with Pride Shoe Drive is Back!

Parents need to contact organizers with needs.
Donors asked to help area students.

This is a release from Patti Poulcott of Judy's Tax Service: We want the community to know Stride with Pride is now collecting new tennis shoes and money for the kids in Anson county. With students returning to school in August, these kids need shoes to wear.

This is our 13th annual season of collecting and distributing new tennis shoes to the underprivileged youth of all diversities in Anson County. Stride with Pride is being done in memory of the late Sheriff Landric Reid, co-founder of Stride with Pride along with Patti Poulcott.

We will offer all sizes, for males and females, from kindergarten to 12th grade. Please contact us as soon as possible so we can get the sizes right.

Message to parents Instead of having a large gathering to distribute the shoes as we have done in the past, we plan to give out the shoes door to door. With that in mind, we need to stress the importance of parents contacting us in the next few weeks so that we can buy the shoe sizes that are needed. The quicker you can contact us, the quicker we can get the shoes to the kids.

As a reminder, we need you to either email or text Patti Poulcott with the shoe sizes, ages, gender and names of each child, along with your current address and contact phone number. That way we will have all the information to make the purchases and deliveries. If you do not contact us we will not know who needs new shoes.

We are collecting through August 15. We will deliver as soon as we get their shoes purchased.

• Patti Poulcott - Email: ppoulcott@carolina.rr.com or text: 704-694-8386

Message to donors We do this because we care about our kids here in our county, and hope that our donors will join with us and help us continue to help our youth. If you would like to make a donation please mail it to: Shaundasia T Smith Foundation, Stride with Pride Shoe Drive, c/o Judy's Tax Service, 102 S Rutherford Street, Wadesboro NC 28170.

We continue this charitable effort in memory of Sheriff Landric Reid.

If you have any questions please contact Patti Poulcott.

• Patti Poulcott - Email: ppoulcott@carolina.rr.com or text: 704-694-8386.

Patti Poulcott said, "We hope that you will consider joining us so that we can help our youth 'Stride With Pride' their way to success. Thank you to all the donors for your participation."

Anson Mobile Food Market is Thursday

The Anson Mobile Food Market will be held this Thursday, July 20, starting at 4 p.m. at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC). Attendees can receive free food items as long as supplies last. This is a free initiative, so please stop by and get some healthy food for your family. The event will include blood pressure and blood sugar checks, as well information on healthy eating and lifestyle.

This event is held to assist in the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in the county.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. The telephone number is 704-826-8737.

For more information visit www.burnsvillegc.org.

Go Outdoors North Carolina

New system modernizes vessel registration, fishing license purchases and more

On July 1 the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission launched a new, custom licensing system and mobile app, Go Outdoors North Carolina, developed in partnership with Brandt, a Florida based company that provides innovative paperless web and mobile solutions for a best-in-class user experience. Through Go Outdoors North Carolina, residents and non-residents can easily purchase licenses, register vessels, apply for permits, and shop for merchandise online. Customers can upgrade their digital license(s) to a durable, hard card license with four design options to choose from that feature North Carolina game and fish. The designs are of white-tailed deer, wood duck, largemouth bass and dolphinfish.

This new, efficient system is designed to improve the user experience for our fishing, hunting and trapping license holders, vessel registrants and Wildlife Service Agents.

The Go Outdoors North Carolina app for iOS and Android users features a range of helpful resources from virtual maps, regulations, vessel registration, and much more. Through real-time license verification and secure digital storage, the Go Outdoors North Carolina app ensures that users can conveniently access their licenses at any time, even from their mobile devices. The app also allows users to access their licenses easily on their phones, view regulations and sunrise/sunset times in the field, and report harvests after hunting.

"The launch of the Go Outdoors North Carolina licensing system represents a significant milestone in our commitment to expanding Brandt's national support to transform the outdoor licensing experience with a simple, modern and secure solution," said Travis Warren, CEO of Brandt.

As part of the partnership, Brandt also developed a mobile app for Wildlife Law Enforcement Officers to be able to scan license documents and/or hard card QR codes to confirm customer status in the field, with or without cell phone reception.

Customers can create an account online at Go Outdoors North Carolina or download the Go Outdoors North Carolina app to buy or sync their current licenses. To purchase fishing, hunting or trapping licenses or register a vessel visit gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com.

Paper Flowers Workshop at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library will host a craft workshop with Arvonja Edwards on Monday, July 24 at 10:30 a.m. The workshop will be in the Pritchett Room. Participants will be making paper flowers.

All supplies will be furnished. Attendees need to bring scissors. Looking forward to seeing you there.
Any questions please call 704-694-5177.



Sharing Health and Wellness at Morven Elementary School

Parallel Cultures brings new visitors, new experiences, and new exposure to Morven youth

This is a release from Parallel Cultures: In June 2023, Parallel Cultures, Inc. held its' Second Annual Culture, Leadership, and Knowledge Camp (#CLKCamp) at Morven Elementary School. The weeklong camp endeavors to provide cultural-based educational and enrichment activities, to expose youth to a range of fields and professionals from STEM to the Fine Arts, and to teach health and wellness practices that emphasize self-love and knowledge of self. Parallel Cultures is a registered 501(c)3 organization based in Morven with a mission to: "Illuminate new possibilities through education and travel; Enrich and broaden cultural awareness and global perspectives; and Inspire a generation of successful global citizens through intersectional and educational understandings of one another and the world."

The organization's Founder and Executive Director is Morven native, Dr. Masonya J. Bennett (Assistant Professor of African and African Diaspora Studies at Kennesaw State University). Dr. Dionnya Pratt, Principal of Morven Elementary School, hosted and supervised all activities geared toward the enrichment of Morven youth. In accordance, Mayor Timothy Watkins officially proclaimed the week of June 12-16, 2023, as Parallel Cultures' Culture, Leadership, and Knowledge Week in the Town of Morven.

The theme of this year's #CLKCamp emphasized Health and Wellness. This focus included encouraging healthy eating and cooking habits, learning about human and animal bodies, and engaging with cross-cultural healing customs. Returning students from last year's CLK cohort were joined by new MES 2nd-6th graders, which totaled about 20 happy campers. Camp attendees were super excited to see the return of camp counselors and Parallel Cultures' team members, Ms. Semhal Hagos (Washington D.C Mayor's Office on African Affairs) and Dr. Marwa Ghazali (Assistant Professor of Anthropology at University of Houston and Harvard University fellow). Both Ms. Hagos and Dr. Ghazali are of East African descent (Ethiopia and Egypt respectfully). Throughout the week, they shared a wealth of knowledge while facilitating an array of cultural-based arts activities such as healing beading practices and Kenyan-inspired jewelry-making. Artist Ryan Cureton of Monroe, NC also returned this year to guide another painting workshop, teach new techniques, and discuss professional arts with the students. Dr. Masonya Bennett conducted a weeklong Photo-Voice project in which students were provided a camera to capture their own personal experiences and perspectives of the week's activities.

Building upon last year's momentum while also keeping with the latest theme of Health and Wellness, this summer, Parallel Cultures brought in a diverse and electrifying collection of new presenters and facilitators to Morven Elementary. For the first three days of #CLKCamp, Vegan Chef Sunni Speaks of Miami, FL led hands-on vegan culinary workshops in which students prepared vegan pizza, vegan nachos, and vegan banana pudding. Students loved the process and especially, chopping their own vegetables while learning about nutritional value. Chef Sunni is also the author of the children's book, "Stoney the Vegan: Pizza Night," which students had the opportunity to read prior to cooking. Chef Sunni has served as a personal chef to stars such as HipHop artist, Rick Ross and R&B singer, Jasmine Sullivan.

In addition to Chef Sunni, Primatologist, Mr. Trevon Covington travelled to Morven from Seattle, WA to facilitate a two-day interactive discussion about Primates. Primates are bipedal mammals (walk on two feet) which include Lemurs, Monkeys, Apes, and Humans! The University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Department of Anthropology provided replicas of primate skulls so that CLK students could see and touch. Students then created their own Super-Hero Primates and stories. Following Mr. Covington's demonstration, students were able to make further connections between humans and our primate relatives with Dr. Brittany Lee, Family Medicine Physician with Atrium Health Charlotte. Dr. Lee supplemented Morven's brilliant young minds by offering an up-close and interactive presentation of human anatomy, including the heart! Dr. Lee answered questions about medical school, utilized hands-on models of the human body, and sent each student home with their own personal stethoscope.

The week concluded with an interactive and healing drumming circle facilitated by Drums 4 Life of Charlotte. The African-based drumming circle intertwined with a talk by Anson County Sheriff Deputy Nachia Revels, a member of the indigenous Lumbee Tribe. Deputy Revels shared Lumbee cultural practices and connections. #CLKCamp officially ended with a Field Trip to Greensboro, NC, where students visited The International Civil Rights Center and Museum and toured the campus of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T). Each student received their own piece of college memorabilia. This culmination of experiences undoubtedly illuminated the young minds of Morven.

Parallel Cultures Second Annual #CLK camp was made possible by generous partners and sponsors including: BxB Investment Group, the Morven Chapter of Las Amigas, the Anson County Partnership for Children, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Department of Anthropology and Department of Africana Studies, LTKB Consulting LLC, V Beavers Consulting LLC, members of the Anson Sportsman Club, Elegant Styles LLC, Sophia Pratt, Regina Lloyd-Brown, and Black Swann Wellness Center. Parallel Cultures. Also thanks MES Social Worker, Ms. Kam McDonald, for organizing the students' Greensboro experience.

To learn more about Parallel Cultures, please visit: www.parallelcultures.org or follow @parallelcultures on Facebook and Instagram.

