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Shelby Emrich is New Director of Chamber of Commerce



The Anson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has appointed Shelby Emrich as Executive Director. Emrich has served as interim director since February, replacing longtime Director Lynn Edwards, who resigned earlier this year. Emrich has worked for the Chamber for five years.

In making the announcement, Chamber Board Chairman Richard Allen said that Emrich, since taking on the role as interim director, has shown the energy and enthusiasm they were looking for in a Chamber leader. "Shelby has done an exceptional and outstanding job. We could not have asked for a better candidate. We are excited for Shelby, and she has the full support of this Board to move the Chamber forward in a positive direction." Allen said.

In accepting the full time director's position, Emrich said that she is excited about this opportunity to serve as Executive Director. She expects the remainder of 2016 and the years ahead, to be great for the Chamber. "I'm looking forward to continuing to work with this Board and our membership. We have a lot of great programs to offer. I see many positive things in the future for the Chamber and businesses here in Anson County. I am really excited to serve in this position and look forward to the opportunities and as well as the challenges ahead." Emrich said.

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1963. Its Mission Statement is: To promote and preserve the business climate and quality of life for the general welfare of all the citizens of Anson County and our members through diverse leadership and a shared vision of excellence."

New Church, Hopewell Baptist, Begins Services this Sunday



A new church, Hopewell Baptist Church, will launch this Sunday, August 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Wadesboro. This is the Wadesboro Campus of Hopewell Baptist Church in Monroe, and it will be led by Pastor Karl Randall.

Hopewell Baptist Wadesboro Campus is located at SPCC's Lockhart-Taylor Center, 514 North Washington Street. Their mission is leading people to follow Christ through worship, discipleship and ministry.

Pastor Randall offered this explanation of how the Wadesboro Campus was conceived, "The day after Thanksgiving 2015 my son and I were walking around a junkyard in Monroe, and I was praying for a Church to serve in...and about planting a church. Unknown to me, there was one other person in the junkyard and it was Dr. Lee Pigg, the pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church in Monroe. He had been praying for two years about planting a church in his hometown of Wadesboro and had shared with his staff to pray for him as he looked for the Pastor of this church plant.

As we passed in the junkyard I saw a Hopewell logo on his shirt and asked if he was Lee Pigg, and he replied depends on who's asking. We had never met before, and we talked and shared our story with each other and prayed in the junkyard together. Shortly after I was put on staff as a church planter.

On Sunday, August 7th we will be having our official launch after having two vision casting days in July. Our vision is "Leading People to Follow Christ" through Worship, Discipleship and Ministry. Ecclesiastes 4:12 says that a cord of three strands is not easily broken.

If you are looking for a church that is proactive in reaching the lost with the Gospel, then we invite you to join us as we fulfill "The Great Commission."

Hopewell Baptist Church Legacy Campus is located at 420 Hopewell Church Road in Monroe. Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is 704-753-1084. The website is whatasavior.com.



You Can Donate School Supplies Next Two Weekends

The Back to School Bash executive board will host their annual Stuff the Bus Fundraiser at Walmart in Wadesboro this Friday, August 5 and Saturday, August 6, and again on Friday, August 12 and Saturday, August 13. You can donate school supplies or funds that will be used to purchase school supplies. Just look for the bus! Distribution to Anson County students will take place at the upcoming Back to School Bash. The date of that event will be announced soon.

Organizer Vancine Sturdivant said, "We thank Walmart for graciously allowing us to come and collect school supplies for our youth. Superintendent Michael Freeman has arranged for a bus to be parked at Walmart. We ask all citizens to please come and support this event."

For more information please contact Vancine Sturdivant 704-848-4412.

Demetress Leandra Bennett Charged in Monroe Murder

Demetress Leandra Bennett, 23, of 1951 McRae Avenue in Wadesboro has been charged in the July 26 shooting death of a Lancaster, SC man, Danny McGriff, Jr. She was arrested along with three men from Monroe on July 28.

On Tuesday, July 26 at about 11:20 p.m. Monroe Police Department officers responded to a call in reference to a shooting at the Relax Inn, located at 611 West Roosevelt Boulevard. They found McGriff on a walkway, dead from an apparent gunshot wound to his chest. On Thursday, July 28 detectives from the Monroe Police Department and agents from the State Bureau of Investigation arrested Bennett and the other three suspects, charging them with the murder. Also arrested were Jarvis Dakota Miller, 27; Robert Cordara Hood, 27; and Charles Denziele Hunt, 21, all of Monroe.

All four suspects were charged with first degree murder, robbery with a dangerous weapon, and conspiracy to commit robbery. Miller was also charged with possession of a firearm by a felon. They are in the Union County Jail with no bond.

Raffle for Veterans Memorial Project at Wadesboro Park

Win a Marlin XT-17 Series rifle! Tickets are only \$5.

The Anson County Veterans Council is constructing a new Veterans Memorial to be located inside the Wadesboro City Park. The memorial will be concrete, with a granite marker that displays the emblems of the five branches of service and flags along with the American flag on a 30 foot pole. The memorial will also have the North Carolina flag and the Anson County flag on each side at 25 feet tall. The memorial will have a box for citizens to discard used American flags. Flags placed inside the box will be collected and disposed of properly.

Work is progressing, and recently sod has been added along with some shrubbery. More shrubbery will be added in the fall. The next project will be the addition of the three flag poles.

A new fundraiser has begun for this project, the raffling of a Marlin XT-17 Series rifle.

Tickets are \$5 and are on sale now! Tickets may be purchased at Lacys, Permanent Solutions, Anson Sign Company and Rayfields Meat Center. Also, you can purchase tickets from any Veterans Council member or call 704-694-6770.

To make a contribution, please make checks payable to the Anson County Veterans Council, PO Box 1791, Wadesboro, NC 28170. Donations are tax deductible.



Anson County 4-H'ers Attend and Win Honors at State 4-H Congress

Anson 4-H'ers received honors during the recent State 4-H Congress. This year's 4-H Congress, held in Raleigh July 16-19, attracted more than 540 young people and their adult leaders for activities including presentations on a variety of subjects, leadership and citizenship training, service opportunities, officer elections and more. Anson County 4-H'er Na'La Brown (pictured above left) attended Congress and was our county flag bearer. Na'La also participated in the state community service project that partnered with Feeding Children Everywhere and helped package over 80,000 meals given out at local food banks across the state.

Keyshawn Tillman (pictured above right), son of Charles and Kishi Tillman of Marshville, won the gold medal in contests designed to test 4-H'ers' knowledge of a variety of subjects. Keyshawn won the 11 and 12 year old division of the Fruits & Vegetable Use. His presentation was entitled, "Fruits Forgotten, Not Forbidden." He competed against five others in his category and walked away with the highest award in the state.

The 4-H program is the youth education program of North Carolina Cooperative Extension, based at North Carolina State and North Carolina A&T State universities. More than 239,000 young people between the ages of 5 and 19 participate in North Carolina 4-H activities each year with the help of 21,700 adult and youth volunteers.

Dealing with this Extreme Heat

Take precautions during extreme heat. Stay cool, stay hydrated, and stay informed.

This is a release from the Anson County Health Department: With the forecast continuing to be in the 90s, and the heat index approaching or exceeding 100 degrees for many regions of the state, the Anson County Health Department is reminding people to take precautions to avoid heat-related illnesses, such as heat cramps, heat stroke and heat exhaustion.

"Heat-related illnesses can come on quickly," said Anson County Health Director Fred Thompson, "and we may not even recognize the symptoms. There are some simple common-sense precautions to take to keep yourself and your family safe during extended periods of heat. This is especially important for children and seniors who are more at risk for heat-related illnesses. Whenever possible stay inside air-conditioning, drink plenty of fluids - water is best, avoid caffeine and alcohol and large amounts of sugar, wear light clothing and limit outdoor activities during the hottest part of the day."

Heat is the number one weather-related killer in the United States resulting in hundreds of fatalities each year and claiming more lives each year than floods, lightning, tornadoes, and hurricanes combined. The most vulnerable individuals are those who work or exercise outdoors, adults over 65, infants and children under 4, the homeless or poor, and people with a chronic medical condition.

Take the necessary precautions to prevent serious health effects such as heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

Stay cool

- Stay in air-conditioned buildings.
- Do not rely on a fan as your primary cooling device.
- Limit outdoor activity, especially midday when it is the hottest part of the day, and avoid direct sunlight.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Take cool showers or baths to lower your body temperature.
- Check on at-risk friends, family, and neighbors at least twice a day.

Stay hydrated

- Drink more water than usual, and don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.
- Drink from two to four cups of water every hour while working or exercising outside.
- Avoid alcohol or liquids containing high amounts of sugar.
- Make sure your family, friends, and neighbors are drinking enough water.

Stay informed

- Check your local news for extreme heat warnings and safety tips.
- Keep your friends, family, and neighbors aware of weather and heat safety information.

Additionally, Thompson encourages all residents to learn the signs and first aid response for heat-related illness. Warning signs and symptoms vary but may include:

Heat Exhaustion Symptoms

- Heavy sweating
- Weakness
- Skin cold, pale, and clammy
- Weak pulse
- Fainting and vomiting

What You Should Do

- Move to a cooler location.
- Lie down and loosen your clothing.
- Apply cool, wet cloths to as much of your body as possible.
- Sip water.
- If you have vomited and it continues, seek medical attention immediately

Heat Stroke Symptoms

- High body temperature (above 103°F)
- Hot, red, dry or moist skin
- Rapid and strong pulse
- Possible unconsciousness

What You Should Do

- Call 911 immediately - this is a medical emergency.
- Move the person to a cooler environment.
- Reduce the person's body temperature with cool cloths or even a bath.
- Do NOT give fluids.

Additional information is available at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat and www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/heatstress.

Free Seminar on Bullying August 13

A program called 'You Got This!' will be presented on Saturday, August 13, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Community Room at Carolinas HealthCare System Anson. This free informative and interactive session will teach participants how to recognize, overcome and fight bullying. It is open to middle and high school students, parents, and community members. The program is sponsored by Beyond the Block, Inc.

Seating is limited and registration is required by August 6. You can call or text 336-337-5114 for more information and to register.

Town Hall Meeting with Rep. Mark Brody on August 8

Representative Mark Brody's office has extended an invitation to everyone to attend an upcoming town hall meeting on Monday, August 8. Brody will discuss the state budget and other issues. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library. Call 919-715-3029 for more information.

Deborah Ross, Democratic Candidate for US Senate, at Library August 13

A question and answer session with NC Democratic Nominee for US Senate, Deborah Ross will take place at the Hampton B. Allen Library on Saturday, August 13 at 2:30 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

For more information call Vancine Sturdivant, Anson County Democratic Party Chair, at 704-848-4412.

Bingo August 16

Bingo at Grace Senior Center will be played at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, August 16 instead of at 1 p.m. Bingo will resume the regular time of 1 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20. For more information please call 704-694-6616.