

Event named in honor of Shaundasia T. Smith this year. Donations sought from the community.

The annual Stride with Pride Tennis Shoe Drive has been renamed in memory of Shaundasia T. Smith. Shaundasia, the granddaughter of Stride with Pride founder, Sheriff Landric Reid, died on March 29, 2015. "Shaundasia was always involved with the shoe drive," said Sheriff Reid. "She will be missed throughout the community."

Collections of shoes and donations have begun, and will run through August 16. Through the generous contributions of the community Stride with Pride was able to give away over 300 pairs of tennis shoes to underprivileged youth of all diversities last year. However, the need in Anson County is so great that their goal this year is to put a smile on at least 350 faces! These new tennis shoes will benefit children from kindergarten through 12 grade, and all sizes are needed.

Joining in the effort again with Sheriff Reid is Patti Poulcott of Judy's Tax Service in Wadesboro. Together, Patti and Sheriff Reid will be working to collect donations of new shoes and monetary contributions from area supporters. They hope that you will consider joining them in this important effort to help a child walk the halls of success this new school year.

"Though your generosity we can help our youth 'Stride with Pride' this coming school year," Patti said. "Collections are going on now through August 16. We hope you will consider joining us to help our local children."

Stride with Pride will be a part of the Back to School with Pride event to be held on Saturday, August 15 at Hatcher Park in Lilesville. At that event hundreds of area students will be provided with free school supplies.

For more information or to make a contribution to Stride with Pride, please contact Patti Poulcott at 704-694-8386 or email ppoulcott@carolina.rr.com.



diatrician Dr. Rosemary Stein talked about education policy and parental responsibility and choice stating "the buck stops here" with home. Dr. Stein is running for the NC State Dept. of Education chairman in 2016. Representative Mark Brody and family were in attendance and he finalized the words of encouragement and a report of the work in the NC House of Representatives.

Previous to the picnic an open executive board meeting was called. The brief meeting was to discuss and elect the open secretary seat. Mechell Turner, was elected to serve. Rev. Bob Wells was also congratulated for being appointed a seat on the Board of Trustees for South Piedmont Community College.

Our next meeting is August 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Anson County Library. Our meetings are open to all.

Pictured above, from left, are Donna Wells, Rev. Bob Wells, Hasan Harnett, Dr. Rosemary Stein, Rep. Mark Brody, Brian Johnson and Danny Pearson.

Anson County 4-H'er Participated in State 4-H Congress

Anson County 4-H'er Katie Edwards took part in the 2015 North Carolina 4-H Congress. Held July 18-21, the event brought 518 young people and their adult leaders to Raleigh for activities including presentations on a variety of subjects, leadership and citizenship training, service opportunities, officer elections and more.

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 232,000 young people between the ages of 5 and 19 participate in North Carolina 4-H activities each year with the help of 20,563 adult and youth volunteers.

Landowners Sought to Help Conserve Habitat for Monarch Butterflies

Hard-to-find milkweed plants offered at no cost to landowners

Migrating monarch butterflies are getting new hope in the Piedmont of North Carolina. The US Fish and Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, in cooperation with the North Carolina Botanical Garden, is seeking landowners in selected parts of North Carolina who are interested in creating and/or maintaining meadows to conserve monarch butterflies.

"We are looking for farmers, foresters, ranchers and other landowners interested in turning one or more acres of fallow fields or meadows west of I-95 into a welcome sight for the monarchs," explained John Ann Shearer, USFWS biologist. Qualifying landowners can receive up to 20 milkweed plants per acre at no cost to them. A commitment to plant in October 2015 and maintain the plants in the future is required.

Common milkweed is hard to find commercially. It occurs naturally in the Piedmont and mountains of North Carolina, but local nurseries usually don't sell or grow it because it has low ornamental value and it spreads. Unlike other flowering seasonal milkweeds with strong visual appeal, the common milkweed lacks charm, but it compensates in ecological value. Given how inaccessible this critical plant is, the USFWS decided to invest in its future by partnering with the NC Botanical Garden who is handling seed collection and propagation.

Monarchs cannot survive without milkweed. The adults lay their eggs on milkweed plants and the caterpillars that emerge eat only milkweed. There is not as much milkweed on our landscape as there used to be. Planting native milkweeds can help revert the loss. Monarch butterflies use open fields and meadows, places where grasses and wildflowers are already growing.

"Only a portion of a property could be enough to make a positive difference and there is no requirement for public access. Private landowners are stewards of the land, and effective land managers. We want to provide landowners with the tools to create or enhance habitat for wildlife in cost-effective ways," clarified Shearer.



Eligibility criteria

Qualifications for large-scale monarch habitat:

- Located west of I-95 in North Carolina
- One or more acres of open fields and grasslands currently devoid of milkweed
- Willingness to avoid disturbance April through November
- Willingness and ability to keep in an early successional state by mowing, burning, or disking
- Willingness and ability to plant sites in October 2015

In addition to large scale monarch habitats, consideration will be given to a limited number of small butterfly gardens in which milkweed may be grown while also providing an educational site for students or the public.

Qualifications for butterfly garden:

- Located west of I-95 in North Carolina
- Ability to maintain garden
- Garden available to students and/or public
- Willingness and ability to plant in October 2015

How to express interest If you qualify and are interested, please send the following information to John Ann Shearer, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Coordinator for North Carolina at johnann_shearer@fws.gov. Please put MILKWEED REQUEST in your subject line.

• Property Name, Landowner, Contact Person (if different than landowner), Property Address, County, Acres to be planted, Property's current condition (fallow agricultural field, open meadow, pasture, garden, etc.), Property Map.

Requests will be prioritized based on the site condition, location, size, degree of protection, ability to be maintained, landscape context, and other such factors. Planting instructions will be made available and participants will be asked to sign a one-page agreement acknowledging their intent to plant and maintain the milkweed for monarchs.

To view a video about a sample Partners for Fish and Wildlife project in NC, visit youtu.be/4X16xAqmInA. Please remember, each project is unique. Educational video about monarchs is available online at bit.ly/1k15K0m.

Harvest Ministries to Host Free Music Conference

Harvest Ministries Outreach Center is hosting their 2015 Conference on Thursday and Friday, August 6 and 7. The Founders Day Celebration will take place on Thursday with Pastor Donnie McClurkin of Perfecting Faith Church in Freeport, New York at 6:30 p.m. On Friday Pastor Bryn Waddell will appear at 6:30 p.m. Waddell is from City Revival Church and is the former praise and worship leader of The Ramp Worship Band with Pastor Karen Wheaton. Doors will open both nights at 5 p.m.

Videos of both men are available on youtube.com.

Registration is now free!, and runs until Saturday, August 1. You can register online at www.harvestmin.com or call 704-695-2879. Registration is limited to the first 450 guests so register today.

Bingo at Grace Senior Center

Bingo games are held every third Tuesday of the month at Grace Senior Center at 1 p.m. All seniors are invited to attend for fun and fellowship. For more information or to register to play call the center at 704-694-6616.

Anson County Republican Party News

In a release from the Anson County Republican Party: The Anson County Republican Party met Sunday, July 26 at City Pond Park in Wadesboro for an old fashioned family picnic and cookout. There were around 60 folks in attendance. We included several special guests who came to speak with us and just have fun.

NC State Republican Party Chair Hasan Harnett, gave words of motivation, patriotism and inclusion of the party. Pe-

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Pastor Tony Hancox

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KRAZZ JAKZ AUCTION

Thursday, Aug 8 7pm

216 Wortham Street in Wadesboro

Behind Dollar General



Come Join Us For Our

HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

Sunday, August 9

CONCORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Ansonville, NC

WORSHIP SERVICE at 11 a.m.

Covered dish meal to follow the worship service

REGISTER FOR PRE-K AND AFTERSCHOOL

HAPPY DAYS DAYCARE
PEACHLAND, NC 28133
704-272-7797 or 704-694-8193
Serving Children Since 1979

Ages: 6 Weeks to 12 Years

Pre-K program operates on a regular school calendar, but children may still attend on non-school days. Four year olds attending Happy Days participate in the Pre-K program at no additional charge. Those not attending may sign-up for Pre-K from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. daily.

Curriculum for the program is designed by a North Carolina Certified Kindergarten Teacher to help four year olds gain the skills needed to be successful in elementary school. Areas addressed, but not limited to, include language development, cognitive and communication functioning, and emotional and social development.

Afterschool Care is available each day, and also on school holidays and other school closings, including summers. School bus transportation is available to and from school each day.

Weekly rates are as listed: \$115 for babies and 2 year olds; \$110 for 3 through 12 year olds; and \$45 for before and after school. We offer part-time care if needed. We offer full or part-time care as needed during the summer.

For more information or to enroll, please call the numbers listed above.