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People Fest logo designed by Ed McBride

People Fest is Back!

This is a release from the Town of Wadesboro: You asked for it and you got it! The Town of Wadesboro is excited to announce that People Fest will be returning on Saturday, October 10, from 10:30 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. After 30 years of People Fest fun, we're looking forward to continuing the ride!

This year's festival is shaping up to be a fun filled day with lots of things for the young, old, and young at heart. Exciting activities will include tons of fun filled games for children, delicious food trucks, around the clock entertainment capped off by a live band that night, a "dunk your teacher" dunking booth, the Annual Civitan Duck Race, and an all day film festival at the Ansonia Theatre.

"Meatballs" the pug is challenging all animals to the 1st Annual Pet Costume and Talent Contest to raise money for the Animal Shelter. Town Manager Alex Sewell stated, "After dressing up as a pumpkin last year, Meatballs thinks he can't be beat and is honestly getting a little arrogant. Dog, cat, llama, or whatever ... I encourage all pets to come challenge Meatballs. Just please not exotic or dangerous animals." If you'd like to participate, please email Sewell at wadesboromanager@windstream.net or call Town Hall at 704-694-5171.

Vendor applications will be available on the Town of Wadesboro website (townofwadesboro.org) in the next few days. Or you can pick one up at Town Hall or call 704-694-5171 and we will mail one to you. Give us a call if you have any questions. Tell any crafters you know to give us a call too.



Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center Summer Fun Day Camp

In a release from Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center: Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center summer camp has come to a close after another outstanding summer. The Summer Fun Day Camp was enjoyed by over 35 kids throughout the summer. Their ages ranged from 4 to 16 years old. The camp theme this summer was "Character."

Students learned and discussed the principals of positive and negative character. They discovered that character is what you do when no one is looking. There were several inspiration leaders that came to speak with the campers on good character weekly. The children were given the opportunity to answer and ask questions of the presenters after each session.

Each day consisted of fun, food and many activities. Campers had a nutritious breakfast and hot lunch - many returned to the kitchen for seconds. Librarians from Hampton B. Allen Library provided reading material and provided a story time for the students. All of the children who participated in the reading program were rewarded gifts. Mr. Derick Byrd presented his hobby of creating professional wrestling belts to the children. Friendship bracelets were made, and all children were given a t-shirt with sponsors' names. Pearson Trucking providing dog tags necklaces embossed with "BRLC Summer Fun Day Camp 2015" for all the campers and volunteers. North Carolina Forestry Services provided a Wet & Wild Day for all campers to bring their swim suits and enjoy the water. They all had fun playing in the water on a hot summer day!

Students were able to travel weekly, discovering and exploring. The trips consisted of a movie at Eastgate Cinemas in Albemarle, lunch at Rock Creek Park, a visit to All for Fun Game and Entertainment Center, lunch at Chuck Morehead Park, a visit and tour of Spiritual Outfitters Retreat Cabin in Burnsville and lunch at Oakboro District Park. This was a great experience for many of them.

At the end of camp children presented a talent show, and all camp children were given the opportunity to express themselves on what the camp meant to them. During the talent show parents, sponsors and friends enjoyed lunch. All campers were awarded certificates and gifts by camp leader Nancy Watkins. Second Harvest Food Bank Kids Café Director Mike Oberle donated the gifts.

The camp was a great success due to the sponsorships, parents and children. The involvement of all made this summer so special for many children. BRLC would like to thank Mrs. Keyanna Maye and all the parents on behalf of the activities the last day of camp, July 30. Mrs. Maye and others provided the fun bounce house, snow cones, hamburgers, sodas and popcorn. All activities were held outside.

Be Safe, Be Responsible When Dove Season Opens on September 5

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Home From The Hunt campaign reminds hunters that when dove hunting season opens on Sept. 5 to be safe and responsible in the field throughout the season.



Hours to shoot dove are half-hour before sunrise to sunset for the entire season, including opening day. The 2015-16 season for mourning and white-winged dove is Sept. 5 to Oct. 10, and resumes Nov. 23 to Jan. 15. Daily bag limit is 15 and possession limit is three times the daily bag limit. The season does not include Sunday; hunting of migratory game birds by any method is not allowed on Sundays.

The Home From The Hunt campaign lists the following Top 5 dove hunting recommendations:

- When hunting in a group, adhere to established zones of fire on the dove families.
- Never shoot at low-flying birds and alert others when a bird is too low for a safe shot.
- Take time prior to hunting to walk the field and inspect the area for bait.
- Never place decoys on utility lines, which is trespassing and risks electrical shock.
- Don't combine game bags, which is a hunting regulations violation.

All hunters must follow applicable licensing requirements and hunting regulations. It is an individual hunter's responsibility to know the area being hunted. Don't hunt over baited fields. According to state regulations, the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure for migratory game birds can constitute a baited area. Because birds often return to a feeding area even after the food source is exhausted, hunting within 10 days after complete disappearance of feed from a baited area is illegal.

For more information on migratory game bird hunting, hunter safety, hunting regulations and free Hunting Heritage Permits, go to www.ncwildlife.org.



Free Flu Shots for Veterans on September 2

The Salisbury VAMC's Rural Health Program will provide free flu shots to veterans on Wednesday, September 2 at the Anson County Veteran Services Office, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The flu shots are offered to all veterans who present a VHA ID card and/or a copy of their DD-214 and a valid photo ID. VA representatives will also offer enrollment assistance to those interested in enrolling in the healthcare system.

The Anson County Veteran Services Office is located at 111 North Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro, the Belk Building. For more information call Salisbury VAMC at 704-638-9000 ext 4958. The local office is headed by Ted Ward, tward@co.anson.nc.us or call (704) 694-4418.

Getting the Most From Your Medicare Benefits

Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program holds free public events around North Carolina

Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin and SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, are pleased to announce a series of town hall events to educate Medicare beneficiaries on how to get the most from their Medicare benefits.

At the events, SHIIP staff and volunteers will provide information about Medicare basics and applying for Extra Help, a federal subsidy for people with limited incomes and assets to assist with Medicare prescription drug plan costs. SHIIP will also emphasize the importance of Medicare beneficiaries reviewing and comparing Medicare Part D prescription drug plans during the Annual Election Period, Oct. 15- Dec. 7.

The events are free and open to the public. Goodwin, county officials, and SHIIP staff and volunteers will be in attendance. For more information about the town hall events contact marcia.kelly@ncdoi.gov or call 855-408-1212.

The closest meeting to Anson County will be held in Troy on Tuesday, September 15. It will take place at the Troy/Montgomery Senior Center (315 North Main Street), from 10 to 11:30 a.m. That meeting will be followed by a seminar entitled "Medicare 101 Class," held from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

SHIIP is a division of the North Carolina Department of Insurance that offers free, objective information about Medicare, Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medicare Advantage, long-term care insurance and other health insurance issues. SHIIP's trained volunteers provide one-on-one counseling in all 100 counties. For more information about SHIIP or to get answers to Medicare questions, call SHIIP directly at 855-408-1212 or visit www.ncshiip.com.

Division of Employment Security Successfully Transitions to New Debit Cards for Unemployment Benefits

The Division of Employment Security (DES) has completed the process of changing its debit card provider to Bank of America. DES sent tens of thousands of informational packages and new VISA debit cards to eligible customers who receive their unemployment insurance benefits via debit card.

In an effort to better serve customers, the Division of Employment Security (DES) began using the new debit cards on August 1. Customers will benefit by incurring fewer and lower fees associated with the new card and enjoying more access points. This change was due to the state master service agreement negotiated by the Office of State Controller on behalf of all state agencies. The state volume-buying got the lowest fees.

"The DES team and the Bank of America team, working together, made this successful transition to the new debit card look relatively easy," said Department of Commerce Assistant Secretary of Employment Security Dale Folwell. "New programs are never easy. It involved months of planning and precise implementation by Bank of America and DES employees from our information technology, unemployment insurance, benefit payment control, customer call center and public relations departments."

New cards were issued to each claimant who met the following criteria: they had received benefits via the debit card, their benefit year had not ended, and their benefits were not exhausted.

Claimants should activate their new cards immediately. However, the old cards should not be thrown away. Claimants should continue using their old MasterCard debit cards until the balance is zero.

More information is available on the DES website at www.ncesc.com.

Free Groceries Next Wednesday with Mobile Food Pantry

The Mobile Food Pantry will be at Ansonville United Methodist Church on Wednesday, September 2, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food. Do not arrive before 9:30 a.m. If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, it will be canceled. If you have not yet done so, bring proof of your income to register. You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

This event is sponsored by Anson Crisis Ministry and local United Methodist, Baptist, Apostolic, and Presbyterian Churches. Interested in volunteering? Call Ansonville coordinator Rev. Robert Burr at (704) 826-8470 or Pantry Coordinator Rev. Cindy Lunsford at (828) 891-2753.

Storytelling Festival Comes to Library Friday

The North Carolina Storytelling Guild has a dream - The Heart of North Carolina Story Telling Festival. The purpose is to bring tellers into a library in each of the 100 counties of North Carolina. Storyteller Linda Goodman will share Appalachian Folktales at Hampton B. Allen Library on Friday, August 21 at 2 p.m. This is a free event and open to the public. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend.

For more information call the library at 704-694-5177.

Southern Medley Wine Cellar to Host Corvette Display Saturday

On Saturday, August 22 there will be a display of Corvette cars available for the public to view from 4 to 6 p.m. at Southern Medley Wine Cellar on North Rutherford Street, between Wade and Martin Streets. That section of street will be closed for the afternoon.

The display is by Road Runner Vettes, a socially responsible club of Corvette lovers based in the Charlotte area. Several members of the club participated in last year's Christmas Parade. Members have also visited Anson High School for a Lunch & Learn Day to discuss how important education is to becoming successful.

Southern Medley Wine Cellar will be closed that day for a private event.

The Express is on the web at www.TheExpressNewspaper.com