

Volunteers Needed - Anson County Day of Caring Set for September 22

Volunteers will show they care throughout Anson County by raking leaves and washing windows during the 14th annual Day of Caring being held Saturday, September 22nd. The Day of Caring is a community-wide service project that serves as the official kickoff to the Anson County United Way campaign.

"Last year, more than 200 volunteers worked at 30 project sites to help our neighbors and community," Caroline Goins, Day of Caring chair said. "We are hoping to have the same success this year but we need everyone in the county to help out."

Typical chores include cutting grass, pruning shrubs, trash pickup, window washing, and cleaning gutters at the homes of elderly and disabled citizens. Other projects include sprucing up non-profit agencies and organizations. Volunteer teams can consist of two to ten people and must pre-register so they can be given an assignment.

Day of Caring volunteers will gather for the 7:30 a.m. kickoff and a continental breakfast at the Wadesboro Town Square. Teams from a variety of businesses, churches and civic organizations will scatter across the county to predetermined sites. First Baptist Church of Wadesboro has partnered with United Way to complete community service projects as well as serve lunch to volunteers.

Anson County raised over 75,000 dollars through United Way of the Central Carolinas, last year. United Way in Anson County funds programs through United Way service agencies that serve individuals and families that need a helping hand. They use United Way dollars to help solve the issues these individuals and families face each and every day.

In conjunction with United Way's Day of Caring, canned goods are being collected for donations can be dropped off at the Crisis Ministry, located at 117 North Rutherford Street in Wadesboro, and Grace Senior Center, located at 199 NC Highway 742 South in Wadesboro (just past IGA), the week before the event. There will also be collection barrels on the Square at the Kickoff on October 7th.

If you would like to register to volunteer or request help from volunteers, contact Ivy Allen with the United Way office at 704-694-2600 or ifallen@uwcentralcarolinas.org. Team and Project Site Applications are available at the Anson County Partnership for Children's office located at 117 South Greene Street in Wadesboro. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, September 7th.

Put Life Back Into Your Life. Consider a Living Healthy Workshop.

Are you an adult dealing with an ongoing health condition? If you have conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, overweight, chronic pain, anxiety, the Living Healthy Workshop, offered by Grace Senior Center, can help you take charge of your life.

You don't have to stop doing the things you love to do. The key to getting the most out of life is learning to manage your symptoms. No matter your situation, the Living Healthy workshop can assist you in taking control.

Come get the support and tools you need to self manage your condition. Instructors and participants will work together to find practical ways to deal with pain, fatigue and frustration, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, and understand new treatment choices, and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health.

Join this 2 1/2-hour Living Healthy Workshop, held each week for six weeks. Learn from trained leaders who are dealing with health conditions themselves. Set your own goals and make a step-by-step plan to improve your health - and your life.

Classes will be held every Tuesday starting September 11, and run through October 16. It will be held at the Grace Senior Center, from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Sign up now. Spaces are limited. To register or get more information, please call Rita Short at 704-694-6217.

Three Rivers Canoe & Kayak Race is Saturday

Part 2 of the Three Rivers Canoe & Kayak Race will be held on the Pee Dee River on Saturday, September 8. This 8.5-mile paddle is sponsored by The LandTrust of Central NC. It will begin at the Clark's Creek Access below the Tillery dam and conclude at the Griffin Road Access at the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge. A recreation flow release will take place on this date as well, so there should be a steady flow of water on the river.

- 6 a.m. - Participants will drop their boats off at the Clark's Creek Access Point and then drive their personal vehicle to the Griffin Road Access Point (30 minute drive).
- 7:15 am - Participants will park their cars and board the shuttle provided by The LandTrust which will take all of the participants back to the Clark's Creek Starting Point.
- 8:00 am - The Race will begin.

Participants will have the option to pay an entry fee of \$35 (without a t-shirt) or \$50 (with a t-shirt) and must bring their own boat.

For more information, contact LandTrust staff at 704-647-0302 or steely@landtrustcnc.org. The website is landtrustcnc.org.

Peachland's 'Music on the Square' is September 29

The Town of Peachland invites everyone to come and enjoy their 12th annual 'Music on the Square' which will be held this Saturday, September 29, from 12 to 10 p.m. This free event will feature two bands: Breaking Away from 3 to 6 p.m. and Loaded Dice from 7 to 10 p.m. Also there will be lots of food vendors, activities for the kids and more.

Among the many vendors are youth and women's groups from local churches and the fire department. A wide variety of beverages and food will be available.

For more information call Lynn H. Griffin at 704-272-7781.

Hundreds Attend N.C. Drone Summit

North Carolina has been "First in Flight" for almost 115 years. Today "Next in Flight" might be more appropriate, thanks to the N.C. Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation and its work with Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS, or 'drones').

In early August, over three days at Greensboro's Grandover Resort & Conference Center, nearly 400 speakers, exhibitors and conference-goers attended the inaugural N.C. Drone Summit and Flight Expo, hosted by the Division of Aviation.

The summit had a lively, packed schedule of speakers, panel discussions, technical presentations and flight demonstrations. Officials from NASA, the FAA, AUVSI, Intel and NCDOT delivered keynote addresses. Topics included using drones for infrastructure inspection, public safety and environmental monitoring. People from across the industry shared the uses for drones and new technical advancements and ways to stay safe with the technology.

Interest in the summit exceeded NCDOT's expectations, said NCDOT UAS Program Engineer Darshan Divakaran, who organized much of the event.

"We said at the outset that we would be happy with around 200 attendees," Divakaran said. "To almost double that shows how much interest and potential there is in this industry here."

With so much activity around drones in North Carolina, the Division of Aviation wanted a way to bring the various companies, government operators and public safety agencies that use and develop the technology together under one roof. Participants traveled from North Carolina, as well as other states and countries, including Australia and Israel.

"This summit, in a lot of ways, marks the launching point for this industry in North Carolina," said NCDOT Director of Aviation Bobby Walston. "We got everyone together, talking and learning from each other, making the kinds of connections that can spur this exciting technology forward and continue to create new jobs and opportunities for our state."

The N.C. Drone Summit and Flight expo will return next year. Location and exact dates will be announced later this year.

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