

Dancing with the Stars is coming to Wadesboro! Based on the popular TV show, the event features local dancers and talent. The contest will be held at Wadesboro Primary School beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 18. Tickets are \$10 and are available at First United Methodist Church, 118 East Morgan Street in Wadesboro.

The dancers are Jacob Thomas and Shannon Caudle, William Truett and Ross Huntley, Tim Bennett and Crystal McLendon, Landreic and Cassandra Reid, Gary Henderson and Chrissy Cabbage, Frank and Marlene Richardson, Robert and Kimberly Burr, Chris and Melody Stinson, and Steve James and Vancine Sturdivant.

Joe Dutton is Master of Ceremonies, and music will be provided by DJ Kenwon.

There will be two First Place winning teams, one chosen by the judges and one by popular vote. The judges are Patsy Brasington, Thedis Spencer and Steve Whitlock. The audience may vote during the performances or pre-vote online at [www.circlesofhopeanson.org/DWTS](http://www.circlesofhopeanson.org/DWTS). Votes are \$2 each.

Refreshments will be available for purchase from the Anson Women's League.

Proceeds will fund programs for Circles of Hope, a nation-wide initiative to eradicate generational poverty, that is at work right here in Anson County. Circles meets every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. For more information about the local program, call 704-994-2333 or visit [www.circlesofhopeanson.org](http://www.circlesofhopeanson.org).

### Safety Counts: Become a Certified Safe Farm

September 21-27 is officially National Farm Safety & Health Week, but Certified Safe Farm offers North Carolina farmers in 18 counties the opportunity to learn ways to take steps every day toward on-farm safety and health.

"Farming is among the most dangerous occupations there are, with farmers at risk for serious injury, health concerns and even death," says Julia Storm, Cooperative Extension agromedicine information specialist with N.C. State University's Department of Applied Ecology. "And it's not just farmers who are at risk. It's their families and their farm workers."

Farmers participating in the Certified Safe Farm program have access to voluntary, non-regulatory on-farm safety reviews conducted by Extension agriculture agents; occupational health and wellness services offered through AgriSafe-North Carolina; a cost-share program for making improvements; and a farm entrance recognition sign for those who successfully complete the program.

A partnership of N.C. State University, N.C. Cooperative Extension, and the N.C. Agromedicine Institute offers the program, with funding from the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission. Participating county Cooperative Extension centers are Alexander, Anson, Ashe, Craven, Franklin, Gates, Granville, Hoke, Randolph, Robeson, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly, Union, Vance, Warren, Watauga and Wilson.

Certified Safe Farm lowers farm costs, saves lives and improves health, Storm says, by helping farmers develop practical solutions to safety and health problems on the wide variety of agricultural crops and enterprises in North Carolina. Learn more by contacting your local agricultural Extension agent.

For farmers everywhere, the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety will feature webinar and online resources each day of National Farm Safety & Health Week. Topics include rural roadway safety, sun safety, occupational health services, children's safety, grain bin safety and confined space entry, and safe tractors. Visit [www.necasag.org](http://www.necasag.org) for details.

Every day, about 167 agricultural workers suffer a work-related injury that causes them to lose time on the job, and 5 percent of these injuries cause permanent impairments, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Tractor overturns were the leading work-related cause of death for farmers and farm workers.

### Is Your Back Yard Chicken Proof?

Anyone with small children in their lives probably has taken steps to childproof their home and yard, but if you have a backyard chicken flock, do you know what things should be removed or secured from your birds reach?

Most people recognize the obvious things like making sure birds cannot get into household chemicals like cleaning supplies, fuels and any pesticides stored around the home. Of course you should always follow label directions when using any pesticide and it is always best to remove all animals and people from a treatment area at least until the application has dried or settled.

Pay special attention to any applications of products in small granular forms, such as many fire ant baits, as these are often very attractive to chickens. Most people often are not aware of many other potential toxic plants and substances that can sicken or kill poultry. There are a number of common plants that are potentially toxic. Sometimes it may just be a particular part of the plant such as the leaves or fruit and other times it be a specific condition such as wilted leaves or frost damage that make the plant toxic.

By now you may be paranoid that your chickens are dying as you read this, but there are many factors that go into creating a toxic condition. First just because a plant is listed as toxic does not mean it is common and the amount that needs to be consumed may be very high. Often there will be noticeable symptoms in the birds before death and some may simply reduce egg production or growth.

Most chickens that have a ready source of quality feed and water available are not likely to consume a lethal dose of toxic plants, but you should be aware of some of the most common problem plants that occur in North Carolina. These include Black Locust Leaf, Bladder Pod Seed, Cassava Root, Castor Bean, Corn Cockle Seed, Hemlock Seed, Jimsonweed Seed, Milkweed Plant, Nightshade Fruit, Oak Leaf, Oleander, Parsley Plant, Pokeberry Fruit, Rapeseed, Sickle Pod Seed, Sweet Pea Seed, Tannins, Tobacco Leaf/Stem, Velvet Weed Seed, Vetch Seed, Yellow Jasmine and Yew. Although long, this is not a complete list of all plants that may be toxic in North Carolina. However it covers some of the most common ones we find particularly in the Piedmont area.

Research your particular area and be familiar with the common problem plants around your home. It is also worth spending a little time identifying any unknown plants in your landscape and pastures to avoid any potential issues with your backyard flock or what ever you may be growing.

In addition to the plants listed, there are some common foodstuffs that can be toxic to chickens as well. Avocados, green potatoes or peelings, and chocolate can all have toxic effects on birds and should not be fed to a flock.

If you have questions about how best to care for your backyard flock or need help identifying plants in your range contact the Anson County Cooperative Extension Office at 704-694-2415 and ask for Richard Goforth, Area Poultry Agent.

For more tips and info on backyard poultry happenings, you can like Facebook page: NC Cooperative Extension - Hen House.

### BRLC's 6th Annual Chicken Dumpling Fundraiser

Get your appetites' ready ... it's time for the 6th Annual Chicken Dumpling Fundraiser presented by the Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center! Everyone is invited to come and partake in the BEST chicken & dumplings, while enjoying the fun & fellowship of the event. There will be gospel music from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and Sheriff-Elect Landric Reid will be in attendance to meet attendees. All funds raised by the event will go toward supporting the BRLC and their many ongoing programs that benefit all of Anson County.

The event will take place at BRLC on Saturday, October 11, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. You can eat in or carry out. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Burnsville Fire Department.

For more information call 704-826-8182.

### Still Accepting Applications for Day of Caring 2014

This year's Anson County United Way Day of Caring is fast approaching. The Day of Caring is scheduled for Saturday, October 18, with a Kick-off Ceremony to be held at 7:30 a.m. on the Uptown Wadesboro Square. A light breakfast will be provided prior to the ceremony and lunch will be served at First Baptist Church for volunteers and applicants.

Both Team and Project Site applications for this year's Day of Caring are being accepted until Wednesday, October 1. If you would like to volunteer to be part of a team or are a person or non-profit agency in need of help, please hurry and submit your application! Electronic applications are available through the Anson County Chamber of Commerce ([www.ansoncounty.org](http://www.ansoncounty.org)) and Town of Wadesboro ([www.cityofwadesboro.org](http://www.cityofwadesboro.org)) websites. You may also contact Ashley Rivers at 704-848-4121 for questions or to submit an application.

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**FARM BUREAU ANSON**

## Anson County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

**Monday, October 6th**

*Location:* Lockhart-Taylor Center  
514 North Washington Street • Wadesboro, NC

*Time:* **Doors will open at 6:15 p.m.**  
Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.  
Business meeting starts at 7 p.m..

*Admission:* **\$2 per person**  
We can only allow 2 people per membership.  
You must be present for your guest to come.  
\*Please present your membership card at the door.

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**You will be electing officers, directors and delegates to the state convention.**

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**We look forward to seeing you there. Ronnie Mills, President**

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