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Speeders Beware: Law Enforcement “Operation Crash Reduction” has Begun

Law enforcement officers will crack down on speeders during Operation Crash Reduction, Oct. 3-9

North Carolina law enforcement agencies will be encouraging motorists to slow down this week, Oct. 3-9, as part of a special speeding enforcement effort dubbed “Operation Crash Reduction”.

The event is part of a larger, regional campaign by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to target unsafe driving behaviors at a particularly deadly time of year. The effort is focused on North Carolina, the District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia - a region that sees some of the nation’s highest numbers of traffic crash-induced fatalities.

According to NHTSA, from 2015 to 2019, October was the most likely month for fatal crashes to occur in these states. 190 people killed in crashes during the month of October last year in North Carolina, including 42 people in speed-related crashes.

“We have an epidemic of high-speed crashes occurring on roads in North Carolina, and that’s why agencies across the state opted to make speeding the focus on this year’s “Operation Crash Reduction” campaign,” said Mark Ezzell, director of the North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Program (NCGHSP). “This is part of GHSP’s broader efforts to combat a dangerous increase in speeding through increased enforcement, public awareness, policy and more.”

As of Oct. 3, the 276th day of 2022, nearly 300 people have been killed in speed-related crashes in North Carolina - representing more than one every day so far this year. Between 2017 and 2021, there was a 17 percent increase in speed-related crashes in North Carolina.

Motorists may notice increased law enforcement efforts to crack down on speeding motorists and bring awareness to unsafe speeds in communities statewide this week, including radar operations and speed display signs.

For more information and statistics on speeding in North Carolina, visit Speed a Little. Lose a Lot at ncdot.gov.



restaurant - providing a free meal of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, chips and drinks, a telephone service and a place where Snuggs takes time to encourage each student to do their best in school. He encouraged the youth to make their parents proud of them and to obey their teachers and elders.

From the first young gentleman to the last, Snuggs asked each one if they were they satisfied as if they were paying customers. At 6:00 p.m., with over four males remaining, Snuggs was still smiling and talking to each child about the importance of an education.

This year Snuggs added a new component to his blessing. With the support of other organizations he also passed out book bags with school supplies during the event. When asked why, his only response was, “I want to give back.”

As another way of giving back, Tite Cutz also provide haircuts to senior citizens for \$5 daily.

Mrs. Vancine Sturdivant stated “I cannot cut hair, but just to be able to keep the registration paper, help serve the food and sweep up all that hair was truly an honor.”

The remaining food was donated to the Samaritan Inn.

Snuggs offered a special thank you to Commissioner Sturdivant, all organizations, his cooks, Clarence Howard and Ron Caldwell on the grill, and everyone who played a part in making this event a success.

Community Service At Its Best, Garrett Snuggs and Tite Cutz

This is a release from Vancine Sturdivant, Faith Based Center of Hope: For the fifth consecutive year, Tite Cutz, owner/operator Mr. Garrett Snuggs of Norwood, along with Faith Based Center of Hope CEO Vancine Sturdivant and barber Mr. Terrill Hamilton, opened his barber shop on Sunday, August 27 and gave free haircuts to over one hundred males and twenty females, ranging in age from 3 years old (head start) to 18 years old (high school). This year Mr. Snuggs and his staff were able to assist young ladies as well.

In January 2020 Mr. Snuggs opened and is currently the owner, president and instructor of Triad Barber School located in uptown Wadesboro.

Snuggs opened his shop before 11:00 a.m. on August 27, with Terrill Hamilton, Ellison Castro, Phoenix Darien, Miessa Sturdivant, Timothy McCaskill and Shay Jackson Green volunteering to help him out with the cuts and hair styles.

Snuggs has been a barber for over 20 years, learning under the leadership of Flower’s Barber Shop on Salisbury Street at the age of 20. He said even though college was not an option for him, he was determined he would not end up on the streets.

Each year we witness Tite Cutz transform into a daycare, where we witness the youth transform into a classroom, a place where Snuggs takes time to encourage each student to do their best in school. He encouraged the youth to make their parents proud of them and to obey their teachers and elders.

Governor Cooper Proclaims Manufacturing Week

Governor Roy Cooper has proclaimed October 2-8 North Carolina Manufacturing Week. Boasting the fifth-largest manufacturing economy in the United States, which grew 14% last year, and the largest manufacturing workforce in the southeast, manufacturing remains essential to the success of every sector of North Carolina’s economy.

“North Carolina manufacturing is thriving and putting more money in the pockets of every day North Carolinians who make up the most talented and skilled workforce in the world,” said Governor Cooper. “With more than 10,700 businesses contributing more than \$122 billion to our economy and still growing, we’re making computer chips, electric school buses, farm equipment, lifesaving medicines and so many more products that are being shipped here and around the world. We can be proud when we see the Made in North Carolina label.”

According to the economists at the Labor and Economic Analysis Division of the state’s Commerce department, for every \$1.00 spent in manufacturing, \$1.80 is generated for North Carolina’s economy. Manufacturers account for nearly one-fifth of the state’s economic output.

In 2021, 95% of North Carolina exports consisted of \$31.6 billion worth of manufactured products including pharmaceuticals, chemicals, non-ferrous metals, semiconductors, aerospace components, and textiles.

Of North Carolina’s recording breaking year for economic development announcements last year, manufacturing represents 67% of all new, relocation, and expansion projects with more than 14,690 new jobs and investments exceeding \$8.6 billion.

“Our economic success is supported by our manufacturing legacy,” said N.C. Commerce Secretary Machel Baker Sanders. “Our business climate, central East Coast location, the talented and diverse workforce of 468,000 North Carolinians, and our dedication to further developing that world-class workforce will continue to attract growing manufacturers from across the globe.”

Since Governor Cooper took office, 48,600 manufacturing jobs and more than \$21 billion investment have been announced in North Carolina.

Middle and High School Parent / Teacher Conferences are October 6

Students at Anson Middle School, along with Anson High School and Anson County Early College students will have early dismissal at 1 p.m. on Thursday 6 for Parent/Teacher Conferences. Conferences will be held from 2 to 7 p.m.

Free Groceries Available to Eligible Families this Saturday, October 8

A new shipment of USDA perishable and non-perishable foods will be distributed via drive-thru this Saturday, October 5, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon, or as long as supplies last, at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC).

All families that are eligible will be served as long as food remain. All neighbors that are served must have a current application on file. Neighbors that have not previously registered will be asked to complete an eligibility application before being served.

Registration will start approximately at 9 a.m.

Neighbors who arrive early will have the opportunity to take advantage of various Care Corner items.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political belief, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or if all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department.

You can contact BRLC at 704-826-8737 for information, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday through Thursday. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information check their Facebook page or www.burnsvillelc.org.

Wingate Has a New Farmers Market

Late last month Wingate University became home to a weekly Farmers Market, thanks to a three-way partnership between the University’s Collaborative for the Common Good, the Town of Wingate and the N.C. Cooperative Extension.

Open each Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., the market, near the northeast corner of East Wilson and Main streets at the site of the Community Garden, features local produce, meat products, baked goods and specialty vendors.

In addition to cash or credit/debit cards, the market also accepts SNAP/EBT benefits. Organizers are working on a system to allow students to use their Wingate Bulldog Bucks (credits assigned as part of their campus meal plan) for payment.

“I am thrilled by the excitement this collaborative project has created on and off campus,” says Dr. Catherine Wright, executive director of the CCG. She said the market, which has funding support from the American Heart Association and Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina, is helping to turn the Community Garden area into a center for civic engagement while also creating new opportunities for Wingate students. “It’s really a hands-on experience for anyone wanting to learn about food systems and about marketing,” Wright says. “Students have the opportunity to work alongside farmers.”

Members of Wingate’s Environmental Biology Club have been helping with setup and tear-down each week, and students exploring the University’s newest major – biology with an emphasis in agricultural food systems – are finding built-in opportunities to explore their interests and test their newly developed skills.

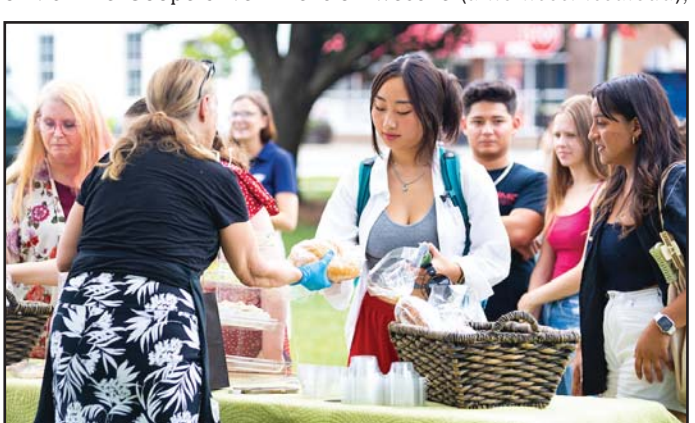
Wright said academic departments across campus, including the public health program and the schools of sport sciences and education, are getting involved in the market, with plans underway for them to host events alongside vendors. The Union County Health Department will offer EBT enrollment on an upcoming market day, and the market will also be the location for a medicine drop-off event.

“Stay tuned for more fruits of this partnership that are yet to come,” Wright says. “This is truly a space filled with potential; it’s a great way for faculty to get students engaged with the community, and vice versa.”

Shoppers at the Farmers Market will find produce vendors such as Greenworks and Crossroads. Meat producers at the market include Parker Farms, Little Family Farm and Peaceful Meadows. The market also features bakeries including Dekenchar (breads, cupcakes, cheesecake) and specialty vendors such as Hobb’s Nuts, Tucker Honey and Wing-it Apiary.

Vendors rotate in and out, with new ones being added on a regular basis. Follow the CCG on Instagram @ccgwingate for weekly vendor updates.

To become a vendor visit the Cooperative Extension website (union.ces.ncsu.edu), click on Union County Farmers Market and then on the “Interested in Becoming a Vendor?” form link. Contact Jessica King at 704-564-2883 at the Extension for details. Or to learn more about the Collaborative for the Common Good, email: ccg@wingate.edu.



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month in NC

North Carolinians are encouraged to wear purple on October 20 to help spread awareness

Governor Roy Cooper declared October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month to bring attention to this national issue and encourages everyone to wear purple on October 20th to help spread awareness. More than 12 million women and men living in the U.S. experience some form of abuse by an intimate partner over the course of a single year according to estimates by the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

“Domestic violence hurts families in many ways and must be addressed head on,” Governor Cooper said. “We’ll continue educating and raising awareness, helping survivors, assisting law enforcement and the court system and supporting organizations that give aid to people during the toughest times in their lives.”

“The rate of domestic violence is staggering across our state and country,” said NC Department of Administration Secretary Pamela B. Cashwell. “To improve outcomes, we must continue to educate communities on the warning signs of domestic abuse as well as prevention methods to help break the cycle.”

Purple is the nationally recognized color of domestic violence, representing courage, peace, and dedication to ending violence which often includes physical, mental, sexual, emotional and/or financial abuse. On October 20th, North Carolinians are encouraged to help spread awareness by wearing purple and sharing images across social media using #WearPurpleDay.

In 2019, Governor Cooper signed a “safe days” Executive Directive to support survivors of domestic violence. The directive permits eligible state employees in cabinet agencies to use earned leave for “safe days,” which are necessary absences from work due to domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

In North Carolina alone, more than 75,000 adults and children received domestic violence services and over 94,000 crisis calls were received from individuals seeking domestic violence assistance across the state during fiscal year 2021-22. The NC Department of Administration’s Council for Women and Youth Involvement provides funding to 104 domestic violence programs in 97 North Carolina counties. These programs offer shelter, counseling, 24-hour crisis lines, transportation, and court and advocacy services.

For additional resources including a directory of state-funded domestic violence agencies, visit the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement website, ncadmin.nc.gov/advocacy/women-youth-programs-services.

Pond Weed ID Help

Aquatic pond weed identification can be made easier with an online diagnostic tool: AquaPlant: A Diagnostic Tool for Pond Plants and Algae (aquaplant.tamu.edu).

Designed by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, it’s designed to help land owners identify and manage plants in their ponds. Not all aquatic herbicides are effective on all pond weeds. Use the “identify plant” section to correctly ID, then review the “how to manage this plant” for available chemical, physical or biological control options.

For example, there is an emergent plant, meaning it is rooted at the shoreline and emerges above the surface of the water. Often, the leaf of this plant floats on the pond surface like a mini lily pad. Within the emergent plants section of the tool is a pictorial guide from which you can find your plant. We can observe that the leaf is roughly the size of a half-dollar, the stem originates from the center of the leaf, and the leaf margins are somewhat wavy or shallow lobes. It’s Pennywort! This site tells us if the plant has any wildlife value and a tab for management options and efficacy.

Alternatively, Anson Extension can assist with ID and recommendations. They would need a whole sample in a jar or ziplock bag with water (to keep it fresh), including roots if applicable, or call Anson Extension to speak to an agent regarding a site visit. The Extension office is located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-2915.