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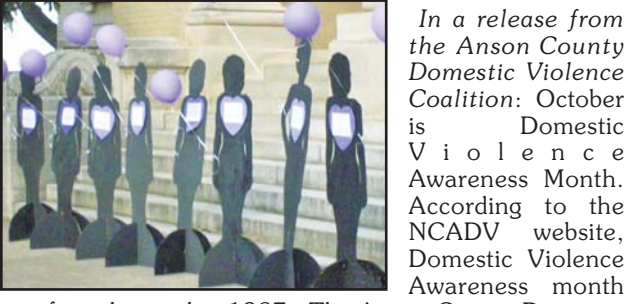
New Health Director at Anson County Health Department

The Anson County Board of Health is pleased to announce that a new health director has been hired to replace retiring Interim Director Carol Ann Gibson. Wayne Raynor assumed responsibilities as Interim Health Director on September 23rd. A 35 year veteran in public health, Raynor is expected to serve as interim at least six months while the Board of Health continues to recruit for a permanent full time position. Raynor previously served as public health director in Cumberland and Harnett Counties and as interim director in Pender, and two other counties. He also worked in a variety of women's and children's health programs for the NC Department of Health and Human Services for 20 years prior to accepting the Harnett County position in May 1996. Anson County Board of Health Chairwoman Betty Russell stated, "We are very pleased to have Mr. Raynor here to work with us in the coming months to help with a number of pressing priorities. Some of the issues currently facing the county are those associated with ensuring that the health department has the very best chance of achieving state accreditation later this month and improving animal services. Mr. Raynor will be instrumental in filling the midlevel practitioner position as soon as possible because the department is dedicated to assuring continuity of quality health care for its clients in women's and preventive health programs." Raynor is currently reviewing the county's Community Health Assessment and Strategic Plan in order to remain on track in achieving certain strategic initiatives and to further enhance the delivery of services offered at the Anson County Health Department.

Rabies Vaccination Clinic is Next Saturday

The 2013 Fall Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held on Saturday, October 19 between the hours of 2 and 5 p.m. at Tractor Supply in Wadesboro. The reduced cost of the rabies vaccination is \$5 per vaccination. This clinic is sponsored by Brown Creek Animal Hospital and the Anson County Health Department. Rabies is caused by a virus that animals and people can get through certain exposures to the saliva or nervous tissue from a rabid animal and is nearly always fatal without proper postexposure prophylaxis. Rabies is zoonotic, which means it can spread from animals to people. Rabies is 100% preventable. In most cases, preventing rabies is as simple as adhering to NC General Statutes requiring rabies vaccinations for dogs, cats and ferrets; avoiding contact with wild animals; and educating those at risk. Rabies prevention starts with the animal owner. All dogs, cats, and ferrets must be vaccinated against rabies. Consider vaccinating valuable livestock and horses. Animals that have frequent contact with humans should be vaccinated. Pet owners can reduce the possibility of pets being exposed to rabies by not letting them roam free. Spaying or neutering your pet may reduce any tendency they might have to roam or fight, and thus reduce the chance that they will be exposed to rabies. Reduce the risk of exposure to rabies from wildlife. Do not feed or water your pets outside; even empty bowls will attract animals. Keep your garbage securely covered; open garbage will attract wild or stray animals. Wild animals should not be kept as pets. Enjoy all wild animals from a distance and teach children never to handle unfamiliar animals - even if they appear friendly. Check to be sure that your home is bat-proof in the fall and winter. If your pet bites someone or if you are bitten by a dog or cat, contact the local Animal Control Officer at 704-694-4947. The animal control officer is required to monitor the dog, cat, or ferret for 10 days. According to vaccination history and having secure facilities available, the animal may be maintained at its home; or it may be required to be housed at the local animal shelter or at a licensed veterinarian's office.

Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil at Courthouse is Tuesday, October 29



In a release from the Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition: October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. According to the NCADV website, Domestic Violence Awareness month was first observed in 1987. The Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center (ACDVC) participates in the Silent Witness program during the month of October to mourn those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end the violence. During October life-sized wooden figures will be placed in the county, each one bearing the name of a person who once lived, worked, had friends, family - whose life ended violently at the hands of a partner, husband, ex-husband or acquaintance. Domestic Violence often goes unreported. In Anson County, from January to June of 2013, ACDVC assisted 175 victims of domestic violence - 157 were female and 18 were males. Five of these victims were in the highest age bracket, which is 61+ years old. Domestic violence will impact about 44% of women at some point in their lives. According to the North Carolina Department of Justice, domestic violence deaths had increased from 106 deaths in 2011 to 122 in 2012. As of September 22, 2013, there had been 29 domestic violence related deaths in North Carolina alone this year. On Tuesday, October 29 at 6 p.m. a candlelight vigil will be held on the front steps of the Anson County Courthouse. ACDVC invites anyone who has a friend or loved one represented here or if you have been or know someone who has been affected by domestic violence to come and join us during this special time of remembrance. Anson County victims include Maggie M. Bennett, Argatha H. Clark, Clissie B. Gaddy, Cindy B. McIntyre, Rebecca B. Morrow, Connie Newton, Laura Parks, Mary Polk, Danette Streater, Mary Jane Suess, Linda Kay Walters, Daisy Coleman Melton and Larry Thomas Lindsey. For more information you can contact the staff at Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center at 704-694-4499. The 24 hour crisis line number is 704-690-0362.

Author Robert Macomber to Speak

Robert Macomber, an award winning maritime author, lecturer and television commentator will present a book talk and book signing at Hampton B. Allen Library on Friday, October 18 at 10 a.m. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information contact the library at 704-694-5177.



Anson County Early College Students Send Letters to Our Troops

Anson County Early College ninth grade students designed holiday cards to honor United States military soldiers deployed overseas. A North Carolina branch of Soldiers' Angels has promoted the initiative to spread holiday cheer to America's heroes. Through their interdisciplinary seminar class, ACEC students wrote and mailed 68 cards to our troops.

HOLLA!'s Community Center Now Offers a Reading Room

In a release from Holla: For the citizens of the small rural town of Morven, NC - population 515 - there is seemingly a new reason to get excited every day. First came the 8,400 square foot Holla Resource and Community Development Center beholding a regulation-sized tennis court, basketball courts, a media center, dance studio, office spaces, a commercial kitchen and café; along with fax, Joblink, the Benefit Bank and free public internet access. The center hosts Holla's United Way Funded Youth Enrichment Program, which offers free year-round tutoring, mentoring, activities and the Holla Youth Enrichment Summer Camp which attracts over 100 participants each summer. The summer camp was featured by UNC-TV on the Black Issues forum segment with Deborah Noel. The Holla Resource and Community Development Center was made possible by grants from the North Carolina Rural Center and the Golden Leaf Foundation to help in the redevelopment of rural communities. Then came The Holla Let's MOVE Project. The Let's MOVE Project brought a full-service fitness center offering professional karate, aerobics and tennis classes at no cost to children aged six to 18. The project also developed a walking trail and donated over \$15,000 of playground equipment to the Town of Morven. The Holla Let's MOVE project is funded by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust to fight obesity among underprivileged children in Anson County. Now Comes The Holla Reading Room! The Reading Room was inspired from visits to tutor local elementary students for End of Grade reading tests. The mission of the Holla Reading Room is to improve reading efficiency among students, fight overall illiteracy and to get the community more excited about reading. It will feature afterschool and weekend activities designed to make reading exciting! To help keep it exciting, Holla has formed a partnership with Author Helen Kimbrough who will be a regular presence at the Reading Room. Kimbrough is a children's book author of two multicultural children's books *Ocean Waves and Other Tales* and *Play Dates and Other Tales*. These amazing books that enable a child to embrace reading in an interesting way through rhythms, simple expressions, repetition, pictures and childhood associations will be used along with other books by child authors, during her instruction at the Reading Room. In addition, reading plans have been drafted for the following grades: Kindergarten-2nd Grades; 3rd-5th Grades; and 6th-8th Grades. Kimbrough's program will commence on Saturday, November 2, with events every Saturday thereafter from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. A session to inform the public and recruit volunteers is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22 at 6 p.m. at the Reading Room, located at 239 East Main Street in Morven. The meeting will be conducted by Kimbrough. Anyone seeking more information or wishing to volunteer toward the efforts of the Reading Room is asked to come to this session. Presently the Reading Room is being manned by volunteers offering public access between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, and 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturdays. Startup of The Holla Reading Room was made possible by a Care to Share grant from the Pee Dee Electric Corporation. Holla is a United Way organization. "Our projects would have a difficult time surviving without the consistent help of the United Way, our volunteers and the donations of friends, relatives, foundations and corporations. I have truly learned how important it is that we Live United," said Leon Gatewood, CEO of Holla. For more information on the Reading Room or any other Holla projects, call the Holla Center at 704-851-3144.



Helen Kimbrough

Shop with a Cop Bike Ride is Sat.

In a release from Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer: We have rescheduled the "Shop with a Cop" fundraiser motorcycle ride for this Saturday, October 12. The ride will start at 10 a.m. in the parking lot of the Wadesboro Police Department. All proceeds will go to the department's "Shop with a Cop" program that takes place in December. If you would like more information on the motorcycle ride or "Shop with a Cop" please feel free to contact the Wadesboro Police Department at 704-694-2167.

BRLC Chicken Dumpling Fundraiser is Sat.

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center's 4th Annual Chicken Dumpling Fundraiser will be held this Saturday, October 12, from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. You can eat in or carry out. Plates are only \$6. Be sure to come for the Old Time Gospel Singing at 4:30 p.m. BRLC is located on Highway 742 in Burnsville, across the street from the Burnsville Fire Department. For information call 704-826-8737.

Ansonia Play Wins Award

In a release from the Anson County Arts Council: Oh what a night. A walk down the red carpet and an award! Sunday night, October 6th was the Metrolina Theatre Association's awards ceremony at the Omni Hotel in Charlotte. The MTA is a group of theatre enthusiasts and advocates representing approximately a hundred theatres producing live performances within a fifty mile radius of Charlotte. Representing the Ansonia Theatre's *The Trip to Bountiful* production were Tommy Wooten, Ginger Heath, Jason and Gina Clarke, Donnie Lewis, Jennifer Stegall, Jesse Carpenter and Phyllis Dunlap, along with Arts Council members, Catherine Crandell, Jean Gardner and Leslie Capell. Heath, who played Carrie in *The Trip to Bountiful*, won Best Actress, beating out sixteen contenders from the theatres in our region. As Ginger gave her acceptance speech she gave a shout-out to Wadesboro, recognizing the Ansonia's achievements with only three productions under our belt. The Ansonia Theatre is the newest member of the MTA, an elite group of theatres, most with years and years of production history.

Senator Gene McLaurin Speaks at Democratic Party Gala

The Anson County Democratic Party hosted their 6th annual banquet on Friday, September 20th with District 25 Senator Gene McLaurin as guest speaker. The theme for the gala was "Moving Forward Together." With over 250 energized Democrats and state and local officials present, Senator McLaurin accompanied by his wife, Donna, spoke on the importance of voting and knowing exactly what is going on, not just in the Legislature, but also in every facet of government. During the banquet Master of Ceremonies Mark Hammonds, Superior Court Clerk, recognized and awarded Rev. J. N. Coble and the family of the late Barbara Ledbetter Coble the Democratic Outstanding Merit plaque. Justice Cheri Beasley and Senator McLaurin recognized the following citizens of Anson County for the great volunteer services during the 2012 Election: Mrs. Deb Arnason, Ms. Ester Lindsey, Dr. Bernice Bennett, Pastor Bernice Ford, Elder Donna McNair, Fairview Church of God, Ms. Winnie Brown, Mrs. Carolyn Solomon, Mrs. Christine Hall; Playaz Elite Motorcycle Club, and Mr. William Lafayette "Bugga" Sturdivant, Jr.



Democratic Party Chair Vance Sturdivant stated, "We need to educate our citizens about the bills our counterparts are trying to pass that will be detrimental to the citizens - not just in Anson County, but the entire state of North Carolina. We cannot continue to regress. Every citizen needs to utilize their right to VOTE!!! We have a Municipal Election coming up in November 2013. I want encourage every citizen to vote. If you are not registered, you have time to register and vote in the Municipal Election." For voting information please contact Director Steve Adams at the Board of Elections or Vance Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.

Michael Antonio Pickett Busted with Pot

On Sunday, October 6 officers of the Wadesboro Police Department arrested Michael Antonio Pickett after he fled from a residence where officers were attempting to serve an arrest warrant. When the officers arrived at a residence on Cherry Street they observed Pickett flee out of the back door. He was quickly apprehended by officers. Pickett had approximately five ounces of marijuana on his possession. Pickett was charged with the following: Possession with Intent to Sale or Distribute Marijuana (Felony); Felony possession of marijuana (Felony); Possession of drug paraphernalia (Misdemeanor); and Resisting a public officer (Misdemeanor). Pickett received a \$10,000.00 secured bond and has a court date set for October 21, 2013.