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Serving Anson County and the Municipalities of Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro.

Halloween Safety Tips from the Sheriff

From the desk of Sheriff Tommy Allen: The holiday season is about to begin with Halloween in a few days. The last few years have been uneventful with no major accidents or injuries. As Halloween is on a week night again this year, a Thursday, kids and adults are not out as late since the next day is either a school day or work day. However, there will still be a lot of kids out early, beginning usually just before sunset. Twilight is a very dangerous time as it is often hard to see people walking in the late afternoon sun.

With that said, here are some safety reminders to help make this Halloween safe and fun for all. First of all for parents: Always stop at houses that are well-lit and never allow a child to enter a stranger's home. Tell your youngsters not to eat any treats until they have returned home and you have had a chance to inspect them. Halloween is for kids and parents should always be with kids age 14 and under.

Make sure your children are dressed in bright clothing and have them to carry a flashlight with fresh batteries. Masks can obstruct a child's vision, use facial make-up instead. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects. I once had a twelve year old come to my house carrying a real machete. I don't know what that parent was thinking.

As we drive around, remember there will be a lot of children out late in the evening and after dark - watch for them on roadways and medians and darting out from between parked cars. Expect the unexpected.

Sometimes we can over decorate our homes. Make sure there are no open flames around jack o'lanterns where costumes could brush against and catch fire.

With a few precautions and some good old common sense we can make this Halloween a fun time, but more importantly, a safe time for kids and adults as well.

Don't Miss Out on Tickets for the Ansonia Production, Crimes of the Heart

The Ansonia's next community play production, *Crimes of the Heart*, the winner of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize, opens for a two-weekend run on November 1. Warm hearted, irreverent, zany, and brilliantly imaginative, the play is filled with humanity and humor as it tells the story of three eccentric sisters.

The sisters are Babe (Lilesville's Gina Gilmore Clarke), Lenny (Marshville's Lisa Tarlton), and Meg (Wadesboro's Melody Gilmore Goodwin), and their cousin Chick (Rockingham's Lindsay Melton). Their small Southern town is rocked by scandal when Babe shoots her abusive husband. Humor and pathos abound as the sisters unite with the help of a young lawyer, Barnette (Rockingham's Jeff "Jazzy" Johnson), to keep Babe out of jail. When Meg's high school sweetheart Doc Porter (Lilesville's Jason Clarke) shows up, it brings the past to their doorsteps as the sisters try to overcome their family's painful past.



Directed by Tommy Wooten, who also directed the Ansonia's production of *The Trip to Bountiful* in May, *Crimes of the Heart* will run for six performances:

- Friday, November 1 and 8 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, November 2 and 9 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, November 3 and 10 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 and all seats are reserved. Tickets are available at Lacy's, the Anson County Arts Council (704-694-4950), and online at www.ansoniatheatre.com.

Anson County's hardest working patron of the arts, Catherine Crandell said, "Don't miss this one, folks. It is wonderful!" The cast of *Crimes of the Heart* is Lisa Tarlton, Lindsay Melton, Jeff Johnson, Gina Clarke, Jason Clarke and Melody Goodwin.

Dr. Paul Little Establishes Wingate University Scholarship for Anson Students

The Edna Pearle Little Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established at Wingate University by her son, US Army Colonel Dr. Paul Bennett Little. This annual scholarship is in loving memory of Edna, who taught fine arts at Wingate in the late 1960s and early '70s. Dr. Little graduated from Wingate in 1968.

Dr. Little grew up on a farm in Anson County. When his father, Paul Little, Sr. passed away Paul Little, Jr. was only 16 years old. He and his mother took over care of the family farm and he commuted back and forth to Wingate to take classes. He continued his studies, becoming a physician assistant and then a medical doctor in family practice.

Currently Dr. Little works in Washington, D.C. as a medical editor at the Defense Media Advisory, a part of the Department of Defense. On weekends he flies back home and tends to the farm, which now grows pine trees.

Because of his and his mother's deep ties to Anson County, preference in granting the scholarship will be given to students who are residents of Anson County. Admitted students who are residents of Anson County and have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 will be part of the application pool for consideration. This year's recipients are seniors Courtney Morton, of Lilesville, majoring in education and Jeremy Sikes of Polkton, majoring in accounting.

16th Annual Big Game Hunt In Progress!

Bochures have been mailed and hats are ordered; program books will follow very soon. Registrations are already beginning to come in. The Anson County Chamber of Commerce Big Game Hunt dates again are Friday and Saturday, November 29-30.

There are monetary prizes for first, second, third, fourth and fifth places in buck and doe categories, and first, second, third and fourth places in the youth buck and doe categories. Door prizes will be given away during the annual banquet on Saturday, November 30 at the Ansonville Vol. Fire Department.

For more tournament information, call the Chamber of Commerce at 704-694-4181 or visit www.ansoncounty.org for tournament rules and a printable entry form.

Among the registration sites are Allen's General Store, the Chamber of Commerce, Barnyard BBQ and H.W. Little & Co.



Bowman Senior High School Class of 1978 Held 35th Reunion

Forty-three members of the Bowman Senior High School Class of 1978 met at the Big Red Barn on Saturday, October 12 to celebrate their 35th Class Reunion. Food, music and fellowship were thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance. The reunion committee said, "We are looking forward to another reunion in five years. We hope to see you there." The reunion committee are Helen Greene, Ethel Hall, Becky Martin, Annabel Sturdivant and Joan Waring.

The March of Dimes Walk Returns to Anson County

The Anson County Health Department proudly announces the return of the March of Dimes Walk. The walk will be held on Saturday, November 16 at the Anson High School track, which is just in time for World Premature Awareness Day on November 17.

The March of Dimes was founded in 1938 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in an attempt to combat the crippling disease Polio, and is celebrating their 75th Anniversary. As a result, the Anson County Chapter would like to reach a goal of \$7,500 at their walk.

Did you know that in an average week in North Carolina - 2,314 babies are born - 334 babies are born preterm - and 203 babies are born low birth weight.

This year's ambassador family is Joel and Lenelle White of Peachland and their son Luke who was born last year prematurely. Luke celebrated his first birthday in July.

For more information please contact Kay Ratliff at kratliff@co.anson.nc.us or call the Anson County Health Department. The Anson County Walk can be found on the March of Dimes' website at www.marchforbabies.org and select "March for Babies - Anson County"

If you are interested in organizing a team, you will be able to register that team on the above website. The deadline for the entry is October 31.

Halloween "Booze It & Lose It" Campaign Kicks Off

Law enforcement officers step up patrols to catch drunk drivers on Fright Night

Ghosts, goblins and witches are not the scariest things roaming around this Halloween - drunk drivers are. The Governor's Highway Safety Program today kicked off its Halloween "Booze It & Lose It" campaign to catch those drivers who create frightening situations on the road by driving drunk. "Halloween is already full of terror without adding drunk driving to the mix," said Don Nail, director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program. "We encourage those celebrating to take a cab or designate a sober driver to ensure they make it home safely."

So far this year, approximately 239 alcohol-related fatalities have occurred in North Carolina. Law enforcement officers across the state are holding checkpoints and stepping up patrols to ensure that number does not rise during Halloween.

To remind motorists about the dangers of driving drunk, the N.C. Department of Transportation and GHSP created this public service announcement. They urge people to share the video with family and friends, so they will know the deadly consequences of getting behind the wheel while under the influence of alcohol.

The Halloween "Booze It & Lose It" campaign runs through Thursday, October 31.

A Musical Tribute to Veterans

For the eighth year On Stage Theatre Group and the Cheraw Arts Commission are honoring veterans with a musical tribute featuring local singers and musicians. The "Musical Tribute to Veterans" will be held on Thursday, November 7 at St. David's Episcopal Church - 420 Market Street. The public is invited to attend this free performance which will be presented at 7:30 p.m.

Emcee Melonie Trusky and Musical Director Barbara Dickson have created a program that includes patriotic songs and inspirational dialogue. The program will feature music from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War, World War II and several modern day selections. Community singers will once again share their musical talents for this annual performance, while Tim Smoak will serve as accompanist for the event. The Cheraw High School ROTC will also participate by presenting the colors.

For additional information please contact the Cheraw Arts Commission at 843-537-8420, ext 12.

Carolinas HealthCare System Hospices Host Holiday Auction

Carolinas HealthCare System's Hospice of Union County and Hospice of Anson County are hosting their 27th Annual Holiday Auction on Saturday, November 16, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration begins at 8 a.m., followed by both live and silent auctions at 9 a.m. There will be many great items available for bidding - including beach and mountain vacation rentals, spa and golf packages, gift baskets, jewelry and much more.

The 27th Annual Holiday Auction will be held at First Baptist Church in Monroe. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served. All proceeds will benefit the families in need of services provided by Hospice of Union County and Hospice of Anson County.

For more information or to donate an item to auction, call 704-292-2130 or visit www.CarolinasHealthCare.org/hospice-of-union-county.

Financial Aid Workshop for High School Seniors and Parents

The College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) will hold a financial aid workshop on Tuesday, November 19 at 6 p.m. in the Media Center at Anson High School. A CFNC representative will present information about applying for financial aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Colleges and universities use this information to determine financial aid packages for students.

Seniors and their parents from Anson High School, Anson Early College and Anson New Tech are strongly encouraged to attend. There will also be a representative from the financial aid department at South Piedmont Community College available to answer questions about FAFSA day in February.

Discover Anson Bicycle Ride is Saturday

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce will hold the 8th Annual Discover Anson Bike Ride on Saturday, November 2nd in Ansonville. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with a \$30 entry; \$25 if paid before October 19. Three bicycle routes are available for you to choose from 30, 50 and 75 mile routes through some of the most beautiful countryside of Anson County. The ride will be held in conjunction with Ansonville's annual Homecoming and Parade. Call for more information 704-694-4181. A registration form is available at www.ansoncounty.org.

Christmas Parade is Set for December 5

Plans are underway for the 2013 Wadesboro Christmas Parade. Scheduled for 4 p.m. on Thursday, December 5, the uptown parade route will remain the same as in previous years - starting on Morven Road for the line-up and concluding at the Ray Shelton Ball Field for breakdown. The parade will move down Washington, Martin and Greene Streets.

A parade is a community's way of expressing holiday greetings. Entries are being accepted by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce at any time between now and November 27. Floats, both professionally designed and homemade, are eligible for entry. You are asked to decorate your entry, especially if you are a car or truck! It is also recommended that you play Christmas or holiday music in your vehicle to enhance the season during the parade!

As always, throwing of candy to spectators during the parade is not allowed, however if you are walking you may hand out candy. We ask all fire departments to please refrain from excessively loud horns!

For more information contact the Anson County Chamber of Commerce at 704-694-4181 or ansonchamber@windstream.net. Parade entry forms can be downloaded from www.ansoncounty.org.