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Cafeteria Worker Busted for Mobile Meth Lab at Anson High School



Deanna Hatley Deanna Hatley, a 42 year old cafeteria worker at Anson High School, was arrested Monday, November 5 for having an active meth lab in her car while it was parked in the school parking lot during school hours.

Wadesboro Police received information that a vehicle was parked at the school that might possibly contain a controlled substance. Officers arrived at approximately 3 p.m. and located substances that are consistent with the manufacturing of controlled substances in Hatley's vehicle. "There was a small, active meth lab in the vehicle at the time," said Major Thedis Spencer.

The vehicle was removed and secured away from the campus. With the assistance of the NC State Bureau of Investigation and the Anson County Sheriff's Office, Hatley was arrested on the charges of Possession of Methamphetamine Precursor, Possession of Precursor Chemical with the Intent to Manufacture a Controlled Substance on School Property, Manufacture Schedule II Controlled Substance, Maintaining a Vehicle for Keeping a Controlled Substance and Simple Possession of Schedule IV (Xanax).

Dr. Greg Firn, Superintendent of Schools said, "Police and authorities were notified and all safety/health precautions were taken to ensure the safety and well-being of all persons on campus. The Wadesboro Police department is to be thanked, as well as all officials who responded. To the best of our knowledge, no students or staff were in any immediate danger. Nonetheless, all precautions are being taken."

Firn concluded, "This incident had nothing to do with the students or teachers at Anson High School. Also, the incident did not occur inside of Anson High School."

Hatley was placed in the Anson County Jail under a \$20,000 bond. Her first court appearance is scheduled for November 26.

Thieves Destroy 16 Air Conditioner Units at Anson Schools Central Office

The theft delayed Saturday's early voting

On Saturday, November 3 at about 4:30 a.m., during a regular patrol of Anson County School's Central Offices at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro, an officer from the Wadesboro Police Department noticed several damaged air conditioning units. Upon further investigation it was found that 16 air conditioning units had been vandalized by thieves. The units were stripped of their compressors and copper parts and wiring.

Damages have been estimated to be \$180,000 to \$200,000, according to Major Thedis Spencer of the Wadesboro Police Department. Spencer said he had never seen such a large copper theft from one location. He also said he believes the thieves are not amateurs because of how quickly and efficiently they worked. "They knew how to cut wires without getting electrocuted, and remove copper tubing full of Freon, which can be poisonous if inhaled," Spencer said. "I'm pretty sure there was more than one person doing this. I think it's a crew. They have to have the machinery, tools, and the know-how. The value of the copper was only a fraction of the damage done."



Damage done to the internet lines by the thieves also caused about an hour delay in Saturday's early voting, which was taking place at the school. Interim Director of Elections Steve Adams said he arrived Saturday morning to set up the polls and was surprised to find police and destroyed a/c units. "I was taken aback," he said. While 30 or 40 voters waited patiently, Adams worked with elections board members to arrange for the polls to stay open later, until 5 p.m., to make up for the lost time in the morning. Voting commenced about 9:45 a.m.

Dr. Greg Firn, Superintendent of Anson County Schools said, "We are outraged and extremely disappointed that thieves would take advantage of our taxpayers, because that's literally what they have done for as little as a few thousand dollars of copper...but at an expense of over \$180,000 for us to repair and replace. The same type of thievery has taken place in our churches, and these thieves obviously knew what they were doing. They had probably done surveillance."

Firn concluded by saying, "Thanks to Mr. Jim Kiser of ACS Maintenance Department and to Byrum Heating and Air Conditioning for quickly restoring air to school computer facilities before any damage could occur."

As of press time no arrests had been made.

Unemployment Rate in Anson Drops from 13% to 11.8% in September

Anson County saw a significant increase in employment during the month of September, with 9,883 employed versus 9,755 in August. The resulting unemployment rate for September was 11.8%. In August the rate was 13%.

Looking back at September 2011, the rate then for Anson County was 11.9%, so not much has changed during this time. Anson's total labor force in September was 11,207. Of that number 9,883 were employed and 1,324 were unemployed. In August the total labor force was 11,231, with 9,755 employed and 1,476 unemployed.

Unemployment rates decreased in 97 of North Carolina's 100 counties in September, increased in one, and were unchanged in two. When compared to the same month last year, unemployment rates declined in all 100 counties.

North Carolina had 36 counties that were at or below the state's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 8.9 percent. Unemployment rates decreased in all 14 of the state's Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Statewide the number of workers employed (not seasonally adjusted) increased in September by 72,188 to 4,291,292 while those unemployed fell 31,303 to 421,149. Since September 2011, the number of workers unemployed decreased 62,424, while those employed increased 103,546.

Currituck County had the state's lowest unemployment rate in September at 5.1 percent, and Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 16.1 percent.

Anson High JROTC Win Second Place Overall at Event



Drill Team and Color Guard Cadets pose with their trophies after last Saturday's competition at the 2012 Southern Lee Tri-Meet. They defeated 23 other schools to bring home Second Place Overall.

The Anson High School JROTC Bearcat Drill Team, Color Guard, Rifle Team, and Raider Team traveled last weekend to Sanford, North Carolina for the fall 2012 Tri-Meet at Southern Lee High School. Competing against 25 schools, Anson drill team cadets brought home a total of three trophies, including the Second Place Overall trophy for the entire drill meet.

In addition, Cadet James Roberts won the Fourth Place Award in Knockout Drill, defeating more than 100 cadets in competition. The Anson rifle team members were barely out of trophy contention, placing fourth in the meet. And, in their second season as a Raider team, Anson cadets made promising gains in all events. Not quite in trophy contention but certainly getting there. It was an outstanding performance this early in the season for the cadets of Anson High School.



The Bearcat Color Guard pose with their first place trophy from the 2012 Southern Lee Tri-Meet. The team defeated 24 other schools for the title.

Veteran's Day Parade and Celebration is Monday

The second annual Veteran's Day Parade is scheduled for this Monday, November 12 at 10 a.m. in uptown Wadesboro. The parade, sponsored by Wadesboro Motors (formerly Huntley Chevrolet), will be a history-making event for all adults and children this year. Although there will be no school on this day, you can bring your children to the parade and ceremony for a live history lesson.

There will be horses pulling covered wagons depicting the Buffalo Soldiers. (Mr. John Lester Harris from Lilesville is the last known living Anson County Buffalo Soldier.) The bright yellow motorcycles honoring the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers will be back. The parade will feature local military vehicles, souped-up lawnmowers for fun and antique cars. The Anson High School JROTC and Drill Team will make in a wonderful morning of fun while bringing honor to our Anson County Hometown Heroes.

Following the parade all veterans, family members and the general public will meet directly in front of Anson County's newly renovated Court House for a ceremony to honor our veterans. The first annual "Anson County Veteran of the Year" award will be presented at this time. The winner of this prestigious award will receive free, full family research services from Steve Bailey, founder and owner of Anson County Genealogy Services.

After the Court House ceremonies the festivities will then relocate to the Ray Shelton Ball Field for the veterans, their families and the community for a special cookout with local entertainment, informational booths, displays, door prizes...and the Grand Prize to be announced at 2 p.m. Wadesboro Lumber and Barns has donated the Grand Prize, an exceptionally nice 8' x 8' storage building. A solid oak sewing center, donated by a local non-profit, will also be given away to a spouse of a local veteran. You do not have to be present to win.

For more information call 704-465-8622 or 704-694-4418.

Veterans Offered Free Meals and Great Deals on Veteran's Day

Veterans are being thanked by many businesses this Veteran's Day. Although Veteran's Day is Sunday, November 11, many celebrations and special offers are being held on Monday, November 12. The Wadesboro Veteran's Day Celebration will take place on Monday.

- Here are some of the offers:
- Chili's - All military veterans, past and present, their choice of one of 6 meals. Offer available during business hours at participating Chili's in the US only. Dine-in from limited menu only; beverages and gratuity not included. All Desserts priced \$5 for veterans and active duty military. Simply show proof of military service.
 - Golden Corral - Military Appreciation Dinner will be held Monday, November 12, from 4 to 9 p.m. in all Golden Corral restaurants nationwide. The free dinner meal is a special "thank you tribute" to any person who has ever served in the United States Military. If you are a veteran, retired, currently serving, in the National Guard or Reserves, you are invited to come.
 - Olive Garden - Free meal with proof of service from a list of several entrees on a special menu on Monday, November 12. Additionally, some Olive Gardens will also give out a \$10 gift card for a future visit.
 - Subway - Free six inch sub to military veterans on Sunday, November 11. Because Subway restaurants are franchises this offer may not be available at all locations. Contact your local Subway about specials.
 - Denny's - All you can eat pancakes for veterans on Monday, November 12. Call ahead to be sure your Denny's is participating.
 - Krispy Kreme - Free doughnut to all active duty, retirees and vets on Sunday, November 11 at participating restaurants.
 - Hooters - Free meal on Sunday, November 11 for all active and vets. Up to 10 free boneless wings at participating restaurants.
 - Texas Roadhouse - Free meal on Monday, November 12, from opening to 4 p.m. Offer varies by location.
 - Applebee's - Active military and vets eat free on Sunday, November 11.
 - Charlotte Bobcats - This season, all Saturday nights are Military Appreciation Nights. Tickets up to 50% off. Info www.bobcats.com/military. Special offer code is MILITARY.

College Application Week is November 12-16

Anson High School will participate in the statewide College Application Week, cosponsored by College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and Carolinas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACRO), during the week of November 12 to 16. As part of the CFNC-CACRO initiative, the school counselors at Anson High School will work with students in the senior class during this week to complete and submit college applications online using CFNC.org. The goal of College Application Week is to get more students applying to North Carolina colleges early in their senior year.

During College Application Week the following North Carolina colleges and universities will waive the application fee for all students applying online through CFNC.org: All 58 NC Community Colleges, Barton, Belmont-Abby, Bennett, Brevard, Cabarrus College of Health Science, Campbell, Catawba, Gardner-Webb, Guilford, Lees-McRae, Lenoir-Rhyne, Livingstone, Louisburg, Mars Hill, Meredith, Methodist, Montreat, Mount Olive, N.C. Wesleyan, Pfeiffer, Queens, St. Andrews, Saint Augustine's, Salem, Shaw, Warren Wilson, William Peace, Wingate University, Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, North Carolina A&T State University, and Winston-Salem State University.

This is an excellent opportunity for students to apply to two or four year institutions with the assistance of their school counselors.

Holiday Auction to Benefit Hospice of Anson County

Over 200 items are up for auction at an exciting event to benefit Hospice of Anson County and Hospice of Union County. Everyone is invited to come out to bid for items such as a Myrtle Beach vacation, a mountain getaway, fine jewelry, golf packages, gift baskets, antiques and much more! The Holiday Auction will be held on Saturday, November 12.

This event will take place at First Baptist Church at 109 Morrow Avenue in Monroe. There will be a preview at 8 a.m. and the auction begins at 9 a.m. There will also be a silent auction from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If you have any questions please contact Judy Treadaway at 704-694-4880.

County Commissioners Meet Today

The date for the regular November meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners has been rescheduled to today, Wednesday, November 7 at 6 p.m. to avoid conflict with the General Election. The meeting will be held in the normal location, the second floor of the Anson County Government Center, located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro. All interested citizens are invited to attend.

Friday Will be Regular Student Attendance Day

Anson County Schools are adjusting the attendance calendar due to a mandate by the State Personnel Commission designating Monday, November 12, as the day to close government agencies to observe Veteran's Day. Therefore, Friday, November 9 will be a regular student attendance day.

Schools will be closed for students and staff on Monday, November 12, 2012. Additionally, report cards will now be released on Tuesday, November 13.

Blood Drive is November 14

There will be a Blood Drive at Anson Community Hospital on Wednesday, November 14, from 1 to 4 p.m. The minimum weight requirement for blood donors is 120 pounds.

Call 704-972-4700 or go to www.carolinadonor.org for information.

Compassionate Friends Meet Thursday

The Compassionate Friends, a support group for families who have lost a child, will meet on Thursday, November 8 at 7 p.m. in the Training Room at Pee Dee Electric on Highway 52 South in Wadesboro.

For more information please call Becky at 704-475-5005.

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