

## Need 2011 Tax Write-off? Barn Blast Sponsorships Still Available

If you are looking for a last minute tax write-off for 2011 and an investment in the future of Anson County, here is your answer. The Anson County Partnership for Children's sixth annual Barn Blast will be held on Friday, January 27, from 6 p.m. to midnight in the Ingram Room at SPCC's Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro.

All Barn Blast sponsorships and contributions are tax deductible. Sponsors and donors will also receive advertising in the Barn Blast program, names on signage at the event, and recognition by the Barn Blast announcer.

All profits from the Barn Blast are used for children's literacy activities in Anson County including Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Motherread, Raising a Reader Book Bag Program and Books for Kids book distributions. You can invest in the future of our county by being a Barn Blast sponsor or donor.

For more information on Barn Blast sponsorships or donations, please call or come by the Anson County Partnership for Children, 117 South Greene Street in Wadesboro or call 704-694-4036.

## Extension Notes

### High Powered Magnets Dangerous to Children

An increasing number of incident reports to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) indicate that high-powered magnets continue to be a safety risk to children. From toddlers to teens, children are swallowing these magnets and the consequences are severe. Although the risk scenarios differ by age group, the danger is the same. When two or more magnets are swallowed, they can attract one another internally, resulting in serious injuries, such as small holes in the stomach and intestines, intestinal blockage, blood poisoning and even death.

Reports of incidents involving these high-powered ball-bearing magnets have increased since 2009, and include children ranging in age from 18 months to 15 years old. Of the reported incidents, 17 involved magnet ingestion and 11 required surgical removal of the magnets. When a magnet has to be removed surgically, it often requires the repair of the child's damaged stomach and intestines.

High-powered magnets and magnet components that are of a size that can be swallowed are prohibited in toys for children younger than age 14. The reported incidents involve magnets that are marketed as desk toys and stress relievers for adults who use the magnets to create patterns and build shapes. Often, they are sold in sets of 200 or more magnets in stationery, office supply and gift stores, and also on the internet. CPSC has received reports of toddlers finding loose pieces of magnets or magnets left within reach. It can be extremely difficult for a parent to tell if any of the tiny magnets are missing from a set. In some of the reported incidents, toddlers have accessed loose magnets left on a table, refrigerator, sofa or the floor.

With tweens and teenagers, how the product is being used has resulted in magnets being unintentionally inhaled and swallowed. CPSC is also aware of instances where the magnets were swallowed intentionally. To mimic body piercings, the older children are placing two or more magnets on opposite sides of their ear lobes, tongue and nose.

Companies and stores are urging consumers who have purchased magnet sets for children younger than 14 years of age (or households with children under 14 years of age) to remove access to the sets by children immediately and contact the firms for a refund.

CPSC offers the following tips to avoid magnet ingestion injuries and advice on what to do if you suspect that your child has swallowed magnets. Keep small magnets away from young children who might swallow them. Look out for loose magnet pieces - and regularly inspect toys and children's play areas for missing or dislodged magnets. If you suspect that magnets have been swallowed, seek medical attention immediately. Look for abdominal symptoms, such as abdominal pains, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Note that in x-rays, multiple magnetic pieces may appear as a single object. By *Janine B. Rywak, County Extension Director*

## South Piedmont Community College

SPCC has the following position available:

### FACILITY AND PROPERTY SERVICES TECHNICIAN

SPCC is seeking a Facility and Property Services Technician. This is a full-time position with afternoon and evening hours and will be based at the Old Charlotte Highway Campus in Monroe.

**Requirements:** High school diploma or equivalent, a valid NC or SC driver's license and the ability to lift and place at least 70 pounds on an ongoing basis.

#### Job responsibilities include:

- Responsible for cleaning and maintaining all facilities (buildings) and properties (equipment, cars, etc.).
- Assist with security of facilities.
- Assist with special events including set up and clean up.
- Look for and report facility and property problems.
- Perform routine maintenance such as painting, plumbing and electrical repairs.
- Perform a variety of laboring duties as assigned.
- Complete duties as assigned by the Assistant Director of Facility and Property Services.

Position is open until filled. A South Piedmont Community College application, job description and other requirements may be found at, [www.spcc.edu](http://www.spcc.edu) or contact us at the address below:

South Piedmont Community College  
Human Resources Office  
PO Box 126 • Polkton, NC 28135 • 704-272-5471  
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## South Piedmont Community College

SPCC has the following position available:

### ESOL INSTRUCTOR/DISTANCE LEARNING COORDINATOR

Adult Basic Skills Department

SPCC is seeking applications for an ESOL Instructor/Distance Learning Coordinator for the Adult Basic Skills department (Job description). This is a 12-month, full-time position located on the Old Charlotte Highway Campus in Monroe.

**Minimum Requirements:** Bachelor's degree; Experience teaching ESOL; Experience teaching ESOL in adult education environment preferred. Experience with ESOL distance learning programs and initiatives preferred.

Position is open until filled with a preferred start date of February 1, 2012. A South Piedmont Community College application, job description and other requirements may be found at, [www.spcc.edu](http://www.spcc.edu) or contact us at the address below:

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