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

Homecoming Parade is Friday on the Streets of Uptown Wadesboro

After much popularity in the past years, an Anson County tradition will once again return to the streets of Historic Uptown Wadesboro. The Homecoming Parade, sponsored by H.W. Little and Company Hardware, is slated to begin on Friday, October 7 at 4:45 p.m. The parade will be led by grand marshal Center of Hope CEO, Vance Sturdivant and the Wadesbor Police Department. They will lead more than 30 parade entries, including several custom-built floats. Float entries include the Anson High School Varsity Cheerleaders, East Polkton Alumni, and Anson New Technology High School. Other entries include: Wadesboro National Guard, South Piedmont Career Cruiser, NC Division of Forestry, local fire queens, WSSU Band, various dignitaries, political candidates, and much, much more!

A grand prize of \$500 will be given for the best homemade float entry. Also, the school with the most school spirit will win the Spirit Cup. Judges will be set-up in front of the Anson County Court House to evaluate the entries.

Following the parade there will be tailgating at the Anson High School parking lot in preparation for the big game's kick-off at 7:30 p.m.

Auditions for A Christmas Carol Play Set to Begin at the Ansonia Theatre

The Anson County Arts Council will be holding auditions for their production of Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*, the renowned story of Ebenezer Scrooge, adapted for the stage by theatre director David Ariail. There are roles for ten men, nine women, six teenage actors, and six children ages 7-10 (which includes the role of Tiny Tim).

Auditions will be held on Monday, October 10th through Wednesday, October 12th, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. People auditioning will enter through the Arts Council building, located next door to the Ansonia at 110 South Rutherford Street in Wadesboro. There you will register and complete an audition form. Be prepared to list any conflicts with rehearsal dates. There can be no conflicts with performance dates. The performance dates are December 8, 9, 11 (matinee) and December 15, 16, 17. Rehearsal dates are Monday - Friday starting October 14th, and will continue until performance except November 22-25. Participants will be called to audition inside the theater in the sequence that they arrive.

There will be a "call-back" audition for those still being considered for casting on Thursday, October 13th at 7:30 p.m. A list will be posted at the Ansonia by noon on Thursday. Participants may also call the Arts Council at 704-694-4950 from 1 to 4 p.m. that Thursday. Contact the Arts Council at ansonart@windstream.net if you have questions.

Boy Scouts Recruiting in Anson County

Anson County Boy Scouts have been holding their annual recruiting rallies in Anson County Schools but would like to offer other chances for boys to participate in the Boy Scouts of America organization. Each week meetings are scheduled for Monday, Thursday and Friday, and established sites have been arranged for your convenience. See the listing below:

- Monday meetings are held from 6 until 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Wadesboro for Pack #525. Pack #229 will meet at the Holla Center in Morven from 6 until 7 p.m. Pack #260 will meet in Ansonville at the Volunteer Fire Department from 6 until 7 p.m. Troop #505 will meet at Olivet United Methodist Church in Lilesville from 6 until 7:30 p.m. Troop #170 will meet at the First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro from 6 until 7:30 p.m.
- On Thursdays, Peachland Pack #530 will meet at the First United Methodist Church from 6 until 7:30 p.m.
- Troop #589 of McFarlan will meet on Friday evenings from 6 until 7:30 p.m. at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church.

The Boy Scouts of America organization has been an intricate part of boy's lives for over one hundred years. If you would like to help enrich your son's life, please have him join. Scouts very often hold leadership roles in high school and college, as well as become decorated service men. Scouting can change the life of a young man for the better so get involved today.

Youth: Joining the Revolution of Responsibility

For more than 101 years, the 4-H Program of North Carolina has been engaging youth in programs that help develop skills for a lifetime. These skills range from communication to community service and from goal setting to leadership. Regardless of the skill learned, the benefits gathered from a young person participating in the 4-H Program are priceless.

The 4-H is the largest youth development program in the nation, serving more than 6.5 million youth annually. Administered by North Carolina Cooperative Extension at NC State University and NC A&T State University, 4-H serves youth in all 100 counties in the state plus the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians through a network of 100 County Extension Offices. 4-H is managed jointly by both a professional and volunteer staff. North Carolina 4-H, one of the leading 4-H programs in the country, has more than 218,000 youth participants and more than 21,000 volunteers working together to deliver the more than 100 projects, opportunities, and events offered annually through the program.

4-H is unique in that it offers experiences to the most urban young person and youth in rural areas by providing the opportunity to participate in community 4-H clubs, K-12 outreach programs (delivered in school classrooms), day and overnight camps, and other special interest opportunities. North Carolina 4-H serves the sons and daughters of our military personnel through the 4-H Military Program located throughout the state, primarily on military bases.

Youth members can participate in a variety of projects in the areas of science, technology, engineering, math, healthy living, citizenship and leadership. Beyond the excitement of learning something new through a project, youth have the opportunity to participate in citizenship and leadership conferences, travel the state, become involved in their community through service, and meet new friends in a safe and comfortable setting.

4-H youth are a living, breathing, culture-changing Revolution for doing the right thing, breaking through obstacles and pushing our country forward by making a measureable difference right where they live.

If you would like to learn more about 4-H, or have a family member wanting to join 4-H, contact your local Anson County Extension Office. You can also visit the website at anson.ces.ncsu.edu or visit the North Carolina 4-H Youth Development website at nc4h.org.

Coach Clarence Parson Honored at Recent Gathering



The former Wadesboro A's semi pro baseball team met at Little Park on September 24th to honor the finest and most caring coach around, Mr. Clarence Parson.

A spokesman for the team said, "Coach Parson did quite a bit for the boys and girls around Wadesboro. He gave the young guys something to look forward to on the weekends...and that was to play baseball in Anson and the surrounding counties. Also there were the Lady A's softball team as well that was started by Coach Parson."

"At the event we did not get a chance to swing the aluminum, nor make a score because we were rained out. But, we were still thrilled to come together and

reminisce about the past times we had together, playing baseball and off the field."

Pictured here are, from left, kneeling: Rick Montgomery, Johnny Johnson, Coach Clarence Parson, Harvey C. Gatewood and Tracy Little. Second row: Herman Byrd, James Lee, Tommy Liles, Robert Hilliard and Richard Johnson.

There were more members who were not present: Thomas Tillman, Bobby Tillman, Hi Hi Sturdivant, Greg Sturdivant, Paki Sturdivant, Doug, Haze Flowers, Donald Byrd, Bam Bam Sturdivant, Arthur Bowman, Charles Gaddy, Joe Burch, Louis Willoughby and R. McRae.

Legislative Update

This has been a busy week for me here in the 69th House District. I have attended several community events in both Anson and Union and have been able to assist some of our neighbors with state government related issues. I appreciate calls and emails from my constituents about matters they think I can help with. In the past few days I have dealt with disability, highway maintenance, insurance and others issues brought to my attention by the people of our district. While I cannot solve every problem I can often, with the help of my assistant, Brittany Eller, get answers or information for folks.

State House and Senate members held a series of meetings around the state last week to discuss what have been our top priorities in Raleigh - the economy, jobs and education. The stories we heard from some of the more than 1,000 people who attended the events validate the concerns that I and others have about the tremendous damage caused by this year's budget.

The economy, education and job creation are clearly linked. Education prepares young people and those changing careers for the workforce. The people who make decisions about where to locate businesses expect access to good schools, colleges and universities for their employees and their families.

The legislators' tour made more than 20 stops in five days and more than 50 legislators concerned about education, the economy and jobs participated. While the details were different at each stop, the overall message from those who attended remained the same -- this budget turns back progress in North Carolina. Lynn Holmes, the chair of the state's Employment Security Commission, says that government employment in August was down 16,000 from August 2010. Many, if not most, of those employees are teachers and educators or work in public safety and health related fields.

The state Department of Public Instruction has found that 6,100 positions have been eliminated in our schools compared to last year, even while enrollment continues to grow. About 4,000 more teachers would have lost their jobs had it not been for federal grant money saved from last year. That money will not be available for next year, signaling the loss of thousands of additional jobs unless the state changes its budget plan or the federal government releases additional money.

The university system reported that 4,500 positions were eliminated and that about 3,000 of those were filled when they were cut. Community colleges have projected that about 1,000 people will lose their jobs. All together, this budget I did not support eliminated 11,600 education positions and at least 4,000 more were saved this year only because of an influx of federal money.

Layoffs in other areas of state government are expected to reach about 3,000 while the reduced funding available for health programs is already leading to the shutdown of small health care businesses. One policy group estimates the health funding reduction will kill several thousand additional jobs, resulting directly in the loss of at least 20,000 jobs because of this budget. All of this impacts the private sector—how can our businesses provide goods and services where there is no market for those goods and services?

My friend and fellow House member Bill Faison devised a great plan to create PRIVATE sector jobs, re-establishing markets and getting our state back on track. I detailed that plan in last weeks' Report.

The General Assembly has another session scheduled for November, though it is unclear yet exactly what business the leadership plans to consider. I will let you know more as the information becomes available to me. I hope we are not again spending YOUR money for frivolous wasteful showboating.

Several new laws go into place Oct. 1, ranging from hunting laws to changes in medical malpractice. For a full list of laws that go into place on that date, visit www.ncleg.net and click on the link under "News & Information" titled 2011 Legislation with Effective Dates from July 1, 2011 through January 1, 2012.

Please let me know if you would like any additional information or if I can be of assistance to you in any way. Email me at Frank.McGuirt@ncleg.net or call my Raleigh office at 919-715-3007. Thank you for your interest in your state and our government.

Wadesboro Christmas Parade is December 1

Plans are underway for the 2011 Christmas Parade. Scheduled for 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, December 1, the uptown parade route will remain the same as in previous years. It starts on Morven Road for the line up and concludes 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 18. Floats, both professionally designed and homemade, are eligible for entry. This year there will be no lighted floats.

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.

Parks and Recreation Offers Shag Lessons

Anson County Parks and Recreation will be offering Shag Lessons at the Anson Middle School Gym on Mondays - October 10, 17, 24, and 31. Line Dances from 6 to 7 p.m. and Shag Lessons from 7 to 8 p.m.

Line Dances will cost \$25. Shag Lessons will cost 35. To attend both classes costs \$60. The classes will be taught by Patty Blackmon with Carolina Shag. For more information call 704-694-5868.

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Signups Begin October 15

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan signup begins October 15 and runs until December 7. Those individuals with existing plans who want to make changes may do so during this period. People who are just turning 65 years of age can choose a Medicare Part D plan. Failure to choose a plan will result in a penalty when the person does sign up.

For those people who fall into the Low Income Subsidy category, there will a low cost for premiums and medications. You can also apply for extra help.

During the signup period please call Grace Senior Center for an appointment, Monday through Friday, beginning at 9 a.m. The telephone number is 704-694-6616.

PEOPLE FEST
IS THIS SATURDAY!
9am to 4pm
Enjoy Atlantic Groove
Concert & Fireworks at
Ray Shelton Field
7-10pm
Bring a blanket or chair!

Toys for Tots Kick Off is Thursday

The Toys For Tots Anson County Campaign will have their Kick Off event on Thursday, October 6th at Hampton B. Allen Library beginning at 6 p.m. All drop-off site coordinators and volunteers are asked to be present.

For more information contact Vance Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.

Grace Senior Center Spaghetti Fundraiser

Grace Senior Center's Annual Spaghetti Fundraiser will be held on Friday, October 7th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the center. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy delicious spaghetti along with garlic bread, tossed salad and a dessert. Funds raised by the dinner will help with the Senior Christmas Luncheon.

Plates are \$6, eat in or take out. Those eating in will receive a free tea. Five plates or more can be delivered. Persons interested should call Grace Senior Center at 704-694-6616.

Free Groceries at Mobile Food Pantry

The Mobile Food Pantry will be bring free food to the Burnsville Volunteer Fire Department in Burnsville on Tuesday, October 11 at 10:30 a.m. Please bring bags or carts with you to carry your food. Do not arrive before 9:30 a.m. If it is raining significantly the day of delivery, it will be canceled.

If you have not yet done so, you must bring proof of your income. Please note you can no longer pick up food for more than one household, you may only pick up food for yourself. This event is sponsored by W.A.C.O.M. and local United Methodist Churches.

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