



Community leader and long-time South Piedmont Community College advocate Julie Sikes has been named the college's Vice President of Institutional Advancement. In her new role, Sikes will lead the SPCC Foundation as well as oversee its Marketing, Institutional Effectiveness, and Alumni Relations efforts.

Before coming to the college, Sikes promoted SPCC through her role as the Chair of Resource Generation for the college's Foundation Board, which helped the college secure significant funding for a variety of important initiatives.

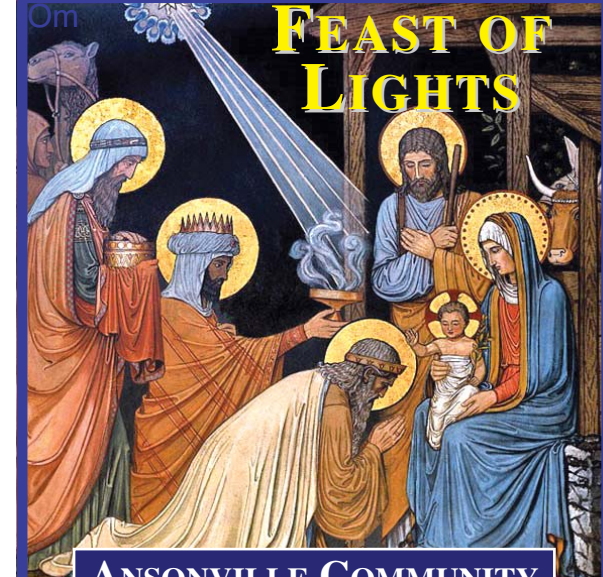
"Ms. Sikes is a well-respected, competent, gracious, and professional leader in our community, and we are so very blessed to have her join our team," SPCC President Dr. Maria Pharr said in making the announcement.

Sikes, who most recently served as Human Resources Director for Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company, has also been a strong community leader, serving as a United Way Cabinet Member, a Campaign Liaison for United Way of the Central Carolinas, and as a Board Member for both the Union County Hospice and the Union County Chamber of Commerce. Her experience in senior administrative roles extends back to 1994 and across several companies, including Edwards Wood Products in Marshville, Neal Enterprises in Pageland and Union, S.C., and PaperWorks Packaging Group located throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Bingo at Grace Senior Center

Bingo games are held every third Tuesday of the month at Grace Senior Center at 1 p.m. All seniors are invited to attend for fun and fellowship. There is not cost, but you must be 55 or older to play.

For more information or to register to play call the center at 704-694-6616.



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Anson RoboWolves Robotics Team Receives \$2,000 Grant



The Anson County RoboWolves robotics team has received a \$2,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation/FIRST North Carolina Fund.

Founded by inventor Dean Kamen who introduced the IBOT Mobility System and the Segway Human Transporter, FIRST was created to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people, their schools, and their communities. The FIRST Robotics Competition anticipates over 3,500 teams in the US and 24 countries to compete in over 130 events around the world. More than 1,000 students will compete at the FIRST North Carolina State Championship to earn a spot at the FIRST World Championship to be held April 18-22 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas.

"FIRST isn't about competing, it's about cooperating, and recognizing that if you have the right tools you'll be able to make this world a better place for yourself and for the country," said Kamen, president of DEKA Research and Development and the founder of FIRST, adding, "There is no stimulus package that will have as much return as stimulating a bunch of kids to become the workforce of the future, the problem solvers, the creators of the future."

Anson County mentor Jodi Davis said, "We are grateful to Duke Energy for these funds. With them we get to take students from our rural community and immerse them in 21st century competition. The skills and experiences they



gain there are priceless."

"We are excited to support your work inspiring the next generation of Duke Energy employees and customers. Thank you for all your doing to coach the RoboWolves, and to support education in Anson County," said David McNeill, Duke Energy District Manager.

This season, participating FIRST students are eligible to apply for more than \$50 million in scholarships being made available by nearly 200 scholarship providers.

Over a six-week timeframe, students work with professional engineering mentors to design a robot that solves a problem using a Kit of Parts and a standard set of rules. Once these young inventors create the robot, their teams participate in two district events that measure the effectiveness of each robot, the power of collaboration, and the determination of students.

FIRST North Carolina is proud to partner with the Duke Energy Foundation in providing opportunities for North Carolinian high school students to explore STEM - science, technology, engineering and math - careers and pathways.

More information is available at www.firstnorthcarolina.org.

Wildlife Commission Proposed Regulation Changes

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission has opened the public comment period for proposed changes to agency regulations related to wildlife management, inland fisheries and game lands for the 2018-19 seasons.

The comment period will be open from Dec. 1 until Feb. 1, 2018. Comments may be submitted online at ncpaws.org, emailed to regulations@ncwildlife.org (must include name, phone number and mailing address in email), or mailed to: Rules Coordinator, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, 1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1701.

The public can also provide comments at one of nine public hearings the Commission is conducting across the state in January.

Three proposed changes of interest to deer hunters statewide will:

- Establish five deer season zones by separating the Eastern Zone into two zones - the Northeastern Zone and the Southeastern Zone. This regulation would also move Polk and Rutherford counties to the Western Zone and Cleveland County to the Northwest Zone. (See proposed deer seasons zone map at www.ncwildlife.org.)

- Change season length and time frames; establish a statewide antlered deer bag limit of two and a statewide antlerless deer bag limit of four; and restrict the use of bonus antlerless deer tags to the Urban Archery Season. There would be no changes in the season opening dates for archery; however, where other seasons begin later, archery seasons would be longer than currently established seasons.

- Shift the either-sex season to the beginning of the Introductory, Conservative and Moderate Antlerless Deer seasons. (See chart for affected counties at www.ncwildlife.org.)

Proposed regulations of interest to bear hunters will:

- Modify the bear hunting season in the Coastal Bear Management Unit (CBMU) to align hunting seasons in five bear hunting zones. (Chart at www.ncwildlife.org.)

- Modify the bear hunting season in the Mountain Bear Unit to add two weeks to the beginning of the current season.

Another proposed hunting regulation would allow limited take of American alligators by permit only as prescribed in the recently approved Alligator Management Plan. The proposed regulation would also establish a one-month season with a bag limit of one per permit and a season limit of one per person as well as manner of take.

For justifications on the above proposed regulations, as well as a complete list of all 35 proposed changes to the agency's wildlife management, inland fisheries and game lands regulations for the 2018-19 seasons, download the Public Hearings Applying to 2018-2019 Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Seasons information booklet at www.ncwildlife.org. Visit the Commission's blog for more detailed information about the proposed deer regulations and bear regulations, both available at www.ncwildlife.org.

The closest public hearing to Anson County, which is in District 6, will be held in Albemarle on Thursday, January 11 at 7 p.m. at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center, 26032-B Newt Road.

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