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Farm Service Agency Offers Producers a Free Online News Service

Up-to-the-minute farm program news direct to your email account or smartphone

USDA North Carolina Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director, SED Aaron Martin announced that farmers and ranchers in North Carolina now have a more efficient, timely option for receiving important FSA program eligibility requirements, deadlines and related information.

"FSA is now offering free online communications through our GovDelivery electronic news service," said SED Martin. "News will now be sent via e-mail right to your home or farm office or to your Smartphone - allowing you to receive immediate notification of farm program news that is pertinent to your agricultural operation," he said.

Through FSA's GovDelivery electronic news service, producers can establish subscriber preferences by choosing to receive federal farm program information by topic, by state and/or by county. Producers can select as many subscriber options as they want, which allows producers who farm in multiple counties or across state lines to receive updates from each county in which they operate or have an interest.

According to SED Martin, GovDelivery is a one-stop shop for the most up-to-date USDA program information.

"If, after using this online system, producers no longer wish to receive hardcopy newsletters from their local county office, they should contact the office and make their preferences known," said SED Martin. "GovDelivery will enable FSA to keep producers better informed and allow us to conserve resources and reduce taxpayer expenses associated with the preparation, printing and distribution of hardcopy newsletters," he said.

To begin using GovDelivery, subscribe online at www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe or contact your local office for subscription assistance.

Please contact your local FSA office if you have questions regarding FSA's GovDelivery electronic news service. In Anson County contact Tina Atkins, Anson County FSA, PO Box 264, Wadesboro NC 28170. Her telephone number is 704-694-3516, extension 2.

Remembering..... By Ed McBride



Early Glimpses of Spring...

Seems only yesterday that our heavy coats felt "real good" while outside...and today is "super nice" as the spring blooming plants are showing nature's beauty shining all about us. Even Allen says, "I didn't know the yellows were so pretty!"

In the years gone by I owned several yellow trucks, and guess what - the NC Department of Highways liked the yellow equipment for visibility and safety, after using the brown color for years. Oh well, in just a matter of days the colors of nature will "cover our lawn." Not only will there be beauty around us - but it is "lawn mower" time!

And, the picture above was one that we photographed at the Reynolds Gardens in Winston-Salem in 1987. Many thanks, Ed

Homelessness Partners Meeting Thurs.

Anson County Public Schools and the Head Start and Early Head Start Programs of Union County Community Actions, Inc. will hold an Anson County Homelessness Partners' meeting at 11 a.m. at Central Center, located 351 White Store Road in Wadesboro.



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ACEC Presents *The Beverly Hillbillies* at the Ansonia

In a release from Anson County Early College: Lights! Sound! Action! The curtain rose for Anson County Early College students as they presented their production of *The Beverly Hillbillies* on Friday, February 24 at the Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro. This marked ACEC's first production at the Ansonia. For the past few months ACEC students and faculty were busily getting ready for the big event. ACEC students of all grades (9th to 12th and super-seniors) were involved in some aspect of the play whether acting on stage, performing "fillers" between scenes, constructing the sets and props, ushering guests or helping with backstage and technical needs.

The Beverly Hillbillies is ACEC's fourth theater production and first production at the Ansonia. In past productions included *The Pirates of the Caribbean* (2006) and *The Wizard of Oz* (2008), and *Alice in Wonderland* (2010). The Early College initiative requires all Early College students to take part in a formal presentation outside of school. This year, as in the past, students addressed all aspects of interdisciplinary principles and 21st Century skills (required by the New Schools Project of North Carolina) throughout the process of this production.

The Beverly Hillbillies is a large cast to begin with and with ACEC's tradition of performing plays, it became even bigger. To encourage maximum student involvement the three acts were divided by grade level: Act 1 for grades 9-10, Act 2 for grades 10-11 and Act 3 for grades 11, 12, and super-seniors, so there were three different Elly Mays, Jeds, Jethros, and four Grannys in the production. The students acting in the play practiced their public presentation skills as they memorized lines and projected their voices. Students performing during the "fillers" told humorous jokes, sang songs, and danced. Students also demonstrated additional aspects of interdisciplinary and 21st Century skills: artistic design and constructing the sets and props for the play as well as leadership, responsibility, and public communication skills while helping out backstage and ushering guests. ACEC faculty members have been extremely active throughout the production process with props and set construction, programs, tickets, bringing costumes and props, coordinating ushers, directing "fillers," and, of course, directing acts and scenes.

ACEC wishes to thank the Anson County Arts Council for their continued support for the arts and Anson Tech Student Jesse Carpenter for his work on lights and sound during the production. ACEC faculty and students are very proud of the success of their production - especially for the spectacular performance of the students! And know that all their hard work has paid off. Hope to see you there next time!



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Early Release for Students on April 5

Anson County Schools has announced early release information for Thursday, April 5.

- Wadesboro Primary and Wadesboro Elementary Schools dismiss at 12:30 p.m.
- Ansonville, Lilesville, Morven and Peachland-Polkton Elementary Schools dismiss at 1 p.m.
- All middle and high schools dismiss at 1:30 p.m.

Anson County Board of Education Budget Workshops

The Anson County Board of Education Budget Workshops will be held in April. All workshops will be held at the Board of Education Office in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

- Here are the dates:
- Thursday, April 5 at 4 p.m.
- Thursday, April 19 at 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, April 26 at 5 p.m. (if needed)

¹Offer valid from 2/1/2012 until 4/30/2012. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial; some restrictions apply, so see your dealer for complete details and other financing options. ²Offer valid from 2/1/2012 until 4/30/2012. Get \$1,000 off the 3E and \$1,500 off the 5E or 5D models all with a purchase of two or more implements. Prices and models may vary by dealer. *Manufacturer's estimate of power (ISO) per 97/68/ED. John Deere's green and yellow color scheme, the leaping deer symbol and JOHN DEERE are trademarks of Deere & Company.