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

## Three Arrested on Drug Dealing Charges

One of the three, Bruce Junior Hall, outsmarted and captured by Sheriff's K-9, Benny

Anson County Sheriff's Deputies arrested three suspects on felony drug charges. On Saturday morning, March 10th deputies arrested Danny Lamar Little, age 25 and Bruce Junior Hall, age 30, both have Polkton addresses. Both men were charged with Possession of Cocaine; Possession with Intent to Sell and Deliver Cocaine; Maintaining a Vehicle to Deliver Cocaine; Trafficking in Cocaine; Possess and Traffic Cocaine on School Property; and Resisting Arrest. Hall was also charged with Larceny; Assaulting a Police Dog and Possession of Marijuana.

Deputies also arrested Tammie Rena Happle from Wadesboro. She was charged with Felony Possession; Possession with Intent to Sell and Deliver and Trafficking in Cocaine. Her bond information was not available at this time.

Bond for Little was set at \$125,000 and bond for Hall was set at \$130,000. All suspects have posted bond.

Sheriff Tommy Allen said that the Sheriff's Special Response Team (called SRT, similar to SWAT) was in training on the morning of March 10th when information was received from the Gaston County Police Department that a drug transaction that started in Gaston County was headed to Anson County and would require quick action and response. The SRT team was used to take the vehicle down, but two suspects fled on foot. Little was quickly apprehended by officers on foot. Hall was taken down by one of the Sheriff's K-9s, Benny.

"Hall tried to break away from the K-9 by hitting and choking the dog but the K-9 did what he was trained to do and held on until the officers could get there. To assault a Sheriff's K-9 is a felony," Allen said.

The Sheriff said that Hall received several puncture wounds from the bits by the K-9 but he refused medical treatment. Happle did not try to flee the scene. Officers seized a large quantity of cocaine and cash. All suspects will be tried in Anson County Criminal Superior Court.



Danny Lamar Little



Bruce Junior Hall



K-9 Benny

## Peachland-Polkton Elementary School Book Fair a Success



Peachland-Polkton Elementary School recently held its annual Book Fair. Students were treated to a luau-themed fair with Hawaiian music and leis on opening night. The students also registered to win posters and gift certificates. The school went above last year's sales and will use the profit to purchase more books for the media center. Thanks to all the parents, students and staff members who supported this event!

## What's All the Buzz!

There are hundreds of carpenter bee species around the globe. But, in Anson county, your probably familiar with *Xylocopa virginica*, commonly known as the eastern carpenter bee, which resembles steroid-enhanced bumble bee – black, yellow and fuzzy. While bumblebees have a fuzzy all over, carpenter bees have a hairless shiny tail-end. There are about 20 different large carpenter bee species in the U.S., however in North Carolina, there are only two: *virginica* and *Xylocopa micans*, otherwise known as the southern carpenter bee.



Why are carpenter bees a problem around homes? They drill holes in dead wood. Not a problem if it's a dead tree in the woods, but a worrisome sight if you see them steadily chipping away at your deck, window sill, or garage trusses.

Do carpenter bees eat wood, like termites? Nope. Are they building colonies in your deck? Nope. So what the heck are they doing? Glad you asked.

Carpenter bees are so-called "solitary" bees. They don't exist in social colonies, like honeybees or wasps. When you see a carpenter bee drilling a hole, you are watching a solitary female building a nest for her offspring. She is not eating the wood, but chiseling out a nest (which can be six to 18 inches deep) with specially modified mandibles. Once the nest is complete, the female will shove in a ball of pollen, lay an egg and seal that space up with a mixture of spit and sawdust. She'll repeat this process in the same tunnel, making individual chambers until she has laid all her eggs. The female hangs around for a bit and then dies. Meanwhile, the developing larva feed on the pollen ball until the new adult emerges in late summer.

This nesting behavior (also known as: "annoying hole-drilling behavior") can be seen in late spring and early summer. When the offspring emerge they pretty much just fly around, eat and hang out. They don't drill any new holes (yet). When the weather gets cold, they'll overwinter in existing holes.

When warm weather returns, they spring back into action. The males usually emerge first, and wait for the females to show up. You can spot the males because they have a white spot on their heads (also, like all male bees, they cannot sting). When the females emerge, they mate and the males die. Then the cycle starts again: drill hole, lay eggs, die.

What can you do to prevent property damage from carpenter bees? They will drill into any type of exposed dead wood, painted or not, hardwood or softwood, although they do prefer softwoods like pine.

This leaves three options. One: you can simply work on your tennis swing and swat them away from your house when you see them. Effective – assuming have no plans all day. Two: you can replace wood with composite materials the bees can't physically drill into. Very effective, but expensive. Three: As a last resort, approach the nest site after dark with insecticide products containing carbaryl, bifenthrin, cyfluthrin and spray into the hole. Avoid inhaling insecticide or contaminating clothing. Push a small ball of aluminum foil into the hole and seal with caulk after 24-36 hours. The application of insecticide is important because simply sealing a hole will encourage more resourceful bees to chew another exit hole. This strategy works for existing holes but doesn't prevent new holes from bees coming in from neighboring areas.

In any event, like most bees, carpenter bees consume nectar and pollen from flowering plants. This means that they're effective pollinators – something we could use more of. So, try not to kill them if you can avoid it. *By Aimee Rankin, Horticulture/Forestry Agent*

## Parks and Rec Registrations End Today

Registration runs through March 28 for Parks and Recreation Micro Soccer (3 & 4 years old), Youth Soccer (K to 12th grade), Tee Ball (4 to 6 years old), and Coach Pitch (7 to 10 years old). The cost is \$25 for each program.

You may come to Little Park to register Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., and registration will take place on Wednesday, March 28, 3 to 5 p.m. at Lilesville Elementary School Baseball Field and Morven Elementary School.

The deadline to register is Wednesday, March 28. For information contact Wanda Chappell at 704-694-5868.

## 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 schools and high schools dismiss at 1:30 p.m.

## Town of Lilesville Board Meeting

The Town of Lilesville will hold their April 2nd board meeting at 6 p.m. at the Lilesville Fire Department.

## Town of Wadesboro Holiday Schedule

The Wadesboro Town Hall will be closed on Friday, April 6 due to the Easter Good Friday Holiday. Also, there will be no garbage pickup that day. The normal schedule will resume on Monday, April 9.

For more information call the Town Hall at 704-694-5171.

## Board of Education Regular Meeting April 30

The April Board of Education Regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 30th. Closed Session begins immediately after the opening of the meeting at 5:30 p.m. and open session to the public begins at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center located at the Board of Education Office at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

## Pee Dee Refuge Featured on UNC-TV

The Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge was featured on the North Carolina Weekend on UNC-TV on March 22. If you would like to see the program visit [video.uncv.org/video/2213705857](http://video.uncv.org/video/2213705857).

## Democratic Party Meeting, Resumes Invited to Fill Commissioner Vacancy

The Anson County Democratic Party Executive Committee will meet on April 15 at the Lilesville Town Hall at 5 p.m. This meeting will begin proceedings to fill the vacancy in Precinct # 2 (Lilesville) due to the untimely death of County Commissioner Claude "Fat" Spencer.

Residents of the Lilesville precinct interested in submitting your resume for the commissioner vacancy may submit resumes to: Precinct Chairman Thomasina Spencer, 172 Davidson Drive, Post Office Box 41, Lilesville, North Carolina 28091, or email to [tss0346@windstream.net](mailto:tss0346@windstream.net). The deadline for receiving resumes will be April 3, 2012, at 5 p.m.

For more information please contact Thomasina Spencer at 704-848-4553 or Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.

## Anson County Career Fair set for April 18

The Anson County Career Fair is scheduled for April 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at South Piedmont Community College's Lockhart-Taylor Center, 514 N. Washington Street in Wadesboro. The fair, which offers connections with career, educational and community resources, can be valuable for those seeking a job, for those looking to change careers and for students wishing to explore different possible careers. They will be able to attend professional workshops, learn about educational and training opportunities and meet with employers.

The annual event always draws a few dozen employers and vendors and 20 have already agreed to participate this year. With three weeks left until the event, Kristi Phiifer, SPCC's Human Resources Development/Work First coordinator at the Lockhart-Taylor center, expects many more to sign up.

Employers and vendors who have already committed to this year's career fair, as of March 22, are Access, Aflac, Anson Community Hospital, Anson County Partnership for Children, Anson County Sheriff's Office, the NC Department of Public Safety, the Anson County Department of Social Services, Gardner-Webb University's GOAL program, I'm Home Working, Lanesboro Correctional Institution, Legacy Estate Services, Liberty National Life Insurance, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Mega Force Staffing, Modern Woodmen of America, North Carolina Highway Patrol, Pilgrim's Pride, Primerica, N.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Services and the Wadesboro Police Department.

Professional dress is required and attendees are welcome to bring resumes. Because of expected large crowds, visitors are asked to prepare for long wait times.

The Anson County Career Fair is sponsored by South Piedmont Community College, the Anson County Department of Social Services, the Anson County Chamber of Commerce, the Employment Security Commission and Vocational Rehabilitation.

For information, contact Kristi Phiifer at 704-272-5460.

## 11th Annual Creating the Future Conference at SPCC

South Piedmont Community College will host the 11th annual Creating the Future conference April 21 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the Old Charlotte Highway Campus, 4209 Old Charlotte Highway. The conference will feature workshops aimed at helping educators of young children improve student literacy, present more engaging programs and develop strategies for a positive classroom environment.

Kimberly Johnson, an accomplished children's author, speaker, motivator and educator, will be the keynote speaker.

Registration cost is \$25 for full-time SPCC students, N.C. Association for the Education of Young Children southwest affiliate members, Union County Child Care Association members and Union County Family Child Care Association members; and \$35 for anyone else.

Participants can register online this year at [www.childcareresourcesinc.org](http://www.childcareresourcesinc.org). The registration deadline is April 6. The conference brochure can be downloaded at [www.spcc.edu/2011-2012/child-care-conference](http://www.spcc.edu/2011-2012/child-care-conference).

## Children from Open Doors Artwork Graces Library Window



Caulkin, Sadie Smothers, Joseph Polston, Hazim Amin, Ava Phillips, Marcus Sturdivant, Josey Beverly, Ayriana Lindsay, Destiny Blackwelder, Natalee Griffin, Catie Steagall and Tristen Wall.

Everyone is invited to come by the library and see the artwork displayed on the huge tree in the front window at the library.

## Youth Hunter Education Skills Tournament Championship

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will hold its 34th annual Youth Hunter Education Skills Tournament, the state championship for pre-collegiate shooting sports, on April 28 at the Millstone 4-H Center near Ellerbe. Competition is conducted on senior (high school) and junior (middle and elementary schools) divisional levels, with overall team and overall individual awards based on aggregate scores in all events (see video). The Wildlife Commission conducted nine district-level competitions in March, with hundreds of middle school and high school students participating.

The championship represents an opportunity for competitors who advanced from district events to showcase outdoor skills learned through the Commission's Hunter Education Program (see video). The competition includes segments in rifle, shotgun and archery marksmanship, as well as an orienteering challenge and a wildlife knowledge test.

Teams are organized within public and private schools. Home-schooled students and teams representing 4-H or FFA also can compete, provided they meet eligibility requirements.

"This is the highest level of shooting sports competition of this kind in the state," said Travis Casper, state hunter education coordinator. "This event is a demonstration of skills covered through instruction by the Hunter Education Program and is a key part of securing the future of the hunting tradition. To pass this heritage along, we need to hunt like the future depends on it and share the enjoyment and fulfillment of shooting sports and conservation."

While the tournament is for students 18 years old and younger, the Wildlife Commission offers free hunter education courses and advanced hunter education on a regular schedule for all ages. For more information on hunter education, the Home From The Hunt™ safety campaign or youth programs offered by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, call 919-707-0031.

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