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Ages 5 to 18 Invited to Got Talent? Night for Kids

The Cheraw Arts Commission presents *Got Talent? Night for Kids* on Thursday, July 24 at the Theatre on the Green. This is an opportunity for singers, dancers, musicians, actors, magicians, comedians and more from ages 5-18 to perform. This will be a family friendly event with each act limited to five minutes or less. Participants will be received on a first come, first served basis and should provide a preview of performance material. Technical support will be provided at the Theatre. Applications are available at the Cheraw Community Center, located at 200 Powe Street, on Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission at 843-537-8420 x 12 for additional information and to register to participate.

Mobile Food Pantry Provides Free Groceries August 6

The Mobile Food Pantry will be at Marshville United Methodist Church, located at 310 Ross Street, on Wednesday, August 6 at 11 a.m. Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food. Do not arrive before 9:30 a.m. If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, it will be canceled. If you have not yet done so, bring proof of your income to register. You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household. This event is sponsored by Anson Crisis Ministry and local United Methodist Churches with volunteer help from other local churches.

Class of 1971 Final Reunion Meeting is July 19

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1971 will be meeting at Captain George's Seaford House, located on Highway 74 East in Rockingham, on Saturday, July 19 at 3 p.m. This will be the final meeting before the reunion. For details or directions contact Patricia Little at (704) 848-8165 or Winnie Brown at (704) 475-0755.

Enjoy this Remembering column from 2006

Remembering.....

By Ed McBride

Stony Gap Fish House

Many of you, I am sure, remember back in the 1960's when there was a Stony Gap Fish House. It was located just off Highway 52, south of Albemarle. Floyd Sells owned and operated the first restaurant in the curve, later building a new, larger facility "around the curve - on top of the hill." Pictured above are only two of many signs that I did for Floyd - these being 8 feet by 8 feet made it necessary for me to go up there to work. You will note the fish has a cigar (with smoke) in its mouth,

which was a custom of "Stud" (Floyd) - you rarely ever saw him without his cigar, whether it was lit or not. I had previously painted assorted messages across the entire front of his building, along with Charlie Brown, etc. The above signs were installed on Highway 52 - north and south of Albemarle, and they "lasted and lasted" many years. Floyd was quite a fellow - never meeting a stranger! After declining health, he closed the business - and is now deceased.

Sweet End To A Salty Getaway

Looking forward to a two-week vacation is what I found myself doing for several long months prior to our early June departure. Work had been constant and steady for quite a while and free time was nil. I needed a break and some peaceful rest and relaxation...and the coast was calling my name. Two whole weeks with nothing between the sea and me but the sandy shore sure sounded heavenly. So we left our four girls (our dogs), who you know well from previous stories I have shared, at home and in the loving hands of great caregivers. Keeping them at home and not boarding them in a kennel made our vacation doable. Otherwise it just wouldn't have happened, not at the expense of our dog's happiness. And with everything perfectly planned, every "t" crossed and every "i" dotted, we could rest and be happy during our blissful ocean getaway. Wonderful weather and tolerable temperatures, along with an EZ up tent on the beach to provide shade, all enabled Allen and me to enjoy every offering of the ocean for as long as our hearts desired. The sights, smells, sounds, salty tastes and sandy touches provided a smorgasbord for beach lovers like us, and we embraced each moment with grateful appreciation. For us, watching the waves splash against the shoreline is freeing, peaceful and relaxing, and the beach activity we most love. "If we are at the coast and can't see the shore we may as well be in Rockingham," Allen says as I shudder at the thought! So we are always up close and personal with the sea. If you are a beach lover then you know what to expect from a typical beachy vacation. You may like watching the morning sunrise and evening sunsets or taking a cool dip in the water to refresh your senses and rejuvenate your spirit. A run on the beach is sure to pump you up with salty sensations and a stroll along the shore is sure to decompress any residual stress you may be harboring. My point is this - you do *whatever* you want *whenever* you want. And it is that simplicity neither of us take for granted. In years past I have come home between weeks to give our dogs' caregiver a reprieve or to bring in another. But, this year, for some reason now unbeknownst to me, I did not plan a return home. That one small detail made a very significant impact on my serenity and my joy. I was just as happy as other years but with one very great difference. In the back of my mind and interspersed throughout my thoughts I found myself missing my girls, my pets, my doggies. That small detail I failed to factor into my itinerary ended up affecting me more than I shared with anyone. Assured in knowing they were taken care of I continued with our vacation and enjoyed every second of every day. But I counted down the time until I could see those precious pups barking happily at the gate. And, if clicking my flip-flops could have sped up the drive time I would have given them a clack. Seeing the love and excitement on their faces and feeling the same in my own heart made the end of the vacation as delightful as the beginning. And after a very loving and happy reunion I realized once again that there truly is no place like home. Especially a home filled with the dearest, most delightful doggone love we could ever dream. What a sweet end to our salty getaway! *Photo and story by Melanie Lyon*

Summer Kicks into High Gear with Bucket List from VisitNC.com

From the Atlantic Ocean to the Blue Ridge Mountains, summer travel reaches new heights of engagement with the North Carolina Summer Bucket List on VisitNC.com. Using #NCbucketlist as the hashtag, travelers can share photos of 20 essential experiences on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram and potentially reach a community of 135,000 VisitNC followers. The collected images will extend an inspiring conversation about places of great beauty, homegrown flavors and choice destinations across North Carolina. "We built the Summer Bucket List with simple experiences found in the moment," said Wit Tuttell, executive director of the North Carolina Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development. "It reflects the state's natural beauty, a sense of adventure and traditions at the table. We hope our followers will be excited about sharing what makes their travels across North Carolina so memorable." Travelers can check coastal sunrises, mountain waterfalls and river excursions off the list, then take their pick of North Carolina's famous barbecue, award-winning craft beer and wine from picturesque vineyards. Historic sites, Donald Ross golf courses and the North Carolina Zoo are other conversation-starters. "We hope that people who cover all 20 items will feel a sense of achievement, and they'll have a ready-made album to show for it," Tuttell said. "But the beauty of a bucket list is that it can always grow."

Anson Animal Shelter Pets for Adoption Searchable Online

Anson County Animal Shelter is now listed on Petfinder.com. This is a searchable national database of pets available for adoption that includes a description and photo. All the animals that are up for adoption are listed and have a picture. Just go to Petfinder.com and search for any Anson County town or zip code. A rescue from Animal Shelter can bring lots of happiness and love into any home...and you will make the animal happy too! It's a win-win. For more information contact Becky Wilson at 704-994-2738.

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