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6:30pm
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Food Items and Snacks will be sold



The BRLC Juneteenth door prizes winners were, from left, Tamara Brewer, Effie Ledbetter, Casandra Ledbetter, Brenda Thompson and Carylee Powell. In the center is Little D.J. Jackson.

Burnsville's Community Juneteenth Celebration

This is a release from Carol Smith, Director of Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center: Juneteenth (officially Juneteenth National Independence Day) is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of African Americans. Deriving its name from combining June and nineteenth, it is celebrated on the anniversary of the order by Major General Gordon Granger proclaiming freedom for enslaved people in Texas on June 19, 1865 (two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued). Originating in Galveston, Juneteenth has since been observed annually in various parts of the United States, often broadly celebrating African-American culture. The day was recognized as a federal holiday in 2021, when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law.

Early celebrations date back to 1866, at first involving church-centered community gatherings in Texas. They spread across the South and became more commercialized in the 1920s and 1930s, often centering on a food festival. Participants in the Great Migration brought these celebrations to the rest of the country. During the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, these celebrations were eclipsed by the nonviolent determination to achieve civil rights, but grew in popularity again in the 1970s with a focus on African American freedom and African-American arts. Beginning with Texas by proclamation in 1938, and by legislation in 1979, every U.S. state and the District of Columbia has formally recognized the holiday in some way. Juneteenth is also celebrated by the Mascogos, descendants of Black Seminoles who escaped from slavery in 1852 and settled in Coahuila, Mexico.

Celebratory traditions often include public readings of the Emancipation Proclamation, singing traditional songs such as "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing," and the reading of works by noted African-American writers, such as Ralph Ellison and Maya Angelou. Juneteenth celebrations may also include rodeos, street fairs, cookouts, family reunions, parties, historical reenactments, and Miss Juneteenth contests. In 2021, Juneteenth became the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was adopted in 1983.

At BRLC the Juneteenth Celebration consisted of songs, prayers, scriptures, and speeches from the Juneteenth youth and adults. To commemorate this Holiday Juneteenth's flags were erected by Allen Jackson, Director of Marshville Parks & Recreation and BRLC intern Alton Jackson. The flags have continued to fly on the property of BRLC throughout the month of June.

BRLC volunteers Deloris Hammond, Marcella Broadway and Victoria Medley prepared food for all in attendance. Rev. Anthony Ledbetter and Rev. Peggy Barrett both shared in the opening ceremony. Musician William Barrett created music and songs fitting for the occasion. Carly Powell communicated to the audiences the affects of the Emancipation Proclamation to her as a youth in Anson County. Alton Jackson provided information on the importance of abolitionists who worked faithfully toward ending enslavement. Taylor Rorie spoke on the importance of education in today's society and how education is one of the factors in succeeding. BRLC Board of Directors members George Thompson and Nelson Jackson expressed their views on the importance of education for all past, present and future generations. Lula Jackson, Anson County Director of Department of Social Services, provided the closing prayer for this special memorable occasion.

Together we will continue to learn the importance the "Melting Pot" of our nation's history.

Ansonia Theatre June 2023 Spotlight is on Ann Crescitelli

This is a release by the Ansonia Theatre: For our spotlight this month we would like to recognize Ann Crescitelli. Ann has been coming every day for a while now to water and care for the plants outside the theater and Arts Council. She can be seen talking to the audience, lovingly trimming and weeding. We all enjoy and appreciate the beauty she cultivates.

Ann is the proud mother of Paige Mercer. She has been in a number of productions at the Ansonia including Annie and Blood Brothers. Originally from New York, she has lived in Polkton for over 20 years and is glad to be a resident of Anson County. We are happy to have Ann as a part of the Ansonia family. Thanks for all you do, ANN! We love you. The spotlight is on YOU!



Summer Fun Day Camp at BRLC

This is a release from Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center: The Summer Fun Day Camp (SFDC), a well-structured and meaningful experience at BRLC, started June 26 and runs until July 25.

SFDC provides nutritious meals, keeps children safe, and provides meaningful and structured activities daily. All educational activities help to prepare the campers for the return back to school this fall. The camp hours are 3:00 until 6:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Call for more information 704-826-8737.

Hand Painting Event at Grace Senior Center on July 27

Hands Up! A Hand Painting Event will be held at Grace Senior Center on Thursday, July 27, from 12 noon until 2:00 p.m. Painting without brushes, only using our hands. It's FUN!

The event is free, but registration is required. Please call 704-694-6616. Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, on the left just past IGA.

Community Outreach Tent Meeting

The Lamb of God Church will hold a Community Outreach Tent Meeting, giving out household items and paper products on a first come, first serve basis, on Saturday, July 29. Attendees will also be offered words of inspiration by Pastor Antonio Patterson.

The event will take place in the Wadesboro IGA parking lot, located at 805 Camden Road, and begins at 11 a.m. For information call 843-623-3777.



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