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

Lawrence Gatewood Announces Plans to Step Down as County Manager at End of the Year



In a letter written to Anson County employees, County Manager Lawrence Gatewood announced that he is leaving his job at the end of the year. In the letter Gatewood stated, "Last night (Monday, July 8) I informed the Board of Commissioners that I will step down as County Manager, effective December 31, 2013. I believe that with the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget completed and the new Emergency Services Center on track to be completed in December, now is the appropriate time for me to shift to some new challenges."

Gatewood's stated that he will be revising his schedule for the coming months to focus on a few key priorities:

- 1) Successful completion of the construction of the Emergency Services Center
- 2) Successful completion of the sale of county owned surplus timber and land
- 3) Helping the Board fill key vacancies, e.g. Library Program Assistant, Finance Officer, County Manager
- 4) Timely delivery of county water line from Highway 74 to the residents of Boylin Road
- 5) Finalize the purchase of 41.06 acres for the AGRI-CIVIC Center
- 6) Work closely with Waste Connections to deliver on the promised \$1 million goal in host fees for FY 2013-14.
- 7) Continue to support the new hospital project
- 8) Assisting the Anson/Carolina Thread Trail team to complete Phase-1 of the Thread Trail project.

"I want to thank the Anson County Board of Commissioners for this opportunity to serve the 26,948 citizens of this fine county, and I want to thank all staff for your continued hard work and support," Gatewood concluded. "I have thoroughly enjoyed it, and will continue doing so until December 31. Thank you."

Wadesboro Police Catch Serial Thief in the Act (Again)

On Saturday, June 15 at approximately 2 a.m. Wadesboro Police Department Officers arrested Roger Lee Hunt, from Rowland, NC for the second time in only five months. Hunt was attempting to steal several tractors and trailers from Martin Brothers Equipment when officers conducting routine business checks observed some equipment moved from its usual place on the property. During the officers' investigation they located Hunt hiding under a trailer in the parking lot of Martin Brothers. Hunt was arrested and transported to the Anson County Jail.

Hunt received the following charges: Larceny (Felony); Attempted Larceny (Felony); Possession of burglary tools (Felony); Possession of drug paraphernalia (Misdemeanor); Injury to personal property (Misdemeanor); and Possession of stolen property (Misdemeanor). His bond was set at \$27,900 with a court date of July 2.

Hunt was also charged with the breaking and entering and larceny of Pinkstons. This case was reported on December 24, 2012, where three lawn mowers, a utility trailer and other items were stolen having a value of over \$35,000. This arrest was made on June 19, when Hunt was already in jail for the Martin Brothers case. He was charged with Breaking and Entering, and Larceny. Hunt's bond was set at \$50,000 for those charges, with a court date of July 2.

Hunt had been arrested on January 14 when Wadesboro Police Officers observed him stealing a trailer from Anson Machine Shop on Highway 74 West. He was convicted of Felony Breaking and Entering in that case on April 2.

Polkton Man Drowned July 4th

Mark Baucom, 50, of Polkton drowned while vacationing at Myrtle Beach during the July 4th Holiday. According to reports Baucom was swimming with a friend in the area of 14th Avenue South. His friend came out of the ocean and was unable to find Baucom. At about 7:30 p.m. North Myrtle Beach 911 dispatchers received a call from a man who reported that he saw a body floating face down in the ocean near 16th Avenue South. Minutes later an officer with Beach Patrol radioed dispatchers to report that the victim was out of the water and receiving CPR. EMS and fire rescue arrived and took Baucom to Grand Strand Regional Medical Center where he was pronounced dead at 8:10 p.m.

Five other people died during the July 4th holidays in the Horry County, SC and Brunswick County, NC area, and at least 100 people were rescued. Officials reported that the victims got caught up in unusually strong rip currents being experienced in that area.

4 Teens Charged for Burning Cross in Lilesville Yard



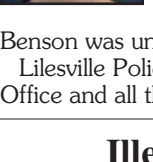
Ethan Boyette, 19, William Sheppard, 18, and Benjamin Benson, 18, all from Richmond County, have been charged after a cross was discovered burning in the front yard of a Lilesville home on Saturday, July 6. A fourth suspect, a 16 year old girl from Hamlet, was charged in the incident and released into the custody of her parents.



Police have described this incident as a racially motivated hate crime. The victim, Mary Carelock, said she was awakened early Saturday morning because of noise in her front yard. She saw three men place a small cross in her yard, set it aflame and drive away.



The Lilesville Police Department and Anson County Sheriff's Office were called to the home on Camden Street at around 4:30 a.m. Investigators said that Carelock's son had previously dated a white teenage girl and the girl's new boyfriend, Ethan Boyette, was upset about it. They say Boyette and his friends, Shepard and Benson, decided to lash out after watching a movie about neo-Nazis.



Authorities arrested Boyette and Sheppard. Benson later turned himself into police in Richmond County on Monday morning.

Boyette, Sheppard and Benson were charged with Felony Accessory After the Fact, Injury to Real Property, and Second Degree Trespassing. Boyette was under a \$210,000 bond, Sheppard was under a \$110,000 bond and Benson was under a \$100,000 bond.

Lilesville Police Chief Bobby Gallimore said, "I would like to thank Anson County Sheriff's Office and all those who helped with solving this horrific crime."

Illegal Night Club Busted Again in Wadesboro

Special agents with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety's Alcohol Law Enforcement section and officers from the Wadesboro Police Department arrested 10 people at an illegal night club in Wadesboro on June 30. Npressions night club, located at 317 East Caswell Street (Highway 74), had been busted before for operating without the required Alcoholic Beverage Control permits.

The club's owner, Jefferson "Rex" Rivers, 39, of Wadesboro, was charged with three counts of possession of alcohol for sale without an ABC permit, three counts of allowing the possession or consumption of spirituous liquor on premises not authorized and two counts of maintaining a business that was resorted to by persons using marijuana in violation of the N.C. Controlled Substances Act. Npressions' bartender Bernea Ennea Ford, 35, of Wadesboro, was charged with two counts of selling alcohol without ABC permits.

Two people were arrested on warrants, and six others were cited and released on alcohol, gun or drug charges. ALE special agents seized 268 liters of malt beverage, spirituous liquor and unfortified wine along with three grams of marijuana, a gun, \$225 in cash, several television sets and digital video and audio equipment.

Officers with the Wadesboro Police Department, deputies from the Anson County Sheriff's Office and a dog handler from Adult Correction assisted ALE special agents in delivering a search warrant to Npressions. Special agents from four ALE districts, Charlotte, Conover, Greensboro and Fayetteville, as well as ALE's Special Operations Group, took part in the lengthy investigation and subsequent arrests.

Tdap Vaccination Clinic Next Tuesday

The Anson County Health Department will hold a Tdap vaccination clinic on Tuesday, July 16, from 5 until 7 p.m. at the Health Department, located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. The Tdap vaccine gives protection against Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Whooping Cough).

ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) recommends that adolescents should preferably receive the Tdap vaccine at 11-12 years of age (before entering 6th grade). They also recommend adults (e.g., grandparents, childcare providers, and health-care practitioners) who have or who anticipate having close contact with an infant less than 12 months of age and who previously have not received Tdap should receive a single dose of Tdap to protect against pertussis and to reduce the likelihood of transmission. For other adults aged 65 years and older, a single dose of Tdap vaccine may be given instead of Td vaccine in persons who have not previously received Tdap.

Tdap can be administered regardless of the interval since the last tetanus- or diphtheria-toxoid containing vaccine. After receipt of Tdap, persons should continue to receive Td for routine booster immunization against tetanus and diphtheria. For more information contact the Health Department at 704-694-5188.



Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Raises Awareness of Breast Cancer

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Ansonville partnered with the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Charlotte affiliate to sponsor its annual "Pink Sunday" event on April 28. This event was designed to help educate the members of African American churches on breast health and the importance of early detection of breast cancer. The program was also designed to help address the high breast cancer mortality rates among African American women in our area. The Susan G. Komen affiliate believes that breast health education and awareness can help to change these statistics.

In celebration of the annual Pink Sunday event, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church asked their members to dress in pink attire and distributed pink ribbons to its members. The church was decorated beautifully with pink balloons and ribbons. The altar was decorated with pink candles and flowers.

During morning worship members were asked to light candles in honor of loved ones. Members were also educated on the importance of early detection of cancer, and they were given fans donated by the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Charlotte affiliate. A pink reception was held after worship service where members were served pink refreshments.

The planning committee of Pleasant Hill Baptist would like to thank everyone for their support and participation. Reverend M. Andrew Davis is the Pastor.

2013 Stride With Pride Shoe Drive Needs Your Help to Help Anson Youth

State Trooper Landric Reid started his Stride with Pride Shoe Drive with hopes of helping underprivileged youth in Anson County. His idea was to provide tennis shoes to children who may not be fortunate enough to have them otherwise. As adults many of us may have forgotten how important a pair of tennis shoes can be to a young person. They literally can propel that person into athletic endeavors that otherwise may not have been possible. Even if the youth is not pursuing a sport, a good pair of shoes is important just for getting along in school and life. Reid tackled this project with enthusiasm and a determination to help as many youth as he could.

Now in its third year, the Stride with Pride Shoe Drive has a goal to collect and provide 250 pairs of new tennis shoes to underprivileged youth of all diversities in Anson County. These shoes will benefit children from grades Kindergarten to eight. All sizes are needed.

Reid has been joined in his effort by Patti Poulcott of Judy's Tax Service. Together they will be working to collect new tennis shoes and raise money from area supporters.

"We hope you will consider joining us in this effort to help a child walk the halls of success this new school year," said Trooper Reid. "Anyone who wishes to help can donate new tennis shoes and/or make a monetary donation to this important cause. Through your generous contributions we can help our youth 'Stride with Pride' this coming school year."

Collections are going on now until August 20. If you would like to contribute or learn more about this effort you can contact Reid at trooperone@live.com or 704-695-7771 or Poulcott at ppoulcott@carolina.rr.com or 704-694-8386.

Filing Period has Begun for Elections

The Board of Elections has begun the filing period for the upcoming Municipal Elections. Filing began on Friday, July 5 and runs until Friday, July 19 at noon.

- Municipalities with elections and the fees are:
- Lilesville - Mayor (\$12) and all 5 Council Seats (\$6)
- Morven - 3 Council Seats (Carr, Cole & Woodburn) (\$5)
- Peachland - 3 Council Seats (Hamilton, McLendon & Mullis) (\$5)
- Polkton - Mayor (\$10) and 5 Council Seats (Allen, Faulk, Hildreth, Steagall & Tucker) (\$5)
- Wadesboro - 3 Council Seats (Davis, Lee & Usrey) (\$10)

Upcoming dates of importance are:

- July 16 at 5 p.m. - Swearing in of new Board of Election Chairman and Secretary prior to meeting at Clerk of Court Office
- July 19 at noon - filing period ends
- August 20 at 5 p.m. - Approval and appointment of Chief Judges and Judges
- September 10 (Moved back 1 week due to Labor Day holiday) - Date to approve names for One Stop and Election Day Poll workers
- September 12 - Training for New Chief Judges at 6 p.m.
- September 19 - Training for New Chief Judges at 6 p.m.
- October 1 - Election Poll Worker Training (Lockhart-Taylor), 7 to 8:30 p.m.
- October 8 - Election Poll Worker Training (Lockhart-Taylor), 7 to 8:30 p.m.
- October 10 at 6 p.m. - One Stop Worker Training at Board of Elections
- Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. - One Stop Worker Training at Board of Elections
- October 17 - Early Voting Begins for Municipal Elections
- November 5 - Municipal Election Day - Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- November 12 - Canvass Day at 11 a.m.

More information is available at the Anson County Board of Elections, located at 101 South Greene Street, Suite B-01 in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-994-3223.

BRLC Food Pantry Hours

The Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center Emergency Food Pantry hours have changed for July. The Food Pantry will continue to be open on Wednesdays, but the time will be at 1:30 p.m. This will remain throughout July.

The Food Pantry will distribute USDA food Commodities on Tuesday, July 16 and Tuesday, July 23 to all Ansonians who qualify. The volunteers will distribute beginning at 1:30 p.m. Please do not arrive before 1 p.m. You will need to be at the BRLC by 2 p.m. in order to be served.

These time adjustments were made due the Summer Fun Day Camp for children.

BRLC Director Carol Smith said, "If you have already received your USDA allotment for the month of June you will not be eligible for the July 16th distribution. We ask that you please bring documentation to verify your weekly, monthly or annual income."

Wadesboro Watch Update from Police Chief Thedis Spencer

- Several car break-ins have occurred throughout the city. Please park your car in a lighted area and keep the doors locked. Don't leave valuable items in your vehicle.
- There was an armed robbery at the Pit Stop convenience store. Two black males entered the store with weapons. This crime is under investigation.
- On Friday June 28 the Wadesboro Police Department hosted a WolfPack Saturation Patrol DWI check point throughout the city. Total charges - 172 violations. It was a job well done. The officers braved the rain, thunder and lightning, all in the name of promoting traffic safety on our streets and highways.
- Night shift officers have been walking the uptown area at night and checking business doors by hand making sure the businesses are secure.
- Officers are patrolling and walking and going into Family Dollar Store, Dollar General Store and Tractor Supply in reference to the rise of shoplifting and larceny.
- With the assistance of ALE (Alcohol Law Enforcement) and the Sheriff's Department, the Wadesboro Police conducted a search warrant on a club inside the city limit, a club that has been a nuisance in Wadesboro. Officers seized 268 liters of malt beverage, spirituous liquor and unfortified wine, along with three grams of marijuana.

From Wadesboro Community Watch: Thank you to Chief Spencer and all our Wadesboro Police officers for their efforts in keeping our community safe. It is good for all of us to know what is going on in our community so we can all be more careful and alert. If you see or hear anything suspicious, please call 911.

Remember to let your town council members know if you are concerned about the police force being reduced. Contact the Town Council members and/or show up at Town Council meetings to make your concerns known. You can join the Wadesboro Community Watch by sending an email to wadesborowatch@yahoo.com.

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