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

Board of Elections Meets July 17

The Anson County Board of Elections meets on Tuesday, July 17 at 5 p.m. The agenda for the meeting is:

- Call to Order/Invocation 12 p.m.
- Approval of Minutes (if applicable)
- Early Voting hours update
- Appointment of new board chair/vice chair (Republican to serve as Chairman until July 2019, Democrat to serve as Vice Chair until July 2019)
- Director of CERA Training report & feedback
- Other business, questions and comments

The meeting will take place in the Boardroom at the Board of Elections office, located at 402 Morven Road in Wadesboro.

To appear on a meeting agenda you must provide notice in writing by 5 p.m. on the Thursday before the next meeting.

During all board meetings, those in attendance are asked to refrain from comments and questions to the board unless they are called upon by the board. At the end of each meeting the board will open the floor for comments and questions.

For more information call 704-994-3223.

Upcoming Dates

- July 24** Deadline for county candidates to submit signatures for Write-In
- July 30** - August 3 Director vacation
- August 5 - 7** Elections Conference in Winston-Salem
- August 14** Next board meeting, 5 p.m.
- August 20** Chief Judge/Judges appointments, 5 p.m. (Will serve until 2019 when new county board members are sworn in.)

Seven Busted By Wadesboro Police After Two Year Drug Investigation

Eighth suspect still being sought as of press time

On Tuesday, July 3 detectives with the Wadesboro Police Department along with special agents of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation concluded a two year long investigation that resulted in the arrests of seven people. This investigation targeted street level drug sales and resulted in eight individuals being charged. Seven arrest warrants have been served. Detectives are still looking for the eighth suspect who will not be named at this time.

• **Willie E. Parsons and Charles E. Rivers** have been charged and arrested for Possession with Intent to Sell and Deliver Cocaine, Sell Cocaine, and Deliver Cocaine:

• **Willie E. Parsons, Nicklaus D. Thompson, Lorenza E. Polk, Sherod D. Hill, Clinton Ingram and Travis D. Pickett** have been charged and arrested for Possession with Intent to Sell and Deliver Marijuana, Sell Marijuana, and Deliver Marijuana.

The Wadesboro Police Department would like to thank the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation for their assistance and continued hard work keeping the citizens of Wadesboro and countless other communities in North Carolina safe.

Anyone with any drug information is requested to call the Wadesboro Police Department at (704) 694-2167. Callers may remain anonymous.

SPCC Receives \$190,000 Grant from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas to Connect Students with Apprenticeship Opportunities

South Piedmont Community College today announced a \$190,000 investment from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas. The funds will be used to connect students with hands-on training and career development opportunities.

The grant will be used for the Manufacturing Pathways Apprenticeship program to provide funding for student tuition, Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) certification and program consumable materials. The Manufacturing Pathways Apprenticeship program partners with local industry to align current manufacturing continuing education and degree programs with industry specific on-the-job training, assuring a well-trained workforce. The Industrial Manufacturing Technician Foundational Apprenticeship pathway leads into the more specialized fields of Industrial Maintenance Mechanic, Welding or Machinist training programs and employer-paid on-the-job technical training for the apprentice. Through comprehensive knowledge of basic workplace and soft skills, completers gain employability and job success. Russell Carpenter, Director of Apprenticeships, stated "This grant will allow South Piedmont to aid local partnering industries in recruiting and training individuals for high-tech manufacturing careers."

"We are so appreciative of the generous funding from Duke Energy and Piedmont Natural Gas to support South Piedmont's apprenticeship programs," said Dr. Maria Pharr, President of South Piedmont Community College. "Through the Manufacturing Pathways Apprenticeship program, students gain relevant and valuable skills to support our vital local industries which, in turn, strengthens our regional economy. It is a mutually beneficial system for the students, the employers, and the community."

"It's important that we support programs like the Manufacturing Pathways Apprenticeship to strengthen the pipeline of highly-skilled workers who will move North Carolina forward," said David McNeil, district manager, Duke Energy. "Our investments come full circle when many of the students go on to work for area industries, and those industries then gain skilled workers trained to meet specific, local needs."

This grant is part of Duke Energy's \$35 million investment in North Carolina's Community Colleges' focus on technical education and support of business and industry. Individual community colleges could apply for funds through the North Carolina Community Foundation and the Foundation for the Carolinas. Applications were reviewed by a committee of representatives from Duke Energy, NC Community College System and NC Department of Commerce.



Mae Davenport of Cosmos Clothing of Wadesboro has donated hundreds of new articles of clothing and other items to area organizations. She is shown here with Pastor Tim Adams (front) and members of Harvest Ministries Outreach Center.

good, Ms. Davenport contacted Pastors Tim and Steve Adams of Harvest Ministries in Wadesboro with a proposition - since Harvest Ministries does so much for Anson County and its citizens, Cosmos would like for Harvest to handle their last donation of hundreds of articles of clothing and supplies to bless those in need..."Are you interested?" Of course! Harvest Ministries, which exists to serve the community-, quickly responded with an emphatic YES!

What both pastors didn't realize was the size and scope of the blessing! Pastor Tim Adams, with tears in his eyes, shared, "The heart and compassion of the Cosmos owners to give so generously will allow Harvest Ministries the opportunity to bless many people and families throughout our region."

Ms. Davenport and her daughter Donna arranged for Harvest to come and pick up the items and clothing. Over the course of a few days young men volunteered and braved the heat to transport the large blessing.

Special and grateful thanks to Ms. Davenport, her daughter Donna, and Cosmos for their heart of compassion and generosity shown by this gift. Also Harvest would like to thank the following young men who served: Angelo Cason, D'Angelo Cason, Joshua Jackson, Norris McDonald and Cameron Price.

Pastor Steve Adams concluded, "The greatest testimony of this partnership will be that thousands of people across this region who are hurting, lacking, and have fallen on hard times will be able to put a smile on their face because of the giving spirit of these fine folks."

Adams added that after Harvest has everything organized and set up, a day will be announced when Anson County residents in need can be blessed. Harvest can be reached at 704-695-2879.

Mae Davenport of Cosmos in Wadesboro Donated New Clothing & More to Anson Citizens

After many years of serving customers, Cosmos of Wadesboro has closed its doors so owner Mae Davenport can begin her well deserved retirement. However, over the last months Ms. Davenport and her family have donated many hundreds of items of clothing to Anson citizens through the school system and area organizations.

When it was time to finally close the store for

Anson County Parks and Recreation Youth Tackle Football Registration Deadline is Approaching

Registration for Anson County Parks and Recreation Youth Tackle Football has begun, and will continue until the deadline on Friday, July 20. You can come by the Parks and Recreation office to register before the deadline. The cost is \$30 per person. A copy of the sports physical and birth certificate are also due by July 20.

Parks and Recreation will have registration for grades 3&4 and 5&6. If there are enough children to sign up in these selected grades, they will host their own league. In the event that there are only have enough for one team, Parks and Rec will abide by the rules listed below.

• A player is eligible to compete in Division I if he/she does not turn 8 years of age on or before November 1, 2017. A player is eligible to compete in Division I if he/she does not turn 10 years of age on or before May 1, 2018. No Exceptions!

• A player is eligible to compete in Division II if he/she turns 10 years of age on or before November 1, 2017. A player is eligible to compete in Division II if he/she does not turn 12 years of age on or before May 1, 2018. No Exceptions!

For more information contact Jeff Waisner at 704-695-2550, Wendell Small at 704-695-2782 or Morris Gatewood at 704-694-5751.

PPES Is Winner of the HOLLA! 5K Reading Challenge

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School is the winner of HOLLA!'s school system-wide reading challenge. Principal Travis Stegall had the honor of accepting the award during his school's Awards Day Ceremony. "I am very proud and excited for next year's challenge," he said. The challenge was held in conjunction with the annual HOLLA! 5K Walk/Run into the freedom of literacy. Lilesville, Morven and Peachland-Polkton Elementary Schools accepted the call to compete in the challenge, which sought to motivate students to read while recognizing and rewarding the literary achievements of students in the schools' Accelerated Reading programs

The data used to determine the winners was based on Accelerated Reading Program results, and was provided by Morven Elementary School Principal Deonya Pratt, Ansonville Elementary Principal Michael Vetter and Peachland-Polkton Elementary Principal Travis Stegall. As the school with the highest per capita reading score, Peachland-Polkton Elementary School also received four full sets of books from the Little Flower Series, donated by author and Anson County native Dr. Florita Bell-Griffin.

Schools were also challenged to encourage students to attend and/or participate in the HOLLA! 5K. Morven Elementary School had the most students to attend, and as a result, received a free "fully loaded" HOLLA! Party which included a DJ, pizza and snow cones for every student.

Individual student winners of the reading challenge were Kirsten Green, Abigail Wilson and Essence Davis who were awarded for being the Top Readers at each of the participating schools. Jessica Laney and Ambria Nivens received Honorable Mentions.

HOLLA! is optimistic that this year's successful collaboration means the future of literacy in our community is bright. Officials say the goal of reaching more students is being made possible with the cooperation of the school system, the hard work of the school principals, teachers and HOLLA!'s dedicated volunteers.

HOLLA! is a 501 c 3 non-profit Community Development Corporation founded in 2005 to address low achievement in the Anson County Schools. The organization operates from a facility located at 229 East Main Street in Morven. For more information call 704.851.3144.

Want to donate to HOLLA? Make checks payable to HOLLA! P.O. Box 88, Wadesboro, NC 28170.



PPES Librarian Wendy Dagenhart is showing the Little Flower Series books that were generously donated by Dr. Florita Bell-Griffin.



Author Dr. Florita Bell-Griffin is pictured above with PPES Principal Travis Stegall.

Bach's Lunch is Wednesday, July 18

Betsy Watts and members of the Anson County Arts Council will hold a Bach's Lunch on Wednesday, July 18, from 12 to 1 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro. Entertainment will be provided by the Well Seasoned Singers from Southern Pines. Tickets are only \$10 for this delicious lunch accompanied by beautiful live music.

Tickets can be purchased at the Arts Council office beside the Ansonia Theatre or purchased at the door. For more information call 704-694-4950.

Understanding Data & Gaps in Mental Health Among the Latino Community

Connections, a family support program of Sandhills Center in collaboration with NC Families United, is sponsoring a program called Understanding Data & Gaps in Mental Health Among the Latino Community. The objective is to learn about access to mental health care for the Latino population and how to inform and improve service delivery and support to the Latino community. Lunch and resources will be provided at no cost. The presenters are team members of Alianza - Center for Prevention Services from Charlotte (preventionservices.org/alianza).

The program will take place on Thursday, July 26, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library in Wadesboro. Space is limited and registration is required by July 23. To register contact Suzanne Maness, Family Advocate, toll free at 877-211-5995 or email connectionsfs@gmail.com.

Upcoming Trips for Grace Senior Center

- Lake Norman dinner cruise July 21.
- Dinner theater August 25 - *The Story of Samson*.
- 6 days/5 nights cruise vacation to the Bahamas February 10-15, 2019

Call Mary Jones at Grace Senior Center for information at 704-694-6616.

Senior Citizen Prom

Grace Senior Center will sponsor a "Senior Citizen Prom" on Thursday, July 26 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center, from 7 until 10 p.m. Anyone interested in attending please call Mary Jones at Grace Senior Center at 704-694-6616 to register and for additional information.