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

“Fake” Marijuana Now Illegal

The NC Legislature passed a new law this past spring that makes the sale and possession of certain herbal incense, that when smoked or eaten mimics the effects of marijuana, illegal. Under the state substance control act, this law now makes it illegal to sell or possess synthetic marijuana, mephedrone and MDPV (methylenedioxypyrovalerone), previously sold in some stores under such names as Spice or K2. The new law became effective June 1st.

According to the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the fake marijuana has had lethal side-effects. Poison control centers across the nation have been reporting an increase of calls regarding the usage of the drugs. Spice or K2 has been known to cause convulsions, seizures and death among users. In January 2011 poison centers received 385 calls due to the substance. Sheriff Tommy Allen said that his officers have since checked places they knew at one time sold these items and have found the items removed from the shelves by June 1st. “We’ve not seen it on the store shelves since June, but if anyone knows of any place or any individual selling these items please let us know. Possession of Spice or K2 carries pretty stiff penalties because of the potential lethal nature of these drugs. Possession of more than one ounce is a felony and carries a minimum sentence of 5 years, 10 months in prison and a fine of not less than \$50,000,” Allen said.



Field of Dreams Major 12U Team, Team API, Wins It All!



Team API topped off a wonderful baseball season on Saturday June 4th by winning the Major 12U tournament at Piedmont. This after also winning the regular season title outright and going in as the #1 seed. Through all 15 games played, team API outscored their opponents 180 to 65, averaging 12 runs per game! A spokesperson for the team said, “Special thanks to all the players, coaches, parents, and family members for a great season. Good luck to the two 12 year olds

who have aged out. Thanks for leading this team #21 Grant Maner, and #22 Kyle Currie. Very special thanks to Mr. Richard Allen for sponsoring our team.” API team members are pictured here, from left, front: Devin Beachum, Loggan Locklear, Kyle Currie, Cameron Watts, Will Dagenhart. Middle row: Blake Nix, Alan Dale McRae, Grant Maner, Lee Pegrarn, Grayson Preslar. Back row: Coaches Chris Watts, Shaun Altman, Paul Maner, Brent Preslar.

Child Nutrition Employees Celebrate Serving Children

The School Nutrition Association of North Carolina (SNA-NC) held its Annual Conference June 20-24, 2011 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC. More than 1000 child nutrition professionals from across North Carolina participated in training activities, competed in culinary arts contests and participated in training by the CNS Section of the Department of Public Instruction. The goal of the conference was to better equip Child Nutrition employees to serve children when they return to school in the fall. The theme of the conference was “School Nutrition: Serve up a Healthier You.”

Several members of the Anson County Chapter attended the conference, participated in the training sessions and competed in the culinary arts contests. Angela Griffin, RD, LDN Child Nutrition Administrator says “being a member of SNA provides a wealth of knowledge and demonstrates a commitment to the children of Anson county. The conference training activities and resources allows us to seek out ways to improve our district for the benefit of our students. The opportunity to network and meet people who are dealing with similar challenges and opportunities, allows you to get real world ideas that you can use and implement in your own school district.”

School Nutrition Association members work to improve school meal programs by publicizing the nutrition benefits of school meals and advocating for policies that expand and enhance child nutrition programs. SNA provides the tools to increase the knowledge and skills of child nutrition professionals in the areas of nutrition, business, management, wellness and food safety skills of child nutrition professionals.

Never Leave a Child or Pet Alone in a Car

Dangerous temperatures prompt warning from Safe Kids North Carolina

Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin, chair of Safe Kids North Carolina, reminds parents and caregivers to never leave a child unattended in a vehicle, for any length of time. With its soaring temperatures, July is historically the deadliest month for child fatalities in hot cars, but hyperthermia can occur even on days with mild 70 degree temperatures. Even a few minutes of heat exposure in a closed vehicle can kill a child or pet.

Some of these deaths occur when a parent or caregiver accidentally forgets a child in a car; some occur when a child is intentionally left in a vehicle. In other cases, a child was playing in an unattended vehicle when overtaken by heat.

“These deaths can be prevented,” said Goodwin. “Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle or let a child play in a vehicle. If you see a child alone in a car, call 911 right away.”

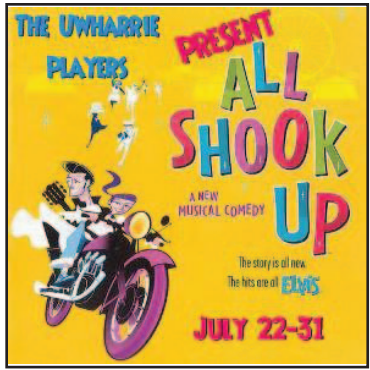
- Follow these safety tips from Safe Kids North Carolina:
 - Never leave a child alone in a vehicle. Check to make sure all children exit the vehicle when you reach your destination.
 - Lock the doors when your vehicle is parked. Teach children that cars are not places to play.
 - As a busy parent, you have a lot on your mind, so give yourself a reminder. Place your purse, briefcase or other important item in the backseat next to your child’s seat to help you remember to look in the back before leaving the car.
 - Set a reminder on your cell phone or other mobile device to remind you to drop off children at school or daycare when routines change.
 - Make an agreement with your child’s school or day care that you will be notified if your child is not dropped off at the normal time.
 - If you see a child or a pet left unattended in a vehicle, call 911 immediately.
 - Check vehicles and trunks first if a child goes missing.
- For more information, go to www.ncsafekids.org.

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs Available in Anson County

The Head Start and Early Head Start programs of Union County Community Action, Inc. are now accepting applications at Faison and Central Centers in Wadesboro. Not only will your child be provided with quality care by trained professionals, your child will receive physical, mental, dental, social and educational services as well.

So, please bring your proof of income for 2010 (W-2 or tax form 1040), child’s shot record, birth certificate and proof of insurance/Medicaid to apply. The Faison Center can be reached at 704-694-9885 and the Central Center for Children and Families can be reached at 704-694-2120. Give your child a Head Start in life...apply today.

Elvis is Visiting the Ansonia Theatre



Elvis has entered the building! Well, at least his music will have entered the building when the Uwharrie Players bring selections from their summer musical *All Shook Up* to the Ansonia Theatre on Thursday, July 28 at 8 p.m. *All Shook Up* is a new musical which incorporates the well-known music of Elvis Presley with an original story about a roustabout who comes into a small Midwestern town in the 1950s and really shakes things up for the better. Besides the unforgettable songs of Elvis, this show features young romance and lively dancing. The Uwharrie Players are not doing the entire show at the Ansonia, just the music, but it should be an exciting evening!!

The Uwharrie Players, Inc. has been the community theater organization of Stanly County for over thirty years. Formed in the spring of 1975 as an outgrowth of the Stanly County Arts Council, they provide local citizens an opportunity to perform on stage and expose Stanly County to quality theatrical entertainment. In the thirty plus years since that June night, the Uwharrie Players have presented over 90 plays. At least 1,200 people have been involved in these shows, and over 55,000 people have paid to watch them. Many of the Players’ productions are presented at the Stanly Agri-Center, but some are held in other locations.

It is the hope of the Anson County Arts Council to bring some of the complete productions of the Uwharrie Players to our community.

For *All Shook Up* Jack Stevenson will be heading up the creative team as director. This show marks Stephenson’s third time as a director for the local community theater group. He has also appeared as a cast member in several productions. Stevenson received his B.A. in Theater Performance from Winthrop University. He has appeared in and directed numerous shows throughout the Charlotte and Rock Hill area.

Eddie Mabry is the choreographer. This show marks Mabry’s very first involvement with UP, but he has vast experience in dance and choreography and is well known throughout the Charlotte Metrolina and upper South Carolina areas. He has worked with such organizations as Paramount Parks, Charlotte Philharmonic Orchestra, Northwest School of the Arts, CPCC Summer Theater and a number of community theaters. Mabry is the owner and director of Eddie Mabry Talent, a training center for the dancing arts. Some of his many awards include: The Creative Loafing Choreography Award for his work in *The Will Rogers Follies*, *The Who’s Tommy*, and *Singing in the Rain*; the 2004 Metrolina Theater Association Award for Best Choreography for *West Side Story*; and the 2005 Metrolina Theater Association Award for Best Choreography for *Cats*. Eddie has taught a number of Anson County dancers. His sister Lynn Edwards is the director of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce.

Angela Moore returns for her second straight summer as musical director for the Uwharrie Players. Last year she directed the music for the UP production of *Annie*. She is a music teacher in the Stanly County Schools. This production of the musical selections of *All Shook Up* will be presented at the Ansonia Theatre without charge to the community. The show starts at 8 p.m. and the doors open at 7:30. Information at 704-694-4950.

Cathedral Baptist Church Celebrates

Cathedral Baptist members thanked God for His blessing and celebrated paying off the bank note on their educational building. Pastor Swaringen challenged the church to donate an extra \$5 a week above their tithe toward paying off the debt eighteen months ago. On Sunday, July 3, the church celebrated with a note burning and church family cook out.



Representing the church in the photo on this day of rejoicing were Pastor Randy Swaringen, the oldest member, Mrs. Margaret Coley, the youngest, Mr. Micah Carpenter (with mom, Keelie) and Chairman of the Deacons, Mr. Rodney Morton.

“Micro Loans” Up to \$500 Available for Businesses

The Anson Economic Development Corporation has launched a micro loan program to assist aspiring entrepreneurs in Anson County. Through the new program, interest-free loans of up to \$500 are available to help with start-up operations or to assist businesses that have been in operation for less than a year. Loan funds may not be used for working capital; they are intended primarily to help with start-up costs.

“The cornerstone of AEDC’s mission is to stimulate economic growth in Anson County,” said Chuck Horne, president of Hornwood, Inc., and chairman of the Anson Economic Development Corporation. “This is a way we can provide assistance to home-grown businesses without risking a great deal of capital.”

Before the AEDC’s loan committee will consider a loan request, the applicant must complete a comprehensive business plan endorsed by the Small Business Center at South Piedmont Community College or New Ventures Business Development, Inc. Loan applications are available through the Anson County Chamber of Commerce.

Loans are available only to businesses that will be located in Anson County. The minimum loan amount is \$100. While the loans are interest free, a \$20 processing fee will be charged. Regardless of the amount borrowed, repayment must be made within one year.

“We frequently hear that access to small amounts of capital is a major obstacle to some small business start-ups,” Horne said. “We hope the AEDC micro loan program will help Anson County entrepreneurs overcome that hurdle.”

The Anson Economic Development Corporation is a privately funded 501(c)(3) non-profit that operates under the auspices of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce.

Blood Drive is Today!

There will be a community blood drive on Wednesday, July 20, from 1:30 to 6 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro. The Wadesboro Civitan Club is the blood drive sponsor. All donors will automatically be entered in a drawing for a \$3,000 gift card for gas or groceries.

SPCC Career Cruiser Summer Schedule

South Piedmont Community College has released the summer 2011 schedule for its Career Cruiser. The summer schedule will begin on Monday, June 6. The Career Cruiser is SPCC’s mobile classroom, a one-stop shop for information and training for individuals interested in entering or re-entering the workforce. The Career Cruiser is equipped with the latest technology, including smart board, satellite access and 13 computers.

For questions or more information about the Career Cruiser schedule or services, call Eric Tillmon at 704-290-6292. The summer schedule is as follows:

- Mondays, 8 a.m. to noon at Horizon Family First Services & 1 to 5 p.m. at Morven Church of God and Prophecy
- Tuesdays, 8 a.m. to noon at Whit’s Convenience Store, Lilesville & 1 to 5 p.m. at Peachland Fire Department
- Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to noon at various locations & 1 to 5 p.m. at IGA, Wadesboro
- Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Ansonville Fire Department & 3 to 7 p.m. at Burger King, Wadesboro

Free Movie is Down and Derby

The movie *Down and Derby* starring Greg Germann, Lauren Holly and Pat Morita will be shown on Monday, July 25 at 10 a.m. in the Little Theatre of the Hampton B. Allen Library. This is a free, family-oriented movie and is open to all ages.

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