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

Anson County's Unemployment Rate Rose to 6.9% During Month of June

Anson County's unemployment rate for June was 6.9 percent. In May it was 6.6 percent. In April the rate was 5.9 percent. Statewide the unemployment rate for June was 6.1 percent. In June 2014 Anson's unemployment rate was 7.1%, in 2013 it was 11.5%, in 2012 it was 12.5%, in 2011 it was 12.5%, and in 2010 it was 13.4%. Anson's total labor force in June was 11,091. Of that number 10,329 were employed and 762 were unemployed. In May the total labor force was 11,054, with 10,325 employed and 729 unemployed.

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 95 of North Carolina's counties in June, decreased in four counties, and remained unchanged in one county. Graham County had the highest unemployment rate at 12.3 percent while Buncombe County had the lowest at 4.7 percent.

All fifteen of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases. Among the Metro areas, Rocky Mount at 8.9 percent experienced the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 5.0 percent. The June not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 6.1 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 72 counties, increased in 20, and remained unchanged in eight. Ten metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year while four increased and one remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in June by 29,103 to 4,484,392, while those unemployed increased 11,822 to 292,571. Since June 2014, the number of workers employed statewide increased 95,159, while those unemployed decreased 7,646.

Anson Ag Fair Date Set for End of September

Set aside a special jar of pickles or preserves. Pull out a craft item your child made at camp. Take down your vacation photo from the fridge and frame it. Then bring them all down to the Extension Center and enter them in the fair! The fair portion of eleventh annual Anson Ag Expo and Fair will be held Saturday, September 26 at the Extension Center on McLaurin Street in Wadesboro from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Crafts, canned goods, ag products, photography, art and handicrafts will be welcomed for competition.

So, finish up that craft project you have been working on, and add a little fertilizer to that house plant. Plan to bring them along too. Now is the time to be planning to show off your talents at the fair!

Registration for all entries will be taken in on Thursday, September 24, from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. The fair will be judged on Friday and open to the public for display on Saturday from 9 a.m. through 2 p.m.

Fair Rules and Regulations books are available at the Anson County Cooperative Extension Center, and also on their website at anson.ces.ncsu.edu. Click on the 2015 Anson Ag Expo & Fair link and the book can be downloaded in pdf format, complete with registration forms.

Remember that fair participation is open to youth as well. Age groups available for competition consist of Pee Wee-0 to 5 years; Pre-teen-6 to 12; Teen-13 to 19; and Adult-20 and up. Items can also be entered into the "In Memoriam" and "Blast from the Past" categories. Items made by deceased loved ones can be entered in "In Memoriam" while items made prior to 2002 and never shown in a fair can be entered in "Blast from the Past."

Cash premiums will be awarded from \$5 for first through \$2 for third in over 200 categories. Last year \$715 was paid out in fair premiums. Class ribbons are also awarded for all entries. In addition, Best of Show ribbons are awarded for each competition area per age division. New this year, Juror's Choice ribbons will also be awarded for each competition area in each age division.

For additional information contact the Anson County Cooperative Extension Service at 704-694-2415. Come out and join the fun. There is something for everyone. Celebrate agriculture in Anson.

Gary Lee Gaddy, Jr. Arrested for Multiple Charges July 31

On Friday, July 31 Wadesboro Police Officers were patrolling in the area of 1736 Morven Road in reference of suspicious activity behind a barber shop located there. The investigation led to the arrest of Gary Lee Gaddy, Jr., 26, of 106 Rivers Street in Wadesboro. Officers seized 1 ounce of marijuana, 1 1/2 dose of hydrocodone pills, a 40 caliber handgun, digital scales, and a loaded SKS rifle.

Gaddy was charged with Possession with Intent to Sell and Deliver Marijuana, Maintaining Vehicle / Dwelling / Place Controlled Substance, Marijuana > 1/2 to 1 1/2 oz, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, and Manufacture/Sell/Delivery/Possession of Control Substance within 1000 ft. of a School. He was placed in Anson County Jail on a \$40,000 secured bond, with his first court appearance set for August 11 in Anson County District Court.



Gary Lee Gaddy

Clint Warren Phifer Busted with Meth

On Saturday, August 1 an officer from the Wadesboro Police Department was conducting a foot patrol at 1201 East Caswell Street near the Anson Inn when he observed a man exiting a vehicle. The officer knew this individual was driving without a valid driver's license, so he investigated further and discovered methamphetamine.

Clint Warren Phifer, 31, of 878 Stanback Ferry Road in Lilesville was arrested and charged with Possession/Distributing Meth Precursor and Possession of Methamphetamine. Phifer was placed into Anson County Jail on a \$10,000 secured bond, with his first court appearance set for August 11 in Anson County District Court.



Clint Warren Phifer



Farm Bureau Makes \$50,000 Donation to New Agri-Civic Center Project

During a meeting of the Anson County Farm Bureau Board of Directors held on Monday, August 3, Farm Bureau presented a check for \$50,000 to be used to help fund the building of the new Anson County Agri-Civic Center. This generous donation is in addition to \$8,300 Farm Bureau had already donated for a feasibility study and marketing materials towards the project.

Anson County Extension Director Janine Rywak said, "To date, \$601,000 has been given and pledged by organizations and individuals to the Agri-Civic Center capital campaign. A total of \$1,156,300 has been dedicated towards the project since its inception. Thank you to everyone who has supported this campaign."

In the photo are, from left, front, Ronnie Mills Farm Bureau President, presenting the check to Lee Roy Lookabill, Anson Agri-Civic Center Resource Development Committee Chair, and Janine Rywak, County Extension Director (in dark blue). In back, Brittany Culbreth, Farm Bureau Liason, Stacy Martin, Farm Bureau Agency Manager, and Board Members, Preston Short, Kevin Martin, Leigh Ann Lowder, Jimmy Flake, Eloise Harrington, Robert Ross and Glenn Phifer.

Old Westview Cemetery Added to National Register of Historic Places

The North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources announced that 15 individual properties and districts across the state have been added to the National Register of Historic Places. They were reviewed by the North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee and were subsequently approved by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer and forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register.

Westview Cemetery in Wadesboro was among the places added.

In a release from the National Register, Westview was described as follows: The original one-acre plot of Westview Cemetery is of local historical importance for its association with African American social history in Wadesboro. The cemetery is located on the edge of the town's African American neighborhood and very likely is the oldest extant historic resource associated with Wadesboro's African American community. It was established in 1898 by a black burial club, although oral tradition maintains that the area was already serving as the town's black cemetery. Two gravestones dating to 1890 and 1896 are in the oldest part of the cemetery.

"North Carolina is a leader in historic preservation movement and the National Register is a vital tool in the preservation of our state's historic resources" said Susan Kluttz, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources. "If we count all of the buildings classified as contributing to the significance of historic districts listed in the Register, it is estimated that North Carolina has approximately 75,000 National Register Properties."

The listing of a property in the National Register places no obligation or restriction on a private owner using private resources to maintain or alter the property. Over the years, various federal and state incentives have been introduced to assist private preservation initiatives, including tax credits for the rehabilitation of National Register properties. As of January 1, 2015, over 3,100 rehabilitation projects with an estimated private investment of over \$1.96 billion have been completed.



'Reading is Magic' Program at Library Friday

A special program, 'Reading is Magic' with Zelnik the Magician, will be held on Friday, August 7 in the Little Theater, Hampton B Allen Library at 4 p.m. This is a free program and is suited for all ages. Please spread the word around, bring a friend and enjoy in this special presentation. You are in for a real treat!

If you have any questions or need more information please call the library at 704-694-5177.

50+ Club Meets August 10

The Hampton B. Allen Library announces the 50+ Club meeting for Monday, August 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theatre. Linda Coats and the Sassy Steppers II will be presenting a program of line dancing. The group will be demonstrating dance techniques to pop, country and show tunes. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the program.

For more information call the library at 704-694-5177.

Anson Women's League Meets August 11

The Anson Women's League will meet Tuesday, August 11, from noon until 1 p.m. at Twin Valley Country Club. Join them to hear guest speaker Frankie McLaurin speak about Blessings in a Book Bag. Lunch is available for \$8.50 and all women are invited.

Please send RSVP's for the meal to AWL President Terri Martin at tcmartin@windstream.net by Friday, August 7.

NC Insurance Commission Against Fireworks Bill

Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Wayne Goodwin urges state legislators and the public to oppose House Bill 367, which would legalize the use and sale of airborne consumer fireworks in North Carolina. "Legalizing consumer fireworks would be a step backwards for North Carolina when it comes to the safety of our citizens," said Goodwin. "The risk of injuries and deaths far outweighs any potential financial benefit from fireworks sales. Fireworks are a type of explosives and are best left to the professionals. The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public fireworks display operated by a trained and permitted pyrotechnic operator."

The proposed legislation is similar to South Carolina's fireworks laws, which allow for the sale and use of airborne consumer fireworks. According to research performed by the North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal, South Carolina experiences approximately 146 percent more emergency department admissions due to fireworks incidents than North Carolina under the current laws, despite having a significantly smaller population.

The North Carolina State Firemen's Association, North Carolina Association of Fire Chiefs, National Fire Protection Association, American Burn Association, North Carolina Emergency Nurses Association, North Carolina Fire and Life Safety Educators, North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center and Safe Kids North Carolina join Goodwin in opposing House Bill 367.

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