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

## Unemployment Rate in Anson 12.6% in July, Same as June

Unemployment rates decreased in 47 of North Carolina's 100 counties in July, increased in 26 and were unchanged in 27. When compared to the same month last year, unemployment rates declined in 94 counties, increased in four, and remained the same in two.

Anson County's unemployment rate in July was 12.6%, the same as June's adjusted rate of 12.6%. Statewide the unemployment rate for July was 9.8%, June's rate was 9.9%. Looking back at July 2011, the rate then for Anson County was 12.4%.

Anson's total labor force in July was 11,084. Of that number 9,686 were employed and 1,398 were unemployed. In June the total labor force was 11,116, with 9,724 employed and 1,392 unemployed.

"Rates either dropped or remained the same in most of North Carolina in July," said N.C. Department of Commerce Deputy Secretary Dale Carroll. "Compared to the same time last year, nearly all of the state's counties have a lower unemployment rate. We will continue our statewide effort between employers, our workforce partners and our employment service offices to put people back to work."

North Carolina had 34 counties that were at or below the state's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 9.8 percent. Unemployment rates decreased in 8 of the state's 14 Metropolitan Statistical Areas. The rate increased in two and stayed the same in four.

Statewide the number of workers employed (not seasonally adjusted) increased in July 12,968 to 4,249,084, while those unemployed fell 1,362 to 462,255. Since July 2011, the number of workers unemployed decreased 50,996, while those employed increased 60,772.

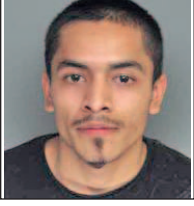
Currituck County had the state's lowest unemployment rate in July at 4.7 percent, and Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 17.6 percent.

## Father and Son Arrested, 11 Pounds of Cocaine Seized

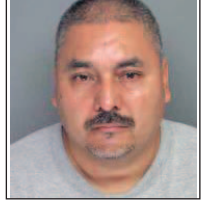
An Anson County father and son were arrested in Moore County for trafficking drugs after a traffic stop on Thursday, August 30. Moore County Sheriff's Deputies seized a large quantity of cocaine from Virgilio Reza Martinez, 45, and Ricardo Reza Nieto, 21, both of 9291 Highway 52 South in Morven. The men were charged with Felony Trafficking in Cocaine by Possession, Felony Trafficking in Cocaine by Transportation, Felony Conspiracy to Traffic in Cocaine, and Felony Possession with Intent to Sell or Deliver Cocaine. Martinez was also charged with Felony Maintaining a Vehicle to Keep a Controlled Substance.

After making a routine traffic stop of the men, deputies searched their vehicle and found approximately 11 pounds of powder cocaine in a box in the back seat. The street value is estimated at \$400,000. Captain Jerrell Seawell of the Moore County Sheriff's Office said the bust was the largest amount of cocaine seized in more than 16 years. Deputies also seized \$146.75 in cash. A K9 was used during the traffic stop.

Both men were placed in the Moore County Jail under \$500,000 bonds.



Nieto



Martinez

## Rehearsals in Full Swing for You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown



In a release from the Arts Council: Three evenings each week the stage of the Ansonia Theatre comes alive with a group of "children" and a very precocious "dog" as the cast of the Broadway musical *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (revised) rehearses. Under the direction of Monroe's Steve Fowler, four Ansonians, a former Ansonian, and a Union county resident are transforming themselves into the much-loved characters of Charles Shultz's Peanuts comic strip.

Lovable underdog Charlie Brown (Wingate's David Michael), fussy budget Lucy (Melody Gilmore Goodwin), and philosopher Linus (Samuel Kraus) are joined on stage by musically-inclined Schroeder (Darius O. Clark), Charlie Brown's little sister, Sally (Gina Gilmore Clark), and everybody's favorite dog, Snoopy (Emily Litaker Privette). Anson residents Erin Thomas, Gage Tarlton, and Hannah Cheney make up the chorus. Snoopy's mom, Gail Litaker, will provide the piano accompaniment. And don't forget the giant doghouse, big enough to be a character itself!

The musical will be presented to a student audience on Friday, October 19, with public performances the evenings of October 19, 20, and 21. Those who witnessed the success of *A Christmas Carol* last December are eagerly awaiting the Ansonia's second locally-produced play. Tickets are not yet available, but mark your calendar so you don't miss out on this fun evening.

Pictured here from left are, Gina Clark, Darius Cox, Emily Privette, Samuel Kraus and David Michael. Center, Erin Thomas and front, Melody Goodwin.

## Polkton Names New Police Chief

Polkton Mayor Henry Furr announced the town's new Police Chief last week, Matthew L. Norris. Norris recently moved to the Polkton area. He is engaged to Jennifer Horne, with a wedding set for April 2013. Norris is the proud parent of two boys, Christopher, 17, and Bryan, 10.

Chief Norris has previously been employed at Brown Creek Correctional Institution, the Richmond County Sheriff's Office where he was a K9 handler and drug interdiction officer, in Afghanistan as a police officer trainer, and the Wadesboro and Lilesville Police Departments.

## Polkton Fun Day is Saturday

Everyone is invited to come out to Polkton this Saturday, September 8 for their annual Polkton Fun Day. The festivities start at 9 a.m. and last until 4 p.m. right in downtown Polkton. There are many things for the entire family to enjoy.

The schedule for the day is:

- 9 a.m. Opening Ceremony
- 10 a.m. Children's Parade
- 10:30 a.m. Pet Show
- 12 noon to 4 p.m. The Horizon Band
- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Car Show

In addition there will be the 3 Legged Dawg, music throughout the day by local musicians, a petting zoo, bounce houses, food booths, vendor booths, water balloon tosses and sidewalk art.

Bring your lawn chair and enjoy a full day of fun and fellowship with your friends and neighbors.

## Board of Elections Monthly Meeting

The Anson County Board of Elections will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 11. The meeting will take place at the Board of Elections office, located at 101 South Greene Street, Suite B-01, in uptown Wadesboro at 5 p.m.

For more information contact Interim Elections Director Steve Adams at 704-994-3223.

## Lumberjack Competition Returns to Ag Expo



The 2012 Anson Ag Expo & Fair will once again host the South Atlantic Woodsmen's Association (SAWA) Lumberjack Competition on Saturday, September 22 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro. Beginning at 12:30 p.m., the event will continue throughout the afternoon.

The day will feature several exciting lumberjack events. Competition events slated for the day include Axe Throwing, Underhand Chop, Standing Block Chop, Single Buck Saw, Springboard Chop and Stock Saw.

Winners of individual events will be announced at the end of the day, and an overall winner of the Wadesboro competition will be named. Throughout the fast paced SAWA competition, announcers will involve the audience in trivia questions, give-a-ways, forest education and games for the kids.

When the competition is over the lumberjacks will be glad to sign autographs for SAWA fans young and old on the "cookies" cut from the competition logs. Anson native Logan Scarborough will be among the lumberjacks competing and signing autographs.

The Anson Ag Expo & Fair would like to thank the following generous sponsors of the Wadesboro SAWA Lumberjack Competition: Anson County Tourism Development Authority, Anson Wood Products, Plank Road Forestry and Wadesboro Rotary Club.

Pictured here is Wadesboro's own Logan Scarborough in last year's Springboard Chop competition.

## Horse Handling 101

The United States Equine Rescue League (USERL) of the NC Central Piedmont is presenting a course called Horse Handling 101 on Saturday, September 29. This class will be held at 2 p.m. at Stonecrest Farm, located at 9715 Heritage Lane in Indian Trail, NC.

The approximate 2 hour class teaches the very basics of safe ground handling, catching, haltering, leading, tying, grooming, cleaning hooves, as well as the basics of how horses think and react, and how we can communicate with them. These are all valuable lessons for potential USERL volunteers and adopters, and for first-time horse owners.

As a participant, you will work with gentle lesson horses, several of which are USERL rescues. You will also have the opportunity to meet several other USERL rescue horses. Lesson handouts will be provided and Equine Wound / Trauma Kits will be available for purchase.

The class costs \$25 per person or \$20 for two or more family members. You are asked to pay in advance by making checks payable to USERL and mailed to: USERL, 9715 Heritage Lane, Indian Trail NC 28079. 100% of the proceeds go to the care of USERL rescues.

The rain date is October 6, same location and times. For more information contact Chris Donahue at [stncrest@aol.com](mailto:stncrest@aol.com) or visit [www.USERL-NCCP.org](http://www.USERL-NCCP.org) or [Facebook.com/USERL.NCCP](https://www.facebook.com/USERL.NCCP).

## Autumn Motorcycle Ride

Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center is sponsoring a motorcycle ride and big yard sale to celebrate the first official day of autumn, on Saturday, September 22. The BRLC is extending an invitation to individuals, bikers, bike clubs, boys, girls, seniors and young...anyone who enjoys motorcycles and having fun to join them for this event.

Festivities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with an opening ceremony conducted by local bikers and the Sheriff's Office. Registration will take place until 10:30 a.m. when the ride begins.

Sausage or ham biscuits along with coffee and doughnuts will be available for any donation. Lunch will be served when the bikers return from the ride.

This event is an opportunity to have some fun while supporting BRLC. BRLC has seen an increase in the number of families they serve. They provide the Emergency Food Pantry, USDA commodities, computer education, after school programs and many other services. Any support you can offer BRLC, either by participating in the ride or by making a donation will go directly toward helping families with children who are experiencing hardships and the less fortunate among us.

If you are interested in participating as a rider or would just like to come out to enjoy the fun, come on out to BRLC that morning. The admission is \$20 per person for bike registration, and \$5 for extra riders. Of course any donation is welcomed and appreciated. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across the street from the Burnsville Fire & Rescue.

## One Stop Early Voting Hours

The Anson County Board of Elections released their schedule for One Stop Early Voting. The Board of Elections office is located at 101 South Greene Street, Suite B-01, in uptown Wadesboro, at the corner of Greene and Wade Streets. Steve Adams is the Interim Director of Elections. The telephone number is 704-994-3223.

- Thursday, October 18, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, October 19, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 22 - Friday, October 26, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 27, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Sunday, October 28, 2 to 5 p.m.
- Monday, October 29 - Friday, November 2, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, November 3, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. *Early voting on Saturday, November 3 will be held at the Anson County Board of Education, 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. Enter the parking lot across from Wadesboro Elementary School.*

## Brick Paver Campaign is Underway in Uptown Wadesboro

It's time for ordering your own brick paver for the sidewalks of uptown Wadesboro. Is there someone or a particular organization you'd like to honor or recognize with a commemorative brick paver? You can honor an organization, a business, your high school graduating class, a special event or special person.

Please pick up an order form at the UWI office at the Anson County Chamber of Commerce in the Scarborough Building at 107 East Wade Street.

The pavers may be placed anywhere in the uptown area where unmarked bricks are located. You may wish to create a cluster of bricks related to your family members or group. Since the beginning of the brick paver program, hundreds of bricks have been placed in the uptown Wadesboro area.

The bricks are available in two sizes. The four inch brick accommodates three lines of print and costs \$50; the eight inch brick allows for six lines of print and costs \$100. For an additional \$100, you may add a company logo.

For more information, please call the Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. office at 704-695-1644.

## SPCC's Carolinas Emerging Music Festival Debuts Friday

Preacher Stone, an up-and-coming Southern rock band from Charlotte, will headline South Piedmont Community College's first Carolinas Emerging Music Festival on Sept. 7 on the Old Charlotte Highway Campus in Monroe. The free outdoor concert, scheduled from 6 to 10 p.m., will also feature Brandon Kirkley and the Firecrackers and Steel Standing.

With a sound reminiscent of Lynyrd Skynyrd and Molly Hatchet, Preacher Stone also adds a country-rock touch to such classics as The Beatles' "Come Together."

A review on [puresouthernrock.com](http://puresouthernrock.com) says that "Preacher Stone songs feature topics close to their hearts, such as love gone bad, drinking, Southern hospitality and friendship. The band's undeniable 'bread and butter' is their live show. I guarantee they'll make a fan out of everyone in ear-shot."

In addition to the free concert, several SPCC student organizations will have food for sale. Those who attend will want to bring their lawn chairs. Please remember that no alcohol will be permitted.

For more on each of the performing bands, check out their websites: Preacher Stone: [www.preacherstone.com](http://www.preacherstone.com); Brandon Kirkley and the Firecrackers: [bktf.net](http://bktf.net); and Steel Standing: [steelstandingrock.com](http://steelstandingrock.com).

The Carolinas Emerging Music Festival is sponsored by SPCC's Student Government Association.

## Prostrate Cancer Awareness Workshop

Fathers, brothers, friends, or sons, spread the message to everyone that you will all be informed about Prostate Cancer at Grace Senior Center's upcoming Prostate Cancer Awareness Workshop. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, September 11, from 3 to 4 p.m.

This workshop will:

- Recommend schedules for all major health tests and screenings.
- Encourage men to be aware of their health and to work on preventive care.
- Help men detect testicular cancer in its early stage, when it's easiest to cure.
- Illustrate how to do a simple once-a-month self-exam.

Please call Grace Senior Center to register and for more information, 704-694-6616.

## Veteran's Day Celebration Seeking Volunteers

Anyone interested in volunteering to work on this year's Veteran's Day Celebration is asked to please contact Ted Ward, Anson County Veteran Services Officer at (704) 694-4418 or [ward@co.anson.nc.us](mailto:ward@co.anson.nc.us).

Look inside for special inserts from IGA Captain D's