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

## WPD Officer Bradley Davidson Promoted to Sergeant



At the Monday, September 12 meeting of the Wadesboro Town Council, Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer and Town Manager Alex Sewell presented WPD Detective Bradley Davidson with his Intermediate General Certificate from North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standard Commission. Davidson was also promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Chief Spencer said, "Sgt. Davidson is a great asset to the Wadesboro Police Department with seven years of continuous service."

Sgt. Davidson is pictured here with his mother Julia Davidson and wife Stacy, along with Wadesboro Mayor Bill Thacker (in back) and WPD Chief Thedis Spencer.

## Anson Economic Development Partnership Names New Executive Director, John Marek

The Anson Economic Development Partnership (AEDP), a public/private partnership promoting environmentally responsible economic growth and sustainable prosperity for Anson County, has chosen John Marek to lead the organization as Executive Director effective October 1. Marek is an accomplished economic development professional with more than 20 years of experience as a local developer, consultant and corporate trainer in the Charlotte region. He is coming to Anson County from Statesville Regional Development (SRD) where he most recently served as interim director, and before that as director of business retention/expansion and marketing. During his tenure at SRD the Statesville region was named the #1 Metropolitan for new and expanding industry four times by Site Selection magazine, and SRD was twice named to the publication's list of best economic development organizations in the United States.

Prior to joining SRD Marek was a principal with Market-Path Consultants, LLC, where he worked with chambers of commerce, economic development organizations and corporate clients on projects relating to community branding and development, strategic planning and rural entrepreneurship. He is a 1985 graduate of Bowling Green State University.

## SPCC to Host Free Movie Night Featuring Finding Dory on Friday

Everyone is invited to attend a free outdoor showing of Disney's *Finding Dory* on Friday, September 30 at South Piedmont Community College's L.L. Polk Campus, located on Highway 74 in Polkton. Food and games will be available beginning at 7 p.m., with the movie starting at 8 p.m. in the college's amphitheater, which is located behind the campus library.

Because the movie will be shown outdoors and seating is limited, those attending are encouraged to arrive early and to bring lawn chairs and blankets. Free popcorn will be provided.

## Free Pesticide Collection Day on Thursday, October 13

Do you have pesticides at your home of farm that you no longer need or use?

If your answer is 'yes,' then you'll be interested in the Anson County Pesticide Collection Day on Thursday, October 13. The Anson County Extension Office, in cooperation with the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Pesticide Disposal Assistance Program, a NON-Regulatory and Cost-Free program, will be offering this Pesticide Collection Day for residents in Anson County and all of the surrounding North Carolina counties.

County Agricultural Extension Agent Jessica Morgan will be the local contact for the event. The collection will run from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Anson County Farmer's Market on Highway 52 South, across from Coffing Hoist.

Nearly all pesticide products will be accepted at this amnesty collection event, including banned and out-dated pesticides. For pesticides with unreadable or missing labels, please contact the Cooperative Extension Office for instructions. Please save any portion of the label to help identify the material so you can be assisted with disposal. Unknown materials cannot be accepted.

For pressurized pesticide gas cylinders or containers greater than 5 gallons in size, please contact the Extension Office before the collection day for special instructions and information. For tips on transporting the pesticides safely to the collection event contact the Extension Office.

Each year the Pesticide Disposal Assistance Program ([www.ncagr.com/PDAP](http://www.ncagr.com/PDAP)) visits between 40-50 counties to collect unwanted and unused pesticides through this non-regulatory amnesty Program. This means that a collection day of this kind only happens about once every other year in each county!

Don't miss this pesticide collection opportunity in Anson County co-sponsored by NCDA&CS and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. For more information contact Jessica Morgan, Anson County Agricultural Extension Agent, at (704) 694-2415.



## Peachland-Polkton Elementary School Students Receive a Big Bearcat Welcome Back to School

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School students were in for quite a treat coming back to school! Anson High School football players and cheerleaders came out on Friday, September 2 to greet students as they were dropped off in the car rider line and the bus. The students were all smiles as they were given handshakes and high-fives.

The school would like to thank these high school students for giving their time to make the start back to school a great one!

## Community Celebrates Farm-City Week

Ag producers, business representatives and community leaders from across the county attended the annual Farm-City Week dinner, held Tuesday, September 20 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center of South Piedmont Community College in Wadesboro. The event was held to emphasize the collaborations between the farming industry and the business community, with 176 in attendance. Outstanding individuals were also recognized and awarded plaques for their dedication to agriculture and business.

Farm-City Week observances take place around the nation each year to strengthen the understanding of farm-city connections that provide our food, fiber and shelter. Anson County is fortunate to have strong ties that appreciate its agricultural base and its importance to the local economy.

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce and Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District joined the Anson County Cooperative Extension staff to host the evening. The event combined the annual Farm-City Week observances with Brown Creek's annual awards dinner. Sponsored by Pee Dee Electric, guests were treated to a reception before the event, followed by a barbeque buffet. The evening program highlighted agriculture, award recipients and entertainment.

Plaques given during the evening included Outstanding Farmer of the Year awarded by Anson County Cooperative Extension to Jeff Lee of Bullhead Farms. Outstanding Agribusiness was awarded to Greene Farm, received by Mike and Valerie Greene, and presented by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce.

Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District recognized Jack Porten with Porten Farms LLC as the Anson County Conservation Farm Family. Resource Conservation Workshop Participants Katelyn and Brooke Stovall were recognized for their participation in the named program sponsored at NC State this summer.

The evening's entertainment was comedian John Felts of Wilmington. Felts entertained the group after dinner with a show of jokes and fun, interacting with the audience and leaving them in laughter.

This year's event kicked off a week of observing and celebrating agriculture in Anson County. The week ended with the annual Ag Fair at the Extension Center and 4-H Youth Livestock Show at Circle G Arena in Lilesville.



Agricultural Agent Jessica Morgan presents the Outstanding Farmer of the Year Award.



Chamber of Commerce Director Shelby Emrich presents the Outstanding Agribusiness Award.



Soil & Water Board Member Nichole Carpenter presents the Conservation Farm Family Award.



Brown Creek Soil & Water Director Tina Rowell presents the Resource Conservation Workshop Participant Awards.

## Put Life Back Into Your Life. Consider a Living Healthy Workshop.

Are you an adult dealing with an ongoing health condition? If you have conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, overweight, chronic pain, anxiety, the Living Healthy Workshop can help you take charge of your life.

You don't have to stop doing the things you love to do. The key to getting the most out of life is learning to manage your symptoms. No matter your situation, the Living Healthy workshop can assist you in taking control.

Come get the support and tools you need to self-manage your condition. You and the instructors will work together to find practical ways to deal with pain, fatigue and frustration, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, understand new treatment choices, and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health.

Join the 2 1/2-hour Living Healthy Workshop at Grace Senior Center, held each week for six weeks. Learn from trained leaders who are dealing with health conditions themselves. Set your own goals and make a step-by-step plan to improve your health - and your life.

Classes will be held every Thursday starting September 29 and running through November 3. They will be held at the Grace Senior Center from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Sign up now! Spaces are limited. To register or get more information please call Rita Short at 704-694-6217.

## Storytime Every Wednesday at Partnership for Children

The Anson County Partnership for Children offers Storytime in the Early Childhood Resource Center each Wednesday, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3 to 8. For more information call 704-694-4036.

## Important Information from the Health Department

This is a release from the Anson County Health Department: The Anson County Health Department is proud to announce that we now offer the Gardasil 9 vaccine. This vaccine, unlike the previous Gardasil, covers nine strains of the HPV virus, helping to prevent cervical cancer, vulvar and vaginal cancer, anal cancer and genital warts.

The ideal age to begin immunizing is at age 9. By doing so, we aim to protect your child before they become sexually active. But, this vaccine can be administered to someone through the age of 26. The vaccine is for both boys and girls.

Interested? Have questions? Give us a call at 704-694-5188, and one of our friendly immunization nurses will be happy to speak with you.