

## Local High Schools to Participate in College Application Week

Anson High School, Anson Early College, Anson New Tech and Anson Academy will participate in the statewide College Application Week sponsored by College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) and the Carolinas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (CACRO) during November 18 - 22. As part of the CFNC-CACRO college access initiative, high schools will work with seniors during this week to complete and submit online at least one college application each using the career and college information and planning site, [CFNC.org](http://CFNC.org).

The goal of the program is to get more students applying to North Carolina colleges early in their senior year. During this event, students may apply to any of North Carolina's 58 community colleges, 36 independent colleges, and 16 state universities in which they are interested.

Students are encouraged to begin looking at applications for schools they are interested in, as there may be essay questions they need time to work on. Students may start working on applications but should not submit them without assistance from a counselor until the week of November 18-22.

For more information about events at your high school, please contact your school counselor.

### Holiday Safety Tips

From the desk of Sheriff Tommy Allen: Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years' holidays are fast approaching. It's one of the busiest times for law enforcement because some many people are out shopping, visiting and enjoying the season. However, these factors and the usual distractions of shopping create a favourable environment for thieves and robbers who are out to take advantage every chance they get. Our home break-ins will double or triple over the next two months. Cars in shopping centers and sometimes drive-ways will be broken into when gifts and packages are left inside them.

A single shopper is the best target for theft. Always shop with a friend or relative. Tell someone where you are going and what time to expect you to return. Make sure they know what you are wearing and the type of vehicle you are driving. Shop during daylight hours when possible. If you do shop at night park in a well-lit area. Dress casually and comfortably and avoid wearing expensive jewelry. Keep car keys in a pants or jacket pocket.

Always pay careful attention to your surroundings. When returning to your vehicle, check around it and in the back seat. Have your car keys in your hand to avoid spending unnecessary time outside your vehicle. If you feel uneasy returning to your vehicle alone, find a security guard and ask them to walk you to your car. Always store purchased items in a trunk or back storage area of SUVs where they cannot be seen.

When away from home make your house appear occupied by leaving a light and or TV on. Really valuable gifts should be kept in a safe and secure place until the very last minute when possible. Large picture windows with large quantities of gifts around a tree that can be easily seen by passersby invite trouble. If you have an alarm system, please use it. We've had instances where someone was going to just run up the road to the store and did not bother to turn on the alarm system and returned to find their home broken into.

The holiday seasons bring much pleasure and joy. It is also a very fast paced and busy time for us all. Because of this it is most important that we pay attention and take precautions to help reduce our chances of becoming a victim. With that said, I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

### United States Department of Agriculture Issues Conservation Reserve Program, Rental Payments, Direct Payments

#### Anson County producers could benefit

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that USDA has begun distributing Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) annual rental payments to participants across the country. USDA also will distribute 2013 direct payments beginning October 24. Payments originally were scheduled to be issued earlier in the month, but were delayed by several weeks due to the lapse in Federal funding.

"Farmers, ranchers and rural landowners across the country count on USDA programs and the payment delays due to the shutdown were an unnecessary burden," Vilsack said. "USDA has prioritized making these scheduled payments without any further delay and Farm Service Agency staff have worked hard to get this assistance out the door as quickly as possible."

Producers will receive payments on almost 700,000 CRP contracts on 390,000 farms covering 26.8 million acres. In exchange for a yearly rental payment provided by USDA on contracts ranging from 10 to 15 years, farmers and ranchers enrolled in CRP agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant grasses or trees that will improve water quality and improve waterfowl and wildlife habitat. CRP reduced runoff and leaching of nitrogen and phosphorus into waterways by an estimated 605 million pounds and 121 million pounds, respectively, in 2012, and soil erosion reductions totaling 308 million tons in 2012.

Direct payments for 2013 for the DCP programs are being made to the more than 1.7 million farms enrolled in the Farm Service Agency's programs. Producers with base acres of certain commodities are eligible for DCP payments.

The 2008 Farm Bill, extended by the American Tax Payer Relief Act of 2012, provides authority to enroll land in DCP, ACRE and CRP through Sept. 30, 2013, however, no legislation has been enacted to reauthorize or extend this authority. Effective Oct. 1, 2013, FSA does not have legislative authority to approve or process applications for these programs.

For more information on CRP and DCP, producers should contact the Anson County FSA office at (704-694-3516 Ext 2).

#### Letter to the Editor

#### Thank You from Organizer of Ag Expo & Fair

Dear Editor,

Please allow us to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported our 2013 Anson Ag Expo & Fair. We had a great event. In total, we had 304 fair exhibits, 73 participants in the fair, 13 vendors, 103 in events at the expo, and 79 youth from 9 counties showing 119 goats, lambs and heifers. We have a hard time estimating the total attendance for the week, but we think we had around 1,500.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our community. To everyone who participated, attended, and encouraged friends who participated, thank you! But especially let us thank our sponsors. Without them we could not do what we do. For their support of agriculture and our programs, a big Thank You!

2013 Anson Ag Expo & Fair Planning Committee: Ronnie Mills, Rita Mills, Sharon Edwards, Eloise Harrington, Beth Rogers, Debbie Wright, Tina Rowell, Mark Mills, Roddy Purser, Bruce Shankle, Erin Dempsey, Pam Layfield, Roshunda Blount, Jessica Anderson, Aimee Rankin and Janine Rywak.



### Studebaker's Birthday, etc.

You were supposed to be reading a different "Remembering" column today, but that "April 4th date stood out" - so here we go...

I had finished high school at Ansonville in 1939 and worked enough to know that I could not keep my 1930 A-Model Ford Roadster out of the shop and on the road. So, the new 1941 Studebaker Champion that cousin Henry Spears had really looked good. I traded for this car on April 4, 1941 - "Brand New" - financed at the Bank of Anson (Ansonville) with monthly payments of \$30 that I paid faithfully to Mr. Kimbrough until it was "paid off!!!"

This car was a "sharp - and economical" to operate

In fact, there were several around the county. Some people owned the mid-size Studebaker Commander, and a few, like Allen's grandfather, Dr. Bob Lyon, owned the "Studebaker President." The President was a real luxury car for those days - even if it was before turn signals, electric door locks, electric windows, backup lights, air conditioning - you name it!! However, some of these cars (for extra money) did have the "automatic bill holder!"

You will note in the picture that I had a grill guard, and two fog lamps too. Not much else though, except I did have a heater!!

We should expect some change, however...it has been just 67 years.

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