

Dignity, Sympathy  
and Respect

Our reputation is  
based on competence  
and caring. Every  
detail is taken care of.



704-694-2524  
Visit Us On-Line At  
leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com

**Mrs. Janice  
Surratte McRae**

Mrs. Janice Surratte McRae, 78, died peacefully at her home surrounded by her family on December 24, 2016.

**Obituaries**

A celebration of her life was held on Tuesday, December 27, 2016, at First Baptist Church with Dr. Robert Hunter officiating.

Born June 19, 1938, in Anson County, Janice was a daughter of the late Glenn and Margie Morton Surratte. She graduated Lilesville High School and attended Flora McDonald College. Janice was a wonderful homemaker, substitute teacher and longtime employee of Anson Community College where she retired. She was also a faithful member of First Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Tom McRae III of the home; four children, Dean McRae of Norwood, Lynn Turner (Paul) of Wadesboro, Bryan McRae of Charlotte and Dale

McRae of Wadesboro; six grandchildren, Cole McRae, Morgan McRae, Paul Turner (Rebecca), Mariah Turner Scott (Kyle), Alan Dale McRae and Kathryn McRae; great-grandchild Khi McRae; and her brothers and sisters, Margaret Beaver of Matthews, Wayne Surratte (Hazel) of Monroe, Warren Surratte (Betty) of Cheraw, and Vivian Maree (Claude) and Sara Smith, all of Wadesboro.

The family is extremely grateful to Janice's very capable caregivers, Jackie Little and Emma Jean Cash.

Memorials may be made to Liberty Hospice, 119 W. Wade St., Wadesboro, NC 28170; or to First Baptist Church, 309 Lee Avenue, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

Leavitt Funeral Home served the McRae family. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

**Benjamin Rivers on Randolph  
Community College Academic Merit List**

Benjamin Rivers of Wadesboro was recognized by Randolph Community College for his academic performance during the fall 2016 semester.

The college announced their President's List, Dean's List, and Academic Merit List for the 2016 fall semester on December 21. Curriculum students enrolled in at least six but less than 12 credit hours for the semester excluding college preparatory hours and proficiency hours who receive no incompletes and have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 and earn a grade point average of 3.50 - 4.00 are eligible to be recognized on the Academic Merit List.

Benjamin is the son of Dale and Scott Rivers.

**Anson Students Recognized for Academic  
Achievements at Richmond Community College**

Richmond Community College recently announced its honor lists for the Fall 2016 Semester. The following Anson County students received recognition for their academic achievements.

**• President's List** The President's List identifies students who earn an "A" in all courses and have a 4.0 grade point average while carrying 12 or more semester credit hours. Anson students are Emily Joshi, Amber Mical and Jessica Webb.

**• Dean's List** The Dean's List includes the names of student who attain a minimum grade point average of 3.25 and earn no letter grade lower than a "B" while carrying 12 or more hours in a degree or diploma program. Anson students are Jalen Little, Christian McCormick, Latisha Griffin, Star Melton, Chelsea Bryant, Ann Ray, Sabrina Copeland, Aubrey Burr, Savannah Ponds, Lisa Little and Jessica Griffin.

**Compare Health Insurance Plans  
During the Open Enrollment Period**

Period opened November 1, runs through January 31, 2017

Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin reminds North Carolinians who purchase individual health insurance coverage to take advantage of the open enrollment period to compare plans and choose coverage.

The open enrollment period for 2017 coverage runs until Jan. 31, 2017. In order to have coverage effective Jan. 1, 2017, you must have enrolled by Dec. 15.

"I encourage people to take action early during the open enrollment period and give yourself time to find the best plan for you," Goodwin said. "The plans are changing and you might need more time to make sure you're selecting a plan that includes the coverage you need, your doctors and falls within your price range."

If you do not get health coverage through your employer or Medicare, you can buy coverage in the individual market on the federal exchange at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). The exchange also determines if you are eligible for financial assistance like subsidies, cost-sharing reductions or coverage through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program.

If you purchased individual health insurance last year, you may be auto-enrolled in the same or similar plan but you may receive a notice informing of a new plan. It is important to know that you have the opportunity to shop for a plan that you choose.

Things to remember if you're shopping for a new plan:

- 1) Enrollment started Nov. 1, 2016.
- 2) Select and pay for your plan by Dec. 15, 2016, for coverage on Jan. 1, 2017.
- 3) Check to see if your doctors, hospitals, pharmacies and labs participate on the plan you select.
- 4) Visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) to see if you are eligible for financial assistance.
- 5) If you need one-to-one enrollment assistance, visit [www.gcaconnector.org](http://www.gcaconnector.org) to set up an appointment, or see a licensed NC agent/broker.

For questions related directly to enrollment through the federal exchange, contact 800-318-2596 or visit [www.healthcare.gov/contact-us](http://www.healthcare.gov/contact-us).

If you have additional questions about health insurance, contact the North Carolina Department of Insurance at 855-408-1212 or learn more at [www.ncdoi.com](http://www.ncdoi.com).

**USDA Provides New Cost Share Opportunities  
for Organic Producers and Handlers**

**Organic Producers and Handlers May Apply for Certification Cost Share Reimbursements; Expanded Eligibility for Transition and State Certification Cost**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced that starting March 20, 2017, organic producers and handlers will be able to visit over 2,100 USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices to apply for federal reimbursement to assist with the cost of receiving and maintaining organic or transitional certification.

"USDA reimburses organic producers up to 75 percent of the cost of organic certification, but only about half of the nation's organic operations currently participate in the program," said FSA Administrator Val Dolcini. "Starting March 20, USDA will provide a uniform, streamlined process for organic producers and handlers to apply for organic cost share assistance either by mail or in person at USDA offices located in almost every rural county in the country."

USDA is making changes to increase participation in the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program (NOCCSP) and the Agricultural Management Assistance Organic Certification Cost Share Program, and at the same time provide more opportunities for organic producers to access other USDA programs, such as disaster protection and loans for farms, facilities and marketing. Producers can also access information on nonfederal agricultural resources, and get referrals to local experts, including organic agriculture, through USDA's Bridges to Opportunity service at the local FSA office.

Historically, many state departments of agriculture have obtained grants to disburse reimbursements to those producers and handlers qualifying for cost share assistance. FSA will continue to partner with states to administer the programs. For states that want to continue to directly administer the programs, applications will be due Feb. 17, 2017.

"The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and the National Organic Program look forward to this exciting opportunity to leverage the Farm Service Agency's rural footprint to reach more organic producers and handlers," said AMS Administrator Elanor Starmer. "At the same time it is important to recognize and continue the valuable partnerships with states that remain at the core of the program."

Eligible producers include any certified producers or handlers who have paid organic or transitional certification fees to a USDA-accredited certifying agent. Application fees, inspection costs, fees related to equivalency agreement/ arrangement requirements, travel/per diem for inspectors, user fees, sales assessments and postage are all eligible for a cost share reimbursement from USDA.

Once certified, producers and handlers are eligible to receive reimbursement for up to 75 percent of certification costs each year up to a maximum of \$750 per certification scope—crops, livestock, wild crops and handling. Today's announcement also adds transitional certification and state organic program fees as additional scopes.

To learn more about organic certification cost share, please visit [www.fsa.usda.gov/organic](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/organic) or contact a local FSA office by visiting [offices.usda.gov](http://offices.usda.gov).

USDA is committed to helping organic agriculture grow and thrive. USDA strongly supports the organic sector through a wide variety of programs, including conservation grants, organic crop insurance, certification cost-share, organic market news, and simplified microloans. Under the Obama administration, USDA has signed five major organic trade arrangements and has helped organic stakeholders access programs that support conservation, provide access to loans and grants, fund organic research and education and mitigate pest emergencies. To learn more about USDA support for organic agriculture, visit our updated organic portal at [www.usda.gov/organic](http://www.usda.gov/organic).

**Senior Health Insurance Information Program Seeks Volunteers**

North Carolina Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, or SHIIP, is a flagship program for the Department of Insurance. Recognized as a national model for seniors' information program and known to citizens across the state as a reliable resource for clear and unbiased information about Medicare and other issues, SHIIP has grown to serve all 100 counties with hundreds of volunteers since it began in 1986.

In order to continue to offer this excellent service to seniors in Anson County, they need more dedicated and caring volunteers. If you are interested in becoming a trained SHIIP Volunteer please call Bernice Bennett at 704-694-6616 for additional information.

**Protect Your Dogs and Cats from Winter Woes**

In many areas, winter is a season of bitter cold and numbing wetness. Help your pets remain happy and healthy during the colder months by following these simple guidelines.

• Don't leave pets outdoors when the temperature drops. Most dogs, and all cats, are safer indoors, except when taken out for exercise. Regardless of the season, shorthaired, very young, or old dogs and all cats should never be left outside without supervision. Short-coated dogs may feel more comfortable wearing a sweater during walks.

• No matter what the temperature, windchill can threaten a pet's life. A dog or cat is happiest and healthiest when kept indoors. If your dog is an outdoor dog, however, he/she must be protected by a dry, draft-free doghouse that is large enough to allow the dog to sit and lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold in his/her body heat. The floor should be raised a few inches off the ground and covered with cedar shavings or straw. The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with waterproof burlap or heavy plastic.

• Pets who spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter because keeping warm depletes energy. Routinely check your pet's water dish to make certain the water is fresh and unfrozen. Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal; when the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.

• Warm engines in parked cars attract cats and small wildlife, who may crawl up under the hood. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood to scare them away before starting your engine.

• The salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet's feet. Wipe the feet with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth.

• Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that may attract animals and children. Wipe up spills and store antifreeze (and all household chemicals) out of reach. Better yet, use antifreeze-coolant made with propylene glycol; if swallowed in small amounts, it will not hurt pets, wildlife, or your family.

• Probably the best prescription for winter's woes is to keep your dog or cat inside with you and your family. The happiest dogs are those who are taken out frequently for walks and exercise but kept inside the rest of the time. Dogs and cats are social animals who crave human companionship. Your animal companions deserve to live indoors with you and your family.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**REAL ESTATE**

**HOUSES FOR RENT**  
Crider & Crider Properties  
704-694-8809  
10-29xtfn

**3 ROOM OFFICE SUITE**  
Renovated, great location on Rutherford Street next door to new Police Dept. \$450 per month.

**2 ROOM OFFICE SUITE**  
In Express Building at 205 West Morgan Street in Wadesboro. Former location of Woodmen of the World, great visibility. Separate waiting area. \$650 per month, includes utilities.  
Allen Lyon 704-681-5776  
10-26xtfn

**EVENT SPACE  
AVAILABLE**

James Holbrook Building at 400 N Greene St in Wadesboro. Includes tables, chairs, linen, china & centerpieces. Find with Facebook! Call Brook at Crider & Crider Properties 704-694-8809

**MOBILE HOME  
FOR RENT**

\$475 per month. Call 704-774-5084 for application 12-14xtfn

**SERVICES**

**QUALITY  
JEWELRY REPAIR**  
at Forbes Jewelers  
704-694-5814

**FOR SALE**

2004 Honda Rubicon 4-wheeler. Only 280 hours, custom wheels. \$3,000 or best offer. 1986 mobilehome, 3br, 1.5ba. \$3,000 or best offer. 704-694-9993

**INSTANT  
CASH  
FOR GOLD**

Forbes Jewelers  
Reside CVS, Hwy. 74  
704-694-5814

**Brakes/Mufflers**

Catalytic Converters • Shocks  
Custom Dual Exhaust • Tie Rods  
Wheel Bearings • Drivetrain Repair  
AND MORE !!! CALL or COME BY  
EXHAUST WORKS Tracy Caudle  
3971 Hwy 74 West  
Across from School Bus Garage 704-694-5270

**FOR SALE**

2004 Honda Rubicon 4-wheeler. Only 280 hours, custom wheels. \$3,000 or best offer. 1986 mobilehome, 3br, 1.5ba. \$3,000 or best offer. 704-694-9993

**THE EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS**

704-694-2480

**WE SELL APPLIANCE PARTS**

**MARTIN FURNITURE  
FACTORY OUTLET**

High Quality - Low Prices  
1367 Highway 74 West  
Wadesboro • 704-694-3185

**W. RANDALL CLINE,  
D.D.S. & ASSOCIATES**

General, Cosmetic & Implant Dentistry

6604 E. Marshville Blvd.  
Marshville, NC 28103  
704-624-6300  
[www.marshvilledentist.com](http://www.marshvilledentist.com)

**BYRUM  
HEATING & AC  
INC.**

704-624-2351

**WOODSMEN FORESTRY**

WE ARE TIMBER WEALTH MANAGEMENT  
SINCE 2010  
JEFF BOOTHBY, R.F. 910-690-2002  
NC Registered Forester 102 S Greene Street  
NC Consultant Forester Wadesboro  
woodsmentforestry@gmail.com [www.woodsmentforestry.com](http://www.woodsmentforestry.com)

**DANNY BEACHUM  
LANDSCAPING MATERIALS**

All types of Rock & Mulch, Driveway Gravel, Topsoil, Sand & Base Material  
Bag or Bulk on all Products  
Perennials & Shrubbery  
LOADER WORK • PICKUP or DELIVERY  
Corner US Hwy 74 & 52 North  
704-475-2625 or 704-694-2221  
[www.BeachumLandscapingMaterials.com](http://www.BeachumLandscapingMaterials.com)

**BASIC FINANCE, Inc.**

Stop in to see us  
or call 704-694-3619  
Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:30pm  
913 East Caswell Street • Wadesboro

**George Wilson's  
TREE SERVICE**

For All Your  
Tree Trimming &  
Removal Needs  
704-695-6741  
1160 Mt Vernon Road • Wadesboro

**Eddie's TREE REMOVAL  
LAWN & LANDSCAPING**

HEATED MOBILE PRESSURE WASHING  
[Eddiemayelawnandlandscaping@yahoo.com](mailto:Eddiemayelawnandlandscaping@yahoo.com)  
704-694-8779  
501 N Rutherford Street in Wadesboro