

the staff. Besides just wearing pink, each class held penny tosses, an activity that collected donations from each class. The classes collectively brought in \$217.95 in a three day effort.

All of this was brought on by the recently created student government at Anson High School. The student government has students from all grades coming together and helping the community, whether in the school or outside the campus. The student government is trying to reach out for more philanthropic activities for the county.



#### **Anson County Partnership** for Children Donates **Books for Toys for Tots**

**AHS Students** 

Komen

**Foundation** 

School

the Anson

Student

The entire

The Anson County Partnership for Children works to make sure that all children and families in Anson County experience the joy of reading.

books Santa to bring young children Anson County through collaboration with Toys for

The Anson County Partnership for Children recently donated 660 high quality hardback children's books, one for each child eight years of age and younger served by the Anson Anson County Partnership for Children is a non-profit public/private organization which

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THE EXPRESS • January 8, 2014 • Page 6

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**Class of 1971 Reunion Meeting** 

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1971 will meet on Saturday, January 25 at 2 p.m. at Ladybug Restaurant.

All classmates are encouraged to attend. Committee and plans for the reunion program will be discussed at this

meeting. For information contact Patricia at (704) 848-8165

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**Insurance Companies Request Rate Hike for Homeowners** 

was formed in 1996 in response to the North Carolina Smart Start initiative. The Partnership

is responsible for developing collaborative strategies to meet the unique needs of children and

families in Anson County, focusing on Child Care, Health, Literacy and Family Support. For more information contact Bonnie Morgan at 704-694-4036, www.ansonchildren.org.

Pictured above, Elaine Scarborough, ACPC Executive Director, Landric Reid, Toys for Tots Representative, and Bonnie Morgan, ACPC Literacy & Outreach Coordinator

#### Rate decrease proposed for Anson County

County Toys for Tots Program.

prepare books for Toys for Tots.

The North Carolina Department of Insurance received a homeowners insurance rate filing from the N.C. Rate Bureau in the late afternoon of Friday, Jan. 3. The N.C. Rate Bureau, which is not part of the Department of Insurance and represents all companies writing homeowners insurance in the state, has requested a statewide average rate increase of 25.3 percent, varying by territory, with a requested effective date of Aug. 1, 2014. In Anson County the requested rate change is a decrease of .8%.

The requested rate changes range from -2.7 percent to +35 percent. The insurance companies have also requested revisions to the current geographic rating territories.

The filing will be reviewed by Department of Insurance experts to determine what, if any, rate adjustments are warranted. If NCDOI and the N.C. Rate Bureau do not initially agree on the proposed rate changes, Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin will call for a public hearing in which both parties would present their cases for or against rate adjustments.

The filing is available for public review on the Department of Insurance website. To view the entire filing, go to http://pserff.ncdoi.net/pc.html and enter the Serff Tracking Number

Opportunity for Public Comment - For people who would like to weigh in on the rate requests in person, there will be a public comment session on Friday, Jan. 24, 9:30 a.m. to 4~p.m. in the Jim Long Hearing Room of the Dobbs Building, 430~N. Salisbury St., Raleigh. Written public comments will be accepted through Jan. 31. Written comments should be mailed to: NCDOI, Attn: Bob Mack, Property & Casualty Division, 1201 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1201; or emailed to 2014homeowners@ncdoi.gov.

NC Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin issued the following statement: "New homeowners insurance rates went into effect in July 2013. I am appalled that the insurance companies would request another increase just six months later. I believe the insurance companies should withdraw this rate filing immediately. If they do not, the insurance companies should expect a full hearing on this matter; I will not entertain any settlement negotiations. I urge North Carolina homeowners to take advantage of the public comment period and let their insurance companies know what they think about the notion of another homeowners insurance rate increase.

Also, I take offense at the insurance companies' concerted efforts to file this request late on a Friday afternoon, when they think the public won't be paying attention.'

### Wildlife Commission to Conduct Nine Public Hearings

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission will conduct nine public hearings in January on proposed changes to the state's wildlife management, game lands and fishing regulations for

the 2014-15 seasons. Each of the public hearings begins at  $7\ p.m.$  The Wildlife Resources Commission also has scheduled a staff presentation 30 minutes before each hearing to discuss statewide black bear management objectives. The 6:30 p.m. presentation and discussion will give background information about rule proposals that further objectives in the North Carolina Black Bear Management Plan, 2012-2022. The plan assists the Wildlife Commission in managing bear hunting to maintain healthy bear populations consistent with habitat where bears occur, and balancing the consideration of stakeholders. Other hunting proposals make changes to the Western Archery Deer Season, and adjust regulations for black powder firearms and crossbows. Of interest to anglers is a statewide proposed regulation that encourages private landowners to allow public angler access to inland fishing waters through their property under an agreement with the Commission. The proposal provides landowners the ability to prescribe allowable activities on their property. Each area will be clearly marked with signs identifying activities allowed. Another statewide proposed fishing regulation will provide anglers the option to label trotlines, set hooks and jug hooks with their names and addresses or with their WRC customer numbers. Allowing anglers to use their WRC customer numbers will help protect privacy by limiting the personal information required on the labels.

The "Public Hearings Applying to 2014-2015 Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Seasons" booklet, which provides a detailed list of all 42 proposed regulations, along with a comment form, is available online at https://ncpaws.org.

The meeting for Anson County, District 6, will be held on January 9 in Norwood at South Stanly High School, located at 40488 South Stanly School Rd. Norwood, N.C. 28128. Meetings to discuss the six bear proposals begin at  $6.30~\mathrm{p.m.}$  Public hearings begin at  $7~\mathrm{p.m.}$ 

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