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Citizens Law Enforcement Academy

Sheriff Tommy Allen has announced the dates of the 10th Citizens Law Enforcement Academy. The Academy will be held from March 1st to April 19th, on Thursday nights, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Sheriff's Office. The first nine Academies have graduated over 200 people. Participants will be exposed to many different aspects of law enforcement and the criminal justice system. They will hear presentations from the Sheriff, the District Attorney, Sheriff's Detectives, US Secret Service, the SBI, FBI, ALE and others. They will tour the Sheriff's Office, the County Jail, the Magistrate's Office, and the 911Communication Center. They will see demonstrations of the Sheriff's K-9 teams, go to the firing range; see a SWAT Team demonstration and see the Sheriff's Patrol and Emergency Equipment. They will also participate in the Sheriff's Ride-Along" Program.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have no criminal record and be in reasonably good health to take the walking tours (tours are optional). Interested people may now pick up applications at the Anson County Sheriff's Office during regular business hours or go to the Sheriff's web page at www.ansonsheriff.com and print off an application and bring it in or mail it to the Sheriff's Office. Applications must be completed and returned by February 14th. The class can accommodate twenty-five students.

Sheriff Allen said, "Applicants will be selected on a first come, first serve bases. If you are interested in what we really do in law enforcement in Anson County this will be something you will enjoy immensely. The most frequent comment we get from previous students is 'I wish it wasn't' over.' Everyone who has taken this class seemed to enjoy it and really appreciate what law enforcement does in Anson County.

AES Students Receive a Valuable Lesson...From a Clown!

A clown visited Ansonville Elementary School on Friday, January 6. He presented Friendship and Anti- Bullying skits to the students in grades pre-kindergarten through fifth. His message emphasized the importance of being a good friend to others, and why bullying is not right.

The clown took the students on a "Friendship Adventure" and asked volunteers to answer questions such as, "What are some ways to deal with a bully?" and "What should you do if you are being bullied?" AES students really enjoyed the presentation and loved being called up to participate in the program with the clown.

Storytime at the Library

Every Tuesday the public is invited to enjoy storytime at the Hampton B. Allen Library. The program begins at 10 a.m.

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Toys of Then and Now

As we begin our new year 2012 with grateful appreciation and thanks I am reminded of some of the many changes that even I can remember - just think of electricity, transportation, communications. Even though I am not as old as a "certain fellow" who I know - oh well, I do remember all of the above. Many families in our area received electricity during the 1930's. School buses were few and far between - with little or no safety equipment. Communications have progressed from a few telephones in the whole county.

Perhaps there has been more advancement in technology during my lifetime than all time prior. In earlier days even Christmas toys, trains, cars and dolls had no action, except imagination! Then came "wind up" toy cars, trains or whatever. Back then even the children with electricity didn't have the "action" of today's toys, and certainly nothing that implied the action of computerized toys!

The airplane pictured above is a toy I received when I was a child, more than 80 years ago. It is the Spirit of St. Louis, a plane Charles Lindbergh flew over the ocean from New York to Paris - the first transatlantic flight that made him a hero! I plan to share some more "old timers toys" remembrances in the next weeks. I hope you enjoy!! Ed



Wadesboro Primary School Library Receives New Books

Wadesboro Primary School students received books in the library, including titles regarding character education, President Obama and his family, sports, country music stars, fan clubs, and more. The students above were very excited and are eager to learn through reading!

Support Children's Literacy in Anson County

Carson Carpenter (2 years old), shown here with his grandmother Debra Carpenter, is one of 1,032 young children in Anson County who currently receive Dolly Parton's Imagination Library books in the mail each month. These books are purchased with funds raised by the Anson County Partnership for Children's annual Barn Blast fundraiser. The Barn Blast will be held on Friday, January 27 from 6 p.m. to midnight in the Ingram Room at SPCC's Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro. A 2005 study entitled Scholarly Culture and Education Success in 27 Nations, based on twenty years' worth of data, found that

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"children growing up in homes with many books get 3 years more schooling than children from bookless homes, independent of their parents' education, occupation, and class. This is as great an advantage as having university-educated rather than unschooled parents, and twice the advantage of having a professional rather than an unskilled father." You can help ensure



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that all young children in Anson County have books in their homes by supporting the 2012 Barn Blast. Individual tickets are \$35 each (\$45 after Friday, January 13) and reserved tables for eight Barn Blast guests are \$300. For tickets, please call or come by the Anson County Partnership for Children, 117 South Greene Street, Wadesboro, 704 694-4036.

Dependent on Drugs? Help is Offered

If you are having a difficulty with street drugs, alcohol or unnecessary medications, there is local help offered for you. Chemical Dependency Anonymous meets at 8 p.m. on Thursdays at the AA Building located at 2111 County Club Road in Wadesboro, next door to Heritage Hills Assisted Living Center.

