

2012 Barn Blast Declared a Success!

In a release from Elaine Scarborough, Executive Director of Anson County Partnership for Children: The Anson County Partnership for Children would like to thank the Anson County community for making the 6th annual Barn Blast fundraiser such a success. Over \$41,000 in profits was raised by the 2012 Barn Blast for children's literacy in Anson County! This funding will be used to continue sending books to the 1,035 children in Anson County who are currently registered for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. It will also be used to fund the Partnership's other literacy initiatives including Motherread, Teachread, the Raising a Reader Bookbag Program, the Reach Out and Read Program and numerous book distributions. A record number of guests attended the Barn Blast at SPCC's Lockhart Taylor Center on January 27 contributing to its success.



The Anson County Partnership would like to thank all its Barn Blast sponsors and donors. The 2012 Barn Blast was presented by \$3,000 sponsor, Anson Bank and Trust. The \$1,000 Barn Blast sponsors were Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation, Wadesboro Rotary Club and Dr. Thomas Trautmann. The \$500 Barn Blast sponsors were Premiere Fibers; Progress Energy; Plank Road Realty, Inc.; Poisson, Poisson and Bower, PLLC; Brown Creek Hospital; South Piedmont Community College; Glenn Trexler and Sons Logging; Waste Connections, Inc.; Aurora Family Counseling Centers; Sandhills Office Systems; Make Your Day; Burnsville Farms and Jordan Lumber. The Town of Wadesboro was a \$300 Barn Blast sponsor. The \$250 Barn Blast sponsors were Anson Family Optometric, PLLC; Anson Real Estate and Insurance Co., Inc; Brannon and Alderman, DDS, PA; Carolina Farm Credit; Cobb-Vantress; Leong and Associates, Inc.; Parsons Drug; Premiere Fibers; Strategic Investment Operations; Wadesboro Chiropractic, PA; and Wadesboro Advertisers of Columbus McKinnon Corp.

Auctioneer Michael Parker served as the Emcee for the evening and DJ Leon Gatewood furnished the music for the dance. The chicken, donated by Perdue Farms of Dillon, SC, was grilled to perfection by Jack Ratliff, Russell Sikes, Dave Trotti, Tookie Huntley and John Trotti. The meal was prepared by Beth Rogers, Betty Ratliff, Bonnie Morgan and a host of volunteers including Bob and Lisa Blalock, Diane Goodwin, Rosa Ellerbe, Jason Rogers, Kristi Helms, Brenda Morgan, Ray and Barbara Morgan, John and Laura Ratliff, B.J. Kiker, Betty Tant, Caroline Goins, Brenda Peyton, Shelby Emrich, Susan Thomas, Merrie Datin, Melinda Hatok and Gail Kiker. Food was also donated by Wadesboro IGA, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Rayfield's Meat Center, Wadesboro Food Lion, Events Catering Personal Chef and The Forever Inn. Thirty-one student volunteers served the plates to the Barn Blast guests. The bar was expertly tended by Todd Moore, Greg Buchanan and Dr. Stan Sidor. The beer was provided by RA Jeffreys Distributing and the Barn Blast koozies were provided by Jason Kiker. South Piedmont Community College is to be commended for their tremendous assistance and support of the 2012 Barn Blast.

The exciting "Sponsor a Child" part of the Live Auction in Anson County. \$7,280 was raised by over 75 individuals who placed their bids to fund 208 children's Dolly Parton's Imagination Library books for the next year. The Partnership would like to offer special thanks to Michael and Paige Dyson with Dyson Farms and to Fred Poisson with Poisson, Poisson and Bower, PLLC who each sponsored 30 children and to Rufus and Beverly Getzen, Steve and Anne Leary, Mandy Thomas and Stewart Poisson who each sponsored 10 children in "Sponsor a Child."

The Partnership would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations who purchased reserved tables for the Barn Blast: Janine Rywak, Anna Baucom, Lawrence Gatewood/Lula Jackson, Anson Community Hospital, Glenn Trexler Logging, Faith Based Center of Hope, Donna McNair, Holla, Michelle Brock, Kaye Ratliff, Wadesboro Civitan Club, Anson Bank and Trust, Carol Ann Gibson, Plank Road Realty/Plank Road Forestry, Foyle and Pauline Hightower, Union Community Action, Inc., Voyager (Cambium Learning Group) and Cambium Learning Technologies.

The donors and buyers of all the Silent and Live Auction items are to be commended for contributing to the Barn Blast fun and to the profits. Special thanks to Plank Road Realty for purchasing the 2012 Barn Blast VIP Table. Thanks also to the following buyers of the Barn Blast Live Auction items: Steve and Anne Leary, Frank and Ginger Trexler, Danny and Meri Beth Wright, Bill and Gail Lawhon, William High and Sharon Starnes, David Ayers, Tasha Coleman, Randy Gulleddge, Maureen Lear, Cyvone Gaines, Barry James, Jeremy Taylor and Whitney Scarborough and Carl and Carol Ann Gibson.

Congratulations to Linda Griffin who won a \$650 week-long getaway at a Sugar

Mountain condo in the "Heads or Tails" Game. Special thanks to John Crider for donating his condo to the Barn Blast each year. Thanks are also offered to the volunteers who decorated for the 2012 Barn Blast, Brenda Payton, Ashley Rogers and Michelle Sidor and to Jeremy Taylor and Don Scarborough for their heavy lifting.

The Anson County Partnership for Children thanks the 31 student volunteers who assisted with serving the food to the Barn Blast guests. These volunteers were generous in their time and talents, never complaining and helping to make the 2012 Barn Blast a success. The approximately 300 guests were served swiftly and professionally. Some of the students even stayed to wash dishes!

The Partnership thanks the student volunteers for contributing to children's literacy in Anson County by volunteering their time at the Barn Blast! The student volunteers were: Hyla Campbell, Azeem Hassan, Jacob Thomas, Brooke Loflis, Cory Blanchette, Morgan Burr, Christina Christian, Thomas Edwards, Jamie Prouty, Gage Tarlton, Scott Kendall, Michelle Xiong, Baonhia Vang, Chance Emrich, Kacie Winfield, Carey Maner, Abbey Hutchinson, Tracey Brewer, Amber Morton, Lindsay Haire, Madison Emrich, Travis Martin, Jim Lor, Brooque Puckett, Elizabeth Maness, Justine Bridges, Mallory Gathings, Krista Langley, Wendy Baker, Madison Hildreth, and Bailey Emrich.

The 2012 Barn Blast was dedicated to the memory of Mary Little (1962-2011). Mary was a committed Partnership Board member and a tireless advocate for children in Anson County.

The Anson County community is invited to the 2013 Barn Blast on Friday, January 25, 2013, at SPCC's Lockhart-Taylor Center. Volunteers for planning the 2013 Barn Blast are needed. Please call the Anson County Partnership for Children at 704 694-4036 if you are willing to assist. The Partnership thanks all who made the 2012 Barn Blast such a success. Together we are making Anson County a better place to be a child and to raise a child.



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