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Serving Anson County and the Municipalities of Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro.

Lilesville Fire Department Earns State Rescue Certifications

Lilesville Fire Department is now a Certified Swift & Surface Water Rescue Provider, and a High Angle Rescue provider, as certified by the North Carolina Association of Rescue and Emergency Medical Services. The Department has a full complement of rescue equipment that is carried on the Engine and Rescue Truck Companies for these types of operations. This certification was awarded to the department following an inspection on March 7, 2015 of specific equipment required and by having a specific number of personnel certified as North Carolina Rescue Technicians, and Swift Water rescue certifications.

Fire Chief Marty K. Morton, Jr. commented, "All the citizens of the Lilesville fire district should feel safe knowing the Lilesville Fire Department has the right equipment, the right training, and quality volunteers and staff to accomplish the mission."

This is a professional standard that has been adopted in North Carolina from NFPA 1006, NFPA 1670. The standards are monitored by North Carolina Association of Rescue and Emergency Medical Services. By meeting this standard, it identifies the fire department as having met the required equipment cache and most importantly it identifies that the department has met the requirement of the personnel training criteria. The standards for training require that at least eight members be trained as a state certified Rescue Technician, as well as certified Swift water Technician, and eight members trained as Medical Technicians as required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction. Currently the department has 10 members who are state certified as North Carolina Rescue Technicians and nine members certified as North Carolina Emergency Medical Technicians.

"Meeting the required training standard alone is a high achievement for the department in providing services to the citizens of Lilesville and our community," said Fire Chief Marty K. Morton, Jr. "I would like to congratulate and thank all members for their dedication, time and hours spent helping our department obtain this achievement. It is a great example of their desire to constantly improve their already outstanding services to the citizens of Lilesville and the community."

Lilesville Fire Department is one of only two fire departments in the county that operates as a Heavy Rescue provider. This speaks for the level of training, professionalism and leadership that is part of our fire department in providing quality service to the citizens of the Lilesville fire district.

Duke Energy Progress Receives New Yadkin-Pee Dee River Hydroelectric Project Operating License

This is the license to operate the Tillery and Blewett Falls plants

Duke Energy Progress has learned the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new operating license for the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Hydroelectric Project, which is located on the Yadkin-Pee Dee River in Central North Carolina. The new license allows Duke Energy Progress to continue operating Tillery Hydroelectric Plant near Mt. Gilead and the Blewett Falls Hydroelectric Plant near Lilesville, as well as the associated lakes.

Receiving the new license is the result of a decade of collaboration with government and community stakeholders. The new license was effective April 1, 2015, and has a term of 40 years.

"We are very pleased the FERC proceeded with issuing the new license," said Steve Jester, vice president of water strategy, Hydro Licensing and Lake Services for Duke Energy. "Receiving the license allows us to implement environmental and recreation resource enhancements that will result in many benefits to the community and the environment for decades to come."

Enhancements were determined with input from stakeholders during the relicensing process and include provisions to protect aquatic habitats, a drought management protocol, support for migratory fish species, public recreation area improvements on both Lake Tillery and Blewett Falls Lake, recreational flow releases and land conservation.

"The plants provide clean, renewable hydroelectric power generation, support regional public drinking water needs, and provide high quality recreation opportunities for central North Carolina," explained Jester. "This license ensures the availability of these resources for future generations."

Duke Energy Progress filed the application to relicense the project in April 2006 prior to the May 2008 expiration of the original license. The application process was delayed by legal challenges, which were successfully resolved.

The project was originally licensed for 50 years in 1958. Together, the two hydro plants have a generating capacity of 108 megawatts and produce enough electricity in a normal rainfall year to power approximately 25,000 average homes.

Special Thanks to Barn Blast 2015 Sponsors

This is a release from the Anson County Partnership for Children: The supporters of the 2015 Barn Blast helped "make Anson County a better place to be a child and to raise a child." Barn Blast sponsors provide much of the needed funding for Partnership programs for young children and their families in Anson County throughout the year.

Anson County Partnership for children would like to express sincere appreciation to the 2015 Barn Blast Presenting Sponsors: Poisson, Poisson, Bower, Attorneys at Law and Uwharrie Bank, as well as to all the sponsors.

All profits from the Barn Blast are used for Partnership programs which address 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.



Easter Egg Hunt Was Fun for All Ages!

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles came and brought their children to Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center this past Friday afternoon for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The lawn was full of youth as well as adults hiding eggs for more than 45 children.

There were a total of seven different winners: Ashley Veronioca, 8 years old; Ja' Miah Brewer, 9 years; La'li Hammond, 4 years; Dillon Hammond, 2 years; Dewayne McLaughlin 2 years; Demichiel Gaddy; and Zariyah Lisenby, 4 years. The children who found the most eggs were awarded different prizes.

The BRLC Easter Egg Hunt was enjoyed by children, youth and adults from different parts of the county as well as Union County. Deloris Hammond, Brenda Benton, Antoinette Thomas, Takesha Hammond, Taylor Rorie and SPCC intern student in Human Services, Pricilla Little oversaw the event. There were approximately 300 eggs hidden by youth and adults. Each egg was filled with a variety of candies and other gifts. The children ranged from ages 2 years to 17 years.

She, She the Bunny arrived with more fun things for the children to do. All the children who came were awarded gifts and prizes. There was music, physical activities, guessing games, word building, arts activities and stories that captured and held the children's attention. The food menu consisted of baked beans, grilled hot dogs, hamburgers with all the fixings, yellow Mexican rice, sweet pickles, chips and desserts.

Week of the Young Child Parade & Activities are April 14

Over 500 children will be in the parade in uptown Wadesboro. Come out and cheer them on!

The Anson County Partnership for Children will sponsor its annual Week of the Young Child Celebration on Tuesday, April 14 in uptown Wadesboro. Anson Family Optometric, PLLC and the Anson County Arts Council are collaborating with the Partnership to provide a fun-filled day for Anson County's young children and their families.

At 10 a.m. over 500 young children, with their teachers and child care providers, will parade from the Ansonia Theatre on Rutherford Street to Parsons Drug on the Square (at Wade and Greene Streets). The theme of the parade will be "Mike Mulligan and his Steam Shovel" and parade participants are encouraged to dress as characters from this classic children's book. All children who participate in the parade will receive a free book to take home with them. The Town of Wadesboro will have a back hoe on display for children to see the modern equipment which is used now to do the work of the steam shovel in the book.

Parents, grandparents, employees who work in Wadesboro, community members and all who love children are encouraged to support Anson County's young children with cheers and waves on the parade route. Everyone loves a parade and a parade of happy young children is even more special!

At 6 p.m. that same day (April 14) there will be a free public performance of *Mike Mulligan and his Steam Shovel* at the Ansonia Theatre by the the Resident Touring Company of Children's Theatre of Charlotte (formerly Tarradiddle Players). All children who come to the performance will receive a free book to take home with them. Free tickets are available at the Anson County Partnership for Children, 117 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro, or by calling 704-694-4036 to reserve tickets.

SERCAP Provides Individual Household Drinking Water Well Loans to Eligible Individuals

The Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (SERCAP) is a non-profit located in Roanoke, VA. They help low to moderate income families get assistance with water. Eligible individual are individuals who are a member of a household in which all members have a combined income (for the most recent 12 month period for which the information is available) that is not more than 100% of the median non-metropolitan household income for the state or territory in which the individual lives.

In North Carolina that household income is \$57,800. In South Carolina it is \$55,800. Here are highlights of the program: Loans available for purchase of new water well or repairs to an existing well • Up to \$11,000 • 1% interest rate • Terms from 5 to 10 years • Upfront cost (send with application): Credit Report - \$25 • Loan recipient must own and occupy the home or be occupying the home as the purchaser under a legally enforced land purchase contract which is not under default by the seller or the purchaser. • The home must be located in a rural area. • The water well system may not be used to substitute water service available from collective water systems. • The water well system may not be associated with the construction of a new dwelling. • Loan recipient must not be suspended or debarred from participation in Federal programs.

SERCAP is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Contact SERCAP at 540-345-1184 (TTY Users Dial 711) or online at www.sercap.org.

Longleaf Film Festival is May 2

The N.C. Museum of History in Raleigh proudly announces its inaugural Longleaf Film Festival on Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. See winning entries from across the state and around the world! Watch romance, drama, comedy, and documentaries selected from 170 entries from 25 countries. More than 30 films will be shown on three screens throughout the museum. Attend the awards presentation at 7 p.m. Admission is free! Seating is first come, first seated.

Meet independent filmmakers and actors associated with the winning entries. The films will be screened in two-hour blocks, with time in each block for Q&A sessions with filmmakers and actors. Grab lunch at the on-site restaurant, Pharaoh's @ the Museum, and plan to stay the day. The Longleaf Film Festival is presented in conjunction with the museum's blockbuster exhibit Starring North Carolina!, which high "The Longleaf Film Festival's official selections reflect the diversity of talent and imagination in the filmmaking world," says Sally Bloom, Festival Co-Organizer. "As a place that helps tell the stories that connect us all, we believe that the North Carolina Museum of History is in a unique position for showcasing films from all over."

Winning entries at the Longleaf Film Festival will be presented in five categories: narrative feature, short narrative, documentary feature, documentary short, and middle and high school student film. Major prizes will be given for the Judges' Choice award, the Made-in-NC award, and the Best Student-Made Film. Winners of the Longleaf Film Festival were selected by a panel of qualified judges including film critics, filmmakers, and film scholars.

Although the independent films are not rated by the Motion Picture Association of America, most are in the PG-13 range, and some are family friendly. Films outside the PG-13 range will be noted in the program.

Plan to attend the Longleaf Film Festival, and see many thought-provoking and moving stories that help us explore the world around and within us. For more details, go to LongleafFilmFestival.com. For information about Starring North Carolina! and the N.C. Museum of History, call 919-807-7900 or access www.ncmuseumofhistory.org or follow on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+ or YouTube.

Relay for Life Survivor Dinner is Saturday

The annual Relay for Life Survivor Dinner will be held at First United Methodist Church in Wadesboro this Saturday, April 11 at 6 p.m. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Friday, April 10 with Carrie Bunn at 704-695-3301.

50+ Club Meeting Features Music of Joy Gfeller

The Hampton B. Allen Library's 50+ Club meeting will be held on Monday, April 13 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theatre. Everyone is welcome to join them for the music of Joy Gfeller. Joy is a graduate of Wingate University with a degree in music. Come and bring a friend! For more information call 704-694-5177.

Anson Women's League Meets Tuesday, April 14

The Anson Women's League will meet on Tuesday, April 14, from noon to 1 p.m. at Twin Valley Country Club. A program will be presented by speakers from Relay for Life. All women are invited. Lunch is available for \$8.50.

Please send an RSVP if you want the meal to AWL President Terri Martin at tc-martin@windstream.net by Friday, April 10.

Healthy Living and Eating Seminar is April 19

Pathway to Peace Ministries presents ANEW-START, healthy living seminar and cooking class on Sunday, April 19, from 3 to 5 p.m. Learn how to cook plant-based foods that will heal you. Learn how to lose weight, have more energy, reduce cholesterol, reverse diabetes, lower blood pressure, and much more. Interested? Come! Seminar and cooking class is FREE! It will be held at 11775 Highway 109 South in Peachland.

For more information call 704-695-1441.