



### Lt. Corey Taylor Appointed Executive Officer of Naval Center

Lieutenant Corey D. Taylor, a native of Wadesboro, was promoted to Executive Officer for the Naval Surface Warfare Center in White Sands, New Mexico in October. Taylor, who received his commission through the Naval Limited Duty Officer Program in 2003, is responsible for 300 personnel. Taylor graduated from Anson Senior High School in 1988. During his career in the Navy he has earned a Bachelor Degree from Excelsior College in 2008, and is currently working toward earning a Master's Degree in Business Administration. He has earned numerous awards, including the Navy Commendation Medal and other unit and service awards. Taylor is the son of Reverend Donnell Taylor and Ethel Allen Taylor. His grandparents are the late Rev. Woodrow Willoughby Allen, Roman Taylor and Jessie Lee Allen. He has a daughter, Jasmine Taylor, who lives in Birmingham, Alabama.

### Environmental Education Programs Held at Pee Dee Wildlife Refuge

Anson County second and third graders from Lilesville, Morven, Peachland-Polkton and Ansonville Elementary Schools along with Wadesboro Primary School recently enjoyed a day at Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge. The students participated in environmental education programs. These programs are offered to schools and follow the NC Common Core Curriculum or Standard Course of Study for second and third grade. Environmental Field Day was the program for second graders, which was held March 17-21st and Refuge Adventures was the program held for third graders, which was held March 24-27th. This year students explored aquatics, soils, birds of prey, wildlife, forestry, and reptiles. They also learned about the Refuge, its management, and were invited to come back with parents and friends. A total of 470 youth were able to come to the Refuge with 25 teachers and assistants for this fun yet educational program. Classes and instructors included: Ken Knight and Rupert Medford, NC Wildlife Resources Commission; Janet Gilreath, JD Bricken and Greg Walmsley, Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge; Erin Dempsey, 4-H Youth Promise, Roshunda Blount, NC Cooperative Extension Service; Jay Strider, Parks Mash, Brandon VanBuren and Jonathan Ross with the NC Forest Service. The programs are held at Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge, and collaborating partners are Anson County Schools, Anson County 4-H, NC Cooperative Extension, NC Forest Service, and NC Wildlife Resources.

### Spring is Worth the Wait in NC


#### 8 things that make spring worth the wait

- Walk the wildflower trails** North Carolina's mountain wildflowers are nearly as famous as the fall foliage. Color unfolds from March to June with a sequence of trout lilies and violets, trillium and lady slippers, and azaleas, mountain laurel and rhododendron. Pick up well-known trails at Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway, Grandfather Mountain and Chimney Rock. And east of the mountains, discover a surprising wealth of wildflowers at Raven Rock State Park in Lillington and the amazing Flower Hill Nature Preserve near Clayton.
- Get lost in gardens** Every garden has a story, and North Carolina's are epic. At Biltmore, which welcomes spring with Biltmore Blooms, George Vanderbilt, Frederick Law Olmsted and horticulturalist Chauncey Beadle created a dazzling array of formal and informal gardens. At Sarah P. Duke Gardens, marking the 75th anniversary of their dedication, dramatic plantings in world-class designs reach the height of beauty in spring. The gardens of Tryon Palace cover 2½ centuries of history with marigolds and celosia representing the Colonial era. And for more intimate vignettes, tour private gardens during the North Carolina Azalea Festival, Wilmington's showcase of Southern pageantry at its finest.
- Root for the home team** There's nothing like baseball fresh from the farm, and North Carolina teams have helped cultivate an heirloom crop of players, including Derek Jeter, Chipper Jones and Miguel Cabrera. The Charlotte Knights begin a new era with the opening of BB&T Ballpark in the heart of the city. The team expects to see 600,000 fans between April 11 and Sept. 16, when the Triple-A Championship Game closes the season. The Durham Bulls, host of the 2014 Triple-A All-Star Game, return to play in a ballpark fresh from a \$19 million renovation. And in Asheville, Hickory, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Kannapolis and Zebulon, ballparks score with one-of-a-kind experiences. Bring a baseball for autographs.
- See stars under the stars** Come April, music lovers will have no trouble finding jams and performance under the sun and stars. Fans travel to Merlefest from far and near to celebrate the late Doc Watson's generous definition of traditional music. The four-day festival in Wilkesboro is one of the country's largest and best-loved, and this year's lineup includes Merle Haggard, Alan Jackson, Ricky Skaggs, Old Crow Medicine Show and Holly Williams. Music and craft beer come together in Huntersville for the North Carolina Brewers and Music Festival. Music also pairs well with barbecue, the main course at Winston-Salem's inaugural Jammin' Pig BBQ Music Festival, Lexington's BBQ Capital Cook-Off, Goldsboro's Pig in the Park, Edenton's Hogfest and Eden's Ribfest — all stellar experiences.
- Toast craft beer** Throughout April, celebrate NC Beer Month, which connects the dots on the brewery map and destinations where beer culture thrives. Travelers can cross from the mountains to the coast to find signature festivals (Hickory Hops, World Beer Festival Raleigh), collaboration beers and new releases, beer dinners (including wild game served with Big Boss brews), travel packages (Asheville, Brevard, Sylva and elsewhere) and one-of-a-kind experiences (Kinston Beer Weekend, Taverns & Trolleys). With about 100 craft breweries, North Carolina is the state of Southern beer.
- Celebrate bud break** The first sign of the wine to come is the swelling of the buds on the vine. The sight itself inspires celebration, and vineyards across North Carolina's expansive wine-growing region welcome visitors to see the vines awaken. The Budbreak Wine Festival in Mount Airy features vineyards from within and beyond the Yadkin Valley wine region, and seasonal events return to Raffaldini, Childress, Zimmerman and other wineries.


And spring 2014 will be remembered for the grand openings of JOLO Winery at Pilot Mountain and Jones vonDrehle in Thurmond.

- Get seriously wet** By the end of April, coastal waters feel welcoming even to people without wetsuits, and stand-up paddleboards dot the surf and sounds along the 320-mile shoreline. SUP attracts more first-time participants than any other outdoor sporting activity, and North Carolina makes an ideal destination for both novices and champions. The Carolina Cup at Wrightsville Beach has grown from local happening to international event. And with plentiful lakes and rivers, the state has developed inland strongholds including Lake Norman, Charlotte (at the U.S. National Whitewater Center) and Asheville.
- Set your pace and pedal** If your two-wheeler has missed you all winter, make up for lost time this spring. Just choose your terrain — from a rugged mountain climb to an easy coastal route — and expect a scenic journey. Organized rides lay out possibilities, whether you participate or take the route on your own. Try the Burnsville Metric or the Tour de Lure, which offers a gentler 23-mile ride if you're not up for the hilly 71-miler. Or make history on the coast with the inaugural Outer Banks Duathlon, featuring a 23-mile-ride through the Pea Island Wildlife Refuge with 5-mile runs as bookends. To experience spring in North Carolina, head to [VisitNC.com](http://VisitNC.com) for information and inspiration.

## EASTER EGGSTRAVANGANZA



**National Guard Armory**  
Wadesboro, NC  
**Sat, April 12**  
**11am - 2pm**



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for Sheriff

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5th Annual

## FREE ADMISSION

# 2014

Please donate two non-perishable food items per person for Union County Crisis Assistance Ministry

## Union County Farm Show & Festival

## Saturday, April 12 9am to 6pm

## Sunday, April 13 9am to 4pm

### Setup is Friday, April 11th

**Bike Give-Away**

Five Bikes will be given away

Drawings Sat. at 12:00 - 1:45 & 4:00

Sunday 2:00 & 3:00

**THE HINSON GIRLS**

Bluegrass & Blugrass Gospel



Free Concert Courtesy of Whitley Power Equipment

Saturday 2:00 - 4:00 pm



**Union County AG Center**

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Details & Updates on Facebook

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