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

## Beneficial Prescribed Burns Continue Across North Carolina

In an effort to improve wildlife habitat in N.C., the Wildlife Resources Commission continues to conduct prescribed burns on game lands across the state. Prescribed burns, also known as controlled burns, are one of the most beneficial and cost-effective methods for managing and improving habitat for wildlife. This simple and effective management tool helps the Commission restore and maintain wildlife habitat on nearly 2 million acres of game lands.

Many of North Carolina's declining or rare wildlife species like the Red-cockaded woodpecker and the Bachman's sparrow are adapted to fire or can only survive in fire-assisted habitat. Burning encourages production of native grasses and herbaceous vegetation, which provide valuable food and cover for a wide variety of wildlife species including kestrels, deer and fox squirrels. Prescribed burns are also used to reduce high levels of forest fuels (such as leaf litter and pine straw) that can cause deadly wildfires.

Fire was a natural occurrence in North Carolina to which animals have adapted. While conducting necessary prescribed burns, the Commission employs safety measures to help protect native wildlife by using burning techniques that ensure animals have time and room to escape. Wind conditions, humidity, time of year and other variables are factored in to reduce the effects of smoke on people, nesting birds and other wildlife. After an area is burned, exposed insects and seeds are available for birds and rodents to forage while quality new vegetation typically returns within a few weeks, providing cover and nutrients to a wide array of wildlife species.

For more information on prescribed burns, view No Cause for Alarm on Youtube and visit Prescribed Fire: What NC Citizens Need to Know at [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org). For a schedule of prescribed burns planned for 2017, visit [www.ncwildlife.org/fire](http://www.ncwildlife.org/fire). For details on the Commission's game lands program, including an interactive game land map, visit [www.ncwildlife.org/gamelands](http://www.ncwildlife.org/gamelands).

## Veterans Memorial Dedication at Wadesboro City Park Set for April 27

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremony for the new Veterans Memorial that has been constructed at Wadesboro City Park. The event will take place on Thursday, April 27 at 11 a.m. The memorial and ceremony are sponsored by the Anson County Veterans Council.

Wadesboro City Park is located near Anson Pediatrics, just off Morven Road on Gatewood Street.

## Local Cancer Survivors and Caregivers to be Honored at Reception

Local cancer survivors and their caregivers are invited to attend the annual Survivor and Caregiver Reception on Sunday April 23rd at the First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Each survivor is invited to bring up to two guests to the event.

The Relay For Life of Anson is a community event where teams and individuals come together to honor, celebrate, and raise funds and awareness in an effort to free the world from the pain and suffering of cancer. Money raised will help the American Cancer Society provide free information and support for people facing the disease today, and fund cancer research that will help protect future generations.

"The Relay for Life of Anson County Survivor Social offers an important opportunity for cancer survivors to join with each other and celebrate the reality of cancer survivorship and that more people are living longer and better quality lives after cancer than ever before. During the Survivor Social last year, I tried to make a personal connection and engage with the survivors and what I saw was hope in their faces, I heard it in their laughter and felt it in the tears of remembrance during the keynote speech. This event has a way of connecting our community by bringing awareness and to hopefully increase fundraising efforts. Survivors are an inspiration to keep on, to do more and to pledge to never stop fighting this disease. I consider it an honor and privilege to honor and celebrate the thousands of people who represent our future of a world free from the pain and suffering of cancer," said Anne Hyatt, member of the event leadership team.

Founded by Dr. Gordy Klatt in Washington in 1985, the Relay For Life movement is the world's largest fundraising event to save lives from cancer. Uniting communities across the globe, we celebrate people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and take action for life-saving change. During Relay For Life events, members of each team take turns walking or running around the track or path. Teams participate in fundraising in the months leading up to the event.

If you are a cancer survivor or caregiver and would like to be part of the Relay For Life Survivor Reception please RSVP to Amy Turner at 704-826-8407.

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

One thousand pinwheels whirl and spin on the front lawn of the Anson County Courthouse to bring awareness of child abuse and neglect during April, which is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Anson County Partnership for Children and Anson County Domestic Violence co-sponsor this event annually during the month of April. The pinwheels symbolize childhood happiness, and are a physical reminder of the bright futures all children deserve.



## Lions Club Celebrates Arbor Day in Anson County at MES and LES

North Carolina's Arbor Day was on Saturday, March 18 this year and to celebrate the event the fourth graders from Morven (above) and Lilesville (below) Elementary Schools were provided pine seedlings by the Wadesboro Lions Club to plant. Each student who participated would become a member of the Fourth Graders Foresters USA.

The project has four major goals:  
1. To revitalize observation of Arbor Day in America's schools on the official Arbor Day proclaimed in their own state.  
2. To send every fourth grader home with a tree of their own to plant and care for. Each student received an individual packaged 12"-18" evergreen tree seedling  
3. To support employment of workers with disabilities. Each tree is individually packaged for distribution by workers with disabilities.  
4. To bring schools, private individuals, businesses and organizations together to have direct positive impact on the urban forests of their communities.

Jim Chandler of the Wadesboro Lions Club said, "This project is made possible by the community support from the citizens of Wadesboro and Anson County, so there was no cost to the students, teachers, the schools or the taxpayer. Now tree planting is even more important than ever. Trees take carbon dioxide (CO2) out of the atmosphere and clean the air we breathe. Planting trees is a simple, inexpensive and easy way to improve the community."

For more information regarding the Wadesboro Lions and how to become a member, please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.



## Board of Elections Meeting is Tuesday, April 18

The Anson County Board of Elections will hold a monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 18 at 5 p.m. at the Board of Elections office. The agenda is as follows:

- April Conference feedback
- Laptop purchase updates for Election Day
- Hardware, firmware and software service agreement
- Updates on current and pending legislative changes
- Director's monthly report
- Other concerns and matters
- Executive Session - personnel

The Board of Elections office is located at 402 Morven Road in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-994-3223.

## This is National Library Week

In recognition of National Library Week, April 9-15, the Hampton B. Allen Library will have two promotions.

First, the library is waiving all overdue fines on any late books that are checked in during that week. Also, the library is raffling off 3 of their Nooks! This is a completely free drawing. To enter, patrons will fill out a card with their name, phone number, and the name of their favorite book, then drop the card into one of several boxes at the library, or one on the Bookmobile. The drawing will be held on Friday, April 14, with 3 winners - a child, a teen and an adult. The lucky winners win a free Nook.

For more information about these promotions or anything else call 704-694-5177.

## Library - Day in the District at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library hosted an event called Library - Day in the District on Monday, March 27. The library hosted Anson County Manager Megan Garner, along with members of the library's Local Advisory Board, Fran Thomas and Leon Gatewood, and area politician Mark Brody. The attendees were taken on a tour of the library, and introduced to the library's newest staff members, Gilberte Bachiochi and Destiny Dows. Anson County Librarian Aaron Mehaffey let them know about recent changes to the library, including programming, updates to the facility, and the progress on the strategic plan.

During a meeting the attendees were thanked for their continuing support of the library, and were delighted to learn about some of the things that the Hampton B. Allen Library has achieved so far. For example, the library had 316 programs in the last year with 5,000 in attendance, and there were over 8,000 uses of library computers and wifi. The meeting also covered some of the challenges that still lay ahead - according to a 2015-16 study, 62% of children in North Carolina cannot read proficiently by fourth grade; and state funding of public libraries has decreased by an average of 34% in the past ten years.

Mehaffey said, "We have plans to hire additional staff to increase our outreach services, and we are building a 'makerspace' in the library to enhance our programming for all ages."

At the conclusion of the meeting the attendees were thanked for attending and for their support of the library. They were told that the library hopes they would continue to support its efforts in the future.

## Brown Bag Book Club Hosting Author Regina Jeffers

The Brown Bag Book Club of Hampton B. Allen Library will meet on Monday, April 17 at 12 noon in the Pritchett Room for a covered dish and author talk by Regina Jeffers.



Mrs. Jeffers was a public classroom teacher for 39 years, and considers herself a Jane Austen enthusiast. She is the author of several Austen-inspired novels. Her desire is to show the need for historical accuracy in period based books, etc. Currently living outside Charlotte, she spends her time writing, gardening and with her adorable grandchildren.

Please make plans to attend, bring a dish, a spouse and/or friend and join in the food, fellowship and talk. For more information call 704-694-5177.

## Wadesboro Budget Workshop

Budget workshops for the fiscal year 2017-2018 annual budget for the Town of Wadesboro are being held at the Wadesboro Town Council Meeting Room at 5:00 p.m. each Tuesday in April.