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

\$5 Rabies Vaccination Clinic this Saturday

A rabies vaccination clinic will be held this Saturday, April 19. The clinic will take place at Brown Creek Animal Hospital, which is located on Highway 74 in Polkton, from 2 until 5 p.m. The cost of each vaccination is only \$5. Please protect yourself and your animals by being in compliance with rabies vaccination requirements. Your dogs and cats will love you for it!

Rabies is a deadly viral disease that is very common in wildlife in North Carolina. Because of this you should always leave wildlife alone. It is OK to look or take pictures but never try to handle wild animals. You know to leave wild animals alone, but your pets probably don't know to leave them alone! In fact, dogs and cats often chase and get in fights with wild animals. Because they may be exposed to rabies, North Carolina law requires dogs and cats to be vaccinated against rabies. Not only does this protect them, but if they are protected against rabies, you will be too. Veterinarians can vaccinate your dog or cat against rabies.

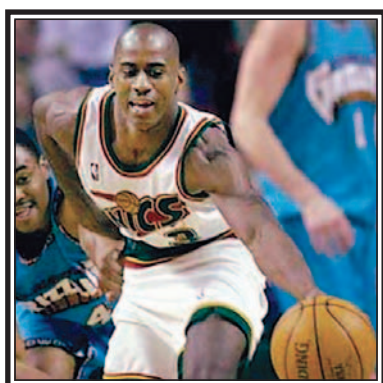
If your pet has been properly vaccinated against rabies, but comes in contact with a potentially rabid animal, it should receive a rabies vaccine booster shot within 72 hours of that contact.

Another way to protect your pets is to keep them indoors or on a leash. Don't let them roam outside untended. Many people are bitten by stray dogs and cats each year and can be seriously injured. Unsupervised pets are also much more likely to fight with wild animals and be exposed to rabies. In North Carolina, and across the United States, the domestic animal that is most commonly infected with rabies is the cat. Cats can also prey on our native wildlife if not supervised.

If you are bitten or scratched by any animal be sure to see your doctor right away. Because any mammal can transmit rabies, the animal that bit you may have to be evaluated or tested to see if it has rabies. If a dog or cat bit you, try and remember what the animal looks like and where it was so that animal control can find the dog or cat and put it into a 10-day confinement.

In North Carolina we can test animals to see if they have rabies. However, we only test wild animals that have bitten a person or unvaccinated domestic animal or dogs and cats that have died within 10 days of biting a person. In 2006 alone the State Laboratory of Public Health tested over 4,200 animals for rabies! Your animal control agency will have all the information needed to submit animals for rabies testing. The number in Anson County is 704-694-4947.

NBA Player Vernon Maxwell Coming to Visit BRLC April 25



Vernon Maxwell, retired player, of the Houston Rockets, will be at the Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center on Friday, April 25, from 8 until 11 p.m. during their Children and Youth Night Out.

Vernon was born and raised in Gainesville, Florida and attended the University of Florida where he broke the college's scoring records in basketball and was named Florida's Mr. Basketball. He was drafted into the NBA in 1987 to the San Antonio Spurs, and has played with the Charlotte Hornets, Houston Rockets, Dallas Mavericks, Orlando Magic, Sacramento Kings, Seattle SuperSonics and Philadelphia 76ers.

Vernon played for the NBA for 14 years, retiring in 2001 after winning championship games with the Houston Rockets in 1994 and 1995. He leads the NBA record books for leading 3-point shots and points in a quarter. He currently lives in Charlotte with his wife and two children and participates in many youth sport organizations throughout North Carolina. He enjoys golfing in his spare time, volunteering in the community and coaching his children's sports teams.

The admission fee for this event is \$5. All donations will be used in the operation of the Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center. Everyone is invited to come.

Locks of Love

Relay For Life is a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate survivorship and raise money for research and programs of your American Cancer Society. Anson County Relay for Life will be held on May 2 and 3 this year.

Everyone in today's society has been affected by cancer in some way. Sometimes cancer even reaches those we find most precious...our children! It is so hard to be a kid today even without adding something as horrible as cancer. Making it even harder is going through treatments and dealing with the loss of your hair. However, the nonprofit organization Locks of Love is making great strides at giving children battling cancer a normal childhood.

Locks of Love collects hair that people donate in order to make hair pieces for children who have lost their hair due to cancer treatments and other long term medical hair loss. Anyone can donate their hair the only guidelines are

- Hair should be a minimum of 10 inches to be used as a hair piece or a minimum of 5 inches to be sold at market and the money earned will go to Locks of Love.
- Hair should be clean and dry.
- Hair can be colored or permed, but not chemically damaged.

We are urging people to commit now to giving their hair to Locks of Love in May. A booth will be set up at Relay For Life on Friday, May 2, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and a stylist will be onsite cutting hair for this worthwhile cause.

For more information about Anson County's Relay For Life, please call 704-465-9009 or go to www.ansonrelay.org.

Mrs. Anne Beck Plants Picture Perfect Pansies



Standing near her neatly tended pansies is Mrs. Anne Beck who is readying her plants and flowers for a visit from her son Frederick and his family this weekend. Mrs. Beck is 93 years young and doesn't look a day over 65!

Sunday afternoon found me at the front door of Mrs. Anne Beck, a 93 year old Anson County citizen who is as spry and scholarly as anyone of any age I've ever met. "Why, you don't look a day over 65," I said as Mrs. Beck smiled a bright smile and told me the secrets of her youthful appearance. "I'm a country girl from the farm. We had chickens, cows and pigs growing up, but mostly we just ate fruits and vegetables. I have a good companion too, Babe, my guard dog," she went on to say. Her dog sitting close to her conveyed a manner of protectiveness during our conversation-filled afternoon.

The reason for my visit was to inquire about the beautiful pansies adorning her front yard in a three-tiered array of blue and yellow splendor. The beautiful blooms are in abundance and Mrs. Beck beamed as she showed them off. "I can tend to all of them except for those on top. My nurse Barbara Murdock helps me with the others; in fact, she helps me with most every-

thing. Barbara is a true blessing," she said.

Mrs. Beck's yard was newly mowed and her flowers tended as she busied herself for this weekend's visit from son Frederick, a medical doctor now hailing from Florida, his wife and their two children. She also has a son, Charles. She is very proud of them both. "I have two wonderful sons and both are very smart" said Mrs. Beck, and I knew without a doubt where their wit came from. The 93 year old is still sharp as a tack!

Mrs. Beck is a charming lady with a lot of things to say. She shared her stories with me, and seemed happy to have a delightful afternoon of good old fashioned girl talk. And our conversation was exactly that.

Thank you Mrs. Beck for allowing me into your life for an hour or two. It was a most memorable day, one I hope to repeat when your freshly planted Impatiens are in full bloom. Until then, I bid you adieu. *Photo and story by Melanie Morse*

Anson 4-H Plans Lunch Fundraiser

The Anson County 4-H Program is planning a lunch fundraiser on Friday, May 16 at the Cooperative Extension Center on McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The lunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. The lunch is being held to raise money to help supplement funds for 4-H county programs, assist youth in attending 4-H summer programs and other activities throughout the year.

The menu includes a marinated grilled chicken sandwich with spread, slaw, chips, tea, and homemade dessert. Cost is \$6, and tickets may be purchased now or at the door. Take-outs and deliveries only are available. Dining in will not be available.

Business and organizations ordering at least 6 plates may request deliveries. Deliveries will be available from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Contact Erin Dempsey or Pam Layfield at 704-694-2915 to place orders. If you would like to fax your order in please send to (704) 694-2248

For more information about 4-H or this fundraiser, please contact Extension 4-H Agent Roshunda Blount at 704-694-2915.

Doggone Fun this Friday

The Homeward Bound Humane Society is having a fundraiser at Kate's Skating Rink on Highway 74 in Indian Trail this Friday, April 18. This event is for everyone - kids and adults. The fun will begin at 6 p.m.

A portion of the proceeds the rink takes in that night will go to Homeward Bound. They will use 100% of those funds to help the animals. As you enter the skating rink you must tell them that you are there to support the animals, and then your cover charge will only be \$4. That includes a basic skate rental.

The Humane Society needs the support of the community and this is a fun way to get involved. On Friday there must be a certain amount of people to meet the rink's qualifications for that night's funds. Your attendance will make a difference in the success and in the lives of the animals.

Even if you cannot attend Friday evening, you can help with just a small donation (or large!). Maybe you would like to contribute food, or offer to help house animals as they make the transition from homeless to being members of a loving household. If you can help in any way, please contact Mandy Smith at 704-695-3116. The address is Homeward Bound Humane Society, PO Box 291, Marshville NC 28103. The website is www.homewardboundhumane.org.

The Humane Society's mission is to help save companion animals and work towards a more humane community. That can be achieved by reducing the number of unwanted, abandoned, and uncared for animals - just one animal, one day at a time. It's their world too. Thank You so much!

Advertising Helps Sell Sell Sell!

Have you ever wondered whether or not a commercial or print advertisement really helps to sell a product? If so, the answer is yes.

In the Computer Applications II classes at Anson High School students were given an "If you were the owner of a business" scenario, which was an all encompassing project. Each had to plan specifically what business they would be most interested in owning one day, research and forecast future markets, create all business documents including the logo, letterhead, brochure, employee newsletter, magazine or newspaper article, advertisement, business card, flyer and invitation. In conclusion, students had to sell their products via commercial presentations to their classmates. Many, many took the project seriously and managed to do as intended, sell their products or services with virtual ease.



In the second level of Computer Applications at Anson High School, these second period students made career choices while developing a business around that choice. They are from left, Ashley McCoy, Jereme Robinson, Hannah Parker, Lanequa Robinson, Alphonso Jackson and Dysyree Polk.

Chase Drye said, "This assignment took a lot of time and effort but in the end it was fun, interesting and I learned a lot from it." The students' vote as their number one choice for the best performance in a commercial presentation went to Lewis Adams for his television commercial on golf, golf services, and golf equipment. Travis Flowers and Kenny Henry both received the most creative awards for their presentations. Both used humor as their tactic for selling and both provided very funny approaches. Kendra Wall used various music clips which provided an absolutely entertaining way to reach her audience. Talisha Smith proved that fashion is always fun while demonstrating in runway style the latest trends on the market today.

Throughout this project the students also prepared data from research on various types of advertising. The students learned from their research, "TV ads are no longer the main influence in purchasing decisions, and that women hold more purchasing power than any other subgroup. Print ads (such as in newspapers and magazines) and inserts have become the most influential of all advertising mediums."

Students are now preparing newspaper and magazine advertisements or inserts, which will be used to better persuade potential buyers. Most are targeting women, based on their research findings. Maybe one day these students will be designing ads for one of you. They all seem to have a true interest in the subject area and are doing fantastic work as it relates to their projects. Great job students! *Photo and story by Mel Morse*

Look inside for these special inserts
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