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

Primary Election Information

Anson voters will participate in the Primary Election for national, statewide and local candidates on Tuesday, May 8. Early voting is taking place now. The Primary Election is held to nominate each party's candidates to be placed on the General Election ballot. Registered Democrats only select among Democratic candidates, Republicans select among Republican candidates, and Libertarians select among Libertarian candidates. The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012.

Every ballot will show the referendum vote on the marriage constitutional amendment.

For Anson County voters all primary ballots will have the national, statewide and district primary races. Each town in Anson County may have a slightly different ballot, depending on whether there is a local, Anson County race there or not.

Non-affiliated voters will only vote on the marriage amendment.

One Stop Early Voting began on Thursday, April 19 and will run through Saturday, May 5. Early Voting takes place at the Anson County Board of Elections, located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro. The hours are, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Board of Elections will be open on Saturday, May 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for Early Voting.

Absentee Ballot requests are due Tuesday, May 1, 2012. This is the last day to request absentee ballots in writing (exceptions due to sickness or disability). Voted Absentee ballots are due in the Board of Elections Office on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 5 p.m. If mailed, returned absentee ballots will still be timely if postmarked on or before Election Day, and received no later than 5 p.m. on May 11, 2012. Absentee ballot requests due to illness are due Monday, May 7, 2012, at 5 p.m.

Election Day Polling Places:

- Ansonville Fire and Rescue, 9145 US Highway 52 North
- Burnsville Fire and Rescue, 33 Rescue Road, Polkton
- Gulledege Fire Department, 34 Chewning Road, Wadesboro
- Lilesville Fire Department, 202 West Wall Street in Lilesville
- Morven-McFarlan Fire Department, 242 East Main Street
- Peachland Fire Department, 35 East Passaic Street
- Polkton (Lanesboro) Fire Department, 61 West Polk Street
- Wadesboro 1 - SPCC Lockhart-Taylor Center, Ingram Room, 514 North Washington Street, Wadesboro
- Wadsboro 2 - Charles Riddle Staff Development Center, 305 White Store Road in Wadesboro
- Wadesboro 3 - Wadesboro Primary School Auditorium, 1542 US Highway 52 South
- White Store Community Building, 5672 Union Church Road, Peachland

The Anson County local primary races are listed below:

ANSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1

- **Democrat** - Bobby H. Sikes of Wadesboro

ANSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3

- **Democrat** - Ross Streater of Morven
- **Republican** - Kevin D. Tucker of Morven

ANSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 6

- **Democrat** - Jarvis T. Woodburn of Wadesboro

ANSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 7

- **Democrat** - Harold C. Smith of Wadesboro

REGISTER OF DEEDS

- **Democrat** - Joanne S. Huntley of Wadesboro

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 3

- **Democrat** - Beulah Pratt of Morven, Elizabeth Short of Morven and Lorenzo Steele of Morven

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 6

- **Democrat** - Frank Liles of Wadesboro and Michael Livingston of Wadesboro

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 20A (THACKER) (THACKER SEAT)

- John R. Nance of Stanfield
- Lisa Blue Thacker of Polkton

Anson voters will participate in district primary elections of local interest. They are:

DEMOCRAT

NC State Senate District 25 - Gene McLaurin of Rockingham and Daniel Wilson of Ansonville

NC House of Representatives District 55 - Dale Nelson of Wadesboro and Tony Benton of Wadesboro

REPUBLICAN

NC State Senate District 25 - Gene McIntyre of New London and Jack Benoy of Albemarle

NC House of Representatives District 55 - Richard Johnson of Wadesboro, John Barker of Marshville, Mark Brody of Monroe

Here are the national and statewide candidates, grouped by party:

DEMOCRAT

President - Barack Obama

US House of Representatives - Larry Kissell & Marcus Williams

NC Governor - Walter Dalton, Gary Dunn, Bob Etheridge, Bill Faison, Gardenia Henley, Bruce Blackmon

NC Lieutenant Governor - Eric Mansfield & Linda Coleman

NC Commissioner of Agriculture - Walter Smith and Scott Bryant

NC Commissioner of Labor - Marlowe Foster, Ty Richardson, John Brooks

NC Treasurer - Ron Elmer and Janet Cowell

REPUBLICAN

President - Newt Gingrich, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum

US House of Representatives - Richard Hudson, Scott Keadle, Vernon Robinson, Fred Steen, John Whitley

NC Governor - Jim Harney, Scott Jones, Jim Mahan, Pat McCrory, Charles Moss, Paul Wright

NC Lieutenant Governor - Dale Folwell, Dan Forest, Tony Gurley, Grey Mills, Arthur Rich

NC Auditor - Joseph DeBragga, Greg Dority, Debra Goldman, Fern Shubert, Roby Wright

NC Commissioner of Agriculture - Bill McManus, Steve Troxler

NC Commissioner of Insurance - James McCall, Richard Morgan, Mike Causey

NC Secretary of State - A.J. Daoud, Kenn Gardner, Ed Goodwin, Mike Beitleer

NC Superintendent of Public Instruction - Ray Martin, David Scholl, John Tedesco, Richard Alexander, Mark Crawford

NC Treasurer - Frank Roche and Steve Royal

LIBERTARIAN

President - Roger Gary, R.J. Harris, Gary Johnson, Carl Person, Bill Still, Lee Wrights

Dems Choose Vancine Sturdivant to Fill Vacant Commissioner Seat

During a meeting of the Anson County Democratic Party held on April 19 the voting members of the Executive Committee voted for Vancine Sturdivant to fill the vacant Anson County Board of Commissioners seat. The Lilesville District #2 seat was held by the late Claude "Fat" Spencer.

Sturdivant said, "My parents and my grandmother always stated, 'Your word is your bond.' That's all I have. As I always said, whether commissioner or not, I will always work for the betterment of not just Lilesville, but all of Anson County."

Wadesboro Primary School Terrific Kids for Fairness and Caring



The Terrific Kids at Wadesboro Primary School for the character trait of caring are pictured at right. They are, from left, front: Coleman Burr, Janiyah Neal, Katie Little, Ziare Rorie, Trinity Little, Claire Davis, and Zikeya Pratt. Second row: Steveonia Knotts, Talaisha Belton, Zohaa Ali and D'Arius Rorie. Third row: Tameia Little, Ja'Quan Covington, Iviana Coxe and Taniya Belton. Back row: Jamison Allen, Samantha Rorie, Parish Parsons, Sereca Gray and Kelly Bennett. Back row: Steven Diaz, Ebonee Brown and Ashley Collymore. Aaron Johnson is not pictured.



The Terrific Kids at Wadesboro Primary School for the character trait of fairness are pictured at left. They are, from left, front: Destinie Baldwin, Mohin Ali, Jaquan McNeil, Abigail Funderburke, Kamry Hankerson, Conner Parker and Dequarius Ratliff. Second row: Steveonia Knotts, Talaisha Belton, Zohaa Ali and D'Arius Rorie. Third row: Sha Maiya Christian, Candice Williams, Micah Chambers, Thomas Polson, A'mani Massey and Jak Kendall. Back row: Dejeona Jefferies, Jyana Willoughby, K'yna Butler and Aarsal Khalid.

Marriage Amendment Explained by Board of Elections

The 2011 General Assembly approved a measure (Session Law 2011-409) that would put language into the North Carolina Constitution related to legally recognized marriages in the state. The proposed amendment to Article 14 of the North Carolina Constitution would add a new section, to be called Section 6. It would read as follows:

Sec. 6. Marriage. Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State. This section does not prohibit a private party from entering into contracts with another private party; nor does this section prohibit courts from adjudicating the rights of private parties pursuant to such contracts."

The General Assembly also approved the language that voters will see on the ballot this spring as they consider this constitutional amendment:

[] FOR [] AGAINST *Constitutional amendment to provide that marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State.*

The Constitutional Amendments Publication Commission has approved language for an official explanation of the proposed amendment that can be provided to voters to assist them in understanding the amendment. The Commission has only three members including Secretary of State Marshall, North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper and the General Assembly's Legislative Services Officer George Hall. Concerns about the official explanation should be directed to the Commission and not to the State Board of Elections or a county board of elections.

Here is the official explanation adopted by the Commission:

A current North Carolina law enacted in 1996 says that marriage between individuals of the same sex is not valid in North Carolina. This amendment would make that concept part of the North Carolina Constitution. If this amendment is passed by the voters, then under state law it can only be changed by another vote of the people.

The term "domestic legal union" used in the amendment is not defined in North Carolina law. There is debate among legal experts about how this proposed constitutional amendment may impact North Carolina law as it relates to unmarried couples of same or opposite sex and same sex couples legally married in another state, particularly in regard to employment-related benefits for domestic partners; domestic violence laws; child custody and visitation rights; and end-of-life arrangements. The courts will ultimately make those decisions.

The amendment also says that private parties may still enter into contracts creating rights enforceable against each other. This means that unmarried persons, businesses and other private parties may be able to enter into agreements establishing personal rights, responsibilities, or benefits as to each other. The courts will decide the extent to which such contracts can be enforced.

Presbyterian Salad Luncheon Raises Money for Local Needs

It's the same scenario the first Tuesday every month, at 9 a.m. four or five people are already lined up at the door of First Presbyterian Church of Wadesboro seeking help with emergencies. The minister listens to each story of need. The stories have a common theme - there's not enough money to pay the bills, buy the groceries, get the medicine.

This scene is repeated each month, and has been for several years, but in this Great Recession with double digit unemployment the needs are growing. Often people are referred to First Presbyterian from Anson Crisis Ministry or the Department of Social Services when the funds at these agencies have been depleted. Recipients can be helped once a year, and the funds received must alleviate a crisis, not a perpetual financial problem.

To raise money to assist with local needs, as well as state, national and world missions, First Presbyterian holds two fundraisers annually, a Salad Luncheon in the Spring and a Yard Sale in the Fall.

This year the Salad Luncheon will be held this Friday, April 27, beginning at 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the church, located at 208 South Greene Street in Wadesboro. The menu will feature a variety of fresh vegetable salads, congealed salads, ham biscuits, and the delicious potato and chicken salads made by the Women of the Church. Scrumptious homemade desserts are also on the menu.

You are cordially invited to participate in enjoying a delicious meal, and helping First Presbyterian raise money to assist people in our community who need a helping hand at this difficult time.

This is National Safe Kids Week

Safe Kids events promote child safety on the field, at home, on the water & in the car

Unintentional injuries kill more than 830,000 children annually worldwide and permanently disable even more, according to statistics from Safe Kids USA. National Safe Kids Week, April 23 - 29, marks the beginning of "trauma season," and Safe Kids coalitions will hold events statewide to educate the kids, parents and caregivers about the best ways to keep kids safe during sporting events, in their homes, while swimming or playing near water, and while riding as passengers in a vehicle. [See the attached list for local event information.]

"As a parent, it is scary that unintentional injuries remain the leading killer of kids," said Insurance Commissioner and Safe Kids North Carolina Chair Wayne Goodwin. "But I want to remind other parents in North Carolina that the majority of these injuries and deaths are preventable."

During Safe Kids Week, coalitions and chapters hold parent education workshops, school safety fairs and other events. Safe Kids coalitions encourage families to get involved in local events by including games for children, curricula for teachers, educational materials for parents and much more.

Safe Kids North Carolina reaches out to parents, caregivers and children in 66 counties served by 38 coalitions across the state. Through these coalitions and partnerships, more than six million people have access to Safe Kids North Carolina programming. For more safety tips and information about Safe Kids North Carolina, visit www.ncsafekids.org.

Special Olympics Are Today!

The 2012 Special Olympics Anson County Spring Games will be held today, Wednesday, April 25 at Anson High School Stadium. Opening Ceremonies begin at 9 a.m. The rain date is Friday, April 27.

For information call 704-694-4417.

Rabies Vaccination Clinic is Saturday

The spring Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held on Saturday, April 28 in the Tractor Supply parking lot, from 2 to 5 p.m. Each vaccination costs only \$5. All dogs, cats and ferrets four months of age must have a current rabies vaccination.

SPCC Offers a Multimedia Design Workshop

South Piedmont College a Multimedia Design workshop on Saturday, April 28. It will last from 8:30 a.m. until noon at the Old Charlotte Highway Campus in Monroe. Topics to be covered are animation graphics, video with iMovie and cartoon caricatures in Photoshop.

Seating is limited. To register or for information, contact Advertising and Graphic Design Instructor Linda Ward at 704-290-5279 or lmward@spcc.edu.

Board of Education Regular Meeting is April 30

The April Board of Education Regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 30th. Closed Session begins immediately after the opening of the meeting at 5:30 p.m. and open session to the public begins at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center located at the Board of Education Office at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

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