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

## Special Olympics Set for this Friday

Countdown to the 50th anniversary!

Anson County's Special Olympics Spring Games will be held this Friday, May 4 at Anson High School Football Stadium. Opening Ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m., and then the games begin! In addition to the games, local agencies will be on hand to share information and resources with parents on various community services. The rain date is Wednesday, May 9.

For more information about the Games, including community volunteer interest, please contact Coordinator Sylvia Tillman at (704) 694-4417.

Every year is a great year in the Special Olympics movement, but 2018 promises to be one of the best yet as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Special Olympics! That's right, 50 years ago, the first Special Olympics competition was held at Soldier Field in Chicago. Since then the movement has expanded to 170 countries worldwide and changed the lives of 5.5 million Special Olympics athletes.

Throughout 2018 the Special Olympics movement is celebrating 50 years of joy, courage and empowerment. Since 1968 the organization has used the transformative power of sports to improve the lives of children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

Nearly 40,000 athletes in North Carolina inspire thousands of coaches, sports officials, local program committee members and event organizers involved in Special Olympics statewide. Special Olympics of North Carolina (SONC) offers year-round training and competition in 19 Olympic-type sports on local and state levels as well as health and wellness initiatives to improve the health status and increase access to community health resources for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Youth become agents of change through Unified Champion Schools, an education and sports based program created by Special Olympics to build an inclusive environment among youth with and without intellectual disabilities as well as empower them to become youth leaders and create change in their community. Visit Special Olympics North Carolina at [www.specialolympicsnc.com](http://www.specialolympicsnc.com).



Pictured from left are Mark Hammonds, Vancine Sturdivant, Makayla Bittle, Rita James, Anton Pickett, Nya Baucom, Terrell Kirby, Kevon Boggan, Jordyn Kiser, Kaitlyn Brown, Denise Cannon, Reagan Jackson, Weaver Thomas and Landric Reid.

## Senior Prom Dresses Provided by Generous Volunteers

Faith Based Center of Hope, Vancine Sturdivant, CEO and Anson County leaders came together to provide senior prom dresses and shoes for our youth. Each year Sturdivant collects prom attire for young ladies who would not be able to afford to go to their senior prom otherwise.

When asked why she does this each year, Sturdivant stated, "Senior proms, senior pictures and graduation are moments you will not do again. Those are moments our youth should cherish. Finances should not prevent a child from attending their prom or graduation."

Joining Sturdivant at the Anson County Early College campus was Superior Court Clerk Mark Hammonds, Interim County Manger Rita James, Anson County Commissioner Clerk Denise Cannon, Magistrate Weaver Thomas and Sheriff Landric Reid.

A "Special Thank You" goes to Lilesville Town Councilwoman Juanita Williams, Alisha Hartley, Mrs. Dede & Michelle Ellerbe-Little, Mrs. Andrea Ellerbe-Tillman, and Attorney Evadne & Asya Smith-Little. Faith Based Center of Hope wants to thank everyone for their donations.

The senior prom was held on Saturday, April 21 at Wingate University. "Because my husband William Lafayette Sturdivant, Sr. and I were unable to attend the prom together, I loved chaperoning," said Sturdivant. "This was a way of enjoying our prom!"

## Robert Wesley Tyson Busted with Two Meth Labs on April 24

On Tuesday, April 24 detectives from the Anson County Sheriff's Office received a call in reference to illegal activity at 2606 Mt. Vernon Road in Ansonville, the residence of Robert Wesley Tyson. Once the detectives arrived at the residence they spoke with Tyson about the complaint they had received. During the investigation Tyson consented to a search of his residence.



Robert Wesley Tyson

In the course of the search detectives located chemicals and other paraphernalia used to manufacture methamphetamine. Detectives then obtained a search warrant for the residence and located two methamphetamine labs along with methamphetamine.

Tyson was charged with Manufacturing Methamphetamine, Possession of Meth Precursors and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. He was placed in the Anson County Jail under no bond.

Sheriff Landric Reid said, "Methamphetamine has been a major problem in Anson County for the past seventeen years, and our officers will continue to fight this epidemic. I encourage anyone with information about methamphetamine or other illegal activity to contact the Anson County Sheriff's Office at 704-694-4188 or Crime stoppers at 704-695-3111. You may remain anonymous."

## Terry Jordan Invitational Golf Tournament is Saturday

The 4th Annual Terry Jordan Invitational Golf Tournament, sponsored by Gum Springs Baptist Church Youth, will be held this Saturday, May 5. The event will take place at Twin Valley Country Club with a 10 a.m. shotgun start.

This is a 2 man Captains Choice with 1 A player per team. The cost is \$45 per person which includes golf, a cart, lunch and a t-shirt. Mulligans will be sold. There will be a split the pot on hole 14.

There will be cash prizes, closest to the pin prize and longest drive prize.

Sign up sheets are available at Twin Valley, or you can call Lynn Whitlock at 704-695-2200 or Johnny Goodwin at 704-475-1304.

## Anson County 4-H to Host Summer Adventure Camp

Youth in the county will be receiving brochures through their school in regards to the Summer Adventure Camp program coordinated by Anson County 4-H. This year's Summer Adventure Camp will bring more adventure, education, and fun activities than ever before! The dates and themes of the camps are listed below

- **Week 1 "Cloverbud Camp"** June 20-22, 5-8 years, \$40. Limit: 22
- **Week 2 "Artful Antics"** July 10-12, 9-12 years, \$40. Limit: 25
- **Week 3 "Cloverbud Camp"** July 17-19, 5-8 years, \$40. Limit 22
- **Week 4 "Millstone 4-H Day Camp"** July 30-Aug. 3, 9-15 years, \$120. Limit: 25

All camps run from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. unless otherwise stated. You do not have to be enrolled in 4-H to participate in the summer fun programs. Each camp includes snacks, all supplies and cost of the trips during that week.

Registration begins Tuesday, May 22 at 9:00 a.m. Don't wait too long to sign up for these programs because the classes are limited and registering will be on a first come, first serve basis. So, start bringing forms in as soon as possible! Remember, adults must come and register youth at the Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. Payment is due at registration.

If you have not seen a brochure for your child or if you have questions about any of the weeks of camp, please call the Extension Office at 704-694-2915 for more details.

## Statement from the Director of the Anson Animal Shelter About Distemper Breakout

Maureen Lett, the Director of the Anson County Animal Shelter, has issued a statement to inform the community about a recent situation the shelter faced regarding an outbreak of Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) there:

The Anson County Animal Shelter reopened Monday after a recent outbreak of Canine Distemper. Due to the shelter being an open intake facility for the county, a dog was brought in from the Lilesville area that transmitted distemper here at the shelter. We have worked with infectious disease experts in the Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine, to determine the infection status of each dog through diagnostic testing.

Unfortunately, 17 dogs had to be humanely euthanized, to prevent the spread and further contamination of animals here at the shelter. However, 37 dogs were saved through testing. This process was extremely costly and time consuming, but thankfully with the help of Maddie's Shelter Program, which covered the almost \$7,000 cost, these lives were spared.

All remaining dogs have tested negative and have high enough titers against distemper. They are now up for adoption or are needing rescue placement. Moving forward, the Anson County shelter will be vaccinating all dogs against distemper the day they enter the shelter. In addition, all dogs still in the shelter two weeks later will get a booster vaccine. These vaccine practices are in accordance with industry guidelines.

Studies have shown that more than 50% of dogs that enter animal control shelters do not have immunity to canine distemper virus. This indicates the need to vaccinate every dog with the distemper vaccine on admission. However, it takes 1 to 2 weeks for the dogs to respond to the vaccination by producing protective amounts of antibodies. Distemper cannot be reliably diagnosed by symptoms only, and many infected dogs may not have any signs at all.

CDV is highly contagious and easily transmittable between dogs. The virus will live for a few hours in the environment and is killed by most disinfectants. Unfortunately, CDV's incubation period can last up to 5 weeks. Dogs infected with CDV can develop neurological signs up to 3 months after they were infected. Infected animals will also shed the virus through feces, urine, and respiratory droplets for 2 to 3 months. There is NO cure for CDV. Supportive care (fluid therapy, nutritional support, antibiotics, nebulization, etc) can be provided, but the prognosis is guarded. The vaccination for CDV is very effective. Adult dogs who have been fully vaccinated before exposure are extremely unlikely to contract CDV. Vaccinating dogs upon admission may help prevent future outbreaks, but it is not a guarantee.

Vaccination in the community is the key to prevention. It is extremely important to keep animals current, not only on distemper, but rabies as well. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call the Anson County Animal Shelter at 704-994-2738.

## Sgt. First Class Tameka Horne Visits BRLC

Sergeant First Class Tameka Horne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rayvon Horne, recently returned home from Qatar. While here she visited family, friends and others in the Burnsville Community. Tameka continues to excel, as she looks forward to achieving the rank of Master Sergeant.

Sergeant Horne serves as Transportation Coordinator and continues to strive for her Masters Degree in Business Administration. She will have served in the military 19 years as of June 22, 2018.

While home Tameka continue to serve many. She visited Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center and talked to the audience on her life in the military. She spoke on the different aspects of what being in the Amy has meant to her. She said the joy of serving her country has been most rewarding, "this is one of the best choices I could have made." She has traveled to many parts of the world and hopes to continue making a difference in society.

While at BRLC Tameka worked for 3 hours in the Emergency Food Pantry and visited the after school program facilities.

Pictured here, Tameka Horne dressed in black with the yellow stripes stands, with three other veterans and their wives.



## Morven Cemetery Membership Meeting

The annual general membership meeting for Morven Cemetery, Inc. will be held on Monday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Morven Presbyterian Church, located at 204 Main Street in Morven.

For more information about the meeting contact Frances Williamson at [FWilliamson1@carolina.rr.com](mailto:FWilliamson1@carolina.rr.com).

## Senior Health & Information Fair

The Grace Senior Center Health and Information Fair will be held at Lockhart-Taylor Center on Tuesday, May 15, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Various vendors will be present to answer questions as well as offer pertinent information beneficial to seniors. Lunch will be served. Doors will not open to the public until 10:45 a.m.

Persons interested in attending should call Grace Senior Center at 704-694-6616 to register and for additional information.

## WoodmenLife Offers Two Scholarships

Wadesboro WoodmenLife Chapter 4, a fraternal life insurance society, is accepting applications for college scholarships from now until Friday, May 18. They will award \$500 scholarships to two class of 2018 graduates in Anson County Schools. Their Scholarship Committee will look at academic achievement, civic and fraternal activities and financial need.

Seniors can get a WoodmenLife scholarship application form from their high school guidance counselors. The scholarships will be presented at the annual high school awards ceremony.

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