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

## Memorial Day Ceremony is Saturday

The Anson County Memorial Day Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 23 at 10 a.m. in front of the courthouse. Come out as we remember those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

For more information please contact Theodore Ward, Anson County Veteran Services Officer, at (704) 696-4418.

## Dates Set for 2015 Ag Expo & Fair

Mark your calendars for the weekend of September 25-26, the dates for this year's Anson Ag Expo & Fair. The event's planning committee has started meeting to prepare for the annual fall festivities.

The annual 4-H Youth Livestock Show will be held again this year at Circle G Arena on Friday and Saturday, and the Ag Fair will be held at the Extension Center in Wadesboro on Saturday.

The 4-H Youth Livestock Show will begin at 6 p.m. on Friday and again at 9 a.m. on Saturday in Lilesville. The Ag Fair will be open to the public on Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. in Wadesboro.

Be on the lookout for more information to come, including time schedules, fair category opportunities, and much more. Come out and join the fun, and help us celebrate agriculture in Anson.



## Happy Days Daycare Students Send Care Package to Deploying Mother

These students at Happy Days Daycare in Peachland are shown with the care package they prepared and sent to the mother of one of the students who is in the military. Ta'kili Addison, mother of Jamari Addison, was the lucky recipient of the care package. The kids sent Addison the package before she was deployed to Korea.

The students are, from left, front: Aiden Tucker, Abbey Gaddy, Jamari Addison, Tyler Eddins and Brianna Furr. Back row: Taylor Rogers, Maebyr Pope, Kameron Mullis, Ellie Melton, Adaline Pope and Micah Dennis.

## \$21,000 Grant Awarded to Lilesville Fire Department

### Department of Insurance Sends Award Check for New Equipment

Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal Wayne Goodwin announced that the Lilesville Fire Department was awarded a \$21,000 grant through the 2015 Volunteer Fire Department Fund from the State of North Carolina. The check will be mailed to Fire Chief Marty Morton to be used by the Department to purchase needed equipment. The equipment is purchased using matching funds and must be approved by the Department of Insurance Office of State Fire Marshal.

"Fire and rescue organizations protect our communities large and small across North Carolina, but sometimes their budgets don't grow with their responsibilities," Commissioner Goodwin said. "Our emergency service personnel should be supported with the best equipment and supplies needed to do their jobs correctly and safely. I know the Lilesville Fire Department, will use this money to serve their community even better," Goodwin added. "Thank you Chief Marty Morton for all of your hard work and thanks to your dedicated staff."

Lilesville Fire Department has received a total of \$158,058.45 from the Volunteer Fire Department Fund in the past 21 years since the program began. The General Assembly created the Volunteer Fire Department Fund in 1988 to help volunteer units raise money for equipment and supplies. The grant funds must be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to an approved amount, by monies raised locally to purchase necessary equipment. Since the program's inception, the Department of Insurance has distributed \$104,237,382.87 to volunteer fire departments across the state.

## "Click It or Ticket" Seatbelt Campaign Runs Through May 31

Starting Monday May 18 through May 31, the Wadesboro Police Department will conduct their "Click It or Ticket" campaign. Buckling up may be second to nature for most of us these days, but that hasn't always been the case. Back in the early 1990's, even though there was a seatbelt law in place, many North Carolinians were not following it. For many it took an enforcement and public education program called "Click it or Ticket" for the habit or wearing a seatbelt to catch on.

In the 20 years since the "Click it or Ticket" program was launched in North Carolina, the number of drivers and occupants wearing their seatbelts has increased and the number of fatalities and injuries involving unbelted passengers in the state has dropped dramatically.

"It isn't often that we take the time to look back, so being able to reflect on the approximately 1,500 lives that are saved each year by this program is truly a privilege," said Thedis Spencer, Wadesboro Chief of Police. As Chief of Police I want everyone to stay safe, and most of all stress the importance of child restraints. The Wadesboro Police Department has a Certified Seatbelt Child Restraints Technician and is partnered with Partnership for Children's Anson Safe Kids. If you need for your child restraint system checked please contact Lt. Kelly with the Wadesboro Police Department at 704-694-2167 or contact the Partnership for Children Safe Kids. Remember, "Click it or Ticket."

## Free Camp Offers Children and Teens Help Coping with Grief

Registration is now open for the Wings2Soar free day camp designed to help children and teens deal with the death of a loved one. Wings2Soar is a program jointly run by Hospice and Palliative Care of Cabarrus County and Hospice of Union County, both a part of Carolinas HealthCare System. The camp activities are led by trained hospice professionals and volunteers experienced in working with grieving children and teens.

Wings2Soar can help children and teens deal with the death of a loved one. Experiencing such a loss can be especially difficult for children in today's fast-moving world. The camp can help them understand death and cope with their grief in a positive, sharing way. By allowing them to interact with others in their peer group who have experienced a loss, the camp enables them to find strength in this shared experience. Support from the community allows the camp to be provided at no cost.

The camp runs from June 18 to 19 at Cedar Grove Retreat in Kannapolis and is open to children and teens, ages 5-16, who has lost a loved one at least three months prior to camp. There is a mandatory parent/guardian and camper orientation session at the start of the camp from 6 to 8 p.m. on June 17. For more information, call Ken Grano (Hospice of Union County) at 704-292-2100 or email [info@hpccc.org](mailto:info@hpccc.org).

## Two Films by Anson Native T. D. Burns Presented at Library May 26

The Hampton B. Allen Library will be showing two DVDs, *A Nostalgic Return* and *Uwharries Past & Present* on Tuesday, May 26 at 10 a.m. in the Little Theatre. These were photographed, written, narrated and produced by native Ansonian T. D. Burns. Everyone is invited to come, bring a friend and enjoy these wonderful productions. Any questions call 704-694-5177.

## Parent Leadership Conference Camp

Families and Anson school supporters are invited to the Parent Leadership Conference Camp this Saturday, May 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Anson High School, located at 96 Anson High Road, in the Media Center. The conference is free and includes breakfast, lunch, and child care (if request submitted prior to day of conference).

Topics include: helping students succeed, advocating for students, navigating the school system, gang awareness, personal finance, parents and teachers working together, anger management and college preparations. Participants will learn how to help their students and have the opportunity to connect with others.

For additional information contact Dannie Montgomery at 704-694-9301 ext. 06408 or [montgomery.d@ansonschools.org](mailto:montgomery.d@ansonschools.org).

## Town of Lilesville Holds Catfish Stew Cookoff



Neal and Josey Beverly

The Town of Lilesville held its 5th Annual Catfish Stew Cookoff on Saturday, March 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hatcher Park. Attendees enjoyed lots of fun and fellowship. And, of course, there was great food! There were ten entries for the Catfish Stew Cookoff and two for the Stew of Your Choice Cookoff.

Neal Beverly and his daughter Josey Beverly won 1st Place for their catfish stew. 2nd Place went to Charlie Ratliff, and 3rd Place went to John Richard Allen.

John Hyatt won 1st Place in the Stew of Your Choice Cookoff with his chicken stew. Ruby Hannah won 2nd Place with a vegetable stew.

Anson schools participated in the coloring contest. Grades K-3 were asked to color a preprinted picture of a catfish and the 4-6th graders drew a picture of a catfish and colored it. Winners were called Miss Catfish and Master Catfish, and they were awarded a fishing pole and a trophy. The winner of Miss Catfish was Jada Ridley from Lilesville Elementary School. The winner of Master Catfish was Evan Parsons from Wadesboro Primary School.

Lynn Whitlock said, "The Town of Lilesville would like to thank all the sponsors, contestants and citizens who help make the Lilesville Catfish Stew Cookoff a success each year."



Charlie Ratliff and his fiancé with Lilesville Mayor Richard Harrington.



Evan Parsons



Jada Ridley



Pictured here are Lilesville Contestants for the Mr. & Mrs. Catfish drawing contest with Lilesville and Anson County employees.

## Free Food Products Distributed by Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center

On Tuesday, May 26 Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center will distribute free food products to qualified recipients. This USDA commodities distribution of TEFAP products will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. The date is different than most months due to the Memorial Day Holiday.

Federal guidelines will be the determining factor for recipient eligibility, and these food products will be available to Ansonian who qualify. If you have not registered or received food before please bring of income. Each family will provided with these commodities once a month, to one adult per family. BRLC does not discriminate for any reason. Information 704-826-8182. BRLC is located on Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department.

## BCSWCDBM is May 27

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27 at 10 a.m. at the BCSWCD office, located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro. For more information call 704-694-3516.

## Artist's Reception Featuring Lilesville Artists May 31

The Anson County Arts Council will feature Lilesville area artists at an artist's reception Sunday afternoon, May 31 at Welika Fish House in Lilesville, from 3 to 5 p.m. Local artists Catherine Neal, Beverly Freamer and Barbara Downer will feature pottery, jewelry and crafts. They will be joined by Lula Smith, a folk artist from Hamlet. There will be art for sale. Please come out and support your local artists and the Anson County Arts Council. This is a free event.

For more information call 704-694-4950.