THE EXPRESS • May 21, 2014 • Page 2 Enjoy this Remembering column from 2009

The Chamber of Commerce's Ansonian Adventures board games are on sale! Until May 30 you can purchase a game for only \$40! So if you missed your opportunity to get one for yourself, family member, friend or employees of the month, now is the perfect time to do so. These games make great gifts, keepsake items or to have for family game night. Lots of Ansonians have played the game and loved it. They really have had a lot fun with their family and friends!

When you purchase a game you're not only getting a unique one of a kind fun collectable game, but you're also giving support to the Chamber so they can continue to support our county, businesses and citizens. You may purchase a game at any of the following businesses: Anson County Chamber of Com-

merce, Forbes Jewelers, Uwharrie Bank, Turner & Tyson Accountants, PNC Bank, H.W. Little and Salon 52. There are a limited number of the games avail-

able so get your game today! For more information call the Chamber at 704-694-4181.

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#### **Meeting of Classes of 1968, 69 & 70**

All 1968, 1969, 1970 Class Bowman Reunion Planning Committee Members are asked to be present at the Saturday, June 14th meeting, 2 p.m., Lady Bug Restaurant. We are getting down to the wire and need to begin finalization of our plans. The response by our classmates has been

#### **Wadesboro Fire Hydrant Adoption**

The Wadesboro Fire Department is seeking community partnerships to beautify uptown Wadesboro through its Fire Hydrant Adoption Program. Individuals or groups can use their creative skills to decorate uptown fire hydrants. Applications are available at Town Hall, Wadesboro Fire Department, or online at www.cityofwadesboro.org.

"Residents can display community pride and creativity by painting the hydrant, but also can help the Fire Department save lives by keeping it free from debris," said Wadesboro Firefighter Marc Sessions.

The program is a result of a partnership between Anson New Tech High School and the town. "All the credit goes to the talented group of Anson New Tech students who proposed the idea and to the town council for being willing to try new things and embrace Wadesboro's creative side,' said Wadesboro Town Manager Alex Sewell.



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Remembering.....

By Ed McBride



## West Knitting Corp.

that I lettered for West Knitting Corp. on August 29, 1974 - at a time when they were doing a fantastic business. There were many people who worked there - some had been there quite a few years.

During the years that followed there were many changes in the textile manufacturing business. Not only has West Knitting closed, but Little Cotton Mfg., Wansona, Abbey Mfg., etc. All of them made a mark in Anson County's textile business certainly not favorable at closing!!

Anson County was for many years known as "King Cotton," with

The above truck #10 was one many hundred acres of cotton grown here. Numerous cotton gins served throughout the county and there were cotton lots with buyers on hand to buy "your cotton." Even as a boy I can remember some of the farmers taking their cotton to town on a "two-horse wagon" to sell and many fields white with cotton this time of year.

Uncle Mack Ballard had the first farm tractor that I can remember - a Fordson with all steel wheels (no rubber tires), and you can imagine how the soil was packed by those wheels while "trying to cultivate" a crop.

- Oh well - time progresses and "we" move on!!

### Free Kids' Fishing Events Scheduled for National Fishing and Boating Week 2014

More than 30 free kids' fishing events across North Carolina are scheduled from mid-May through mid-June in celebration of National Fishing and Boating Week. Near Anson County, events will be held in Stanly and Richmond Counties. The Commission has a list of events posted on its website, www.ncwildlife.org. People interested in attending an event should check the list frequently as more events are added.

Young anglers registered at any fishing event can enter a statewide drawing for a chance to win one of more than 150 fishing-related prizes. The grand prize is a lifetime sportsman license, which includes freshwater and saltwater fishing privileges, as well as hunting privileges, donated by Neuse Sport Shop, located in Kinston. The first prize is a lifetime freshwater fishing license, donated by the NC State Council of Trout Unlimited. Neuse Sport Shop also is donating tackle boxes, rod-and-reel combos and spools of fishing line, while the Wildlife Commission is donating prizes, such as fishing towels, playing cards and mini-tackle boxes. Local sponsors for many events will provide prizes and gifts to registered participants as well.

The Wildlife Commission will conduct the drawing for prizes at the end of June and will

publish a list of winners on its website, www.ncwildlife.org, in early July. To give kids a better chance of catching fish, the Wildlife Commission is stocking fish at many of these sites before the events - from trout in the mountains to channel catfish and bluegill in Piedmont and coastal public waters.

For more information about National Fishing and Boating Week 2104, visit the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation's website, www.takemefishing.org. For more information on fishing in public, inland waters, visit www.ncwildlife.org/fishing.

• Stanly County Event - City Lake Park in Albemarle, June 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Register by calling 704-984-9567

 Richmond County Event - McKinney Lake Fish Hatchery in Rockingham, June 14, 8 a.m. to noon. Register by calling 910-895-5330

## **Reed Gold Mine Pan-O-Lympics**

On Saturday, June 14 Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site will be hosting the 2014 Pan-O-Lympics, also known as the 25th Annual North Carolina Open Gold Panning Competition. This competition will unite experienced gold panners with novices looking for adventure as each attempts to win prizes in this speed panning event.

The competition is held alongside the historic Little Meadow Creek, location of the first documented discovery of gold in the United States. Competitors will be issued 14-inch Garret Gravity Trap pans containing sand and 4 pea-sized lead nuggets. They must remove as much sand as possible, leaving all four nuggets, in the fastest time possible. Penalty time is awarded for missing nuggets. The top three contestants with the quickest time will be awarded trophies and prizes.

Each division, Pro and Amateur, will have adult and junior (14 and under) categories. Entry fees for the Pro category are \$15 for adults and \$10 for juniors. The Amateur category fees are \$10 for adults and \$5 for juniors. Pros are considered contestants who have competed during the previous two years. Fees can be paid in advance or day of the event. All contestants will have a chance to practice before the competition begins. The Pro competition will be held from 11 p.m. - 12 p.m. and the Amateur from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

All proceeds from the Pan-O-Lympics benefit the Reed Expansion Committee, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site and North

Carolina's gold mining history.

Along with the competition, Reed will also be offering free activities, including the orientation film and visitor center exhibits, guided underground tours, and demonstrating the 1895 stamp mill. Panning tickets will be available for \$2 for everyone 8 and older during the event.

Come on out and try your luck at finding gold today! For more information, please call (919) 807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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For More Information Call Lucille Gaddy at 704-475-3371 (Call now for pre-registration) Or Email: Lucille1236@yahoo.com