

Wadesboro Primary School Celebrates Their Nutrition Staff

In a release from Wadesboro Primary School: The child nutrition staff of Wadesboro Primary are simply the best! They prepare nutritious breakfast, morning snack, and lunch for

The kindergarten classes prepared a bulletin board to celebrate Child Nutrition Week. Pictured staff members are Judy Powell, Kay Thomas, Shelia Wright, Sue Watkins, Jennifer Barber, Flora Maske and James West surrounded by some of our WPS kindergarten students.

From Rep. Frank McGuirt: The short session of the Legislative Update General Assembly started this week with a few major bills already starting to move through committees. The floor sessions will remain largely uneventful until the committee work is complete and the bills can be referred to the full body.

Our appropriations committees are also reviewing the governor's budget proposal, but the majority party has already indicated that it has no interest in her plans. As I shared last week, her proposal contains a number of important pieces, particularly when it comes to job creation and education, and I am disappointed there has been no effort to work more closely with her across party lines to make these initiatives law.

I have joined some of my colleagues to support plans to boost our economy and to give our schools and universities the support they deserve. I have also filed a bill, at the request of the Anson County Commissioners, to assist with a newly planned Agri-Civic Center. Senator William Purcell has filed a companion bill in the Senate. The facility would have a 1,000 person capacity auditorium with an additional 22,000 square feet to be used for office space and to house all of the County's agriculture agencies under one roof. It also provides adequate space for meetings and conferences. Anson ranks 22nd statewide in agriculturally based income.

Also I have filed a bill to address inadequacies in the current law regarding the incapacity of certainly mentally limited persons charged with criminal offenses. The intent of the bill is to provide adequate protection for the public and humane treatment of the accused until the courts can take appropriate action.

I will also be working with other members of the Union County delegation to get approval for alternative construction methods for a human services facility and a new sheriff's complex.

Below are some of the bills that are already seeing action this weeks

 \bullet Victims of North Carolina's eugenics program would each receive \$50,000 in compensation under a bill filed this week. The legislation (HB 947) would make the state the first to compensate people who were forcibly sterilized and lost their ability to have children. The governor's budget included \$10 million for the program. The initiative has bipartisan sponsorship and is expected to be part of this year's budget.

 The state's only casino could add live-dealer card games under a bill that has passed the Senate. The legislation (SB 582) reflects the contents of a gambling compact between the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Gov. Beverly Perdue. It would allow live-dealer gambling for card games such as poker and blackjack at the tribe's casino. The state would receive a share of revenue from the new games. Opponents of the plan say that it will give the state a stronger interest in the profitability of gambling, since it will benefit from it financially. They also worry about an increase in social problems related to gambling. The bill now goes to the House.

 Anti-annexation supporters have passed legislation to limit the ability of cities to grow. One bill (HB 925) requires cities to hold a referendum election limited to the registered voters in the area to be annexed. The referendum would need to pass with 50 percent of the vote. The previous law required 60 percent of the voters to reject the proposed annexation. Another piece of legislation (HB 5), stops ongoing annexation in nine municipalities that sued the state over the new annexation laws last year. The bill also puts a 12-year moratorium on attempts to annex the areas in question. Municipalities say the bill is overreaching and an attempt to punish them for supporting the lawsuit

• A judge has blocked a state law that would have prevented members of the North Carolina Association of Educators from having their dues automatically deducted from their paychecks. Wake County Superior Court Judge Paul Gessner ruled the teacher's association would suffer irreparable harm if the law was enforced and said that NCAE is likely to win its ongoing lawsuit. The law was passed January 5 during a hastily called midnight session.

I hope you will contact me if you have questions or if I can be of service in any way 919-715-3007, Frank, McGuirt@ncleg.net





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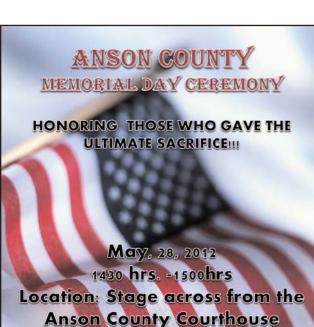


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