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Town of Wadesboro Wins Region of Excellence Award

The Town of Wadesboro has won the Region of Excellence Award for the Greater Charlotte Region in the category of "Controlling the Cost of Government" for its renovated Wadesboro Police Department project. Centralina Council of Governments bestows the award annually on a local government that has been "creative in implementing a new or innovative program or initiative that is effective and delivers the most value with public funds." A panel of impartial judges reviewed the nominees and selected the Town of Wadesboro as its top choice.

Mayor Bill Thacker accepted the award for the Town. Mayor Thacker commented, "It's an honor to accept this award for our community. The Town's goal is not to gain recognition, but to serve our citizens. Still, it's always encouraging to know we're on the right track. A big thank you to all Town employees who helped make this possible."

The award ceremony guide indicated that the Town faced an initial estimated \$2.2 million price tag for a new police station. In being creative, the Town established a new police station by purchasing a building in its Uptown area and renovating it for approximately \$355,000.

In December 2016 Wadesboro Police moved into its new home without any debt. The Town accomplished this through an innovative mixture of community donations, cost savings through Town staff doing work such as police painting and utility staff doing plumbing work, federal seized asset funds, and Town reserves.



Wadesboro Town Manager Alex Sewell stated, "This was truly a community-wide effort. Thank you to the Town Council for being willing to think outside the box, our Town staff for doing so much great work, our Police Department led by Chief Spencer for doing whatever it took to make this project a reality, and our amazing community for being so supportive."

Police Chief Thedis Spencer commented, "It's an honor to win such an award, and I'd like to thank the citizens, police officers, and other employees for their support and patience."

This is National Safe Boating Week

To encourage safe recreational boating experiences, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission has joined with the National Safe Boating Council to promote National Safe Boating Week on May 20-26. (www.safeboatingcampaign.com)

The Commission recommends these boating safety tips:

- Do not operate a boat while impaired by alcohol or drugs, and do not maneuver the vessel in a reckless manner.
- Follow all navigational rules while underway.
- Wear a personal flotation device, better known as a life jacket, while on the water.

"Wearing a life jacket is absolutely essential," said Maj. Chris Huebner of the Wildlife Resources Commission. "The seconds that it takes to put on a life jacket could mean the difference between life and death in the event of an accident."

The Commission's new Preserve Your Life campaign aims to help raise awareness of the benefits of life jacket use. Throughout the boating season, wildlife officers will hand out coupons that can be redeemed for discounts on life jackets at selected retailers. Participating retailers include Overton's, Bass Pro Shops, Cabela's, Great Outdoor Provision Co., Chatlee Marine and REI (Cary and Durham locations only).

As in years past, wildlife officers will offer pre-launch courtesy inspections at various public access areas throughout the summer. Boaters can conduct their own pre-launch checks by reviewing the checklist and Vessel Operator's Guide at www.ncwildlife.org/boating.

State regulation requires anyone born on or after January 1, 1988 operating a vessel powered by a 10 horsepower or greater motor to have completed an approved boating safety education course or otherwise be in compliance. The Commission offers free boating safety courses throughout the year. For more information, call 919-707-0030 or visit www.ncwildlife.org/boating.

Medicare Seminar for those New to Medicare

Also, information on the Extra Help subsidy for prescription drugs for those with limited incomes

A 'Welcome to Medicare' and Extra Help Low Income Subsidy seminar will be held at Grace Senior Center on Tuesday, June 20, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. People who are new to Medicare will be able to receive vital information about coverage and delivery options, including supplemental health insurance.

Medicare beneficiaries who have limited incomes and assets may be eligible for Extra Help to pay for their prescription drugs. The federal Low Income Subsidy (LIS) program, also known as Extra Help, assists qualified Medicare beneficiaries with out of pocket expenses associated with Medicare Part D prescription drugs.

Those individuals on the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Medicare Part D) will receive vital information as to their eligibility for a reduction in the cost of their monthly premium and the cost of their drugs.

If you are interested in attending call Grace Senior Center at 704-694-6616 to register and for additional information.



The Heavenly Lounge 2017 Dinner Theater Play and All White Affair

The Heavenly Lounge is returning to the stage once again on Saturday, June 3 at the Anson County Community Event Center, located behind Dollar General Store off Highway 74 in Wadesboro. The event starts at 7:00 p.m.

The Heavenly Lounge play is written, produced and directed by Lucille Gaddy. First she gave you the play *Getting Pass Ugly*, and now it's time for a piece of heaven on earth. *The Heavenly Lounge* is being presented as a dinner theater. Dinner will be served from 7 to 7:55 p.m. and then it's show time at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

Lucille Gaddy said, "We have added new characters and great talent to the show. It features Joan Waring, Zell Sturdivant, Ida Cason, Minister Timothy Marshall, Joyce Little, Joshua Polk, Aliyah McNair, Minister Jackie Sturdivant, Brenda Lloyd and me, Lucille Gaddy. Also, Debra F. Watts is one of singers for the show, and other talent is coming soon!"

During dinner time and after there will be pictures taken by Archey Drye of Albemarle. All pictures cost \$10 and are printed on the spot. Music will be provided by Vurmile McCall of Badin, NC. Food will be provided by Little Jerusalem of Locust, NC.

Get your tickets at the following places: Awesome Touch Beauty Salon, Trendz Settaz and Hair Infinity in Lilesville. All actors in the show have tickets also. For More Information call Lucille Gaddy at (704) 984-3308 or email Lucille1236@yahoo.com.

Labor Department Recognizes Anson County Businesses

The N.C. Department of Labor honored area employers and employees at the agency's annual safety awards banquet on Monday, May 16. Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry was the speaker at the banquet, and she presented the awards. The evening banquet, which took place at Oliver's Restaurant in uptown Wadesboro, was co-sponsored by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce.

The awards honor outstanding on-the-job safety achievements of each employer during 2016. Recipients are based in Burlington, Charlotte, Cordova, Lilesville, Peachland, Greensboro, Rockingham, Polkton, Eagle Springs, Marston, Winston-Salem, Troy and Wadesboro.

"It's an honor for me to travel throughout North Carolina and recognize these employers who are making a commitment to their employees' safety and health," Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry said. "Over the past 16 years North Carolina has experienced a declining injury and illness rate, which now rests at an all-time historical low of 2.6 per 100 full-time workers for private industry. These employers are helping to make our state's workplaces some of the safest in the country."

Anson County recipients include:

- **Silver Awards** Criteria: Rate of days away from work must be at least 50% below the industry average. First Year - **Carolinas Healthcare System, Anson**

- **Gold Awards** Criteria: Rate of Days Away From Work, Job Transfer Or Restriction Must Be At Least 50% Below The Industry Average. Third Consecutive Year - **Allen's Professional Investigations, Inc.** 15th Consecutive Year - **N.C. Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Solutions, NC Works Career Center Anson.** 19th Consecutive Year - **Hildreth Wood Products, Inc.**

The local recipients have met the stringent requirements necessary to receive a safety award. Under program rules, companies must have been free of fatal accidents at the site for which the award is given to be eligible. The gold award criteria are based on a DART rate that is at least 50 percent below the statewide rate for its industry. The rate includes cases of days away from work, restricted activity or job transfer. The silver award is based only on cases with days away from work. They are recorded when the worker misses at least one full day of work, not including the day of the injury. The applicant must attain an incidence rate for cases with days away from work that is at least 50 percent below the rate for its industry.

More information on the Labor Department's Safety Awards Program is available by calling 919-807-2908 or emailing Eursula Joyner at eursula.joyner@labor.nc.gov.

Memorial Day Event is Friday at the Courthouse

Memorial Day, which is observed on the last Monday of May, commemorates the men and women who died while in the military service. In observance of the holiday, many people visit cemeteries and memorials, and volunteers often place American flags on each gravesite at national cemeteries. A national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time.

You are invited to be a part of a Laying of the Wreath in honor of our fallen heroes this Friday, May 26 at 11 a.m. in front of the Anson County Courthouse. There will be no Memorial Day events in Wadesboro on Monday, May 29.

Free Dental Clinic at Deep Creek Baptist Church

Deep Creek Baptist Church will hold a free dental clinic on Friday, June 9 in the church fellowship hall. This service will be available to anyone who does not have dental insurance or Medicaid and needs their teeth cleaned, filled or pulled. Each participant will be asked to pay \$7 if possible to help with expenses.

If you would like to have this service, please make an appointment by calling Sandra Ketchie at 704-694-6865. If there is no answer, please leave a message and she will call you back.

Help the Girl Scouts Help Anson County

Written by Jessica Laney, a Junior in Girl Scout Troop 1389: Girl Scout Troop 1389 is collecting personal hygiene items for Anson Crisis Ministry. The scouts are accepting donations on Tuesday, May 30, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Anson Station Shopping Center on East Caswell Street in Wadesboro. Anson Station is where Tractor Supply and Food Lion are located.

Items that are needed include toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, dental rinse, combs/brushes, shampoo, conditioner, lotion and deodorant.

Anson Crisis Ministry provides common needs for families who suffer from lack of supplies. The troop spent some of their time there in February helping to sort food and learned about the organization. One necessity that is not brought there often is toiletries.

Help the Girl Scouts, assist the community!



Girl Scout Troop 1389 sorting food at Anson Crisis Ministry in February 2017.

Memorial Day Holiday Schedule for Wadesboro

The Wadesboro Town Hall will be closed on Monday, May 29 for the Memorial Day Holiday. There will be no garbage pickup on Monday. Monday's route will be picked up on Tuesday, May 30. Tuesday's route will be picked up on Wednesday, May 31. Wednesday's route will be picked up Thursday, June 1, and Thursday's route will be picked up on Friday, June 2.

The normal collection schedule will resume on Monday, June 5. If you have any questions, please call Wadesboro Town Hall at 704-694-5171.

Special Meeting of Wadesboro Town Council on May 31

A special meeting of the Town of Wadesboro Town Council has been set for Wednesday, May 31 at 5 p.m. to discuss the following:

- Presentation of Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget to Council
- Set date for public hearing

The meeting will be held in the Town of Wadesboro Conference Room.

Zimmer Friends Will Meet Friday, June 2

All former employees and family of employees of Zimmer are invited to join in for the fellowship at the biannual meeting of the Zimmer Friends on Friday, June 2. This will be a lunch gathering at Bojangles Restaurant in Wadesboro at 1 p.m.

For more information call 704-694-4213.

Bingo at Grace Senior Center

Bingo games are held every third Tuesday of the month at Grace Senior Center at 1 p.m. All seniors are invited to attend for fun and fellowship. There is not cost, but you must be 55 or older to play.

For more information or to register to play call the center at 704-694-6616.