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

Sen. McLaurin Comments on Fracking

“With fracking, clean drinking water should be top priority.”

Senator Gene McLaurin voted No on Senate Bill 786 last week. It is a bill to lift the moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in NC. In effect, the bill lifts the moratorium before the state legislature reviews and adopts rules and regulations. Senator McLaurin tried to amend the bill to allow local cities and counties to weigh in on land use planning, transportation needs, and public health issues, but the amendment failed 16-30. Senator McLaurin who represents Anson, Scotland, Stanly, Richmond, and part of Rowan Counties has heard from many citizens across the district. One common theme has been - 'If we are going to proceed with hydraulic fracturing in NC, then take your time, and get this right.'

Anson County Commissioners passed a local resolution in 2013 implementing a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing for the next five years. This bill prohibits local governments from banning or restricting fracking, thus limiting their ability to protect residents from the impacts of fracking in any way. Senator McLaurin said, “We should be reaching out to our local communities to determine their needs and concerns, to determine the unique impact on that particular community. Instead, this bill prohibits their input.”

He went on to say, “Property rights are not adequately addressed. Under this bill, companies can extract natural gas from your land if a majority of your neighbors approve it.”

Senator McLaurin said, “Our work is not done. Without knowing what these rules will look like, I could not support the bill. We have the opportunity to put the right safeguards in place – to protect the public, our drinking water, our landowners, and to be good stewards of the earth. The bottom line is that I want my grandchildren to grow up with clean drinking water. I want that for everyone in NC. I've spent my entire career in the energy industry and I believe that hydraulic fracturing can help create jobs and move us towards energy independence. But I'm not willing to risk our drinking water or move forward irresponsibly until proper safeguards are put in place.”



Anson Early College Students to Visit New York City

These Anson County Early College rising fifth year students are very excited to be headed to the Big Apple. While visiting New York City the students will tour the Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty, American Museum of Natural History, Ground Zero and Central Park. The students would like to thank W. Cliff Martin, Jr. for the generous contribution which made the once in a lifetime trip possible.

Pictured from left are Jacob King, Lindsay Haire, Amber Morton, Boanhia Vang, Tracey Brewer, Cliff Martin and Colton Snodgrass.

Anson High School 2014 Scholarship Winners Announced

Anson High School students who exemplified high standards in academics, citizenship and community service have been rewarded with scholarships to the college or university of their choice. Congratulations to the following recipients:

A.C.T.S./Woodlawn/J.R. Faison Scholarship - Deja Simmons (\$500) • Anson County Democratic Party Scholarship - Malikka Sturdivant • Anson County Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship - Sharon Hales, (\$500) • Anson County Unit NC Retired School Personnel Scholarship - D'Angelo Gatewood (\$500) • Anson Women's League-Eloise Rywak Scholarship - Rebeckah Pace (\$500) • Farm Bureau Scholarship - Krystal Tillman (\$1,000) • Florence Kidder Memorial Scholarship - D'Angelo Gatewood (\$250) • Foundation for the Carolinas-Mary & Millard Kiker Scholarship - Scott Kendall and D'Angelo Gatewood (\$1,000 renewable for 3 years) • H.P. Taylor, Jr. and Elizabeth Taylor Scholarship - Ashton Harward (\$2,000 renewable for 3 years) • HOLLA/MR Bell Excellence in Achievement Scholarship - D'Angelo Gatewood (\$500) • Jeff Johnson Christian Athlete Scholarship - Cassidy Johnson (\$1,000) • Jeff Johnson Scholastic Scholarship - Cassidy Johnson (\$1,000) • John Goins Memorial Scholarship - Rebeckah Pace (\$500), Krystal Tillman (\$500) and D'Angelo Gatewood (\$500) • Mary Beth Lear Scholarship - Miranda Paul (\$500) • Morven Chapter of Las Amigas Scholarship - Rebeckah Pace (\$500), Krystal Tillman (\$500) and D'Angelo Gatewood (\$500) • National Association of University Women Scholarship - D'Angelo Gatewood (\$500), Jolanda Kendall (\$500) and Louquacious Moses (\$500) • Pee Dee Electric Scholarship - Miranda Paul (\$1,000) • State Employees Credit Union “People Helping People” Scholarship - Cassidy Johnson (\$10,000 over 4 years) • Wadesboro Civitan Club Scholarship - D'Angelo Gatewood (\$1,000) and Krystal Tillman (\$1,000) • Wadesboro Rotary Club Scholarships - Rebeckah Pace (\$1,500), Thomas Edwards (\$1,500), Sharon Hales (\$1,000), D'Angelo Gatewood (\$1,000), Scott Kendall (\$1,000), Krystal Tillman, (\$750) and Cassidy Johnson (\$750) • William Hall Scholarship - D'Angelo Gatewood (\$500) • Wingate University Scholarships - Miranda Paul (\$14,000/year), Natalie Smith (\$13,000/year), Allison Cameron (\$13,000/year) • Winston-Salem State University Scholarship - Kristen Little (\$1,000) • Woodmen of the World Scholarship - Rebeckah Pace (\$500) and Abbey Hutchinson (\$500) • Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Scholarship - Rebeckah Pace (\$500).

Powerful Tools for Caregivers Class

A family caregiver is someone who helps a relative or friend with the things that he/she can no longer do because of an illness or have become frail. Most caregiving experiences start with taking them to the doctor or grocery store and gradually increases to doing housework, preparing meals and assistance with bathing and dressing. In most situations the care continues and as time goes by more and more of your time will be needed. Often caregivers neglect themselves while providing compassionate comfort and support for a loved one. Many studies have shown caregivers are twice as likely to develop a chronic illness due to the prolonged stress.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a free educational series designed to provide the Caregiver with the tools needed to take care of themselves so they can continue to provide good quality care.

Classes consist of six 90 minute sessions held once a week. Lisa Ledford and Rita Short co-lead the series and both are experienced caregivers themselves, who have successfully applied the techniques they teach. Interactive lessons, discussions and brainstorming will help you take the “tools” you choose and put them into action.

Classes will be held at the Liberty HomeCare and Hospice office located at 119 West Wade Street in Wadesboro. Sessions will be held each Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. beginning on Monday June 9 and ending on Monday July 14.

For more information or to register contact Rita Short at 704-694-6217 or Lisa Ledford at 704-694-5992. Powerful Tools for Caregivers is provided by the Anson County Council on Aging and Liberty HomeCare and Hospice.

Electronics Recycling Drive is Saturday

Cub Scout Pack 530 will hold an electronics recycling drive on Saturday, May 31 at Peachland United Methodist Church from 9 a.m. to noon. They will accept anything that charges up or plugs in...including computers, phones, monitors, vcr and dvd players, small appliances, white goods, tvs, inkjet and toner cartridges and more. A certificate of destruction will be provided to ensure that your data is safe.

In their effort to help keep Anson County clean and green the scouts will also arrange pick up of large appliances and televisions.

For more information please call Laura Laney at 704-994-9173.



Anson High School Hosts Athletic Banquet

On Thursday, May 15 Athletic Director Terry Mabry hosted the Anson High School Athletic Banquet. Some very prestigious trophies were awarded to very deserving young student athletes.

Scott Kendall and Kristen Emrich received the Newkirk Award. Allen Campbell and Elizabeth McRay received the Lightning Gaddy Award. Will Smith and Rebeckah Pace received the Coaches Award. And, D'Angelo Gatewood and Rebeckah Pace received the Highest GPA Award. Congratulations to each of these scholar athletes.

Scott Kendall is shown here as he proudly displays his Newkirk trophy at last Thursday's Athletic Banquet.

Bertha Watkins Came Out to Vote!

104 year old Bertha Watkins of Ansonville believes in the Democratic process of voting, and surely wasn't going to let her age slow her down from exercising her important right. She came out to vote during the Primary Election.

Pictured here with Scott Howell, Bertha said, “I don't want to curbside vote, I want to go in and vote in the booth!”

To the delight of those who were present, she stayed around for a little while after voting to talk to other voters and candidates.



Mobile Food Pantry on June 4 Offering Free Food

The local United Methodist Churches and Anson Crisis Ministry will sponsor the Mobile Food Pantry distribution on Wednesday, June 4th at 11 a.m. at Lilesville United Methodist Church, located at 312 West Wall Street in Lilesville.

Do not arrive before 9:30 am. You will need to bring proof of income and a box, cart or bags for your food. You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household. If it is raining the day of or the day before the delivery, it will be cancelled.

Two Women's League Raffles at Once!

The Anson Women's League (AWL) is sponsoring two raffles to raise funds for scholarships and other projects that help our community:

- 1) Quilt Raffle: A beautiful handmade quilt by Cynthia Little. Raffle tickets are \$1 each.
- 2) Tin Pan Anson Raffle: A huge washtub full of items and products mostly made or created here in Anson County. There are works of art, pottery, variety of food products pizza, cakes by Maureen Lett, Soowet Treats goodies, hair products from several local salons, jewelry, wine from Southern Medley, gift certificates from several local merchants and restaurants, books published by Anson County authors, and much, much more!

Raffle tickets are \$5 each for this bounty of gifts worth well over \$1,000!

You are also invited to contribute items to this raffle! These great items will give you a lot of pleasure plus provide gifts for family and friends.

The Tin Pan Raffle bounty is on display now at Buff Monkey but will move to the Chamber of Commerce, Lacy's and Jeff Capell's salon over the next couple of weeks.

Contact any AWL member to purchase raffle tickets!

The winners will be selected on June 10 at the AWL evening meeting at Twin Valley Country Club. The public is invited to come celebrate, enjoy a delicious cooked to order steak dinner with all the trimmings, appetizers and wine at the social before dinner. Tickets to the dinner are \$15.50 each.

You must make reservations immediately as the food is ordered in advance.

Call Beth Rogers, (704) 695-2010 to purchase a ticket and place your steak order. Advance reservations and payment are required.

Tony King will entertain at this gala following the dinner. Come and enjoy a delightful steak dinner with great entertainment. You can sing along with Tony or just listen to his terrific tenor voice! The AWL will announce the winners of both raffles at that meeting.



Postal Carriers Thank Ansonians for Help with Food Drive

The National Association of Letter Carriers and the Wadesboro post office would like to thank all who participated in our annual "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive. We were able to donate 4,365 lbs of nonperishable food items to the Anson County Crisis Ministries. These donations will help those in need during the summer months when donations are down.

We would also like to thank the volunteers from Anson County Crisis Ministries, Papa Joe's, Food Lion and Bojangles for their donations for helping to feed our workers and volunteers. And a very special thank you to The Express Newspaper for helping us to circulate the news of our food drive.

Golf Tournament is this Weekend

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church of Wadesboro is sponsoring their W. W. Williams Memorial Golf Tournament this Saturday, May 31 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Funds from the tournament are used for a college scholarship that is available to students working on their undergraduate degree at an accredited college in North or South Carolina.

The tournament will take place at the Green River Country Club, located at 714 Country Club Road in Chesterfield. For more information call 704-694-4720 or visit www.embclive.net.

Zimmer Friends to Meet June 6

Everyone is invited to the Zimmer Friends meeting that will be held on Friday, June 6. It will take place at Bojangles Restaurant at 6 p.m.

Grace Senior Center Trip to Atlantic City

In a release from the Grace Senior Center: Grace Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to Atlantic City, New Jersey, scheduled for August 6 to 8. Package includes two nights lodging at the Resorts Casino Hotel, \$25 Slot Bonus, 2 buffet dinners, casino show if available, leisure time on Atlantic City Boardwalk, souvenir gift, luggage handling, taxes, meal gratuities and motorcoach transportation.

Cost of trip is \$300 per person with double occupancy, \$474 single. They are now taking deposits for the trip. A deposit of \$40 is due by May 28. The deadline to pay for the trip is July 11. Persons interested should call Grace Center at 704-694-6616 to register or for more information.

The Express is on the web at www.TheExpressNewspaper.com

Grace Senior Center Picnic in the Park is Friday

The annual Picnic in the Park hosted by Grace Senior Center will be held on Friday, May 30 at the Little Park picnic shelter beginning at 11 a.m. If you are interested in attending or would like more information please call to register 704-694-6616.