



### Anson County Cheerleader Squads Compete in State Competition

This is a release from Shannon Spencer Pickett, Carolina Hope Athletic and Cheer Director:

On June 9, 14 young ladies on two Anson County squads - KEA - traveled to Campbell University and competed in the State Competition with cheerleaders from Tennessee, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Xtreme Intensity, our national winners from last year have remained undefeated since 2023. They won the State competition this year and worked extremely hard. The newly formed Xtreme Starz squad won second place

and they also will be traveling to Nationals. We look forward to two teams bringing home the National Titles in Cheerleading this year.

The squads consist of Kamryn Harrington, LaVayah Harvey, Ayanna Fisher, Kayden Edwards, Chacoya Bivens, Destinii Tanner, Komoria Chambers, Jaydah Hardin, Karisma Bell, and Jocelyn Parker on Xtreme Intensity. Xtreme Starz is made up of Saleeyah Crowder, Kamryn Harrington, Jocelyn Parker, Karisma Bell, Legacy Mungo-Taylor, LaVayah Harvey, TyAsia Johnson, and Rain Ashcroft.

### Affordable Health Screenings Coming to Wadesboro

Residents living in and around Wadesboro can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. First United Methodist Church will host this community event on Monday, July 15. The church is located at 118 East Morgan Street in Wadesboro.

#### Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque buildup in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health.
- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels
- Diabetes risk
- Kidney and thyroid function, and more

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available. Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit: [lifelinescreening.com](http://lifelinescreening.com). Pre-registration is required.

### Wadesboro Lions Club Welcomes New Members

The Wadesboro Lions Club meets at the Papa Joe's Restaurant the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For more information about these meetings or becoming a member, please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.

### Kevin Gathings Competes in Statewide Equipment Safety Training Conference

More than 100 state highway workers across North Carolina showcased their excellent driving skills using heavy equipment in Raleigh last week. Among them was Kevin Gathings from Anson County, which is in NCDOT Division 10.

They participated in the Statewide Equipment Training Conference at the N.C. State Fairgrounds for the N.C. Department of Transportation. The employees work in all 14 divisions across the state. They won the right to compete in this week's training conference by competing and winning in their local division.

They maneuvered large trucks and other equipment such as motor graders and a crane, through several obstacle courses that required careful precision. One of the competitions involved an operator who manipulated the arm and boom of a backhoe tractor to drop golf balls into a tube.

The event - informally known as a "roadeo" - gives NCDOT employees the opportunity to train in a safe, controlled environment away from public traffic. They also compete with one another based on how they score doing each event.

The NCDOT employees who competed are assigned to maintenance, bridge, equipment and traffic services. Below are the winners who will compete in the final competition against other department of transportation employees across the Southeastern U.S. in September here in Raleigh:

- Tractor Truck with Lowboy Trailer: Glen Cannon (Div. 6) and Peyton Rose (Div. 13)
- Tandem Axle Dump Truck: Steve Lovelace (Div. 13) and Will Davidson (Div. 10)
- Tractor with Mower: Jason Dobbins (Div. 13) and Donald Wooten (Div. 4)
- Backhoe: Johnathon White (Div. 6) and Dustin Johnson (Div. 3)
- Motor Grader: Justin Wyatt (Div. 11) and Chris Mecimore (Div. 12)
- Skid Steer: Austin Brown (Div. 3) and Kevin Gathings (Div. 10)
- Single Axle Dump Truck: Patrick Russel (Div. 13) and Bobby Sanders (Div. 14)
- Crane: Kevin Gathings (Div.10) and Chris Baldwin (Div. 7)

### New Pavement Method Expected to Reduce Hydroplaning

Some sections of pavement will soon look different on Interstate 40 in Johnston County for a good reason.

The N.C. Department of Transportation and university research partners are developing new methods and practices to enhance skid resistance along our highways. One of the strategies being evaluated is shotblasting the final pavement surface, generating more texture on the surface to allow for better drainage during wet weather events and enhancing frictional forces between the tire and pavement. Both benefits will work together to aid in the reduction of hydroplaning incidents.

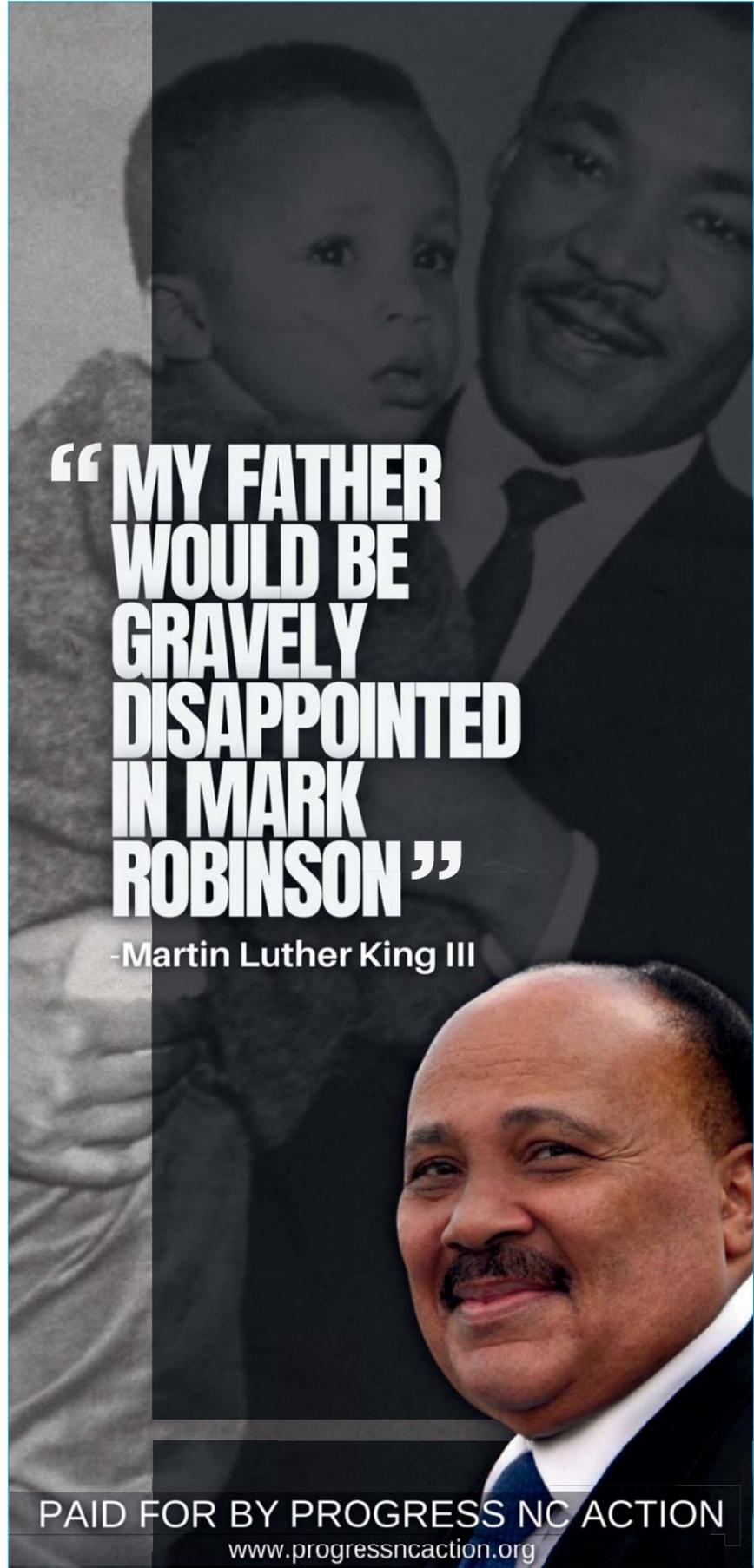
This method has been used on new pavement that is set to open to traffic within the next few weeks, at which time drivers can expect to see discoloration in the asphalt along the I-40 project between Southeast Raleigh and Clayton. The discoloration does not indicate problematic pavement. The shotblasting machine collects dust and contaminants during the process and does not use chemical products or wastewater.

Information concerning the timing of new pavement strategy will be update on [NCDOT.gov](http://NCDOT.gov) as soon as possible.

### Free Meals for North Carolina School Children this Summer

Find summer nutrition programs at: [www.dpi.nc.gov/summer-meals](http://www.dpi.nc.gov/summer-meals)

To learn more about summer nutrition programs and to find summer meal sites in your area, visit the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Summer Meals webpage, [www.dpi.nc.gov/summer-meals](http://www.dpi.nc.gov/summer-meals).



-Martin Luther King III

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