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Anson County Board of Commissioners Meets July 10

The next regular meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Monday, July 10 at 6 p.m. The meetings take place in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center which is located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro. To schedule an appearance at a board meeting, please sign up prior to the meeting. Information is available at 704-994-3201. The Commissioners' board meetings are live streamed on their YouTube channel. Also, the videos are archived so they can be viewed at any time. Visit youtube.com and search for Anson Commissioners.

N.C. State Lottery Commission Launches Sports Betting Web Page

A new sports betting Web page launched Friday as the N.C. State Lottery Commission begins planning and work to implement North Carolina's sports betting and horse race wagering law. The Web page, located at nclottery.com/sports-betting, provides initial information about the new law, and will share new information about licensing and regulation as it becomes available. The commission also has started a national search for an experienced senior leader in gaming and sports betting to develop, implement and manage North Carolina's sports betting and horse race wagering programs. "This Commission and the staff have been tasked with the enormous responsibility of licensing and regulating the newly enacted wagering activities while at the same time maintaining the quality work and highest standards of integrity with the Lottery," said Ripley Rand, chair of the commission. "Many people want to know when North Carolina will begin permitting legal sports betting. The Commission and staff take these responsibilities seriously and are committed to ensuring the job is done in a complete, professional, transparent, and timely manner. We will keep the public up to date about when these programs will launch." Under the new law, lawful wagering in North Carolina is to begin on or before June 14, 2024. Before accepting applications for potential sports betting operators and other potential licensees, the commission has key steps to take, including:

- Hiring the staff to develop and implement the program.
- Drafting and adopting rules and regulations to govern sports betting and horse racing wagering activities, including requirements to support responsible betting.
- Preparing applications and other forms for those seeking licenses.

No timetable outlining expected dates for application submissions and the granting of licenses is available at this time. No commission meetings regarding sports betting are scheduled at this time. The Web page also provides information on:

- How the state will use money raised from sports betting.
- The new law's requirements that sports betting operators will be expected to follow to support responsible betting.
- The date and time, when scheduled, of commission meetings on sports betting.

The Hazards of Feeding Wildlife

Many people enjoy feeding wildlife because it allows them to have close contact or because they believe they are helping the animals. While seeing wild animals up close can be enjoyable, providing wild animals with a steady, human-supplied food source nearly always leads to problems for both the animals and humans. **There are many good reasons not to feed wildlife:**

- Feeding increases the chance of disease transmission to wildlife, people and pets. When food is readily available, animals will gather in abnormally large numbers. By gathering animals together in unnatural groups, diseases can spread much more quickly.
- Feeding can create unintended conflicts with humans. Wild animals that are used to being fed by humans commonly lose their fear of people. Animals that are unafraid of people will approach them for food, and are sometimes mistaken as rabid, aggressive or mean, then killed for that behavior. An instinctive wariness of people is important to a wild animal's survival.
- Feeding can degrade surrounding native habitat. Wildlife habitat is negatively impacted when animals are unnaturally concentrated in areas where feeding occurs. Re- production rates may also be affected when an artificial food source is readily available. In the wild, the number of animals being born is often directly related to the amount of natural food available. The number of animals surviving will also depend on how much food is available. This is nature's way of keeping a balance.
- Feeding can lead to unhealthy animals and foraging habits. Animals who are raised relying on humans for food may struggle to survive in the absence of that food source when they disperse from their parents' territory. Additionally, wild animals need a variety of foods in their diet, if they fill up on human provided food they will not get the nutrients needed to stay healthy.

The best thing you can do to care for the wild animals on your property is to give them habitat, not handouts. Natuescaping is a great way to provide the animals with natural sources of food and shelter that will not put them in danger the way a human-provided food source will. You will still be able to enjoy wildlife on your property, but at a safe distance for both you and the animals. Visit wildlifefriendlylandscapes.ces.ncsu.edu.



WPS Students Enjoy Field Trip to the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge

Wadesboro Primary School second graders recently got to experience the magic of the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge. They had so much fun exploring and learning about nature. The students are said, "Thank you Anson County 4-H for making this happen!"

National Night Out is August 1

Sheriff Howell would like to welcome the public to attend the annual National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. This is a free event for the public to enjoy the night with your local law enforcement and emergency services personnel. Fun activities include bounce houses, face painting, a showcase of patrol cars, free food, free drinks and free snacks! Also, there will be a live DJ to keep things moving! Everyone is welcome. The event takes place across from the Sheriff's Office on North Washington and East Wade Streets.

Senior Citizen Day is July 11

In honor of Senior Citizens Day, seniors aged 55 and older who visit Grace Senior Center will receive two gifts on Tuesday, July 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, on the left just past IGA. For information call 704-694-6616.

Gatewood Brothers Coming Home Concert is July 10

The Hampton B. Allen Library is pleased to announce that the Gatewood Brothers will be our guests in a Coming Home Concert on Monday, July 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theater. The concert will feature gospel, light rhythm and blues selections. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the music.



Pictured above are, from left, front: Bertha Hardin, Sarah Dean, Letoria Gales and Marlene Richardson. Second row: Brenda B. Calliste, Jannie Liles, Lorri Bennett, Patricia Bennett and Thomasina Montgomery.

National Association of University Women Celebrates 50 Years

This is a release from the NAUW: On September 10, 1972, Mrs. Dorothy M. Huntley Capel of Wadesboro hosted a meeting of seventeen women to organize the Wadesboro Branch of the National Association of University Women (NAUW). Charter members were Mary Jane Bennett, Mollie Caraway, Nora Cash, Wincie Clark, Lucile Crump, Mabel Foust, Mattie Gaddy, Bernice Hall, Pauline Ingram, Ida Mae Jones, Mae Frances Lindsey, Dora Marsh, Mary Morgan, Altheria Patton, Missouri Robinson and Katherine Torrence. Mrs. Huntley (Capel) was elected as the first president of the branch. The Wadesboro Branch began as a public service organization striving to improve education in Anson County by offering tutoring, sponsoring educational workshops, and offering scholarships to high school students. NAUW offered community awareness in health, international development, and efforts to strengthen the African American family. The NAUW-Wadesboro Branch has remained a very prominent organization and holds events to engage in community service. Today in 2023 the branch is still active. New members have joined to foster and carry on the programs along with community involvement for the next 50 years. Dr. Altheria Patton is the only charter member who is still living. She served as President 1980 -1982. Dr. Patton was named as Woman of the Year in 1986 and was very involved in the Southeast Sectional as well as the National Conferences. The branch celebrated their 50th year anniversary on May 13 with a gala event at the Twin Valley Country Club. The event hall decorum was gold and white highlighting the 50th year anniversary. The members and guests were dressed in all white attire. Each NAUW member presented in a long white gown with green and white wristlets. Guest speaker was Letoria Lewis-Gales, Southeast Sectional Director of National Association of University Women. Mrs. Gales is a member of the Smithfield Branch and was elected to serve as Southeast Sectional Director in September 2022. Members were recognized with trophies and plaques in recognition of the years of membership and leadership. The gala featured delicious food and drinks, live music and dancing. Music was offered by "Perfect Fit" band. The Town of Wadesboro City Manager David Edwards sent a letter of acknowledgement to the branch for their community achievement over the past 50 years. The branch also made an appearance at the May meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners to present a brief history of the Wadesboro Branch and its charter in 1972. The branch has continued its programs and services to the communities of Anson County. A resolution was written and presented at the 50th Gala. Anson County Board of Commissioners Chairman JD Bricken did a formal presentation and plaque to the branch members on June 5 in honor of their service to the county. The gala on May 13 was a special evening in the history of NAUW-Wadesboro Branch. It was a memorable event, forgetting not the past, but each branching reaching out in its own way. NAUW, oh how we love thy name; NAUW, may God touch with his hand. The NAUW Wadesboro Branch members are: Sarah Dean, President; Marlene Richardson, 1st Vice-President; Dr. Dionnya Pratt, 2nd Vice-President; Hester Spencer-Secretary; Lorri Bennett, Assistant Secretary; Bertha Hardin, Treasurer; Thomasina Montgomery, Financial Secretary; Patricia Bennett, Parliamentarian; Brenda Broadway-Calliste; Denise Cannon; Patricia McGregor-DeBerry; Jannie Liles; Claretta Little; Crystal McLendon; Dr. Altheria Patton; Janice Ratliff; Sherika Staton; Kellie W. Sturdivant; and Heather Watkins.