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THE EXPRESS • July 21, 2021 • Page 2 Stride with Pride Shoe Drive is Back for 11th Year

Parents need to contact organizers with needs. Donors asked to help area students.

This is a release from Stride with Pride organizers Sheriff Landric Reid and Patti Poulnott of Judy's Tax Service: As I know this pandemic is taking its toll on us all, we want the community to know Stride with Pride is still collecting new tennis shoes and money for the kids in the county. Even with the uncertainty of them returning to school in August, these kids will still need shoes to wear.

This is our 11th annual season of collecting and distributing new tennis shoes to the underprivileged youth of all diversities in Anson County. We will need all sizes, male and female, from kindergarten to 12th grade.

Message to parents Covid-19 has changed our world and forced us to do things much differently than we have in the past. Instead of having a large gathering to distribute the shoes as we have in the past, we plan to give out the shoes door to door. This will keep contact as little as possible. So, with that in mind, we need to stress the importance of parents contacting us in the next few weeks so that we can buy the shoe sizes that are needed. The quicker you can contact us, the quicker we can get the shoes to the kids.

As a reminder, we need you to either email or text Patti Poulnott or Sheriff Landric Reid with the shoe sizes, ages, and names of each child, along with your current address and contact phone number. That way we will have all the information to make the purchases and deliveries. If you do not contact us we will not know who needs new shoes. **Message to donors** We do this because we care about our kids here in our county, and hope that our donors will join with us and help us continue to help our youth. If you would like to make a donation please mail them to: Shaundasia T Smith Foundation, Stride With Pride Shoe Drive, c/o Judy's Tax Service, 102 S Rutherford Street, Wadesboro NC 28170.

We will be collecting and making deliveries through August 9.

- If you have any questions please contact Patti Poulnott or Landric Reid.
- Patti Poulnott Email: ppoulnott@carolina.rr.com or Text: 704-694-8386
- Landric Reid Email: trooperone@live.com or Text: 704-695-1371

We hope that you will consider joining us so that we can help our youth "Stride With Pride " their way to success.

N.C. License and Theft Bureau Wants to Help Motorists Prevent Auto Theft

In recognition of National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month, the N.C. License and Theft Bureau wants to help vehicle owners protect their vehicles and property.

Today's vehicle technology is more advanced, and thieves are smarter and more resourceful. If a thief can gain entry to your car, they have many ways to access wires or break the ignition to start the car and drive off with it. They can also use relay boxes to boost the radio frequency emitted by a key fob or smart key to access and drive off with vehicles.

The License and Theft Bureau would like vehicle owners to consider the following tips to deter vehicle thefts:

- Lock your car and take the keys or fob with you; Park in secure areas;
- Do not leave valuables in your car that may entice thieves;
- Invest in anti-theft devices, such as a car alarm, wheel lock or GPS tracking device; and

 Never leave your car running unattended, even during cold seasons, which is the most common time for auto thefts.

The Bureau encourages drivers and passengers to take precautions to protect their vehicles and vehicle contents from theft by using the Lock It or Lose It approach, said License & Theft Bureau Director Eric Copeland. "If the vehicle is locked and valuables are out of sight, you reduce your odds of being a crime statistic.

According to the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation "2019 Crime in N.C." report released in December 2020, there was a 3.9 percent increase in motor vehicle thefts between 2018 and 2019. Data from the Insurance Information Institute indicates a national 26-year decline in motor vehicle thefts up to 2019, but these types of crimes have increased significantly since 2020.

Since 1921, the N.C. License and Theft Bureau has been tasked with preventing motor vehicle theft and fraud. The Bureau recovered 1,224 vehicles with a total value of \$13.3 million in 2019 and 883 vehicles in 2020 with a total value of \$8.9 million.

The License and Theft Bureau celebrates its 100th anniversary this year. For more information about the Bureau, visit ncdot.gov and search "License and Theft.

North Carolina's June Employment Figures Released

The state's seasonally adjusted June unemployment rate was 4.6 percent, decreasing 0.2 of a percentage point from May's revised rate. The national rate increased 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.9 percent.

North Carolina's June 2021 unemployment rate decreased 4.2 percentage points from a year ago. The number of people employed increased 12,600 over the month to 4,769,929 and increased 365,146 over the year. The number of people unemployed decreased 8,422 over the month to 231,636 and decreased 192,329 over the year.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey, increased 41,900 to 4,502,400 in June. Major industries experiencing increases were Government, 19,800; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 7,300; Professional & Business Services, 4,700; Construction, 2,000; Education & Health Services, 1,800; Financial Activities, 1,700; Manufacturing, 1,700; Other Services, 1,400; Information, 900; and Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 600. Mining & Logging employment remained unchanged.

Since June 2020, Total Nonfarm jobs increased 245,100 with the Total Private

Energy Efficiency

sector increasing by 228,600 and Government increasing by 16,500. Major industries experiencing increases were Leisure & Hospitality Services, 80,900; Professional & Business Services, 44,800; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 41,100; Manufacturing, 18,100; Govern-ment, 16,500; Education & Health Services, 13,500; Construction, 11,000; Other Services, 7,200; Information, 6,800; Financial Activities, 5,100; and Mining & Logging, 100.

One in every 20 Americans over the age of 50 suffers from PAD - a condition caused by plaque or fatty deposits in the arteries that limit blood flow to the legs and feet. This puts them at greater risk for heart attack, stroke and limb loss.

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Tip of the Month

Avoid placing items like lamps and televisions near vour thermostat.

The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause your air conditioner to run longer than necessary.

Source: www.energy.gov

Low or **Uninsured**? **No Income?**

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