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

Board of Education Meeting Scheduled for Monday, August 19

Meeting was originally scheduled for August 26

The Anson County Board of Education will hold its next meeting on Monday, August 19 in the Administrative Office Board Meeting Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. The regular meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. with Closed Session immediately following the opening of the meeting. Open Session should begin at about 5:30 p.m.

School is Back in Session: Know the Rules of the Road

Violating the school bus law can cost you

North Carolina Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey who also serves as the Chair for SafeKids NC, reminds students, parents, and motorists to use extra caution as students walk, drive, or ride the bus to school.

"Passing a stopped school bus can result in the motorist adding four insurance points and seeing an 80 percent increase in auto insurance premiums," Commissioner Causey noted. "More importantly, making such an ill-advised and unsafe move could result in injury or death to one of our precious children."

On a typical day, more than 14,000 school buses carrying nearly 800,000 students operate on North Carolina roads. Commissioner Causey encouraged all motorists to watch for children walking to school or waiting by the roadside for a school bus. And he advised motorists to understand the rules of the road when a school bus is stopped picking up passengers.

"In most cases, vehicles must stop in either direction if the school bus stop sign is out, red lights are flashing, and the bus is stopped to load or unload passengers," Commissioner Causey said. "In some cases, where a median or physical barrier divides the traffic going in different directions, or where a center turn lane separates a four-lane road, motorists traveling the opposite direction from the school bus are not required to stop."

Commissioner Causey also offered National Safety Council tips

- For pedestrians:**
- Walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you must walk in the street or road, walk facing traffic.
 - Before crossing the street, stop and look left, right and left again to see if cars are coming.
 - Never dart out in front of a parked car.
 - Parents: Practice walking to school with your child, crossing streets or crosswalks when available.
 - Never walk while texting or talking on the phone.
 - Do not walk while using headphones.

- For bike riders:**
- Always wear a helmet that is fitted and secured properly.
 - Children need to know the rules of the road: Ride single file on the right side of the road, come to a complete stop before crossing the street and walk the bike across.
 - Watch for opening car doors and other hazards.
 - Use hand signals when turning.
 - Wear bright-colored clothing.

- For bus riders:**
- Teach children the proper way to get on and off the bus.
 - Line up six feet away from the curb as the bus approaches.
 - If seat belts are available, buckle up.
 - Wait for the bus to stop completely before standing.
 - If you must cross the road, walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus.

For motorists, in addition to obeying the stopped school bus law:

- Don't block crosswalks.
 - Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and take extra precaution in school zones.
 - Never pass a vehicle stopped for pedestrians.
 - Stop far enough back from a school bus to allow children room to safely enter and exit the bus. The area 10 feet around a school bus is the most dangerous for children.
- For more information on how to keep children safe throughout the year, visit the website SafeKidsNC.org.

Dawn Layton is New Superior Court Judge for Anson, Richmond and Scotland Counties

Governor Roy Cooper has appointed Dawn M. Layton to serve as a Superior Court Judge in District 16A, which consists of Anson, Richmond and Scotland Counties. She will fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Tanya Wallace.

"Dawn's extensive legal experience makes her qualified for this role, and I'm confident that she will serve her district well," said Gov. Cooper.

Layton, of Rockingham, currently serves as Chief Assistant District Attorney for Prosecutorial District 21. She has nearly 15 years of experience working as a prosecutor in the District Attorney's Office. Layton previously worked with Child Support Enforcement in North Carolina as both an agent and later a lead agent. She received her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from East Carolina University and her Juris Doctor from Regent University School of Law.

Free Groceries for Families in Need

For families in need, free groceries will be available. The Mobile Food Pantry and CHS Mobile Health Unit will be at First Baptist Church, 309 Lee Avenue in Wadesboro, on Wednesday, September 4. Please arrive and register between 8 and 10 a.m. The food distribution begins upon the truck arrival, usually between 9 to 9:30 a.m.

- Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food.
- Arrive between 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. to be sure you can receive food.
- If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, contact Anson Crisis Ministry for a recorded message to know if it is cancelled: 704-694-2445.
- You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

Interested in volunteering for the Mobile Food Pantry? Email tschumpert@unccumc.net. The goal of the Mobile Food Pantry is to feed the hungry and serve those in need.

If you are in need before or after the distribution of food date, please contact Anson Crisis Ministry at (704) 694-2445 or Union County Crisis Assistance at (704) 225-0440.



donated school supplies, money and time to ensure teachers throughout the county. Wadesboro Walmart assisted in this year's endeavor, allowing event volunteers to set up and collect donations and supplies for two weekends.

Commissioner Sturdivant shared, "For over 20 years, through God, the support of my husband William Sturdivant and dedicated citizens, Faith Based Center of Hope has supplied students with uniforms and school materials in order to prepare them for an education. Each year the needs get larger, and each year a way is made to accommodate everyone. Because of the generous, amazing and unconditional love and kindness of Senior Pastor/Founder Tim Adams and Lead Pastor Steve Adams of Harvest Ministries Outreach Center, this has been one of our best years."

Pastor Steve of Harvest added, "The need is the call, and it has been our goal for over 20 years to try and answer the call. What makes this even greater is the partnership and coming together of organizations and people who see that we can do so much more if we unite and pool resources."

Harvest Senior Pastor Tim Adams added, "We have been blessed to partner with Commissioner Sturdivant and Faith Based Center of Hope for over 16 years in various community and social projects. Teamwork really does make the dream work."

Adams continued, "We thank God for everyone who donated. Special thanks to everyone who played a part in this year's success. Very special thanks to Walmart of Wadesboro, and all the Associates for their help and commitment. Thanks to The Express Newspaper, Wadesboro Police Chief Spencer and the Wadesboro Police Department for their generous donation, and event sponsors including: Poisson, Poisson and Bower, Showtime Tattoos of Rockingham, C&M Auto, Leavitt Funeral Home, Wadesboro Mayor Bill Thacker, Lady Bug Restaurant of Wadesboro, Anson County Commissioner Jim Sims, Anson County Commissioner Lawrence Gatewood, and the hundreds of Anson County citizens and others who donated each weekend at Walmart! We are truly thankful."

Event organizers look forward to a continued partnership to reach even more students, families and people of Anson County! For more information or ways to partner please contact 704-695-2879.

Nearly 100 Educators Receive Free School Supplies

Through the partnership of Harvest Ministries and Faith Based Center of Hope

Commissioner Vancine Sturdivant/Faith Based Center of Hope along with Harvest Ministries (Pastors Tim and Stave Adams) partnered together to raise funds and collect school supplies this year for every teachers and school in Anson County.

On Saturday, August 10 teachers from every school in Anson County came to Harvest Ministries to "shop" for school supplies their classroom would need to be successful. This year saw close to 100 educators/teachers stop in to receive supplies to help students be successful. The event opened with encouragement and greetings from Lead Pastor Steve Adams of Harvest, followed by prayer for teachers and students by Harvest founder Pastor Tim Adams.

For many weeks prior to the event many volunteers would receive the materials listed by each school throughout the county.

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Roses Express Store to Open in Former Walmart Location

By John Marek, Anson County Economic Development Partnership (AnsonEDP) Director: As many of you are aware, REV Uptown is located in what was originally a Roses Store here in Uptown Wadesboro. One of the original decor plans for REV called for some framed prints of Roses Stores from that period. After conferring with Steve Bailey and finding that the Historical Society didn't have any photos of the actual store, I decided to call Roses corporate office and see if they might be able to provide some. When I identified myself to the Roses representative on the line as the "economic development director from Wadesboro," he initially made some comments about "nothing finalized yet" before I explained the purpose of my call. I wrote it off to mistaken identity, but in retrospect...

The worst kept secret in Anson County right now is that Roses is returning to Wadesboro. They will be moving into the former Walmart space in Anson Station, between the Food Lion and the Tractor Supply. The store will be a Roses Express, which is a smaller footprint with a slightly more limited variety than a traditional Roses Store, but still a much greater selection than a Family Dollar or Dollar General. In particular, Roses Express is known for carrying a larger selection of apparel items than those stores.

Work began last week on renovations to the building and the store is expected to open in time for the Christmas shopping season. When open, the store will employ about 40 workers.

As an economic developer, I'm not supposed to play favorites, but I will confess to having a soft spot in my heart for Roses. Their stores remind me of a discount store called Hills where my family shopped when I was young, and when we first moved to North Carolina in 1995, the only store anywhere near our house was the Roses in Cornelius. We bought a lot of stuff there that first year, including our first North Carolina Christmas tree and some ornaments that we still use. That store closed shortly after the new Target opened in Huntersville, as did many of the others in the state, but the chain is making a comeback by positioning itself as an alternative to the Walmart Supercenters and the dollar stores.

Class of 1974 45th Reunion is September 21

Please register by August 23 to help organizers with event planning

The Bowman High School Class of 1974 will hold their 45th class reunion on Saturday, September 21, from 6 to 11 p.m. The event will be held at Rolling Hills Country Club, located at 1772 West Roosevelt Blvd in Monroe, with suggested dressy casual attire. There will be a meet & greet, dinner, a cash bar, entertainment, dancing and catching up.

The fees are: \$75 single and \$125 couple (couples must be married or dating). This fee includes facility rental, catered meal, entertainment, t-shirt and 8x10 picture. The fee must be paid in advance by August 23 and is non-refundable. No payments will be accepted at the door. For more information, or to register and pay please contact Susan (Liles) Harrington at 704-694-8459, email: beachbum_325@yahoo.com or via US Mail at: 3106 Country Club Road, Wadesboro, NC 28170

Even if you cannot come to the reunion, please contact Susan so she can update the directory.

Quenton Cromartie and Milayjah Smith Participate in State 4-H Congress in July

Anson 4-H'ers Quenton Cromartie and Milayjah Smith represented Anson County as delegates at the 2019 North Carolina 4-H Congress. Held July 20-23, the event brought approximately 600 youth and their adult leaders to Raleigh for activities including presentations on various subjects, leadership and citizenship training, service opportunities, officer elections and more. This was a great experience for both Quenton and Milayjah!

4-H is a fun program where youth get to "Learn by Doing." With more than 10,000 established 4-H programs across North Carolina, you can be a part of 4-H wherever you live. All youth between the ages of 5 and 19 are invited to join.

For more information contact Sam Cole, 4-H Agent, Program Director at Anson County Cooperative Extension 704-694-2915 or srcole3@ncsu.edu.



Brown Bag Book Club Meets August 19

The Hampton B. Allen Library announces the Brown Bag Book Club meeting for Monday, August 19 at 12:00 noon in the Pritchett room. The guest will be Ken Goins, educator, minister and historian. Ken will be sharing historical information on Anson County. He writes articles for the Historical Society newsletter. Ken always does an interesting program, and we learn something new about our county and its history. Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish and enjoy the program.

Any questions, please call 704-694-5177.

BRLC After School Program Kids Cafe is Now Available

Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center's Kids Cafe is available and taking applications for after school students ages 5 to 14 years.

- Kids Cafe is extended to all parents who need this service.
- Professionally trained staff, nutritious meals, snacks, physical activities and help with homework is provided.
- Affordable prices
- Clean, safe environment, and convenient location - 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department
- Times of Operation 3 until 5:30 p.m. - and longer if services are needed, Monday through Friday
- Services can be provided on days when school releases early if needed
- Drop-ins are welcome, but parent must enroll students in advance

BRLC is available to serve all families.

For more information call 704-826-8182 or 704-826-8737.

The contact is BRLC Director Carol Smith.