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

Rabies Confirmed in Cat in Burnsville Community

Rabies vaccination clinic to be held at Burnsville General Store on August 28

In a release from the Anson County Health Department: All pet owners, please be responsible and have your dogs, cats and ferrets vaccinated to protect them from rabies.

A cat from the Burnsville community has tested positive for rabies according to Dr. Fred Thompson, Anson County Health Director. The cat was taken to Brown Creek Animal Hospital for a sick visit, and a very attentive veterinarian, noting symptoms, made the decision to have the cat tested for rabies. Upon the diagnosis, animal control personnel were informed that the cat had five kittens that had been given to new owners. Since these kittens had just been taken from the mother cat they had to be quarantined and all contacts notified.

The North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health reported 205 animals testing positive for rabies from January 1 to August 7 - including one bobcat, five cats, two dogs, 19 bats, 24 foxes, 31 skunks and 123 raccoons. We know that we have rabies in the wildlife population, therefore the most important thing pet owners can do is to vaccinate their animals. North Carolina General Statutes require that all dogs, cats and ferrets four months of age and older be kept current on their rabies vaccination. Owners who fail to vaccinate their pets can face fines and criminal charges.

An important message, Dr. Thompson reminds pet owners that keeping their pets vaccinated creates a barrier between the rabies population and the human population. As there is no cure for rabies, keep vaccinations for your pets current in order to protect your pets, family and friends. A mini Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held on Thursday, August 28, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Burnsville General Store.



Over 1,000 Attend Back to School Bash on Saturday

The Back to School Bash was a great success. The citizens of Anson County turned out in a record number of over 1,000. Free school supplies were shared with all the students in attendance who needed them.

Representatives from South Piedmont Community College, Shaw University, Wingate University, Winston-Salem State University, and the College Foundation of North Carolina were there answering questions children had about college. Senator Gene McLaurin spoke on the importance of an education. Other speakers were Anson County School Superintendent Michael Freeman, Sheriff Tommy Allen, Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer, the Administrator of Carolina Health Care, Gary Henderson and some of his staff, and staff members from area schools.

There were children performers, including Rose of Sharon Youth, Daughters of Zion, Church of God of Prophecy, Morven, Keeondra Barrett, Fairview Youth and D'Mond Cox. There were many vendors giving great information about the importance of an education. They included Anson County Partnership for Children, Essential Living, Burnsville Jr. Fighters, Safe Kids, Girl Scouts, Integrity Investigation, Wadesboro Police and Anson Cosmetology. Metlife donated 750 backpacks and came to help present the children with their bag with supplies.

The organizers wanted the children and families of Anson County who need supplies to have something to start school with. The primary goal was education and motivation. Organizers and supporters didn't want parents to worry about where and how they were going to get what their children needed for school. That's why many citizens came together to show love and that they care about the children and families. They may not have gotten all that they wanted but they got what they needed. There were many smiles, thank yous, and hugs. That alone was worth having the event.

Sarah Burns of the Caraway Foundation said, "To everyone who helped to make the Bash possible, thank you. To Mr. Luke Hyatt, thank you for being such a great MC. Mr. Eric Marshall, thank you for coming from Raleigh to give us pleasant and pleasing music. Thank you to everyone who helped orchestrate this event, donated, volunteered, the children for coming, and the Anson Football Team and Cheerleaders for a great send off. What a great and rewarding day. Next year here we come!"

Town of Wadesboro Seeking Additional Public Input on Proposed New Pedestrian Plan

In addition to surveys available on www.walkwadesboro.org, the Town of Wadesboro is seeking public input on its comprehensive pedestrian plan through a public open house on Monday, September 8, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. The open house will be held at the art gallery area in the Lockhart-Taylor Center, located at 514 North Washington Street in Wadesboro.

The Town of Wadesboro's vision is to develop a comprehensive and connected pedestrian network that provides safe access to homes, schools, workplaces, parks and recreational destinations as part of an active and walkable community. The Town envisions children walking safely to school, seniors walking safely to nearby destinations, citizens moving safely in high traffic areas, and tourists moving about the community and uptown areas easily on foot.

Such a comprehensive and connected pedestrian network will enhance the health of Wadesboro's citizenry while also encouraging economic vitality through walkable commercial districts and neighborhoods.

Upcoming Dates for the November Election

Steve Adams, Director of the Anson County Board of Elections, has released the important dates with the November 2014 election. We will include two past dates for information purposes:

- **Tuesday, August 6** - Last day to file as a Certified Write in Candidate for November Election
- **Tuesday, August 12** - at 5 p.m. - Regular board meeting at the Board of Elections office
- **Thursday, September 4** - Absentee by mail ballots available for November Election
- **Tuesday, September 9** - at 5 p.m. - Regular board meeting at the Board of Elections office
- **Monday, October 6** - Last day for party chairs to make Precinct Assistant recommendations
- **Tuesday, October 7** - at 5 p.m. - Regular board meeting at the Board of Elections office
- ***Thursday, October 9** - at 6:30 p.m. - Early Voting training at the Board of Elections office
- **Friday, October 10** - Last day for voter registration for November Election
- **Monday, October 13** - at 6 p.m. - Chief Judge training at the Board of Elections
- **Tuesday, October 14** - at 5 p.m. - 1st Absentee by Mail meeting (*if necessary)
- ***Tuesday, October 14** - at 6 p.m. - ALL Poll Worker training at the Board of Elections
(Precincts: Ansonville, Burnsville, Gullledge, Lilesville, Morven/McFarlan)
- ***Monday, October 20** - at 6 p.m. - ALL Poll Worker training at the Board of Elections
(Precincts: Peachland, Polkton, Wadesboro 1, 2, 3, & White Store)
- **Tuesday, October 21** - at 5 p.m. - 2nd Absentee by Mail meeting (*if necessary)
- **Thursday October 23** - Early Voting begins for November General Elections
- **Tuesday, October 28** - Last day to request Absentee by Mail Ballot
- **Tuesday, October 28** - at 5 p.m. - 3rd Absentee by Mail meeting
- **Thursday, October 30** - by 10 a.m. - Observer list due to Board of Elections office
- **Saturday, November 1** - Early Voting ends (1 p.m.)
- **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 - ELECTION DAY** - Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, November 4** - Last day to return an Absentee by Mail ballot
- **Friday, November 7** - at 2 p.m. - Sample audit count/Provisional Ballot count
- **Friday, November 14** - County Canvass Day for November Election at 11 a.m.

New Bearcat Athletic Support Foundation Meeting Scheduled, Community Urged to Attend

A meeting of the newly formed Bearcat Athletic Support Foundation (BASF) will meet on Wednesday, September 10 at 6 p.m. in the Anson High School Media Center. This group will focus on student athletes grades K-12. There will be discussions on improving attendance at games and stirring up community support for student athletics.

All parents, guardians and community members are encouraged to attend. Bring a friend!

Financial Assistance is Available for Upcoming Spay / Neuter Clinics

The Sandra Harmon Clive Memorial Fund provides financial assistance to low income families who wish to have their pets spayed or neutered. The fund is accepting applications for the next spay/neuter clinic which will be held in the next few months at Brown Creek Animal Hospital. You can pick up an application at the Anson County Health Department, the Hampton B. Allen Library and the Anson County Animal Shelter. For more information call Becky Wilson at the Animal Shelter at 704-994-2738.

Anson Theatre to Host World Premier of Cindabella: a Southern Fried Fairy Tale

On Friday and Saturday, August 22 and 23, you are invited to come to the Ansonia Theatre for the world premiere of the new musical *Cindabella: a Southern Fried Fairy Tale* written by GRITS creator Erica McGee. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Call 704-694-4950 for more information.

Ansonville Historical Society to Honor Ansonville Seniors

The Ansonville Historical Society will honor Ansonville area citizens who are 90 years old or older. This event will be held at the Ansonville Historical Society Museum this Sunday, August 24, from 3 to 5 p.m. They invite you to come and enjoy this event.

For more information such as the location of the museum call Priscilla Randal at 704-826-8228.

Patriotic Performance at the Ansonia August 24

On Sunday, August 24 at 3 p.m. the Ansonia will present *In One Era and Out the Other: A Patriotic History of The United States from 1901-2001*, featuring cabaret star Serena Ebhardt.

Tickets are \$15 for reserved seating and can be purchased at the Arts Council 704-694-4950 or at Lacy's. More information is available at www.ansoniatheatre.com.

Local Country Music Artists Pack the House at Oliver's Hometown Restaurant & Bar in Uptown Wadesboro

Oliver's Hometown Restaurant in uptown Wadesboro was the venue for a live music performance on the night of Saturday, August 9th. Local country music artists, Lucas Gathings and Kyle Leary performed their original songs along with crowd pleasing favorites including southern rock, country and R&B hits.

Lucas and Kyle began writing and recording music together in 2012. They perform regularly in area venues. On Saturday they managed to draw a standing room only crowd for this night of food, music and fun. The duo kept attendees of all ages entertained throughout the evening, leaving with many requests for repeat performances at the uptown restaurant. Their debut album *Back Then* is scheduled to be released in early 2015.

Oliver's Hometown Restaurant and Bar serves great food, prepared with the freshest ingredients. They offer a menu that includes appetizers, salads, sandwiches, dinner specials and wonderful freshly created desserts. There is nothing finer than summer in the south! Delicious food, great music and fun with friends! *Courtesy of Melissa Davis*

West Deep Creek School Reunion Raffle Winners

The West Deep Creek School Reunion was held recently, and a great time was had by all in attendance. In addition to good food and fellowship, a raffle was held. The winners were: 1st Prize Joyce Little of Wadesboro; 2nd Prize Lydia Allen of Morven; 3rd Prize O. J. Robinson of Charlotte; and 4th Prize Constance Wilson of Albemarle.

Centralina Workforce Development Board Grand Opening

Centralina Workforce Development Board and the Anson County Chamber of Commerce cordially invite you to attend a Grand Opening with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Friday, August 22 at 2 p.m. The event will be held at Anson County Workforce Center, located at SPCC's Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro.

Everyone is invited to come and meet the staff, tour the new facility and enjoy light refreshments.

BCSWCD Monthly Meeting is August 26

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 26 at 10 a.m. at the BCSWCD office located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro. For more information call 704-694-3516.

Fall Sign Ups at Field of Dreams are Underway

Fall ball sign ups at Field of Dreams are currently being held through Saturday, August 30 for the following sports: Tee ball (ages 4-6), Baseball (ages 7-12) and Softball (ages 7-16).

The cost per sport is: Tee ball \$30 until August 23 and \$45 after that date. Baseball and softball, \$55 before August 23, and \$70 after that date.

Sign up at Field of Dreams on August 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or sign up online at www.sportsmanager.us/aaya.

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