

THE EXPRESS

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

WPD Officer Paul Marcum Recognized for Exceptional Service

Wadesboro Police Officer Paul Marcum received the Town's "Caught Ya!" award for assisting a group of stranded female motorists. Unbeknownst to Officer Marcum, these motorists later contacted the Town to share in detail how "Policeman Paul" had gone above and beyond to help them.



Paul Marcum receives the 'Caught Ya!' award from Chief Thedis Spencer.

The motorists reported that Officer Marcum helped check their vehicle fluid levels, add oil, and waited with the stranded motorists while nearby party goers dispersed early one Sunday morning. Officer Marcum then reportedly came back constantly to check on the stranded motorists.

The motorists commented, "This is the perfect example of protecting and serving - and we aren't even Wadesboro residents! We are truly thankful for his assistance and the company he provided during our hours long ordeal. I'd also like to mention there were other Wadesboro PD and some sheriffs at the Speedway service station, and they were ALL concerned about us - Paul was the ringleader though."

Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer stated, "I am proud of Officer Marcum's efforts here. This is an excellent example of the Wadesboro Police Department's commitment to community policing. I would also like to commend our police officers who help others without being recognized, thank you so much."

The Town's Caught Ya! Award program was established by the Wadesboro Town Council to recognize Town employees who display exceptional customer service, show integrity during a stressful and difficult time, or otherwise go the extra mile.

Anson County's June Unemployment Rate was 5.1%

Anson County's unemployment rate for June was 5.1%. Statewide the unemployment rate was 4.2% in June.

Here are June unemployment rates in Anson County for each of the last seven years: 2010 13.4%; 2011 12.5%; 2012 12.5%; 2013 11.5%; 2014 7.4%; 2015 6.9% and 2016 5.8%

Anson's total labor force in June was 10,435. Of that number 9,906 were employed and 529 were unemployed. In May the total labor force was 10,577 with 10,026 employed and 551 unemployed.

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 69 of North Carolina's counties in June, increased in four, and remained unchanged in 27. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.6 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.2 percent.

Nine of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases and six remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount at 6.4 percent had the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.4 percent. The June not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.2 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased all 100 counties. All fifteen metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in June by 509 to 4,708,854, while those unemployed decreased 4,343 to 208,449. Since June 2016, the number of workers employed statewide increased 84,212, while those unemployed decreased 44,241.

Parks and Recreation Offers Homeschool Physical Education (PE)

Anson County Parks and Recreation is offering Homeschool Physical Education (PE) for ages 5 to 15, divided into groups based on age. Students will play a variety of sports on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. during October and November.

The cost is \$25 per person. Contact Jeff Waisner at 704-695-2550, Wendell Small at 704-695-2782 or Morris Gatewood at 704-694-5751 for more information.

You can register at the Parks and Recreation Office located at Little Park in Wadesboro. The deadline to register is Friday, September 1.

Lions District Governor to Visit Wadesboro Lions Club

District Governor Karl Ernst, a member of the Siler City Lions Club, will visit the Wadesboro Lions Club at Papa Joe's on Thursday, August 24. Lion Ernst joined Lions Clubs International in 2000. He has served in numerous positions in Lionism, the largest service organization in the world with over 1.5 million members. Lion Ernst also served in the USAF Special Operations as a combat airman in the Southeast Asia Operations.

For information regarding the Lions Club please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.

Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District Meeting

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 29 at 10:00 a.m. at the BCSWCD office, located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro. For more information call 704-694-3516.



BRLC Summer Fun Day Camp Ends Another Season

This is a release from Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center: Children 5 to 17 years old from Anson and surrounding areas enjoyed this summer's six weeks of Summer Fun Day Camp. The camp operated daily from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. with an enrollment of 75+ children who attended at some point during the course of the camp. This was all made possible through the support of caring and concerned people.

Each day started with a hot nutritious breakfast at 9 a.m. along with inspiration. Lunch was provided daily at 12:00 noon. The campers were exposed to math and science workshops under the instruction of Professor Harlie Sturdivant of Greensboro. Also involved were weekly computer whiz instructor Mrs. Inez Williamson, Money Matters Class with Phyllis Dawkins and Tameka Harrington of BB&T of Wadesboro.

Mrs. Kay Ratliff and associates from the Anson Writer's Club gave the students an experience of writing a short story. There were two stories created, one with the younger students and the other with the older youth.

Hampton B. Allen Librarian Roxie Ingo provided reading enrichment weekly with arts and crafts activities after each session. The arts and crafts illustrated the stories that the children had read. All students were issued certificates for their accomplishments in reading from the library.

Sewing made simple was instructed by Mrs. H. Dunlap. All of the children who participated in this class made their own pillows from materials donated to the BRLC. Once the pillows were completed, campers carried the pillows home with them at the end of the program.

Lieutenant Williams and associates from the Anson County Sheriff's Office talked to the campers on the importance of crime prevention, and about not being fearful of the police, but building a close relationship with police force. The children were introduced to the drug sniffing dog, learning about his duties and how important his duties are to the force.

The North Carolina Forestry Service presented Smokey the Bear to the campers. The history of Smokey was shared with the campers. Their duties are important to the preventing of fires of all kinds.

The visit from Senator Tom McInnis was important to the campers. He discussed some of his duties as Senator of North Carolina for this rural district, as well as the importance of staying in school. The children had questions for Senator McInnis which he took time to answer. Senator McInnis also presented to BRLC a flag of the State of North Carolina. Volunteer David Cash hung and raised the flag on the flagpole outside of BRLC.

WSOC-TV Meteorologist John Ahrens visited the campers again this year. He talked to the campers concerning the eclipse that will soon take place. Mr. Ahrens encouraged the campers to prepare to view the eclipses. He also involved some campers to illustrate weather patterns. He shared how the weather pattern can be compared to the behavior of individuals.

Commissioner Bobby Sikes came and shared with the campers the importance of farming in this county. He discussed the pros and cons of farming. Many students had questions for him which was interesting.

BRLC Summer Fun Day Camp campers enjoyed a weekly exploration outing. The campers visited the Anson County Court House under the direction of Clerk of Court Mr. Mark Hammond, Miss. Shonda Brown and Sheriff Landric Reid. Little Park was a great place to have lunch during the Wadesboro outings. Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer gave a tour of the police department. Other places the campers visited were the Albemarle Entertainment skating rink, Food Lion in Marshville with cashier Erika Belk as tour guide, Marshville Park and Lois Edward Library in Marshville, Smith Funeral Services with Mrs. Evanda Little as tour guide, and water in the parking lot by the N.C. Forestry Services.



Getting the Most From Your Medicare Benefits

SHIIP holds free public events throughout North Carolina

Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey and the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) are pleased to announce a series of town hall events to educate Medicare beneficiaries on how to get the most from their Medicare benefits.

SHIIP staff and volunteers will provide information about Medicare benefits and applying for Extra Help, a federal subsidy for people with limited incomes and assets to assist with Medicare prescription drug plan costs. SHIIP will also emphasize the importance of Medicare beneficiaries reviewing and comparing Medicare Part D prescription drug plans during the Open Enrollment Period, Oct. 15 - Dec. 7.

The events are free and open to the public. Commissioner Causey, county officials, and SHIIP staff and volunteers will be in attendance. For more information about the town hall events listed below, contact marcia.kelly@ncdoi.gov or call 855-408-1212.

- Wilkes County: August 23, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Wilkes Senior Center, 228 Fairplains School Rd., North Wilkesboro
- Cabarrus County: August 28, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 am & Medicare 101 Class: 12:00 pm -2:00 pm at Kannapolis Train Station, 201 S. Main St., Kannapolis
- Granville County: September 13, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Granville Senior Center, 107 Lanier St., Oxford
- Carteret County: September 15, 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 pm at Leon Mann Enrichment Center, 3820 Galantis Dr., Morehead City
- Henderson County: September 21, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Blue Ridge Community Health Center, 2579 Chimney Rock Rd., Hendersonville
- Brunswick County: September 26, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at The Brunswick Center at Supply, 101 Stone Chimney Rd., Supply

SHIIP is a division of the North Carolina Department of Insurance that offers free, objective information about Medicare, Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medicare Advantage, long-term care insurance and other health insurance issues. SHIIP's trained volunteers provide one-on-one counseling in all 100 counties.

For more information about SHIIP or to get answers to Medicare questions, call SHIIP directly at 855-408-1212 or visit www.ncshiip.com.

Free Movie is Hidden Figures

Incredible untold story of three African American women at NASA with vital role in flight of astronaut John Glenn

The Hampton B. Allen Library's free movie for Monday, August 28 is *Hidden Figures*. It will begin at 10 a.m. in the Little Theatre. *Hidden Figures* is the incredible untold story of Katherine G. Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monae), African American women working at NASA who played a vital role in the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, one of the greatest operations in history. The visionary trio crossed all gender and race lines to inspire generations to dream big. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this movie.

For more information call the library at 704-694-5177.