

Fact About the Month of September

September's name comes from the Latin word septem, meaning "seven." This month had originally been the seventh month of the early Roman calendar.

- September 6, Labor Day
- September 11 is Patriot Day, held in honor and remembrance of those who died in the September 11 attacks of 2001.
- September 12, Grandparents Day. Honor your grandparents today - and every day!
- September 17 is Constitution Day. This day celebrates the adoption of the U.S. Constitution, which occurred on September 17, 1787
- September 21 International Day of Peace. September 22 Fall begins
- September's birth flowers are the aster and the morning glory. The aster signifies powerful love. The morning glory symbolizes affection.
- September birthstone is the sapphire, which was once thought to guard against evil and poisoning. Sapphires were thought to encourage divine wisdom and protection. They symbolized purity, truth, trust, and loyalty.

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Teaching Baton and So Much More!

MBM ROLE MODELS OF THE WEEK
Former MBM Twirly Girls
Mary Kait Parker, Terrin Harrington & Sadie Shaver
Wingate University Majorettes

Classes Begin Monday, September 13

Register at: MBMTwirlyGirls@gmail.com or 704-681-5776

Please leave a message with your information:
Name, Child's Name & Age & Telephone Number

NO REGISTRATION FEES! *Melanie Lyon, Brandis Chewning, Melody Goodwin*

New Classes Now Offered
BEGINNER BATON FOR AGES 9-14
YOUNG BEGINNERS AGES 3-5 & 6-8

MENTORING • SOCIAL SKILLS • CITIZENSHIP
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PARADES, BALL GAMES, RECITALS, SHOWS, COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES...AND FUN!!!

MBM Twirly Girls
School of Baton
MAJORETTES BY MELANIE

Studio in The Express Newspaper Building
205 West Morgan Street in Wadesboro

More than 180,000 N.C. Households Getting Help for Monthly Internet Bills

Governor Urges N.C. Families to Sign Up for Discounts on Internet, Computers

More than 180,000 North Carolina households are getting critical assistance affording high-speed internet service thanks to a federal relief program that helps families in need pay internet bills and fully participate in the digital economy.

With 182,473 households enrolled in the Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBBP), North Carolina's level of enrollment ranks sixth among the 50 states. Learn more about EBBP and sign up at www.getemergencybroadband.org. In April, Governor Roy Cooper sent letters to the state's internet service providers (ISPs) asking them to participate in this effort to get more North Carolinians connected to high-speed internet. A number of ISPs responded to the Governor's call to participate and enroll their customers in this program.

"Affordability is essential to access the internet and digital equity," Governor Cooper said. "This subscription support empowers North Carolina families to access the online educational, business and healthcare resources they need to compete in today's digital society."

The EBBP, which opened May 12, discounts an eligible household's monthly internet bill by as much as \$50 per month. The discount increases to \$75 per month for those living on tribal lands. Eligible households can also get a one-time discount of \$100 toward the purchase of a laptop, tablet or desktop computer through participating providers.

"The pandemic highlighted digital inequities and the struggle of many families to afford quality internet," Jim Weaver, North Carolina Department of Information Technology (NCDIT) secretary and state chief information officer, said. "We encourage all eligible North Carolina families to sign up for this benefit."

Households with an income at or less than 135 percent of federal poverty guidelines are eligible for the EBBP. A household also qualifies if at least one member participates in a federal benefits program such as Medicaid, SNAP or Lifeline, receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program, lost a job or a significant amount of income in the past year, received a Federal Pell Grant or is part of an internet service provider's low-income or COVID-19 program.

The program is slated to continue until the \$3.2 billion appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 runs out or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declares the pandemic is over, whichever happens first.

Governor Cooper urges Congress and the North Carolina delegation to pass the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to make the monthly discount permanent for eligible households in North Carolina. The act would reduce the monthly discount to \$30 and give \$14.2 billion to the program, renamed the Affordable Connectivity program. The act has been passed by the U.S. Senate but must also be passed by the U.S. House of Representatives and signed by the president to take effect.

Governor Cooper's Closing the Digital Divide plan would continue the \$50 monthly discount for four years with \$420 million from the state's allocation of American Rescue Plan fiscal recovery funds. Governor Cooper's plan to address affordability will make North Carolina a top-five state for internet adoption and hit a target of 80 percent of North Carolinians subscribing to high-speed internet service. An estimated 380,000 North Carolinians could benefit from the continued subscription support.

Some History of Stegall Lake Near Marshville

Park to be built there that will be enjoyed by Ansonians

It was announced in June 2021 that the Town of Marshville purchased a 111 acre tract on the eastern edge of town, located along Highway 74, from the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina. The property, known to residents as the "Stegall Lake" property will be made into a public park. The site boasts a 12 acre lake and nearly 100 acres of adjacent woods.

The town has begun the master-planning process, with many ideas being discussed. Ideas such as walking/nature trails, rental campsites and cabins, lakeside beach activities/day-use area, various paddle boating, designated fishing areas, and indoor/outdoor live event venues, to name a few. Because the property is very close to Anson County the park will be of benefit to Anson citizens.

Marshville native Danny Stegall has shared some history of Stegall Lake: **A Little History of Stegall Lake** The Stegall Lake property goes back to the days of the late 1930's. Uncle Roy Pelham Stegall, Sr. (1896-1974) oldest brother to my grandfather Kemp Stegall had been able in late 1930's to acquire a few hundred acres of land east of Marshville fronting on both two-lane Highway 74 and Hasty Road. Uncle R.P. had developed a business selling fertilizer, farm chemicals, and lespedeza seed cleaning the early 1930's. This business continued under the management of his oldest son Roy into the 1980's until being sold to Royster Fertilizer Company of Norfolk, Va.

Some of this farm property had been in the family of their mother Lillie Hasty Stegall going back to just after the Civil War. Uncle R.P. Stegall in the late 1930's developed beyond his home facing the Highway the large lake fronting on Highway 74 as a family retreat and private fishing place to host family and friends from time-to-time. He built in a park like setting several beautiful rock benches and a small rock building as shelter from inclement weather. These structures in those days were some distance from the Highway prior to its four-laning in 1969. Now they are close to the road.

My 91-year-old father Jimmy has a photograph dated 1942 and taken at this rock park showing the entire Stegall family in a group at the 50th wedding anniversary of his grandparents William Thomas Stegall and Lillie Hasty Stegall, pictured with their nine adult children (one was my grandfather Kemp Stegall) and many grandchildren. William Thomas Stegall died very soon after this joyous event. My father was in the picture as a 12-year-old. Uncle R.P. Stegall had built a small house on piers offshore above the water, with walkways, decks and fishing pier extending into the lake. This was a place where they could stay overnight if they so chose. I have been to family events hosted there during my growing-up years. Many fish fries were held through the years involving local folks, some were church, some were political. My father told me that during the 1950's the first of the father and son NC Lieutenant Governors, H.P. Taylor, Sr. of Wadesboro, who was a friend of Uncle R. P. Stegall, fell out of a boat on the lake due to over-imbibing during a fishing expedition there. He was recovered of course. I don't think that ever made the front page of The News and Observer.

After the death of R.P. Stegall, Sr. in 1974, the family leased the lake and nearby acreage to a local gentleman operator who ran a campground and fishing lake which he called Stegall Lake. The family had never used the lake and grounds for public fishing and camping; it was always private prior to that.

In the 1990's the heirs of R.P. Stegall, Sr., which included my father's first cousins, Uncle R.P.'s four sons and two daughters, led by the oldest Roy P. Stegall, Jr., benefactor of Wingate University and First Baptist Church, Marshville, made a joint decision to donate the lake property and some timberland, all with Highway 74 frontage, to the Baptist Children's Home of North Carolina based in Thomasville, NC. The property was intended to be used as a distant camping, fishing, and recreational retreat for young residents of The Children's Home. The NC Baptist Children's Home had owned the property since that gift came about. The property usage reverted back to private use and public access and fishing ceased. The donors, the four sons and two daughters of R.P. Stegall, Sr. are all deceased now.

During 2021 The Board of Trustees of the NC Baptist Children's Home and The Town Council of the Town of Marshville came to an agreement that the best long-term use of the lake and surrounding property would be for public use under the direction of the Town of Marshville, even though this property was outside the present town limits of the Town, and a sell-purchase agreement was made and transacted within the past three-four months. I don't have any first-hand knowledge of any of that, except news articles.

Sandhills Center Family Support Webinars for September

September 9: Multi-Systemic Therapy webinar will be held virtually from 11:30-12:30 on Thursday, September 9th. Representatives from Trinity Services will present. Discussion will be regarding what Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) is, how MST is delivered in a COVID environment, who qualifies for MST, and how referrals are made. To register, contact Adrian Standish at leeharnettfsp@yahoo.com or 910-985-0126. Upon registration, you will be sent the link to the webinar.

September 9: Eating Disorder webinar will be held from 1:00-2:00 pm via Zoom. Karen Hayes MS, RD, LDN, FirstHealth of the Carolinas Diabetes & Nutrition Center will be the guest speaker. To register, contact Shirlyn Morrison-Sims at search.family.support.program@gmail.com or 919-906-7103. Upon registration, a link to the web meeting will be sent.

September 13: Suicide Among Youth- Pre and Post COVID webinar will be held from 1:00-2:30 pm via WebEx. Portia Purcell, MA, NCC, LCMHC, LCAS will be the presenter. Contact Suzanne Maness for more info or to register call (910) 627-1769 or email connectionsfp@gmail.com. Registration deadline is September 10, 2021.

September 17: Spirit of Resilience: Recognizing the Champions of COVID is a community event recognizing educators, first responders, youth leaders, mental health providers and faith leaders that demonstrated empathy by providing vital support to vulnerable children and families during the pandemic, and they will be honored. Sponsored by the Guilford County System of Care Collaborative, this live event will be held at the United Way of Greensboro, 1500 Yanceyville Street, Greensboro, NC from 4:00 - 6:30 P.M. To nominate people or for more information, contact Valerie Jones, the System of Care Coordinator at valeriej@sandhillscenter.org or LaMonica Mitchell, Family Support Advocate, at 1-877-425-4030 or email guilfordfspadvocate@gmail.com.