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We are hiring a Full Time Diesel Mechanic. Must have knowledge with heavy equipment. We offer health insurance, paid vacation, personal days, paid holidays, 401K and AFLAC.

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OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE

• **3 ROOM OFFICE SUITE** Located at 208 South Rutherford Street in Wadesboro Renovated. Great visibility, easy access, plenty of parking. \$450/mo

• **3 ROOM OFFICE SUITE** Located in The Express Building (205 West Morgan Street in Wadesboro). Includes utilities, separate waiting area, plenty of parking. Great location. \$650/mo **704-681-5776**

This story is reprinted from 2008. We hope you enjoy it. Reflecting back on my traditional Christmas Eve of yesteryear the one memory that most prominently stands out in my mind is our church Christmas Pageant. Each Christmas Eve night the First United Methodist Church in Polkton held a Christmas program.

In the program were all the youth and any visitors who came on a regular basis. There was always the memorizing of a few verses for each child to recite before the church audience. Back then it was nothing for me to stand before a crowded sanctuary and recite my lines after rehearsing over and over. My brothers, sisters and I would sing like birds without hesitation. Ah, the ignorance, I mean ignorance of children! How refreshing the memories.

Afterwards we were given a brown paper sack filled with nuts, candies and fruit. And we harbored those bags as if made of gold. As soon as we arrived back at home, we'd all yell, "It's time to go to sleep so Santa can come," and mom would remind us, "It's only 7:30 kids. It's too early to go to bed now." So we'd ride it out until at least 8:30. You see, we needed our rest in order that we could arise without missing a beat by 3:00 a.m. or whenever my older brother would wake us with a whispered, "Get up, come on Santa Claus has already been!" And we'd shuffle into the living room where each kid had their own little space for their own little goodie pile.

Mine was usually the same. I had a baby doll and a baton. And I was the happiest little girl on Earth. There weren't many toys but what we had were special, wonderful, delightfully entertaining and I wouldn't trade any of them for anything. Mom would always be there, bleary eyed from a lack of any sleep whatsoever. But she was happy and excited to watch us as we played and laughed while the wee hours of the morning turned into afternoon.

Friends of mine had some pretty fond memories of Christmas Eve as well. Several followed suit with their own church programs, some were given special permission to open one gift on Christmas Eve night, everyone went to bed early to await Santa's arrival, many went to their grand parents for dinner, families played board games and drank hot cocoa and many remembered the resonating sounds of Christmas music playing in their homes while preparing cookies to leave for Santa and his reindeer.

We all reminisced about watching the Channel 9 news as they showed Santa's sleigh shooting across the screen via radar and thinking how wonderful to actually see him and know he's near by. It was a glorious time to be a kid and the memories of Christmas and Christmas Eve still stand as some of the truest and most cherished of my loved ones.

Remember your traditions of Christmases past and create new traditions with your family, friends and loved ones to share for years to come.

Have a wonderful holiday season Anson County and may your Christmas be as bright as the Star over Bethlehem. Peace on earth and Merry, Merry Christmas.

By Melanie Morse



Wildlife Commission Offers \$100 Reward for Tagged Fish

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is offering Lake Norman anglers who catch a tagged hybrid striped bass a \$100 reward if they report their catch. In order to receive the reward, anglers must retain the tag. Anglers who catch a hybrid striped bass with an orange tag will need to remove and keep all tags and provide the following information to Corey Oakley, the Commission's Piedmont fisheries research coordinator:

- Tag number
- Date of capture
- Location of capture in relation to some known landmark
- If the fish was harvested or released
- If they were a boat or bank angler
- Bait type used during capture

Fisheries biologists with the Commission will begin tagging hybrid striped bass this month in Lake Norman. Biologists will continue to tag hybrid striped bass each month through 2016. This study will help biologists understand better the hybrid striped bass harvest in Lake Norman; determine if stocking rates need adjusting; and determine if current size and creel limits are adequate for the fishery. The hybrid striped bass is a cross between a striped bass and a white bass, and Commission biologists annually stock 162,500 fingerlings into the lake, which is located in Catawba, Iredell, Lincoln, and Mecklenburg counties.

For more information, contact Corey Oakley at corey.oakley@ncwildlife.org or 919-214-1095. For more information on fishing in public, inland waters visit the Commission's fishing webpage www.ncwildlife.org/fishing.

**An Interview with Mr. Chris Stinson,
Anson High School Principal**

This article was submitted by AHS journalism students Erin Thomas and Vince Gilmore: The arrival of Anson High School's new principal shook up the student body, but Mr. Chris Stinson has been well received. The former principal of Anson New Tech says that he knew it was time to leave there and was ready for new opportunities.

When asked if he missed New Tech he responded, "You are always going to miss something you have invested time in." Stinson stated that he missed the day to day interactions with students in a smaller environment, and is having to adjust by stretching his time out more evenly to accommodate the needs of six hundred students. He believes that young people will be young people wherever you are and he is just doing his job.

Regardless of school size, at the end of the day Stinson enjoys working with young people and assisting them in pursuing their goals in life. He is working hard to instill a sense of pride into the student body and is encouraging them to own their education. He often tells students, "Where you come from is important and should be used to propel you to where you want to go in life."

His original plan was to be a coach and he started off his career at Anson High School. "It's refreshing to come back to Anson," comments Stinson. When he was in high school his own principal suggested that Stinson should obtain a license to become a principal, but he was not interested at the time. Although he is a principal now, Stinson still views himself as a coach in the game of life as he points students in a successful direction.

He refers back to advice his grandfather gave him: "If you don't like your current situation, deal with it, relocate, or go get in charge." As a principal, he is proud to have a stronger voice in decision making and in creating a good educational environment for students. Stinson says he is proud of the student body at AHS and how well they welcomed Anson New Tech onto their campus. He is enthusiastic about the direction in which the campus is moving and for the opportunities it will bring to the students. Anson High School is excited to have him as their new principal and is grateful that Chris Stinson has decided to join the Anson High School family.



Job Opportunity at J.J. HAINES



Customer Service Representative

Haines is searching for a full-time Customer Service Representative to handle incoming calls. This position entails no sales, no telemarketing and no collections.

Candidates should have no less than 2 years of CSR experience within a high volume Call Center. We are also looking for one with a stable work history. Lastly, candidates should have a working knowledge of email and Excel.

This is a Monday through Friday, full-time position with hours from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Haines offers a competitive hourly rate and a monthly bonus program. Naturally, we offer a generous employee benefits program.

This opportunity is open and available now. Interviews will be conducted as soon as possible.

**Interested and qualified candidates should forward resumes to
Mr. Conkling at cconkling@jjhaines.com
or fax it to 410-760-1269**

**Anson County Tax Collector
PROPERTY TAX
REMINDER**



**ANSON COUNTY TAXES ARE
DELINQUENT JANUARY 5, 2016**

Fees and interest will be added after January 5, 2016.

Also, if you wish to use property taxes as an income tax deduction, payments should be made by December 31, 2015.

Please don't be delinquent. Mail your payment to:

**Anson County Tax Collector
101 South Greene Street
Wadesboro, NC 28170
704-994-3218**

Or visit the office Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
An after hours drop box is available too. Thank you.



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