



Union UPDATE

October 16, 2012

QUICK LINKS



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QRVs to Continue Operating in Lanes Creek and New Salem

The Union County Board of Commissioners have approved the use of \$300,000 of accumulated reserves from Union County EMS's budget to fund Quick Response Vehicles (QRVs) for the Lanes Creek and New Salem service areas for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2013.

In July, commissioners were advised that EMS intended to eliminate QRVs from the Lanes Creek and New Salem service areas. A month later, Commissioner Jonathan Thomas, County Manager Cindy Coto and EMS Director Scott Shew attended a community meeting at Lanes Creek fire station to listen to concerns from citizens in the area.

"That night was moving to hear some of the stories of how QRVs have saved lives," Commissioner Thomas said.

The County will address a long-term solution for maintaining QRVs in the area during Fiscal Year 2014 budget discussions.

"I look forward to being part of the budget process to find some type of financially sustainable formula that will keep the QRVs in this area for the foreseeable future," Commissioner Thomas added.

County to Convey Road and Land to Waxhaw

The Union County Board of Commissioners on Monday authorized County Manager Cindy Coto to approve an interlocal agreement between the Town of Waxhaw and Union County that conveys 18.571 acres to Waxhaw.

The 18-plus acres owned by the County, located adjacent to the 12 Mile Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, was part of a larger portion of County-owned property sold to G.S. Carolina, LLC in 2002. G.S. Carolina intended to develop the property, including a road tentatively named Cureton Parkway. The land retained by the County was in the path of the proposed Cureton Parkway and the County agreed to allow the developer to build a portion of the parkway on the northern side of the County's property.

Guide

Sign up to receive the Union County Public Library's monthly program guide via your email by contacting Shelley Fearn, Reader's Services Librarian, at sfearn@union.lib.nc.us.



Edwards Memorial Library Presents Local Author Cindy Ponds Newell

Edwards Memorial Library of Marshville will host a visit from first time local author Cindy Ponds Newell on Thursday, Oct. 18 at 6 p.m. The visit follows the release of her new book, [Don't Say Her Name](#). The author will speak and sign copies of her novel.

There is plenty of mystery, paranormal and suspense in this novel. Many years have passed since Penelope Delmoore was a resident of Gardenia Hall, but did she ever really leave? Calling her name gives her the power she needs to control the house and all who reside there, even the many other spirits that are trapped within these walls. She is listening, but do you really want to say her name? This story takes place at a stately plantation house during the Civil War. Readers will be sure to enjoy this adult thriller.

Cindy Ponds Newell lives in Anson County, North Carolina with her husband of 19 years. They have three children, Hannah, Luke and "Gooley" Grace Newell. Cindy also enjoys making crafts, going to yard sales and thrift shops and spending time with her family.

Following construction of the road, which is now Kensington Drive, the North Carolina Department of Transportation declined to accept it for maintenance. The Town of Waxhaw now wants to accept Kensington Drive into its street system and assume maintenance. Because the road is not located within Waxhaw's town limits, Waxhaw officials have asked the County to deed them the roadway so it can be annexed. Waxhaw is working with a developer to improve and repair Kensington Drive and bring it up to standards.

Waxhaw officials have also requested that the County deed several acres located between Kensington Drive and Twelve Mile Creek for use as a park or greenway. Much of the property is steep and located within the creek's floodplain. Union County Public Works has determined that the land will not be needed for the operation or future expansion of the wastewater treatment plant.

The agreement is contingent upon the developer consenting to properly grade and seed the berm located on the west side of the County's entrance to the wastewater treatment plant. The berm was never correctly graded and seeded when the road was constructed. Waxhaw is currently in negotiations with the developer to have this work completed.

Kerr Family Farm Designated as a Historic Landmark

The Union County Board of Commissioners on Monday adopted an ordinance designating the Kerr Family Farm in Waxhaw as a historic landmark. Prior to adopting the ordinance, commissioners and the Union County Historic Preservation Commission held a joint public hearing on the proposed ordinance.

Counties and municipalities have authority to adopt ordinances designating as historic landmarks properties "deemed and found by the preservation commission to be of special significance in terms of their historical, prehistorical, architectural, or cultural importance, and to possess integrity of design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and/or association." Properties designated as historical landmarks are eligible for a property tax deferral of 50 percent of the value of the property.

The farm, located at 9616 Joe Kerr Road, consists of a house and outbuildings on 3.76 acres. The survey and research report conducted by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Historical Resources notes that the "farmstead epitomizes the upgrading of a rural, two-story vernacular farm house to include Bungalow styling prevalent during the early 20th century." The home is one of the few surviving bungalows of its type in the western part of Union County.

Union 4-H'ers Help Turning Point and the Elderly in the County

Five Union County 4-Hers, William Alt, Alexander Bannister, Catherine DeBerry, Jordan

She loves to read and entertain. She is a lifelong resident of North Carolina and home schools her children. Cindy is an active member of her church where she teaches children to have the strong faith she describes some of her characters as having. Cindy holds a degree in education and has a strong love for history. She also has a fascination with the supernatural and that, along with her vivid imagination, allows her to write ghostly stories. She also uses true life experiences while writing.

For more information contact the library at 704-624-2828. The library is located at 414 Hasty Street in Marshville.

Adult Tutors Needed

We seek compassionate volunteers!

Would you consider tutoring an adult learner? Take the first step by attending Literacy Council 101 on one of these dates:

Oct. 18 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Nov. 13 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Dec. 6 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

For more information, contact the Literacy Council of Union County at 704-226-1425 or email info@literacyunion.org

www.literacyunion.org

BOCC Meeting Schedule Revised

Purser and Ian Walsh participated in the North Carolina 4-H Citizenship Focus where 4-H programs across the state gathered to exchange ideas, gain knowledge and learn through hands-on experiences about the different levels and branches of government.

Through various conference sessions and facilitated discussions, delegates learned and shared information related to local, state and national government, participated in budget simulation sessions and learned how to be active in the area of citizenship.

Delegates also worked with their county 4-H Agent Laura Byrd to develop an action plan based on a local need in their community to implement upon returning home from the conference. The plan Union County delegates implemented in July was focused on the 4-H state initiative, Hungry to Help. The youth were awarded a \$500 grant to assist in feeding needy populations within the county. The 4-Hers donated this money to Turning Point Domestic Violence for food purchases.

As part of the action plan, the youth planted a community garden at the Union County Agricultural Center. They partnered with The Council on Aging to provide any harvested vegetables to seniors in the county. The 4-Hers also partnered with Union County Cooperative Extension to collect food at the Annual Farm City Banquet, the Union County 4-H Fall Festival and with county 4-H clubs. This food is also donated to the seniors recommended by the Council on Aging.



Pictured: Turning Point's Judi Abbot, 4-Hers, Alexander Bannister, Jordan Purser, William Alt and Ian Walsh

Early Voting Begins on Thursday

Early voting will be held in the Griffin Room of the Monroe Library at 316 East Windsor Street beginning Thursday, Oct. 18 and ending Saturday, Nov. 3. Early voting hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Early voting will be open for one Sunday only on Oct. 21 from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.



There will be four satellite locations for voters' convenience. These sites will be open Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Satellite locations will be open for one Sunday only on Oct. 21 from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. The satellite locations are:

- Stallings VFD located at 4616 Old Monroe Road in Indian Trail

The Union County Board of Commissioners on Monday canceled its meeting scheduled for Monday, Dec. 17.

- Hemby Bridge VFD located at 6628 Mill Grove Road
- Wesley Chapel VFD located at 8821 New Town Rd in Marvin
- Wingate Community Center located at 315 W. Elm Street

Persons wishing to register and vote after the registration deadline may appear in person at a one-stop voting site, complete the voter registration application form and provide proof of residence by presenting valid documents showing current name and address.

Anyone needing to check on their voter registration status or find out their polling location should visit the Union County Board of Elections website at www.co.union.nc.us/Departments/BoardofElections.aspx and click on "CHECK YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION STATUS."

For additional information contact the Union County Board of Elections at 704-283-3809.

Look Out for Stopped School Buses

In support of **Operation Stop Arm** week the State Highway Patrol will be aggressively enforcing stop arm violations and other traffic violations in and around school zones.



The operation will be conducted from 6 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 15 through Friday, Oct. 19. The Patrol expects **Operation Stop Arm** will decrease violations and reduce school bus collisions.

Across the state, troopers will be working school zones and others will be following the buses. Troopers will be driving marked and unmarked patrol cars during the operation.

"We must protect our children from traffic dangers," said Colonel Michael W. Gilchrist, commander of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol. "The Highway Patrol will conduct this school bus campaign simultaneously in all North Carolina counties cracking down on stop arm violations. Motorists who try to pass a stopped school bus will be charged with the violation."

Passing a stopped school bus is a Class 1 misdemeanor. If convicted, a person will receive five driving points on their driver's license and is subject to fines up to \$200. Passing a stopped school bus is a Class I Felony if the driver strikes an individual and a Class H Felony should the violation result in a death.

"We must ensure our children's safety as they travel to and from school," said Reuben Young, secretary of the Department of Public Safety. "A child's life should never be put in danger just to save a minute or two during a daily commute. That's why we're going to make sure people know the law as well as the consequences of breaking it."

"On March 21, over 3,200 cars passed a North Carolina public school bus while stopped with red lights flashing and loading or

unloading students. This is unacceptable! To provide assistance to our law enforcement partners, we have recently installed cameras on the outside of some school buses. The Nicholas Adkins Safety Act is clear that video evidence can be used to prosecute stop arm violations and we plan to help gather that evidence. But the best course of action is for drivers to act responsibly in the first place. Help keep our children safe! Parents and students - please have the conversation and know how to stay safe at the bus stop as well as walking to and from school and the school bus stop," said Dr. June Atkinson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

In an effort to raise awareness among students and parents about pedestrian safety, the Department of Public Instruction worked with the Center for Urban Affairs at NC State and other partners to conduct the first "MAKING TRACKS" video competition. Students were challenged to focus on the important rules of pedestrian and school bus safety with the hopes of educating everyone on the dangers of failing to stop for a stopped school bus.

For further information concerning school bus safety and illegal passing please visit the Department of Public Instruction's school bus safety web site at <http://www.ncbussafety.org/>.

For more information on Operation Stop Arm, please contact First Sergeant Jeff Gordon at 919-733-5027.



**Our eBooks — Your eReader
An Introductory Class
Friday, October 19th
10:00 am — 12:00 pm
Monroe Library Training Room**

Registration is required.

Register on the library's website: www.union.lib.nc.us
and click on the
"Computer Users" tab.

Select the "Take a computer class" option.

For further information call 704-283-8184 ext. 233

Historic Downtown Monroe

HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

OCTOBER 20TH

10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

MAIN STREET DOWNTOWN

TREATS AND PRIZES FOR ALL
CRAFT PROJECTS, BUNGEE TRAMPOLINE,
GIANT INFLATABLES,
PETTING ZOO AND MUCH MORE
ACTIVITIES ARE FREE! ACTIVIDADES SON GRATIS!

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STARTS AT 11 A.M.
REGISTRATION
STARTS AT 10 A.M.

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www.historicdowntownmonroe.org

704-292-1705





RABIES CLINICS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2012

First Clinic-----9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Carolina Animal Health

519A Morgan Mill Rd. Monroe, NC 28110

At the 1st clinic only, Dr. Brent Glenn will provide:

Bordetella for dogs, DHPP for dogs, FVRCP for cats, and Rabies shots for all animals..**\$10.00 per vaccine-cash only**

Fel/FIV test for cats.....**\$25.00-cash only**

Heartworm test for dogs.....**\$25.00-cash only**

Microchips....Available as a donation to “Friends of the Union Co. Animal Shelter, Inc.”.

Second Clinic-----11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Union Co. Animal Shelter

3340 Presson Rd., Monroe, NC 28112

At the 2nd clinic, Dr. Brent Glenn will only provide:

Rabies shots.....**\$10.00-cash only**

Microchips...Available as a donation to “Friends of the Union Co. Animal Shelter, Inc.”

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