

AGENDA

Catawba County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Monday, May 2, 2016, 9:30 a.m.
Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room, 1924 Courthouse
30 North College Avenue, Newton, NC

1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Invocation.
4. [Approval of the Minutes from the Board's Regular Meeting and Closed Session of April 4, 2016, the Special Meeting and Closed Session of April 10, 2016, and the Special Meeting and Closed Session of April 22, 2016 and Amended Minutes of the Special Joint Meeting with Hickory City Council of March 21, 2016.](#)
5. Recognition of Special Guests.
6. Public Comments.
7. Presentations:
 - a. [Tourism Month Proclamation. Presented to Mandy Pitts, Chief Executive Officer, Hickory-Conover Tourism Development Authority.](#)
 - b. [Emergency Medical Services Week Proclamation. Presented to EMS Manager Sylvia Fisher.](#)
 - c. [Public Service Recognition Week Proclamation.](#)
8. [Appointments.](#)
9. Departmental Reports.
 - A. Emergency Services.
[Pyrotechnics Permit Application. Presented by Assistant Emergency Services Director Mark Pettit.](#)
 - B. Social Services.
[Community Child Protection & Fatality Prevention Team Annual Report. Presented by Social Services Director John Eller, Health Services Manager Jennifer McCracken and Social Work Program Manager Jason Hughes.](#)
10. Other Items of Business.
11. Attorneys' Report.
12. Manager's Report.
13. Adjournment.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: Individuals needing assistance should contact the County Clerk at 828-465-8990 within a reasonable time prior to the meeting. Access to the 1924 Courthouse for individuals with disabilities is at the south side ("A" Street). The elevator is located at the north end of the building. Participation in public meetings is without regard to race, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, color, or disability.

INFOTALK/INTERNET: The Catawba County Telephone Information System will allow you to use your touch tone telephone to obtain current information on Catawba County 24 hours a day. Information is updated on a

regular basis. Dial 465-8468 and INFOTALK will direct your questions with easy to understand instructions. Reach Catawba County on the Internet at <http://www.catawbacountync.gov>.

CALENDAR: The next Board of Commissioners Meeting will take place on Monday, May 16, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., in the Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room of the 1924 Courthouse, 30 North College Avenue, Newton. Budget Hearings with Departments and Outside Agencies will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 2016, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and the Budget Public Hearing and Wrap-Up will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room, 1924 Courthouse, 30 North College Avenue, Newton, NC.



**PREVIEW OF COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016, 9:30 A.M.
ROBERT E. HIBBITTS MEETING ROOM
1924 COURTHOUSE, NEWTON, N.C.**



The Catawba County Board of Commissioners will receive the annual report of the Community Child Protection & Fatality Prevention Team, which has the legal responsibilities of reviewing cases of child fatalities when the family is known to the Department of Social Services and identifying areas in Protective Services needing improvement in order to maximize the safety of the community's children, when the Board meets at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, May 2, 2016, at the 1924 Courthouse at 30 North College Avenue in Newton.

The Board will consider confirming its approval of a pyrotechnics permit for Ms. Wanda Jarrett, to allow her to hold a pyrotechnics show on Saturday, April 23, in honor and memory of her late son, Michael Jarrett, who recently passed away. Michael Jarrett staged pyrotechnics shows across the county while working with Zambelli Fireworks.

The Board will issue a proclamation declaring May as Tourism Month in Catawba County; the week of May 1-7, 2016, as Public Service Recognition Week and the week of May 15-21, 2016, as Emergency Medical Services Week.

PRESENTATIONS

A. The Board will issue a proclamation declaring May 2016 as Tourism Month in Catawba County to recognize how the travel and tourism industry is vital to the County's economic stability and growth, and its contribution to Catawba County's cultural and social well-being.

B. The Board will issue a proclamation declaring May 15-21 as Emergency Medical Services Week to recognize the value and accomplishments of Emergency Medical Services providers.

C. The Board will issue a proclamation declaring May 1-7 as Public Service Recognition Week to recognize that local, state and federal government employees serve Americans every day. Most public servants feel called to the profession, to work on the public's behalf, to build strong communities through every day service. Catawba County employees touch the lives of all residents by providing a wide range of services specified in the proclamation.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Board will consider confirming approval of a Pyrotechnics Permit for Wanda Gayle C. Jarrett. Ms. Jarrett submitted a Pyrotechnic Permit application for a fireworks display to be conducted on April 23, 2016, at 3742 S. Hwy 16 Maiden, North Carolina. This display was part of a memorial for Ms. Jarrett's son, Michael Jarrett, who recently passed away. Michael performed fireworks displays throughout the County for several years and is being honored by his family. The display occurred at 10:00 p.m. and lasted approximately 30 minutes. There was no Board of Commissioners meeting held between the time of application and the scheduled event. Therefore, the Board was polled and approved Chair Isenhower executing the required permit.

Ms. Jarrett contracted with Zambelli, which had a valid "Outdoor Pyrotechnics Display Operators Permit" through the North Carolina Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshal. Based on the application, all statutory requirements would be met. If at any time, any requirement of the permit was not satisfied, the County Fire/Rescue Division would have immediately revoked the permit.

B. SOCIAL SERVICES

The Board will receive and consider approving the annual report of the work of the Community Child Protection & Fatality Prevention Team. This annual report is to update and keep the Board informed on activities to date. Upon the Board's approval, the Annual Plan will be submitted to the State.

The Catawba County Child Protection Team was established in 1992 as the result of an executive order by Governor James Martin. North Carolina later mandated a Child Fatality Review Team and Catawba County elected to combine the two into a single team as allowed under State guidelines. That combined team first met in 1995 and has met quarterly since inception, except for specially called meetings.

This report addresses the work of the Community Child Protection and Fatality Prevention Team. The Child Protection Team has the legal responsibilities for reviewing cases of child fatalities when the family is known to the Department of Social Services and identifying areas in Protective Services needing improvement in order to maximize the safety of the community's children. The Child Fatality Team's purpose is to provide a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary approach to study cases of childhood death in Catawba County in order to attempt to reduce child fatalities. The local directors of Social Services and Public Health have specific responsibilities for each team. Efforts continue to be made for the group to review additional individual Child Protective Services issues and satisfy the State's agreement with the Federal government to use Child Protection Teams as a review mechanism in the Child Protective Services arena.

The Community Child Protection and Child Fatality Prevention Team has worked diligently in 2015 on supporting the Project Lazarus initiative regarding prescription drug abuse among parents and children as a contributory factor in situations involving medical/law enforcement/child protective services and courts; assessing fatalities with serious injury perpetrator data; focusing on human trafficking, which is a growing concern on the I-40 corridor; focusing on laws and penalties for those who fail to report child abuse and neglect; promoting awareness regarding the dangers of distracted driving among teens; promoting safe sleeping practices among caregivers with small infants, and supporting mental health first aid which helps communities address de-escalating someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis, and the ability of caregivers to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders; and exploring criminalization and early CPS involvement concerning prenatal substance use and substance positive newborns.

CONTACT: DAVE HARDIN, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

828-465-8464

Government of Catawba County, North Carolina

“Keeping the Spirit Alive Since 1842!”

PROCLAMATION

TOURISM MONTH

WHEREAS, The travel and tourism industry in Catawba County is vital to our economic stability and growth, and it contributes substantially to Catawba County’s cultural and social well-being; and

WHEREAS, Travel is one of our most fundamental freedoms. Every citizen benefits from travel and tourism. The travel and tourism industry substantially enhances our personal growth and education, while promoting intercultural understanding and appreciation of Catawba County’s history, geography and culture; and

WHEREAS, Tourism is a growth industry in Catawba County, generating more than \$241 million in expenditures last year, which is a 4.3 percent increase over the previous year. The travel and tourism industry in Catawba County directly employs about 2,200 people, and the total payroll generated by those jobs is more than \$43 million; and

WHEREAS, This year the Hickory Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau will celebrate Tourism the entire month of May, calling it “31 Days of May”, which showcases arts, culture, music, sports, science, and recreational opportunities throughout the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, in recognition of the unique significance of the travel and tourism industry in the lives of the citizens of Catawba County, does hereby proclaim May 2016 as Tourism Month in Catawba County and urges citizens to participate in events highlighted throughout the month.

This the 2nd day of May, 2016.

Randy Isenhower, Chair
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

Government of Catawba County, North Carolina

"Keeping the Spirit Alive Since 1842!"

PROCLAMATION

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

May 15-21, 2016

WHEREAS, emergency medical services (EMS) is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of first responders, emergency medical dispatchers, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, and others; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS does hereby proclaim the week of May 15-21, 2016 as "Emergency Medical Services Week in Catawba County" and encourages the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

This the 2nd day of May, 2016.

**Randy Isenhower, Chair
Catawba County Board of Commissioners**

Government of Catawba County, North Carolina

“Keeping the Spirit Alive Since 1842!”

PROCLAMATION

Public Service Recognition Week – May 1-7, 2016

In honor of the millions of public employees at the federal, state, county, and city levels:

WHEREAS, Americans are served every single day by public servants at the federal, state, county and city levels - by men and women doing the jobs that keep our communities thriving; and

WHEREAS, some public employees take not only jobs, but oaths of loyalty and service; and

WHEREAS, most public servants feel called to the profession, to work on the public's behalf and to build strong communities through their everyday service; and

WHEREAS, many public servants, including sheriff's deputies, firefighters and emergency services staff, risk their lives each day in service to the people of our county and around the nation; and

WHEREAS, public servants include social workers, nurses and other public health professionals, park rangers, deputies, detectives, fire inspectors and paramedics, 911 telecommunicators, librarians, office assistance staff, attorneys, accountants, planners, computer network and programming specialists, mechanics, mappers, heavy equipment operators, and many more; and

AND WHEREAS, these public servants work behind the scenes to ensure continuity in a democracy with regular rotation of leaders and elected officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Catawba County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim May 1-7, 2016 as Public Service Recognition Week and encourages all citizens to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of government employees at all levels — federal, state, county and city.

C. Randall Isenhower, Chair
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

APPOINTMENTS

SHERRY BUTLER (Upcoming) Catawba County Council for the Arts

06/30/16

Joannie Gardner

Eligible for a 3rd term

3-year terms

Commissioner Butler recommends the appointment of Adam Stewart for a first term on the Catawba County Council for the Arts. This term will expire June 30, 2019.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Mark Pettit, Assistant Emergency Services Director

DATE: May 2, 2016

RE: Pyrotechnics Permit Application

Request

Staff requests the Board of Commissioners confirm approval of a Pyrotechnics Permit for Wanda Gayle C. Jarrett.

Background

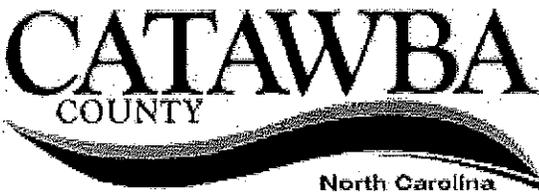
Ms. Jarrett submitted a Pyrotechnic Permit application for a fireworks display to be conducted on April 23rd 2016 at 3742 S. Hwy 16 Maiden, North Carolina. This display was part of a memorial for Ms. Jarrett's son, Michael Jarrett, who recently passed away. Michael performed fireworks displays throughout the County for several years and is being honored by his family. The display occurred at 10:00 p.m. and lasted approximately 30 minutes.

Ms. Jarrett contracted with Zambelli, which had a valid "Outdoor Pyrotechnics Display Operators Permit" through the North Carolina Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshal. Based on the application, all statutory requirements would be met. If at any time, any requirement of the permit was not satisfied, the Fire/Rescue Division would have immediately revoked the permit.

There was no Board of Commissioners meeting held between the time of application and the scheduled event. Therefore, the Board was polled and approved Chair Isenhower executing the required permit.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners confirm the approval of a Pyrotechnics Permit for Wanda Gayle C. Jarrett.



FCPR-23533

Fire/Rescue Division
P.O. Box 389,
100-A South West Blvd.
Newton, NC 28658-0389
Telephone: 828-465-8230
Fax: 828-464-4820
<http://www.catawbacountync.gov/Fire/>

**PERMIT APPLICATION TO POSSESS AND DISPLAY REGULATED PYROTECHNICS
IN AREAS OF CATAWBA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, OUTSIDE
THE INCORPORATED MUNICIPAL LIMITS OF THE CITY OF HICKORY.**

Applicants are required to receive approval from the Catawba County Board of Commissioners in accordance with NCGS 14-410 and 14-413, and Chapter 33 of the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code.

Required Information

Applicant: Wanda Gayle C. Jarrett
Address: 3742 S. Hwy 16, Maiden, NC Telephone: 828-464-5969
Date of Application: 3-30-16 Site Sketch Provided: Yes No
Site Address: 3742 S. Hwy 16, Maiden, NC
Date and time of discharge: Apr. 2nd AT 10:00 pm
Company responsible for discharge: Zambelli
Person(s) responsible for discharge: Timmy Lockin Jason Vaughan

The applicant has asserted of the following:

- 1. The exhibition, use, or discharge is at a concert or public exhibition.
- 2. This pyrotechnics display will be outside.
- 3. Approved site sketch provided.
- 4. All individuals who will be exhibiting, using, handling, or discharging pyrotechnics at the above reference date and time have completed the training required under NCGS 58-82A-2 and will be under the direct supervision and control of a display operator who holds a display operator permit issued by the State Fire Marshal under NCGS 58-82A-3. The display operator will be present at all times and will personally direct all aspects of exhibiting, using, handling, or discharging the pyrotechnics.
- 5. The display operator provided proof of insurance in the amount of at least five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

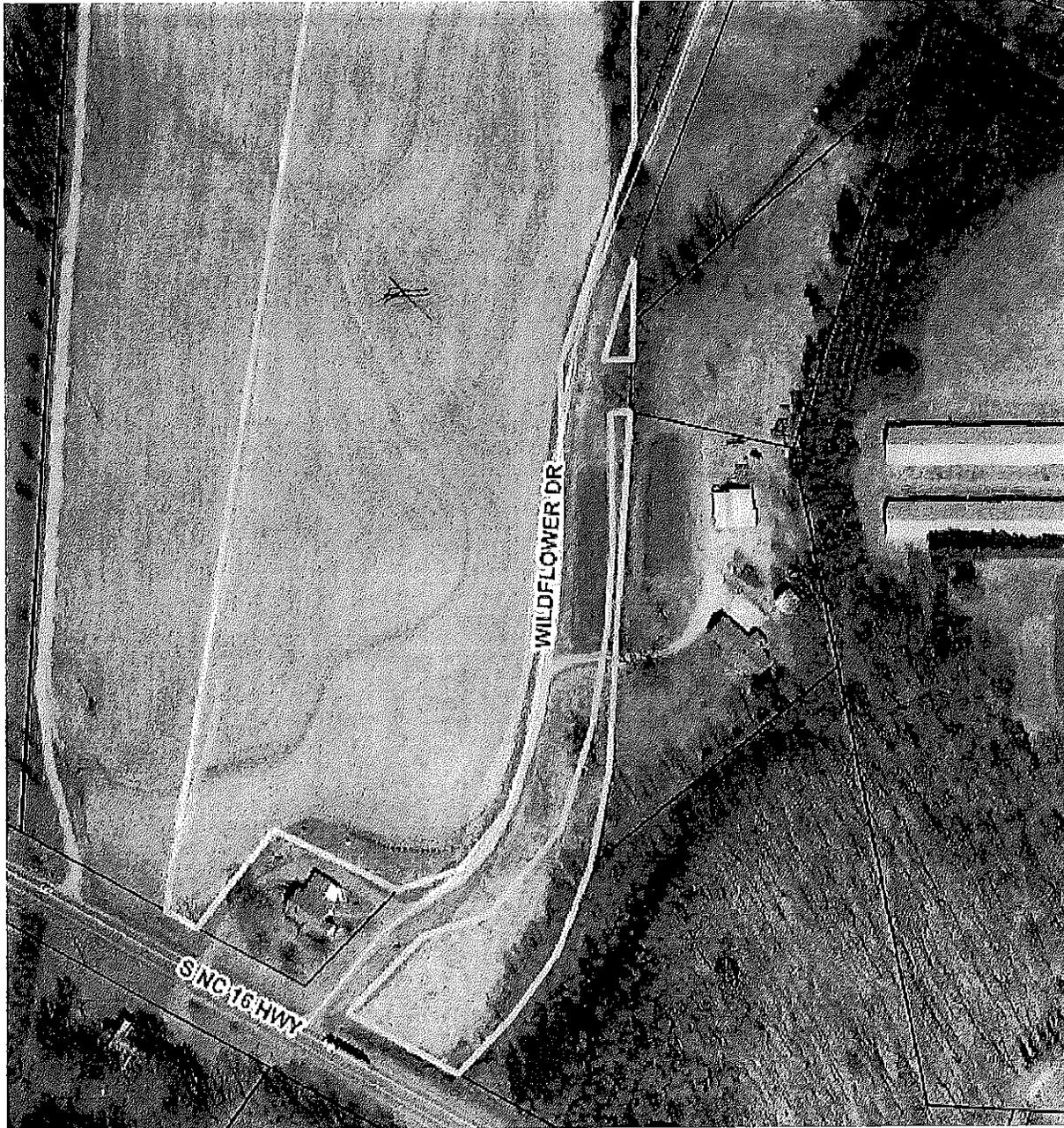
When atmospheric conditions, local circumstances or a ban on outdoor burning has been issued, the Fire/Rescue Division of the Catawba County Emergency Services Department has the authority to approve a new date for the pyrotechnics display.

The Fire/Rescue Division has the authority to revoke this permit at any time if any requirements are not being met.

Signature of Applicant: Wanda Gayle C. Jarrett Date: 3-21-16

Fire Marshal does / does not

Plan **APPROVED**
Catawba County Fire Marshal's Office
Date 3-31-2016 By [Signature]



1in=200ft

Parcel: 366802768748, WILDFLOWER DR MAIDEN, 28650

Owners: JARRETT ALBERT STERLING, JARRETT WANDA GAYLE C

Owner Address: 3742 S NC 16 HWY

Values - Building(s): \$0, Land: \$75,300, Total: \$5,900

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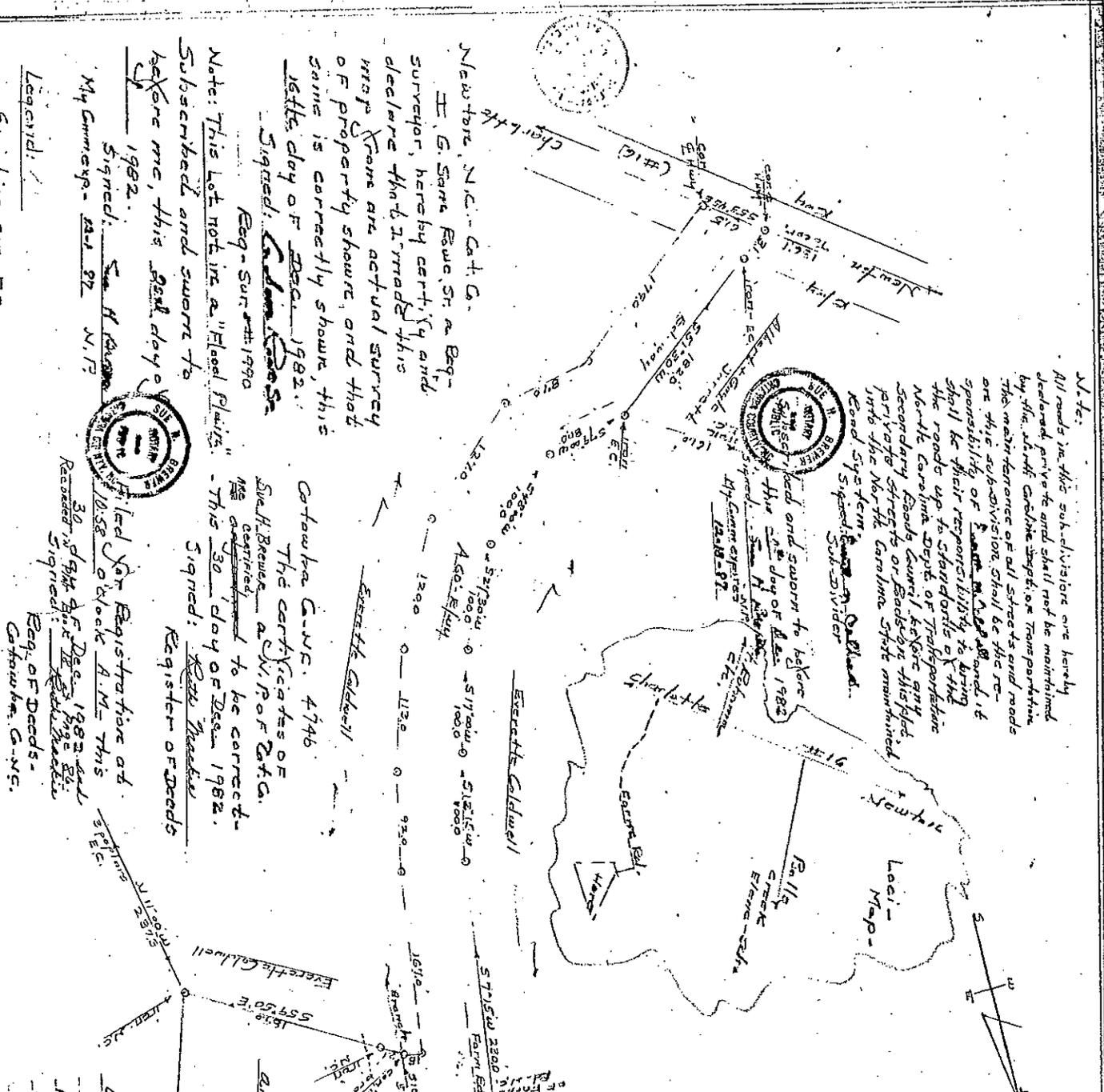
03/31/2016

**PLAT OF:
 EVERETTE M. CALDWELL
 AND VERLIE W. CALDWELL
 PROPERTY
 CALDWELL TSHR.
 CATAWBA CO. N.C.
 REFERENCE BK 449 PAGE 18
 Scale: 1" = 60'**

OWNERS:
 I, (we) hereby declare that we are the owners of the property shown here - that in had a survey as shown made, showing a lot and load right or-way laid out - that the load right of way is dedicated for public use to the said lot the day of _____ 1982
 Signed: _____
 OWNERS

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this _____ day of _____ 1982.
 Signed: _____
 My Comm. exp. _____

Catawba Co.
 Plat. approved for
 Recordation - this 30
 day of DECEMBER 1982.
 Signed: _____
 Chm. Planning Bd. _____
 18-86
 REC



Note:
 All roads in this subdivision are hereby declared private and shall not be maintained by the North Carolina Dept. of Transportation. The maintenance of all streets and roads are this subdivision shall be the responsibility of the owner. The owner shall be their responsibility to bring the roads up to standards of the North Carolina Dept. of Transportation. Secondary roads shall be kept private streets or roads are classified into the North Carolina State maintained road system.
 Signed: _____
 Sub-division

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this _____ day of Dec. 1982.
 Signed: _____
 My Comm. expires _____

Catawba Co. N.C. 4746
 The certifies of S. H. Brewer a S. W. P. of Cat. Co. are certified to be correct - This 30 day of Dec. 1982.
 Signed: _____
 Register of Deeds

Filed for Registration at _____
 30 day of Dec. 1982 at 10:58 o'clock A.M. This
 Signed: _____
 Reg. of Deeds - Catawba Co. N.C.

Newton, N.C. Cat. Co.
 I, G. Sara Ewe, Sr. a Reg-
 surneyor, hereby cert. by and
 declare that I made this
 map. These are actual survey
 of property shown, and that
 same is correctly shown, this
 18th day of Dec. 1982.
 Signed: _____
 Reg - Surneyor 1990

Existing Cor. E.C.
 New Cor. - N.C.

Parcel Report - Catawba County NC

Parcel Information:

Parcel ID: **366802768748**
 Parcel Address: WILDFLOWER DR
 City: MAIDEN, 28650
 LRK(REID): 200235
 Deed Book/Page: 2124/1837
 Subdivision: null
 Lots/Block: null/ null
 Last Sale:
 Plat Book/Page: 18/86
 Legal: HWY 16 PL 18-86 PL 18-86
 Calculated Acreage: 15.260
 Tax Map: 002 K 05006B
 Township: CALDWELL
 State Road #: null

Tax/Value Information: Tax Rates(pdf)

City Tax District: All in County
 County Fire District: BANDYS
 Building(s) Value: \$0
 Land Value: \$75,300
 Assessed Total Value: \$5,900
 Use Land Value: \$5,900
 Year Built/Remodeled: null/null
 Current Tax Bill

Miscellaneous:

Building Permits for this parcel.
 Building Details
 WaterShed:
 Voter Precinct: P1
 Parcel Report Data Descriptions

Owner Information:

Owner: JARRETT ALBERT STERLING
 Owner2: JARRETT WANDA GAYLE C
 Address: 3742 S NC 16 HWY
 Address2: null
 City: MAIDEN
 State/Zip: NC 28650-9084

School Information:

School District: COUNTY
 Elementary School: BALLS CREEK
 Middle School: MILL CREEK
 High School: BANDYS

Zoning Information:

Zoning District: COUNTY
 Zoning1: R-40
 Zoning2: null
 Zoning3: null
 Zoning Overlay: RP-O
 Small Area: BALLS CREEK
 Split Zoning Districts: null/null
 Zoning Agency Phone Numbers

Firm Panel Date: 2007-09-05
 Firm Panel #: 3710366800J
 2010 Census Block: 4017
 2010 Census Tract: 011402
 Agricultural District: PROXIMITY

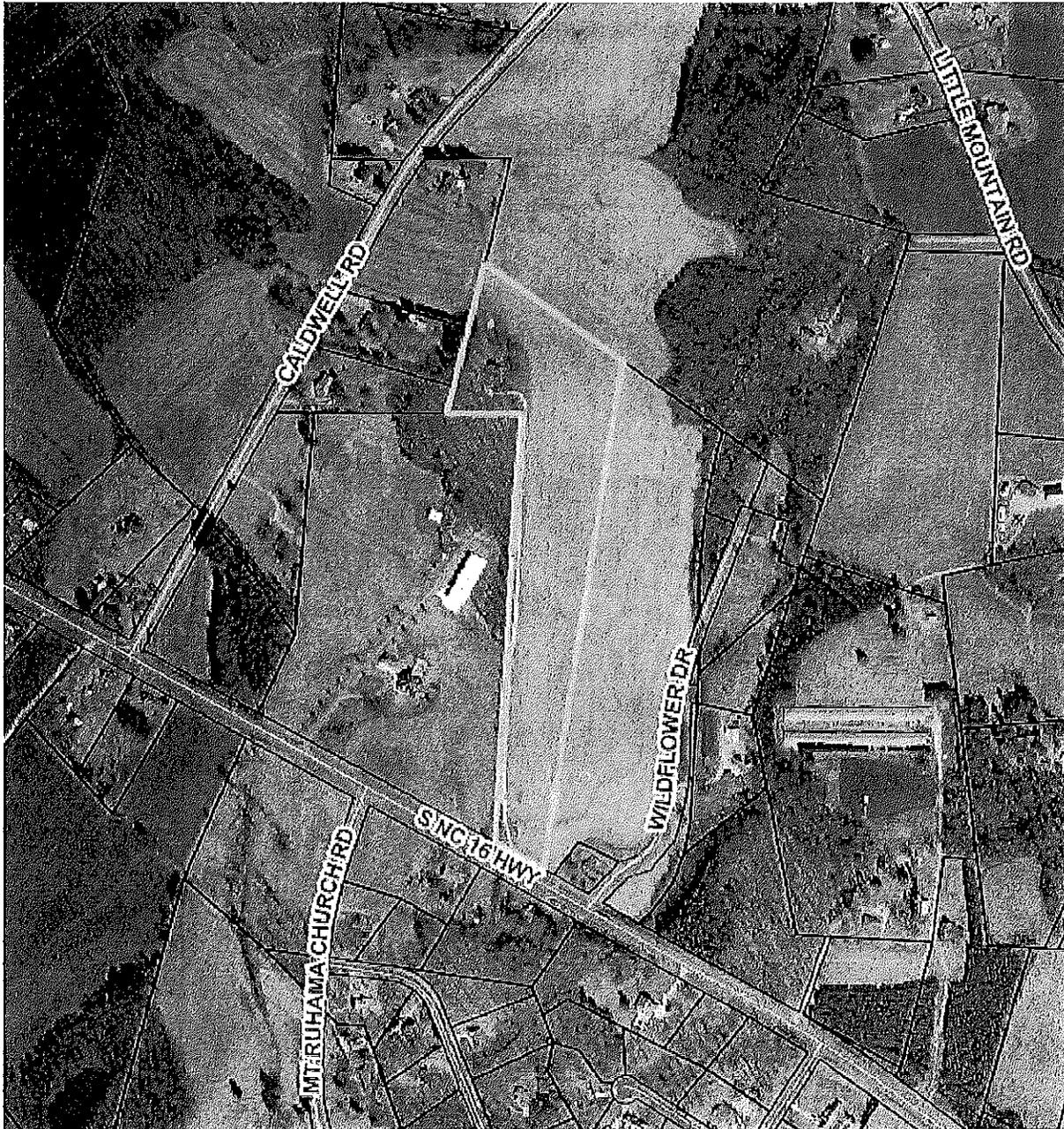
List all Owners

Deed History Report

Assessment Report

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1in=600ft

Parcel: 366802775152, 3708 S NC 16 HWY MAIDEN, 28650

Owners: GOODSON RICKY M, GOODSON KATHY C

Owner Address: 3708 S NC 16 HWY

Values - Building(s): \$195,100, Land: \$74,600, Total: \$269,700

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03/31/2016

Outdoor Pyrotechnics
Display
**OPERATORS
LICENSE**



Jason Vaughan
License # 3132

MEMORANDUM

TO: Catawba County Board of Commissioners

FROM: John Eller, Social Services Director

DATE: May 2, 2016

RE: Community Child Protection & Fatality Prevention Team Annual Report

REQUEST:

North Carolina requires an annual reporting to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the work of the Community Child Protection & Fatality Prevention Team. This annual report is to update and keep the Board informed on activities to date. Staff is seeking Board approval of the annual presentation and priorities; thereafter, the findings and recommendations will be submitted to the State.

BACKGROUND:

The Catawba County Child Protection Team was established in February 1992 as the result of a gubernatorial executive order by Governor James Martin. Later, North Carolina mandated a Child Fatality Review Team and Catawba County elected to combine the two, with a first joint meeting in August 1995. The combined teams have met quarterly since its inception, except for specially called meetings. The Child Protection Team has the legal responsibilities for reviewing cases of child fatalities when the family is known to the Department of Social Services and identification of areas in Protective Services needing improvement in order to maximize the safety of the community's children. The Child Fatality Team's purpose is to provide a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary approach to study cases of childhood death in Catawba County in order to attempt to reduce child fatalities. The local directors of Social Services and Public Health have specific responsibilities for each team and the Board of County Commissioners decides if there will be a team for each area or if they will be combined. This report addresses the work of the Community Child Protection and Fatality Prevention Team. Efforts continue to be made for the group to review additional individual Child Protective Services issues and to satisfy the State's agreement with the Federal Government to use Child Protection Teams as a review mechanism in the Child Protective Services arena. The commitment of team members, their advocacy and dedication to improving the lives of citizens of Catawba County has been a most worthwhile effort.

The Child Protection and Child Fatality Prevention Team members include:

Jennifer McCracken – Public Health – Co-Chairperson
Jason Hughes – Social Services – Co- Chairperson
Bryan Adams – Hickory Police Department
Trish Beckman – Health Care Provider
Janie Connor – Local Child Care Director
Arnita Dula – Social Services Board - Chair
John Eller – Social Services
Sylvia Fisher – Emergency Medical Services

Karen Harrington – Social Services

The Child Protection and Child Fatality Prevention Team members include (cont'd):

Brian Kelly – Sheriff's Office Designee

Carol McConnell – parent of child who died prior to 18th birthday

Sean McGinnis – District Attorney's Office

Michael Ratchford – Catawba County Schools - Designee

Kimberly Rhoads – System of Care Liaison/Mental Health

Bobbie Sigmon – Social Services-CPS

Angela Simmons – Hickory Public Schools - Designee

Clifton Smith – District Court Judge

Sydney Smith – Guardian ad Litem

Julia Styers – Newton-Conover City Schools - Designee

Doug Urland – Public Health

Debra Young – Public Health – CFPT Review Coordinator

Vacant – County Medical Examiner

Non-members:

Andrea Benfield – Community Representative

Jennie Connor – Catawba County United Way

Kayla Hefner – CVMC Safe Kids Coalition

In 2015, The Community Child Protection and Child Fatality Prevention Team focused on the following items:

- Project Lazarus was discussed regarding prescription drug abuse among parents and children as contributory factor in situations involving medical/law enforcement/child protective services/and courts
- Assessed fatalities with serious injury perpetrator data (local and national)
- Human trafficking which is a growing concern on the I-40 corridor
- The laws/penalties for those who fail to report child abuse and neglect
- *Safe Sleep* practices among caregivers with small infants
- Distracted Driving among teenagers to improve safe driving habits
- Mental health first aid which helps communities address de-escalating someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis, the ability to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.
- Explored criminalization and early CPS involvement concerning prenatal substance use and substance positive newborns

Facts for Social Services Child Abuse/Neglect:

- In 2015, Social Services received 3,356 reports of child maltreatment (6,813 children)
 - 1,948 met state criteria to be accepted for assessment (3,929 children)
 - 45% of children involved were birth to 5 years old
 - 38% were between the ages of 6 and 11
 - 17% were between the ages of 12 and 18

- Neglect associated with Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, and/or Inadequate Supervision, either alone or coexisting with others, were the most frequently alleged maltreatment types involved for reports accepted for assessment.
- 99 reports assessed involved a positive drug screen for a newborn or mother at delivery.
- 334 reports involving 729 children were investigated for significant physical abuse, sexual abuse or serious neglect.

Facts for Overall Child Fatalities County Wide (for any reason):

- In 2015, there were 18 child deaths reviewed (16 in 2014)
 - 61% of deaths involved children under the age of 1 (11)
 - 0% ages 1-4 (0)
 - 11% ages 5-9 (2)
 - 6% ages 10-14 (1)
 - 22% ages 15-17 (4)
- 44% of child deaths in Catawba County stemmed from prenatal issues/perinatal conditions (8)
 - 17% due to motor vehicle accident (3)
 - 9% due to unsafe sleeping environment (2)
 - 6% due to cardiac arrest (1)
 - 6% due to trisomy chromosome disorder (1)
 - 6% due to undetermined head injury (1)
 - 6% due to suicide (1)
 - 6% due to a discharged firearm (1)

Areas of Emphasis for 2016:

- Study and report on outcomes for children and families in states with existing criminal statutes in circumstances of prenatal substance use and substance positive newborns and/or states in which CPS involvement before birth in circumstances of prenatal substance use is supported by statute.
- Support Legislation for criminalization of prenatal substance use and substance positive newborns and, for legal justification for CPS intervention with substance using mothers prior to delivery of a child.
- Continue community education efforts concerning *Safe Sleep* practices among caregivers with small infants.
- Revise/produce community educational materials concerning alternative caregivers, “Know Who You Are Leaving Your Kids With” and distribute.
- Distracted Driving among teenagers to improve safe driving habits

RECOMMENDATION:

North Carolina requires an annual reporting to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the work of the team. This annual report is to update and keep the Board informed on activities to date. Staff is seeking Board approval of the annual presentation and priorities;

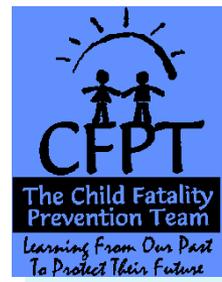
thereafter, the findings and recommendations will be submitted to the State.

CATAWBA COUNTY

COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION & FATALITY PREVENTION TEAM

CO-CHAIRS:

JENNIFER MCCrackEN, PUBLIC HEALTH
JASON HUGHES, SOCIAL SERVICES



PURPOSE

- One team in every county
- Involve diverse agencies and disciplines
- Review Child Fatalities for children under the age of 18 in the County
- Identify system problems, needing improvements in order to maximize the safety of the community's children
- Make recommendations that act to prevent child deaths and address child protection issues



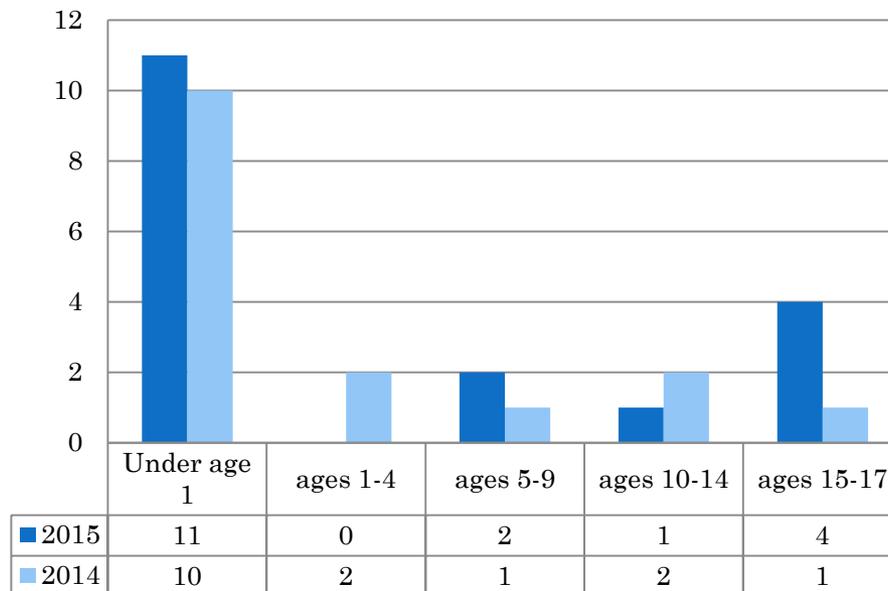
CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DATA

- In 2015, Social Services received 3,356 reports of child maltreatment (6,813 children)
- 45% of children involved were birth to 5 yrs old
- 38% were between the ages of 6 and 11
- 17% were between the ages of 12 and 18
- Neglect – Primarily Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, and/or Inadequate Supervision, (alone or coexisting) were most frequent types of maltreatment alleged in reports assessed.
- 99 reports assessed involved a drug positive newborn or mother at delivery. 98% increase from 2014
- 334 reports involving 729 children were investigated for physical abuse, sexual abuse or serious neglect



CHILD FATALITY DATA

- In 2015, there were 18 child deaths (16 in 2014)
- 61% of deaths involved children under the age of 1 (11)
- 0% ages 1-4 (0)
- 11% ages 5-9 (2)
- 6% ages 10-14 (1)
- 22% ages 15-17 (4)



CHILD FATALITY DATA (CONT'D)

- 44% of child deaths in Catawba County stemmed from prenatal issues/perinatal conditions (8)
- 17% due to motor vehicle accident (3)
- 9% due to unsafe sleeping environment (2)
- 6% due to cardiac arrest (1)
- 6% due to trisomy chromosome disorder (1)
- 6% due to undetermined head injury (1)
- 6% due to suicide (1)
- 6% due to a discharged firearm (1)



AREAS OF EMPHASIS

- Continue prevention messages about Co-Sleeping/ Safe Sleeping environments
- Enhance community awareness about the dangers of Distracted Driving Among Teens (Annual *Preventing Distracted Driving Video [DDVC]* Contest)
- Support the *Period of Purple Crying* for new parents
- Continue advocacy for early entry into Prenatal Care

Infant Safe Sleep



Baby sleeps safest alone, on their back, in a crib.

Preventing
¹**Distracted
Driving
Video
Contest**

The Period of
PURPLE
Crying® Program
A New Way To Understand Your Baby's Crying



AREAS OF EMPHASIS (CONT'D)

- Study outcomes for children and families in states with criminal penalty for prenatal substance use/substance positive newborns and states that support CPS intervention in cases of prenatal substance abuse pre-birth.
- Propose legislation for criminalization of prenatal substance use/substance positive newborns and legal justification for CPS intervention with substance using mothers prior to delivery of a child.
- Revise and produce community educational material concerning alternative caregivers, “Know Who You Are Leaving Your Children With” and distribute.



CATAWBA COUNTY

COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION & FATALITY PREVENTION TEAM

