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

Anson Animal Shelter Needs Volunteers - Would You Like to Help?

The Animal Shelter depends on the help of volunteers to ensure that animal residents receive love and care. More volunteers will also help relieve the workload on staff which can result in more time for resident animals to be adopted before they are euthanized (put to sleep). Please consider volunteering. For more information on helping, call 704-994-2738.

Anson County Animal Shelter is listed on *Petfinder.com*. This is a searchable national database of pets available for adoption that includes a description and photo. All the animals that are up for adoption are listed and have a picture. Just go to *Petfinder.com* and search for any Anson County town or zip code.

A rescue from Animal Shelter can bring lots of happiness and love into any home...and you will make the animal happy too! It's a win-win. And remember, older animals need love too!

New Novel by Elbert Marshall



Elbert Marshall, a former resident of Wadesboro, has published a follow-up novel to the 2012 psychological mystery, *Nomad*.

In *Who Slew Bonnie Blue?* Marshall returns with familiar characters from *Plotz* (co-authored with Wadesboro author Sandy Bruney in 2011) and his solo effort *Nomad*.

In a Book One flashback to 1977, Marshall explores the underbelly of his fictional North Carolina city, Glamorgan, when drugs, sex and pornographic videotapes were the money-making foundation for the city's criminal element. A new character emerges in John Wesley Parrish, who is the *Gazette's* crime reporter. Parrish finds himself walking a tightrope with the "wrong crowd" - to include penning a movie script entitled *The Xanhedrin Rhapsody* for porno king Jackson Brown Black, a.k.a. Blackjack; and writing the novel, *Fallen Angel: The True Story of Bonnie Blue*, after Miss Blue is convicted of murder and sentenced to prison.

In Book Two, Marshall flashes forward to 2010. Bonnie Blue has served her prison sentence and returns to Glamorgan seeking redemption for her sinful acts. When she is found murdered at a local motel, Detectives Maxine Mudd and Jeffrey Pitts are assigned to the case. During their investigation they stumble upon a possible connection between older police department detectives and the 1977 murder case. They begin piecing the puzzle together - right up to a fatal shootout in a cemetery that will leave readers wondering, "What just happened!"

Who Slew Bonnie Blue? is available in softbound and Kindle formats at www.amazon.com; in Nook format at www.bn.com; or from the author. Autographed copies are available by emailing bonniebluethenovel@gmail.com for an infosheet.

Marshall is the former editor of the *Anson Record*, and served as executive director of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce for 10 years. He and Bruney were business partners in Marshall Bruney Media Consultants from 2002-11. He and his wife Carla reside in Pound, Va.

Financial Aid Assistance for High School Seniors - FAFSA Day

Saturday, February 28 is FAFSA Day, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, held at State Employees Credit Union and South Piedmont Community College. Colleges and universities use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine financial aid a student may qualify to receive. The State Employees Credit Union and South Piedmont Community College will have financial specialists and financial aid officers available to assist with completing the FAFSA. If you are a high school senior and your family needs assistance with completing the online application, you may register for an appointment by visiting www.cfnc.org/fafsaday. Click on your county of residence in the map and select the location nearest you. The FAFSA website is www.fafsa.gov.

1) Participants should bring students and parents' federal 1040 tax forms for 2014 to the FAFSA Day program.

2) Each student and one parent should obtain a Personal Identification Number (PIN) prior to FAFSA Day from the Department of Education at www.fafsa.gov.

3) It will be helpful (though not required) for you to complete as much of the FAFSA on the Web worksheet as possible and bring it with you on FAFSA Day. Don't worry if you don't know all the answers; the experienced financial aid officers will help you. The FAFSA on the Web Worksheet for 2015-16 is available now.

FAFSA Day is a free service provided by College Foundation of North Carolina, the North Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, and the State Employees' Credit Union.

Local Filmmaker Dan Sellers' Film Featured at the Ansonia

Anson native Dan Sellers will be featured at the Anson County Arts Council on Friday, January 16. His art? Dan has produced and directed his first feature film, *Hank vs. the Undead*. Partly shot in Peachland and Wadesboro, *Hank vs. the Undead* is a low-budget, horror-comedy zombie film. Several of the cast members (Colton Snodgrass, Austin Atkins, and Wanda Maness) are from Anson County. The film will be shown at the Ansonia Theatre that Friday, January 16 at 7:30 p.m. The running time for the movie is 90 minutes, and tickets are \$5 at the door.

The Arts Council is always proud of Ansonians who have followed a dream of creating something special. Following the movie there will be a short "meet and greet" reception at the Anson County Arts Council. This post-movie reception is free.

Although Sellers says the movie is more comedy than horror, it is a zombie movie and should not be attended by small children and others who may be squeamish.

Feel free to come by the reception to congratulate Dan even if you don't attend the movie. The reception is from approximately 9 to 9:30 p.m.

Get more info at www.hankvstheundead.com.



Xzyeron McLendon Wins LES Spelling Bee

Lilesville Elementary School Classroom Spelling Bee winners in grades 3 through 6 competed in a school-level spelling competition on December 16. Third grader Xzyeron McLendon (pictured at right) was the winner and will compete at the Anson County Schools District-level event later this month. She was presented a LES hoodie. Fifth grader Cormelia Ingram was the LES runner-up.

Monica Lee Stokes organized the event, and retired Anson County school teacher Leslie Capel served as the word caller.

Participating students were Victoria Watkins, Jahmya Brewer, Xzyeron McLendon, Peyton Pratt, Cormelia Ingram, Jakeira Horne, Alyssa Simon and Destiny Owens.



Tom McInnis Sworn in as Senator Representing Anson County, Local Scouts Attend Inauguration

Members of Cub Scout Pack 530 and Girl Scout Troop 1389 from Peachland participated in the Inauguration Ceremony of State Senator Tom McInnis on Saturday, January 3 in Ellerbe. Senator McInnis represents Anson and Richmond counties as part of District 25, replacing Gene McLaurin.



Pictured are Jessica Laney (Brownie), Nathan McSwain (Bear), Laura Laney (Cubmaster), Caleb Laney (Webelos), Trent Taylor (Webelos), Claudia McSwain (Bear Den Leader) and Senator Tom McInnis.

Tylazia Butler Receives Surprise from President Obama

Tylazia Butler, a fifth grade student at Lilesville Elementary School, recently received a surprise in the mail from President Barack Obama. She had written a letter to President Obama earlier in the school year asking questions about his role as President of the United States and about the US Government. For her efforts Tylazia received autographed photos, activity booklets about the White House and other materials.

Tylazia is shown here with some of the items she received with LES teacher Melanie Simon.



Toys for Tots Gratitude Banquet is Saturday

Toys for Tots is holding a Gratitude Banquet to thank sponsors and contributors. This event is open to the public, and will feature a delicious meal, entertainment by Holla, and speaker Fred Poisson of the Poisson, Poisson & Bower Law Firm. It will take place on Saturday, January 10 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center beginning at 6 p.m.

Toys for Tots Director Vancine Sturdivant said, "At this point we have supplied toys to over 3,000 kids. Nothing but the grace of God."

Poisson has been practicing law in Anson County for 38 years. He has been actively involved in local outreach with an emphasis on supporting programs that benefit children and literacy. He is board certified in workers' compensation law and has served as State Bar Councilor the past nine years as did his father and grandfather before him. Poisson is managing member of Poisson, Poisson & Bower, PLLC, a full service law firm. He practices law with his daughter Stewart Poisson and son Davis Poisson who are both seventh generation attorneys as well as George Bower, Kelly Dawkins, Whitney Scarborough and Kathryn Scarborough. Tickets are \$10, and will be available at the door. The event is free for sponsors and contributors. For more information call 704-848-4412.



Fred Poisson

Every Life Matters Chili Bowl Luncheon is Friday

Hope Pregnancy Resource Center is holding a Chili Bowl luncheon on Friday, January 9. You are invited to come to the First Methodist Church in uptown Wadesboro between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and enjoy a delicious bowl of chili. Tickets are only \$6 each.

You are encouraged to order in advance if you plan to attend, as this will help organizers plan. Also, deliveries are available for orders of 6 or more. You can call 704-690-6689 or fax your order to 704-694-5723.

Hope Pregnancy Resource Center's website is www.hprc-anson.org. The email address is hope.prc.anson@gmail.com.

Do You Need a Coat or Blanket? Would You Like to Donate?

The Faith-Based Center of Hope has begun their "Warm Coats, Warm Hearts" program. They have distributed coats to several of the churches and schools in Anson County.

Blankets for the elderly are also available.

To donate coats and blankets or to request help, please contact Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.

50+ Club Meeting to Feature Musician Carson Hill

Hampton B. Allen Library's 50+ Club will meet on Monday, January 12 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theatre. A special treat is on offer because Carson Hill will be entertaining with her music. Everyone is invited to come and bring a friend.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

Healthy Living and Eating Seminar Jan. 18

Pathway to Peace Ministries presents ANEW-START, healthy living seminar and cooking class on Sunday, January 18, from 3 to 5 p.m. Learn how to cook plant-based foods that will heal you. Learn how to lose weight, have more energy, reduce cholesterol, reverse diabetes, lower blood pressure, and much more.

Interested? Come! Seminar and cooking class is FREE! It will be held at 11775 Highway 109 South in Peachland. For more information call 704-695-1441.

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