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

## Observant Deputies Bust Meth Lab

On Sunday, January 18 deputies from the Anson County Sheriff's Office went to a residence on Olive Branch Road in the Burnsville area for a follow up investigation concerning a larceny that occurred on Newton Moore Road Friday, January 16. Upon arrival the deputies noticed Johnny Austin Dellinger coming from an outbuilding. Dellinger was questioned about the stolen property, then he gave officers consent to look around the property. While officers conducted their investigation they noticed items consistent with the manufacturing of methamphetamine. At that point the officers detained Mr. Dellinger and contacted narcotics detectives. A search warrant was obtained, and evidence was collected.



**Johnny Austin Dellinger**

Deputies ended up charging Dellinger, 40, with Possession of Methamphetamine, Manufacturing Meth, Maintain a Dwelling, and Possession of Meth Precursors. Dellinger was placed in the Anson County Jail under a \$100,000 secured bond with a court date of January 27.

## Citizen's Help Leads to Arrest of 3 Juveniles for Theft

On Monday, January 19 Anson deputies were called to a residence on Ansonville-Polkton Road for a breaking and entering. While enroute officers were advised that the homeowner was following the suspects. With information from the homeowner officers were able to locate the suspects. They were three juvenile males. Two were 16 and one was 17 years old. During the investigation officers located the stolen property.

The boys were charged with Possession of Stolen Property and released to their parents. They have a court date of February 10.



## Crisis Ministry Holds Volunteer Appreciation Banquet

Sounds of laughter and the aroma of hickory cooked pork barbecue chicken filled the dining room of the First Baptist Church in Wadesboro on Thursday, January 22 for the Anson Crisis Ministry Annual Appreciation Banquet. The event was held to specifically express appreciation to the volunteers and local businesses that supported the Crisis Ministry in 2014. New Chairwoman of the Board, Frances Hyatt-Harrington welcomed volunteers, guests, and board members before introducing the entertainment.

Entertainment for the evening, which proved to be an evening of pure laughter, was delivered by a "Heavenly Host" of angels. Dressed with gold jewelry and beautiful white array, the angels, unbelievably, reside in the Wadesboro area. They shared their unusual angelic experiences, while adding a bit of music to enhance their stories. The angels are Bunk Hill, Hannah Powell, Julie Jenkins, Ellen Goodwin, Sybil Almond, Jewel Jones and Marlene Crawford.

A delicious meal, served buffet-style, consisted of freshly shredded pork and barbecue chicken prepared by head chef Tom Bricker. Slaw was prepared by board member Bob Garris. Baked beans, tea, and coffee were prepared by board member Margot Barnes. Other board members prepared a large variety of delicious desserts.

Crisis Ministry Director Ann James presented award certificates to David Stroupe, Gwen Patrick, Janice Cassidy, Becky Allen, Dinnetta Douglas, Margaret Little, Martha Maye and Nita Hildreth. Absent from the banquet was weekly volunteer Minnie Spencer. Mrs. James shared comical characteristics about each volunteer as they received their certificates.

Tom Bricker recognized Wadesboro Food Lion, Martin Furniture Company, Wadesboro Lumber & Barn, Wadesboro IGA, D.A. Griffin Construction Company and Anson Mechanical Services. Each of the local businesses has been an integral part of the Crisis Ministry during 2014. Mary Ann Baker and Ann Poplin were also recognized for their personal contributions in 2014. The board Chair completed the evening's activities by sharing with the group her personal gratefulness for the many hours the volunteers were willing to give to the Ministry. Board member Bob Garris also shared with the group his appreciation and respect for the unselfish hours they donate to the Ministry. Board member Janet White ended the evening activities with a prayer of thankfulness and gratitude for the volunteers and the desire for a blessing upon each volunteer.

Pictured above are, from left, front: Dinnetta Douglas, Ella Kelley, Sue Hovermale, Nita Hildreth and Janice Cassidy. Back row: Gwen Patrick, Alonzo Phillips, Martha Maye and David Stroupe.

## Brandon Lewis Pratt Arrested During Second Burglary of Same Residence

On Tuesday, January 13 Anson County Sheriff's deputies responded to a breaking and entering call on Sportsman Road in Morven. Deputies arrived and began an investigation but had no suspects. Just over a week later deputies were called back to the same residence during the morning hours of Thursday, January 22 for another breaking and entering that had just occurred. The suspect was seen running into the woods. A Sheriff's K9 was called to the scene to track the suspect, and a few hours later the suspect was apprehended.

Brandon Lewis Pratt, 21, of Morven was charged with Attempted Breaking/Entering, and also charged with Felony Breaking/Entering and Felony Larceny from the previous breaking and entering at the residence. He was placed in the Anson County Jail under a \$4,500 secured bond with a court date of February 3.

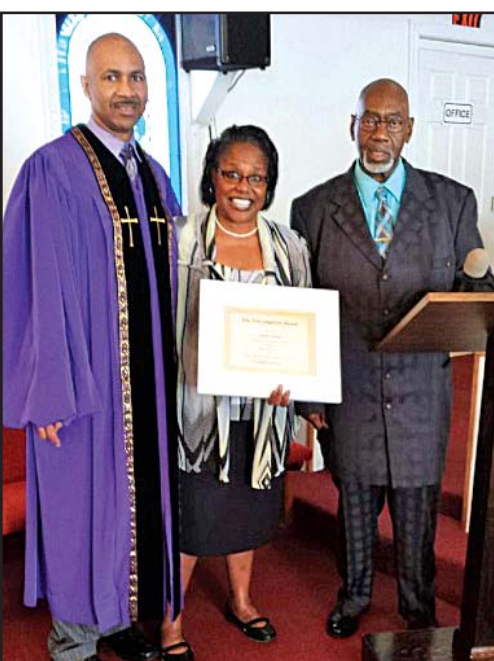
## Vancine Sturdivant Recipient of Ada Ford Singleton Award

On Sunday, January 25 the second Ada Ford Singleton Award was presented to Vancine Sturdivant for Community Awareness and Leadership. Rev. Charles Ford, Sr., son of Ada Ford Singleton, commended Sturdivant for her hard work and devotion in helping others and the support of Anson County.

The award was presented to Sturdivant by Ford who is chairman of the Ada Ford Singleton Biography Committee at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Morven. Ford enlightened Sturdivant by telling her that Singleton was awarded the Long Leaf Pine Award in the years of 1978 and 1985 by former governor Jim Hunt for dedicated service to the state of North Carolina during her 30-year tenure as president of the Anson County NAACP.

Ford said, "This committee believes that Vancine Sturdivant is doing good work for Anson County and the state of North Carolina, and will continue to do so."

Pictured with Vancine Sturdivant are her pastor, Reverend Michael McLeod (left) and Rev. Charles Ford, Sr.



## Ansonville Community Meeting with Sheriff Landric Reid

The Anson County Sheriff's Office will have a Community Meeting at Ansonville Fire Department on Thursday, January 29 at 6:30 p.m. All Ansonville citizens are encouraged to come out and voice their concerns on crime and crime prevention.

Sheriff Landric Reid said, I am focused on community policing, and building stronger communications between the citizens and my office. I believe in improving the quality of life in all communities in Anson County by preventing crime not just responding to crime. I understand that providing protection for you and your family through the enforcement of civil and criminal laws are a top priority."

Please join Sheriff Reid and his staff for this important community

## US Army to Conduct Robin Sage Training Exercise in Uptown Wadesboro February 3

On Tuesday, February 3 Army Special Forces Robin Sage students will conduct a training exercise on the Tollison Building in uptown Wadesboro at the intersection of N Washington and Morgan Streets. This training exercise will occur between 6:30 and 7 p.m. and will feature "blank" gunfire noises. While these gunfire noises will be loud, they will not be dangerous to the public.

Coordination between the Army and Wadesboro Town Officials has ensured all safety concerns are addressed. During the exercise Wadesboro Police will block off the area around the Tollison building as a safety measure. Spectators are welcome to watch the training exercise from a distance.

## Free Groceries February 4

The Mobile Food Pantry and CMC Mobile Health Unit will be at First Baptist Church in Marshville (1636 Old Highway 74 Marshville, NC 28103) on Wednesday, February 4, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

Here are the policies:

- Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food
- Do not arrive before 9:30 a.m.
- If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, it will be canceled
- If you have not yet done so, bring proof of your income to register
- You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

This event is sponsored by Anson Crisis Ministry and local United Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Apostolic Churches.

Interested in volunteering? The last Mobile Food Pantry provided food for the following within 145 families:

- 49 individuals from ages 0-18
- 146 individuals from ages 19-64
- 62 individuals from age 65+
- Provided some provisions for backpack donation meals for 87 children.

To volunteer or learn more, call Debbie Danner, Parish Nurse, First Baptist Church (704) 516-5033 or Rev. Cindy Lunsford (828) 891-2753.

## Hit-n-Run 5K for Anson High School Baseball Teams is Sunday

There will be a 5K run/walk called the Hit-n-Run 5K held on Sunday, February 1 to help raise funds for the Anson High School baseball teams for equipment. Registration and the start line are located at Anson Machine Works on Highway 74 in Polkton, across from Brown Creek Animal Hospital. The race will feature awards for the top three overall finishers and top finishers in various age and sex categories.

Early Bird Registration costs \$20 and runs through January 30 at noon. After than registration is \$25, and you can register at the event. There will be one water stop on the course. Vac and Dash will handle the timing. You can pick up your packet on race day beginning at 1:30 p.m. The 5K starts at 2:30 p.m. Strollers are welcome.

For more information about the 5K, including sponsorship, please contact Kimberly Edwards at 704-694-8280 or [godwinsbs1@yahoo.com](mailto:godwinsbs1@yahoo.com).

## Anson Women's League Annual Soup Luncheon is February 10

Mark your calendars! The Anson County Women's League (AWL) annual soup luncheon is coming up on Tuesday, February 10. For \$7 you get delicious homemade vegetable-beef soup, toasted cheese sandwich, drink and your choice of a wonderful homemade dessert (eat-ins only) at First Baptist Church (Lee Avenue) in Wadesboro.

This fun event is one of the AWL's major fundraisers for many charitable donations, including the annual AWL scholarships for graduating Anson County Seniors. Your enjoyment will help support many worthy causes here in Anson County.

Tickets are available from any AWL member. Also, you can contact Ross Huntley at (704) 994-3437 or send an email to [ansonwomensleague@gmail.com](mailto:ansonwomensleague@gmail.com) to purchase tickets in advance or for more information.

They cannot deliver, but can prepare meals in bulk orders for take-out if you let them know how many orders and at what time you will pick them up. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Plan to come and enjoy a delicious meal in great company!

## Sign Up at Field Dreams for Spring Season Sports Programs

Sign up now for spring season at Field of Dreams in Polkton through March 8. Spring sports include:

- Tee ball (ages 4-6) cost \$35 until February 22, then \$50
- Baseball (ages 7-12) cost \$55 until February 22, then \$70
- Softball (ages 7-18) cost \$55 until February 22, then \$70

Two spring sign up days will be held at the Field of Dreams - on Saturday, February 7 and Saturday, February 22, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Or you may sign up online at [www.sportsmanager.us/aaya.htm](http://www.sportsmanager.us/aaya.htm). Let's play ball!

## Free Parenting Classes and Diapers Offered by HOPE Pregnancy Resource Center

Learn about parenting in a small group setting while earning free diapers. These free parenting classes are offered by HOPE Pregnancy Resource Center. They will take place at 19 South Williams Street in Polkton.

To sign up call 704-690-6689. Be sure to ask about HOPE's clothing ministry.

The website for HOPE is [www.hprc-anson.org](http://www.hprc-anson.org).

## Public Speaking Workshop for Students Saturday

Registration is now open for Mic Talk, a free public speaking workshop for middle and high school students. Students will learn tips on being a comfortable and confident public speaker. These tips are great for school presentations, projects, college, and job interviews!

Snacks and hands-on activities are provided. Workshop takes place on Saturday, January 31 at 10 a.m. at the HOLA! Building, located at 229 East Main Street in Morven. You must pre-register at [www.WorkshopsOnWheels.org](http://www.WorkshopsOnWheels.org) or call (919) 475-2566. This workshop is presented by W.O.W. Workshops on Wheels.

The Express is on the web at [www.TheExpressNewspaper.com](http://www.TheExpressNewspaper.com)