

THE EXPRESS

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

Betty Huntley Named Wadesboro Housing Authority Executive Director

Mrs. Betty Huntley of Wadesboro has been named the new Executive Director of the Wadesboro Housing Authority as of January 2014.

Mrs. Huntley has 30 years of experience with the Housing Authority. During that time she has received the Public Housing Manager Certification, Occupancy Specialist for Public Housing Certification, and Fair Housing Training by the North Carolina Human Relations Commission. In addition, she has seven years of specialized experience in Senior Housing Property Management, is currently serving on the Anson/Union County Habitat Board, is an alumnus of Anson Community College (now South Piedmont



Betty Huntley

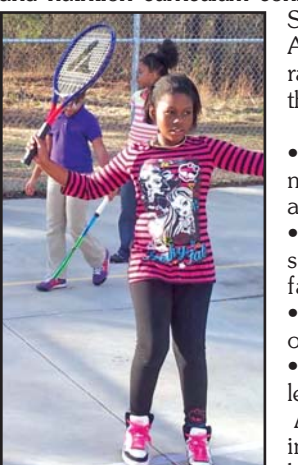
Community College), and is an active member of Flat Rock Missionary Baptist Church in Wadesboro. She is married to Frank Huntley, and they have a daughter, Katrina.

Mrs. Huntley said, "I am mostly thankful and appreciative to God as I serve the families and community of Anson County."

Tennis Organizations Select HOLLA! for Pilot Program

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) and National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) have selected HOLLA! as a pilot program in North Carolina to implement the Academic Creative Engagement (ACE) Curriculum. The curriculum will be implemented statewide through a collaboration with NC CAP - North Carolina Community Afterschool Programs. HOLLA! was selected among 18 sites to pilot the program. ACE is an extended learning program that uses a math, literacy and nutrition curriculum connected to Common Core State Standards and the sport of tennis. ACE is improving outcomes and raising money for NJTL Chapters throughout the country.

- The program:
- Provides an engaging multicultural approach that addresses the achievement gap
 - Promotes social/emotional skills, health/wellness, and family involvement
 - Teaches problem-solving strategies on and off the tennis court
 - Includes fun and relevant learning activities
- Additionally the ACE curriculum incorporates the values of the late African-American Tennis Professional, Arthur Ashe: Start where you are; Use what you have; and Do what you can.



"HOLLA! was chosen because we already have our young people involved in the sport of tennis and we have the facilities to accommodate the program," said Alex Gaddy. Gaddy has been very instrumental in getting the HOLLA! tennis program off the ground. Initially a part of the HOLLA! Let's MOVE Project, the tennis program is now receiving national attention.

"Our children will get what they deserve, and they deserve the best," said Leon Gatewood, HOLLA!'s CEO. Gatewood, who was on Bowman High School's first tennis team, mentioned that several people have asked him why HOLLA! bothered to put a tennis court in Morven? "I simply asked them if they had ever heard of Venus and Serena (Williams)? It is our duty as elders of the village to provide opportunities for our young," he added.

Tennis classes are taught at the HOLLA! Center on Fridays at 5 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m. Want to get involved with, or support the program? Call the HOLLA! Center at 704-851-3144 or Alex Gaddy at 704-465-1790. HOLLA! is a 501 c 3 non-profit Community Development Corporation (CDC). www.HOLLA.us

Democratic Precinct Meeting is Thursday

The Anson County Democratic Party will hold their Precinct Meeting on Thursday, February 27. This meeting is for all Anson County precincts. It will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library. For information call Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.

Republican Party Convention is Saturday

The Anson County Republican Party Convention will be held on Saturday, March 1 at Hampton B. Allen Library at 2:30 p.m. Guest speakers are NC Lt. Governor Dan Forest, US Representative Richard Hudson and Rep. Mark Brody. Also in attendance will be US Senate candidates Mark Harris, Thom Tillis, Heather Grant and Ted Alexander; NC Senate candidate Tom McInnis; Judicial Candidates Bill Southern and Eric Levinson. You are invited to come and have the opportunity to be a delegate to the 8th District Convention on April 5th and the State Convention on June 6-8. Sign in registration runs from 1 to 2:15 p.m. All Republicans are invited to attend.

Golden Sweethearts Event at BRLC

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center invites all Golden Sweethearts (senior citizens!) to a time of celebration. They will hold this event on Saturday, March 1, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. If you are 50 years old or older you are invited to come to this event held just for you. There will be lots of good food, beverages, music, bingo and other games, a chocolate fountain (yum!), prizes and much more! This event is not just for senior citizens, the BRLC welcomes singles and couples of all ages, and kids from 5 to 12 years old too. This will be a great time to see old friends and meet new ones. There will be hit songs from the 1940's to 1960's, and the dancefloor will be open. If you want to enlarge your borders, or if you are a little shy, the BRLC is the place to be! Each guest will need a ticket to attend this special event. For information please call Linda Pratt at 704-826-8066 or BRLC Director Carol Smith at 704-826-8182. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department.



Ansonville Elementary School Terrific Kids

Ansonville Elementary School would like to recognize the following students for earning "Terrific Kid" awards for possessing and displaying the character traits of Caring and Fairness. AES staff and students congratulate each of you on a job well done!

Caring: Jackson Burr, Kaitlynn Black, Zamiyah Holt, Leah McLaurin, Angie Veronica-Martinez, Maya Hall, Jacob Smith, Emma Streater, Maurice Caple, Meredith Preslar, Tyler Gathings and Felipe Carranza.

Fairness: Lacey Adams, Jaqualin Liles, Jake Kearney, Jailia Thao, Seth Gathings, Zaylan Harrell, Emily Cooke, Kaitlin Kearney, Esperanza Veronica-Martinez, Gavin Smith, Rieley Pope and Amber Walsh.

Barrett's College of the Pee Dee Community in Lilesville

This is one of a series of articles The Express is presenting during February in honor of Black History Month. Written by historian and genealogist Steve Bailey:

Reverend Adam Martin Barrett was born about 1844, but where he was born is a mystery. Whereas family tradition states he was born in the West Indies, other vital records indicate he was born in Moore County, NC. He arrived in Anson County after the Civil War and established Barrett's College in the Pee Dee Community of Lilesville Township in order to help give former slaves a decent education.

Barrett's College went by several names over the years which included The Collegiate Institute for Negro Youth and also The Collegiate and Industrial Institute, but it was best known as Barrett's College.

The main building was an elegant three story brick structure. Another building stood nearby which provided dormitory accommodations for girls and boys. A third building, which was a large wooden structure, was used as a storage building. The cost to build everything was \$4,039.75, and the college was incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina in 1889. Reverend Barrett toured widely in the northern United States as well as in England and France in order to raise the funds to keep his school in operation. A pamphlet which he sold on these trips gave an account of his life as a young man before the Civil War and also told of his struggles to obtain an education in spite of the law that forbade slaves to learn to read or write. He wrote, "With the abolition of slavery a brighter day has begun to dawn for my country and my people. Old things are passing away and all things are becoming new. We wish to educate ourselves to the duties and responsibilities of free men."

Anson County citizens knew that Barrett did an excellent job in educating his students. In January of 1894 Barrett started the publication of a newspaper which was named The Pee Dee News. There were many subscribers to his newspaper, but it is not known for what length of time Barrett was successful at this business venture. In October of 1916 Barrett and his wife Catherine were honored during a two day celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

In January of 1924 Barrett's College was destroyed by fire which had started in a nearby store managed by Jim Robinson. The fire soon spread to a vacant store building and then to the college building. According to a newspaper article from the 1970's, Mrs. Ethel Cureton was interviewed regarding her memories of Barrett's College. Her father was in charge of the Pee Dee Railroad Station, and Ethel Cureton (born 1915) remembered as a young girl that her father tried to help Barrett save some of the college's furniture by tossing all they could out of the windows along with the help of Will Horne who was Principal of the college.

Reverend Barrett is buried in a field across the railroad tracks in the Pee Dee Community, very near where his beloved college once stood. His daughter Ida Barrett Frye (1891-1962) is buried nearby at Womble Chapel AME Zion Church. Several years ago a timber company encircled Barrett's grave with a fence. His headstone states the following: "Doctor Adam Martin Barrett February 7, 1844 - May 25, 1926 Founder and Owner of Barrett College." You can contact Steve Bailey for genealogy services at 704-475-3877 or genealogy1959@yahoo.com

Masquerade Jewelry Sale at the Hospital

There will be a Masquerade Jewelry and Accessories Sale at the Anson Community Hospital next week on Monday and Tuesday (March 3 & 4). You are invited to come shop for great deals on all new spring items. And, all the proceeds go to benefit the Hospital Auxiliary Volunteer Program.

The sale will take place in the Fitness Room on the second floor. On Monday the hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Tuesday the hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. They accept cash, credit cards and payroll deduction. Experience the Frenzy!!

Civitan Club Lucky Hot Dogs for St. Patrick's Day

The Wadesboro Civitan Club will celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Monday, March 17th, with their annual Lucky Hot Dog Lunch from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Each plate will include two dogs with trimmings on the side, chips and dessert. The six-dollar plates will be available for dine-in, carry out, or delivery. Patrons who chose to eat at the Civitan Scout Hut will get their choice of desserts and beverages. The Civitan hot dogs are extra tasty because the all-beef franks are browned on the grill.

Funds raised by the Lucky Hot Dog Lunch support Special Olympics in Anson County and help to send Ansonian students to the NC Special Olympic games. Proceeds above what is needed for Special Olympics will go towards Civitan scholarships for Anson County students.

Businesses and groups who want their orders delivered should call the receptionist at Martin Furniture (704-694-3185) before 5 p.m. on Friday, March 14th. Civitans will offer free delivery on orders for six or more lunches anywhere in Anson County and for smaller groups within a mile of the Civitan Building.

Anson Athletics Strength and Conditioning Golf Tournament

Anson Athletics Strength and Conditioning Department will be hosting a Captains Choice Foursome Golf Tournament Fundraiser Saturday, March 22 at Twin Valley Country Club. The cost to enter is \$60 per person, which includes green fees, cart fees, a bucket of range balls and lunch. If you are interested contact Jake Thomas at 704-695-7071 or thomas.jacob@anson.k12.nc.us. Make checks payable to Anson High School Weightlifting. Prizes for the event include first, second and third place, closest to the pin and longest drive. Raffle prizes include cash, golf apparel, clubs, athletic event tickets and much more! Sponsors are needed! Sponsorship levels from Corporate to Bronze are available. Please contact Jake Thomas for further details on hole sponsorships, etc. The Anson Strength and Conditioning needs your help in making this event a success!

Commissioners to Hold Budget Retreat Saturday

The Anson County Board of Commissioners will hold a budget retreat this Saturday, March 1. The meeting will take place in the Board Room of the Government Center (Suite 209) from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For more information call 704-994-3201.

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 or Ester Lindsey at 704-848-8452.

Domestic Violence Coalition BBQ Fundraiser is Friday

The Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition will hold their Annual BBQ Fundraiser this Friday, February 28 at First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. The cost per bbq plate is \$8 and includes slaw, baked beans, roll and dessert. Sandwiches are \$3, and they will offer bulk barbecue too. Drinks are included for eat-in orders only.

For more information call 704-694-4499. Deliveries are available, call or fax 704-694-4515.

Pancake and Sausage Breakfast this Saturday

You are invited to Sacred Heart Catholic Church for a big, all you can eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast this Saturday, March 1. Doors open at 8 a.m. and they will serve until 11 a.m.

The cost are \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors and kids 6-12. Kids 5 and under eat for free! You can pay at the door.

Sacred Heart is located at 205 South Rutherford Street in Wadesboro, at the intersection of Rutherford and Morgan Streets.

Ansonville Fire & Rescue Barbecue is Saturday

Everyone is invited to come out for fun, fellowship...and best of all...delicious barbecue this Saturday, March 1. The Ansonville Fire & Rescue is holding their barbecue from 11 a.m. until they run out of food. They are serving pork, beef and chicken - yum! Plates are \$9. Dessert donations are greatly appreciated.