

THE EXPRESS

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #149
Wadesboro, NC
28170

Postal
Customer

205 West Morgan Street • Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-694-2480 • TheExpressNews@gmail.com • www.TheExpressNewspaper.com

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

Severe Thunderstorm Monday Leaves Trail of Damage

On Monday afternoon July 9, between 4:30 and 5 p.m. a severe thunderstorm moved across Anson County, keeping fire, rescue, EMS and law enforcement crews busy throughout the evening. This storm had strong winds, heavy rain and hail associated with it. The storm caused trees to fall across the county creating power outages. The heavy rain created flooding of roadways and small creeks.



A destroyed tree on 5th Street in Lilesville.

Anson County Emergency Services Director Rodney Diggs said, "The worst part of the storm happened in the Town of Lilesville where trees fell and a freestanding carport and trampoline were moved approximately 100 yards into the roadway. A canopy at the Lilesville Pool was also destroyed by this storm. No injuries were reported."

The National Weather Service (NWS) has said that this storm did not appear to be a tornado, but what is called a downburst. Downbursts are defined as strong winds produced



Pardon me, have you seen my carport? This carport ended up laying upside down on the road in Lilesville.

by a downdraft over a horizontal area up to 6 miles (10 kilometers). Downbursts are further subdivided into microbursts and macrobursts. Diggs added, "With the severe weather that is happening across the United States and hurricane season upon us, Anson County Emergency Management is encouraging everyone to be safe and prepared for storms. We never know when an emergency might happen. They come in the form of severe weather, accidents,



The Lilesville Pool building suffered damage.

and unfortunately, terrorist attacks. Planning now for how you would respond will help you remain calm, think clearly and react appropriately to any disaster scenario. Taking responsibility for your own safety by being prepared with plans and an emergency supply kit not only increases your ability to survive, but reduces the workload of first responders, emergency medical services, fire fighters and law enforcement."

Diggs concluded by saying, "We came out of this storm with no injuries reported even with all the damage the county suffered. Thank you to all the local fire departments and NC Department of Transportation for clearing the roads."

For more information to be prepared for severe weather visit: readync.org. (See article on wind hazards, page 3.)

Summer Jam July 4th Celebration is Hot Hot Hot!

Despite temperatures that were rather warm this past Friday evening...okay, it was really hot...an estimated crowd of 600 people came out to party at Ray Shelton Field for Uptown Wadesboro's July Summer Jam/July Fourth Celebration. The band Liquid Pleasure turned out some great music starting at 7 p.m., and played right through to 10 p.m. Besides playing a terrific mix of songs, they were also funny and engaged the attendees.

There were lots of activities for the kids too. They were busy with bubbles, beach balls, inflatables and a Mega Relay Race. Concessions were provided by local teens who were raising money through their church for a barrel racing competition.

Everything was capped off with a fantastic fireworks show at the end of Liquid Pleasure's show. The professional fireworks were big, bright and LOUD! Who could ask for more?!

Brook Crider of Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. said, "We would like to give a special thanks to our 2012 Top Sponsors, Ambassador Health and Rehab, Dest Family Dentistry, Glenn Trexler and Sons Logging, Inc., Leavitt Funeral Home and Parson Drug Store. Their generous support helped provide a great night of entertainment for a lot of people."

Veteran Services Extends Office Hours

The Veteran Services Office, located in the former Belk Building in uptown Wadesboro, will now be open four days a week, Monday through Thursday, From 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For information on services and other veteran affairs contact Ted Ward, Veterans Services Officer, at 704-694-4418.

Patriotic Bach's Lunch

Anson County Arts Council's July Bach's Lunch will be next Wednesday, July 18th at First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, from 12 noon to 1 p.m. This month's entertainment will feature patriotic music performed by Danielle and Rodney Clements.

Come on out and enjoy a box lunch of chicken salad on croissant with lettuce and tomato, potato salad, pickle, dessert and drink. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the Anson County Arts Council, Lacy's, the Chamber of Commerce, or from any Arts Council member. Take outs will be available.

Commercial Piping, Regular Season Champions



The AAYA Majors Division at Field of Dreams ended their season with a 10-4 record and won the regular season title. Also finishing up in the runner-up spot in the season championship tournament, these eleven and twelve year olds faced fierce competition and worked hard until the very end.

"We are proud of you and thank you for playing hard and keeping a positive attitude," said Coach Pike Davis. The team extends special thanks to their sponsor,

Lynn Raye and Commercial Piping. Congratulations on a very successful season!

The Commercial Piping Baseball Team is pictured from left, front: Matthew Burns, Jamison "Big Boy" Lindsey, Blake "Pee Wee" Tice, Allan Dale "AD" McRae, Israel "Izzy" Mercado and Julius Hamilton. Second row: Coach Pike Davis, Carson "CD" Davis, John Ingram, Justin Lee, Marshall "Marshmallow" Walker, Tray Treadaway and Coach Shawn Walker. *By Mel Lyon*

Andy Griffith Will Live in Our Hearts Forever

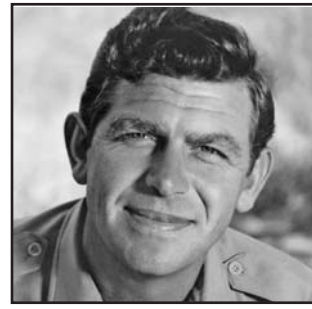
Hearing of the July 3rd death of North Carolina's beloved Andy Griffith left my heart a bit sadder and my spirits a bit lower. It was almost as if a member of my family had passed. As one of our all time favorite personalities, Andy Griffith touched the hearts of many and will live in our hearts forever.

I recall gathering around the television set, anxiously awaiting each episode of The Andy Griffith Show, that familiar whistle our cue it was about to begin. Once a week Andy Taylor meticulously arranged a thought-provoking lesson, usually leaving you to feel better as each story unfolded. There was always something new to learn, and by utilizing wonderfully colorful characters like Barney, Opie, Floyd, Aunt Bea, Gomer, Goober, Earnest T. Bass and others, Andy made living on the "good side of life" more appealing than anyone else ever could.

"I wish he were my Paw," I sometimes thought to myself. Andy was the smartest, kindest, wittiest, funniest man I knew. Well, I didn't actually know him, but it sure felt as if I did. Who would have thought that a television character could draw you in so deeply? And from what I understand, I'm not alone by a long shot... "no sir re." There are countless loyal Andy Griffith fans, now mourning his death as we revisit those famous reruns depicting a simpler time and place.

Andy could right any wrong, turn enemies into friends, make faltering marriages stronger, and finagle feuding neighbors to stop fighting. He could make you laugh at a joke that wasn't funny and look at your life with greater appreciation for the little things you had, rather than the things you didn't. The love and kindness he shared with us was awe-inspiring. He made sittin' on the front porch look, "just dandy," and I'd catch myself wishing I could "set a spell" with him, Barney, Aunt Bea and Opie. Where good conversation and cool, peaceful breezes blew, right through the heart of Mayberry. "Umm boy," that was the life.

Rest in Peace Andy Griffith, undeniably unforgettable.



By Melanie Lyon

Democrats to Hold Press Conference Today

The 8th District Black Leadership Caucus and the PAC will host the press conference today, Wednesday, July 11 at 7 p.m. It will take place at the NAACP Building in Hamlet. The press conference is in reference to recent comments made by Rep. Larry Kissell. The public is invited to attend.

Tourism Meeting Today

The regular meeting of the Anson County Tourism Development Authority will be held today, Wednesday, July 11 at noon. They will meet at the Lady Bug Restaurant. The public is invited to attend.

Compassionate Friends to Meet

The Compassionate Friends, a support group for the families of deceased children of any age, meets on Thursday, July 12 at 7 p.m. in the Training Room at Pee Dee Electric on Highway 52 South in Wadesboro. For information call 704-694-8774 or 704-475-5005.

Auditions for Upcoming Musical

Auditions for the Arts Council's upcoming musical "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown" (Revised) will be held at the Ansonia Theatre on Monday, July 16th and Tuesday, July 17th, starting at 7 p.m. Applicants are not required to be at auditions on both days.

There are six roles for this production plus several chorus parts. Main roles are for ages sixteen and up with strong musical ability. These include three males and two females. The role of Snoopy can be male or female and requires some dance ability. Applicants should be prepared with a short live performance sung without accompaniment. This may be a song from the musical or a song of your choice.

For questions contact the Anson County Arts Council (704-694-4950), Catherine Crandell (704-694-3954), or Leslie Capell (910-439-4837). Performances are scheduled for October 19, 20, and 21st. Check your calendar for conflicts before you audition.

Parks and Recreation Youth Swim Lessons Offered

Anson County Parks and Recreation is offering Youth Swim Lessons at their pool at Little Park this summer. Swim lessons are taught by certified Red Cross Lifeguards with the supervision of a Water Safety Instructor. The swim lessons are \$18 per person, per session, and there are three sessions taught this summer.

The classes are held Monday through Thursday, and classes last 30 minutes each day. There is a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 per class. Registration for youth swim lessons are open until the classes fill up. For information on this program call Wendell T. Small, CPRP, Aquatics Director at 704-694-5751.

- Session 2 is July 16 - 26 • Session 3 is July 30 - August 9
- Level I taught from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. • Level II taught from 9:45 to 10:15 a.m.
- Level III-VI taught from 10:30 to 11 a.m. • PCA/Preschool taught from 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

The Anson County Parks and Recreation pool is open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, from 2 to 5 p.m. The fee to swim is \$1 per person. The pool is closed on Mondays and Fridays for maintenance.

NC Forest Service Lends a Hand to Other States

In a release from Robbie Perry, Anson County Ranger: The NC Forest Service has sent 32 employees to help other states and the federal government fight wildfires around the country. "NC Forest Service employees are recognized nationally as excellent wildland firefighters," said State Forester Wib Owen. "During times of extreme wildfire in our country, the wildland fire community works together to help each other. In fact, many of our folks have trained with other state and federal agencies. Those trainings and these opportunities to work together ultimately benefit North Carolina because our employees gain knowledge and experience that can be used when responding to incidents here at home."

Forest Service employees are working on fires in Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming. The agency also is providing staff for the Southern Area Coordination Center in Atlanta. In North Carolina, workers are helping the U.S. Forest Service battle the 21,000-acre fire in the Croatan National Forest near New Bern.

The NC Forest Service has helped other agencies by providing a 20-member firefighting crew as well as personnel to fill a variety of roles: equipment manager, helicopter crewmember, intelligence support, personnel time recorder, pump operator, radio operator, situation unit leader, task force leader and aviation technical specialist. The requesting agencies will reimburse the state for providing the assistance.

"We are very proud of these men and woman for the personal sacrifice they are making to aid in fighting these fires," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "It is extremely difficult for states - and even the federal government - to battle large wildfires without outside assistance. Our employees know that the work they do to help other firefighting agencies will come back to us in the form of assistance when we need it."

Three Forest Service Personnel here in Anson County are currently available and are awaiting dispatch to fires in the western United States. Currently Forest Service Employees from Montgomery and Union Counties are already dispatched to these western states.

"Entrepreneurship for Small Business" Classes

South Piedmont Community College's Small Business Center will offer "Entrepreneurship for Small Business" classes in the coming month.

- There are three multi-week sessions to choose from:
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., July 16 through Aug. 16, Old Charlotte Highway Campus, Monroe
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Sept. 18 through Nov. 1, Old Charlotte Highway Campus, Monroe
 - Fridays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Nov. 2 through Dec. 14, L.L. Polk Campus, Polkton
- Topics to be covered include self assessment, break-even analysis, marketing products/services, business operations, cash flow, goals, financial analysis, profit/loss, creating a business idea and completing a business plan.
- Cost is \$120, plus materials. Displaced workers may qualify for a waiver of fees.
- For more information, or to register, call 704-694-6505 in Anson County.

Look inside for
special inserts from
IGA
Captain D's