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Ansonia Theatre Announces Exciting 2022-2023 Season

Sponsorship packages are available

The Ansonia Theatre has released details of their upcoming 2022-2023 season, and it is exciting! Here are details:

• **October 14-23 *The Mousetrap*** *The Mousetrap* is a murder mystery play by Agatha Christie. The play is known for its twist ending, which audiences are traditionally asked not to reveal after leaving the theatre. The play began as a short radio play written as a birthday present for Queen Mary, the consort of King George V.

• **December 9-18 *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!*** *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* follows the outrageous shenanigans of the Herdman siblings, deemed the "worst children in the history of the world," who take over the Sunday school Christmas pageant and end up teaching the town the true meaning of Christmas.

• **March 3-12 *Smoke on the Mountain*** *Smoke on the Mountain* is an off-Broadway musical comedy that tells the story of the Sanders Family Singers, a group of church choir members at the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in North Carolina. The show is set in 1938, and the audience follows the singers as they prepare for the "Saturday Night Gospel Sing" event at their church.

• **May 5-14 *Charlotte's Web*** *Charlotte's Web* is a widely read children's tale first published in 1952 by E.B. White. In the stage adaptation, it tells the story of a friendship between a farmyard pig named Wilbur and a grey spider named Charlotte. Wilbur is a spring pig, and he is distressed to learn that he is being fattened for slaughter in the fall, and it's up to Charlotte to save him.

• **August 4-13 *Into the Woods*** *Into the Woods* begins with a montage of familiar fairy tale characters and stories. Cinderella wishes to attend the Prince's festival, but her cruel stepsisters and stepmother are trying to prevent her from going. Jack (of Jack and the Beanstalk) wishes for a better life, but his mother, desperate for money, makes him take his cow, Milky White, into the woods to sell her.

Information, season tickets, and tickets are available on the Ansonia's website, www.ansoniateatre.com, or you can call 704-694-4950. If you are interested in supporting the arts in Anson County by becoming a sponsor, please contact the Anson County Arts Council at 704-694-4950.



Pictured above, from left, are Larry Thompson, Speed Hallman and Chesley Greene.



Larry Thompson, Speed Hallman and John Long.



Robert Batton



Calvin Gaddy

Governor Roy Cooper Allots \$11 Million of State Budget Funds to Anson County

On Tuesday, July 5 the Anson County Board of Commissioners learned that \$11,480,000 has been allotted to Anson County in the 2022-2023 North Carolina Budget. Here is the breakdown of the funding:

- \$5,000,000 for water and sewer improvements
- \$6,000,000 for new Anson Middle School
- \$50,000 for future fire training facility
- \$50,000 for Anson County Sheriff's Office
- \$35,000 for each of the Anson County Fire Departments
- \$100,000 - future Wadesboro recreation project



Anson County Chamber of Commerce President Shelby Emrich Graduates from IOM Program

Anson County Chamber of Commerce President Shelby Emrich officially graduated on Wednesday, June 29 from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's four-year program of Institute for Organization Management (IOM) held at the University of Georgia.

The Institute for Organization Management was designed to enhance individual performance, elevate professional standards, and recognize association, chamber of commerce, and other nonprofit professionals who demonstrate the knowledge essential to the practice of nonprofit management. It is the professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

IOM is held at four locations across the country annually. While on-site, attendees participate in 24 hours of course instruction and engage in lively discussions on a multitude of matters affecting the association and chamber industries. Course topics include advocacy, media training, membership, finance, legal issues, human resources, and much more.

Bach's Lunch To Go is July 20

The Anson County Arts Council invites you to enjoy a delicious lunch while supporting the arts. The next Bach's Lunch takes place on Wednesday, July 20, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The menu includes lunch, dessert and a drink, and it is curb-side pickup at the Arts Council's Drake Gallery & Studio. The cost is \$15 per plate.

Please text your order to 704-221-3038 or call 704-694-4950.

The Drake Gallery is located at 108 South Rutherford Street in uptown Wadesboro, next door to the Ansonia Theatre.

Kilwinning Lodge #64 AF&AM Recognizes Long-Serving Members

Kilwinning Lodge #64 AF&AM of Wadesboro recognized members for years of service at an awards dinner on Thursday, June 9.

The grand master of Masons in North Carolina, Larry B. Thompson Jr., presented awards for 60 years of membership to W. Calvin Gaddy of New London and Chesley M. Greene of Lilesville.

Robert D. Batten of Columbia, S.C. and John E. Long of Wadesboro were recognized for 50 years of service.

Samuel W. Dawkins III of Morven and Scott Forbes of Wadesboro, the current master of the lodge, received awards for 25 years of service.

Robert W. (Bob) Lee qualified for a 50-year award but was unable to attend, and his award will be presented later.

Speed Hallman, a past grand master of Masons and member of the lodge, presented Grand Master Thompson with an honorary membership in Kilwinning Lodge.

Kilwinning Lodge, chartered in 1813, has 88 members.

For more information see 64-nc.ourlodgepage.com or visit Kilwinning Lodge #64 AF&AM on Facebook.

Utah Monument Honoring Anson Native to be Unveiled July 22

A monument will be dedicated on July 22 that honors enslaved pioneers from the historical Mormon pioneer trek's Vanguard Company that prepared the way for the Mormon Saints and the settlement of Utah. Central to the monument is Green Flake, an Anson County native who drove the first wagon through Emigration Canyon in Utah on July 22, 1847. The monument is located at This is the Place Heritage Park in Salt Lake City, Utah. The ceremony marks the 175 year anniversary.

In 1846 Green Flake, as an enslaved person, was sent to serve The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The teenage boy was assigned to the advanced pioneer group tasked with forging a trail over 1,000 miles long through the harshest conditions imaginable. This trail would eventually lead over 70,000 men, women, and children across the Western frontier, the largest pioneer migration in American history.

By the time the leader of the Church, Brigham Young, had arrived to the Salt Lake Valley, the crops Green had planted were in bloom and he had already begun the construction of a cabin for his enslavers. After being torn from his own family, Green Flake found a sense of freedom with Martha, a young woman enslaved by a Southern Latter-day Saint family who also came West. Green and Martha started their own family, and he would live the rest of his years as one of the most revered heroes of his time.

Green Flake was born into slavery on January 6, 1828, on the Jordan Flake plantation in Anson County. At the age of ten Green was separated from his mother and given to James and Agnes Flake. The Flakes moved to Mississippi, where at age sixteen Green heard the testimony of a Latter-day Saint missionary promising the reunification of families for eternity.

As a new convert to the church, Brigham Young assigned Green to the Vanguard Company that led the trek west. Green was joined by his future brothers-in-law, Hark Wales and Oscar Smith. The group of forty-two men and twenty-three wagons blazed the trail for tens of thousands to follow. Green is known to have driven the first wagon into Emigration Canyon under the direction of Orson Pratt. They arrived at Parley's Creek in Salt Lake City on July 22. The first pioneers of 1847 plowed the land and planted crops for those who came in the following days and months.

Green remained a well respected saint throughout his life. He spoke at multiple Pioneer Day celebrations alongside church leaders. Brother Flake and many others like him trusted in God's promise of a reunited family after this life.

Many of the enslaved were buried in unmarked graves. Knowing that, Green carved his own headstone which reads, "In my Father's house are many mansions." He was laid to rest next to his wife Martha in the Union Pioneer Cemetery in Cottonwood Heights, Utah in 1903.

Movie A movie has been produced about Green Flake, entitled *His Name is Green Flake*. According to the producer it is inspired by the true story of a pioneer hero.

His Name Is Green Flake is inspired by the true story of enslaved pioneer and Latter-day Saint Green Flake. His courageous cross-country journey to prepare the way for the Saints was integral to the "Mormon Migration" and the settlement of Utah.

His Name Is Green Flake has been awarded Best Film in 10 different festivals, including the Venice Film Awards, the London Independent Film Awards, and most recently, the LA Film Awards. **A picture of Green Flake is on page 2.**

The Compassionate Friends Meet this Thursday

The Compassionate Friends, a support group for parents, grandparents and siblings who have lost a child of any age, welcomes you to attend their monthly meetings. They meet on the second Thursday each month, at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church on Lee Avenue in Wadesboro. "We need not walk alone."

For more information call Ken Caulder at 704-694-2524.

Musical Program at the Library July 18

The Hampton B. Allen Library will be having its first in-house musical program on Monday, July 18 at 11:00 a.m. in the Little Theatre. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the music of Stan Harward.

Face masks are optional per county policy. They look forward to seeing you!

Any questions please call the library at 704-694-5177.