

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

Postal
Customer

THE EXPRESS

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.

Anson County Board of Elections Swears in New Board Members

On Tuesday, July 21 Anson County Clerk of Court Mark Hammonds was on hand to swear in the three members of the 2015-2017 Anson County Board of Elections. Sworn in were Republicans Rochelle Williams and Tracy Baynard, and Democrat Tracy Little. Williams and Baynard were returning members of the three panel board, with Little being sworn in for his first term.

After the swearing in, Williams was elected Board Chair and Baynard was elected Secretary. Williams presided over the meeting which included a Directors monthly report from Elections Director Steve Adams and a review of upcoming dates.

Adams welcomed the new board and thanked outgoing Democrat Member James Paxton for his eight years of service to the Board of Elections. Board Members voted to continue holding regular monthly board meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Anson County Board of Elections Office, which is located at 402 Morven Road in Wadesboro.

Those who would like to be placed on a meeting agenda have until 5 p.m. the Thursday before the next meeting to submit in writing a request to appear before the board. All other comments during meetings are asked to wait until the end where the public comments/concerns appear on the agenda.

For more information on elections and upcoming dates please contact Steve Adams at 704-994-3223 or sadams@co.anson.nc.us.



Anson County Clerk of Court Mark Hammonds swears in Tracy Baynard and Rochelle Williams.



Dr. Olivia Peters (left) and Dr. Sarah Elliott and staff from Anson Pediatrics provided over 800 children with Reach Out and Read books as part of their well-child checks.



Elaine Scarborough (right) presents Randa McIver an award for Wadesboro Family Medicine at the Champions for Children Banquet.

Local Medical Practices Recognized for Literacy Efforts

Anson County Partnership for Children recently recognized Anson Pediatrics and Wadesboro Family Medicine for promoting literacy in Anson County through participation in the Reach Out and Read Program, a national evidence-based literacy program sponsored by the Partnership. Both medical practices received Champions for Children awards for their efforts.

Anson County Partnership for Children collaborates with these practices by providing a literacy-rich waiting area and a new age-appropriate book for each child 6 months to 5 years of age who receives a well-child check. The doctors reinforce the importance of reading by giving each parent a "prescription" for 30 minutes of daily reading with their children. The Partnership recognizes that Anson County is fortunate to have these two dedicated medical practices serving children and families.

Doctors evaluate the development of a child by observing the response when he or she is given a book. A six-month old child may put the book in her mouth to explore it while a toddler will probably turn the pages to see what the story is about by looking at the pictures. Both these responses indicate that the child is developing normally. The doctor uses this observation to discuss developmental milestones with parents.

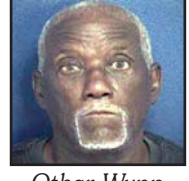
In the past year, pediatricians Dr. Sarah Elliott and Dr. Olivia Peters and staff provided over 800 children with Reach Out and Read books as part of their well-child checks. Reach Out and Read is so popular with their young patients that the practice requested additional books to give to siblings of patients and to children during sick visits. Now all young children visiting Anson Pediatrics have an opportunity to take home books. Dr. Elliott and Dr. Peters show their dedication to the children and families of Anson County through their tireless, creative efforts to promote literacy. The Partnership appreciates the efforts of Anson Pediatrics site manager Resi Ledbetter, who assists with the Reach Out and Read Program.

Dr. Lisa Bracey and staff from Wadesboro Family Medicine also participate in the Reach Out and Read Program at Wadesboro Family Medicine. Dividing her time between children and her large adult patient population, she uses this program to encourage literacy within her younger patients and their parents and grandparents. The Partnership appreciates the efforts of Wadesboro Family Medicine nurse Randa McIver, who assists with the Reach Out and Read Program.

Anson County Partnership for Children recognizes the dedication of these local medical practices who promote literacy as a part the development of healthy bodies and minds. Both of these medical practices are to be commended for their outstanding work with the Reach Out and Read Program in Anson County. Through their efforts they are helping make Anson County "a better place to be a child and to raise a child."

Othar Wynn Robinson Busted for Pot

After a four month multi-agency investigation into the sales and delivery of controlled substances by the Polkton Police Department, the Anson County Sheriff's Office and the NC State Bureau of Investigation, drug charges were brought against Othar Wynn Robinson.



Othar Wynn Robinson

Robinson was arrested on Thursday, July 23 and charged with Possession with Intent to Sell and Distribute Marijuana, Possession of Marijuana, Maintaining a Dwelling to Sell or Deliver Controlled Substances, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Free Groceries for Those in Need Available with Mobile Food Pantry

The Mobile Food Pantry will be at Wingate Baptist Church, located at 109 West Elm Street in Wingate, on Wednesday, August 5, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 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, Apostolic, and Presbyterian Churches.

Interested in volunteering? Call Wingate coordinator Ginger Tucker (704) 242-2388 or Pantry Coordinator Rev. Cindy Lunsford (828) 891-2753.

Metabolic Syndrome Classes for Veterans Start Next Wednesday

Veterans and their families are invited to attend a series of three free classes on how to prevent Metabolic Syndrome. If you have three of these conditions you are at risk: high triglycerides and low HDL; blood pressure greater than 135/85 or on medicine; fasting blood sugars 100mg/dl; waistline obesity.

Salisbury VAMC Rural Health nurses will conduct the classes on Wednesdays, August 5, 12 and 19, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The classes will be held at the Veteran Services Office in uptown Wadesboro, at 111 North Greene Street (the Belk Building).

For more information and to register please call 704-638-9000 ext 4937.

Anson High School Volleyball Tryouts

Anson High School will be conducting Volleyball Team (JV & Varsity) try-outs for the upcoming 2015 season on Thursday and Friday, July 30 and July 31, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the AHS gymnasium. Prospective players must have a current physical in order to participate in the volleyball try-outs.

Refer any questions to Coach Celeste Dutton or Coach Patty Livingston through the main office at 704-694-9301 or by email at dutton.celeste@anson.k12.nc.us or livingston.patty@anson.k12.nc.us.

Teachers: Being a Bright Ideas Early Bird Could Win You \$100

Pee Dee Electric in conjunction with North Carolina's electric cooperatives are accepting applications for Bright Ideas education grants to fund creative, classroom-based learning projects. The final deadline to apply is September 30th; however, teachers who submit their application by the 'early bird' deadline of August 14 will be entered for a chance to win one of five \$100 gift cards.

"We're proud to support educators who give so much to their students," said Anne Edwards, Marketing Representative at Pee Dee Electric. "With our Bright Ideas grants and early bird prizes, we're excited to offer something in return. We encourage all interested teachers to submit an application by Friday, August 14 for a chance to win an extra \$100." These winners will be notified, and recognized on the Bright Ideas website and Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ncbrightideas and www.pdemc.com.

Teachers can apply for Bright Ideas grants of up to \$2,000, which is part of a total \$600,000 in Bright Ideas funding that will be awarded to teachers statewide during the 2015-2016 school year. Classroom teachers at qualifying schools in Anson, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, Stanly and Union counties can apply for grants individually, or as a team. Last year, Pee Dee Electric awarded \$13,578 to fund twelve projects at 10 area schools within their seven county service territory. More information about the Bright Ideas education grant program, including application and grant-writing tips, can be found at www.ncbrightideas.com.

"At Pee Dee Electric, we believe that there's no better way to support education and contribute to our local communities than by partnering with teachers to enhance learning opportunities for our future leaders," Edwards said.

Since 1994, North Carolina's electric cooperatives have awarded more than \$9.6 million in Bright Ideas grants funding for more than 9,200 projects benefitting 1.8 million students. The Bright Ideas education grant program is an example of the electric cooperatives' commitment to community. North Carolina's electric cooperatives serve more than 2.5 million people in 93 of the state's 100 counties.

Pee Dee Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative whose goal is to provide reliable, dependable electric service for its members while focusing on value, quality customer service, and enhancing life in the communities we serve. Pee Dee's service area consists of Anson, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, Stanly and Union counties. For more information about Pee Dee Electric, please visit www.pdemc.com.

Linda Pratt Grows Tomatoes from Her Family's Seeds

Pictured holding one of her prize tomatoes is Linda Pratt of the Burnsville Community. She grew this tomato and others like it in her backyard tomato patch. This variety of tomato is called German Johnson. Her seeds date back to her great-grandmother who was a Cherokee Indian. The seeds have been passed down the generations.

Linda usually plants a half acre garden each spring, but due to cancer, surgery and chemo treatments she scaled this year's efforts back to about 12 tomato plants.

Asked what she is going to do with these large beauties, she replied, "I'll remove the seeds for next year, and then cook them up!"



Fall Girls Softball Offered by Parks and Rec

Girls Softball will be offered this fall by Anson County Parks and Recreation for ages 4 - 18. Home games are at Little Park in Wadesboro and away games are in Stanly County.

Registration started on July 1 and the cost is \$25 per person. Register at Little Park Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The deadline for registration is Monday, August 3.

For more information contact Jeff Waisner 704-695-2550, Wendell Small 704-695-2782, Morris Gatewood 704-694-5751 or email recreation@co.anson.nc.us.

Family Trip to Myrtle Beach Thursday Offered

Grace Senior Center is sponsoring a one day family trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on Thursday, August 6. Time will be spent on the beach, Broadway at the Beach and dining at Bennetts Calabash.

The cost of the trip is \$65 for adults. The cost for children is \$25 for ages 5 to 13. This includes your dinner. They are now accepting deposits for this trip. The final day to pay is August 4. Please call 704-694-6616 to register or for more information.

Anson Farmers Market is Open

The Anson County Farmers Market is open through November 1. The hours are 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

It is located on Highway 52 South near Wadesboro Primary School.

Be sure to come out and take advantage of great prices on locally grown produce and other items.