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Mother & Son Charged with Drug Dealing

"Be a good boy and bring your mama a reefer!"

Anson County Sheriff's Deputies arrested two individuals for various drug violations following the execution of a search warrant at the suspects' house. Officers seized a large quantity of marijuana, drug paraphernalia, a handgun and cash. Officers arrested Jason Omar Sturdivant, age 31, and his mother, Jacqueline Moore Sturdivant, age 53.

Both were charged with Felony Possession of Marijuana; Possession with Intent to Sell and Deliver Marijuana; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; and Maintaining a House to Sell and Deliver Controlled Substances. Jason Sturdivant was also charged with Possession of a .45 Caliber Handgun by a Convicted Felon. His bond was set at \$5,000 and Jacqueline's was set at \$1,000.

Release from Wadesboro Watch Network About Gabriel Rorie

In a release from the Wadesboro Community Watch Email Network: A notice was put out by the Wadesboro Police Department on December 7 about a subject, Gabriel Rorie, an African-American male, who has just been released from prison where he was incarcerated for larceny convictions.

In the past Rorie would enter businesses and ask to use the restroom. He would then steal, take and carry away personal items belonging to the business or employees of the business.

Rorie has already been seen in several businesses using the same scheme since being released from prison less than 2 weeks ago.

The police released this statement to make you aware that Rorie has a history and capacity of committing larcenies. Use caution if Rorie enters your business or residence and contact the Wadesboro Police Department at 704-694-2167 or dial 911 for an emergency.

For more information about the Wadesboro Community Watch Email Network email WadesboroWatch@yahoo.com.

Chamber of Commerce Awards Mary Little, Fred Thompson

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce's 49th annual Membership Meeting and Banquet was highlighted by the 17th annual presentation of the W. Dunlap Covington Award for Community Service (Dunnie) and the 7th annual presentation of the Henry W. Little III Community Leadership Award.



Mary Little

Todd Moore, the 2010 recipient, presented the "Dunnie" posthumously to Mary Little. Her husband Ronald and daughters Amesia and Traquita received the award along with members of Helping Our Loved ones Learn and Achieve (HOLLA!). Little was an active HOLLA! and community member, and was employed by Columbus McKinnon.



Dr. Fred Thompson

The W. Dunlap Covington Award for Community Service was established in 1995 to honor Dunlap Covington, who was instrumental in organizing the Chamber in 1963, and who served as president for the organization's first four years. In all, 19 "Dunnies" have been presented.

The Henry W. Little III Community Leadership Award, the "Henry," was presented to Dr. Fred Thompson, administrator of Anson Community Hospital. This award was initiated in November 2005 to honor the Anson County native, community leader and businessman, who died in August 2005. Little was honored posthumously with the first award. The "Henry" is presented annually to an individual or group that exemplifies Little's ideals and standards of service.

In addition, the membership elected four board members, Travis Wright, Branch Banking & Trust; Eric Forbes, Forbes Jewelers; Jeremy Wilson, CMH Flooring; and Don Scarborough, Plank Road Realty. Outgoing board members, Lewis Evans and Todd Moore, were presented appreciation plaques, and Evans was honored as outgoing board chairman.

Previous "Dunnie" winners include: 1995-Denise Beachum, Fancy Crafts, 1996-The Anson County Writers' Club, 1997-Chris and Robin Sanford, Wadesboro IGA, 1998-Don Scarborough, Plank Road Realty, 1999-Don Altieri, South Piedmont Community College, 2000-Elbert Marshall, Anson County Chamber of Commerce, 2001-Carol Smith, Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center, 2002-The Rev. Priscilla Durkin, First Presbyterian Church, 2003-Russell Sikes, Plank Road Realty, 2004-Uptown Wadesboro, Inc., 2004-Anne Covington Leary, Thrift Loan and Finance, 2005-Jarvis Woodburn, Coffing Hoists and Anson County Commissioner, 2006-John Dunlap, president of the Anson County Historical Society, 2007-Dana Maness, Anson Bank & Trust, 2008-Lynn Edwards, Anson County Chamber of Commerce, 2009-Anson County Partnership for Children, 2009-Elaine Scarborough, the Anson County Partnership for Children, 2010-Todd Moore, Pee Dee Electric Membership Corp.

Previous "Henry" winners include: 2005-Henry W. Little III (posthumous), 2006-Leon Gatewood, HOLLA!, 2007-Russell Sikes, Plank Road Realty, 2008-Carly Little, H.W. Little Hardware/Uptown Wadesboro Inc., 2009-Don Altieri, retired, South Piedmont Community College; retired, New Ventures Business Development Inc.

The meeting and banquet was held Nov. 15 in the Ingram Room at South Piedmont Community College's Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro. The corporate sponsors included Anson Bank & Trust, Anson Community Hospital, AT&T, Branch Banking & Trust, Brown Creek Animal Hospital, Cobb-Vantress, Columbus McKinnon, HOLLA!, Leavitt Funeral Home, North Carolina Electric Membership Corp., Pee Dee Electric, Progress Energy and South Piedmont Community College.

"This year's annual Membership meeting and banquet was probably the most elegant yet," observed Lynn Edwards, executive director of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce. "The room was filled with the spirit of Christmas and wonderful people who enjoyed fellowship with each other as well as a great meal."

"It has become a well-attended event and we already are looking forward to the 50th celebration next year," she said.

Board of Education Meeting is Monday, December 19

The Board of Education meeting for Monday, December 19 will begin at 4 p.m. Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 4 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Board of Education office in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center, located on 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. The meeting is open to the public.

Lilesville Elementary School Terrific Kids



Lilesville Elementary School recognized the following students as Terrific Kids for the first nine weeks of school. The students were chosen for showing good character in the areas of Respect and Responsibility.

Each student received a certificate from the Kiwanis Club and a coupon for a free Papa Joe's Pizza.

Respect A'Mya Teal, Ja'Kire Robinson, Ishun Simms, Alishia Phillips, Jahmaya Brewer, Dylan Moore, Elizabeth

Johnson, Joseph Gainey, De'John Pemberton, Kaysa Poplin, Auyeshia Wall, Camyrn Parson, Justin Duncan, Brian Carter, Ruby Reza, Todd Cox.

Responsibility Jesse Helms, Makayla Dean, Jayden Lindsey, Maddie Wright, Hannah Bolick, Cormelia Ingram, Tylaizha Butler, Maya Pond, Jessica Coleman, Jesse Usrey, Jacob Helms, Shyheim Terry, Skylar Boone, Justin Huneycutt, Michael Oxendine, Sidnee Williams.

Christmas Programs at the Planetarium

The Rotary Planetarium and Science Center will once again host the Christmas story, *The Star of Bethlehem*. This program is written and narrated by Ansonian Mark Treadaway and depicts the astronomical and biblical representation of the bright star in the eastern sky that the wise men followed that first Christmas season. This program is projected on the planetarium dome with the stars rotating in the background.

Along with your admission cost of \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12, a hands-on tour of the animal room will be given, with opportunities to handle various species of snakes, water dragons, bearded dragons, butterfly agamas, a leopard gecko, and a slider turtle. You can see scorpions, tarantulas and trap-door spiders up close.

Show times for *The Star of Bethlehem* are

- Sunday, December 18 at 5 p.m.
- Monday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 20 at 7 p.m.
- Thursday, December 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Another Christmas show geared especially for the children is *The Polar Express*. This program will feature a hands-on adventure in the animal room with the snakes and dragons and spiders. A short program in the dome discussing stars and planets will follow the visit. Children will also be able to play on the exhibits located within the exhibit area. The program will conclude with an animated reading of Chris Van Allsburg's book, *The Polar Express* as well as a surprise activity at the conclusion of the program.

The admission cost will be \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12.

Show times for *The Polar Express* are

- Friday, December 16 at 7 p.m.
- Thursday, December 22 (2 shows) at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Space is limited in the dome for seating. Reservations can be made by calling the Rotary Planetarium at 704-694-7016. When calling, please leave your name, telephone number where you can be reached in case of changes, and the number of seats you would like to reserve.

It's Barn Blast Time Again!

Tickets for the sixth annual Barn Blast fundraiser for children's literacy are available now at the Anson County Partnership for Children. The Barn Blast will be held on Friday, January 27, from 6 p.m. to midnight in the Ingram Room at SPCC's Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro.

This fundraising event features dinner, dancing, drinks, silent auctions, a live auction and lots of fun. Tickets are \$35 each now and \$45 after January 13. For the first time, reserved tables for eight guests are available for \$300 per table.

Barn Blast tickets make great Christmas gifts for your friends. All profits from the Barn Blast are used for children's literacy activities in Anson County, including Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Motherhead, Raising a Reader Book Bag Program and Books for Kids book distributions. For tickets, please call or come by the Anson County Partnership for Children, 117 South Greene Street in Wadesboro or call 704 694-4036.



Local Merchants Celebrate Veterans. Register Today Vets!

In a release from Ted Ward, Anson County Veteran Services officer: To continue to celebrate local veterans, two of our local merchants will be giving away gifts to local veterans.

Forbes Jewelers and Wadesboro Chiropractic (Dr. Brian Dial) are each giving special gifts to two of our veterans.

All veterans can register through today, Wednesday, December 14th to win. All you have to do is stop by Forbes Jewelers at 1154 East Caldwell Street and Wadesboro Chiropractic at 207 Morven Road during regular business hours and register to win.

The drawings will be held on Thursday, December 15th. Registration is free and you need not be present to win.

It's Christmas Time! Enjoy the Anson Show Choir.



When Christmas comes around, you can always find the Anson County Show Choir sharing the songs of the season. During the last few weeks they have performed for elementary schools, churches, nursing facilities and civic organizations.

The choir will hold a community performance at the Ansonia Theater on Tuesday, December 20th at 6 p.m. Admission is free. Come out and see Santa, Frosty and the other members who are pictured here at their performance at Lilesville Elementary School.

The group wishes to thank their sponsors which include: First Baptist Church Anticipators (Lee Ave.), the Civitan Club, Sullivan Place, and Wadesboro High School Alumni.

The group is directed by Gail Litaker, Janet Kendall and Melody Stinson. Also assisting the group is Matt Bailey.

Choir members are pictured here. They are, from left, front: Megan Little, Lakenya Brown, Aaliyah Escalera, Aiyanna Lowery and Shayla McElroy. Back row: Chana Lim, Macy Austin, Janai Bennett, Dakota Caulder, Krista Langley and Santa (Willie Crawford).

Meal for the Homeless, Elderly, Sick and Shut-in on December 17

The Faith-Based Center of Hope will feed the homeless, elderly, sick and shut-in on Saturday, December 17th at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church on Salisbury Street, beginning at 11 a.m. During this event, under the guidance of Pastor Tony Barr and Vancine Sturdivant, gifts will be distributed to the homeless.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this event is asked to please contact Commissioner Claude Spencer at 704-848-4119, Ester Lindsey at 704-848-8452 or Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412. Your help is greatly needed.

Harvest Ministries Holiday Event

Harvest Ministries (HMOC) has announced that they will hold a community event at their facility on Sunday, December 18. Services begin that day at 10:30 a.m. and the holiday event will begin after area church services.

Everyone is invited to come and join in the fun and fellowship. HMOC has partnered with Toys for Tots this year to reach many children and families, providing hundreds of toys, prizes, bicycles and much more. One lucky person will leave with a new television, \$200 in cash, or a special "surprise prize!"

A delicious free Christmas meal will be provided for the entire community. During the meal buses will be running to provide meals to shut-ins, nursing home residents and others.

If you need a ride, just call HMOC at 704-695-2879. Buses will be picking up citizens on Sunday morning between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

If you have gifts or monetary donations to help this event provide for everyone, please call HMOC at 704-695-2879.

Veteran Services Office Hours

Due to limited hours provided to the Anson County Veteran Services officer, the Veteran Services Office is closed until January 4, 2012.

For any special needs that may occur you can call the District Service Office in Charlotte at (704) 563-2037.

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