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



Public Hearing for Adopting County-Wide Zoning is May 7

The Anson County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard in the Boardroom of the Anson County Government Center, located at 101 South Greene Street, Suite 209 in uptown Wadesboro. The purpose of the hearing is to adopt county wide zoning consisting of a new county wide zoning ordinance and the mapping identifying all zoning districts outside of the unincorporated and extraterritorial jurisdictions held by the municipalities in Anson County.

The new zoning ordinance and the zoning maps of Anson County follow the 2040 Comprehensive Land Use Plan adopted by the Anson County Board of Commissioners. The new zoning ordinance and mapping follows Chapter 160D of the North Carolina General Statutes, adopted by the North Carolina General Assembly for all counties and municipalities.

All interested citizens are urged to attend and offer comments and ask questions at this time.

Additional information can be found on the Anson County website at www.co.anson.nc.us or by contacting Mr. Larry Newton, Planning & Zoning, at 704-994-3211 or via email at lnewton@ansoncountync.gov.

Do You Have Concerns About Falling?

Grace Senior Center is offering A Matter of Balance Managing Concerns About Falls. The class starts Tuesday, May 2 and runs through Thursday, May 30. Classes will meet twice a week for four weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at Grace Senior Center.

A Matter of Balance class is free and can reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults who have concerns about falling. The Matter of Balance classes help participants learn to:

- view falls and fear of falling as controllable
 - set realistic goals for increasing activity
 - make changes to reduce fall risk at home
 - promote exercise to increase strength and balance
- The Matter of Balance Class is designed to benefit community-dwelling older adults who:
- are concerned about falls
 - have sustained a fall in the past
 - restrict activities because of concerns about falling
 - are interested in improving flexibility, balance and strength
 - are age 60 or older, ambulatory and able to problem-solve

All participants are welcome, respected and valued. Please contact Grace Senior Center to request accommodations. Call (704) 694-6616 to register or for additional information about the class.

Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South (Chesterfield Road) in Wadesboro, just past IGA.

David Lee Kirby Arrested for Crimes in Wadesboro and Polkton

On Wednesday, April 10 the Wadesboro Police Department responded to Family Dollar on East Caswell Street for a breaking and entering. Officers arrived and found the business' glass broken and items taken from the store. After an investigation officers arrested David Lee Kirby, 55, of Wadesboro. Kirby, who was already wanted by Polkton Police Department, was placed in the Anson County Jail.



David Lee Kirby

Charges of breaking and entering, and larceny after breaking and entering are pending in relation to the Wadesboro incident.

Ansonia Theatre is Holding Auditions for Upcoming Play

The Ansonia Theatre will be holding auditions for the musical *Godspell* on Monday, April 22 at 6 p.m. Please prepare a song that best showcases your voice.

Participants will read from the script. All roles are available. The play will be presented July 12-21.

Come be a part of this wonderful show!

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School Terrific Kids

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School held its Terrific Kids Celebration for the third nine weeks on Tuesday, April 16. Pictured here are the students who were recognized for this honor.

We are proud of these students for showing good character!

They are, from left, **front row:** Aubrey Gulleddge, Rylee Canipe, Gigi Oliver, Bonnie Funderburke, Nehemiah Nieves, Kayden Henry, Haven Clark, Akasha Wadsworth, Prince Isaac, Jaycob Quintanilla, Ariel Liles, Whitley Tarlton, Gaby Arteaga Carias and Yariyah Howard. **Second row:** Sebastian Ratliff, Kailani Coxe, Ja'Anna Jackson, Bella Quintanilla, Kelsen Rangel, Nora Canipe, Lyla Chewning, Jaxon Mills, Ariyah Covington, Gage Adams, Bryant Barnhill, Ella Huckabee, Bentley Williams and Abigail Maness. **Third row:** Dariela Hernandez Garcia, Amari Bennett, Aiden Sheppard, Braylenn Johnson, Alicia Parker, Daxton Rangel, John Carter Chewning, Corbin Davis, Adriana Alexander, Jasmiyana Dean, Paisley Martin and Paola Castenada. **Fourth row:** Madison Haynes, Chloe Treadaway, Mariah Summerford, Justin Lawrence, Clever Ler, Daniel Smith, Javia Burns, Braylen Williams, Zymond Polk and Andres Rodriguez.

Not pictured: Zachary Hildreth, Jayden Bost, Leland Lowery and Bentley Clark.

New Middle School Construction Project is Official!

Dr. George Truman, Chairperson for the Anson County Board of Education, and Superintendent Howard McLean officially signed the contract to build the new Anson Middle School that will be located off of Highway 74, adjacent to Anson High School, to serve the youth and citizens of Anson County.

The signing of this contract carries tremendous gratitude for Mr. Michael Freeman, retired Superintendent of Anson County Schools from 2013 to 2020, and current Superintendent Howard McLean. Both Mr. Freeman and Mr. McLean spent many hours in consultation with the board, architects, and government officials, putting in place the plans and funding needed to make this new school possible. Also, this contract signing carries the appreciation of the many hours of planning and visits by the Anson County Board of Education and the administrative staff of our school system.

It's heartening to see the collaboration and dedication of individuals like Mr. Freeman, Superintendent McLean, the Anson County Board of Education, Anson County Commissioners, and Pinnacle Architecture all working together to make this project possible. This new school will undoubtedly benefit generations of students and contribute to the growth and development of Anson County.



Dr. George Truman (left) and Superintendent Howard McLean sign the construction contract.

The Jungle Book Opens at the Ansonia Theatre this Friday

The Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro is going deep in the jungle for its production of *The Jungle Book* opening this Friday April 19.

In this action-packed adaptation of the classic adventure story, precocious Mowgli grows up believing he's as fierce a wolf as any of the members of his pack. When he learns he is actually a human, he must discover how to reconcile these very different identities, and decide whether to remain with the pack, or return to the human world from which he was born. As he wrestles with his identity, he must be trained in the Law of the Jungle in time to defeat Shere Khan, the most feared animal in the jungle.

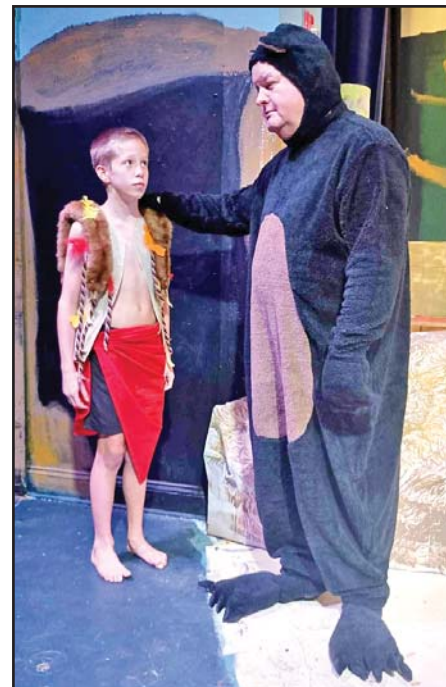
Jeremiah Forsyth stars as Mowgli, with Glenn Caulder as his teacher and friend Baloo. They are supported by an incredible cast including Cleve Baxley, Liz Sleeper, Audrey McFadden, Zachary McFadden, Eden Tallman, Regina Forsyth, Carri Hilson, Tonya Keziah Manus, Evan Grier, Ava Sleeper, Iwan Hilson, Rebekah Forsyth, Malachi Forsyth, Karen Johnston, Donnie Lewis, Kerrigan Bennett, Manda Kaye, Allie Smith, Georgia Tolley and Surely Hilson.

The show is directed by Tommy Wooten, with Maggie Gibson. Sound and Lights are by Rachel Kostelnik. Set Design is by Teri Brown, Marshall Ray and Donald Perkins. Stage management is by Robert Graves.

The show runs from April 19 to April 28, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.

There are group rates available for parties of 10 or more. Get your tickets now at ansoniateatre.com or call 704-694-4950.

The performance will be dedicated to Mrs. Margaret Goins.



Chair Exercise Class at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library is hosting chair exercise classes with instructor Sheila Raye on Thursday, April 25. The class begins at 10:30 a.m. in the library's Pritchett Room. Everyone is welcome. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

The Anson County NAACP Meets Monthly

Next meeting is April 21

The Anson County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) meets at 5:00 p.m. every 3rd Sunday of each month at the HOLLA! Center in Morven. The next meeting will be on Sunday, April 21. They welcome you to come and see what is going on.

"Each one reach one."

The HOLLA! Community Center is located at 229 East Main Street in Morven.

For more information contact Anson NAACP President Sinic Marsh at mrs6@yahoo.com or 704-254-0630.

Anson Animal Shelter Needs Volunteers - Would You Like to Help?

The Anson Animal Shelter depends on the help of volunteers to ensure that animal residents receive love and care. More volunteers will also help relieve the workload on staff which can result in more time for resident animals to be adopted before they are euthanized (put to sleep).

Please consider becoming a volunteer. For more information on helping or making a donation, call 704-994-2738.

Adopt a rescue A rescue from Animal Shelter can bring lots of happiness and love into any home...and you will make the animal happy too! It's a win-win.

And remember, older animals need a home and love too!

The Express is on the web at www.TheExpressNewspaper.com