

# THE EXPRESS

205 West Morgan Street • Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-694-2480 • [TheExpressNews@gmail.com](mailto:TheExpressNews@gmail.com) • [www.TheExpressNewspaper.com](http://www.TheExpressNewspaper.com)

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

## Luke Hyatt Named Head Football Coach at Piedmont High School



Luke Hyatt will be the next Head Football Coach for Piedmont High School, which is located in Union County. Hyatt will begin coaching and teaching Weight Lifting there on January 20.

Hyatt has much to offer the Piedmont Panthers - with 15 years of teaching experience in the Anson County School System, Southwest Regional Teacher of the Year Recipient, 18 years of coaching experience, and six years as Head Football Coach at Anson. He looks to have a successful future there.

"It was a very difficult decision for me to resign as Head Football Coach at Anson High School. I felt going forward this would be the best decision for myself, my family and the Bearcat football program. I have 15 years of fantastic memories. Hundreds of players have touched my life in ways I will always cherish. It will be very tough not to be a part of a program I have been a part of in some way for over 20 years," Hyatt stated.

Anson County School Superintendent Michael Freeman said, "Mr. Hyatt has served students in Anson County well. His commitment as a professional educator has provided many students in class and many athletes he coached the opportunity to grow and learn from someone who truly cares deeply for young people. His selection to serve as Head Football Coach and teacher at Piedmont High School is a compliment to the quality of staff we have in Anson County."

Freeman concluded, "On behalf of the Anson County Schools family, we wish Luke Hyatt well as he transitions to his new position at Piedmont High School."

Anson County Schools Athletic Director Terry Mabry said, "I would like to wish Coach Hyatt good luck in all that he does, with the exception of the Friday night that we are on opposing sides of the field."

Piedmont Athletic Director Bob Gearhart stated, "We are very excited to have Coach Hyatt join the family. We look forward to he and his family becoming part of Panther Nation and to the future that he will bring to Piedmont football."

Freeman added, "Coach Hyatt has assured the Anson High School students he is currently assisting with college admissions that he will follow through with his commitments on their behalf."

Anson County Schools has a posting for the AHS Head Football Coach position at [www.ansonschools.org](http://www.ansonschools.org) under the Employment Opportunities Link. Freeman said, "We have a significant number of applicants who have applied for the Head Football position. The Anson County Schools Human Resource Department will be working with AHS Principal Chad Murphy and ACS Athletic Director Terry Mabry as they work to fill this vacancy. Hopefully a new Head Football Coach will be selected within January or February."

Certainly there are many players, students and members of our community who are sad to see Coach Hyatt go. He touched the lives of many, he is a positive role model, and a man who cares deeply for the young people here. He will be missed, and all of Anson County would like to wish him the best of luck in the future.

## Horror-Comedy *Hank vs. The Undead* Has Local Roots

In Anson County there is only one place to debut a feature film and that is in the historic Ansonia Theatre. This Friday night, January 16 at 7:30, *Hank vs. The Undead* will be screened. Ansonian Dan Sellers produced and directed *Hank*, his first feature film. "The Anson County audience will enjoy seeing local talents who are in the movie, and will recognize that much of it is filmed in Anson County, more specifically in Peachland," said Sellers.

To keep you "in the know," this horror-comedy is much about zombies, and *Hank* serves as the unexpected guy you will be rooting for. Sellers said, "Films are a passion of mine and I enjoy film making as a hobby. I have no real expectations other than to enjoy doing it and to share it with those who wish to see it."

Sellers, who drew inspiration from *Evil Dead 2* which was also filmed in Anson County, said, "The styles and brand of humor are similar so if you



liked one you just might like the other."

Since it's release in 2014 the film has received positive screenings and feedback. It has been submitted to several film festivals and was recently selected for a possible 'nod' by the North Carolina Film Awards.

Dan Sellers grew up here and is proud to call Anson County home. Come out to the Ansonia this Friday and see this local achievement, which he shares with local stars Wanda Maness, Colton Snodgrass and Austin Atkins. Afterwards you can meet Dan and the cast at the reception in the Anson County Arts Council, located next to the theatre at 110 South Rutherford Street.

Tickets are \$5 at the door and the after party-reception is free. Sellers admits that his film has plenty of comedy, but it does have scenes typical to zombie plots and twists. If you cannot make the movie, he would love to see you at the reception, so stop by and wish him well. *By Melanie Lyon*

## Relay for Life Kickoff

The official kickoff for the Anson County Relay for Life will be held at the Lockhart-Taylor Center on Wednesday, January 21 at 6 p.m.

For information contact Carrie Bunn at 704-294-0071.



## James D. Henderson VFW Ladies Auxiliary Visits VA Hospital

On Saturday, December 6 members of the James D. Henderson VFW Post 10403 Ladies Auxiliary visited the Salisbury VA Hospital to celebrate an early Christmas with the veterans.

They presented a Christmas program, played games and served Christmas dinner to the veterans. Afterwards, because of the support received from Badcock, Leavitt Funeral Home, Pee Dee Church of Deliverance, retired Sheriff Tommy Allen and Uwharrie Bank, gift bags were given to each veteran.

Members of VFW Post 10403 Ladies Auxiliary attending were Brenda Bennett - President, Janie Harris - Chairperson, Linda Barrett, Joyce S. Little, Emma Yvonne Rosebud, Carolyn Sturdivant and Veronica Wall. Men from VFW Post 10403 attending were Comm. James Bennett, Comm. Anthony Hall, Nelson Liles and Eddie Little.



## Sponsor A Child for Morgan: Barn Blast 2015 Celebrates the Life of Morgan Lastowski

Guests at the Anson County Partnership for Children's annual Barn Blast fundraiser are invited to "Sponsor A Child" to receive Dolly Parton's Imagination Library books at \$25 per year. Anson County was recently recognized as the most generous county in North Carolina by the Chronicle of Philanthropy. "Sponsor A Child" is an example of this unmatched generosity as dozens of Barn Blast guests raise their bid numbers to sponsor one or more children, supporting early literacy in Anson County.

Beginning last year, "Sponsor A Child for Morgan" memorializes the life of Morgan Lastowski, granddaughter of Partnership staff member, Bonnie Morgan, and husband, Ronnie. Morgan passed away on July 1, 2013, at age 2 1/2 due to multiple medical complications. Morgan's parents are Emily and Kevin Lastowski of Dade City, Florida.

Morgan had a smile for everyone she met, which brought joy to all whose path she crossed. In addition to her smile, her other means of communication was primarily sign language. She was known by all in her Florida community, as well as her friends and family in North Carolina who followed her battles and lovingly supported her through her struggles during her short life.

Morgan's parents and grandparents do not want her to be forgotten and are appreciative to all who generously "Sponsor A Child for Morgan." In addition to Morgan's favorite pastime of dancing, Morgan especially enjoyed reading her books. Her family shared the joy of reading with her on trips to and from N.C., snuggling on the couch at home and passing the many hours she spent in the hospital. Morgan loved to look at the pictures in the books and to listen to her favorite book, *All of Baby, Nose to Toes*.

You can contribute to "Sponsor A Child for Morgan" at the 2015 Barn Blast on January 30 or by contacting the Partnership. Currently the Partnership provides Dolly Parton's Imagination Library books to approximately 1144 children under the age of five. In 2014, the community sponsored 762 children in memory of Morgan. Our hope is that Morgan's memory will not fade and that the support of this program will be even greater in 2015.

The mission of Anson County Partnership for Children is "helping to make Anson County a better place to be a child and to raise a child." The Partnership is grateful to everyone who supports the Partnership's programs for young children and families in Anson County by contributing to Sponsor a Child for Morgan.

Contact the Partnership at 704-694-4036, 117 South Greene Street, Wadesboro to contribute to "Sponsor A Child for Morgan."



## Insurance Companies Request Rate Change for Mobile Home Policies

**Public Comment period runs through February 9. Make your voice heard.**

The North Carolina Department of Insurance received a mobile homeowners insurance rate filing from the N.C. Rate Bureau the afternoon of Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2014. The N.C. Rate Bureau is not part of the Department of Insurance and represents all companies writing mobile homeowners insurance in the state. Two forms of mobile home coverage are offered: the MH(C) form and the MH(F) form. The forms are similar; however, the MH(F) form provides coverage for a broader range of perils.

The N.C. Rate Bureau has requested an average statewide decrease of 0.8 percent for the MH(C) form and an average state increase of 20.5 percent for the MH(F) form, with a requested effective date of Aug. 1, 2015.

The filing will be reviewed by Department of Insurance experts to determine what, if any, rate adjustments are warranted. If NCDI and the N.C. Rate Bureau do not agree on rate changes, Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin may call for a public hearing in which both parties would present their cases for or against rate adjustments.

To view the filings, go to [pserff.ncdoi.net/pc.html](http://pserff.ncdoi.net/pc.html) and enter the Serff Tracking Number NCRI-129864390 for the MH(C) filing and enter the Serff Tracking Number NCRI-129864392 for the MH(F) filing.

**Opportunity for public comment** Written public comments will be accepted from Jan. 9 through Feb. 9, 2015. Comments should be mailed to: NCDI, Attn: Bob Mack, Property & Casualty Division, 1201 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1201; or emailed to [2015mobilehome@ncdoi.gov](mailto:2015mobilehome@ncdoi.gov).

## Blood Drive Sun.

There will be a Blood Drive at Lilesville Baptist Church on Sunday, January 18, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. All donors must weigh at least 120 pounds. The church is located at 118 Camden Street in Lilesville.

This Blood Drive is coordinated by the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas. Call 704-972-4700.

## Town of Wadesboro Schedule for MLK Day

The Wadesboro Town Hall will be closed on Monday, January 19 for the Martin Luther King Holiday. There will be no garbage pickup on that day. Monday's route will be picked up on Tuesday, January 20. The regular garbage collection schedule will resume on Wednesday, January 21.

## Anson Singers Rehearsal on Tuesday, Jan. 20

The Anson Singers, a county-wide community choir, will resume rehearsals on Tuesday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 118 E. Morgan Street in Wadesboro. The Singers, directed by Emily Privette, meet on a weekly basis each Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Everyone in Anson and surrounding counties who enjoys good choral singing is invited to the first rehearsal. Current members, and also new faces and voices are encouraged to come on January 20.

## 4-H Eager Beavers Meet Sat.

The Eager Beaver 4-H Club will hold a meeting this Saturday, January 17, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Cooperative Extension Center, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro.

For more information call 704-694-2415.