

# THE EXPRESS

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

Postal  
Customer

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 Wades-

## Wadesboro Police Bust Two for Meth Manufacturing, Dealing

On Saturday, February 9 Wadesboro Police Department officers stopped a vehicle on Highway 109 South near Freeman Avenue. The vehicle was occupied by Clinton Alan Walters, 37, and Amy Threath Campbell, 37, of 1596 Olive Branch Road in Polkton. During a search of the vehicle officers located a handgun, methamphetamines and drug paraphernalia. Continuing the investigation, officers searched the residence of 103 Trexler Drive in Wadesboro, where Walters resides. Pursuant to that search, officers located a methamphetamine lab and paraphernalia that is used to cook methamphetamines. Walters was charged with Possess Methamphetamine, Possess Firearm by Felon, Obtain Controlled Substance by Fraud/Forgery, Possess/Distribute Methamphetamine Precursor, and Manufacture Methamphetamine - all felonies. He was also charged with Possess Drug Paraphernalia, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, and Simple Possession of Schedule II CS - misdemeanors.

Walters received a \$306,500 bond and has a court date set for February 26, 2013.

Campbell was charged with the following: Possess Methamphetamine, Possess Firearm by Felon, Obtain Controlled Substance by Fraud/Forgery, Possess/Distribute Methamphetamine Precursor, all felonies. She was also charged with Possess Drug Paraphernalia, a misdemeanor.

Campbell received a \$51,500 secured bond and has a court date set for February 26, 2013.

The Anson County Sheriff's Office and SBI assisted with the investigation.

## Justin Farmer Arrested Twice in a Week for Meth

On Wednesday, February 6 officers of the Wadesboro Police Department arrested Justin Farmer in the connection with the January 10th meth lab investigation at 1116 Morven Road. Farmer was charged with Trafficking Methamphetamine, Possess/Distribute Methamphetamine Precursor, Manufacture Methamphetamine, and Maintain Vehicle/Dwelling for the Purpose of Keeping Controlled Substance. All of those charges are felonies.

Farmer received a \$10,000 bond and has a court date set for February 26, 2013.

Then, on Wednesday, February 13 Farmer was arrested again after he fled from Wadesboro Police Department officers while they were investigating him as a suspicious person in the area of East Wade Street at approximately 3:45 a.m. Farmer was arrested after a short foot pursuit and officers located methamphetamines on his possession. Farmer was charged with Possess Methamphetamine (a felony) and Resist, Delay and Obstruct (a misdemeanor).

Farmer received a \$10,300 secure bond and has a court date set for March 5, 2013.

The Anson County Sheriff's Office assisted in this investigation.

## Wadesboro Police Department Offering Reward for Copper Theft Info

In a release from Lt. Detective Brandon Cheuning of the Wadesboro Police Department: The Wadesboro Police Department has been investigating numerous cases involving larceny of air conditioning unit parts for the past several months. If anyone has any information relating to these crimes please contact the Wadesboro Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division.

The Wadesboro Police Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 leading to the arrest and conviction of any suspect(s) involved in these crimes. If you have information you can call confidentially to 704-694-2167.



## Anson County Schools Put the Spotlight on School Breakfast

School district celebrates National School Breakfast Week 2013

Studies indicate that students who eat school breakfast increase their math and reading scores and improve their cognitive speed and memory, according to the Food Research and Action Center. However, fewer students eat school breakfast compared to school lunch. To increase participation in the School Breakfast Program, Anson County Schools will recognize National School Breakfast Week. Slated for March 4-8, National School Breakfast Week is a weeklong celebration aimed at increasing awareness of the School Breakfast Program among students and parents.

The theme, "Be a Star with School Breakfast," highlights how eating a balanced breakfast at school can help students shine. Cafeterias will celebrate school breakfast with special menus and decorations, activities, and school breakfast related brainteasers to help students to warm up their brains before they head to class.

Every school day, the Anson County's breakfast program offers students the healthy foods they need to get set for a busy school day. School breakfasts are an excellent source of protein, vitamins A and C, calcium and iron. Every school breakfast served meets federal nutrition standards limiting fat and portion size. "Our breakfast menus include a choice of an Entrée, fruit or 100% fruit juice and low fat or fat free milk. One of the most popular entrees with our students is the breakfast pizza. The breakfast pizza has turkey sausage, low fat mozzarella cheese and creamy breakfast gravy on top of a biscuit-style crust," said Angela Griffin, Child Nutrition Administrator.

"Be a Star with School Breakfast" was created by the School Nutrition Association. The campaign is to raise awareness of the availability of the School Breakfast Program to all children and the links between eating a good breakfast, academic achievement and healthy lifestyles.

## Children Offer Cookbook for Sale

The Children and Youth of Gum Springs Baptist Church in Lilesville have Cookbooks for Sale.

According to church member Susan Poe, "A cookbook has not been printed in over 30 years. I was an Acteen Leader along with Maxine Cummins and Brenda McCormick on the last print. Now these children have grown and have included their delicious recipes along with their favorites from their mothers."

The cookbook committee, Lynn Whitlock, Melissa Phillips, Holly Blackwelder, Brenda McCormick and Susan Poe would love to deliver a cookbook to you upon your request. All proceeds from the \$15 Cookbook will help to send the youth at Gums Springs Baptist Church to Camp Caswell this summer.

## Anson High School Students Work to Help Students in Malawi



These Anson High School students are helping students in the African country of Malawi learn English through a project called the Malawi Pen Pal Project. Read more about this fascinating project on page 6.

## In Honor of Black History Month African American Mailmen in Anson County

This is a contribution by historian and genealogist Steve Bailey: The first mention I have been able to find of an African American working as a mailman in Anson County was an article in the March 1884 issue of "The Anson Times" which stated that Ben Henry, a colored man carrier for the Wadesboro to Hornesboro route had shot himself in the left hand by accident while he was passing through the community of Madra (now known as Bethel).

Roser Lide/Lyde was another African American who delivered the mail on the Wadesboro to Hornesboro route as early as 1891. He was from South Carolina and was living in Anson County as early as 1887, when he married Hannah Allen on December 12th of that year. Hannah was a daughter of Laney Allen. Roser Lide was liked by the patrons on his mail route. They had so much confidence in him that they would often give him money to pay their bills or buy their groceries.

W. M. Niven was born in Anson County. He was clerk for the Seaboard Airline Railroad as early as 1902. His usual route took him from Charlotte to Hamlet, and sometimes to Wilmington. On one of his trips to Wilmington it was discovered that he had a mild case of smallpox so he was admitted in the hospital until he could recover. He did get better and went back to work.

Jeff Ratliff was the mailman for the Lilesville route. Jeff's route took him from Lilesville and down the Stanback Ferry Road and back to the Ridge Road, which is known these days as the Ingram Mountain Road. Jeff was hired by Y. H. Allen possibly as early as 1900, and Jeff was still working this route as late as 1915. Besides the mail, he would deliver other items such as cabbage, catfish, seed, collards, eggs, snuff, candy and anything else he could carry.

Sometimes Jeff's buggy would have a passenger. Many of his patrons would meet Jeff with dinner for him and a fresh bucket of water for his horse, and sometimes they would give him useful items for his family. Mail was not very plentiful along this route, so sometimes the birds would build nests in the mailboxes. (Contact Steve for genealogy work on your family ancestry at [genealogy1959@yahoo.com](mailto:genealogy1959@yahoo.com))

## Actors Needed for Ansonia Theatre Production

The Ansonia Theatre is set to begin work on its third community theatre production since opening as a performing arts venue in 2011. *The Trip to Bountiful* will play for six performances in May, with a cast that includes seven speaking roles plus extras. Auditions will be held at the theatre on Monday, February 25, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

*The Trip to Bountiful* is the poignant story of Carrie Watts, an aging widow living with her son and her shrewish daughter-in-law in a three-room flat in Houston, Texas. Mrs. Watts imagines that if she can get away and return to her old home in the town of Bountiful, she is sure to regain her strength, dignity and peace of mind - if only her failing heart will allow her the journey. This theater and film classic is a funny, touching tale of the human spirit.

The play will be directed by Tommy Wooten, a Marshville native and professional actor and director who has recently returned to the area. Wooten spent fifteen years as an actor at Universal Studios, Florida, and has directed for twenty years. He also appeared in three off-Broadway productions and has his own production company, Potluck Productions.

The following roles will be filled: Carrie Watts (late 50's - 60's); Ludie Watts (Carrie's son, late 20's - 40's); Jessie Mae Watts (Ludie's wife, late 20's - 40's); Thelma (a young traveler, early 20's); Houston Ticket Attendant (20's - 60's); Harrison Ticket Attendant (40's - 60's); Sheriff (30's - 50); and bus station travelers of all ages.

Audition materials are available at the Arts Council, located next door to the Ansonia at 110 South Rutherford Street in Wadesboro, Tuesday through Thursday, from 1 to 4 p.m. If these times aren't convenient, call the Arts Council at 704-694-4950 to arrange a pick-up time.

A Broadway revival of *The Trip to Bountiful* opens next month. If you can't make it to New York City, don't despair. *The Trip to Bountiful* will be playing right here in Anson County May 10-12 and 17-19.

## SPCC's Second Free College Day Set for February 23

South Piedmont Community College's second annual Free College Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Old Charlotte Highway Campus in Monroe. Participants will again be able to attend up to six classes - which begin on the hour starting at 9 a.m. - throughout the day for free. There are already 44 classes available, with more expected to be added in the coming weeks. Among those already offered are "Dissection 101," a popular class last year; "Drawing for Fun," "Flash Animation," "Sculptural Materials and Methods," "Solar Power," "Learn to Play Disc Golf" and many more.

Free College Day will again be held in conjunction with FAFSA Day, where participants can get help filling out the federal FAFSA form required for all financial aid. In that vein, some of the classes this year will have practical value for potential students and their parents. There will be a FAFSA Day class that will allow Free College Day participants to get help filling out their FAFSA, and another class called "High School Students: Jump Start Your College Career Free!"

"I hope the community is just as excited about Free College Day as SPCC is," said Cari Thompson, SPCC's Campus Events coordinator. "Our instructors and staff are looking forward to showing off why we love what we do. One of the best parts of Free College Day is our opportunity to give back to our community. We hope that people will take the time to come visit our campus, meet our instructors, experience firsthand what SPCC has to offer, and know that they will have fun."

Last year's inaugural event was a huge success with 350 people attending 70 classes. Students who completed a survey afterward were overwhelmingly positive. Among the comments:

- "This was my first time on campus. I was extremely impressed. All area industry and general businesses need to know of SPCC."
- "Everyone involved with the day was very nice and helpful. Thank you for a great day! I'll definitely be availing myself and my company of your services in the future."
- "Enjoyed it very much. Instructors seem to have a passion for teaching there."

The café on the Old Charlotte Highway Campus will be open for breakfast and lunch, at a nominal cost. There will also be free child care available for those who sign up for it in advance. To register for Free College Day, go to [www.spccevents.com/freecollege](http://www.spccevents.com/freecollege).

## Coats and Sweaters for Students

Faith-Based Center of Hope recently delivered coats and sweaters to the students at Anson High School. Vancine Sturdivant, Faith-Based Center of Hope CEO stated, "One of our major efforts each year is to provide school supplies, uniforms and warm clothing for our youth. A child learns better when he or she feels better. I want all youth to know they are somebody and whatever I can do to help them achieve, I will do."

"A special thank you goes out to Sheriff Tommy Allen for his contribution of coats and sweaters," Sturdivant added.



From left Rosa Little, Charles Murphy, Landric Reid and Vancine Sturdivant.

## Free Movie is Gracecard

The movie *Gracecard* will be shown in the Little Theatre at Hampton B Allen Library on Monday, February 25 at 10 a.m. This free movie stars Louis Gossett, Jr., Michael Joiner and Michael Higgenbottom, and is rated PG-13. Please make plans to attend and bring a friend.

This movie was furnished to the library by Mr. Boyce Adcock. Many thanks to him.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact us at the library at 704-694-5177.

## Game Day at Grace Senior Center

Game Day will be held at Grace Senior Center on Tuesday, February 26th at 2 p.m. What is Game Day? Game Day will consist of six bingo games with non-monetary prizes, three timed puzzle games, and some social/ice breaker games.

If you are interested in joining in on the fun, please call Grace Senior Center to register and for additional information at 704-694-6616.

## All Ages, All Ethnicities will Delight in Soul Street Dance Company

Soul Street Dance Company of Houston, Texas, brings their newest concert, *Breakin' Backwards*, to the Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro on Tuesday, March 12, at 7 p.m. Four male street dancers will perform their special contemporary mix of choreography to the most popular music of the decades, from Count Basie to Elvis Presley, the Temptations, Aerosmith, Michael Jackson, and more.



Soul Street Dance appeals to all ages and all ethnicities and cultures, bringing their youthful enthusiasm to audiences all over the United States. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Anson County Arts Council and Lacy's and online at [www.ansoniatheatre.com](http://www.ansoniatheatre.com). Reserve seats by calling the Arts Council at 704-694-4950.

## Storytime at the Library

Every Tuesday the public is invited to enjoy storytime at the Hampton B. Allen Library. The program begins at 10 a.m.

Inserts from IGA