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### Anson County Writers' Club Welcomes New Members

The Anson County Writers' Club meets on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce office, except in July and December. All meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

For more information call Sandy Bruney at 704-694-5211 or email [sandybruney@gmail.com](mailto:sandybruney@gmail.com).

For several years in the late 1990's and early 2000's Bill Billingsley wrote a column for The Express. It began with the title 'Billingsley's This and That' with the title later evolving to become Billingsley's "T N T". Bill managed WADE Radio station in Wadesboro for many years. He was extremely well known in the community, with many friends. He was also known nationwide for his pitch-perfect and authoritative 'radio voice.' Due to a computer mishap, it appeared that Bill's "TnT" columns were lost. But, after working on the project for several years, we have managed to recover at least some of his work. Because of that good fortune, we are proud to present a column below that Bill wrote for the March 26, 1997 edition of The Express.

## Billingsley's This and That

By Bill Billingsley



What a sight!  
A man running across a field attempting to get into his pants at the same time!  
That was me running through the garden in a big, big hurry. Running to old WADE as fast as I could go!  
This was caused by an early telephone call. When I say early I mean somewhere around five o'clock in the morning. My first thought was that something was bad wrong or that somebody had died and I needed to know this at once; or the caller must think I need to know of this. Actually, it was the former; something was bad wrong.  
The caller said that as she listened to her radio it seemed to go off and then she realized that a record had ended its song and was still going round-and-round with nobody attending it. I was told that this had been going on for about seven or eight minutes—Nothing left for me to do but rush up there and see for myself! That's when the convulsive upheaval with the pants began. First, I just grabbed a pair and headed for the door, got one leg in the trousers and then down the back steps I went, still attempting to properly position the other leg so it would slide into place, viz, down the other pant leg.  
Finally that maneuver got done and I high tailed it for old WADE, which was just a short distance away. But, alas, when I arrived at the front door of the station I realized that I had grabbed a pair of pants that didn't have my keys in them, nothing to be exact. Now, what to do? – No time to waste.— Couldn't go back to get them—Record spinning unattended inside. Rather than break the front door in or a window I chose to go to the rear and select a door to the furnace room, backed off about thirty feet, lowered the right shoulder, ran hard and hit that door with all I had. Three doors later I stopped standing right beside the control board, with the operator with his head resting on the desk section, passed out, cold! I don't believe a word was spoken – I simply shook him awake and with hand signs let him know that his shift was over. He arose and left the station for good. This man was an excellent musician and an unrivaled morning – type announcer. The fact is – we hated to lose this man. However, we could not run the risk of this same thing happening again. This man was from Canada, had composed some worthwhile songs, one of which, he said, had been plagiarized by another man, more popular in the United States. That song you, may remember as "Cawliga," that poor old wooden Indian that stood outside the tobacco store. The way he performed it, with some different words, a few, convinced me that he did, indeed, compose the song.  
After this fellow was dismissed I handled the morning hours until a replacement for him could be found – Thus began "Hillbilly John," after stringent negotiations that lasted an unusually long period of time. The success of the "Hillbilly John Show" was phenomenal and worth every minute of the prolonged negotiations. John is gone now, but we all remember him fondly. Among his personal musical instruments, which he had collected over time, was the rounded back bandore, an ancient instrument much like a mandolin or small guitar and an acoustic guitar made by Gibson many years ago. It was priceless then, so nothing of its worth today. Hillbilly John was a bonafide star long before he came to old WADE and here his popularity grew until he was coaxed away by a station in another town.  
Another note on the dismissal of the man who passed out during his scheduled time on the air – to my knowledge (in my memory bank) he is the only person who left old WADE without it being of his own choosing. Anyone else who left old WADE did so of his own volition. That's a better than good average for over the thirty years I was there. We had harmony you wouldn't believe. We have all been told that it showed in a pronounced way as each of us fulfilled our airtime duties.  
Last week I ran into Colonel Henry Huntley and several others who read This and That regularly and I told him that if high government officials read it then I'd better be more careful as I put these words down on paper. School teachers, doctors of medicine and optometry and other outstanding folks talked to me this last week about the interesting content contained in this little blurb. All especially liked last weeks writing for some reason – Oh, other columns were mentioned. I remember comments being made about the Blair Theatre and Jim Allen as well as some I had written so long ago that I had forgotten about them. And some asked how I keep from writing about the same thing sometimes. My answer was, " I imagine I do!"  
We'll close with some of those old colloquialisms: Birds of a feather flock together – like minded people hang around together; people of the same ilk are prone to with each other; speak the same language.

## NEW SHIPMENT OF SOFA & LOVESEAT SETS FOR \$799

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# DEMOCRATIC PARTY CONVENTION

**SATURDAY APRIL 8 9AM**  
**Hampton B. Allen Library**

*"Let's Do It Again"*

All Precinct Officers & Concerned Citizens are Invited to Attend



Information 704-848-4412

# RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC



**Location:**  
**BROWN CREEK ANIMAL HOSPITAL**  
7453 Highway 74  
Polkton

**SATURDAY**  
**April 1st**  
**2pm to 5pm**  
**\$5 per vaccination**



Sponsored by Brown Creek Animal Hospital & the Anson County Health Department

North Carolina General Statute 130A-185 requires that every dog, cat & ferret over four months of age be vaccinated against rabies and that the vaccination be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

## Grace Senior Center Sponsoring Trip to Amishlands

Grace Senior Center is sponsoring a 4 day/3 night trip to the Amishlands in Pennsylvania on July 18 through 21. The package includes 3 nights lodging, 3 breakfasts, 2 dinners, a performance of "Jonah" at the Millennium Theatre, a guided tour of the Amish countryside, including stops at an Amish craft farm and a bake shop, a stop at the Kitchen Kettle Village, Bird-in-Hand Farmer's Market, a free day for outlet shopping at Tanger Outlets & Rockvale Square Outlets in Lancaster Pa, a souvenir gift, luggage handling, taxes and meal gratuities and motor-coach transportation. The cost of the trip is \$409 per person with double occupancy, \$538 for a single room, \$384 for triple, and \$374 for quad room.  
They are now accepting deposits of \$100 and all deposits are due by May, with the final payment due on June 16. There will be no exceptions after June 16. Cancellation Insurance is available upon request. For more information or to register, please call 704-694-6616.

## Storytime Every Wednesday at Partnership for Children

The Anson County Partnership for Children offers Storytime in the Early Childhood Resource Center each Wednesday, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3 to 8. For more information call 704-694-4036.

## Obituaries ... continued from page 3

### Mrs. Cynthia Campbell Shue

Mrs. Cynthia Campbell Shue, 65, died Monday, March 27, 2017, at the Hospice House of Union County.  
Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 30, 2017, at Harmony Community Church with Rev. Rocky Carpenter officiating. Interment will follow in Eastview Cemetery in Wadesboro. The family will greet friends Wednesday, March 29, from 6 until 8 p.m. at Leavitt Funeral Home.  
Cynthia was born in Mecklenburg County on

September 18, 1951, a daughter of the late Donald and Joan White Campbell. She had worked as a waitress in several Mecklenburg restaurants and more recently as a clerk at Dollar General in Wingate.  
Survivors include her husband of 32 years, Carl Shue, Jr. of the home; a son Don Latner, Jr. of Midland; a daughter Amanda Lawing (Harold) of Matthews; seven grandchildren, Kristen Chambers, Charles Johnson III, Rylan McGowan, Connor McGowan, Cayden McGowan, Holden Cook and Natalee Paxton; six great-grandchildren, Raymond Chambers, Ethan Cham-

bers, Cheyenne Johnson, Brinlyn Johnson, Carson Pierce and Kayleigh Pierce; her very best friend, Sarah Hildreth of Marshville; two brothers, Donnie Campbell of Weddington and Ernie Campbell of Matthews; and a brother-in-law, Larry Shue of Ansonville.  
In addition to her parents, Cynthia was preceded in death by two brothers, Jerry Campbell and Tommy Campbell; and her sister Brenda Epps.  
Leavitt Funeral Home is serving the Shue family. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).