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THE EXPRESS

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

Primary Election Early Voting Ends Friday, Election Day is Next Tuesday

The Primary Election will be held next Tuesday, May 17, but One Stop Early Voting began April 28 and runs until this Saturday, May 14. All Anson County voters can vote early at the Board of Elections Office, located at 402 Morven Road in Wadesboro.

Candidates For a list of the candidates and detailed information, please see the Board of Elections notice that is on page 7 of this edition of The Express.

Early Voting hours:

- Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 14, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration to Vote Anson County citizens who did not register to vote by the April 22 deadline can still register and vote during One Stop Early Voting, and will be required to provide documentation of their identity and residence.

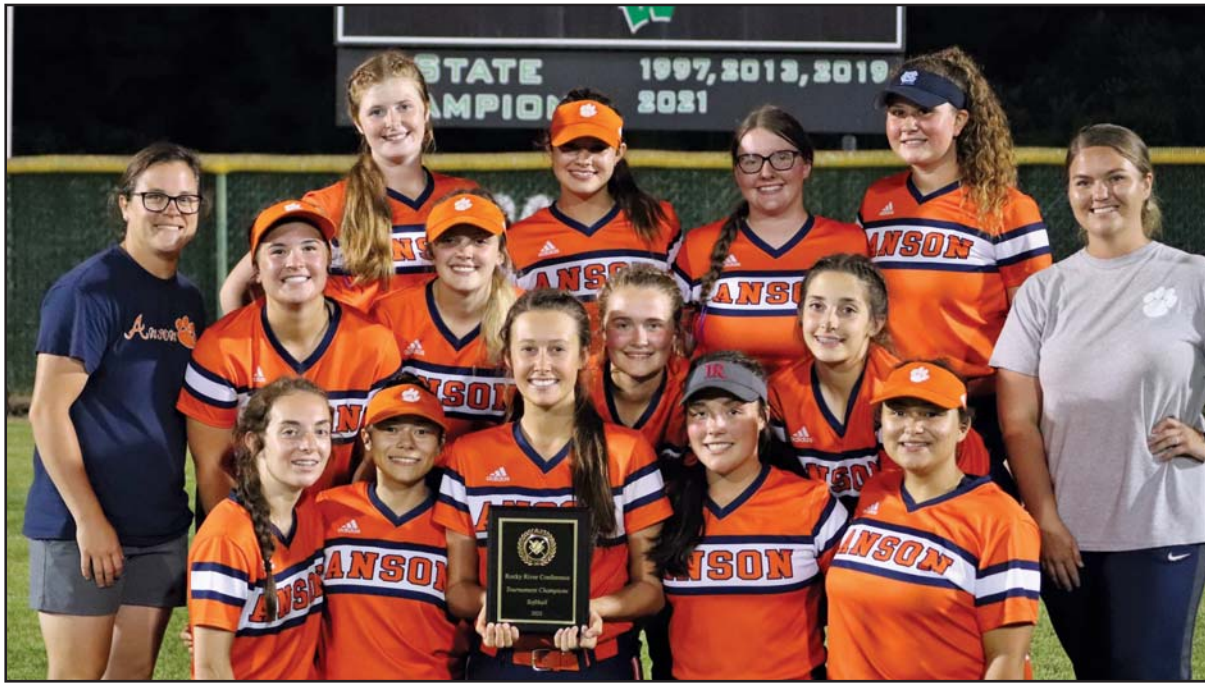
Absentee by Mail Voting The deadline to apply for an Absentee by Mail ballot was May 10.

Election Day Polling Places - Hours are 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

- Ansonville Fire-Rescue, 9145 US Highway 52 North, Ansonville
- Burnsville Fire-Rescue, 33 Rescue Road, Polkton
- Gulledge Fire Department, 34 Chewning Road, Wadesboro
- Lilesville Fire Department, 202 West Wall Street, Lilesville
- Morven-McFarlan Fire Department, 242 East Main Street, Morven
- Peachland Fire Department, 35 Passaic Street, Peachland
- Polkton Fire Department, 61 West Polk Street, Polkton
- Wadesboro - All Wadesboro voters vote at SPCC Lockhart-Taylor Center, 514 North Washington Street, Wadesboro
- White Store Community Building, 5672 Union Church Road, Peachland

On Election Day, May 17, no voting takes place at the Board of Elections Office.

For more election information you can call the Anson County Board of Elections at 704-994-3223.



Anson High School Softball Team Wins 2A Rocky River Conference!

Congratulations to our Anson High School Lady Bearcats as they defeated West Stanly High School 5-4 to win the 2A Rocky River Conference Tournament on May 5 at West Stanly High School.

This is the first softball team in Anson High School history to win the conference tournament! Good luck in the playoffs!

4-H Fashion Revue and Creative Talent Return!

On Tuesday April 26 family and friends gathered at the Anson Cooperative Extension office for the first time in more than two years, and everyone was excited for the return of the 4-H Fashion Revue and Creative Talent events.

The Fashion Revue consisted of 4-H'ers modeling garments they made in the spring. All garments were made with the help of 4-H volunteer leaders. Creative talent is a competition that offers a variety of different categories that include art, photography, craft/hobbies, and creative writing. Mrs. Fannie Clyburn and Rev. Jessie Blakeney judged the garments and Maria Bennett judged the creative talent entries. Thank you to all the judges!

Fashion Revue Winner: Junior Teen Fashion Zoe Martin - 1st

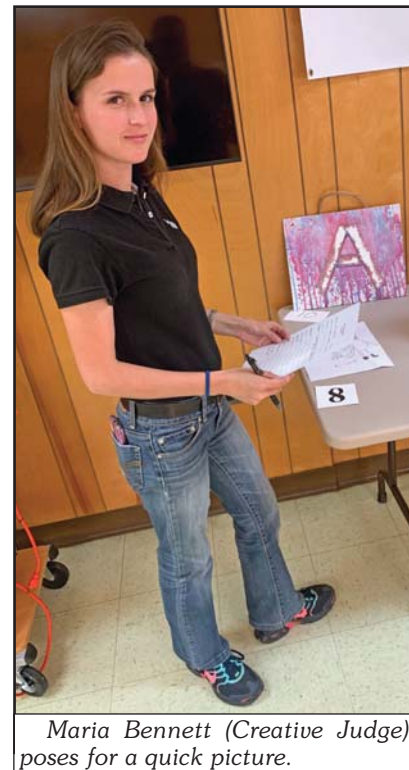
Creative Talents Winners:

- Cloverbud Art: Micah Kirby
- Junior Art: Zoe Martin - 1st; James Kirby - 2nd
- Senior Art: Andrew Martin - 1st
- Cloverbud Craft & Hobbies: Micah Kirby
- Junior Craft & Hobbies: Zoe Martin - 1st; James Kirby - 2nd
- Senior Craft & Hobbies: Andrew Martin - 1st

All 1st and 2nd place winners in the Fashion Revue received \$20 and \$15 scholarships to be used towards a 4-H event or trip, while Cloverbud participants received \$10 scholarships. Non-garment participants received \$15 and \$10 in scholarships and Cloverbuds received \$5 for participation. Creative Talent winners received \$12, \$8 and \$5 for 1st and 2nd places. All Cloverbuds received \$5 participant scholarships. All scholarship money is provided through program fundraising efforts.

These county 4-H programs are all annual events. 4-H participation is open to all youth regardless of sex, race, religion or national origin.

For more information about 4-H in Anson County contact Samuel Cole, 4-H Agent, at 704-694-2915.



Maria Bennett (Creative Judge) poses for a quick picture.



Fashion Revue judges Rev. Jessie Blakeney and Fannie Clyburn pose with Zoe Martin in a garment she made.

HOLLA! 5K and Literary Fair is this Saturday

HOLLA! is hosting a 5K and Literary Fair this Saturday, May 14. Here are the details:

5K - Registration for the 5K begins at 8:00 a.m. Runners are also able to register for the evening event. Asiya Williams, an ACTION Certified Personal Trainer, starts group warm-ups before the race. The race begins at 9:00 a.m. During the race kids have the option to enjoy free entertainment with the Anson County Partnership for Children. Their Story-time is always a fun, live event with plenty of books offered. The awards ceremony concludes the 5K. Afterward, runners can treat themselves to the food vendors in attendance.

Evening with the Authors - For ages 21 and up. This event is catered by Designed by Me Catering. Guests have non-alcoholic punch and wine to choose from as they eat Peggy Baucom's heavy hors d'oeuvres. After hearing authors read from their work, attendees can buy their books and participate in a silent art auction. Wondering which authors are attending? Stay tuned to HOLLA!'s social media and newsletter for this week's announcement.

HOLLA! is located at 229 Main Street in Morven. The telephone number is 704-851-3144.

On the Road...Secure Your Load

From 2012-2017, there were 2,595 crashes in North Carolina from unsecured loads - resulting in 705 injuries and 14 fatalities. June 6 was "Secure Your Load Day," an effort to make sure all vehicles are properly loaded, and our roads are clear of dangerous debris.

- Here are important tips:
- Before driving, make sure everything in your vehicle is tied down
 - Secure larger items directly to your vehicle
 - To keep smaller items from flying out, cover them with tarps, nets or covers
 - Don't overload your vehicle
 - Your vehicle's load should not go above the level of your truck or trailer
 - All items should be covered to keep them stable

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

James Patrick McGraw Arrested for Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, Faces Other Charges

On Thursday, May 5 officers with the Wadesboro Police Department, working in conjunction with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security, arrested James Patrick McGraw, 56, of Wadesboro. The Wadesboro Police Department, having recently joined the Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce (ICAC), partnered with the above listed agencies and investigated a cyber tip indicating apparent child pornography was being downloaded and uploaded by McGraw from his residence.



James Patrick McGraw

The Wadesboro Police Department seized numerous electronic devices from McGraw's person and his home.

According to police, this investigation is still ongoing and additional charges are expected as the evidence is continued to be examined.

McGraw was also required to register his address with the Anson County Sheriff's Office as a sex offender, however he failed to do so and was living within 1,000 feet of a school. At the time they released this information, the Wadesboro Police Department had no reason or evidence to believe that McGraw was ever on school grounds or had access to any children in the care of Anson County Schools.

McGraw was placed in the Anson County Jail, given a bond of \$50,000, and a court date of May 17, 2022.

Charges: Third Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor; Failure to Register as a Sex Offender; and Sex Offender Residing within 1,000 feet of a School.

Covid Update for Anson County

According to the latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department on Monday, May 9, Anson County total Covid-19 cases were 6,586, an increase of 17 cases since May 2. 18 active cases were reported, with the death toll still at 99.

Moderna Covid vaccines are available for everyone 5 years old and older, including walk-in clinics. (Children 5-11 by appointment only.) Vaccine boosters are available. They are free, and all you have to do is call the Health Department at 704-694-5188 for more information. Walk-in clinics are held on Thursdays, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m.

N-95 masks and Rapid COVID tests are offered at the Health Department. Stop in to pick one up. (Limited supply.)

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro.

Covid Testing Free testing is available Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. without an appointment. They are closed for lunch 12 noon to 1 p.m. Testing takes place in the old hospital parking lot at 500 Morven Road in Wadesboro. No appointment is needed and there is no charge for the Covid test. Results will be called or emailed directly to the person tested or, in the case of children, to their parent or adult caregiver, in 2-3 days. They will test anyone over the age of 1.

Free home Covid tests are available by mail. The government has set up a website (www.covidtests.gov) or call 1-800-232-0233.

Diaper Drive this Saturday

The Lamb of God Church is holding a Diaper Drive this Saturday, May 14. Parents, grandparents, single parents or anyone who may need diapers or pull-ups for their child or children are invited to come and receive them for free.

To receive the free diapers you must call in advance with diaper sizes by May 12. Please leave a message with your name, number and diaper sizes. Call 843-623-3777.

The Lamb of God Church is located at 118 West Wade Street in uptown Wadesboro.

The website is www.logomchurch.com.

Anson County Schools Covid Dashboard May 6, 2022

Location/Site	Quarantined Students	Quarantined Employees	Positive Cases Students	Positive Cases Employees
Anson Early College High School	0	0	0	0
Anson High School	0	0	0	0
Anson Middle School	3	0	0	0
Ansonville Elementary	0	0	0	0
Lilesville Elementary	0	0	0	0
Morven Elementary	0	0	0	0
Peachland-Polkton Elementary	0	0	0	0
Wadesboro Elementary	0	0	0	0
Wadesboro Primary	0	0	0	0
District Office	N/A	1	N/A	0
Transportation	N/A	0	N/A	0
Maintenance	N/A	0	N/A	0
Child Nutrition/Cafeteria Employees	N/A	0	N/A	0
Total	3	1	0	0
Total Students + Employees	4		0	

*Student Enrollment as of 05/06/22	2,930
*Enrollment changes daily	
% of Students Positive	0.00%

# of Employees	513
% of Employees Positive	0.00%
A link to the dashboard is on the Anson County Schools Facebook page.	