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

Ansonia Opens New Play Production, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*

The Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro is proud to present *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, running October 14-23. One of America's most successful playwrights, Neil Simon, wrote this comedy as a love letter to his past.

The year is 1937 in Brooklyn during the heart of the Depression. 15 year old Eugene Jerome lives in Brighton Beach with his family. He is witty, perceptive, obsessed with girls and forever fantasizing about his dream of one day playing as the star pitcher for the New York Yankees. As Eugene guides the audience through his "memoirs" we watch a family struggle to meet life's challenges with pride, spirit and a brilliant sense of humor. But, as World War II looms ever closer, we watch as Eugene's innocence begins to slip away as the first important era of his life ends and a new one begins.

"Humorous and poignant - it belongs to the family genre where the passwords are forgive and remember." Time magazine.

The cast includes Ansonia regulars Terra Threatt Medlock, Mark Traywick and Marissa Medlock of Marshville, Connie Thomas of Burnsville, Savannah Tarlton, and newcomers Tyler Baucom and Chris Kelly of Wadesboro. The show is directed by Gina Clarke and Tommy Wooten.

Showtimes are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 plus tax and can be purchased by calling 704-694-4950.



Health Department Advises Everyone to Get a Flu Shot

Flu season usually starts in October and continues through the winter months with peak activity in January and February. Influenza, commonly called "the flu," is caused by the influenza virus, which infects the respiratory tract (nose, throat, lungs). Unlike many other viral respiratory infections, such as the common cold, the flu can cause severe illness and life-threatening complications in many people. Vaccination is the best way to prevent influenza.

Every year, flu spreads across the country, from person to person, family to family, and community to community. The severity of flu illness can vary from mild to severe. When severe, flu complications can lead to hospitalization and sometimes even death. Even healthy children and adults can get very sick from the flu. Each year in the United States (on average) an estimated 5-20 percent of the population will be infected with the flu, and more than 200,000 people may be hospitalized during a single flu season.

An annual flu vaccination is the best way to prevent flu and the flu-related complications that could lead to hospitalization and even death. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends vaccination before December to ensure that protective antibodies are in your system before flu activity is typically at its highest. The CDC and the Anson County Health Department recommends that everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccine.

The Anson County Health Department has Flu shots (influenza vaccine) for the 2016-2017 season available now. Flu shots are available by appointment Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Flu shots are free for uninsured children 18 years old and younger, or uninsured pregnant women. The cost for adults is \$35 for regular dose, and \$80 for high dose. Most major insurances, including Medicaid and Medicare, are accepted. The pneumonia vaccine is also available at the Health Department for adults 65+ years old for \$70.

If you have any questions, or to schedule your appointment, please call Jennifer Dockery, MSN, FNP-C at the Anson County Health Department at 704-694-5188.

Revised Date - Board of Education Meets on Thursday, October 13

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their regular board meeting on Thursday, October 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the Board of Education Office, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. This date replaces the originally scheduled regular meeting on October 24.

Closed Session will begin promptly after the opening of the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Open Session to the public should begin around 6:30 p.m.



Landowner Workshop Connects with Local Ag and Forestry Agencies

Heir forest landowners and farmers networked with local, state, and federal agriculture agencies last week when Anson Cooperative Extension and NC A&T University hosted a forestry field day and agriculture workshop at Centenary AME Zion Church in Lilesville on Tuesday, September 13.

"When descendants suddenly find themselves managers of heir property it can be a real struggle to oversee ag or forestland if new owners were not part of the decision-making process or past management of the property," began Aimee Colf, Horticulture Agent with Anson Cooperative Extension. "Your first step in understanding how to manage the land is knowing what agencies or outside professionals to contact for technical assistance."

Thirty participants from Anson, Richmond and Union counties attended the event which targeted beginning farmers, heir landowners, minority, veteran and other traditionally underserved audiences in an effort to help landowners network with local natural resource agencies so they can afford to keep their land in the family, put it in production, or gain assistance with a forest management or conservation plan. The workshop was sponsored by the 1890 Center of Excellence Grant Program for Innovative and Sustainable Small Farms, Ranches, and Landowners through NC A&T University.

Participants were greeted by special guests, Rep. Mark Brody, Senator Tom McInnis, and Anson County Commissioner Vincine Sturdivant. A forestry field trip was led by County Ranger Gary McClendon, Service Forester Scotty Comer and landowner John McCormick. The afternoon session included information about Cooperative Extension (Dr. Joshua Idassi, Aimee Colf and Dustin Adcock), Natural Resources Conservation Service (Shauntae Britt and Tom Ward), Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District (Jake Barbee), Anson Tax Office (Larry Newton), NC A&T University Local Farm and Food Program (Laura Lauffer) and Farm Service Agency (Jennifer Almond).

If you have heir property, forestland, are a beginning farmer or are interested in learning more about agriculture, forestry, or the services these agencies provide, please contact Aimee Colf at Anson Cooperative Extension at 704-694-2415.

Robbie Hill to Haul Dump Trucks Filled With Supplies to Flooded Neighboring Areas. Can You Contribute?

Last week we watched helplessly as Hurricane Matthew ravaged through the Caribbean and onto US soil in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and beyond. The huge storm left behind much devastation from both wind and rain. In the aftermath many areas are now faced with cleanup. And additionally, in our neighboring counties they are facing astronomical destruction from flooding. Flooding in Robeson, Hoke, Moore and Cumberland Counties is expected to worsen in the days ahead from the water runoff. Interstate 95, which is a major East Coast thoroughfare, is closed near Lumberton, making evacuations, rescues and aid relief more complex.



Fleeing residents who moved as directed to shelters have had to relocate. Some have relocated multiple times and many have been airlifted by helicopter to higher ground with nothing except the clothes on their backs. With electricity cut off there is virtually no gasoline, water or food for sale.

Here in Anson County we experienced power outages, uprooted trees and the like, but nothing remotely close to our neighbors' ongoing hardships. As a result, Robbie Hill, owner of Four A Loader Work, LLC, plans to haul dump trucks loaded with food, water and supplies to Lumberton and other surrounding areas where the devastation has reached epic levels.

If you would like to make a donation, please do it today! Needed items include: baby bottles, baby formula, baby food, baby wipes, diapers, bottled water, personal hygiene products, women's hygiene products, juice, canned foods, clothing, shoes, socks, underwear, blankets, air mattresses, first aid supplies, latex and latex free gloves.

Area drop off zones include: Ansonville Elementary School (Mary Kay Jarman), Salon 52 (Kim Pugh), Brown Creek Baptist Church, New Home Baptist Church, Northcutt Affordables (Steve Northcutt) and Kim's Kut's (Kelly Tyson).

"We will deliver as soon as we get a truck full...and if we get more than one we will go back," Hill said. So bring your donations to the above locations now!

Hill added, "I've hauled a lot of things in my dump trucks, but this will be a first!"

Thank you to Robbie Hill and Four A Loader Work for taking this generous and charitable initiative, and to the volunteers. Next time it could be Anson County in such desperate need. Let's offer our hand to help lift these people up. It's just the right thing to do.

By Melanie Lyon



Breast Cancer Awareness Workshop is Thursday

Kesler Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church will host a Breast Cancer Awareness Workshop on Thursday, October 13 at 6 p.m. The public is cordially invited to attend this free and informative event. The presenter is Latoya Mallard from Carolinas HealthCare System.

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers that a woman may face in her lifetime. Here are some facts:

- 1 in 8 women will get breast cancer
- Breast cancer can happen at any age
- Your chances of getting breast cancer increase as you get older
- A mammogram can find breast cancer at an early stage that makes treating it easier

Kesler Chapel is located at 708 Salisbury Street in Wadesboro. To find out more about breast cancer and to see if a free screening test is right for you, call Latoya Mallard at 828-446-6344 or email: Latoya.Mallard@carolinashealthcare.org.

Brown Bag Book Club Meets October 17

The Brown Bag Book Club will meet on Monday, October 17 in the Pritchett Room at the Hampton B. Allen Library for a covered dish meal followed by an author talk with Cheryl L. Anderson. You are invited to attend, bring a dish and a friend, and join in the fellowship.

For more information call 704-694-5177.

Democratic Women to Meet October 17

All Democratic women of Anson County are invited to attend an important meeting to continue the organization of the Democratic Women of Anson County. This meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 17 at 6 p.m. at Grace Senior Center.

Shop with a Cop Motorcycle Ride New Date is October 22

The Wadesboro Police Department is sponsoring their annual Shop with a Cop Motorcycle Ride this year on Saturday, October 22. The original date was cancelled due to the inclement weather. This fun event raises money for the Shop with a Cop program that provides Christmas gifts for less fortunate children in Anson County. You are invited to share in the fun while helping make some children happy on Christmas day. Lunch will be served.

Registration begins at 11 a.m. at the new Wadesboro Police Department, located at 212 South Rutherford Street. The cost is \$15 for single riders, \$20 for two up.

For more information contact Chief Theddis Spencer at 704-475-2695 or Sgt. Cannon at 704-465-8705.

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