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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.

## Board of Elections Sets One Stop-Early Voting Plan for November Election

The Anson County Board of Elections met on Tuesday, August 16, and established the One Stop-Early Voting plan for the upcoming November General Election. There are a total of 17 voting days, and a total of 187 voting hours in the plan.

Here are the voting times:

- October 20 to November 5**
- **Monday through Friday** 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Saturday, October 22** 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Sunday, October 23** 12 noon to 6 p.m.
- **Saturday, October 29** 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Sunday, October 30** 12 noon to 6 p.m.
- **Saturday, November 5** 6 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Details of all the races in the upcoming election are featured on page 8 of this edition of *The Express*.

## Uptown Wadesboro Fall Festival is this Saturday

Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. will hold its Annual Fall Festival on Saturday October 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Square in uptown Wadesboro. The activities include trick-or-treating at uptown businesses, games with prizes, storytelling, pet costume judging at 11 a.m., kids' costume judging at noon with prizes, and pumpkin painting with prizes from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Anson County Partnership for Children will be providing free books to the children.

Here is the stage schedule:

- 10am Boy Scouts Pledge on the Stage
- 10:30 - 11am Storytelling on the Stage
- 11 - 11:30am Pet Costume Contest on the Stage
- 11:30am - 12 noon Science experiments on the Stage
- 12 - 1pm Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Winners announced followed by Children's Costume Contest on the Stage

For further information call 704-695-1644 or visit [www.uptownwadesboro.com](http://www.uptownwadesboro.com).

## Shop with a Cop Fundraiser Motorcycle Ride is this Saturday

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 Thedis Spencer at 704-475-2695 or Sgt. Cannon at 704-465-8705.

## Domestic Violence Coalition Candlelight Vigil is October 27

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. According to the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCCADV) website, Domestic Violence Awareness month was first observed in 1987. The Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center (ACDVC) participates in the Silent Witness program during the month of October to mourn those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end violence.

During October life-sized wooden figures will be placed in the county, each one bearing the name of a person who once lived, worked, had friends, family - whose life ended violently at the hands of a partner, spouse, ex-spouse or acquaintance.

Domestic Violence often goes unreported. In Anson County, from July 2015 to June 2016, ACDVC assisted 374 victims of domestic violence - 325 were female and 49 were males. The age bracket with the highest incident is 26-40 years old. Domestic violence will impact 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men at some point in their lives. According to the National Center Against Domestic Violence, every nine seconds a woman is assaulted. As of September 28, 2016, there have been 50 domestic violence related deaths in North Carolina alone. 50!

On Thursday, October 27 at 6 p.m. a candlelight vigil will be held on the front steps of the Anson County Courthouse. The ACDVC invites anyone who has a friend or loved one represented here or if you have been or know someone that has been affected by domestic violence to come and join them during this special time of remembrance.

In Anson County we have had two fatalities in just seven months. Our known victims include Argatha H. Clark, Cindy B. McIntyre, Rebecca B. Morrow, Connie Newton, Laura Parker, Mary Polk, Danette Streater, Mary Jane Suess, Linda Kay Walters, Daisy Coleman Melton, Larry Thomas Lindsey, Jennifer Howell, Sherri Feely Marshall, Elnora Sturdivant, Doretha Smith, Deborah Annette Wall Smith, Kim Campbell, Rodney Smith, two unnamed victims and two unborn children.

For more information please contact the staff at Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center at 704-694-4499. The 24-hour crisis line number is 704-690-0362.

## Free ADHD Awareness Workshop on October 25

An ADHD Awareness Workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 25 at the Hampton B. Allen Library in the Pritchett Room, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. Cassandra Byers with Daymark Recovery Services will be the guest speaker. Lunch and materials will be provided free. Contact Suzanne Maness at (910) 627-1769, toll free (877) 211-5995, or by email at [connectionsfp@gmail.com](mailto:connectionsfp@gmail.com) to register. The deadline to register is Friday, October 21.



## Local Relief Efforts Started With Just One Man, Robbie Hill

Scores of volunteers and contributors are part of this terrific cause. Any donation, as small as a few cans of insect repellent, will help.

In last week's edition of *The Express* you read about local relief efforts for our neighbors in Robeson, Wayne and Columbus counties who have been devastated by flooding from Hurricane Matthew. And, with several rivers out of their banks and others cresting in as little as a few days ago, the devastation has since worsened.

We told you that Robbie Hill, owner of Four A Loader Work, LLC and native of Anson County, made a public outcry for help via his Facebook page, which almost instantly went viral. Since that time Robbie's dump truck has not stopped hauling food, water, diapers and every survival item you can think of to those who are still either in shelters, makeshift housing or living in dangerous conditions.

#Hauling4ACause is stamped across Robbie's big red dump truck, which you have probably seen on east bound highway 74 - most definitely on a mission to do some good for the good people affected in so many neighboring areas.

After Robbie's initial plea Kim Pugh offered Salon 52, located on Highway 74 next door to Martin Furniture, as a centrally located drop site. It has become the main hub of operations for loading trucks, trailers and flatbeds with necessities of life, before drivers head east to the now contaminated waters and dire conditions where people have no choices other than survival. Those victims are truly at the mercy of the people who are making gargantuan efforts to save them.

I asked Robbie last week how long he intended on making these hauls and he replied, "If the people bring it, I'll haul it as long as it's still coming in." And coming in it is! Now a full week later your donations have not stopped and volunteers have not stopped coming to offer their help to sort, box and load. And, even with little time for rest, the trucks are still making it to places you would never want to go because conditions are just that bad.

When you see the "Hurricane Relief Sign" stationed in front of Martin Furniture Company, stop by and make a contribution. At the top of today's needs list are these items: insect repellent, cleaning supplies, mops, brooms, feminine hygiene products, easy open canned food, toys and pet food.

"I had to quit counting the loads we've hauled because I couldn't keep up. But, I'd bet we've sent about 100,000 pounds of supplies by now," said Hill, who, with the help of the good people of Anson, Union, Stanly and Richmond Counties, will keep relief going as long as there is need. These are not affluent people. They are regular or middle-class Americans with bigger than average hearts. How else can you explain their overwhelming generosity?

With every need there is an obstacle to overcome, and with each place there are barriers it seems. Robbie says, "Just tell me where I can't go today and God will show me a way to get there." So far he's made it to each place he has been called. At times it is only with the help of other people, from the Highway Patrol to the Department of Transportation, but he has made it through.

Alongside of Robbie is his wife Keelie who said, "I'm just trying to help my husband answer all the requests from people everywhere who are contacting us for help." That in itself would be a big job. They are receiving about 500 calls a day either from people with donations or from people who need those donations. It amounts to a huge circle, and from beginning to end, includes citizens, churches, corporations, businesses, community groups, individuals and goes all the way back around again and again. Everyone involved is focused on steadying the unsteady and lifting up the suffering people from towns like Lumberton, St. Pauls, Fair Bluff, Red Springs, Fairmont, Goldsboro, Kinston, Woodlake and more.

I asked Robbie who he would most like to thank for helping him make this happen and he replied, "I want to thank everybody...but there are too many to name. They know who they are and I do thank them all. But God is doing this. This is not me or us, it's God who is telling me what to do and leading me where I need to go. I thank God." *By Melanie Lyon*



Josh Dalrymple and Brant Pugh offered a lot of help.



## Medicare Open Enrollment Period Runs Through Dec. 7

Your health needs change from year to year, and the benefits and costs of your health plan may change each year, too. That's why it's important to evaluate your Medicare choices every year. The Open Enrollment Period is the one time of year when all people with Medicare can change their Medicare health plan and prescription drug coverage for 2017. Take advantage of the Open Enrollment Period, and you may be able to save money, improve your coverage or both.

The Open Enrollment Period started on October 15 and lasts seven full weeks to give you enough time to review and make changes to your Medicare coverage. You will need to make your final selection for next year's Medicare coverage by December 7 to ensure that your coverage will begin without interruption on January 1.

"Open Enrollment is the opportunity for Medicare beneficiaries to evaluate their plan and save money for the following year," said North Carolina Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin. "The staff from SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, are available to help over the phone or in-person in all 100 counties in North Carolina."

Here are some of the ways to review and compare plans available for 2017:

- Get one-on-one help from SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, by calling 1-855-408-1212, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can also request in-person assistance here in Anson County by calling Grace Senior Center at 704-694-6616.
- Visit [www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan](http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan) to compare your current coverage with all of the options that are available in your area, and enroll in a new plan if you decide to make a change.
- Review the Medicare & You handbook. It was mailed to people with Medicare in September.
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24-hours a day, seven days a week, to find out more about your coverage options. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

SHIIP is a division of the North Carolina Department of Insurance and offers free, unbiased information about Medicare, Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medicare Advantage plans, Medicare Supplement plans as well as long-term care insurance and other health insurance issues. In addition to helping Medicare beneficiaries compare and enroll in plans during the Open Enrollment Period, SHIIP counselors can help people find out if they are eligible for Medicare cost savings programs. For more information about SHIIP and the Medicare Open Enrollment Period, call 1-855-408-1212 or visit [www.ncshiip.com](http://www.ncshiip.com).

## Anson County Commissioners' Regular November Meeting Location has Changed

The Tuesday, November 1 meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners will be held at the Cooperative Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. following the Cooperative Extension's Annual Report to the People.

## Hurricane Matthew Book Bag Collection at Anson Schools

School counselors in Anson County Schools will be collecting book bags to send to school children affected by Hurricane Matthew. They are looking for book bags for students elementary through high school age. Donors may fill the book bag with school supplies if they so choose. The drop off deadline is Thursday, October 20.

Book bags may be dropped off for counselors at any school in Anson County.

## Free Movie is God's Not Dead 2

The Hampton B. Allen Library announces the free movie *God's Not Dead 2* to be shown on Monday, October 24 at 10:00 a.m. in the Pritchett Room. When a high school teacher is asked a question in class about Jesus, her response lands her in deep trouble. The movie stars Melissa Joan Hart, Jesse Matcalfe, David White and Sadie Robertson. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this great movie.

For more information call 704-694-5177.