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

## Area Church Suffers Extreme Vandalism

Anson County Sheriff's Deputies are investigating the vandalism of a church in the northern part of Anson County. Deputies were called to the Cedar Hill AME Zion Church, on Springer road north of Ansonville around mid-day on Monday, November 14th. Officers found the church had been broken into and as Sheriff Tommy Allen said, "it was literally destroyed on the inside."

"On the inside of the church we found tables broken, ceiling fans broken, speakers pulled from the walls and thrown through the stained glass windows, chairs broken and thrown through windows, the podium destroyed, every window in the church broken out and graffiti spray painted all outside the church," Sheriff Allen said. Phrases such as God is a Lie, house of the devil, the n-word and f-word were spray painted on the church walls. A small cross from the pulpit was taken down and attempted to be burned at the church's front door.

"I've been around a long time and this is the worst case of vandalism and hate crime I've ever seen. This is not anything I've ever seen in Anson County before," Allen said. The Sheriff said he has asked the SBI to come in and assist his officers in the case.

Also, Stanly County had six or seven similar vandalisms of churches reported yesterday (Monday) and a Rowan County church was vandalized. Detectives from Anson and Stanly have met and are working together as the cases are believed to have been committed by the same persons. Stanly County churches were both black and white churches.

Anyone with any information on this crime is asked to call the Anson County Sheriff's Office at 704-694-4188. Crime Stoppers will offer up to \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of suspects in this case.

## Veteran's Day Activities Abundant on a Beautiful Day Last Friday



Ansonians enjoyed gorgeous weather last Friday as they paid tribute to veterans on Veteran's Day. Anson County Veteran Services Officer Ted Ward worked hard and put together a terrific day of events. There was a parade, a ceremony, an afternoon of music, food and activities at Ray Shelton Field, and a concert by the Jazz Guardians of the US Army Forces held at the renovated Ansonia Theatre.

The folks pictured above are enjoying the ceremony that was held on Rutherford Street in front of the Ansonia at 11 a.m. There were treated to engaging speakers and inspiring music. The Express will have more coverage of the day's events in next week's edition.

## Municipal Election Results for Anson County

These are the unofficial municipal election results for Anson County. The winners are in bold print.

### ANSONVILLE

**Mayor - Lyndell Ingram 122 votes, 92.42%**; Write-In 10 votes, 7.58%  
**Town Council (vote for 5) - Denise Watkins Cannon 109 votes, 21.84%; Phyllis Watkins 95 votes, 19.04%; Margaret Sheppard 78 votes, 15.63%; Kenny Martin 75 votes, 15.03%; Cleveland Dunlap 73 votes, 14.63%**; Write-In 69 votes, 13.83%

### LILESVILLE

**Mayor - Richard Harrington 42 votes, 89.36%**; Write-In 5 votes, 10.64%  
**Town Commissioner (vote for 5) - Bernice Bennett 48 votes, 22.33%; Juanita Williams 43 votes, 20%; Steve Whitlock 41 votes, 19.07%; Frank McAllister 40 votes, 18.6%; Jason Clarke 37 votes, 17.21%**; Write-In 6 votes, 2.79%

### MCFARLAN

**Mayor - Mark Holloway 28 votes, 96.55%**; Write-In 1 vote, 3.45%  
**Town Council (vote for 5) - Gail Whittington 29 votes, 21.01%; Mary Etta Keith 25 votes, 18.12%; Kim Gainey 23 votes, 16.67%; Frankie Timmons 19 votes, 13.77%; Jim Freeman 18 votes, 13.04%**; Write-In 13 votes, 9.42%; Michael Foster 11 votes, 7.97%

### MORVEN

**Mayor - Houston Pratt 111 votes, 67.27%**; Carolyn Solomon 49 votes, 29.7%; Beth Eddins 4 votes, 2.42%; Write-In 1 vote, .61%  
*(Candidate Beth Eddins had urged voters to vote for Houston Pratt instead of her.)*  
**Town Council (vote for 2) - Susan Woodburn 77 votes, 25.75%; Annie Townsend 68 votes, 22.74%**; James Cohen 66 votes, 22.07%; Alvin Solomon 62 votes, 20.74%; Keshia Mercer 26 votes, 8.7%

### PEACHLAND

**Mayor - Richard Allen 57 votes, 80.28%**; Write-In 14 votes, 19.72%  
**Town Council (vote for 2) - Jeff Davis 65 votes, 50.39%; Laura Hasty 58 votes, 44.96%**; Write-In 6 votes, 4.65%

### POLKTON

**Mayor - Henry Furr 70 votes, 47.3%**; Minnie Staton 63 votes, 42.57%; Write-In 15 votes, 10.14%  
**Town Commissioner (vote for 5) - Johnny Faulk 108 votes, 18.72%; Sissy Stegall 97 votes, 16.81%; Jimmy Hildreth 95 votes, 16.46%; Linda Tucker 92 votes, 15.94%; Charles Allen 79 votes, 13.69%**; Lindsay Watkins Wallace 55 votes, 9.53%; George Wallace 42 votes, 7.28%; Write-In 9 votes, 1.56%

### WADESBORO

**Mayor - Bill Thacker 556 votes, 70.83%**; Don McRorie 209 votes, 26.62%  
**Town Council (vote for 2) - Jeremy Burr 459 votes, 31.5%; John Ballard 326 votes, 22.37%**; Ed Emory 274 votes, 18.81%; Jerry Ridenhour 209 votes, 14.34%; Robert Mims 188 votes, 12.9%; Write-In 1 vote, .07%

## Schools' Community Forum

Anson County Schools will hold a Community Forum on Thursday, November 17th. The event will take place in the Ingram Room at the Lockhart-Taylor Center at 6:30 p.m. The theme will be "Connecting the Dots."

## Anson County Government Closings

Anson County Government Offices (including the License Plate Agency) will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25 for Thanksgiving.

## Town of Wadesboro Holiday Closings

The Wadesboro Town Hall will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving holidays. There will be no garbage pickup on those days. All routes will be serviced on Monday, November 28.

## Chamber Big Game Hunt is November 25 & 26

The 14th annual Big Game Hunt Tournament which is sponsored by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce will be held on Thursday and Friday, November 25th and 26th. Hunters are encouraged to enter to win some of the over \$5,000 in prize money that is up for grabs. Weigh-ins will be held from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. at the Ansonville Volunteer Fire Department. For more information and to enter, call the Chamber at 704-694-4181. For the official rules and to view the 2011 hunt brochure visit [www.ansoncounty.org](http://www.ansoncounty.org).

## The Express Website is Back!

After a hiatus for improvements, The Express Newspaper website is back in operation. Please visit us at [TheExpressNewspaper.com](http://TheExpressNewspaper.com) and you will find the latest edition. The online pages look exactly like the printed pages so internet users can enjoy the same experience as someone with a printed version. Be sure to tell your out-of-county friends and relatives about it!

Look inside for special inserts from IGA Family Dollar

## Donald Davis Burr Sought in Shooting of Bethany Horne

Anson County Sheriff's Deputies are looking for a suspect involved in a shooting incident in the early morning hours on Saturday, November 12th. Deputies were called to a Davis residence near the "Sugartown" intersection on US 742 North around 3:15 a.m. Sheriff Tommy Allen said that apparently a party had broken up and a confrontation between several individuals resulted in shots from a handgun being fired into an occupied vehicle.



Donald Davis Burr

The man doing the shooting had left the scene before deputies arrived. A woman inside the vehicle, Bethany Horne, was injured and taken by EMS to Union County Hospital. She had been shot in the head, fortunately only grazed by the bullet. Her condition was not life threatening and she was treated and released.

Deputies have warrants for the shooter, identified as Donald Davis Burr, III, age 29, for Shooting into an Occupied Vehicle and Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon. Davis is also wanted for two counts of Probation Violation and Failure to Appear in court for a Possession of Methamphetamine charge.

Anyone with any information as to the whereabouts of Burr should contact the Anson County Sheriff's Office at 704-694-4188.

## Wadesboro Police Officer Suspended by Chief Janie Schutz

A Wadesboro Police Officer was placed on leave by Police Chief Janie Schutz for what she referred to as improper disposal of meth lab materials. Schutz has also stated that the officer should have called her police department instead of the Sheriff's Office when he found the materials in question. She launched an internal investigation into the matter, and has asked the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to conduct an investigation. As of press time no known investigation has been undertaken on the matter by the SBI.

In September a relative of the suspended officer brought several items that appeared to be have been a part of a meth lab to the officer at his home while he was off duty. The officer, who lives outside of the Wadesboro city limits, called the Sheriff's office and spoke with a detective, seeking information on what to do with the items, which included a plastic bottle and tubing. On advice from the Sheriff's detective the Wadesboro Police Officer disposed of the items.

Chief Schutz has stated that the police officer should have called her police department, and that he should have handed the items over to the SBI for disposal.

The bottle and tubing had been found in a home in Anson County and are believed to have belonged to a person who was already in jail on drug charges.

Several days later more meth lab materials were discovered in the same home by occupants of that home, and the occupants contacted the Sheriff's Office. Among the family members in the home were children. Sheriff's Office personnel found more bottles, tubing, jars of acid, batteries and other items. Because these items were not a part of an operating meth lab, a Sheriff's detective advised the family in the home to dispose of the items themselves and wash the children's clothing in bleach.

Despite the Wadesboro Police Chief's actions against her own officer for the way he disposed of the items, Sheriff Tommy Allen has defended his officers' recommendations for disposal of the materials in both cases, stating that neither the original incident with the suspended Wadesboro policeman nor the second incident of finding more materials involved an active meth lab.

When contacted on Tuesday for further comment, the Sheriff stated that because of the current situation he would prefer not to comment right now.

## Entries Still Accepted for Wadesboro Christmas Parade

Plans are underway for the 2011 Christmas Parade. Scheduled for 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, December 1st, the uptown parade route will remain the same as in previous years - starting on Morven Road for the line up and concluding at the Ray Shelton Ball Field for breakdown. The parade will move down Washington, Martin and Greene Streets.

A parade is a community's way of expressing holiday greetings. Entries are being accepted by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce at any time between now and November 18. Floats, both professionally designed and homemade, are eligible for entry. This year there will be no lighted floats.

For more information contact the Anson County Chamber of Commerce at 704-694-4181 or [ansonchamber@windstream.net](mailto:ansonchamber@windstream.net) Parade entry forms can be downloaded from [www.ansoncounty.org](http://www.ansoncounty.org).

## Register for Spring Classes at SPCC, Earn a Chance at Some Great Prizes



SPCC Student Government Association Vice President Ben Starnes, left, presents prizes to the winners of the fall registration drawings. From left are Wendy Growcock, who won a laptop computer; Sarah Dean, who won a netbook; and Shuntineisha Woodberry, who won a digital camera.

Registration for spring classes at South Piedmont Community College has begun. Those who register for spring college-credit classes will automatically be placed in a drawing to win one of three great prizes - an iPad 2, an iPod Touch or a \$100 gift card for Best Buy.

Students can register on the Old Charlotte Highway Campus in Monroe and on the L.L. Polk Campus in Polkton. Before registering, prospective students should apply online at [www.spcc.edu](http://www.spcc.edu), request high school and college transcripts, complete

online orientation, apply online for financial aid and take their placement tests. Spring classes begin January 9. For information, call 704-272-5300 or go online to [www.spcc.edu](http://www.spcc.edu).

## Ready, Set, Shop (Locally)!

In a release from the Arts Council: Don't miss the Arts Council's Christmas in November this Saturday, November 19, at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is free.

Pottery, wood crafting, stained glass, gourd art, jewelry, pine needle baskets, painted glass and ceramics, greeting cards, specialty candy, baked goods and more will be offered for sale by area artists and craftsmen. Mary Kay, 31, and Avon products will also be available. The Arts Council offers this sale as a service to our local creative community and to our residents. All proceeds go directly to the sellers.

Keep your money right in this area while supporting our local creative community. You'll get a head start on those after-Thanksgiving crowds, and you might just find that special something for yourself that you can't live without.

## Christmas Craft Workshop Offered for Kids

The Anson County 4-H Program and 4-H Youth Promise is offering a Christmas Craft Workshop. The program is offered to all interested participants age 5-11. Youth do not have to be enrolled in 4-H to attend. The workshop will be held on Saturday, December 22 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Cooperative Extension Center on McLaurin Street. The cost is \$6.

Youth will need to bring a bag lunch. Drinks will be provided. The deadline to register is Friday, December 4. To register, come by the 4-H Office at 501 McLaurin Street. There is a limit of 25, so registration is on a first come first serve basis.

Youth will be making a variety of Christmas ornaments and crafts. Don't miss out on this fun filled workshop and make some really neat crafts too!

4-H programs are offered to all youth regardless of sex, race, religion, national origin or handicap.