

THE EXPRESS

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Alert Wadesboro Police Officer Makes Big Bust

Officer Tom Luckey of the Wadesboro Police Department is responsible for what has been labeled the largest drug bust in Wadesboro history. Last Tuesday, January 8, Luckey arrested a Leland, NC man with 310 pounds of marijuana in his vehicle. The discovery of the marijuana was made during a traffic violation stop.

Tuesday, at about 10:00 a.m., Officer Luckey observed a van traveling down Highway 74 in the vicinity of Anson High School. Luckey's attention was drawn to the van because it was following a tractor trailer truck too closely, so he pulled the van over. Luckey said, "As I walked up to the vehicle I could smell the strong odor of marijuana. I asked the driver if he had any marijuana in the vehicle, and he said 'no.' I searched the vehicle and located six large laundry style bags containing the marijuana."

The driver, identified as Emanuel Bell, 24, was arrested and placed under a \$200,000 bond. He was charged with two counts of Trafficking Marijuana, and Maintaining a Vehicle for Controlled Substance.

After Bell was brought into the Anson County Jail, Sheriff's Deputies found another two small bags of marijuana in his pants. That discovery led to an additional charge of Possession of a Controlled Substance in a Jail. \$5,000 was added to his bond for that charge.

Bell made his bond, but was held for officers from Brunswick County to pick him to face charges on an outstanding warrant there for discharging a firearm into an occupied dwelling.

Wade Flannels Win Championship!



In 1946! Pictured above are the Wade Manufacturing Company "Flannels" ball team, posing after becoming the champs in 1946. They are, from left, front row: Walter Treadaway, James "Buddy" Adcock, A. B. Carter, Charlie McIntosh, Elijah Davis and Jack Tarlton. Second row: William "Nip" Niven, Allen Davis, "Grouchy" Davis, Earl Thompson, Bill Martin and Rob Carter. Back row: Gene Smith, Henry Russell, Don Gray, Caud Greene, R. V. "Bun" Liles, Grady Short and Pres Smith. Congratulations to the team on some great ball playing!

Burning Restrictions Still Apply

Burning trash and other man-made materials is always prohibited in North Carolina, despite the recent decision by the state Division of Forest Resources to lift its statewide ban on outdoor burning. The open burning ban had applied to outdoor fires for normally allowable purposes such as prescribed burning of timber lands, training exercises for firefighters, and the burning of branches and other natural vegetation from land-clearing or yard waste. The state Division of Forest Resources had issued the burning ban in October due to concerns about fire risks and water shortages stemming from the statewide drought.

Although recent rains have prompted the Division of Forest Resources to temporarily lift its ban on outdoor burning, the state open burning rule always prohibits the burning of trash, paper, plastics, lumber, tires, chemicals and other man-made materials. The rule also sets strict limits on allowable burning regarding distances to inhabited buildings and highways, times of day and other factors.

"Lifting the ban on outdoor burning does not give people permission to burn whatever and whenever they want," said Keith Overcash, director of the state Division of Air Quality, which enforces the open burning rule. "You should never burn trash and other man-made materials, and there are restrictions that apply to allowable burning."

North Carolina's open burning rule is one of the state's oldest air quality regulations, dating back to the early 1970s. The rules sets strict limits on outdoor fires and prohibits the burning of any man-made materials, because smoke pollutes the air and can be unhealthy to breathe. However, many residents may be unaware of the limits on open burning or may choose to ignore the rules.

The Division of Air Quality can fine violators up to \$25,000 for illegal outdoor burning. Open burning violations are the division's biggest enforcement problem - accounting for about two-thirds of all air quality complaints as well as half of all violation notices and one-third of all enforcement actions. The division assessed \$312,390 in fines related to open burning in 2007. Investigating and enforcing such cases cost the division about \$200,000 in 2006 alone.

North Carolina law limits open burning because the smoke from outdoor fires can cause serious health problems and pollute the air. A study by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency found that backyard burning of trash is the largest source of highly toxic dioxin emissions. Under the open burning rule, it is illegal to burn: garbage, paper, cardboard, tires and other rubber products, building materials such as lumber, wire and synthetic materials, asphalt shingles and heavy oils, paints and agricultural chemicals and buildings.

For more information, contact Tom Mather at (919) 715-7408 or tom.mather@ncmail.net. A free brochure describing what is allowed and prohibited under the state open burning rule can be obtained by calling (919) 733-3340; writing to the Division of Air Quality, 1641 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1641; or checking the Division of Air Quality's website at www.ncair.org.

Amazing Grace Musical Competition January 20

The Anson County Arts Council and the Amazing Grace Planning Committee are proud to announce the eleventh annual Amazing Grace Musical Competition. The event will be held at Harvest Ministries, located at 1124 East Caswell Street (Highway 74 - behind Pizza Hut), on Sunday, January 20 at 2:00 p.m. It is a wonderful way to spend some time and support your local Arts Council too.

Contestants will be competing for cash prizes. Come perform your unique version of the hymn Amazing Grace. It can be done acappella, instrumentally, accompanied by live or recorded music, or in any fashion you choose. Make it yours! Your performance cannot last more than four minutes.

Each entry will be judged on creative interpretation, pitch, melody, expression, harmony, showmanship and appearance. The categories are: adult soloist, adult small group (2-10 members), adult choir (11+ members), adult instrumentalist, youth soloist, youth small group (2-10 members), youth choir (11+ members), and youth instrumentalist.

The prizes will be awarded to a winner in each category, plus one Best of the Best each from the youth and adult performances.

If you have questions or need more information, call the Anson County Arts Council at 704-694-4950 or email ansonart@alltel.net. Please enter as soon as possible for performances are limited to the first twenty registrations received.

3 Blood Types at Less than a Day's Supply

Red Cross asks donors to donate now

Two weeks into the New Year, the American Red Cross faces a severe shortage of several blood types. We typically see a drastic decline in blood donations at the end of the year, which causes a serious blood shortage at the beginning of January. Locally, supplies of type O negative, B negative and A negative blood are at less than a day's supply. Eligible donors are needed immediately to give blood to prevent supply levels from dropping even further in the coming days and weeks, and to avert a crisis for patients in need of lifesaving transfusions.

For those that already donate regularly, we thank you, and ask you to keep it up! For first time donors or those who haven't donated in a while, you are encouraged to come out to one of the multiple blood drives the Union County Chapter holds each month. Just one pint can help save up to three lives.

While all blood types are needed, the low supply of type O blood is of particular concern. Type O is the most commonly used blood type, and can be used for all patients. However, it is often essential to the treatment of trauma patients, newborns and women who are pregnant. Please spread the word to family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers about the blood shortage and the high importance of giving blood.

The Carolinas Blood Services Region needs 1,600 blood donations a day in order to adequately supply the 103 hospitals it serves. Donors must be 17 years or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in generally good health. Below is a list of upcoming blood drives across Union and Anson Counties.

- Friday January 18 - The Union County Sheriff's Department is holding a drive at the Agricultural Conference Center on Presson Road. The drive will be open to the public from 3:00 pm to 7:30 pm.
- Wednesday January 23rd - First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro will host the Wadesboro Community drive from 1:30 pm to 6:00 pm. The church is located at 208 South Green Street in downtown Wadesboro.
- Saturday January 26th - Bonds Grove United Methodist Church will host a drive at the church on Bonds Grove Church Road in Waxhaw. The drive is from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm.
- Monday January 28th - Zion United Methodist on Old Fish Road will host a drive from 4:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

For more information on the American Red Cross of Union County, donating blood, or a complete listing of blood drives, please contact the chapter at 704-283-7402 for Union County or 704-694-3514 for Anson County, or www.unioncountyredcross.org.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembered as a Believer

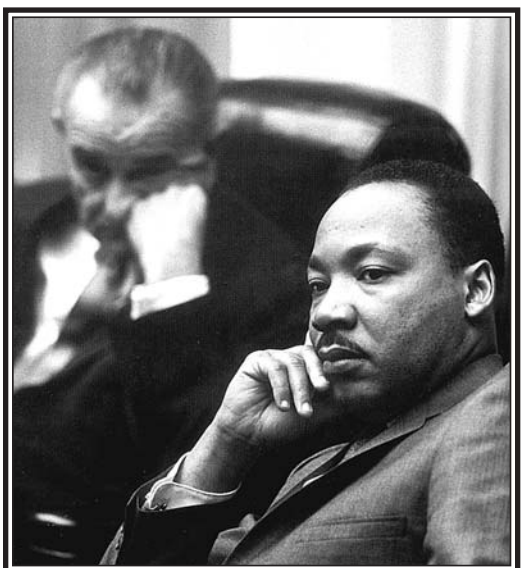
Had Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. lived he would have celebrated his 79th birthday yesterday, January 15. Unfortunately for the world, on the evening of April 4, 1968, while standing on the balcony of his motel room in Memphis, Tennessee, he was assassinated.

During his life he achieved monumental things attributing to the greater good of the civil rights movement. So many in fact, all could never be accounted for in one brief summation. King was a member of the Executive Committee of the National

"I Have a Dream," was delivered in Washington, D.C. to over 250,000 people. He was named Time Magazine's Man of the Year, and at age 35 was the youngest person to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize. Upon his acceptance of the prestigious award, King donated his near \$55,000 prize money to help further the civil rights movement. He was arrested over twenty times and assaulted as well. He received a doctorate degree in 1955; he married Coretta Scott and had two daughters and two sons, just to name a few.

But this mere rundown of such a great man and powerful leader by no means tells the complete story. In his brief 39 years Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did more for the good of his people and for the entire world than many others combined. He was a true leader and a true believer that things could, should and would, one day be better. He was a true believer that the world would embrace his dreams and live in harmony with one another. He was a true believer that good would outweigh evil and that peace would prevail throughout the land. He was a true believer that we would grow and prosper together as one people under God and forever stand shoulder to shoulder through life's trials and tribulations. He was a true believer that one man could make a difference if he decided it was important enough. He was a true believer that people could change and most change in order that life could be fruitful for all. He was a true believer in the good in everyone, even when it was very difficult to find. He was a true believer in right versus wrong through every walk of life. In essence, Dr. King was a true believer.

As we celebrate his life on January 21, let us all become true believers in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dreams for a peaceful world for all mankind. We attribute so much to his great works and teachings. Imagine what we as an entire world could do if we worked together towards a common cause: peace on earth, goodwill toward men. *By Melanie Morse*



Dr. King is pictured with President Lyndon B. Johnson in the background.

Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He was elected President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which was organized to help provide new leadership for the civil rights movement. The ideals for this organization he took from Christianity; its operational techniques from Gandhi. In the eleven-year period between 1957 and 1968, (the year of his death) King traveled over six million miles and spoke over twenty-five hundred times. One of his most memorable speeches,

Genealogical Society Meets Saturday

The Anson County Genealogical Society will meet on Saturday, January 19 at 11:00 a.m. in the Historical Society office located at 206 East Wade Street. Michael Waring of Wadesboro will present a program on the Buffalo Soldiers.

The public is invited. For more information, contact Steve Bailey at staticchair@yahoo.com.

Martin Luther King Celebration at BRLC Monday

The Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center would like to invite you to join them in a celebration event that will feature Ms. Rosemary Crowell. Crowell, who resides in Monroe, will share details about the life story of her cousin, the late Rosa Parks. Ms. Parks was an honorable civil rights activist.

The event will take place on Monday, January 21 at the center at 2:00 p.m. Light snacks will be served. For more information, please contact Carol Smith at 704-826-8737.

Writer's Club Meets January 27

The Anson County Writers' Club will meet on Sunday, January 27 at 3:00 p.m. at the Anson County Chamber of Commerce, 107-A East Wade Street in Wadesboro. Club members will hold a business session to discuss the February prose and poetry contests awards program, and to review grant applications.

For more information, call 704-694-7870, or visit www.ansoncountyywritersclub.org.

Diabetic Support Group to Meet Jan. 31

The Diabetic Support Group will meet on Thursday, January 31 at Calvary Episcopal Church at 10:30 a.m. More information at 704-695-3233.

Look inside for these special inserts
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