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

James Kelvin Davis and Lonnie Capel Charged with Burglarizing Area Churches

Anson County Sheriff's Deputies arrested two men attempting to leave a church where an air conditioner unit was broken into to be stripped of its copper wiring. On Wednesday night, January 18th around midnight, Sheriff's Deputies were patrolling an area where recent larcenies and break-ins have occurred involving churches. A deputy observed a vehicle leaving from behind Red Hill Baptist Church, located just off Highway 109 North of Wadesboro. The vehicle was stopped and two subjects were found with burglary tools. The air conditioner unit on the church property where they had departed from had been opened.

Sheriff Tommy Allen identified the two as James Kelvin Davis, age 23 and Lonnie Capel, age 40. Both are from Anson County. Both were charged with Attempted Larceny, Possession of Burglary Tools and Damage to Real Property. Both are in the Anson County Jail under a \$26,000 bond.

In a later addendum to the information above: Officers investigating other church larcenies where copper was stolen from AC units have charged the two suspects, Davis and Capel, with stealing air conditioner units at Forestville AME Zion Church in Lilesville and Sneedsboro AME Zion Church on the Airport Road, Wadesboro. Both suspects remain in the Anson County Jail.



Capel



Davis

Kilwinning Lodge #64 A.F. & A.M. Installs Officers



On Saturday, January 7, Kilwinning Masonic Lodge held its Installation of Officers for the 2012 year. The Installing Officers were Pete Cook, Bill Capel, and John Livingston.

The following men were installed:
 • Robbie Perry - Master
 • Sanford Caulder - Senior Warden
 • Colson Dunlap - Junior Warden
 • Chesley Greene - Senior Deacon
 • Jeff Boothby - Junior Deacon
 • Will Albritton - Senior Steward

• Steve Lear - Junior Steward,
 • Scott Forbes - Chaplain
 • Eric Forbes - Tyler
 • Hubert Wright - Treasurer
 • Hal Dunlap - Secretary.

Kilwinning Lodge meets on the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at its location on South Greene Street. All Masons are invited to attend. Anyone wishing for further information on freemasonry is encouraged to stop by or contact one of the newly installed officers.

Uptown Wadesboro Laser Engraved Brick Pavers Available

Is there someone or a particular organization you'd like to honor or recognize with a commemorative brick paver in uptown Wadesboro? If so, now is the time to order your laser-engraved bricks from Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. You can honor an organization, a business, an individual, your high school graduating class, a special event or it can be in memory of someone special.

Please stop by the UWI office to pick up an order form. They are located at the Anson County Chamber of Commerce in the Scarborough Building at 107 East Wade Street.

The pavers may be placed anywhere in the uptown area where unmarked bricks are located. You may wish to create a cluster of bricks related to your family members or group. Since the beginning of the brick paver program, a total of 570 bricks have been placed in the uptown Wadesboro area.

The bricks are available in two sizes. The four inch brick accommodates three lines of print and costs \$50. The eight inch brick allows for six lines of print and costs \$100. For an additional \$100 you may add a company logo.

For more information please call the Uptown Wadesboro office at 704-695-1644.

Original Tams Set for Ansonia Appearance

"Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy," but don't miss The Tams, RL Smith and the original Tams that is, who are coming to the Ansonia Theatre on Saturday, February 11, at 7 p.m.

Tickets (reserved seats) are available at the Arts Council. The box office is open Monday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., on Tuesday and Wednesday, from 5 until 7 p.m. and on Saturday, January 26, from 10 a.m. until 1p.m. Call 704-694 4950 for tickets or purchase from the website, www.ansoniateatre.com, but be sure and call to confirm those seats.

The Tams, still performing after 38 years, recorded ten albums, and continue to sing such classics as *I've Been Hurt*, *What Kind of Fool and Hey Girl Don't Bother Me*. Added to their repertoire are two new hits, *2 Sweet* and *Thrill Upon the Hill*.

This event is selling out quickly so don't "Laugh It Off" and miss it. With "Too Much Fooling Around," you may be the only one left in the county who hasn't seen the Tams perform. If so, don't be surprised when we call you "Silly Little Girl" or silly little boy!

By Melanie Lyon

"Anson County, We Did It!"

In a release from Toys for Tots for Anson County: Toys For Tots celebrated their first Gratitude Banquet on Friday, January 13th at the Lockhart-Taylor Center. The guest speaker for the event was Dr. Stan Sidor, President of South Piedmont Community College.

We were also honored to have Congressman Larry Kissell, Honorable Judge Amanda Wilson, Mayor Lyndell Ingram, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Meachum and Mrs. Joanne Huntley, Register of Deeds as special guests. Elected officials from the county were present.

All sponsors, contributors and volunteers were recognized during the banquet. Even though the Law Firm of Evadne Smith-Little, Honorable Judge Lisa Thacker and Apostle Tim Adams were not present, they were recognized for their generous contributions. Accepting their certificates were Evadne's mother, Doris B. Smith, Judge Amanda Wilson and Pastor Steve Adams.

Vancine Sturdivant, Toys for Tots Coordinator for Anson County, stated that the Gratitude Banquet was a great success due to the great executive committee. "They worked diligently with me. We are preparing for a County-wide Yard Sale the first Saturday in March uptown on the Square. Also, the Playaz Elite Motorcycle Club has agreed to organize a Toys For Tots ride in September."

Vancine also stated that she is going to meet with Sheriff Tommy Allen and Wadesboro police chief about putting in a dunking booth or a jail cell. All proceeds collected will remain in Anson County for our youth.

"We thank our great newspapers for all the coverage they gave us not only leading up to the banquet, but during the entire Toys For Tots Campaign, from September to December," added Vancine.

As of January 16th, the Toys for Tots After Action Report and the application for 2012 has been completed and submitted.

In conclusion Vancine said, "Anson County, we need a building we can utilize from September to December for the storage of the toys. Mr. Cecil Meachum allowed us to use his warehouse, but we do not want to inconvenience him again this year. If you know of any building we can use, please contact me at 704-848-4412. We thank God for you."

Red Cross Blood Drive is Thursday

Every minute of every day someone needs blood. That blood can only come from a volunteer donor, a person like you who makes the choice to donate. There is no substitution for your donation. When you make a blood donation you join a very select group of people. Currently only 3 out of every 100 people (3%) in America donate blood.

From its beginning the American Red Cross had formed a community service of generous, strong and decent, bound by beliefs beyond themselves. The American Red Cross blood donor embodies this principal. Please join us in our mission to maintain a safe and stable supply by joining us at your local blood drive.

Benefits of Donating: It feels good. You get a beverage and homemade goodie to eat. It's something you can spare - most people have blood to spare...yet there is still not enough to go around. You will help ensure blood is on the shelf when needed - most people don't think they'll need blood, but many do.

The Wadesboro Civitan Club will sponsor a Blood Drive on Thursday, January 26, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Wadesboro.

Chamber of Commerce Seeks Information

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce is updating their records to better serve Anson citizens. Because this is a time when many clubs and organizations have had some committee/seat changes, they ask that any new or updated information be sent to them. If you could please let them know of your changes, etc., they will be most appreciative.

Also, they ask that you submit any calendar items you or your group may have. Let the Chamber help you promote your event by adding it to their calendar.

You can reach the Chamber at 704-694-4181 or ansonchamber@windstream.net. Their office is located at 107 East Wade Street in uptown Wadesboro.

Royalty Street Ryders of Anson County are Collecting Coats

The Royalty Street Ryders of Anson County are on a mission to help those in need. Currently the group is involved in providing jackets and coats to those children and adults who may not have one to help keep them warm.

If you have new or gently used to donate, please drop them off at IGA, Wadesboro Primary School, Wadesboro Elementary School or Lilesville Elementary School.

The Ryders have already begun their efforts, which runs from January 15, through February 6. So you still have plenty of time to get those coats and jackets to the drop off location nearest you. Let's help Anson County keep warm during the coming, sure to be cold, months! Drop off your donated coats today. By Melanie Lyon

School Board Meeting is Monday, January 30

The Anson County School Board will hold its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, January 30th at the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a closed session. Open session begins at 6:30 p.m. and the public is invited to participate.

Democratic Party Meets Thursday

The Anson County Democratic Party will host their monthly meeting at Hampton B. Allen Library on Thursday, January 26 at 6 p.m. A representative from Raleigh and Congressman Kissell's office will be present to answer questions concerning redistricting, voter ID and early voting. Democrats are asked to please come.

For more information contact Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412.

Carolina Thread Trail Last Meeting

What is the Carolina Thread Trail? What is a Blueway? Find out the answers to these questions and more at the last upcoming community meeting. There will be discussions of the Anson County Carolina Thread Trail Master Plan. The public is invited to come learn about the Thread Trail project. You input is also being sought by the organizers.

The meeting is e a drop-in format, held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. A short video about the project will be shown at 6:45 p.m. The project team will be on hand to answer questions. They will collect comments in a short questionnaire.

The Carolina Thread Trail (The Thread) is a 15-county, two state initiative designed to inspire and facilitate the creation and development of a regional network of trails, blueways and conservation corridors that would link more than 2.3 million citizens. For more information, go to www.carolinathread-trail.org.

• Thursday, January 26th at Ansonville Fire Department, 9145 highway 52 North in Ansonville

Hampton B. Allen Library Closed for Day on February 3

The Hampton B. Allen Library will close on Friday, February 3 for the day for staff training. They will reopen on Saturday, February 4 with normal business hours.

Visit The Express Website
 Please visit us at TheExpressNewspaper.com and you will find the latest edition and archives!

Scholarships Available to Eligible Children of NC War Veterans

As families participate in the annual ritual of back-to-school preparedness, the N.C. Division of Veterans Affairs (NCDVA) reminds eligible students to apply for college scholarships available to children of North Carolina war veterans.

"In appreciation for the service and sacrifices of North Carolina's war veterans, these scholarships are provided to help to defray the ever-increasing costs of higher education," said NCDVA Director Tim Wipperman. "The express purpose of the funds is to provide scholastic support to help children of certain disabled, deceased, combat or POW/MIA veterans."

With the legislature's budget cuts that reduced both staff and class options at public universities and community colleges and increased costs for students, Wipperman expects requests for NCDVA scholarship support to increase this year.

The annual application deadline is March 1. Scholarships may be used at schools located in North Carolina which are (1) state-owned institutions of higher education, community colleges and technical institutes or (2) privately-owned, non-profit colleges and universities.

There are several classes of scholarship eligibility. Interested students should contact Ted Ward at the Anson County Veterans Services at 704-694-4418 or email tward@co.anson.nc.us. A list of all Veterans Services offices is available by visiting www.doa.nc.gov/vets/locations/.

The deadline for Competitive Scholarships (only) is March 1st.

To qualify, the applicant must be domiciled and resident of North Carolina at the time of application. Additionally:

- 1) The Veteran parent was a legal resident of North Carolina at time of said veteran's entrance into that period of service in the armed forces during which eligibility is established; or
- 2) The applicant of an eligible veteran is the natural child or adopted child prior to age 15, who was born in North Carolina and has been a resident of North Carolina continuously since birth.; and

3) The applicant must be under age 25 at the time of application.

Most scholarships provide free tuition, certain fees and a reasonable room and board allowance in State-owned institutions and \$4,500 per academic year in private institutions. In addition, a limited number of scholarships provide free tuition and certain fees in State-owned institutions and \$1,500 per academic year in private institutions. For more information, or to submit an application, contact your local Veterans Service Office.

Birtha Watkins "Baby Sis" Celebrates Her 102nd Birthday



Birtha Watkins, known as Baby Sis, celebrated her 102nd birthday on Saturday, December 10th. A celebration was held at the FarmHouse Restaurant in Ansonville with family and friends. Her birthday was December 9th. She was born in 1909.

Her daughter Phyllis Watkins and others want to thank God for Baby Sis. They hope that she will see many more birthdays.

Look inside for special inserts from
IGA
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