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Peachland-Polkton Elementary School Terrific Kids for the Second 9 Weeks Honored

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School held its Terrific Kids Celebration for the second nine weeks on Tuesday, February, 18. Pictured from left to right are the students who were recognized for this honor. Front row: Denasia Crouch, Denez Chambers, Dylan James, Jaden Moore, Dalton Carter, Sahniyah Pickett, Joe Frank Raitlon, Haleigh Honstead, Mia Martin, Maziah Patton, Jaden Baxley, Emily Baucom, Billy Thao, Jada Watts, Nate Lear, Caylah Knotts, Genna McCollum, Brooklyn Miles, Laina Williams, Tayler Drake. Second row: Carley Powell, Jourdan Tupper, Shyheim Wall, Jayla Sturdivant, Zamaya Wall, Rocky Moore, Taylor Murphy, Ryan Terry, Liyah Williams, Sheneeka Allen, AJ Wilson, Kayleen McGowan, John Thao, Katie Kiker, Peter Thao, Malerie Austin, River Pearson, Chacoya Bivens. Third row: Leon Sturdivant, Chandler Beachum, Kyonta Burns, Bryce Wilson, Tiyonna Little, Aniya Price, ChaDa Love, Chase Raffaldt, Desi Dutton, Noah Sturgill, Grant Thuleen, LaShawn Sims, Ana Juarez, Aniya Roddey, Adrian Coleman. Brittany Medina is not pictured.

Early Release Cancelled for Elementary Schools March 6

There will not be an early release day for elementary schools on Thursday, March 6th. All schools will operate on a normal schedule that day. Parent Conferences for elementary schools only is still scheduled for Thursday, March 6th. Parents should check with their child's school about the schedule for Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Sign Up at Field of Dreams by March 8

Field of Dreams spring sports sign ups are underway. Final sign ups will be held on Saturday, March 8 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. You can also sign up online at www.sportsmanager.us/aaya.htm. Springs sports include the following: Tee ball (ages 4-6), Baseball (ages 7-12) and Softball (ages 7-18). Cost is as follows: Tee ball, \$45, Baseball, \$70 and Softball, \$70. The Field of Dreams is looking forward to a very eventful and successful spring sports season so don't forget to sign up. Lets play ball!

New Agreement to Smooth Transition from South Piedmont Community College to UNC System

The State Board of Community Colleges and the University of North Carolina Board of Governors signed a revised Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA) last week, making college transfer options for South Piedmont Community College students and students of other N.C. community colleges more defined and easier to follow.

The revision of the 15-year-old agreement will save SPCC students and their families both time and money. It will also stretch taxpayer dollars by offering students a more direct path to career and educational success.

"We support all efforts to make the transfer of community college credits to the state's universities quick and simple—saving time and money for our students and their parents," said SPCC President Dr. Stan Sidor. "South Piedmont has built a reputation for helping students through this sometimes frustrating process, so anything that removes obstacles for transfer students will only strengthen our efforts."

Nearly 24,000 students who began their studies at a community college are now undergraduates on a UNC system campus—more than half of all UNC transfer students.

Under the revised CAA agreement, which goes into effect in the fall of 2014, community college students will enter transfer pathways with clearly defined goals and an understanding of how earned transfer hours fit into university requirements. Additionally, the revised agreement:

- Identifies foundational courses that will transfer to all UNC campuses to meet general education requirements;
- Improves transfer student success by requiring coursework that helps students map their academic pathway from community colleges to universities; and
- Encourages community college students to complete an Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree before transferring to a UNC campus by guaranteeing entry as juniors with full transfer credit.

"The transition from the community college to the university system doesn't need to be complicated," said Dr. Tiffany Evans, SPCC Vice President for Academic Affairs. "The new CAA helps make this transition easier. South Piedmont emphasizes the holistic support of students as they move through their college education. The new CAA aligns with our vision of creating clearer, more efficient pathways to college transfer."

Among those efficient pathways already in existence is N.C. Career & College Promise, a statewide program that allows eligible high school juniors and seniors to begin earning college credit at a community college while still in high school and at no cost. High school students get a "jump start" on a two-year or four-year degree—for free! Students are dually enrolled in their high school and at South Piedmont Community College, allowing them to receive both high school and college credit for courses taken through the program. For more information about N.C. Career & College Promise, visit www.spcc.edu and click on the icon on the home page.

"South Piedmont provides many ways to earn a quality college education affordably," Sidor said. "Whether your goal is career-focused training, an associate degree or a bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university, South Piedmont is a smart place to start."

Circles of Hope Graduation

Circles of Hope celebrated the graduates of its fifth Circle Leader class on Thursday, February 20 at First United Methodist Church, Wadesboro. Circles of Hope is a community based organization that helps lift people from generational poverty by giving them the tools and knowledge to compete in a middle-class world.

The Rev. Stephen Shytle opened the program by explaining what Circles is, from adult training to enriched child care. "I am proud of the folks who graduated and those who graduated in the classes before this one," he said. "I hope you continue to invest yourselves in our program. It is sometimes a long, hard discovery, but you don't have to do it alone."

Several graduates reflected on what Circles meant to them. Linda Gaddy shared Mother Teresa's plea to "do it anyway" when faced with hard choices. Paris Chambers said that "impossible" is a compound word. "If you break it down, it becomes 'I'm possible,'" she said before reciting an original poem.

"Everyone has dreams and goals," said graduate Jacia Dixon, who declared she was not giving up on hers. Frederick Colson summed it up by saying that Circles is "Love."

After completing the eight-week course graduates are invited to remain as Circle Leaders for additional training in finance, parenting, health, job skills, and more. These sessions are presented by community members with expertise in those areas. Circle Leaders are also paired with an Ally, a member of the community who continues to support the Circle Leader in his or her struggle to escape poverty.

With friends and family looking on graduates received their certificates from class facilitators Ginny Boyes and Tim Bennett. "Even if you don't go on (as Circle Leaders), you are still part of our family, our team," Boyes told the class.

Shytle concluded the remarks by saying, "We concentrate not just on the older generation, but the younger generation so the circle of poverty is broken."

To learn more about Circles of Hope and how you can help, visit www.circlesofhopeanson.org or call 704-994-2333.

Pictured below, from left are, graduate Tina Marsh, facilitator Ginny Boyes, graduates Ebone' Moore, Jacia Dixon, Paris Chambers, Frederick Colson, Queen Thompson and Linda Gaddy, and facilitator Tim Bennett. Kneeling is graduate Jonathan Jones. Facilitator Meghan Baker is not shown.



50+ Club Meets March 10

The Hampton B. Allen Library 50+ Club will meet on Monday, March 10 in the Little Theatre at 10:30 a.m. A group of ladies who call themselves the Heavenly Host will be presenting the program. The group includes Bunk Hill, Sybil Almond, Libby Moore, Julie Jenkins, Ellen Goodwin, Hannah Powell, Jewel Jones and Marlene Crawford. You are invited for this inspiring program. Everyone is welcome to come and bring a friend.

Upper PeeDee Farm and Food Council Meets March 10

The Upper PeeDee Farm and Food Council will meet on Monday, March 10 at the Stanly County Agri Civic Center, located on Highway 24/27 in Albemarle. Anyone interested in local farms and local food products (including wine, honey, etc.) is invited to attend. More information is available by calling 704-474-9134 or visit www.upffc.org.

Carolinas HealthCare System Hosts Community Health Talk

Carolinas Medical Center-Union, part of Carolinas HealthCare System, is hosting a community health talk, titled "Vaccines: The Myths and the Controversy" on Thursday, March 13 at 6 p.m. Anti-vaccine groups have spread a lot of misinformation over the past few years. Join the conversation as Jennifer Kennard, MD, examines the fear of vaccines and explains how vaccines can save not only your life, but the lives of people around you.

The event will be held in the Outpatient Pavilion Auditorium at CMC-Union. Seminars are free and a light dinner will be provided. For more information or to RSVP call 704-631-0938.

Class of 1974 Meeting

The class of 1974 will meet at Ladybug Restaurant on Saturday, March 15 at 9 a.m.

Reunion Meeting for Classes of 1968-70

The next Bowman High School 1968, 1969, and 1970 Class Reunion planning meeting will be held Saturday, March 15 at 2 p.m. at Ladybug Restaurant. All classmates are invited to attend.

100% CLEAN AND FUNNY
MATT JERNIGAN
MUSICAL COMEDIAN AND IMPRESSIONIST

"Exceptional! He kept the audience laughing the entire show."
—JM Company

"Clean humor, funny and talented."
—Virginia Automotive Association

"Matt Jernigan was fabulous!"
—Capital One

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Musical Comedian Matt Jernigan Is Coming to the Ansonia Theatre

An amazing comedy impressionist, Matt Jernigan takes the stage at the Ansonia Theatre on Friday, March 21, at 7:30 p.m. Jernigan spoofs popular rock, R&B, country, hip hop and pop stars. And his show is 100% clean. Whether the audience is mostly kids, teens, college students, adults or seniors, Matt guarantees something for everyone!

With just his guitar and incredible talent, Matt's long list of celebrity impressions includes: Neil Diamond, Lady Gaga, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Johnny Mathis, Ray Charles, Simon Cowell, Sammy Davis Jr., Britney Spears, The Clash, Gun N' Roses, Tom Jones, Justin Bieber, Buddy Holly, Aaron Neville, Tom Petty, Louis Armstrong, Bon Jovi, Brian Adams, Jason Mraz, Michael Bolton, Green Day, Ricky Martin, Sugar Ray, Smash Mouth and Christopher Walken. Spongebob Squarepants, Donald Duck, Grover, Scooby Doo and many more are also included.

A talented actor, Jernigan has appeared on many TV shows, films and commercials, including the X Files, Days of Our Lives, Comedy Central's Make Me Laugh, and Matlock. He has also performed in some of the nation's top comedy clubs.

Jernigan takes pride in doing completely "curse-free" comedy because he believes that it doesn't have to be crude to be funny. Whether it's a corporate event, college or church social, Matt has done it and left a lasting impression - without a single swear word or innuendo.

Reserved seating tickets (\$15) for Matt Jernigan are on sale now at the Anson County Arts Council and Lacy's as well as at www.ansoniatheatre.com (Paypal). Get your ticket today for this hilarious evening.

Free Groceries April 2

The Mobile Food Pantry will be at the Bethel United Methodist Church Community Building in Wadesboro (85 Bethel Road - at the crossroads of Highway 742 South & Bethel Road) on Wednesday, April 2nd at 11 a.m.

Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food. Do not arrive before 9:30 a.m. If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, it will be canceled. If you have not yet done so, bring proof of your income to register. You can pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

This event is sponsored by Anson Crisis Ministry and local United Methodist Churches.