

1495
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #149
Wadesboro, NC
28170
Postal
Customer

THE EXPRESS

205 West Morgan Street • Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-694-2480 • TheExpressNews@gmail.com • www.TheExpressNewspaper.com

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

Filings for the May Primary Election

Here are the candidates that Ansonians will choose from

Filing for the May 8 Primary Election ended on Wednesday, February 28. Anson County Board of Elections Director Steve Adams has released a list of all the candidates that Anson County citizens will see on their ballots.

- US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 09 Democrat - Dan McCready, Christian Cano; Republican - Clarence W. Goins, Jr., Mark Harris, Robert Pittenger; LIB Jeff Scott
- NC STATE SENATE DISTRICT 25 Democrat - Helen Probst Mills; Republican - Tom McInnis, Michelle Lexo
- NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 055 Democrat - Frank Deese; Republican - Mark Brody
- DISTRICT ATTORNEY DISTRICT 21 Democrat - Reece Saunders
- ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 2 Democrat - Vancine Sturdivant
- ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 4 Democrat - Jim Sims, Ashley Turner Drake, Fulton J. Crowder; Republican - Danny Pearson
- ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 5 Democrat - Lee Roy Lookabill, Jr., Lawrence Gatewood; Republican - Terry Helms
- ANSON COUNTY CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT Democrat - Mark Hammonds
- ANSON COUNTY SHERIFF Democrat - Landric Reid, Kevin (Catfish) Marshall
- ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 2 Democrat - Bobbie J. Little
- ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 4 Democrat - Lisa Davis
- ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 5 Democrat - George Truman
- ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AT-LARGE Democrat - Marilynn Bennett, Mitchell Huntley

The voter registration deadline is April 13 at 5 p.m. Absentee - Early Voting begins on April 19 and ends May 5 at 1 p.m. The statewide Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, May 8, from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Term lengths for North Carolina offices: U.S. Senator 6 years; US Representative 2 years; Governor 4 years; Lt. Governor 4 years; Secretary of State 4 years; State Auditor 4 years; State Treasurer 4 years; Superintendent of Public Instruction 4 years; Attorney General 4 years; Commissioner of Agriculture 4 years; Commissioner of Labor 4 years; Commissioner of Insurance 4 years; All other state officers whose terms last four years 4 years; All other state officers whose terms are not specified by law 2 years; North Carolina State Senator 2 years; North Carolina State Representative 2 years; Appellate Court Judge 8 years; Superior Court Judge 8 years; District Court Judge 4 years; District Attorney 4 years; County Commissioner 2 years; Clerk of Superior Court 4 years; Register of Deeds 4 years; Sheriff 4 years; Coroner 4 years; County Treasurer (Only elected in certain counties) 2 years; All other elected county officials 2 years.

Eighth Graders' Open House for High School Selection is Thursday

There will be an Open House for eighth grade parents, guardians and students about high school selection 2018 on Thursday, March 8 at the following schools:

- Anson Academy, 4 to 7 p.m.
- Anson Early College, 4 to 7 p.m.
- Anson High School, 4 to 7 p.m.

Atrium Health Meger with UNC Health Care Called Off

This is a release from Atrium Health (formerly Carolinas HealthCare System) dated March 2: Atrium Health has suspended discussions with UNC Health Care to form a joint operating company. Atrium Health Board of Commissioners Chairman Ed Brown and Atrium Health President and Chief Executive Officer Gene Woods informed UNC Health Care's leadership in a letter sent earlier today.

Atrium Health is committed to the patients and communities of North Carolina more than ever and remains committed to creating an organization that will serve more people in better ways and enhancing our ability to address our state's most pressing issues including rural care, behavioral health, and affordability.

In our letter sent to UNC Health Care today, we informed them that while we have not been able to reach an agreement, our respect for UNC Health Care, its team and UNC Health Care's accomplishments has grown through this process. Their desire to work collaboratively to improve the health of every North Carolinian is something we highly value and to which we are also committed.

Atrium Health's priority will always be its patients and communities. We are committed to being an organization that is agile enough to respond to the quickly changing dynamics of our field, and also serve as an effective platform for growth that will attract other like-minded partners committed to the same goals to transform care together. We will remain steadfast in our mission to improve health, elevate hope and advance healing - for all.

4-H Clover Crawl is this Friday!

The sun is shining, temperatures have been warm and spring is right around the corner...although it has already felt like spring. What better way to kick off the season of sun and fun than with laughter and good times at the "Clover Crawl?"

Anson County 4-H is hosting its annual social and dance this Friday, March 9 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro. The cost of this event is \$30 per person in advance and \$40 at the door. Where else can you go and have drinks, enjoy great food (all you can eat by the way!), and entertainment while never leaving the county? Plus, did we mention that all proceeds go towards programs for youth in Anson County!

The Clover Crawl will run 6 until 11 p.m. This is a 21 and over event. Although tickets are going fast you can still get yours at the Extension Office on McLaurin Street in Wadesboro, and Lacy's in uptown Wadesboro. If you have any questions, feel free to call 704-694-2915.

4-H Agent Roshunda Terry says, "Let your shamrocks and clovers dance and come out and have a St. Patrick's weekend eve celebration, at the Clover Crawl. Hope to see y'all there!!!"



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

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School held its Terrific Kid Celebration for the second 9 weeks on Tuesday, February 13. Pictured above are the students who were recognized for this honor. We are proud of these students for showing good character!

From left, front row: Clever Her, Gabriella Adams, Tripp Carpenter, Valeria Brown, Kendall Schmierlein, Jiya Shah, Brady Hyatt, Andres Rodriguez, Jamarrion Bennett, Addison Miles, Abbey Gaddy and Carlee Brown. Second row: Emma Power, Zaniyah Hough, Elin Lockhart, Eli Haynes, Brody Martin, Kylee Blakely, Melissa Delp, Aaron Turner, Ana Lugo and Jackson Huntley. Third Row: Evelyn Romero, Caylah Knotts, Tayler Drake, ZaDariya Wall, Shaniyh Dennison, Dixie Fincher, Dellahna Hartis, Jacob Griffin, Natalie Horne, Semaj McClendon, Keshawn Chambers, Aiden Wallace, Ezequiel Lopez and Chris Bivens. Back row: Corrine Drake, Markeith Knotts, Skylar Kelly, Sydney Storz, Mason Chau, Jamarion Garmon, Genesis Moore, Tyler Crayton White, Maziah Patton and Kailyn Buchanon. Not pictured: Sam Smith, Kaleah Houston, Katie Haynes and Marcus Jackson.

Graceland Performance at the Ansonia this Weekend

Graceland by Ellen Bryon Opens at the Ansonia this weekend! Shows are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.

The setting is the front entrance of Graceland, the late Elvis Presley's Memphis mansion, the time, five o'clock in the morning, three days before the estate is to be opened to the public. Two ardent Presley fans, Bev and Rootie, are camped out before the gates, each determined to be the first to enter the sacred precincts. Bev is a bewigged, middle-aged lady with too much make-up and a brassy down-home style. Rootie is young and shy, and somewhat intimidated by the raucous Bev. Wary at first, the two soon progress from dispute to shared confidences and a growing compassion that brings them to an understanding.

Directed by Tommy Wooten and starring Libby Dandridge and Charley Williamson, this is a show that everyone can relate to. Tickets are \$11 and can be purchased at www.ansoniatheatre.com or by calling 704-694-4950.



Compassionate Friends Meet

The Compassionate Friends, an international support group for parents, grandparents and siblings who have lost a child of any age or cause, meet this Thursday, March 8 at 7 p.m. in the Training Room at Pee Dee Electric, located on Highway 52 South in Wadesboro.

For information call Becky at 704-272-7449 or Irvin at 704-694-8774.

Storytime Every Tuesday

The Hampton B. Allen Library features Storytime for children every Tuesday at 10 a.m. This program is free and an enjoyable learning experience for children.

Writers' Club Contest Winners Receive Awards

Anson County authors received certificates of honor and cash prizes at the Anson County Writers' Club's 29th Awards Ceremony, held on Sunday, February 25 in the Little Theatre at the Hampton B. Allen Library.

ACWC president Kaye Ratliff welcomed the winners of the 2017 contests in prose and poetry and their families. Ratliff said the mission of the club is to encourage the art of writing in Anson County. One of the ways the club does this is through the annual contests, bringing public recognition to the winners. Also, every three years the club publishes an anthology of the winning entries in "Anson Pathways."

Ratliff and Beverley Getzen, contest co-chairmen along with Randy Tarlton, awarded the prizes. Getzen read remarks by the judges explaining why that entry was selected before calling each winner forward.

Awards in each category were:

- **Youth Prose - grades 3-6** First Place, "Farmer's Market" by Luke O. Thomas, Ansonville Elementary School; and Second Place, "My Gymnastic Life" by Leigha Clarke, Peachland-Polkton Elementary School.
- **Youth Poetry - grades 3-6** First Place, "I Am Unique" by Unique Bennett, Wadesboro Elementary School; Second Place, "Christmas" by Averie Hyatt, Peachland-Polkton Elementary School; and Third Place, "The Cool Koala" by Lauren Lomax, Ansonville Elementary School.
- **Youth Prose - grades 7-9** First Place went to Labdhi Shah, Anson Middle School, for "Artistic Ambition".
- **Youth Poetry - grades 7-9** First Place went to Abigail Gano, Anson County Early College for "The Dance of the Mouse."
- **Youth Poetry - grades 10-12** First Place went to Erin Kelley, Anson County Early College for "Life with Love."

- **Adult Prose** Sandy Bruney of Wadesboro won First Place for "The Lost Colony" and Mario Kersey of Raleigh won Second Place for "When Daddy Ate the World."
- **Adult Poetry** Winners were Beverley Getzen, First Place for "The Chipped Mug," Sandy Bruney, Second Place for "Our Song" and Kaye Ratliff, Third Place for "The Healing." All reside in Wadesboro.

Following the awards ceremony, attendees enjoyed refreshments and punch

The annual contests open in September and close in December. Entries are judged by members of the Union County Writers Club who do not see the names of the authors.

The Anson County Writers' Club meets from 3 to 5 p.m. on the fourth Sunday of each month, except July and December, at the First Presbyterian Church fellowship hall in Wadesboro. All meetings are open to the public. The club also sponsors workshops, lectures, and readings during the year.



Youth winners grades 3-12 are, from left, front row: Leigha Clarke, Lauren Lomax, Unique Bennett and Averie Hyatt. Back row: Luke O. Thomas, Abigail Gano, Erin Kelley and Labdhi Shah.



Adult winners, from left, are Beverley Getzen, Sandy Bruney, Kaye Ratliff and Mario Kersey.