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

## Rassoul Quadre Parsons Charged with Kidnapping and Assault on 74 Year Old

On Friday, April 14 at approximately 2:30 p.m. the Wadesboro Police Department responded to a home invasion at a residence on Lansford Drive. The victim, a 74-year-old Wadesboro resident, was found with severe lacerations to his head and was transported to CHS-Anson for treatment.



Rassoul Quadre Parsons

It is reported that 20 year old Rassoul Quadre Parsons entered the residence of the victim, struck him in the head with a large kitchen knife causing a laceration, and then knocked him to the ground. Parsons tied up the victim in the basement of his residence, and stole four firearms, a cell phone, wallet, pocket knife and the victim's vehicle.

Officers with the Wadesboro Police Department located Parsons, driving the victim's vehicle, within twelve minutes of receiving the initial call. When officers attempted to stop Parsons a brief vehicle pursuit ensued, ending in Little Park where Parsons abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot. Officers were able to catch Parsons, and ultimately recovered all of the stolen property.

Parsons was charged with Assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury; Robbery with a dangerous weapon; Breaking and entering; Larceny after breaking and entering; First degree kidnapping; 4 counts of Larceny of a firearm; Larceny of a motor vehicle; and Possession of a stolen motor vehicle. He was placed in Anson County Jail under a \$125,000 bond with a court date of April 25, 2017.

The victim's identity is being withheld for privacy and security reasons. He was treated and released from CHS-Anson for his injuries and is expected to make a full recovery.

## Anson Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center's Men for Change 2017

The Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center (ACDVC) is asking the men of Anson County to take a pledge this Father's Day to create a community free from violence for women and children.

This is a fundraiser that begins on Monday, May 1 and continues through Friday, June 9 - asking men to take this pledge: "I pledge to seek equality and respect in all my relationships with women. I commit to lead by example, to be a role model to other men and a mentor to our younger generations to create a community and future, free from violence for our women and children."

An insert will be in The Express Newspaper the week after Father's Day in June 2017 listing the name of each contributor. Individual pledges are \$5. To pledge In Honor or In Memory of someone will cost \$10. Any business that would like to pledge will be asked to donate at least \$25.

We need YOUR help so that every man in our county has the chance to participate. There will be special prizes awarded to the top two people raising the most money including a grill and Carolina Panthers memorabilia contributed by the Carolina Panthers themselves!

The proceeds from this fundraiser will go directly to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assaults within Anson County. ACDVC is a nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible. Tax letters will be mailed after June 30.

If you would like to be participate in selling pledges please contact Gail Dove at 704-694-4499 for details. If you want to make a donation to Men for Change 2017 the mailing address is: ACDVC, PO Box 694, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

ACDVC would like to say a special thank you to The Express Newspaper, Pizza Hut and the Carolina Panthers for their generous support and contributions to this fundraiser!



## Lynn and Steve Whitlock Donate Building for New Lilesville Community Center

Lynn and Steve Whitlock of Lilesville have made a generous donation of a building in downtown Lilesville to be used as a community Center. Plans are for the Lilesville Community Center to offer a number of services for citizens.

Faith Based Center of Hope Executive Board members along with Vancine Sturdivant, CEO and citizens will host a community clean-up project for the new Lilesville Community Center on Saturday, May 13, beginning at 9 a.m. The Center is located on the square of Lilesville.

"We are asking the citizens of Anson County to please come together and meet us at Whit's Convenience Store in Lilesville for his famous coffee, and then we will get to work," said Sturdivant. "The future site of the Lilesville Community Center was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Lynn Whitlock. (They are in the above photo, fourth and fifth from the right.) A special 'Thank You' also goes out to Mr. Mike Goodwin who has been very cooperative in working with this project."

The following items are needed for the clean-up. Can you help?  
• brooms (large brooms, push brooms), trash bags, gloves, masks (face), dust pans, food (hot dogs, rolls, cole slaw, cookies, variety of chips), monetary donations, a dumpster, dump trucks.

The vision for the Community Center is to provide tutorial service for youth, a GED program, a library, community awareness & healthy living workshops, and a second floor level homeless shelter. All shelter occupants will be required to obtain their GED, if necessary, and employment. Help will be available to help them transition to self-sufficient living.

"The Lilesville Community Center is a vision my husband and I had for years," stated Sturdivant. "In 1998 our vision came to fruition. In 1998, due to the enormous number of youth in our community who were below grade level in reading and math, I began accepting kids in our home and working with them to pull their reading and math levels up. What began with two to seven youth became over twelve. We could no longer do it from our home. This is when Harvest Ministries Outreach Center allowed us to utilize their facility."

Sturdivant continued, "At this time, Faith Based Center of Hope is seeking long term sponsors, however we will accept whatever you may be able to provide. This project is so important to me for several reasons, but most importantly because the need is great. We cannot continue to lose our youth to the prison system."

Faith Based Center of Hope is intended to transform lives by empowering people at risk to achieve healthy sufficient lives. The mission statement is "Where Hope Begins."

Sturdivant concluded, "We seek funding to take advantage of a window of opportunity which will allow us to begin renovation. Thank you in advance for your consideration."

For further information please contact Vancine Sturdivant at 704-848-4412, Dr. Bernice Bennett at 704-694-6666, Lynn Whitlock at 704-848-4711, Lilesville Fire Chief Marty Morton at 704-848-4194 or Lilesville Police Chief Bobby Gallimore at 704-465-1830.

## Terry Jordan Invitational Golf Tournament is May 20

The 4th Annual Terry Jordan Invitational Golf Tournament, sponsored by Gum Springs Baptist Church Youth, will be held on Saturday, May 20. The event will take place at Twin Valley Country Club with a 2 p.m. shotgun start.

This is a 2 man Captains Choice with 1 A player per team. The cost is \$40 per person which includes golf and a cart. Mulligans will be sold. There will be a split the pot on hole 14.

Sign up sheets are available at Twin Valley, or you can call Lynn Whitlock at 704-695-2200 or Johnny Goodwin at 704-475-1304.

Sponsorships are available. There are four levels of sponsorship:  
• Gold Sponsor - name on a large sign in gold, hole sign & fees paid for 2 teams. \$500  
• Silver Sponsor - name on large sign in silver, hold sign & fees paid for 1 team. \$250  
• Bronze Sponsor - name on large sign in bronze & hole sign. \$175  
• Hold Sponsor - \$100

Sponsor payments are due by Monday, May 1. Please make payment to Gum Springs Baptist Church, PO Box 514, Lilesville NC 28091. You can call Lynn Whitlock for more information at 704-695-2200.

## Special Olympics Spring Games are Friday

The Anson County Special Olympics will hold their Spring Games this Friday, April 28 at the Anson High School Football Stadium. Opening Ceremonies begin at 9:30 a.m. The public is invited to attend this inspiring event.

Volunteers are needed. If you would like to volunteer, or need more information about Special Olympics, please call Coordinator Sylvia Tilliman at 704-694-4417.

The rain date is Tuesday, May 16 at Anson High School Football Stadium.

## Anson Rescue Squad's Delicious All You Can Eat Breakfast is Saturday

Everyone is invited to come enjoy a delicious all you can eat breakfast hosted by the Anson Rescue Squad this Saturday morning, April 29, from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. It will take place at the Rescue Squad building, located at 208 East Morgan Street in Wadesboro. The cost is only \$8 per person.



## HOLLA! Awarded US Tennis Association Diversity Grant

HOLLA! was recently awarded a Diversity Grant from the United States Tennis Association (USTA). According to the USTA's website, "The grant is awarded to high performance tennis programs that serve to develop players of ethnic or racially diverse backgrounds or that serve low-income junior tennis players and enable them to use their tennis ability to secure a college education. This year's grant is \$750.

HOLLA! started the tennis program nearly six years ago. "We are not only developing tennis players, but exposing our youth to people and places that have a high likelihood of making positive impressions on them for the rest of their lives," said Alex Gaddy, Activities Director at the HOLLA! Center.

The HOLLA! Tennis Team is on a fresh return from its annual trip to Charleston, SC for the Family Circle Cup Tennis Tournament. Venus Williams and Madison Keyes were key players in the tournament this year. The team is also preparing to travel to the American Tennis Association's Tournament in Baltimore, MD this fall.

For information on how to get involved with HOLLA! Tennis or any other HOLLA! programs, call 704-851-3144.

Pictured above is one of HOLLA!'s youngest and most promising players, Za'Kiyah Hixson. In this photo she is practicing with the Livingstone College Girls' Tennis Team in Salisbury.

## Veterans Memorial Dedication at Wadesboro City Park

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremony for the new Veterans Memorial that has been constructed at Wadesboro City Park. The event will take place this Thursday, April 27 at 11 a.m. The memorial and ceremony are sponsored by the Anson County Veterans Council.

Wadesboro City Park is located near Anson Pediatrics, just off Morven Road on Gatewood Street.

## Yard Sale to Benefit the Anson Animal Shelter is May 6

The community is invited to attend a Yard Sale at the Anson County Animal Shelter on Saturday, May 6. The event will take place from 8 a.m. until. All funds raised by this sale will go toward helping the animals at the shelter.

There will be hot dogs, chips, popcorn, drinks and a 'split the pot' drawing. Donations of dog and cat food, bleach, laundry detergent, dish liquid and paper towels will be gratefully accepted.

Come and meet all the furry friends at the shelter that are awaiting their forever homes. Who knows, you may find a dog or cat that you just cannot resist taking home with you!

Any support you can offer, whether by purchasing some of the great items on sale or by donating items or money, will be of great benefit to the animals at the shelter. Together we can save the abandoned animals in Anson County.

The Anson Animal Shelter is located on Highway 74 in Polkton at the entrance to the Field of Dreams.

## Democratic Women of North Carolina Regional Meeting

You are invited to the regional meeting of the Democratic Women of North Carolina that will be held this Saturday, April 29. The 10 a.m. event will take place in the Community Room at Carolinas Health-Care System Anson on Highway 74 in Wadesboro.

The guest speaker for the event is Lucinda Guinn. Guinn is the Vice President of Campaigns at Emily's List.

This event is hosted by the new organized Democratic Women of Anson County.

## Free Groceries for Families in Need on May 3

For families in need, free groceries will be available. The Mobile Food Pantry and CHS Mobile Health Unit will be at Wingate United Methodist Church, located at 109 Hinson Street in Wingate, on Wednesday, May 3, at 10:30 a.m.

• Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food. • Arrive between 9:30 to 11 a.m. to be sure you can receive food. • If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, contact Anson Crisis Ministry for a recorded message to know if it is cancelled: 704-694-2445. • If you have not yet done so, bring proof of your income to register. • You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

This event is sponsored by Anson Crisis Ministry and local United Methodist and Baptist Churches. Interested in volunteering? Call Rev. Cindy Lunsford at (828) 891-2753.