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

Primary Election Results

The May 8 Primary Election unofficial results from Anson County, our relevant districts and some statewide races are presented on page 5.

SPCC Holds Two Graduations, Honors Sen. Bill Purcell and Pryor Gibson



Chance Meachum of Peachland receives his Associate in Arts degree from SPCC President Stan Sidor.

South Piedmont Community College completed its academic year Friday with two separate graduation ceremonies at the Union County Agricultural Services and Conference Center. SPCC President Stan Sidor presided over both for the first time since his tenure began last July.

A total of 206 of 408 candidates for a degree, diploma or certificate signed up to cross the stage during the evening commencement.

Honorary Associate in Arts degrees were presented to retiring state senator Bill Purcell and former state representative

Pryor Gibson, currently senior advisor to Gov. Beverly Perdue. Purcell, who represents the 25th District that includes Anson, Richmond, Scotland and Stanly counties, has been a state senator since July 1997. Gibson served eight terms in the N.C. House

before taking his current job in 2011. Both have been great benefactors of SPCC while serving in the General Assembly.

Medical Assistant Instructor Lori Starnes

was awarded the 2012 Faculty of the Year award. Other finalists were Early Childhood Education Instructor Sharon Little and Criminal Justice Technology Instructor Miriam Sallee. Dierdre Hatcher, a Criminal Justice Technology instructor, was named Adjunct Faculty of the Year.

Graduates Daniel E. Pruss (Electrical/Electronics Technology degree), Rene Owens (Entrepreneurship degree) and Nicholas R. Horne (Associate in Science degree) addressed their classmates, focusing on the challenges and the humorous times of their SPCC years, as well as their hopes for the future.

Earlier in the day, ceremonies were held to honor 391 General Educational Development (GED) and 15 Adult High School graduates. Speakers were GED graduates Megan Labozetta and Jennifer Faulk. Brian Wells, a GED graduate from last year, was honored for having the top GED score in the state.

World War II Film at the Ansonia Sunday

In celebration of Memorial Day, *War Bonds - Musical Recollections from World War II* will be performed at the Ansonia Theatre on Sunday afternoon, May 20.

War Bonds: The Songs and Letters of World War II is a musical journey through a war that redefined the world. This multi-media living history cabaret is interspersed with personal letters from the front and headline news of the period. The production is a warm reminiscence and a harrowing reminder of a time when the whole world seemed upside-down. Award winning artists David zum Brunnen and Serena Ehardt fill the stage with wartime memories and tunes. Actual veterans stories create a sentimental journey back through the days when blackouts and rationing were a small sacrifice in order to obtain freedom. A time when Rosie the Riveter discovered she could take care of herself; a time when African-Americans, who were segregated at home, integrated abroad to become heroes; and when a man's only wish was to be home for Christmas. *War Bonds: The Songs and Letters of World War II* explores the dark side of war and the strange juxtaposition of the light hearted, popular tunes of the time. Musical Director, Julie Florin recreates a nostalgic score of familiar tunes. Twenty-two songs of the period lift the mood—even as the atrocities of war are described. Songs include *Love Letters*, *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy*, *Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree*, *This Is The Army*, and *Mr. Jones*.

This family show allows the "greatest generation" to celebrate, as the next "greatest generation" contemplates.

War Bonds: The Songs and Letters of World War II was recently filmed by UNC-TV, North Carolina's statewide public television station to air as a companion piece to the epic WWII documentary series *The War* by legendary filmmaker Ken Burns. The edited-for-television version premiered December 11 as part of UNC-TV's North Carolina WWII documentary project and is scheduled for national distribution through American Public Television.

To make this a very special community event there will be a 20 minute "pre-show." Students from History and English classes at Anson New Tech High School have written an original play about America's history from 1910 to 1940 which they will perform prior to the professional production. Also the Arts Council hopes to have a group of the remaining WWII veterans in attendance to be recognized.

Doors open at 2 p.m. The pre-show begins at 2:30 p.m. followed by a 10-15 minute intermission, and then *War Bonds* will last approximately 90 minutes. Tickets are required and may be obtained at the Arts Council 704-694-4950, at Lacy's, or the Chamber of Commerce. Please purchase ahead if at all possible.

Leslie Snow's Yoga Class Instills Students with Confidence and Strength



Leslie Snow helps the yogis with correct posture in Warrior II asana (pose). They are, from left, Barbara Brile, Melody Dupre, Melanie Hartung, Lu Huntley and Rachel Johnson.

When Leslie Snow sees students in her yoga-based fitness class gain confidence and strength, this teacher knows she is realizing her intentions. Snow's background in dance, her own experiences in yoga classes over the years, fitness education and certification(s), and firm beliefs about a healthy lifestyle motivate her to teach yoga in ways to best benefit each student. Those who show up with yoga mats at 8 a.m. Tuesday and Friday mornings at Calvary Episcopal Church in uptown Wadesboro are greeted by a yoga teacher, centered and prepared to carefully sequence yoga postures (asanas) and lead class members into thoughtful practice.

This class, established 15 months ago, welcomes additional students, completely new to yoga or those already familiar—good news for our community. Snow says, "I love I am totally focused on the moment while I'm teaching."

The perspective—focusing on the present and calming

external distraction—is one that those who develop a yoga practice can realize. Snow's classes make this way of living possible as she thoughtfully embodies an attitude of awareness as a yoga-based fitness teacher both "on" and "off the mat." Many new to yoga may be reluctant to try or for whatever reason feel they are not cut out for such exercise. The best yoga teachers understand how anyone new to the practice of yoga may misunderstand. In Leslie Snow's class, those new to yoga are developing in ways apt for each individual. Snow's background as a personal-fitness trainer benefits everyone who enrolls in her yoga classes because she keeps a close eye on individuals and the group. Hers is a safe class to begin or restart the journey to self awareness, health, and natural healing through the work of breath.

For more information contact Leslie at 704-272-9254 or leslie@lesliesnow.com.
By LuEllen Huntley

Town of Peachland Installs Weather Alert Siren

The Town of Peachland now has a new "weather alert siren" that will be activated by the 911 Center in the event of a tornado alert in the vicinity of Peachland. The Town of Peachland, working with a grant from Pee Dee Electric was assisted by Progress Energy, who set the new pole for the new siren. The Peachland Volunteer Fire Department and the 911 Center worked on this project as well.

"The siren is now up and running, and we will activate the siren when we get a notice of a tornado watch from the National Weather Center. The siren alert will not be used for alerting firemen of a fire as they have radio notification for that. This is the Town of Peachland working to notify citizens in the town of a weather emergency," Sheriff Tommy Allen said. The Sheriff oversees the 911 Operations Center.

The Town of Peachland sent out letters recently to notify citizens of this project. Peachland Mayor Richard Allen said, "This was a joint effort to help protect our citizens in Peachland. I deeply appreciate the energy companies, the fire department, our 911 center and our Town Board for working together to make this project happen."

Currently Peachland is the only municipality in the county that has this system. Other fire departments have alert sirens, but they are used to notify firemen of a fire call and not weather related calls. Sheriff Allen said that in conversations with Emergency Management Director Rodney Diggs and other firemen, it was indicated that other fire departments may also look into this.

A siren can be heard for several miles, but it is not practical to try to cover the whole county. Allen suggests individuals check the TV stations for weather emergencies and take appropriate actions in the event of a tornado. "We've seen much more weather related emergencies in North Carolina in the past couple of years, and it's just a matter of time before we see one here in Anson County. Being prepared and responding appropriately can be a matter of life and death," Allen said.

Domestic Violence Coalition's Men for Change 2012

In a release from the Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition: Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center, along with sponsor Forbes Jewelers, will be asking the men of Anson County to take a pledge this Father's Day to create for women and children a community free from violence.

Continuing through May 31, 2012, a committee of men will be asking other men to take this pledge. An insert will be in The Express Newspaper the week before Father's Day in June 2012 listing the name of each contributor.

Individual pledges will be \$5. To pledge in honor of someone or in memory of someone will cost \$10. Any business that would like to pledge will be asked to pay at least \$25. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go directly to assist victims of domestic violence or sexual assault so they may live in a home free from violence.

We need men from every area of Anson County to be on the selling committee so that every man in our county has the chance to participate. This was our largest fundraiser in 2010 and 2011, raising over \$4,174, with only 61 men and companies participating. Our goal is to at least double that in 2012. The man who raises the most money will receive a watch, compliments of Forbes Jewelers.

ACDVC is a nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible. Tax letters will be mailed after June 17th.

If you would like to be on the selling committee please contact Patricia Scott at 704-694-4499 for details. If you want to make a donation to Men for a Change, our mailing address is PO Box 694, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

Anson County 4-H Lunch Fundraiser is Friday

The Anson County 4-H Program is planning a lunch fundraiser on Friday, May 18th at the Cooperative Extension Center on McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The lunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. It is held to raise money to help supplement funds to their county programs, assist youth in attending 4-H summer programs and other activities throughout the year.

The cost is \$6. Take-outs and deliveries only are available. Dining in will not be available. The menu includes marinated grilled chicken sandwich with spread, slaw, chips, and homemade dessert.

Business and organizations ordering at least 6 plates may request deliveries. Deliveries will be available from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Contact Roshunda Blount, Erin Dempsey or Pam Layfield at 704-694-2915 to place orders. If you would like to fax your order in please send to 704-694-2248.

Also the Anson County 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association are having a raffle drawing for a 26 inch flat screen TV, \$75 gas card and \$35 gift card. Tickets are \$2 each. You can purchase tickets from any 4-H volunteer leader or from the Extension office. The drawing will also be held on May 18th, and you do not have to be present to win.

For more information contact Roshunda Blount, Extension 4-H Agent, at 704-694-2915.

Wadesboro Community Blood Drive

There will be a Wadesboro Community Blood Drive on Wednesday, May 23, from 1:30 to 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Wadesboro Fellowship Hall. This event is sponsored by the Wadesboro Rotary Club and the American Red Cross.

Donors should eat iron-rich foods for two weeks before donating blood. Drink plenty of water and avoid caffeine on the day of the drive.

All donors will be automatically entered in a drawing to win a pair of round-trip Delta Airline tickets.

Democratic Party Meeting Thursday

The Anson County Democratic Party will hold a meeting on Thursday, May 17 at 6 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library. There will be discussion of the District Convention and the delegates.

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

Seniors Picnic at Little Park

Grace Senior Center is sponsoring a picnic for seniors at Little Park. This fun event is open to all seniors. It will take place on Friday, May 18, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please call Grace Senior Center at 704-694-6616 to register or for more information.

Yard Sale and Bake Sale for Relay for Life

The State Employees Credit Union will hold a Yard Sale and Bake Sale, with all proceeds going to benefit Relay for Life. The event will take place this Saturday, May 19, from 7 a.m. to noon at the SECU office at 913 East Caswell Street (Highway 74) in Wadesboro.

Blood Drive May 21

There will be a Blood Drive on Monday, May 21 at CMH Space Flooring Products, Inc., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please note the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas' minimum weight requirement for blood donors is 120 pounds.

Holiday Closings

The Wadesboro Town Hall will be closed on Monday, May 28 due to the Memorial Day Holiday. There will be no garbage pickup that day. Monday's route will be picked up on Thursday, and Tuesday's route will run on schedule.

Zimmer Friends

The Zimmer Friends will meet on Friday, June 1st at Lady Bug Restaurant in Wadesboro at 6 p.m.

Look inside for special inserts from IGA Family Dollar