

1505
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.

Board of Elections Canvass Meeting

The Anson County Board of Elections will meet in its Boardroom at 402 Morven Road in Wadesboro this Friday, May 18 at 11 a.m. The purpose is a Canvass meeting for the May 8 Primary Election. Here is the tentative agenda:

- Approval of minutes
- Canvass instructions and procedures
- Update unity results to show 'Official'
- Upload final 'Official Results' to Election Reporting System
- Sign abstracts (Certification of Election) - keep copy on file, mail one copy to state, deliver copy to the Clerk of Court
- Discuss upcoming dates & questions / comments

To appear on a meeting agenda you must provide notice in writing by 5 p.m. on the Thursday before the next meeting.

During all board meetings, those in attendance are asked to refrain from comments and questions to the board unless they are called upon by the board. At the end of each meeting the board will open the floor for comments and questions.

For more information call Steve Adams, Elections Director, at 704-994-3223.

Board of Education Meets May 21

The Anson County Board of Education will hold its regular meeting on Monday, May 21 in the Administrative Office Board Meeting Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. Closed session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Open session to the public should begin around 5:30 p.m.

Richard David Johnson Arrested for Sex Offenses Involving Two Children

On Monday, May 7 Detectives with the Wadesboro Police Department arrested Richard David Johnson, 51, on two charges each of first degree statutory sex offense with a child by an adult, and indecent liberties with a child. There are two victims in this case, both below the age of 13. Any additional victim information is withheld because of their age and the nature of this case.



Richard David Johnson

Detectives also served a search warrant at Johnson's residence at 280 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro looking for evidence of the crimes. They seized numerous cellular telephones and a laptop computer. Detectives are continuing to investigate this case.

Johnson was placed in the Anson County Jail under a \$40,000 bond with a court date of May 22 at 9:30 a.m. in Anson County District Court.

Company Plans \$15 Million Biogas Plant Near Lilesville

Catawba Biogas, a leading operator of renewable energy facilities, will locate a new poultry waste to natural gas conversion plant in Anson County. The company, owned by Finland based Ductor Corporation, anticipates employing 8 to 10 people at wages above the \$32,584 average annual salary in Anson County.

The company plans to invest at least \$15 million in state of the art biogas technology, and is expected to break ground later this year on a site near the Pee Dee Electric gas turbine "peaking" plant east of Lilesville.

Located in the heart of the "Broiler Belt," Anson County is home to more than 940 poultry houses and produces 5.5 million birds annually, local officials said. Traditionally, farmers have applied poultry waste to their fields as fertilizer, but as the number of poultry houses has increased and land devoted to row crop production has peaked, poultry growers are finding themselves with more waste than they can efficiently dispose of in an environmentally sustainable way.

Catawba Biogas contracts with poultry growers to manage their waste, offering a long-term sustainable solution for them while creating a renewable source of natural gas and high quality organic fertilizer.

Anson County and the Anson Economic Development Partnership (AnsonEDP) assisted the project through site identification, selection and general support services. The company will not receive any local financial incentives for locating their facility in the county.

"We are pleased to collaborate with and support an innovative renewable energy company like Catawba Biogas," said John B. Marek, Executive Director of AnsonEDP. "The Lilesville plant is the latest example of how the circular economy approach can benefit rural agricultural areas both economically and environmentally. By converting waste into fuel and stable organic fertilizer, the plant will help increase North Carolina's renewable energy capacity while protecting our local waterways."

Last Weekend for Smoke on the Mountain

The hit comedy musical, *Smoke on the Mountain* will be performed this weekend at the Ansonia Theatre, with performances Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. Hurry and get your tickets - this is the last weekend.

The show takes place in 1938 at a Saturday Night Gospel Sing in Mount Pleasant. The Sanders Family Singers are back on the gospel circuit for the first time in five years. They are ready to spread the gospel through song and celebration, however on their way to the church they accidentally tip their bus over while stopping to look at all the stray pickles that have escaped from the local pickle plant. This lovable family of misfits finally make to the church, and we get to know each of them through their stories and songs.

The show is directed by Gina Clarke and Tommy Wooten. Tickets are \$16. Group rates are available for parties of 10 or more. Please contact the Anson County Arts Council at 704-694-4950 or get your tickets online at ansoniatheatre.com.



Mother's Day Activities at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center

This is a release from Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center: What a great time to celebrate mothers and all they represent. Weeks of preparations took place at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center as the After School students were getting ready for Mother's Day. With directions and help from After School teachers Treamenda Cagle and Joyce Ledbetter, children made Mother's Day cards and I love you mom pillows. The activities were worked on daily after the students enjoyed their nutritious meals and finished their homework sessions. The food is always prepared by BRLC volunteer and nutritionist Deloris Hammond.

Each student with their own imagination created their special Mother's Day card for their own mother and for someone else who stood out as a mother in their mind. The children all had a little help when it came to writing, pasting and drawing what they each wanted to say on the cards.

When it came to cutting out the colorful pillows, some of the older children helped. There was a pillow pattern for the students to go by when cutting out the four corners for square pillows or round pillows. The older students made sure that all corners matched.

All students helped to stuff his or her pillows with polyester fibers. The older students and volunteers helped with sewing the pillows together. Once the pillows were put together all of the children glued or ironed the 'I love you' decal onto the pillows.

The children looked forward to giving their gifts to their parents when they were picked up from After School by their mothers or family members.

May 8 Primary Election Results

Here are the unofficial election results from the May 8 Primary Election for the races that were on Anson County ballots.

- **ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 4** (All Democrats) - Jim Sims 150 (56.18%), Fulton Crowder 59 (22.1%), Ashley Drake 58 (21.72%)
- **ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 5** (All Democrats) - Lawrence Gatewood 309 (64.24%), Lee Roy Lookabill, Jr. 172 (35.76%)
- **ANSON COUNTY SHERIFF** (All Democrats) - Landric Reid 1961 (88.02%), Kevin (Catfish) Marshall 267 (11.98%)
- **US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 9 (DEMOCRAT)** - **Anson County totals** - Dan McCready 1,656 (79.92%), Christian Cano 416 (20.08%) - **Statewide totals** - Dan McCready 37,824 (82.83%), Christian Cano 7,838 (17.17%)
- **US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 9 (REPUBLICAN)** - **Anson County totals** - Mark Harris 339 (54.33%), Robert Pittenger 264 (42.31%), Clarence Goins 21 (3.37%) - **Statewide totals** - Mark Harris 17,224 (48.52%), Robert Pittenger 16,411 (46.23%), Clarence Goins 1,862 (5.25%)
- **NC STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 25 (REPUBLICAN)** - **Anson County totals** - Tom McInnis 558 (89.71%), Michelle Lexo 64 (10.29%) - **Total vote** - Tom McInnis 8,864 (60.95%), Michelle Lexo 5,678 (39.05%)

Wendell Little of Wadesboro to Compete in National Veterans Wheelchair Games this Summer

The 38th National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) will be held in Orlando, Florida July 30 through August 4 this year, and Wadesboro's own Wendell Little will compete again this year after earning five medals in last year's event.



Mr. Little is a graduate of Bowman Senior High School, the class of 1975. He is an Army veteran who served from 1975 to 1979.

The NVWG is a multi event sports and rehabilitation program for disabled military service veterans. The event promotes rehabilitation and wellness through rigorous sports competition. The largest annual wheelchair sports event in the United States, it gives newly disabled veterans the opportunity to gain and enhance sports skills while introducing them to experienced wheelchair athletes. Veterans compete according to their ability in such sports as basketball, softball, track & field, hand cycling and many others.

The event is largely supported by donations. If you would like to help support Mr. Little as he represents Anson County in the games, it would be much appreciated. The deadline for the games is approaching, so organizers need to know about supporters as soon as possible. All contributions can be made directly to participating veterans, or sent to Salisbury VA Medical Center, General Post Fund #9173 earmarked for Wendell Little. The address is: Voluntary Service/001-V, 1601 Brenner Avenue, Salisbury NC 28144. If you would like to contact Mr. Little directly call 803-257-8635. For more information on the games call 704-638-9000 ext 3223 or 4711.

Bearcats Spring Game 2018 is May 25

The Anson High School Bearcats Spring Game will be held on at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 25 at the Anson High School Stadium. Everyone is invited to come, and the admission is free. There will be games for kids, contests, gift cards, Anson gear, and more! Meet the team! Players will provide autographs for all children. Concessions will be sold, with proceeds used to support Bearcat football.

This event is sponsored in part by Harvest Ministries Outreach Center. For more information call Coach Ralph Jackson at 704-244-9947 or Pastor Steve Adams at 704-695-2879.

Flag Disposal Ceremony to be Held May 26

The Anson County Veterans Council will host a ceremony to demonstrate the proper disposal of the American Flag. The event will take place at Wadesboro City Park on Saturday, May 26 at 4 p.m.

The public is invited to attend. If you have a flag you need to dispose of you are welcome to bring it. This is also an opportunity for those who have not yet seen the Veterans Memorial at Wadesboro City Park.

Hot dogs will be served after the ceremony. You will not want to miss this event. For more information call Brenda Parker at 704-694-6770.

Brown Bag Book Club Meeting to Feature J. A. Bolton

The Hampton B. Allen Library's Brown Bag Book Club will meet on Monday, May 21 at 12:00 noon in the Pritchett room. The guest will be author and storyteller J. A. Bolton. J. A. is from Richmond County. He loves to weave his homespun stories in Southern fashion, whether it be in oral or written form. Everyone is invited to come, bring a covered dish and enjoy this delightful program. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

BCSWCD Board Meeting

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 22 at 10:00 a.m. at the BCSWCD office, located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro. For more information call 704-694-3516.

WoodmenLife Offers Two Scholarships

Deadline is Friday

Wadesboro WoodmenLife Chapter 4, a fraternal life insurance society, is accepting applications for college scholarships from now until Friday, May 18. They will award \$500 scholarships to two class of 2018 graduates in Anson County Schools. Their Scholarship Committee will look at academic achievement, civic and fraternal activities and financial need.

Seniors can get a WoodmenLife scholarship application form from their high school guidance counselors. The scholarships will be presented at the annual high school awards ceremony.

The Express is on the web at www.TheExpressNewspaper.com