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Graduation Special Edition. Congratulations to All Anson County Graduates!

Commencement Honors 283 Graduates

With greetings and opening remarks given Superintendent of Anson County Schools, Dr. Greg Firn, the 2012 commencement began in beautiful Bearcat Stadium on Saturday, June 9, at 8:30 a.m. And, as the familiar sound of Pomp and Circumstance resonated through the morning air, graduates paced themselves with slow, steady steps toward their futures, while probable delight and deliberation both loomed through their minds as to what lies ahead.

All Anson County High Schools were represented as graduates from Anson Academy, Anson County Early College, Anson High School and Anson New Technology High School traversed in unison around both sides of the stadium, meeting in the middle and eventually taking their seats within their school sections at midfield.

Dr. Firn commended the graduates on a job well done and for handling the tasks presented them with conviction and dedication. Firn added, "Please stand and give your parents and teachers a very deserved applause," with joyful oblige from the graduating class.

"We are Anson," the graduation theme for the second consecutive year, was underway while Amber Teal, Caitlyn Jackson and Jessica Beachum were chosen to deliver the 2012 commencement address. As each of the young ladies spoke of personal triumphs, achieved goals and anticipated futures, they also prompted all of the graduates to follow their lead and find something worthwhile in their own lives. Whether that be work, higher education or military service to our country, "Do your best to achieve success," they urged. At the end of each of the three speeches the girls took each others' hands and held them high over their heads, repeating each time, "We are Anson." And the graduates, all wearing white gloves followed suit.

After all the diplomas had been presented by Mr. Lisa Davis, School Board Chairman, Dr. Firn prompted the traditional turning of the tassel, signifying their thirteen year journey was nearing its end and each student was officially graduated from Anson County Schools.

Cheers of total triumph rang loud and clear as the group left their seats and paced themselves with quicker more enlivened steps toward those future endeavors. Many held their diplomas high in the air and even jumped for joy and with pride. There were tears streaming down some faces and pensive looks of wonder on some as they headed around the stadium one final time.

The 2012 commencement was indeed over, but will not soon be forgotten, as it was an incredibly beautiful affair, an affair to remember for many years to come.

The Express Newspaper would like to congratulate the class of 2012 and wish you good luck in obtaining all of your future wants, desires and dreams. You have made all of Anson County proud. Enjoy your graduation photos throughout this edition of The Express. Photos and story by Melanie Lyon

2012 Anson Ag Expo & Fair Set for September 21-22

Mark your calendars for this year's annual Anson Ag Expo & Fair. Slated for this fall, the 2012 Anson Ag Expo and Fair Planning Committee is gearing up for events to promote agriculture and natural resources, and their economic importance to Anson County.

This year's festivities will be held Friday and Saturday, September 21-22 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center of South Piedmont Community College in Wadesboro. The event promises an array of activities and fun.

Friday's offerings will begin at 6 p.m. with the annual Ag Fair being exhibited in the Ingram Room and the Youth Livestock Show in the parking area. Saturday will feature those same events continuing at 9 a.m., with the addition of Anson County Honor Graduates for the Class of 2012



Pictured here are the 2012 Honor Graduates from Anson County Early College, Anson High School and Anson New Technology High School.

• Anson County Early College: Darren Davis, Jake Edwards, Lamar Gaines, Sierra Garris, Elizabeth Edwards, Melinda Loftis, Kenzi Martin, Dillion Meachum, Mary Sewell, Amber Teal, Shia Vang and Natalie White.

• Anson High School: Holly Black, Jackson Brown, Jack Butler, Michaela Cash, Logan Clark, Kailee Cole, KC Currie, Seth Gulledge, Summer Honeycutt, Neal Huntley, Caitlyn Jackson, Cory Jordan, Morgan Kendall, Brandon Lear, Bethany Lee, Taylor Little, Prapti Patel, Brandon Smith, Devin Smith, Brittany Spencer, Linda Vue, Daphne White and Lucky Yang.

Anson New Technology School: Jessica Beachum, Meghan Burr and Jessica Webb.



the South Atlantic Woodsmen's Association lumberjack sports competition in the afternoon. All events are free to the public.

Be on the lookout for more information to come, including time schedules, children's activities, and much more. Come out and join the fun. Celebrate agriculture in Anson.

Morven Town Council Member Resigns

In a statement from Susan Woodburn: As reported recently, I have resigned from Morven's town council effective June 1, 2012. For those citizens who voted and supported me during the last election, let me start by saying thank you. You have been the reason that I have been successful during my years on the board.

For many members of our community my resignation was believed to have been the result of health issues pertaining to my parents, especially my father. That, however, was untrue. My decision was based on a variety of issues that I have struggled with during my tenure on the council. Several citizens have asked that I let the community know the exact issues and incidents that have caused me to make this decision. That, however, would only be stooping to a level that would be in conflict with my beliefs. All I will say is that in any community, communication and working together for the good of its citizens should be the number one goal. It is time to stop the so-called "small town politics" and instead work on improving our town's future.

Like I was told many years ago, there are always three sides to a story...your side, the other person's side, and the actual truth. Perhaps in time the actual truth will be allowed to surface, and then only the best for this community will prevail. Personally I love Morven, and hopefully in the future others will see its potential and love it as much as I.

BBQ Fundraiser for Heart Patient

There will be a bar-b-que plate fundraiser held at the Ansonville Fire Department on Saturday, June 16, from 10:30 a.m. until. Proceeds are being raised to help a heart patient with expenses.

You are invited to come out and enjoy delicious bar-b-que with slaw, baked beans and a roll, all for only \$8.

Barbershop Quartet at Bach's Lunch

In a release from the Arts Council: It's time to break out of that same ol' same ol' lunchtime routine at the Arts Council's first of three Bach's Lunches of the summer on Wednesday, June 20. Enjoy a delicious box lunch while listening to the mellow tones of a local barbershop quartet from noon to 1 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Wadesboro. Dave Arey, Rick Gilmore, Dennis Turner and Larry Turner will serenade you with their harmonies as you indulge yourself with a croissant loaded with scrumptious chicken salad, fresh tomato, and crisp lettuce, accompanied by potato salad, pickle, tea, and a homemade dessert.

Tickets are \$10 or \$25 for all three summer lunches and are available from the Chamber of Commerce, Lacy's, the Arts Council, and any Arts Council board member. The Arts Council encourages you to purchase tickets and order takeouts in advance to ensure that everyone can be served. Information available at 704-694-4950.

Captain D's