

New Society president Tommy Allen plans more community involvement. Shares some very interesting Anson history.

The Anson County Historical Society has begun its 51st year serving Anson County, and 2016 promises to be a great year for the society. Tommy Allen, retired Sheriff and a board member for several years, will serve as President this year. Allen said that the new Board of Directors has already been working hard.

"We want to better inform and share with the public our history and heritage. Our purposes are about understanding our past; where Anson County has been; how we got to where we are today; and the many people who were involved along the way. In addition to our office and research files and documents, we have four museums that will interest people of all ages," Allen said.

One new project that started last year and will continue this year is developing a new section on black history. The Historical Society recently documented the history of over 500 black families, going back many generations. They welcome anyone to come to the Society's office to view and research these new family files. The Society wants to be more public with regular news articles, working with the schools, and with special events to encourage public participation.

Allen said, "Our motto is to 'educate and preserve.' We'll be sharing interesting news articles every month about people and places in Anson County. For example, did you know that Leonidas L. Polk who founded the Town of Polkton in 1875 started a weekly newspaper called The Ansonian? And, in 1886 Polk founded the magazine The Progressive Farmer which is still published today. Elijah W. Flake, also from Polkton, served on the boat Merrimack in the famous naval battle with the Monitor in 1862 - sometimes called the Battle of the Ironclads. This is arguably the most noted naval battle of the Civil War."

Allen went on to name other Ansonians such as Hugh Hammond Bennett, known as the father of soil conservation, who developed many agricultural management practices such as soil erosion controls and crop rotations to combat the "dust bowls" of the 1930's. Eliza Jane Pratt, born in Morven, attended public schools there and who, in 1947, was the first woman from North Carolina to serve in the US House of Representatives. Dr. Edward L. Thomas, one of the first black doctors in Anson County, set up practice in 1907. Thomas was also was editor of a black newspaper published in Anson County called "The Enterprise." And, an individual named Andrew "Mome" Diggs, who grew up and lived near Peachland, once rode with the outlaw Jesse James and is buried in the family plot in the Peachland Cemetery.

Allen said, "Anson County has a long list of people who, some were famous and some were infamous. But, they were all interesting and contributed in some way to help make Anson County a true part of the experiment we call America."

The 2016 Board members are: Tommy Allen, President; Lonnie Baucom, VP; Katie Scarborough, Treasurer; Kandie Sparger, Secretary; Kathy Barringer, Ralph Coble, Calvin Gaddy, Leon Gatewood, Betty Horan, Patty Jennings-Shipley, Steve Lear, George Puryear, Marlene Richardson, Leslie Rivers, Walter Turner, James Wall, and Bill Wall. If you would like to tour one of the museums or have someone speak to a civic group, club, or organization, please contact the office at 704-694-6694. For information or to become a member, visit the website at www.ansonhistoricalsociety.org. You can email ansonhistorical@windstream.net for an application form or to see any of the board members.



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Church News

JANUARY 29

Special Program

Lust of the Flesh at Tabernacle House of Praise in Ansonville w/multiple speakers at 7:30pm. All are invited

JANUARY 30

Movie

The War Room at Flat Rock Community Church, 12:30pm. Free movie & popcorn, discussion. Everyone invited. Info 803-315-5110

All You Can Eat

Soup, dessert & tea at Lilesville UMC 11am-7pm \$8

Women's Prayer

Breakfast at New Life Trinity Church in Polkton, 9am

JANUARY 31

20th Anniversary

Of Morning Star Redeem COG in Lilesville at 3pm w/Rev Luther McLendon

Church Dedication

At Pee Dee COD, 11am

FEBRUARY 6

Ladies Health Luncheon

Sponsored by the women of Kesler Chapel AME Zion at Wadesboro Primary School, 11am-1pm w/Dr Holly Stegall & Sarah Dean, RN. Door prizes, food, fun, fellowship. Ticket info 704-694-3056

Fundraiser

BBQ grill chicken plate \$8 at New Meltonville MBC in support of Liberia Mission, 11am-8pm. Cake & pie auction 1:30pm. Deliveries for 5 or more, 704-272-0178. Located 15482 White Store Rd in Peachland

Souper Bowl

At Rock Hill MBC, 11am-1pm w/a variety of soups at reasonable prices. Public is welcome to dine in or take out

FEBRUARY 14

February Birthday

Program at Johnson Chapel Holiness Church, 3:30pm w/Apostle Annette Ross

Family & Friends Day

At Madison Grove MBC 2:30pm w/Min Carlos Melton

ONGOING

Noon Prayer

At Greater St. Mark COD, noon on Tuesdays

Community Prayer

Held on Anson High School campus each Sunday at 4pm

Community Prayer

1st Monday each month, 5:15pm at Hatcher Park in Lilesville, Square in Wadesboro, Polkton & Ansonville, Town Hall in Morven

Rides to Service

At East Rock Ford MBC. Call 704-695-2997

Thursday's Child

Children's choir, Gail Litaker director, an outreach ministry of First United Methodist Church, open to all children grades K-6, no pre-registration necessary, Thursdays, 4-5pm, cost is free, 704-694-5179

Exercise, Exercise & More!

Free at Henderson Grove MBC in Lilesville, Mon & Thur evenings 6-7:30pm. Exercise ball, rubber band, hula hoop, walking, jogging & fun. Physical & mental health info. 704-848-4225

Fun for Seniors

Every 3rd Tuesday at Rock Hill MBC, 11am-1pm for 55 & older (exceptional adults too) are welcome

Bible Study

Wednesdays, 6:30pm at Forestville A.M.E. Zion Church

Radio Ministry

On WKDX 1250 AM Sun 8:15am w/Elder Garcia Morman

Reading Program

At New Parkers Grove MBC, for anyone in third grade and up who needs help with reading, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-5pm, 704-994-9182

Time for You

Music, prayer & praise at 6pm at Wightman UMC

Bible Study

Every Wed night, 7:30pm at Victory Temple Miracle Center

Bible Study

Thursday nights, 6:30pm at House of Faith Outreach Ministries, 198 Wortham St, Wadesboro

Events

JANUARY 29

Deadline to Register

For Spring Sports at Parks & Recreation: Tee Ball, Coach Pitch, Minor & Major Baseball, Girls Softball, Micro & Youth Soccer. Cost \$25. Info 704-695-2782

FEBRUARY 2

High School

Application Process information meeting for 8th grade students & parents, 6pm at Anson Middle School. Info about each of the high schools provided too

FEBRUARY 3

Free Food

Mobile Food Pantry at Morven UMC, 312 E Main St, 11am. Please call for details, 704-851-9940

FEBRUARY 4

Animal Shelter

Volunteer Meeting, 6pm at 605 McLaurin St in Wadesboro. Please attend if you would like to know more about volun-

teering. Volunteers can make a tremendous difference in the welfare & adoption rates at the shelter. Info 704-694-4832

FEBRUARY 6

Class of 1977

Bowman Senior High School reunion meeting 3pm at Lady Bug Restaurant. Info 704-465-2413

FEBRUARY 9

Soup Luncheon

Hosted by Anson Women's League, 11am-1:30pm at First Baptist Church, Lee Ave in Wadesboro. Enjoy vege beef soup, toasted cheese sandwich, drink & dessert. Info & tickets at 704-694-7022 or bbgetzen@gmail.com

MARCH 2

Free Tax Assistance

For those 60 & older of low or moderate income offered by Grace Senior Center in Wadesboro. Register & info 704-694-6616

MARCH 11

Clover Crawl

Social & Dance in support of Anson 4-H & 4-H Youth Promise w/fun, food, dancing, great socializing, heavy

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Aware? Or Beware!

This is a release from Mary Lynn Railton at the Anson County Health Department: We are created male and female, sexual creations, created by the act of sexual intercourse. Sexual health and behavior is part of every person's life. Our behavioral choices are based upon our knowledge, our environment, our belief system and our culture. Risky sexual behavior results in unplanned pregnancy and the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STI's), including HIV.

Now we know that the STI called the Human Papilloma Virus causes cancers that can be debilitating and fatal years after the initial infection. At the Anson County Health Department we have a vaccine to inhibit the infection and spread of this virus. It is recommended for males, ages 11-21, and to females, ages 11-26.

The Health Department's Family Planning Program is dedicated to providing education and resources for the promotion of healthy attitudes and behaviors. Our Mission Statement is "To protect our environment, prevent the spread of diseases and promote the health and wellbeing of all the citizens of Anson County."

Call the Health Department today at 704-694-5188 and make a Family Planning appointment for a physical examination and counseling. Reduce your risks by being informed. Live long and be healthy.

Upcoming Election - How to Get a Free Photo ID

What documents must I take to the DMV to get a free Photo ID card for voting purposes? The DMV requires that certain documents be presented before it will issue a photo ID. The requirements include:

- 1) Two documents that prove your age and identity. Examples: a birth certificate, court documents, or tax forms.
- 2) A valid social security number. A voter's Social Security card is not required unless the DMV is unable to validate the number provided by the voter.
- 3) One document to prove your North Carolina residency. Examples: a lease, voter registration card, or utility bill. If you do not have one of these documents, you may be able to complete an affidavit of residency at the DMV.

Visit www.ncdot.gov to see a list of required documents or contact the State Board of Elections' Voter Outreach Team for assistance at VoterOutreach.sboe@ncsbe.gov.