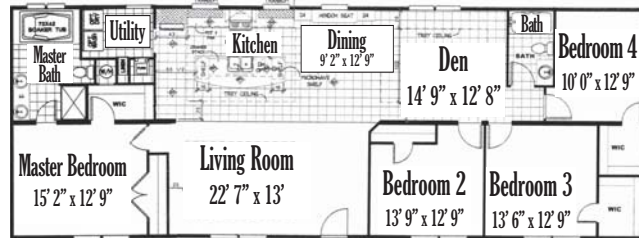


Upcoming Dates for May Primary Election

- The Anson County Board of Elections has released this calendar of pertinent dates:
- January 9 at 5pm - Regular Board of Elections meeting, 5 p.m.
 - January 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday
 - January 28 - Publish UOCAVA Notice statewide Primary
 - January 28-30 - Elections Conference in Durham
 - **February 12 - Candidate filing begins for May 2018 Primary**
 - February 14 - Regular Board of Elections meeting, 5 p.m.
 - February 23 - Deadline to withdraw notice of candidacy
 - **February 28 - Candidate filing ends for May 2018 Primary**
 - March 14 - Regular Board of Elections meeting, 5 p.m.
 - March 19 - Absentee Ballots must be available for May 2018 Primary
 - March 23 - Begin publishing election notice
 - March 30 - State holiday (Good Friday)
 - April 4 - Logic and accuracy / machine testing, 10 a.m.
 - April 5 - Mock Election with State Board of Elections
 - April 8 - Public notice of buffer zone
 - April 11 - Regular Board of Elections meeting, 5 p.m.
 - April 13 - Last day to challenge voter prior to election, 5 p.m.
 - **April 13 - Voter registration deadline for May 2018 Primary, 5 p.m.**
 - April 14 - One Stop Voting observer list due, 10 a.m.
 - April 17 - Absentee Board meeting, 5 p.m.
 - **April 19 - Absentee - Early Voting begins**
 - April 24 - Absentee Board meeting, 5 p.m.
 - April 25 - Deadline to submit petition / signature for unaffiliated candidate in partisan/nonpartisan election
 - May 1 - Absentee Board meeting, 5 p.m.
 - May 1 - Late absentee requests allowed due to sickness of physical disability deadline, 5 p.m.
 - May 3 - Election Day observer list due, 10 a.m.
 - **May 5 - Absentee - Early Voting ends, 1 p.m.**
 - May 7 - Pre-election Day Absentee meeting, 5 p.m.
 - May 7 - UOCAVA (military/overseas) Absentee Ballot request deadline, 5 p.m.
 - May 7 - UOCAVA (military/overseas) Voter Registration deadline, 5 p.m.
 - **May 8 - Statewide Primary Election Day - all precincts participating**
Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 - May 8 - Distribute Certified Absentee List, 10 a.m.
 - May 8 - Begin counting Absentee Ballots, 10 a.m. (Results not released until 7:30 p.m.)
 - May 8 - UOCAVA (military/overseas) ballot return deadline, 7:30 p.m.
 - May 9 - Sample hand to eye county, 11 a.m.
 - May 17 - UOCAVA mailed Absentee Ballot return deadline, 5 p.m.
 - May 18 - County Canvass of Election, 11 a.m.
 - May 18 - Deadline for election protest concerning votes counted or tabulation of results
 - May 21 - Deadline for candidate to request a recount in county contest, 5 p.m.
 - May 22 - Deadline for candidate to request a recount in state contest, 5 p.m.
 - May 24 - County Board of Elections issues certifications of nominations
 - May 28 - Memorial Day holiday



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Jessica Morgan Won Statewide Discussion Meet Title



Anson County young farmer Jessica Morgan took First Place honors recently in North Carolina Farm Bureau's (NCFB) statewide Discussion Meet. The competition and award ceremony took place during NCFB's 82nd Annual Meeting, held December 3-5 at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensboro.

"It is important that we support and help develop young farmers who are able to speak up and speak out for farmers and their rural communities," said Larry Wooten, President

of North Carolina Farm Bureau. "This program helps develop rural leaders for the future."

The Discussion Meet Award recognizes a young farmer between the ages of 18 and 35 who is involved in NCFB's Young Farmers and Ranchers Program (YF&R) program. Morgan's knowledge of agricultural issues and public speaking and debate skills were judged to be the most effective in regard to consensus-building on some of the real issues impacting today's agricultural industry. Morgan now moves on to the national competition where she will vie against other state Farm Bureau winners during American Farm Bureau Federation's national Discussion Meet, held in conjunction with the organization's annual meeting, January 5-10 in Nashville, Tenn.

NCDA&CS Announces Healthy Food Small Retailer Funding

Priority application deadline is January 31

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will offer grant assistance to convenience stores interested in offering healthier food options to those living in food deserts in North Carolina.

"There are 349 food deserts across North Carolina, impacting about 1.5 million North Carolinians," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "Corner stores and convenient stores are integral parts of their local communities, and can play an important role in bringing healthy local foods to the neighborhoods they serve."

The funding is a part of the Healthy Food Small Retailer Program, which is administered by the department. The program was established in the 2016 state budget bill (HB 1030). The 2017-2018 program will reimburse participating stores for refrigeration, freezers and stocking equipment needed to offer healthier items.

Store owners have until Jan. 31 to apply for priority consideration. Applications will continue to be accepted until March 30, subject to availability of funds.

In addition to being in a food desert (online search available at www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas), store owners applying for funding under HFSRP must meet the following criteria:

- Accept or agree to accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits;
- Accept or agree to apply to accept Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) benefits;
- Have no more than 3,000 square feet of heated floor space;
- Be established as a for-profit business at time of application; and
- Have not previously received HFSRP funds.

Interested store owners can find more information about the program and download an application at www.ncagr.gov/HealthyRetailer. In addition, store owners may call 919-707-3173 or email HealthyRetailer@ncagr.gov for more information.

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Seafood Buffet & Menu Items

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Sunday Country Lunch

Buffet 11:30-4

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COMMUNITY MEDICAL, PA OF MARSHVILLE

Community Medical, PA of Marshville and Dr. Gary Henry would like to announce the addition of Brandi Thomas, FNP-C, Family Nurse Practitioner to the practice.

As a Union County native, Brandi looks forward to meeting the healthcare needs of her community. Dr. Henry will continue to serve his community, providing the same quality care he has for over 26 years.

Brandi's background is in primary care, chronic disease management, diabetes management/education, hypertension, long term care and aesthetics. She is a Business Management graduate of Wingate University, and has a Masters in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner from UNCC.

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Dr. Gary Henry



Brandi S. Thomas, FNP-C

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