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

# School Board Meeting is February 24

The Anson County Board of Education will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 27.

The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road

Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters related to personnel and property pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11(a)(6) and NCGS 143.318.11(a)(5). Open Session to the public will begin at 6:00 p.m.

If the public wishes to sign up for public comment, they can sign up in-person. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting begins for any individual or group to indicate their desire to address the board. Public comment will be held during the Open Session portion of the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will be live streamed on the Anson Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. To find the channel you can search YouTube for "Anson County Schools."

## Mobile Food Market is Thursday

The next Anson Mobile Food Market will be held this Thursday, February 20, starting at 4:00 p.m. at Elderly Services / Wadesboro Elementary School, located at 321 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

Food will be given away, including fresh vegetables, fruit and bread (if available). There will be blood pressure and blood sugar checks, along with other healthy living This free event offers citizens of Anson County six to

eight different types of fresh produce monthly. This is a free initiative, so please come and get some produce. Nothing is required to receive produce, just come. The event is sponsored by the Anson County Extension

This event is to assist in the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in the county. It will also serve as an educational event to offer education on the two targeted areas of the county health assessment which are tobacco use and hypertension. Agencies will be set up offering services and information in those two targeted areas.

#### **Beekeepers Meet February 25**

The Anson County Beekeepers will hold their regular bee meeting on Tuesday, February 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Anson County Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro.

No meal will be served. This bee meeting is about spring preparations and observations, and the ongoing honeybee

There will also be 50-50 drawings to help and earn funds for the association. If you are able to bring some items for the drawings they will be greatly appreciated.

Not a member but would like to learn more about the ocal chapter and beekeeping educational programs? Do you need a beekeeper to re-home a visiting swarm? Visit the "Anson County Beekeepers Association" Facebook page for more information.

## **Seize Your Business Opportunities in 2025** with South Piedmont Community **Colleges's Small Business Center**

This is a release from South Piedmont Community College: The Small Business Center at South Piedmont Community College wants to be your partner in success. 2025 is brimming with possibilities, and we want to

ensure you make the most of every opportunity. Whether you're dreaming of starting a new venture, aiming for business growth, or contemplating a reinvention, now is the perfect time to take action. Together, let's turn your aspirations into accomplishments and make this year your most successful yet. Training: www.ncsbc.net | Counseling & Premier

Mastermind Group: spcc.edu/small-business-center/mastermind-group

**Úpcoming Small Business Webinars** (Info & register

at www.ncsbc.net, click on "Training" and click on "South Piedmont Small Business Center" in the dropdown menu) • February **24** - Launch Unison, 6-8:45pm. 11

- sessions ending Monday, May 19. Topic: Start-up Assistance. Location: SPCC Small Business Center Tyson Family Center for Technology
- February 25 Tech Talks Round Table for Small Business Owners, 10:00am-12:00 noon. Topic: Technology. Location: Online Online Facilitated by South Piedmont Small Business
- February 26 Business Mastermind, 9:30am-
- 1:30pm. Topic: Managing a Business. Location: SPCC Small Business Center Tyson Family Center for Technology February 26 - Developing a Business Plan,
- 5:30-7:00pm. Topic: Start-up Assistance. Location: Union County Library March 4 - Federal Funds to Support Your New
- **Innovation and Technology Development**, 1:00-4:00pm. Location: South Piedmont Small Business Center Tyson Family Center for Technology March 6 - Productivity Tools for Business Owners,
- 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Technology. Location: Online
- March 12 Launching Your Dream: Steps to Startup, 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Start-up Assistance. Location: Online
- March 19 From Vision to Action: Developing a Business Plan, 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Business Basics. Location: Online
- March 20 Cybersecurity Basics for Small Business Owners, 6:00-7:30pm. Topic: Technology.

Location: Online

 March 25 - Tech Talks Round Table for Small Business Owners, 10:00am-12:00 noon. Topic: Technology. Location: Online



Pictured above at the 4-H Leaders Conference are, from left, Leslie Smith, Kimberly Smith, Addie Richardson, Carrissima Martin, Betty Garris and Hannah Dunlap.

4-H Volunteer Leaders Conference in Greensboro

#### Betty Garris was inducted as South Central District Vice President

From Friday, January 31 to Sunday, February 2, 4-H volunteers from across the state gathered in Greensboro for the Annual Volunteer Leaders Conference. This event allowed volunteers to attend workshops, share ideas, and be recognized for their work with 4-H. Volunteers participated in workshops on youth development, arts and crafts, electric projects, and more. On Saturday evening, there was a formal dinner and awards banquet. The event wrapped up on Sunday with the installation of district and state officers.

Betty Garris, representing the Anson County Volunteers Association, was elected Vice President of the South-Central District. Anson County volunteers who attended included Kim Bennett, Hannah Dunlap, Betty Garris, Carrissima Martin, Addie Richardson, and Leslie Smith.

4-H participation is open to all youth regardless of sex, race, religion or national origin. For more information about 4-H in Anson County, contact Samuel Cole, Jr. 4-H Agent at 704-694-2915.

# Your Future Starts Now: Discover 49erNext

Exciting news! It's now possible for South Piedmont Community College graduates to get guaranteed admission to UNC Charlotte. Beginning in fall 2025, South Piedmont students can sign up to participate in 49erNext, a program designed to prepare you for transfer to UNC Charlotte.

To be eligible to participate in 49erNext, all you have to do is: Be pursuing an Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Engineering,

- Associate in Fine Arts, Associate in Arts-Teacher Prep, or Associate in Science-Teacher Prep degree. • Have earned 15 or fewer credit hours from South Piedmont at the time that you sign
- up for 49erNext. Must intend to pursue a major offered at UNC Charlotte, with the exception of
- architecture, fine or performing arts, graphic design, and nursing. Why 49erNext? Why should you sign up for 49erNext? Because you'll receive

collaborative advising from both South Piedmont and UNC Charlotte, as well as early advising and registration at UNC Charlotte, plus support from UNC Charlotte during the admissions and financial aid processes. But the biggest reason? 49erNext is proven to prepare students for success at UNC Charlotte. Sixty-five percent of 49erNext students graduate within two years of

transferring -- that's 26.5 percent higher than other transfer students. 49erNext students also graduate at higher rates than other transfer students. Ready to Get Started? UNC Charlotte is one of South Piedmont's top transfer

destinations, and they're proud to offer 49erNext to their students. Learn more about 49erNext at: spcc.edu 49erNext.

# **Wildlife Commission Hosts Public Forums** on Potential Conservation Access Pass for Non-Hunters

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) invites the public to attend upcoming forums to discuss implementation of a Conservation Access Pass (ncwildlife.org/conservation-access-pass) currently under consideration. It would grant individuals who do not possess a NCWRC-issued hunting, fishing or trapping license, access to and use of NCWRC property, including: Over 2 million acres of game lands; Five NCWRC owned and managed shooting ranges; Over 250 Boating Access areas (BAAs) to more than 100 bodies of water for non-registered vessel owners. Four public forums, three in-person and one virtual, will be held where staff will provide

information and answer questions about what is being considered, as well as gather public input and opinions to inform the Commission's decision. **Public Forum Information** 

• Thur. Feb. 20, 7–9 p.m. Location: Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College

- Fernihurst Dr., Asheville, NC. Room: Ferguson Auditorium • Tues. Feb. 25, 7–9 p.m. Location: Pitt Community College, 169 Bulldog Run, Winterville • Wed. Feb. 26, 7-9 p.m. Location: Guilford Technical Community College, 3505 E.
- Wendover Avenue, Greensboro. Room: 152 AB Combined, W2 Ground Floor • Tues. March 4, 6-8 p.m. Virtual Webinar via Zoom. Register to Attend at
- ncwildlife.org/conservation-access-pass. The virtual forum will be recorded and posted to NCWRC's YouTube channel.

Comments and questions may be submitted online. For more information visit newildlife.org/conservation-access-pass.

**Nominations Sought for Business Scholarship** 

The 2025 Herter-O'Neal Scholarship is currently taking applications from current and enrolling college students pursuing an Associate or Bachelor's degree in business or a business-related field. A \$750 scholarship is awarded each year to honor the work and dedication of Edith Herter and Frances O'Neal, who in 1973 formed the North Carolina

Cooperative Extension Administrative Professionals Association (NCCEAPA). The Association is made up of support personnel for NC Cooperative Extension, District Administrative Associates, and NC State University and NC A&T University. Together, they perform community service projects and promote the efforts of NC Cooperative

Applicants must be a legal resident of North Carolina. Funds are paid directly to the college rather than to the individual and can be withdrawn to cover tuition and/or books.

All eligible applicants will be considered. To apply pick up an application packet from the Financial Aid Office at your school or email Aimee Colf at aimee\_colf@ncsu.edu at the Anson County Cooperative Extension

Center at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. Applications are due to Anson Cooperative Extension by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 17, 2025.

#### **Mobile Dental** Coming to the **Health Dept.** February 28

Anson Regional Medical Services (ARMS) Mobile Dental Unit will be at the Anson County Health Department on Friday, Feb. 28, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Services available are: dental exams; varnish; Head Start screenings - all for no charge. Also, you will receive a gift bag from ARMS when you receive a mobile

dental service. The Health Department is located at 110 East Ashe Street in Wadesboro.

The telephone number is 704-694-5188.

Looking for a dentist? ARMS is accepting new patients of all ages. For information call ARMS at 704-694-6700.

## Chair Exercise Classes at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library is hosting a chair exercise class on Thursday, February 27. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. in the library's Pritchett Room. Everyone is Any questions please call

704-694-5177.

Bluegrass

### **Accoustic Music** Jam at the Library The Hampton B. Allen

Library will host a bluegrass acoustic music jam on Thursday, February 27, 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. in the Little Theater. Musicians, singers and spectators are welcome. Jam sessions are open to all age levels and skill levels. Children age 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. If you have any questions please contact Dianne or

Caroline at the library, 704-694-5177. You may also contact event volunteer Randy Collins at 336-430-6318 (call or text) or at vaguitar@msn.com.