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Spring Litter Sweep Returns Across North Carolina

Volunteers encouraged to grab bags, gloves and help clean up

With spring in full swing, the N.C. Department of Transportation is once again calling on residents to lend a hand — and maybe a trash bag or two — during the 2026 Spring Litter Sweep. The biannual cleanup effort will take place April 11 through April 25, giving communities across the state an opportunity to freshen up roadsides and public spaces after the winter months. “This year, we’re focusing on the basics,” said Jeremy Goodwin, NCDOT roadside environmental engineer. “It’s about volunteers showing up with gloves and bags, working together and taking pride in their communities. When people come together to do something simple, like picking up litter along the roads, it makes a big difference — not just for the appearance of our highways, but for everyone who uses them every day.”

Each spring and fall, NCDOT crews dedicate a full week to collecting litter along North Carolina’s roadways, helping make communities cleaner, safer and more welcoming. But officials say the real impact comes when volunteers join in. Residents, civic groups, schools and churches are all encouraged to participate. Volunteers can request free cleanup supplies — including gloves, safety vests and trash bags — through their local NCDOT county maintenance office. In Anson County contact Tiffanie Mullis at 704-218-5100 or the Maintenance Office for supplies at (980) 575-6100. Organizers say the concept is simple: show up, pitch in and leave things better than you found them. No special skills required — just a willingness to help and maybe a little appreciation for a good before-and-after transformation. For more information, visit ncdot.gov/littersweep and share cleanup efforts on social media using #LitterSweepNC.

Hinson Family to Perform at Hampton B. Allen Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library will host a special musical program on Monday, April 13 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theater, featuring the talents of the Hinson family. Guest performers will include Jim Hinson and his daughters, Sherry Hinson Couch and Dana Hinson Smith, who will share a morning of music showcasing their voices and musical abilities. The program promises an enjoyable blend of family harmony and local talent in a welcoming setting. Everyone is invited to attend, bring a friend and enjoy a relaxing morning of music with this talented family.

Former Anson Sheriff Tommy Allen Will Discuss His New Book and Share Stories at the Marshville Museum

If you’ve ever wondered what really happens behind the scenes in a sheriff’s department, former Anson County Sheriff Tommy Allen is ready to share — with a few laughs along the way. Allen, who served 28 years as sheriff in Anson County, has authored a new book titled “Beyond the Badge: The Lighter Side of Law Enforcement.” The book offers a collection of stories and experiences from his time in office, highlighting moments that are as humorous as they are memorable. He will be the featured speaker at the Marshville Museum and Cultural Center on Sunday, April 19, at 2:00 p.m., where he will talk about his career and some of the stories featured in the book. Organizers say the event is expected to draw a strong crowd, and attendees are encouraged to arrive early to secure a seat. Admission is free. The Marshville Museum and Cultural Center is located at 201 North Elm Street in Marshville, and is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., as well as by appointment and during special events. The museum is closed on all national holidays. Information about upcoming programs and events is shared by email, on Facebook and on the museum’s website at www.mmcc1893.com.

SPCC to Host Spring Fling and NC SciFest on April 28

South Piedmont Community College is gearing up for a lively mix of science, entertainment and good old-fashioned fun as it hosts its annual Spring Fling in partnership with NC SciFest on Monday, April 28, at the Old Charlotte Highway Campus. The combined event promises something for just about everyone, blending hands-on science activities with games, entertainment, a dunk tank (always a crowd favorite when volunteers get a little too confident), and a lineup of food vendors ready to keep attendees fueled for the day. Adding a bit of star power to the festivities, WBTV meteorologists Rachel Coulter and Lisa Villegas will be on hand as part of the NC SciFest programming, offering insights into the science of weather — and perhaps confirming whether the forecast includes a 100% chance of fun. Dr. Alen Doty, director of Student Life, Engagement, and Leadership, said the event is a shining example of student initiative in action. “I’m really proud of these students because they planned and carried out this entire event themselves,” Doty said. “They worked incredibly hard and showed strong leadership skills to turn their ideas into something real that benefits the entire student body.” Dr. Rebecca Berry, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, said combining the two events creates a more dynamic experience. “By joining Spring Fling with NC SciFest, we’re giving attendees the opportunity to explore science and meet experts in the field, all while enjoying an exciting campus experience,” she said. The event is open to the public, and community members, students and families are encouraged to attend — whether for the science, the snacks or the chance to see someone take an unexpected plunge into the dunk tank. For more information and to register, visit events.spcc.edu/event/spcc.events.1579358 for NC SciFest info & events.spcc.edu/event/spcc.events.668156 for Spring Fling info.

Homes of Hope Spring Bazaar & Craft Show Set for May 2

Anson County Homes of Hope is bringing color, creativity and community spirit together this spring with its Spring Bazaar & Craft Show, scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lockhart Taylor Center in Wadesboro. The day promises fun, shopping and fellowship as local artisans and crafters showcase unique handmade gifts and specialty products. Guests can browse one-of-a-kind items, enjoy delicious food trucks and sweet treats, and soak in a welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere designed to celebrate community connection. Organizers are currently seeking vendors and food trucks to make this year’s event bigger and better than ever. Spaces are available for just \$50 per 8-foot table. Businesses, entrepreneurs and community organizations are encouraged to reserve a spot and take advantage of a lively crowd eager to shop local and support area causes. To reserve vendor space or obtain more information, call 704-465-2437 or call/text 704-668-4952 or 704-451-6825. **Sponsors** In addition to vendors, event organizers are also seeking sponsors to help support the mission of Anson County Homes of Hope. Sponsorship opportunities are available at multiple levels to fit businesses and individuals who want to make an impact. **Sponsor Levels:** Platinum \$1,000; Gold \$750; Silver \$500, Bronze \$250; Patron \$100. For questions, please call 704-465-2437. Don’t miss this exciting community event to promote your business, campaign, or “YOU!” - bring your family, invite your friends, and support local and Anson County Homes of Hope!



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Don't miss this exciting community event - bring your family, invite your friends, and support local!

FEDERAL PROJECT PUBLIC NOTICE

The Anson County School System annually receives funds from the federal government through the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction sanctioned for assistance in meeting the needs of economically disadvantaged students, technology learning needs of students, children with special needs, and for children in local institutions for neglected or delinquent children. The school system is in the process of reapplying for funds and amending these programs for the 2026-2027 school year.

These programs include Title I (Compensatory Education/ESEA Basic Education Program), Title II (Improving Teacher Quality), Title II, Part D (Enhancing Education through Technology), Title IV (Student Support and Academic Enrichment), Title V (Abstinence Education Program), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446) Project.

Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments and/or revisions to these projects and make comments concerning the implementation of these Federal Programs. All comments will be considered prior to submission of these amended projects to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The projects are open to the public for review and comments during the week of April 20 - 24, 2026, in the offices of Dr. Toni Warrick – Director of Human Resources & Federal Programs, Dr. Mary Ratliff - Director of Student Services, and Lynn Gardelle - Director of the Exceptional Children Program, located at 320 Camden Road, Wadesboro, NC 28170. Review of the project documents will require supervision by appropriate school personnel as delegated by the school system’s superintendent and/or his designee.

There will be a planning meeting with interested stakeholders on April 29, 2026, at 10 a.m. This meeting is to address the federal program plans and discuss proportionate share and equitable services for the 2026-2027 school year. The meeting will be held in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center at the School Board Office located off White Store Road. Please address questions to the offices of Dr. Toni Warrick – Director of Human Resource & Federal Programs, (704)694-4417, extension 1100, Dr. Mary Ratliff - Director of Student Services, (704)694-4417, extension 1904, and Lynn Gardelle – Director of the Exceptional Children Program, (704)694-4417, extension 1700.

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