

Join the Bowman High School Class of 1976 50th Reunion

Reflect, reconnect, rejoice with your classmates for the Bowman High School Class of 1976 50th Reunion on Saturday, June 13. The event will be held in the Lockhart-Taylor Center located at 514 North Washington Street in Wadesboro.

Please join us for an elegant black-tie affair with dinner, dancing, live music, fun, games and photos!

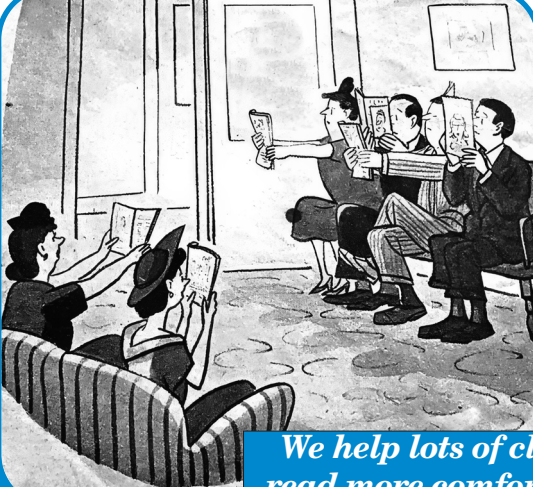
Cost is \$75 per classmate and \$50 per guest. Make checks payable to:

Bowman High School Class of 1976, PO Box 108, Wadesboro, NC 28170. Also you can use the QR code or call 704-695-4968 with any questions you may have.

50 years is certainly worth celebrating!

Come share in the excitement and party like it's 1976!

See the Bowman High School Class of 1976 page on facebook for more details.



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Christmas in July Event Offers Vaccines, Physicals, Family Fun and Lots More!

Health department combines back-to-school needs with a festive twist

The Anson County Health Department is bringing a little holiday cheer to the middle of summer with its upcoming "Christmas in July" Immunization Party, offering back-to-school vaccines, sports physicals and family-friendly activities all in one stop.

The event is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Health Department, located at 110 Ashe Street in Wadesboro.

Designed with both health and convenience in mind, the event aims to ensure children receive required and recommended immunizations before the school year begins - helping families avoid the last-minute scramble (and those dreaded "you can't start school yet" surprises).

Students and families can take care of important back-to-school requirements, including vaccinations and sports physicals, which will be offered for \$25.

Walk-ins are welcome, and organizers promise fast and easy service.

In addition to medical services, the event will feature free school supplies, refreshments, educational resources and even photos with Santa - who appears to be swapping snow boots for flip-flops, at least for the day.

Health officials say the goal is not only to keep children healthy, but also to create a welcoming environment that connects families with valuable community resources.

To help make the event a success, the health department is reaching out to local businesses and community partners for support. Donations will be used to provide school supplies, snacks, goody bags and educational materials for families attending the event. Officials say contributions of any kind are welcome and will directly benefit children across the county.

Those interested in supporting the initiative or seeking more information can contact Claretta Little, Immunization Nurse, at 704-694-5188. Monetary donations may be made to the Anson County Health Department at 110 East Ashe Street in Wadesboro, while donated supplies can be delivered to the department's attention.

Health Director Brian Ellerby expressed appreciation for the community's continued support, noting that efforts like this help ensure every child begins the school year healthy, prepared and ready to succeed.

Polkton Woman Plans to Buy House After \$1 Million Lottery Win

Some people buy lottery tickets for fun. Others buy them with a dream.

Kimberly Staton of Polkton bought hers with confidence - the kind of confidence that says, "Yep, today might be my millionaire day."

As it turns out, she was right.

Staton recently won a \$1 million top prize on a \$30 MAX-A-MILLION scratch-off ticket, proving once again that sometimes lightning really does strike - usually when you least expect it and while standing in line at a convenience store.

"I've always said I was going to win one of those million-dollar prizes," Staton said. "I felt like it was for me."

She purchased the lucky ticket at the 7-Eleven on Unionville Indian Trail Road West in Indian Trail. After scratching the ticket and realizing she had just become dramatically more popular among friends and relatives, Staton immediately shared the news.

"I told everybody I work with," she laughed.

When Staton arrived Friday at lottery headquarters, she faced the kind of difficult life decision most people would gladly volunteer to help with: take the prize as \$50,000 a year over 20 years or accept a lump sum of \$600,000.

She chose the lump sum.

After required federal and state tax withholdings, Staton took home \$432,068 - still enough to make checking the mailbox a lot more enjoyable.

She said she plans to use her winnings to buy a house - proving that, at least for one lucky Anson County resident, the path to homeownership started with a scratch-off ticket instead of a 30-year mortgage.

The MAX-A-MILLION game debuted in March 2025 with 25 top prizes of \$1 million and 10 prizes of \$100,000. According to the N.C. Education Lottery, 13 of the \$1 million prizes and six \$100,000 prizes still remain to be claimed.

Lottery officials also noted that money raised through the lottery has benefited Anson County schools. The state has provided more than \$28 million in grants to help build a new middle school in Anson County.

For more information on how lottery funds are used across the state, visit www.nclottery.com and click on the "Impact" section.

Bluegrass Jam Session at Hampton B. Allen Library

If your idea of a good Thursday evening includes banjos, fiddles, guitars and at least one instrument that may or may not still be fully in tune, the Hampton B. Allen Library has you covered. The library's next Bluegrass Acoustic Set will take place Thursday, May 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Little Theater at Hampton B. Allen Library.

The jam sessions welcome musicians, singers and listeners of all ages and experience levels. Organizers say everyone is invited - from seasoned pickers who can play a fiddle solo at the speed of light to beginners still trying to remember whether the mandolin has four strings or forty-seven.

Audience members are also encouraged to attend and enjoy an evening of traditional bluegrass music, spontaneous harmonies and the occasional musical "creative interpretation" that somehow still works out in the end.

The popular gatherings have become known for their relaxed atmosphere, community spirit and the comforting realization that bluegrass musicians can somehow play three different songs at once and still end together on the same chord.

Children ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call the library at 704-694-5177.

Anson Correctional in Polkton is Recommended for National Accreditation

Anson Correctional Institution in Polkton has earned high marks from the American Correctional Association, with auditors recommending the prison receive ACA accreditation following a three-day inspection process.

In other words, the local "slammer" appears to be running with impressive precision - which is probably exactly what you want from a correctional facility.

According to the N.C. Department of Adult Correction, ACA auditors found that Anson Correctional Institution met 100 percent of mandatory standards and 98.7 percent of non-mandatory standards during inspections conducted May 4-6. The ACA Commission on Accreditation for Corrections will make the final decision on formal accreditation at a future meeting.

Anson Correctional becomes the 57th facility or operation within the N.C. Department of Adult Correction to either receive or be recommended for ACA accreditation as the state continues working toward accreditation for all facilities statewide.

"This achievement reflects the dedication and high standards that our staff consistently upholds. I am very proud of them," said Warden Carol Torres. "I also want to thank the leadership of NCDAC and the Central Region, as well as our department accreditation and compliance specialists, for all the support and guidance they've provided throughout this process."

Anson Correctional houses approximately 1,200 women in close and medium custody and offers educational and vocational opportunities ranging from high school equivalency programs to construction trades apprenticeships.

The accreditation process involved auditors spending three days inspecting the facility, reviewing policies and procedures, evaluating operations and ensuring standards were being met throughout the institution.

ACA officials say the performance-based standards are designed to improve safety, strengthen records management, support staff morale and enhance overall facility operations.

It may not be the kind of report card anyone rushes home to put on the refrigerator, but correctional officials say the recommendation reflects years of work aimed at maintaining professional standards and safe operations at the Polkton facility.

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