

Obituaries

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Wadesboro, Delores Tucker, Harold Adams (Sissy), William Adams (Pat) and Delbert Adams, all of Chesterfield and her nieces and nephews and their families.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Luther Franklin “Frank” Trexler, Jr. and by her sister, Veda Godwin.

The family is most grateful to Gentiva Hospice of Chesterfield for the loving manner in which they assisted them with care for Phyllis and they suggest in lieu of flowers, to make memorials to them at 205 E. Main St., Chesterfield, SC 29709.

Phyllis’ wishes were to be cremated and have no public service.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home and online condolences may

Mrs. Phyllis Adams Trexler

On Saturday, June 27, 2026, Mrs. Phyllis Adams Trexler, 78, passed away peacefully at her home.

Phyllis was born July 4, 1947, in Chesterfield County, SC and was a daughter of the late Perry C. Adams and the late Ruth Arie Hancock Adams. She worked for many years in textiles and retired from Bo-Buck Mills in Chesterfield.

Following retirement, she and two of her best friends, Peggy Chewning and Betty Stafford owned and operated Crazy Ladies Greenhouse in Morven because of their love for gardening and flowers.

Phyllis dearly loved her children and grandchildren, and family was the most important thing in her life. She was a gifted crafter and often arranged flowers and made Christmas trees out of tomato cages.

Those who are left to cherish her memory are her children, Diana Gardner (Johnnie) of Chesterfield and Frankie Trexler, III of Ruby, SC; her daughter-in-law, Patricia Trexler of Morven; her grandchildren, Justin Williams (Leslie) of Chesterfield, Aerial Trexler (Brandon) of Patrick, SC and Jordan Trexler of Cheraw, SC; her great-grandchildren, Maverick Williams, Rylee Freeman, Fynlee Freeman, Brandon Freeman, JR., and Blaize McBride; her sisters and brothers, Judy Stokes of Florence, SC, Betty Ray of

You Decide: How Good is the Job Market?

The job market is one of the best indicators of the economy's overall health because it reflects both the strength of businesses and the financial well-being of households. When companies are hiring, the economy is generally expanding, and for most families, employment income is the foundation of financial security.

Looking at North Carolina's job market from 2021 through mid-2026, the state has performed exceptionally well. During that period, more than 500,000 jobs were added, an increase of about 11 percent. That growth outpaced the national average and ranked North Carolina among the top five states for percentage job growth. The state's unemployment rate has also remained consistently below the national average.

North Carolina workers still earn somewhat less than the national average, with weekly wages about 9 percent lower. However, because the state's cost of living is approximately 6.5 percent below the national average, those earnings stretch farther. After accounting for the lower cost of living, the difference in weekly earnings shrinks to only about 2.5 percent.

Inflation has been one of the nation's biggest economic challenges over the past five years, but the South has generally experienced lower inflation than the country as a whole. That has benefited North Carolina workers because wage increases have been more likely to keep pace with rising prices than in many other parts of the nation.

North Carolina's economy has also continued its long-term transformation. Once dominated by textiles, furniture and tobacco manufacturing, the state has evolved into a leader in technology, pharmaceutical manufacturing, tourism, hospitality and professional services. While employment in traditional manufacturing has continued to decline, newer industries have continued adding jobs. Technology, particularly the rapidly expanding field of artificial intelligence, has become an increasingly important source of employment.

Overall, the state's job market remains healthy despite challenges such as tariffs and higher energy costs. Hiring continues, and North Carolina's economy continues to outperform much of the nation.

Looking ahead, however, artificial intelligence presents both opportunities and uncertainty. Experts generally agree that AI will require many workers to develop new skills and adapt to changing job responsibilities. At the same time, AI is expected to create new occupations while also replacing some existing jobs. Whether the technology ultimately results in a net gain or loss of jobs remains an open question.

North Carolina's job market has posted an impressive record in recent years, but as with every economy, change is inevitable. The state's ability to adapt to new technologies and shifting economic conditions will determine whether its strong employment performance continues in the years ahead.

Mike Walden is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor Emeritus at North Carolina State University.

July 4th Celebrates America's Independence

Holiday honors the birth of the United States and the freedoms it represents

Communities across the nation will celebrate Independence Day on Saturday, July 4, with parades, cookouts, fireworks, family gatherings and patriotic ceremonies honoring the birth of the United States.

The holiday commemorates July 4, 1776, when the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, formally announcing that the 13 American colonies were free from British rule. Drafted primarily by Thomas Jefferson, the document declared that all people are created equal and are endowed with the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Although the Revolutionary War continued for several years after the Declaration was signed, July 4 became the symbolic birthday of the United States and has been celebrated for nearly 250 years.

Many of the traditions associated with Independence Day date back to the nation's earliest years. Public readings of the Declaration of Independence, patriotic music, military tributes, picnics and fireworks have long been part of the celebration.

Fireworks remain one of the holiday's most recognizable traditions, symbolizing the celebrations that followed the nation's first Independence Day.

As families gather to celebrate this year, public safety officials are encouraging everyone to enjoy the holiday responsibly. Motorists are urged to buckle up, avoid distracted driving and never drive while impaired. Those using fireworks should follow all safety instructions, keep a water source nearby and closely supervise children around sparklers and other fireworks.

Beyond the festivities, Independence Day serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by generations of Americans who defended the nation's freedoms. It is a day to reflect on the country's history, honor those who have served in the armed forces and appreciate the liberties that continue to shape the United States.

Whether spending the day with family, attending a community celebration or watching fireworks light up the night sky, July 4 is an opportunity for Americans to celebrate both the nation's history and its enduring spirit of freedom.

Library Invites the Community to July Music Jams

The Hampton B. Allen Library will continue its popular Music Jam sessions in July, inviting musicians, singers and music lovers of all ages to enjoy an evening of bluegrass and acoustic music.

The gatherings will be held on Thursday, July 9, and Thursday, July 23, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the library's Little Theater.

The Music Jam is open to musicians of all skill levels, from beginners to experienced performers.

Commissioners Meet July 7

The first July meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners takes place on Tuesday, July 7 at 6 p.m.

The second July meeting takes place on Tuesday, July 21 at 6 p.m.

Meetings take place in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center, located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro.

To schedule an appearance at a board meeting, please sign up prior to the meeting. Information is available at 704-994-3201.

The Commissioners' board meetings are live streamed on their YouTube channel. Also, the videos are archived so they can be viewed at any time. Visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for Anson Commissioners.



ANSON COMMUNITY HOSPICE

Forty Years of Caring for Our Community

Anson Community Hospice is a division of Richmond County Hospice, Inc which has been providing care to our community for over 40 years now.

We are committed to excellence in hospice care and an emphasis on quality is our hallmark.

**AS A PATIENT, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE YOUR HOSPICE PROVIDER.
WHY CHOOSE US? HERE ARE A FEW CHARACTERISTICS THAT DISTINGUISH OUR CARE:**

- **Simple referral process** Simply call our office and speak to our intake department or on-call team 24 hours a day to make a referral. Our competent staff will explain our care and guide you through the referral process.
- **Quick turnaround time from referral to admission** Pending physician approval, timely admission is possible and can occur in less than 24 hours, as requested.
- **Full-time medical providers** We have an M.D. and Nurse Practitioner on our staff for medical oversight and assistance night or day.
- **We boast a 5-star rating through Centers for Medicaid and Medicare which is indicative of our quality care.**
- **General inpatient center (Hospice Haven) located in Richmond County for acute symptom management needs and respite stays.**
- **Proud to remain an INDEPENDENT and NON-PROFIT provider of hospice care.**
- **Hearts of compassion in action** Our competent staff display love and compassion in all that they do. This is more than just a job; it is a calling!

We want to introduce some of our team members that you may encounter throughout Anson County. We have a newly appointed Director of Development, Jessica Mims.

Jessica began her hospice career with us in 2011 as a homecare social worker, before her promotion to the Director of Family Services in 2014. She brings extensive experience in the areas of fundraising, grant writing, and educational outreach to her new role which she began in February 2026. She is happy to discuss opportunities to support our mission or to offer education on our services. Please call her today at (704) 695-1595 to learn more about these areas.



Jessica Mims, BSW, CHP-SW
Director of Development

Additionally, you may encounter our care team assigned to provide care to our Anson patients:



Erica Armstrong, NA I
Hospice Aide



Marla Barbee, BA
Homecare Social Worker



Natalie Barbour, RN
BSW, BSN Homecare



Paula Daigle, MDIV
Chaplain



Susan McDonald, FNP-D
Nurse Practitioner



Regina Smith, NA I
Hospice Aide

These dedicated, compassionate employees are ready to provide support to those in need of our care.

In the words of Rachel Joy Scott, “Compassion is the greatest form of love humanity has to offer.”

If you or a loved one would like more information on our services, please call us today at (704) 695-1595.

Anson Community Hospice, a name you can trust. ASK for us BY NAME!

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