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

Former Anson County Chamber of Commerce President Arrested

On Wednesday, March 15, 2023, Wadesboro Police Chief T. L. Spencer requested the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) investigate allegations of embezzlement involving fraudulent transactions, including unauthorized use of an Anson County Chamber of Commerce debit card and using fraudulent checks to withdraw cash from the Chamber accounts for personal use.



Shelby Emrich

On Wednesday, July 26 SBI agents with the Southern Piedmont District office arrested former President and Chief Executive Officer of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce, Shelby Emrich, 47. Emrich turned herself in at the Anson County Jail.

Emrich was charged with 29 counts of embezzlement. After going before a magistrate, she was issued a \$29,000 secured bond.

Statement from the Anson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

The Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors issued the following release on July 27 in reference to the arrest of Shelby Emrich: Good afternoon from the Anson County Chamber of Commerce Board, As many of our members and citizens are already aware, yesterday the former President of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce was arrested after an exhaustive investigation conducted by the NC State Bureau of Investigation. The Board of Directors would like to thank the SBI for their diligence in bringing these charges to bear, and we look forward to this issue coming to its final resolution through the judicial process.

In the months since our initial internal investigation brought these concerns to light, the Board has worked tirelessly to ensure that the Chamber's mission and purpose continue to move forward. The community has shown us nothing but kindness and support, and for that we thank all of you. With your support, our efforts to continue serving you with excellence have already materialized through new members, successful networking and learning events, community-focused fundraisers, and multiple ribbon-cuttings.

Our goal is to learn and grow from this experience, providing our members the highest value of return. Soon we will be advertising for and hiring a new President to begin this next chapter, and we ask for your continued support and patience throughout this process. The next several months will be busy for the Chamber - from the Kid's Expo event in August, our Chamber on the Half-Shell oyster roast in September, YP Anson's Day of Sharing in October, to the Big Game Hunt Tournament in November. Information can be found on our Facebook page, newsletter, or by contacting one of our Board members. We look forward to seeing you there! Sincerely, Board of Directors, Anson County Chamber of Commerce

Deoveon Byrd and Antoine James Hall Arrested for 2021 Homicide

On Wednesday, July 26 Antoine James Hall was arrested after an extensive investigation into the homicide of 19 year old Masson Sanderson. Sanderson, the father of a young son, was killed on October 23, 2021, while traveling in the Morven area of Anson County.



Deoveon Byrd

On Tuesday, August 1 Deoveon Byrd was also arrested in the investigation.

"The suspects followed the victim to a remote area of the county and at that time, open fired on his vehicle," said Lt. Brian Tice shortly after the crime. "We believe two different weapons were used in this crime."



Antoine Hall

Sanderson graduated from Anson High School in 2021. According to his high school coach, Sanderson had opportunities to play college basketball. The Anson County Sheriff's Office and the State Bureau of Investigation continue to investigate this case. The Anson County Sheriff's Office gave special thanks to the Monroe Police Department's Violent Crimes Task Force for the location and apprehension of Hall.

18 Year Old Arrested in Saturday Night Shooting of Two People

On Saturday, July 29 at approximately 11:55 p.m. officers with the Wadesboro Police Department responded to a residence on West Wade Street for a disturbance with shots fired. Officers located two victims, both suffering serious but non-life-threatening injuries. The victims, whose names are being withheld, were transported to Atrium Health for treatment.

Officers were able to identify the suspect as 18 year old Tyveon Burch of Marshville. Burch was charged with two counts of Assault with a Deadly Weapon Inflicting Serious Injury. Burch was arrested on Sunday, July 30. He was given a \$100,000 secured bond and placed in the Anson County Jail. Burch's court date is August 8, 2023, in Anson County District Court.



Tyveon Burch

NCDOT Seeks Public Input

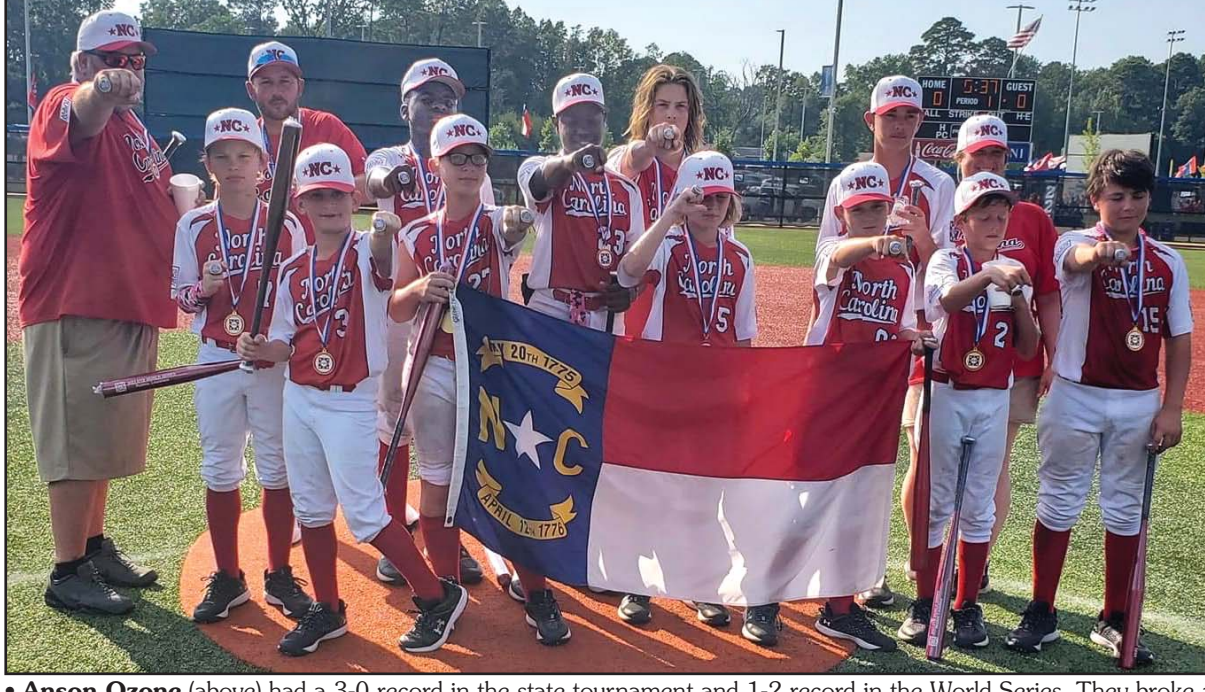
The N.C. Department of Transportation is beginning to evaluate projects for its next 10-year capital plan and wants the public to be involved. The State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) identifies construction and funding schedules for state transportation projects over a 10-year period. NCDOT is seeking project input for the STIP that will cover 2026-2035.

A 30-day public comment period will run from Aug. 1-31. The public can send in their comments and suggestions. More information on ways to provide feedback can be found on the STIP webpage (ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies). Please note that this comment period is not for maintenance-related projects, such as patching potholes, resurfacing, or ditches.

Anson County Youth Compete, Earn National Acclaim

The summer of 2023 has been huge for so many of our Anson County youth, their families and friends. Anson residents have been beaming with pride for our boys and girls who represented us with excellence, determination, grit, strength, and leadership while enjoying the national spotlight.

Dixie Youth Baseball The Anson Ozone and Anson Minors, two Dixie Youth Baseball (DYB) teams from the Field of Dreams, both played in the World Series in Ruston, Louisiana during the week of July 27-31.



• **Anson Ozone** (above) had a 3-0 record in the state tournament and 1-2 record in the World Series. They broke a Division 2 World Series record for most runs scored in an inning against the host team. Team members are David Cunningham, Brayden Conklin, Eli Williams, Noah Jones, Micah Carpenter, Gracin Pike, Austin Broom, Kaleb Martin, Josiah Wall, Cedric Ford and Bentley White. They are coached by Mike Jones, David Conklin and Mindy Pike.



• **Anson Minors** (above) had an 11-0 record, winning both District and State tournaments. They ended their run with a 3-2 record in the DYB World Series where they finished third overall. Team members are Reese Conklin, Jackson Bricker, John Neal Conklin, Jase Ratliff, Brandon Stansberry, Jacob Allen, Mason Coates, Aiden Sheppard, Caleb Randall, Drew Eckersley and Vann Eudy. They are coached by Kyle Eudy, Brian Allen and Neal Conklin.

King Elite Allstars (right) cheer squad competed in the Norcross Youth Athletic Association (NYAA) Nationals in Columbus, Ohio on July 24. Before heading to nationals they won their preliminary at Campbell University. This is their first national win in over 25 years.



Team members are Destinii Tanner, Chacoya Bivens, Zikeya Pratt, LaVayah Harvey, Kamryn Harrington, Ayanna Fisher, Jocelyn Parker, Jalia Crawford, Jazlyn Crawford and Karisma Bell. They are coached by Shannon Spencer Pickett, Reenay Sturdivant, Stacey Huntley and Quiette Grace.



Elin Lockhart (left) Elin Lockhart, an eighth grade student at Anson Middle School, competed at the University of Notre Dame in the US/World Baton Twirlin Championships (AYOP) on July 24-27. Elin returned as the age 12 Open Solo and Open 2-Baton Champion. She placed third in Open Strut, 9th in Open 3-Baton, finishing 12th overall in the National Pageant.

We are very proud of each of these athletes for representing Anson County and the state of North Carolina so admirably. Congratulations to all of you for a job well done. Keep up the good work.

Municipal Election Filings

The following people have filed to be candidates in the upcoming Municipal Elections to be held on Tuesday, November 7.

- ANSONVILLE**
 - **Mayor** - Angela (Tina) Caraway, Joe Estridge
 - **Council** - Mark Beloin, Sarah Burns, Denise Watkins Cannon, Jesse T. Huntley, Phyllis Watkins
- LILESVILLE**
 - **Mayor** - Bernice Bennett
 - **Commissioner** - Lewis Adams, Charles (Chuck) Cook, Christopher Harrington, Gaye Harrington, Randy Henry, John Montgomery, Hannah Spencer
- MCFARLAN**
 - **Mayor** - Diane Timmons
 - **Council** - Debbie Bryant, Michael Foster, Kim Gainey, Gene Harney, Jerry Wilson Timmons, Gail J. Whittington

- MORVEN**
 - **Mayor** - Marjorie Cole, Tim Watkins
 - **Council** - Tanya Chance, Corinthia Lewis Lemon, Alvis Snow
- PEACHLAND**
 - **Mayor** - Clint Davis
 - **Council** - Jeff Davis, Kaylin Blake Treadaway, Alex Xavier
- POLKTON**
 - **Mayor** - Myra Thomas Dalgleish, Cynthia Williams
 - **Commissioner** - Johnny Faulk, Laurin Francey, Russell Goodwin, Jimmy Hildreth, W. Clifton Martin III, Sissy Stegall, Bernard Sturdivant
- WADESBORO**
 - **Mayor** - John Ballard
 - **Council** - JoAnn Bennett, Ida Cason, Lewis Evans, Lawrence Parsons, Russell Sikes, Garrett Snuggs