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

Polkton Fun Day is Saturday

Looking for something fun to do? Come on out to Polkton Fun Day! It will be held this Saturday, September 9, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year's event features something for all ages. For the kids there will be free amusement rides, face painting and more!
For the adults there are numerous booths offering shopping and information. And, live music, including country, gospel, southern rock and jazz.
Come hungry...there will be LOTS of food and sweets to choose from!
The Town of Polkton hopes each of you will be "making tracks for a fun day at Polkton Fun Day!"

Anson County's July Unemployment Rate was 5.3%

Anson County's unemployment rate continued at a low number for July, 5.3%. Statewide the unemployment rate was 4.5% in July.
Anson's total labor force in July was 10,386. Of that number 9,837 were employed and 549 were unemployed. In June the total labor force was 10,435 with 9,906 employed and 529 unemployed.
Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 93 of North Carolina's counties in July, decreased in three, and remained unchanged in four. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.6 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.4 percent.
All 15 of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount at 6.6 percent had the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.6 percent. The July not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.5 percent.
When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased all 100 counties. All fifteen metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.
The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in July by 27,629 to 4,735,426, while those unemployed increased 13,772 to 221,461. Since July 2016, the number of workers employed statewide increased 88,758, while those unemployed decreased 35,696.

SPCC Is Seeking Your Input for New Strategic Plan

On Thursday, September 7, South Piedmont Community College will host the first of three listening sessions to gather the public's input as it develops a new multi-year Strategic Plan. The event will be held from 6 until 7:30 p.m. at the Lockhart-Taylor Center, located at 514 North Washington Street in Wadesboro.
SPCC invites everyone to bring their ideas about the college's programs, its support of the community and economic development efforts, and any other ideas or comments that could help SPCC prepare for a strong future.
Two additional sessions are scheduled for later in the month in Union County:
• September 14 at the Jesse Helms Center in Wingate, 6 to 7:30 p.m.
• September 27 at Carolinas Healthcare System Community Room in Waxhaw, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
For more information about the listening sessions or the college's strategic planning process, contact Jill Millard, SPCC's Associate Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, at jmillard@spcc.edu or (704) 290-5887.

Agri-Civic Center Public Input Meeting

Design for the new Anson Agri-Civic Center is now in progress, and as part of the process feedback is encouraged. To that end, the public is invited to a Public Input Meeting to be held Wednesday, September 13 at 2 p.m. at the Anson County Cooperative Extension Center on McLaurin Street in Wadesboro.
At that time representatives from HH Architecture will show preliminary site and building plans for the new Agri-Civic Center. Another similar meeting will be scheduled for later in the fall as an evening session once design is further developed.
For many years community groups and organizations have competed for meeting and event space in the county. What is available gets booked early leaving others to go out of the county for conference facilities.
Hearing and experiencing the community's need, the County of Anson embarked on discussion and planning towards construction of the new Anson Agri-Civic Center. Property was purchased for the site, and HH Architecture of Raleigh was contracted for architectural and site design.
The facility will house a large conference center with the ability to be broken into multiple smaller meeting rooms, the Cooperative Extension Offices, and additional space for ag offices.
If you would like to attend and hear about this exciting project please call the Extension Center at 704-694-2415 to register. This is an opportunity to learn about the facility and give input into its design.

Ag T-Shirts Are Here

Celebrate agriculture! And show your pride in Anson County's agricultural heritage by wearing a t-shirt that says so. Celebrating Anson County Agriculture t-shirts have arrived at the Cooperative Extension Center and are now available. Maroon shirts with blue print are \$8 for adult sizes small through three extra-large. Funds from the sale of shirts will go back into the cost of them. The project is not one to raise money, simply to promote agriculture.
Shirts are available at the Extension Center, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. They can be purchased Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon and 1 until 5 p.m. while supplies last. Celebrate Anson County agriculture!



Back to School Event Attracts 700 Attendees

This is a release from Harvest Ministries Outreach Center: On Saturday August 20 over 700 students and family members packed into the auditorium of Harvest Ministries for the annual Back to School Event. This year's event saw the partnership of various agencies and groups to make an even larger impact for Anson County and its students.
Prior to the event many volunteers donated school supplies, money, and time to ensure every child who attended would receive the materials listed by each school throughout the county. Wadesboro Walmart assisted in this year's endeavor, allowing event volunteers to set up and collect donations and supplies for two weekends.
Community leaders, local elected officials including Clerk of Court Mark Hammonds, pastors and educators from various Anson County schools attended the event and encouraged the crowd to have a successful upcoming school year. Anson County Sheriff Landric Reid also was on hand with the Shaundasia Smith "Stride with Pride" Shoe Drive, giving away hundreds of pairs of shoes to allow children to go back to school with pride. Anson County Partnership for Children staff were on hand to give a way free books to elementary aged kids as well. The Anson High School J.V. Cheerleaders were in attendance and energized the crowd with a few Bearcat Pride cheers. A special appearance by Dora the Explorer and SpongeBob Square Pants brought excitement as well.
Every child/student in attendance left with a brand new book bag packed with school supplies to prepare them for this year's education. In addition, three computer tablets were given away, cash prizes over \$100, Anson Bearcat t-shirts (donated by Northcutt Affordables of Wadesboro) and many other prizes. A total of 500 book bags were given away during the event!



The event opened in prayer by Harvest founder, Pastor Tim Adams. Pastor Steve Adams from Harvest Ministries and Commissioner Vancine Sturdivant and the dignitaries in attendance offered words of support and encouragement, telling all the students "Know your worth" and "Know who you are."
Commissioner Vancine Sturdivant shared, "For over 20 years through God, the support of my husband William Sturdivant, and dedicated citizens, Faith Based Center of Hope has supplied youth uniforms and school materials in order to prepare students for an education. Each year the needs get larger, and each year a way is made to accommodate everyone."
Sturdivant added, "Because of the generous, amazing and unconditional love and kindness of Senior Pastor/Founder Tim Adams and Lead Pastor Steve Adams of Harvest Ministries Outreach Center, this has been one of our best years."
Pastor Steve of Harvest added, "Together we can make a larger impact, together we can show unity, and together we can change for the better." To conclude the event, Pastor Steve Adams prayed for a successful school year and for the best year that Anson County Schools has ever had.
In addition to the 500 book bags given away, large boxes filled with school supplies and uniforms were delivered to every school in Anson County.
The organizers said, "We thank God for everyone who donated. Special thanks to everyone who played a part in this year's success. Very special thanks to Wal-Mart of Wadesboro, and all the associates for their help and commitment. To Anson County Schools, Superintendent Michael Freeman, and the School Bus Garage for bringing the school bus to pack. Event sponsors including: Poisson, Poisson and Bower, Ramsey Chapel, Garris Grove, Lilesville Council member Juanita Williams, Clerk of Court Mark Hammonds, Dr. Bobbi Little, Pastor Michael McLeod, Northcutt Affordables, Dollar General, Kim Hargett, Showtime Tattoos of Rockingham, C&M Auto, Register of Deeds Joanne Huntley, Mayor Bill Thacker, Beverly Getzen, Leavitt Funeral Home, Sheriff Landric Reid, Anson Pediatric Dentistry, Local Girl Scouts, and many others. Special Thanks to Attorney Evadne Smith for the large donation of bookbags and more! And to William "Bugga" Sturdivant and Playaz Elite Motorcycle Club for their donations and volunteering during the event.
Event organizers look forward to a continued partnership to reach even more students, families, and citizens of Anson County!"

Anson and Chesterfield to "Battle For The Border" Friday

Trophy presented by local nonprofit hospices

The Anson (NC) Bearcats and Chesterfield (SC) Rams will face off on the gridiron for the fourth annual "Battle For The Border" contest on Friday, September 8. The winning team takes possession of a trophy presented by non-profit hospices serving the two counties, Anson Community Hospice and Hospice of Chesterfield County.
"I am very proud to be associated with anything that hospice does. I had the honor of hospice helping with the passing of my mom and they were so comforting. I know what they do for the families," Anson Athletic Director Terry Mabry said. "This is a great thing they are doing for our athletes. Chesterfield is a class act and we are excited to continue this rivalry."
Chesterfield Athletic Director Craig Hatcher added, "The Chesterfield High Athletic Department and football team are excited about continuing the competition with Anson High for the Battle For The Border trophy. We would like to thank Hospice of Chesterfield County and Anson Community Hospice for sponsoring this event for each of our athletic departments."
Anson will be looking to take possession of the trophy for the first time after falling to the Rams in the previous three attempts. Chesterfield won the inaugural "Battle For The Border" contest 34-7 but the last two meetings have been decided by one point with the Rams winning 27-26 in 2015 and 13-12 last year. Chesterfield holds a 5-2 series lead over the past seven seasons. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m. at Anson High School.
"Hospice of Chesterfield County is pleased to partner with Anson Community Hospice to recognize the student-athletes at Chesterfield and Anson high schools. We look forward to continuing this tradition in the future as a way to also raise awareness about the availability of hospice care and services in our communities," Hospice of Chesterfield County Community Relations/Development Coordinator Cindy Beard said.



According to Anson Community Hospice Chaplain Chris Thornton "Anson Community Hospice is proud to partner with Hospice of Chesterfield County and support this great football rivalry." Lisa O'Neal, Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator, added, "Our goal as a non-profit organization is to educate our community on the benefits of hospice services and to provide quality compassionate care to families and patients in their time of need."
Anson Community Hospice, a division of Richmond County Hospice, Inc. and Hospice Haven, is a non-profit "Hometown Hospice" and leader in end of life quality care in our community since 1985. Hospice of Chesterfield County is a community-based, non-profit hospice founded by local churches and concerned citizens that has been providing compassionate care for the terminally ill since 1993. For more information contact Anson Community Hospice at (704) 695-1595 or Hospice of Chesterfield County at (843) 623-9155.

Peachland's Annual 'Music on the Square' is September 30

The Town of Peachland invites everyone to come and enjoy their 11th annual 'Music on the Square' which will be held on Saturday, September 30, from 3 to 10 p.m. This free event will feature two bands: Stone Holler from 3 to 6 p.m. and the Delmonicos from 7 to 10 p.m. Also there will be lots of food vendors, activities for the kids and more.
Among the many vendors are youth and women's groups from local churches and the fire department. A wide variety of beverages and food will be available.
For more information contact Lynn H. Griffin at 704-272-7781.

Storytime Every Wednesday for Children

The Anson County Partnership for Children offers Storytime in the Early Childhood Resource Center each Wednesday, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3 to 8. For more information call 704-694-4036.