



**North Carolina has a lot to celebrate**

- September is recognized in North Carolina as Wine and Grape month, which coincides with the traditional time of grape harvest.
- Many wineries are holding special events to celebrate the harvest including a grape stomp, muscadine festival, a Lost Colony Wine and Culinary Festival and other tasting events. You can find out more about these online at NCwine.org .
- There are around 200 wineries in the state and North Carolina is home to six American Viticultural Areas (AVA) - one of which was just approved in July.
- AVA's are recognized wine-growing regions that typically produce wine with distinct characteristics.
- North Carolina's six AVAs are Yadkin Valley established in 2002, Swan Creek established in 2008, Haw River Valley established in 2009, Upper Hiwassee Highlands established 2014, Appalachian High Country established 2016, and the newest - Crest of the Blue Ridge Henderson County.

The industry is currently in the process of conducting a new economic impact study, but the last one showed an economic impact of nearly \$2 billion. The production falls into two categories - muscadine and French-style vinifera grapes (pronounced Va-nif-ah-ra). North Carolina's early winemaking success owed its beginnings to the muscadine or scuppernong grape. It was the first cultivated grape in the United States. The Mothervine in Manteo, a nearly 500-year old scuppernong vine, is the oldest known cultivated grapevine in the country. Another interesting note is that 25 wineries operated in North Carolina at the turn of the century. Prior to Prohibition, North Carolina was one of the most productive wine states in the U.S.

Medoc Vineyard in Halifax County was the first commercial winery established in North Carolina. So in many ways, the resurgence of the wine industry in the state is a return to our roots.

- A total of 2,300 acres of grapes are harvested annually. In 2017, the yield was over 7,200 tons of grapes.
- Not all grapes are made into wine. Some grapes are sold fresh at markets or stores or through pick-your own operations.
- Be sure to pick up some fresh grapes or celebrate Wine and Grape Month with a North Carolina wine.



**Women's League Meeting**

The Anson Women's League (AWL) had a very informative meeting on Tuesday, September 10. Lesa Allen-Gaither (left) of LifeShare Carolinas spoke to the AWL during their monthly meeting. Did you know that one tissue and eye donor can heal 75 or more people? Check out [www.LifeShare Carolinas.org](http://www.LifeShare Carolinas.org).

Mike Hill (pictured lower left) of Twin Valley Golf Club, one half of the winning team from the AWL Dancing With the Stars, was also at the meeting to donate \$100 to Anson County Partnership for Children.

Anson Women's League does so much in our community. They invite you attend their next meeting. Please consider joining. It is open to any woman who would like to be a part of an organization who supports the needs of Anson County. Meetings are held monthly at Twin Valley Golf Club.

For more information, please contact President Bonnie Morgan at 704-695-5373.



**Dancercise Class**

Dancercise, which is exercising while dancing, is being offered at Grace Senior Center. Dancercise is a blend of aerobics and dance moves, something that many people find to be lots of fun. Participants enjoy great music and learn actual dance moves. The class being offered is a beginners class. There is no registration and no charge for the class.

The class is ongoing. So, if you didn't make it to the first class there is still plenty of opportunity to join in later. Each month the schedules will be given out with class dates and times.

The Dancercise class is held on Mondays from 1 to 2 p.m. and on Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m.

This class is open to anyone! For more information and to register call Findy Knotts or Eva Diggs at 704-694-6616. Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, just past IGA.

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For more information call  
Chief Spencer 704-475-2695 or Sgt Cannon 704-465-8705