



Grace Senior Center Hosts Christmas Luncheon is December 2

Festive Food, Good Cheer, and Absolutely No Fruitcake (We Hope)

The Grace Senior Center is gearing up for its annual Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 2, and they promise a holly-jolly good time - without requiring anyone to untangle a single string of Christmas lights.

The celebration will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Lockhart-Taylor Center, located at 514 North Washington Street in Wadesboro. Guests can expect great food, warm company, and enough Christmas spirit to make even the grumpiest elf crack a smile.

To reserve your seat at this festive feast, call the Center at 704-694-6616.

Registration closes on Friday, November 21, so don't wait - even Santa can't help you after the deadline.

So dust off your merriest sweater, bring your appetite, and join the Grace Senior Center for an afternoon of laughter, lunch, and holiday cheer. It's the perfect way to kick off December - and far cheaper than a trip to the North Pole.

Statement from Governor Josh Stein on Border Patrol in North Carolina

On Friday, November 14 Governor Josh Stein issued the following statement:

"Public safety is the top priority for all of us in government – and that means fighting crime, not stoking fear or causing division. We should all focus on arresting violent criminals and drug traffickers. Unfortunately, that's not always what we have seen with ICE and Border Patrol Agents in Chicago and elsewhere around the country. The vast majority of people they have detained have no criminal convictions, and some are American citizens.

"I want to encourage North Carolinians to remember our values. We follow the law. We remain peaceful. We do not allow ourselves to be provoked. We stand with our neighbors. And when we see injustice, we bear witness. If you see any inappropriate behavior, use your phones to record and notify local law enforcement, who will continue to keep our communities safe long after these federal agents leave. That's the North Carolina way.

"As this situation develops, I will continue to stay in touch with local and state officials to keep people safe, respect the rule of law, and support our people."

Red Flag Warning Issued for the State Residents Urged to Postpone All Outdoor Burning

On Sunday the National Weather Service issued a Red Flag Warning for North Carolina counties, signaling that critical fire weather conditions were either occurring or expected shortly. A red flag warning is issued when a combination of strong winds, low humidity and warm temperatures creates an increased risk of dangerous fire behavior.

Fire danger was elevated statewide, prompting officials to strongly urge residents to postpone all outdoor burning. While open burning is still technically permitted during a red flag warning, it is not advised under these conditions.

Careless debris burning remains the leading cause of wildfires in North Carolina, and residents were reminded that they are the first - and often best - line of defense against preventable fires.

Officials encouraged everyone to stay alert, monitor weather updates and avoid outdoor burning until conditions improve.

Chair Exercise Classes at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library is hosting chair exercise classes every Thursday. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. in the library's Pritchett Room. Everyone is welcome.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

Peachland-Polkton Elementary Celebrates Terrific Kids

A Big Round of Applause for Excellent Character (and Extra-Cute Smiles)

Peachland-Polkton Elementary School held its Terrific Kids Celebration for the first nine weeks on Tuesday, November 18, recognizing students who proved that good character never goes out of style. These young leaders showed kindness, responsibility and plenty of everyday strong choices — plus the confidence to pose for a group photo without blinking (well, mostly).

From left, front row: Mason Berry, Waylon Strawn, Ava Lowder, Trinity Wall, Bonnie Funderburke, Gabby Arteaga Carias, Freya O'Shea, Amelia Le, Kareem Reid, Gentry Bowers, Brooks Gulledge, Sah' Layah Polk, Geovany Guevara Lopez.

Second row: Teriyan Chambers, Elena Williams, Collins Harward, Weston Stegall, Rozie Sherrin, Joshua Polk, Connor Lee, Haven Clarke, Mason Kifer, Johnny Olivarez, Skylar Benitez, Brantley Coley.

Third row: Memphis Powell, Daniel Nolasco, Drake Hannah, Brody James, Russell Brown, Brittyn Bailey, Kaleenah Osborne, Anson Northcutt, William Olivarez, Sherlin Ines Carillo, Lorelei Powell, Marielena Sanchez, Princess Little.

Fourth row: Achilles Willoughby, Sadie Walden, Bralynn Johnson, Kaitlyn Helms, Jesus Castrejon, Everly Harris, Caleb Olivarez, Amari Bennett, Zaymein Little, Kimberli De La Cruz Hernandez, Savannah Powell, Katherine Perez, Amberlynn Tarlton.

Not pictured: Riley Moreno, Bentley Williams, Blakely Moreno, Zayleth Matias Llamas, Cheyenne Harris

The school is extremely proud of these students for showing terrific character - proving once again that good choices, good manners and good hearts can earn just as much applause as good grades.

November 19 Proclaimed as Women's Entrepreneurship Day

Celebrating the Women Who Power North Carolina's Economy

In recognition of the vital role women play in economic growth and innovation, Governor Josh Stein proclaimed November 19 as Women's Entrepreneurship Day in North Carolina. The proclamation honors the thousands of women who start and own businesses, each contributing significantly to the state's economy.

"North Carolina's economy is strong, thanks in large part to the number of women-owned businesses," said Annette Taylor, Chair for the NC Council for Women. "Today we highlight, thank and encourage those women who have served – and who continue to serve – as role models, paving the way as business leaders and innovators. When women thrive, their families thrive. And when families thrive, their communities flourish."

North Carolina ranks second in the nation for women-owned businesses, according to the Wells Fargo 2025 Impact of Women-Owned Businesses Report (wellsfargo.com). The 2025 Status of Women in North Carolina: Investing in Economic Opportunity report shows that 46% of the state's small businesses are owned by women — nearly half of all small enterprises.

The North Carolina Department of Administration's Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) plays a major role in supporting women entrepreneurs by providing resources, training and assistance to help companies compete for contracts with state agencies. Since January 1, the HUB Office has conducted workshops for approximately 2,673 HUB firms, 67% of which are female-certified businesses.

"State investments in women-owned businesses yield new jobs, increase tax revenue and foster economic growth around the state," said Denisha Harris, Chair of the Governor's Advisory Council on Historically Underutilized Businesses. "Women-owned firms are not just participating in North Carolina's economy. They help drive what makes our state the best place to live, work and enjoy a high quality of life."

Nationally, women own more than 12 million businesses generating over \$2 trillion in sales in 2024, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration (sba.gov).

June Witherspoon Craft Class Set for November 24

The Hampton B. Allen Library will host a festive craft class on Monday, November 24 at 10:30 a.m. in the Pritchett Room, led by Wadesboro's own incomparable instructor June Witherspoon - a woman who can make a holiday decoration out of just about anything short of a breadstick.

Participants will be creating a Christmas craft, and all supplies will be provided, which means you can show up empty-handed and still leave looking like a Pinterest success story. No experience is required - just a willingness to have fun and maybe get a little glitter on your clothes.

Come enjoy the art of making something beautiful, or at least something you can proudly display and insist your family admire for the entire holiday season.

Thanks & Giving Market To Support Anson Crisis Ministry

The Anson County Farmers' Market and Anson Crisis Ministry are joining forces to make generosity the main course this season. Their Thanks and Giving Market, set for Saturday, November 22 from 1 to 5 p.m., invites shoppers to browse local farms, bakeries, and craft tables - and to toss a few canned or boxed goods into the donation basket for a good cause.

All non-perishable items collected will be delivered to Anson Crisis Ministry the following week, ensuring local shelves stay as full as our holiday plates. So if you've been meaning to clean out that pantry, now's your moment to turn "extra" into "excellent."

The market, located at 1736 US-52 in Wadesboro, promises festive fun, community spirit, and maybe even a pie or two worth bragging about. For more information, contact Liesl Hall at 704-238-7104, email ansonfarmersmarket@yahoo.com, or reach out on Facebook (Anson County Farmer's Market) or Instagram (@ansoncountyfarmersmarket).

School Board Meeting Is November 24

A little business, maybe a little drama, and hopefully no pop quizzes

The Board of Education will hold its regular monthly meeting this coming Monday, November 24 in the Administrative Board Room at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. Closed Session will begin right after the meeting opens at 5:00 p.m. so the board can discuss personnel and property matters pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11(a)(6) and NCGS 143.318.11(a)(5).

Open Session for the public begins at 6:00 p.m., when everyone is welcomed back in and the atmosphere becomes noticeably less mysterious.

Anyone wishing to speak during public comment can sign up in person. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting - perfect for early birds, enthusiastic community members, or anyone who just enjoys writing their name on official-looking paper. Public comment will take place during the 6:00 p.m. Open Session.

For those who prefer to attend without leaving their sofa, the meeting will be live streamed on the Anson County Schools YouTube channel. Just search "Anson County Schools" on YouTube and enjoy the action from home, snacks allowed and no dress code required.

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