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

Blessing Bags for the Homeless in Anson County

The Mission Committee of the Anson Baptist Association has partnered with Safer Communities to provide backpacks for the homeless population in Anson County. Each backpack is filled with the items listed below and distributed by the Anson County Sheriff's Department and Safer Communities.

The "Blessing Bags" include essentials such as a backpack, Bible (easy-to-read version), blanket, water bottle, socks, chapstick, toothbrush and toothpaste, comb or brush, deodorant, hand sanitizer or wet wipes, granola bars, crackers, peanut butter, jerky, fruit cups, nuts, canned meats or foods with pop-open lids, and a small first aid kit.

If your church would like to volunteer to provide backpacks for the homeless, please contact Beth Rogers at 704-695-2010 or David Ross at 704-694-2790 for more information.

"I am so thankful for the churches that have already stepped up to assist with this ministry," said Beth Rogers, chair of the Anson Baptist Association Mission Committee. "When churches work together, big things can be accomplished."

Homelessness is at an all-time high in Anson County, a reality that many may not realize. This ministry aims to bring comfort, compassion, and hope to those in need throughout the community.

Free Hotdog Meal Brings Flavor and Friendship to Myrtlewood Apartments

Hot Dogs, Chips & Plenty of Good Cheer on Dec. 3

If you're hungry for more than just a meal, head to Murtlewood Apartments on Wednesday, December 3, at 4:00 p.m. for a community gathering that's all about good food and even better company.

Guests can dig into free hot dogs, chips, and drinks while catching up with neighbors and old friends and new friends in a fun, friendly atmosphere that's guaranteed to warm hearts - even if the weather doesn't cooperate.

Everyone is invited, so bring your appetite and your smile. It's the kind of event that reminds us what community is all about - sharing, laughter, and maybe a second helping of chili dogs.

For information, contact the Faith-Based Center of Hope, "Momma V." Vancine Sturdivant, at 704-294-0480.

Fugitive from South Carolina Captured After Brief Pursuit Through Wadesboro

Detectives with the Anson County Sheriff's Office apprehended a wanted fugitive from South Carolina following a short vehicle pursuit in Wadesboro on Monday, November 17.

According to Sheriff Scott Howell, his office was notified by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Fugitive Task Force that Rashaud Damontrey Adams, 23, of North, South Carolina, might be at an address on Salisbury Street in Wadesboro.

Deputies responded to 1066 Salisbury Street in an attempt to make contact with Adams. When they arrived, a gray Honda Accord fled the scene. Deputies confirmed that Adams was the driver.

A brief pursuit followed along Highway 74 West and through the Abbington Grove Apartment Complex area, where deputies successfully apprehended Adams without incident.

Adams was charged by the Anson County Sheriff's office with fleeing to elude arrest and as a fugitive from justice. He is currently being held in the Anson County Detention Center awaiting extradition to South Carolina, where he faces charges of attempted murder.

Healthy Mom, Healthy Baby Event

Expecting and new mothers are invited to attend the Healthy Mom, Healthy Baby event hosted by The WoMB Clinic on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at the Anson County Health Department. Two session times will be offered - from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and again from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The free program will feature discussions on preeclampsia screening and education, mental health in pregnancy and postpartum, pelvic floor support, breastfeeding education, birth and labor preparation, and baby milestones and growth.

All attendees will receive special mom-and-baby gift bags, and raffle prizes will be awarded.

The event is part of The WoMB Clinic's continuing effort to support maternal wellness and family health in

Anson County. For more information, contact The WoMB Clinic at

womb@wingate.edu.

Visit with Santa at the Hampton **B.** Allen Library on December 4

Free Books, Photos, and Fun for Children

Santa Claus is making a special stop in Wadesboro this season! Families are invited to the Hampton B. Allen Library on Wednesday, December 4, from 3 to 5 p.m. for an afternoon of holiday fun. The event is hosted by the Anson County Partnership

for Children and the Hampton B. Allen Library. Children can meet Santa, take free photos, and enjoy festive activities designed especially for young visitors. Each child to start a holiday reading tradition.

will also receive a free book to take home — a perfect way The library is located at 120 South Greene Street in Wadesboro. Bring your camera, your Christmas spirit, and

your wish list — Santa will be ready to hear it all!



Anson County Gathers to Honor Veterans on November 11

Community United in Gratitude for Those Who Served

On Tuesday, November 11, Anson County veterans, families, supporters and government officials braved brisk temperatures to gather at Wadesboro Park in a heartfelt show of gratitude for all who have served to protect our nation and its freedoms.

The ceremony included an invocation and benediction by veteran Rev. Anthony Hall of Flakes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, followed by a solemn 21-gun salute performed by Amvets Post 316. The featured speaker, Anson County native Kevin Marshall, shared reflections from his service in the U.S. Marine Corps at the elite 8th and I Barracks in Washington, D.C. His remarks reminded all in attendance of the dedication, discipline and sacrifice that define military service.

Following the program, lunch was prepared and served by the Anson County Veterans Council and the VFW Post 10403 Auxiliary, giving attendees an additional opportunity to fellowship and honor the significance of the day together.

Brendan Gibbons, Anson County Veteran Services Officer, thanked everyone for attending and expressed his enthusiasm for "giving more local veterans the opportunity to share their stories with the community." He continues to assist Anson County veterans and their families with claims, applications, document review, endorsements and ecords requests. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 704-465-0086.

More information about upcoming events for local veterans can be found on the Anson County Veterans Council Facebook page. Article and photo are courtesy of Laura Laney

No Apple Pie On Our Table This Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving offers a means for reflection and thankfulness. It encourages us all to be still and listen to our hearts as we find comfort in acknowledging the things we are most thankful for. And those things commonly intersect without boundaries among the people who I know, and typically include faith, family, health and happiness.

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, I find myself with a lump in my throat, a pit in my stomach, and an ache in my heart. It is the first we will spend without the matriarch of our family. And while we will be cooking and serving mama's traditional turkey, her never duplicated dressing (no matter who tries), and all the trimmings, the day won't be easy. I've never spent a holiday without her. Not one. So we will be reminding ourselves to remember the good times, remember her laughter and sweet spirit, remember her great sense of humor, and remember her love.

A few weeks ago I was easing my way through mom's recipe cards with some trepidation about the upcoming holiday season. Those recipes, which are all written in her impeccable handwriting, opened the floodgates of my memory. Reminding me of family get-togethers, sunday lunches and celebratory birthday meals, the recipes sparked such vivid reflection my mouth was watering! Mama always loved sweets, and dessert was her favorite part of any meal. So, to find her apple pie recipe was an uplifting moment. It was my favorite of all her pies and she always made one for my birthday. But the truth was, she loved it just as much as me. She'd add vanilla ice cream to hers and I'd just have mine plain and warm. We shared many of those pies over the years and I would give anything to have one more slice....with her. Since finding her recipe box I've made mom's lemon chess pie with the help of my

cousins, her chocolate pie, and her pecan pie. But her "piled a mile high" apple pie? No. Some things are better left alone - like my grandmother's peach cobbler, my aunt's coconut cake, and my mom's mouth-watering, all inspiring, no-one-can-do-it-better-than mama's apple pie.

So there will be no apple pie on our table this Thanksgiving. Mama would understand why and she would probably even chuckle about it. She was a proud woman. And, she was always proud of the things she knew she did well or she was good at. Like making her heavenly pies. And like being the best mama in the whole wide world. She was the VERY best at that and for that I am thankful. By Melanie Lyon



Exercise at Burnsville **Recreation & Learning Center**

Want to improve your health? Join Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center's Exercise Team. Spirit, mind, body and soul - free team exercise every Tuesday and Thursday at 4:30 p.m. There is also walking every

Saturday morning. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more info call 704-826-8737, check their Facebook, or email burnsvillelc@gmail.com.

Volunteers **Needed at Anson Crisis Ministries**

Anson Crisis Ministries is in need of volunteers to help hand out food, sort through items, and more. They are open from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The dress code is comfortable clothes, such as jeans and a nice t-shirt.

The Crisis Ministries feeds Anson County residents all week. If you have some time to give please call 704-694-2445 to sign up. They are located at 117 North Rutherford Street in uptown Wadesboro.

THE INSIDE ANSON **SCHOOLS INFORMATION SECTION IS ONLINE** AT THE EXPRESS **WEBSITE FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR.** www.TheExpressNewspaper.com

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