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

Wadesboro Christmas Parade is Thursday

Mark your calendars for the annual Wadesboro Christmas Parade! This parade will be held this Thursday, December 5 at 4:00 p.m.

After the parade there will be a Christmas in the Village celebration. Explore our local shops, take your children to see Santa, join in on the lighting of the trees, and enjoy dinner from one of the uptown restaurants or food trucks. We hope you can join us!

Some roads will be closed. The parade map is on page 2. For questions contact Tami Newell at 704-451-6825.

Town of Lilesville's Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park Set for December 10

Save the date! The Town of Lilesville will host their annual lighted Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park on Tuesday, December 10 at Hatcher Park.

The parade begins at 6:00 p.m. and Christmas in the Park will begin after the parade. Christmas in the Park features a tree lighting, caroling,

free hot chocolate & cookies, food trucks, free pictures with Santa, and more!

If you are interested in having an entry in the parade, please contact the Lilesville Town Hall at 704-848-4711 or Beth Griggs Richeson at 704-212-8258 for all the details. If you would like to be a vendor at the Christmas in the Park, please contact Jamie Varela at 1-321-202-3465.

Join Leadership Anson 2025

Deadline to register is Friday!

Are you looking for ways to get engaged and network in Anson County?

Would you like to expand your knowledge of the place you live and/or work?

Would you like to enhance your leadership skills? Apply for the 2025 Leadership Anson class!

Applications are due by Friday, December 6. You may

apply online now at: form.jotform.com/ansonchamber/leadership-anson

For additional questions, contact the Chamber Board of Directors by email at info@ansoncountychamber.org or call 704-694-4181.

Huge Yard Sale to Raise Funds for Less Fortunate

Faith-Based Center of Hope will have a huge yard sale on Saturday, December 7 at the parking lot across from Papa Joe's Pizzeria, 911 East Caswell Street in help our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

Contributions and donations are appreciated. For more information please contact Vancine Sturdivant,

CEO, at 704-294-0480, James Sturdivant at 704-294-8073, Linda Richardson at 704-465-0243 or Carol Leak at 704-441-5771.

Christmas Concert at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library invites you to join them for a Christmas Concert with the Metcalf family. Calhoun, Ari and Lied are accomplised violinist and cello artists. The concert will be held on Monday, December 9

10:30 a.m. in the Little Theater. Come enjoy the music. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

Anson County Parks and Recreation Master Plan Community Workshops

Anson County is updating its 2000 System-wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This new Master Plan will establish a vision for future park and recreation development for Anson County for the next 10 years.

The community's input and support is important to the plan! Please attend one of the workshops if possible.

Parks and Recreation are hosting three information shar ing community drop-in sessions to gather feedback and input on Monday, December 9, Tuesday, December 10 and Thursday, December 12. Please come by one of the workshops anytime between

6:00 and 8:00 p.m. to learn about, and contribute, to the future of Parks and Recreation in Anson County. Monday, December 9 at Lilesville Fire Department, 202

- West Wall Street in Lilesville
- Tuesday, December 10 at SPCC Auditorium, L.L. Polk Campus, 680 Highway 74 West in Polkton
- Thursday, December 12 at SPCC Ingram Room, Lockhart-Taylor Center, 514 North Washington Street in

Parks and Recreation Director Wendell Small at (704) 695-2782 or wsmall@ansoncountync.gov.

If you have any questions or comments please contact

Twilight Concert in Cheraw The Cheraw Arts Commission will present a Twilight

Concert featuring Cantate, a Hartsville, SC quartet, on Tuesday, December 10. The performance will be at Cheraw's historic Old St David's Episcopal Church, located at 98 Church St at 6:30pm. Musical selections will include traditional carols.

In addition, the Celebration Ringers, handbell choir from First Presbyterian Church Hartsville, will participate.

The quartet, which was organized in March 2021, chose its name, Cantate, because it is a Latin word which means

sing! This word, including the exclamation mark, exemplifies the spirit with which these four vocalists and their director perform. They are all former members of the Hartsville Chamber Ensemble. These friends share a love of singing, and through many hours of rehearsal, they strive to deliver a seamlessly blended sound..

Admission to the concert is \$10 for Adults and \$8 for Students. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the Cheraw Community Center-200 Powe Street.

For additional information, contact the Cheraw Arts Commission 843.537.8420, ext.12.

Career Day Recently Celebrated at Anson County **Early College**

November was Career Development Month, and students at Anson County Early College celebrated by participating in themed spirit days, attending resume workshop led by South Piedmont Community College, and engaging in a variety focused lessons.



Veterans' Christmas Meal is December 13

The Anson County Veterans Council invites all Anson County veterans and guest to join them at the annual Christmas Meal on Friday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. The Christmas Meal will be held at North Wadesboro Baptist Church, located at

1211 N Greene Street in Wadesboro.

Road Improvements Coming to Anson County

Drivers in Anson County will have a smoother ride on about five miles of two secondary Wadesboro, beginning at 7:30 a.m. All proceeds will go to roads, thanks to a \$1.6 million contract awarded by the Department of Transportation.

The contract calls for widening, milling, resurfacing, shoulder reconstruction, and installing pavement markings and markers on these roads:

White Store Road between Anson High School Road and Capel Dairy Road Mayesville Road between Deep Creek Road and the South Carolina line

True Rock Construction LLC. of Monroe was awarded the contract. Work can start

as early as April 2025 and be completed in the fall of 2026.

NC Quick Pass Now Available at Select 7-Eleven Locations and on Amazon

NC Quick Pass is continuing to make improvements to the customer experience and make it easier for customers to pay the lowest toll in North Carolina. NC Quick Pass sticker transponders are now available for purchase at select 7-Eleven location Amazon so customers can get a transponder on the go. Five 7-Eleven locations are offering NC Quick Pass Stickers for \$3.00. NC Quick Pass

Stickers can also be purchased online through Amazon for the same price. Customers must activate these transponders before traveling on a toll facility. To get started, customers can visit nequickpass.com/activate to quickly add their transponder to a new or existing account. NC Quick Pass is working to add additional locations to make it easier than ever for

customers to pay the lowest toll in North Carolina. Customers with a NC Quick Pass account and transponder pay the lowest toll rate in

North Carolina and can easily pay tolls in 19 states. In-Person Customer Service NC Quick Pass currently partners with three License

Plate Agencies, where customers can pay their tolls in person. More than 4,000 payments have been made from partner License Plate Agency locations to pay a toll invoice since January 2024. MoneyGram is an additional in-person payment option at most CVS and Walmart

locations for customers who choose to pay their toll invoice in person. Since partnering with MoneyGram in January 2024, nearly 400 customers have used MoneyGram to pay With the number of in-person services and partnerships growing and customer

preferences increasingly shifting to digital services, the need for physical NC Quick Pass locations has decreased. To learn more about NC Quick Pass partnerships or payment options, visit nequickpass.com.

Commerce Issues 2025 Economic Development Tier Rankings Eighteen counties will change tiers next year

Anson County remains in Tier 1 The North Carolina Department of Commerce has announced the county tier designations for 2025. The designations, which are mandated by state law, play a role

in several programs that assist in economic development. Eighteen counties will change tier designations for 2025 Counties moving to a less distressed tier ranking include Cherokee, Chowan, Duplin,

Gates, Granville, Haywood, Jones, Onslow, and Pasquotank. Counties moving to a more distressed tier ranking include Alexander, Caldwell, Camden, Cleveland, Davie, McDowell, Montgomery, Randolph, and Surry.

The 2025 rankings comply with the methodology prescribed by the North Carolina General Assembly in General Statue §143B-437.08, which identifies four economic

factors to be compiled and calculated by N.C. Commerce and then used to analyze and rank each of North Carolina's 100 counties. Each county is then assigned its tier designation ranking from one to three. Tier 1 counties are generally the most economically distressed and Tier 3 counties are generally the least economically distressed. The rankings are based on an assessment of each county's unemployment rate, median

household income, population growth, and assessed property value per capita. The law calls for 40 counties to be designated as Tier 1, 40 counties to be designated as Tier 2, and 20 counties to be designated Tier 3.

Tier designations determine eligibility and guidelines for several different grant programs that N.C. Commerce administers including the One North Carolina Fund, building reuse, and water and sewer infrastructure grants among others. Tier designations also play a role in the state's performance-based Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) program, serving as a mechanism to channel funds into the Industrial Development Fund - Utility Account

for infrastructure improvements into more economically distressed areas of the state. For more information about the tier designation system visit: commerce.nc.gov/tiers

Anson Mobile Food Market is December 12

The next Anson Mobile Food Market will be held on Thursday, December 12, starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Anson Animal Shelter, located at 7257 Highway 74 in Polkton, at the entrance

to Field of Dreams. Food will be given away, including fresh vegetables, fruit and bread (if available). There will be blood pressure and blood sugar checks, along with other healthy

living topics and booths.

This free event offers citizens of Anson County six to eight different types of fresh produce monthly. This is a free initiative, so please come and get some produce. Nothing is required for

just come. The event is sponsored by the Anson County Extension and its partners.

This event is to assist in

you to receive produce,

the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in the county. It will also serve as an educational event to offer education on the two targeted areas of the county health assessment which are tobacco use and hypertension. Agencies will be set up offering services and information in those two targeted areas.

Beekeepers Meet Friday The Anson Beekeepers

will hold their regular bee meeting Friday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the Anson County Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. It will be a covered dish,

and they will have a honey contest, trivia and any other activities are welcomed to be substituted. And it's time again to renew the 2025 dues, local

\$5 and states \$15. There will also voting for new officers for 2025. Check the Anson County Beekeepers Facebook page for more details. Not a member but would like to learn more about the

local chapter and beekeeping educational programs? Do you need a beekeeper to re-home a visiting swarm? Visit the "Anson County Beekeepers Association" Facebook page for more information.