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

Leadership Anson is Now Recruiting

Developing tomorrow's community & business leaders

Do you live or work in Anson County? The Anson County Chamber of Commerce and the Leadership Anson Oversight Committee are pleased to announce that recruitment is now underway for the Leadership Anson Class of 2026.

Now entering its 29th year, the Leadership Anson program is designed to develop future leaders who will take on active roles of responsibility in their workplaces and throughout the community. Since its founding in 1998, more than 400 participants have graduated from the program, many of whom continue to make a lasting impact across Anson County.

The 2026 program begins with an all-day retreat in January, followed by sessions held every other Tuesday from February through June. Graduation will take place in early June.

To learn more or register, visit: ansoncountychamber.org/get-involved/leadership-anson.

Bluegrass Pickin' & Grinning Returns to the Hampton B. Allen Library Thurs.

Banjos, fiddles, and toe-tappin' fun on Thursday

The Hampton B. Allen Library will once again fill the air with twang and toe-tappin' tunes during its Bluegrass Acoustic Set on Thursday, December 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the library's Little Theater.

These sessions are open to musicians, singers, and spectators - basically anyone who can pluck, strum, hum, or just clap in rhythm (or close to it). All ages and skill levels are welcome, from first-time pickers to folks who've been tuning the same banjo since the Carter administration.

It's an evening where fiddles squeal happily, mandolins chatter like old friends, and everyone leaves humming something, even if they can't quite name the song.

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult, preferably one who can keep them from running off with a kazoo.

Come on out, bring an instrument or just your good ears, and enjoy a night of down-home fun that's guaranteed to hit all the right notes...eventually.

For more information call 704-694-5177.

Veterans Invited to Celebrate the Season At Christmas Luncheon

Honoring all who served with food, fellowship, and holiday cheer

All Anson County veterans and their spouses are warmly invited to a festive Veterans Christmas Luncheon on Friday, December 12, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at North Wadesboro Baptist Church, located at 1211 North Greene Street in Wadesboro

The afternoon will be filled with hearty food, laughter, and Christmas spirit as the community comes together to honor those who have served our nation. It's a time to share stories, make new memories, and enjoy a well-deserved celebration of gratitude and good company.

Come hungry, come proud, and come ready to enjoy the season among friends who've worn the uniform

Local Author, Former Sheriff Tommy Allen Brings Humor and Heart in "Beyond the Badge"

Author talk and book signing December 15 at Hampton B. Allen Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library will host a special visit from local author Tommy Allen on Monday, December 15, at 10:30 a.m. in the library's Pritchett Room. Former sheriff of Anson County Allen will share stories and insights from his book "Beyond the Badge: The Lighter Side of Law Enforcement" - a witty, heartfelt look at the humor, humanity, and everyday moments behind the uniform.

Known for his quick wit and down-to-earth storytelling, Allen captures the lighter side of life on the force, proving that laughter might just be one of the best tools for keeping the peace. Expect a few tall tales, a few chuckles, and plenty of good-natured truth.

A book signing will follow the presentation, and copies of "Beyond the Badge" will be available for purchase. It's a perfect opportunity to support a hometown author and pick up a signed book that's equal parts wisdom and fun.

Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call 704-694-5177.

Health Department and Partnership for Children Host Car Seat Inspection and Education Event Next Thursday

Parents invited to learn hands-on safety tips for child car seats December 18

On Thursday, December 18 the Anson County Health Department, in collaboration with the Anson County Partnership for Children, will host a Car Seat Inspection Education Event designed to help parents ensure their

child's safety on the road. The program will teach families how to properly install and use car seats to maximize security, safety, and wellness. Certified instructors will demonstrate correct installation techniques and provide personalized guidance

to caregivers to ensure every seat meets safety standards. 'Our goal is to ensure the safety and well-being of our children, who will be the community's leaders of tomorrow,' said Health Educator Noelia Chumpitaz, who is coordinating

The Health Department is currently seeking donations

to support this important community initiative.

For more information or questions, contact Noelia Chumpitaz at 704-994-3381.



Anson Cheer Returns to Competition, Captures Titles at Cheer Explosion

A triumphant comeback earns first place and grand champion honors

This is a release from Anson High School Cheer Coach Shannon Pickett: After years away from the competitive stage, the Anson Bearcats Varsity Cheerleaders made a triumphant return this past weekend, proving that their spirit, skill, and determination are stronger than ever. On Sunday, November 23, eleven athletes traveled to E.E. Waddell High School to compete in the 2025–2026 Cheer Explosion, a prestigious event drawing high school teams from across the region.

The Bearcats not only reclaimed their place in the spotlight but did so in spectacular fashion. With precision stunts, synchronized tumbling, and electrifying energy, the team captured First Place in their division and went on to earn the coveted title of Grand Champions of the competition.

This victory carries special meaning for the program. The Anson Bearcats Varsity Cheerleaders had not competed in several years, focusing instead on school spirit and sideline support. Their return marks the beginning of a new era, one filled with opportunities for scholarships, trophies, and recognition that will elevate the athletic program as a whole.

Under the leadership of Coach Shannon Spencer, newly appointed Varsity Cheer Coach at Anson High School, the team has embraced a renewed commitment to excellence. Coach Spencer, known for her passion for youth athletics and creative direction, has instilled discipline, pride, and unity in the squad. "This is more than cheerleading," she said. "It's about building confidence, opening doors for our athletes, and showing Anson County what teamwork can achieve."

The winning roster includes Ayanna, M'Kayla, Shi'Na, Jocelyn, Kayden, Kamryn, LaVayah, Komoria, Laniya, Jada, and Abigail - each bringing unique strengths to the mat. Together, they demonstrated resilience and determination, proving that Anson's cheer program is ready to compete with the best.

Parents, faculty, and community members filled the stands with support, erupting in cheers as the Bearcats were announced as Grand Champions. The victory sparked pride across Anson County, reminding everyone of the power of youth athletics to unite and inspire.

With this first competition behind them, the Bearcats are already setting their sights on future events. The team hopes to continue building momentum, earning more titles, and securing scholarship opportunities for its athletes. Their success also strengthens the broader athletic program at Anson High School, bringing recognition and resources that benefit all student-athletes.

As the trophies come home to Anson County, one thing is clear: the Bearcats Varsity Cheerleaders are back - and they are here to win. Their return to competition is not just a comeback - it's the start of a legacy.

Urgent Need: Red Cross Blood Drive in Burnsville

The American Red Cross is calling on all eligible donors to help meet a critical need for blood by participating in the Burnsville Fire and Rescue Blood Drive on Friday, Dec. 12, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at 13380 NC-742 North, Polkton, in the Activity Room.

Due to a limited blood supply nationwide, donors are urgently needed. Someone in the United States requires a unit of blood every two to three seconds - and most of us will need blood at some point in our lives. Only volunteer donors can fill this constant need for patients in hospitals and emergency situations.

The Burnsville Community of Anson County hopes to make this the biggest blood drive yet - a true "time of giving" that saves lives close to home.

For more information, contact BRLC Volunteer Michelle Sarno at 704-607-7568 or BRLC Director Carol Smith at 704-826-8737.

You can also download the Red Cross Blood Donor App from the App Store or Google Play, or text BLOODAPP to 90999 to schedule appointments, view your blood type, see your mini-physical results, and track your donations.

Thank you for supporting the American Red Cross blood program - every drop counts! up a signed book that's equal parts wisdom and fun.

Wadesboro Christmas Parade was a "Glowing" Holiday Success!

On Thursday, December 4, the Wadesboro Christmas Parade illuminated the night with glow sticks, flashing lights and beaming faces. Locally made floats, bands, cheerleaders, twirlers, princesses, dancers, fire trucks, EMS, cool cars, motorcycles and area school kids were all on hand and thrilled to be a part of this wonderful holiday tradition. Even the horses and their riders were decked out in Christmas spirited holiday lights and garlands. And, just as you would expect, Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived just in time to help usher in this festive season with Ho Ho Ho holiday cheer and merriment. This year the Town of Wadesboro sponsored the event which included DJ MeMe Denise

Liles serving as Emcee for the second consecutive year. The parade was directed by Tamara Garris. What a fun-filled night it was! We love a parade!

Local Author Sandy Bruney Brings Wadesboro History to Life

She will give author talk at the Marshville Museum

Local author Sandy Bruney of Wadesboro will visit the Marshville Museum on Friday, December 20 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss her historical fiction books that are set in and around Wadesboro. Expect lively stories, local color, and the kind of front-porch details only a hometown writer can

The Marshville Museum is located at 201 North Elm Street. The museum is open for visits Fridays & Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and other times by appointment or during special events. The museum website is www.mmcc1893.com.

