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

School Board Meeting is February 26

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 26. The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters related to personnel and property pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (a)(6) and NCGS 143.318.11 (a)(5).

Open Session to the public will begin at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are live streamed on the Anson County Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. To find the channel you can search YouTube for "Anson County Schools."

If the public wishes to sign up for public comment, they can sign up in-person. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting begins for any individual or group to indicate their desire to address the board.

Public comment will be held during the Open Session portion of the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Do You Have Concerns About Falling?

Grace Senior Center is offering A Matter of Balance Managing Concerns About Falls. The class starts Tuesday, March 5 and runs through Thursday, March 28. Classes will meet twice a week for four weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at Grace Senior Center.

A Matter of Balance class is free and can reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults who have concerns about falling. The Matter of Balance classes help participants learn to:

- view falls and fear of falling as controllable
 - set realistic goals for increasing activity
 - make changes to reduce fall risk at home
 - promote exercise to increase strength and balance
- The Matter of Balance Class is designed to benefit community-dwelling older adults who:
- are concerned about falls
 - have sustained a fall in the past
 - restrict activities because of concerns about falling
 - are interested in improving flexibility, balance and strength
 - are age 60 or older, ambulatory and able to problem-solve

All participants are welcome, respected and valued. Contact Grace Senior Center to request accommodations. Call (704) 694-6616 to register or for additional information about the class.

Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South (Chesterfield Road) in Wadesboro, just past IGA.

South Piedmont Community College Open House Events are March 12, 19

South Piedmont Community College will host two Open House events in March. The events are planned for the following dates, times, and locations:

- Tuesday, March 12, 4-7 p.m. at Old Charlotte Highway Campus, 4209 Old Charlotte Highway in Monroe and Tyson Family Center for Technology, 3509 Old Charlotte Highway in Monroe.
- Tuesday, March 19, 4-7 p.m. at LLP Polk Campus, 680 Highway 74 in Polkton.

During the events, prospective students will tour the campus, including the College's state-of-the-art health sciences and technology labs; learn about academic and short-term workforce training programs; meet College administrators, faculty and staff members; participate in program demonstrations; learn about student clubs and organizations; get information on financial aid; apply for admission; and receive information on next steps for enrollment.

The events are drop-in style. Registration for South Piedmont's Open House event is requested, but not required. To register, visit: events.spcc.edu/event/spcc.events.482410.

2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration will be held at the elementary school located in the attendance area where the child lives. Please check the dates and times below for the school your child will be attending.

To attend Kindergarten, your child has to be 5 on or before August 31, 2024. **North Carolina Law requires a CERTIFIED birth certificate (hospital/mother's copy birth certificates will not be accepted).**

Prior to the Pre-Kindergarten registration clinics, forms can be picked up at the elementary school or on the Anson County Schools website (ansonschools.org) under the Parent Portal button. Anson County also requires at least 2 proofs of residence (911 address on Driver's License, address on a bill, etc.) to place the child in the proper attendance area.

Registration Dates/Times:

- Ansonville Elementary School, March 22, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Wadesboro Primary School, March 22, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Lilesville Elementary School, March 28, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Morven Elementary School, March 28, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Peachland-Polkton Elementary School, April 19, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Additionally, beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, the Anson County Board of Education approved school choice for Kindergarten only (Policy 4150). Families are allowed to choose which elementary school their child attends. If you decide to send your child to a school outside of their attendance area, transportation will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

The Anson County School System looks forward to seeing you as you register your child for Pre-Kindergarten. If you have questions, please call the school in your attendance area and speak to the school nurse.

Anson County Writers' Club Welcomes New Members

The Anson County Writers' Club meets on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, except in July and December. All meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

For more information call Sandy Bruney at 704-694-5211 or email sandybruney@gmail.com.



Revolutionary AI-generated Art Exhibition Comes to Wadesboro!

'All We Need Is Love: Echoes of Resilience in Leather'

HOLLA! is thrilled to announce the premiere preview of "All We Need Is Love: Echoes of Resilience in Leather." This groundbreaking AI-generated art exhibition, created and curated by Dr. Florita Bell Griffin, also known as Flowwade of Houston, Texas, in collaboration with the Soul Singer Rodney Stith, writer, composer, and performer of the 'All We Need Is Love' song of Petersburg, Virginia, can be experienced this Saturday, February 24 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro.

The HOLLA! hosted event marks the first public showing of the collection and offers a glimpse into a larger exhibition celebrating the contributions, resilience, heritage, and social justice journey of African American men. It showcases 30 pieces from the extensive 77 artwork exhibition, which includes mask representations that pay homage to the lineage and legacy of African American men in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Viewers are invited to engage more deeply with each piece by scanning QR codes for an immersive video experience that delves further into the artwork's narrative and historical context.

The exhibition, produced by ARC Communication, LLC of Texas and generously supported by the Law Offices of Asa Bell, Jr. P.A. of Raleigh, highlights the significant contributions of African American men to our nation's musical heritage and their multifaceted roles in every sphere of America's growth and development.

This event is co-sponsored by the North Carolina Arts Council and HOLLA! Africa.

For more information on the full exhibition and the premiere preview please contact Leon Gatewood at HOLLA! 704-851-3144 or 704-695-4968, email: leon@wadesboro.com.

Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy is Taking Applications

The Anson County Sheriff's Office is taking applications for the Citizens Academy. The Citizens Academy is designed to expose interested participants to the day to day law enforcement work of the Anson County Sheriff's Office and the Criminal Justice System in general. Applicants must be at least 18 years old; in good health and have no criminal record. All information furnished will be considered confidential.

The classes begin on Thursday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m.

The Citizens Academy consists of various sessions that extend over an eight week period. It varies between each academy, but past students have participated in a number of events such as a tour of the Sheriff's Office, Magistrate's Office, the Jail and 911 Emergency Communications Center. They have heard presentations from the Sheriff, Detectives, FBI, Secret Service, Alcohol Law Enforcement, Clerk of Court, District Court Judge, and Probation and Parole. Students have seen presentations on illegal drugs, crime scene investigations and the new "Live Scan Finger Printing Device." Participants have gone to the Sheriff's firing range to see various weapons demonstrated, and also fired weapons themselves. They have seen a K-9 demonstration, a Taser demonstration, a SWAT Team demonstration and a variety of vehicles and equipment used by the Sheriff's Office. In addition to all of this, each member of the past classes was offered to be a part of the Sheriff's "Ride-Along" program, where they actually rode with a deputy on a night or day shift.

If you are interested in attending this year's Academy please contact the Anson County Sheriff's Office at 704-694-4188. Don't delay, as the class is limited to 20 participants. This is a great opportunity for our citizens to learn some of what local, state and federal law enforcement does to serve and protect you.

Christopher Jordan Cunningham Charged in Multiple Breaking and Entering Crimes

On Friday, February 16 Christopher Jordan Cunningham of Wadesboro was arrested in connection with numerous breaking and entering, and larcenies throughout Anson County. Cunningham was charged with two counts of Felony Larceny of a Motor Vehicle, one count of Felony Larceny, and one count of Felony Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle.

Cunningham was booked into the Anson County Jail under a \$80,000 secured bond. He has a Court date on March 4 at the Wadesboro District Court.



Cunningham

The Health Department Offers Sick Visit Appointments

Did you know that the Anson County Health Department offers sick visit appointments for those over 21 for the following: cold; flu; sore throat; seasonal allergies; urinary tract infections (UTI); earache; upset stomach; acute bronchitis; pink eye; minor abrasions, burns & bruises; sunburn; insect bites & stings; suture removal; and blood pressure check.

Some same day appointments are available.

Primary health insurance is accepted as in-network is BCBS, Cigna, United Healthcare, Medcost, Aetna, Multiplan, Ambetter, Medicare, Wellcare Medicare, Amerihealth Next, NC Medicaid, NC Medicaid Prepaid Health Plans (Healthy Blue, Amerihealth Caritas, Wellcare-Medicaid, Carolinas Complete Health, United Healthcare Medicaid).

Affordable options are available for those who do not have insurance, or do not have one of the primary plans listed above.

To make an appointment or learn more call 704-694-5188. The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. The website is: www.co.anson.nc.us/164/Health-Department, and you can find them on Facebook.

Chamber of Commerce Announces New President / CEO

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors issued this press release on Wednesday, February 21: Good afternoon from the Anson County Chamber of Commerce Board. It is with great excitement that we welcome Sandy Cox as President/CEO of Anson County Chamber of Commerce. Sandy has worked the last 14 years in the health care industry and is looking forward to joining the Chamber and serving Anson County.

We would like to thank the Chamber members and community for your patience and support over the past year. We look forward to working with Sandy in serving our great members and continue improving the efforts of the Anson County Chamber of Commerce.

Sandy's first day at the Chamber will be Monday, March 4.



Sandy Cox

Library Offers Sittercise (Chair Exercise) Class February 22

The Hampton B. Allen Library will offer a free chair exercise class on Thursday, February 22 with instructor Sheila Raye. Classes are held at 10:30 a.m. in Library's Pritchett Room.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

Upcoming School Early Release Schedule

- Wednesday, February 28: Early release for students for staff professional development.
- All Elementary schools dismiss at 12:30 p.m.
- Middle & high schools dismiss at 1:30 p.m.

Anson Beekeepers Meet on Thursday

The Anson County Beekeepers Association will hold a meeting this Thursday, February 22 at 7 p.m. at the Anson Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. It's a Q & A with their Bee School folks. If there's time there will be a discussion on queen bees.

There will be a raffle draw for gifts (please bring gifts if you can) and a 50-50 drawing.

Arvon Edwards' Craft Class at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library is hosting a craft class with Arvon Edwards on Monday, February 26. The class will take place in the library's Pritchett Room at 10:30 a.m.

All supplies will be provided, but participants will need to bring scissors. This project will be Easter related.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.