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

## Anson County's Unemployment Rate at 6.1 Percent in April

Anson County's unemployment rate for April was 5.8 percent. In March the rate was 6.1 percent. Statewide the unemployment rate for April was 5 percent.

Anson's total labor force in April was 10,946. Of that number 10,313 were employed and 633 were unemployed. In March the total labor force was 11,052, with 10,380 employed and 672 unemployed.

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 95 of North Carolina's counties in April, increased in three, and remained unchanged in two. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 9.5 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.7 percent.

Fourteen of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases and one remained unchanged. Among the Metro areas, Rocky Mount at 7.6 percent experienced the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.9 percent. The April not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 5.0 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 94 counties, increased in two, and remained unchanged in four. All 15 metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in April by 170 to 4,614,275 while those unemployed decreased 18,743 to 243,285. Since April 2015, the number of workers employed statewide increased 106,280, while those unemployed decreased 16,928.



## Lilesville High School Class of 1956 Celebrated Reunion Recently

Classmates and friends from the Lilesville High School Class of 1956 gathered at Forestville United Methodist Church on May 22 for their 60th Reunion. The group enjoyed lunch together while sharing memories and photos of their high school days.

Pictured here are, from left, front: Peggy Newton Morris and Cassie Williams Cox. Second row: Audrey Honeycutt Hall, Frances Grooms Davis, Louise Clark Downer, Jackie Kennington McCormick, Floyd Braswell and Tom Hall. Third row: John McCormick, Phyllis Williams, Bob Williams and Jimmy Chewning. The classmates don't look any different than they did sixty years ago, pictured below.

## Uptown Wadesboro's Farmers Market is Now Open on Thursdays

Fresh produce and other locally produced items are available every Thursday on the Square in Wadesboro, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Uptown Wadesboro Farmers Market. You are invited to stop by for great items and good fellowship.

## Anson Farmers Eligible for Emergency Loan Assistance

Deadline to apply is June 27

On October 26 President Obama declared a major disaster in the State of South Carolina based on damages and losses caused by severe storms and flooding that occurred from October 1 to 23, 2015. In accordance with Section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, six adjacent counties in North Carolina are named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA emergency (EM) loan assistance. These counties are Anson, Mecklenburg, Richmond, Robeson, Scotland and Union.

Effective October 26, 2015, farmers in Anson County may apply for EM loans for physical and production losses. June 27, 2016, is the deadline for filing an application. The local office is located at 3230-A Presson Road, Monroe, NC 28112-9196, with office hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Any farmer who suffered a physical or production loss should contact his/her office for additional information.

## Called Board of Education Meeting Set for June 28

There will be a Called Board of Education Meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters on Tuesday, June 28 at 2:00 p.m. held in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center (320 Camden Road, Wadesboro).

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for June will be held on Thursday, June 30 at 5:30 p.m., also in the Charles Riddle Staff Development Center.

## The Chamber Needs Your Photos

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce is looking for photos of Anson County to use on the Chamber's website. Whether it is at the ball field, farming, kayaking, biking or of the natural beauty of the county, we want them all and from every season. The photos will be used throughout the year on the website as well as the Chamber's Facebook page.

The Chamber prefers all photos to be in high resolution. They will award prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25 to the top three photos submitted that will be chosen by a committee.

Photos should be submitted to the Anson County Chamber of Commerce by June 30. Please send your photo along with your contact information and a description of the photo to [ansonchamber@windstream.net](mailto:ansonchamber@windstream.net). Be sure to say that you saw this article in The Express Newspaper. For questions contact the Chamber at 704-694-4181.

## Anson County Veterans Council Requesting Donations for Memorial

This is a release from the Anson County Veterans Council: The Anson County Veterans Council is pleased to announce we are moving forward with the new Veterans Memorial to be located inside the Wadesboro City Park. The Veterans Council wants to show our appreciation to all our veterans for their service to our country.

The memorial will be concreted, with a marker with the emblems of the five branches of services and flags along with the American flag on a 30 foot pole. The Memorial will also have the North Carolina flag and the Anson County flag on each side at 25 feet. The memorial will have a box for used American flags. Flags that are placed inside the box will be collected and disposed of properly.

To make a contribution, please make checks payable to the Anson County Veterans Council, PO Box 791, Wadesboro, NC 28170. For more information on this project please contact Ed Parker at (704) 694-6770.

The Veterans Council would like to acknowledge the Wadesboro City Council, Project Manager Max Kendell and Wadesboro Town Manager Alex Sewell for their continued support.



## Men for Change 2016 Deadline Extended to this Friday

Please consider helping with your pledge. All funds will benefit Anson County victims of domestic violence.

Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center is asking the men of Anson County to take a pledge to create a community free from violence for women and children.

Gail Dove of ACDVC said, "We began the fundraiser on May 18 and will continue through June 24 asking men to take this pledge:

"I pledge to seek equality and respect in all my relationships with women. I commit to lead by example, to be a role model to other men and a mentor to our younger generations to create a community and future, free from violence for our women and children."

A notice will be in The Express Newspaper on June 29 listing the name of each contributor. Individual pledges are \$5. To pledge In Honor or In Memory of someone will cost \$10. Any business that would like to pledge will be asked to donate at least \$25.

"We need YOUR help so that every man in our county has the chance to participate," Dove continued. "There will be a special prize awarded to the person raising the most money!"

The proceeds from this fundraiser will go directly to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assaults within Anson County. ACDVC is a nonprofit organization and all donations are tax deductible. Tax letters will be mailed after June 27.

If you would like to be participate in selling pledges, please contact Gail Dove at 704-694-4499 for details. If you want to make a donation to Men for Change 2013, our mailing address is ACDVC, PO Box 694, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

## Bowman Senior High School Class of 1974

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1974 wants each classmate to submit their current address, telephone number and email address in order for plans to be made for a class reunion. Please send the information to [74bearcats@gmail.com](mailto:74bearcats@gmail.com).

## Oakdale Baptist Church Holds Kiss-a-Cow Fundraiser!

Oakdale Baptist Church Youth did a fundraiser as part of the 30 hour famine that they have participated in for the last three years. The idea for this years fundraiser was Kiss-a-cow. Three volunteers were elected to raise money in their names - Preacher Tracy Hickson, Larry Woodall and Eugene Walters. The one who had the most money raised in their names would be the one to kiss a cow, provided by a local farm. The money raised would be sent to World Vision's 30 hour famine.

The 30 hour famine is a time when youth learn about what children living in poverty go through on a daily basis, through videos, simulations, games, sorties, and devotions; while going hungry for 30 hours.

The cow kisser turned out to be Preacher Tracy Hickson. Larry Woodall shared this information, "Someone was kind enough to leave some lipstick for the cow in the donation box!"



Preacher Tracy Hickson ponders his fate!



## Fundraiser for Faith-Based Center of Hope is Saturday

The Faith-Based Center of Hope will host their first fundraiser at Harvest Ministries Outreach



Gary Henderson

Center with Vice President Gary Henderson of Carolinas HealthCare System as the guest speaker on Saturday, June 25, beginning at 3 p.m.

"The event is catered toward our youth and their parents," said Vancine Sturdivant, CEO of Faith Based Center of Hope. "The theme is 'Who Are You? And What defines You?' Mr. Henderson is the Assistant Vice President of Carolinas HealthCare System where he manages the day to day operations of Carolinas HealthCare System in Anson County."

Sturdivant stated that the Lilesville Community Center will be open to the public on a daily basis. We will do Toys for Tots, GED courses, after school tutorial programs and feeding the homeless. The public is cordially invited.

## Class of 1977 Reunion Meeting

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1977 will hold a reunion meeting on Saturday, June 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Hampton B. Allen Library. All class members are urged to attend.

For more information call 704-465-7194.