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

## Anson County Writers' Club Prose and Poetry Contest Announced

The Anson County Writers' Club (ACWC) is pleased to announce its twenty-eighth Contest in Prose and Poetry. The ACWC will award over \$400 in prize money to the winners of the annual writing contests.

First, second and third place winners in the adult prose and adult poetry categories will receive \$50, \$30 and \$20, respectively. Youth winners (grades 10-12) will receive \$20, \$15 and \$10, respectively. Grades 3-6 and Grades 7-9 will compete separately in the children's division. Prizes are \$15, \$10 and \$5, respectively, for prose and poetry winners in both categories.

All winners will receive a certificate suitable for framing and will be honored at a reception for friends and family on Sunday, February 25, 2018.

Winning entries of the contests will be published in an anthology, Anson Pathways X, which will be released in 2019. Previous issues of Anson Pathways, which has been published every three years since 1991, are available at the Anson County Arts Council.

The adult contests are open to anyone residing in, having resided in, attending school in or working in Anson County; or members of the ACWC. There is a \$1 entry fee that is waived for students at any institution of higher learning.

There is no entry fee for grades 3-12 students. Entries will be accepted from students living in or attending school in Anson County. Rules and entry forms will be provided to all schools.

Deadline for the 2017 contests is 5:30 p.m. on Monday, December 4.

A complete copy of the rules and an entry form that must accompany each entry are available at the H.B. Allen Library; the Anson County Chamber of Commerce; or by writing to ACWC 2016 Contests, PO Box 363, Wadesboro, NC 28170 (enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope). Rules and entry forms may also be printed from the ACWC website at [www.ansoncountywritersclub.org](http://www.ansoncountywritersclub.org).

The contest committee urges writers to study the contest rules carefully. In past years, some excellent entries that might have won were disqualified because the writers did not follow instructions.

For more information call contest co-chairman Beverly Getzen at 704-694-7022 or Kaye Ratliff at 704-694-5431.

## New Facility in Anson County Founded to Help Others

Anson County Commissioner and Toys for Tots Coordinator Vancine Sturdivant has announced the opening of a new facility in Lilesville whose sole purpose is to help others - people of all ages who are in need. Vancine, well known throughout the state of North Carolina, and especially right here in Anson County, for working tirelessly to make life better for everyone she meets, needed a facility to store donated items, and prepare the many meals she delivers daily. That facility is now a reality, and it is called Gumby's.

Gumby's will also be open to the public, both for those in need, and for anyone who has items or funds to donate. The hours of operation will be announced soon. Until then you can reach Vancine and make an appointment to visit Gumby's at 704-848-4412.

For more details, there is no better way to share that information than to present Vancine's statement below.

*From Vancine Sturdivant:* On March 20, 1954, I was born to a household that would consist of three adults, Grandma Sarah Spencer Wall, my parents Jasper and Thelma Robinson, and seven brothers and sisters. We stayed in a four room home - not a house - a home, because it was full of love. Every room except the kitchen was a bedroom.

Lets fast forward - We lived in what was then known as the Pee Dee Community of Lilesville, on Highway 145. The entire community was almost all widowers. No one had a driver's license, but were able to travel anywhere they wanted, especially to church.

As a teen I witnessed my grandmother and mother feed everyone in our community. The Lord took my grandmother home in 1984, and my mother continued feeding the elderly in our area. When the Lord took my mother home, I continued her legacy of feeding the elderly in our community, along with what my husband and I were already doing since the early 1990's. It grew bigger and bigger. My husband would always say, "You need your own place."

The name "Gumby"... Upon meeting my husband, William Lafayette Sturdivant Sr., his nickname was "Mr. Gumby" and my nickname was "Pookie." (From the cartoon on television.)

The sign on the new building says - Gumby's "We will Dance again." I met my husband in the early 1970's at a cookout and he asked me to dance. That man could dance! I love to dance and he did too. I remember going to Rockingham one night and our song came on the radio. We pulled beside the road and danced. Cars were blowing at us. Crazy, both of us were crazy!

Anyway, one of the things he said he was going to do upon his retirement was build me a building to house items for the homeless, elderly, schools and less fortunate. This is Gumby's. He was going to name it after me. I am not worthy. I named it after him. The building is located on Highway 74 in Lilesville. It consists of two desk areas, a full kitchen, bathroom, washer and dryer (to launder donated items) and plenty of space so I will be able to accept and distribute necessary items. The furniture was donated by Elissa Michelle Sturdivant and Carolinas HealthCare System - Charlotte.

Before Gumby's, with charity items in bags and boxes, sometime I failed to remember what had been donated, and I would go purchase the items only to find out later I had it. Now with items on shelves or hanging up, I can inventory what I have. This will make the whole process more efficient.

We will be open to the public. There will be operating hours. Before I decide on the hours, I have to see how many true volunteers I will have, so at first visits will be by appointment. On Tuesdays and Thursdays I cook and feed the elderly and homeless. Now we are starting Toys for Tots. Certain days I do the reading program at Wadesboro Primary and Elementary Schools. And those kids need all of us to help.

Both donors and people in need will come here to Gumby's. If they do not have transportation we will go to them like we do now.

For more information or to make an appointment, call 704-848-4412.



## 8 Year Old Girl Died in Car Crash

An eight year old girl sitting the back seat of a vehicle that crashed was thrown from the car, and died from her injuries on Sunday, September 3. The accident took place on Gold Mine Extension Road in Anson County. The girl's mother was driving the vehicle when she ran off the road and overcorrected, causing the vehicle to roll over.

The North Carolina Highway Patrol was investigating the incident, and turned over the information to the district attorney who will decide whether to bring any charges in the tragedy.

## Wadesboro Town Council Meeting Rescheduled to Today

Due to weather conditions the Town of Wadesboro council meeting which was scheduled for Monday, September 11 has been rescheduled to Wednesday, September 13 at 5 p.m.

## Movie Night at SPCC in Polkton is Friday

Everyone is invited to come to Movie Night at South Piedmont Community College's L.L. Polk Campus (Martin Tech Center) this Friday, September 15 for a screening of *Despicable Me 3* at 7 p.m. Along with the movie there will be food, fun and games too!

Best of all...it is free!  
For more information about SPCC visit [www.spcc.edu](http://www.spcc.edu).

## Are You a Young Professional in Anson County?

*This is a release from the Anson County Chamber of Commerce:* The Anson County Chamber of Commerce is looking for your talented young professionals! Dedicated to the promotion and encouragement of young professionals in the workplace, YP Anson is looking for a group in their 20's and 30's that have a strong educational background, a dedicated work ethic, and a desire for career development.

We will be kicking off with a fantastic networking session at Oliver's Restaurant and Bar on Tuesday, September 26th from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. hors-d'oeuvres and beverages will be provided by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce and all Anson County young professionals are invited to attend.

Through networking events, community service projects, and educational programs, YP Anson is striving to be the premier young professional organization in Anson County. This year we are excited about making a difference in our community! We need your young professionals to continue growing our membership in order to create an even greater impact.

Over the next year, Anson YP will be focusing on providing our members with:

- Networking Opportunities with Other Young Professionals - Socials, kickball tournaments, etc.
- Involvement with Anson County Economic Development Initiatives - An opportunity for members to work with county officials on issues related to growth and development.
- Volunteering and Mentoring Opportunities - Members will have an opportunity to volunteer their time and talents and get involved with organizations around the community.
- Education Opportunities - Members will be invited to educational seminars on various topics relevant to young professionals, such as leadership, workplace initiatives, the proper use of social media, etc.

To register, please contact Megan Sellers at 704-694-4181 or [ansonchamber@windstream.net](mailto:ansonchamber@windstream.net) at the Anson County Chamber or visit [www.ansoncountychamber.org](http://www.ansoncountychamber.org). Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing your young professionals on September 26th!

## NC State Archives Will Visit Anson County on September 21

A one-day special exhibit of documents from the NC State Archives will be on display at the Lockhart-Taylor Center on Thursday, September 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The documents reflect North Carolina's revolutionary politics as the colonies increasingly resisted the British oversight and taxes. Among significant documents to be displayed is Josiah Martin's speech denouncing the Second Provincial congress, the General Assembly's response, an excerpt from a Surry County committee of safety journal, and a letter delivering news of America's newfound status as an independent state. Also included is a document signed by all three North Carolina delegates who, just over a month earlier, had signed the Declaration of Independence.

On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted that the American colonies were independent states. Two days later, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was adopted. It was signed by William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and John Penn, delegates from North Carolina and whose signatures you will see at this exhibit.

This exhibit is being brought to the Lockhart-Taylor Center by the Anson County Historical Society, a project that has been in the works for over a year. These are documents that generally are in the vaults of the State Archives and seldom seen by the general public. With the help of State Sen. Tom McInnis, this event was coordinated with the State Archives and brought to Anson County for public display.

"These documents capture the emotions of people who were beginning to recognize their own power. The language reflects discontent with the status quo," commented State Archivist, Sarah Koonts. Ms. Koonts will also be the speaker at the Wadesboro Rotary Club meeting at noon on that Thursday. Other archivists will be available to talk about and describe the documents. There is no admission charge to see these exhibits and the public is welcomed.

## School Board Meeting is Thursday, September 14

The Anson County School Board will hold its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday, September 14 at the Administrative Office Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a Closed session. Open session begins at 6:30 p.m. and the public is invited to participate.

## Morven's October Festival Set for October 7

Plans are progressing for the annual Morven October Festival, which will be held on Saturday, October 7 this year. The event will take place in downtown Morven, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. This will be a day of fun for everyone that includes delicious food, a variety of live music, the big parade, games for the whole family, activities for the children like face painting, gospel singing...and so much more!

This year's event promises to be great day! Morven's Mayor Theodore Carr expressed his enthusiasm, "Our intent is to make this October Festival the biggest and best ever! Council Women Marjorie Cole, Ella Deberry and Janet Ratliff, as well as all of the other organizers, are working hard. They are ready to make this family friendly event something special."

Vendor spaces are still available. If you are interested in being a vendor you go to Morven Town Hall (301 East Main Street) or call 704-851-9321.

If you would like to be in the parade, participate as a performer or volunteer go by Morven Town Hall or call 704-851-9321.

## 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. at the Chamber of Commerce office, 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](mailto:sandybruney@gmail.com).

## Chronic Illness Support Group Meets Thursday

Anyone who has experienced a life changing or traumatic illness is invited to attend a chronic illness support group meeting that will be held this Thursday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at Carolinas HealthCare System-Anson on Highway 74 West in Wadesboro.

The meeting topic is 'I have/had cancer, MS, lupus, a stroke, a heart attack, etc - now what?' The speakers will be Mary Kay Woods and Mary Ellen Bennett.

This event is sponsored by Village of Strength. For more information contact Timeka Carelock at 704-761-6621 or visit [www.villageofstrength.org](http://www.villageofstrength.org).

## Brown Bag Book Club Meeting Features Author Nancy Northcutt

The Hampton B. Allen Library's Brown Bag Book Club will meet on Monday, September 18 at 12:00 noon in the Pritchett room. Nancy Northcutt will be the guest author. She has eight published books.

Nancy's debut novel, *Renegade*, received a starred review from Library Journal. The reviewer called it "genre fiction at its best." Nancy is a three-time RWA Golden Heart finalist and has won the Maggie, the Molly, the Emerald City Opener and Put Your Heart in a Book awards.

Everyone is invited to come, bring a covered dish and enjoy lunch with the author.