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Friends of the Library Open House Set for October 1

It's that time of year again, and the Friends of the Hampton B. Allen Library are planning a busy afternoon and evening of activities for their annual Open House on Thursday, October 1.

The public is invited to visit the library and meet its dedicated staff and Friends members while learning more about everything the Hampton B. Allen Library has to offer. Visitors can also learn about the Friends of the Library nonprofit organization, discover ways to become involved and help the community, and enjoy refreshments.

The fun begins with a Meet & Greet from 4 to 5 p.m. Activities will include the launch of the Teen Advisory Board, a Pokémon Card Trading Post, an information station and an opportunity to get a library card.

From 5 to 6 p.m., the Friends of the Library will hold their annual board meeting, which is also open to the public.

And because one event apparently isn't enough for a busy day at the library, the evening will finish on a musical note with a Bluegrass Jam beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Open House offers residents a chance to stop by, meet the people who help make the library a valuable part of the community and perhaps discover a program, service or activity they didn't know was available.

The Hampton B. Allen Library is located at 120 South Greene Street in Wadesboro. For more information, call 704-694-5177 or visit www.srls.info.

Chef Turns \$250,000 Lottery Win Into Thousands of Meals for the Hungry

Roberto Mendoza has cooked for some of the most important people in the world - including Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Joe Biden and Donald Trump. But some of the meals that mean the most to him have been served to people who might otherwise have gone hungry.

Mendoza has used his culinary talents to feed those in need through an organization he created, The Chef Heaven's Kitchen. A \$250,000 prize he won on a North Carolina Education Lottery "Hit \$500" scratch-off ticket in 2019 helped make that work possible.

"When I won the lottery, my dream came true," Mendoza said. "That money helped me donate 64,000 meals in North Carolina during the pandemic and another 60,000 meals in El Salvador, thanks to the North Carolina Lottery."

His passion for feeding the hungry is rooted in his own childhood in El Salvador, where he experienced hunger while growing up during a time of war.

"Talking about war is not easy," Mendoza said. "When I was 14 years old, I went to bed with no food because of the war."

With help from the Salvation Army, Mendoza escaped to Canada. He eventually made his way to Los Angeles, where he built a successful career as a chef. Despite that success, he never forgot what it was like to be hungry.

"I remember when I used to be hungry and I decided to do something," Mendoza said.

One Thanksgiving, that decision became an enormous undertaking. Mendoza ended up with 600 turkeys and set out to feed homeless people and immigrants.

"We fed about 10,000 people that day," he said.

Mendoza is now preparing for his latest venture, a new Chapel Hill restaurant called Tikka Tequila.

From experiencing hunger as a child to cooking for presidents and feeding tens of thousands of people in need, Mendoza said he can now look back with pride on the path his life has taken.

"Now I look into the mirror every day and I feel proud of myself," he said.

Tickets Now Available for Barn Blast 2027

January fundraiser will benefit Anson County Partnership for Children

Dust off those boots and save the date - Barn Blast 2027 is coming on Friday, January 29, 2027, and tickets are now available.

The popular fundraiser will benefit the Anson County Partnership for Children, helping support the organization's work on behalf of young children and families throughout Anson County.

With its boots, barn and country theme, Barn Blast promises an evening of fun while raising money for a good cause. And while January may seem a ways off, those interested in attending don't have to wait to secure their tickets.

For tickets or additional information, contact the Partnership for Children at 704-694-4036 or elizabeth.rizzo@ansonchildren.org.

So mark January 29 on the calendar, find those cowboy boots hiding in the back of the closet and get ready for Barn Blast 2027.

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Chamber Oyster Roast is Friday!

Oyster lovers, your wait is almost over. The Anson County Chamber of Commerce Oyster Roast is this Friday, September 25, at Flake Haven, bringing the community together for an evening of good food and good company.

The menu will feature Chamber on the Half Shell oysters, along with chicken fingers, macaroni and cheese and more. The annual gathering also gives Chamber members, business owners and local residents an opportunity to visit, relax and enjoy an evening together.

Tickets are available at ansoncountychamber.org or at the Chamber office, 107-C East Wade Street, Suite I in Wadesboro. Raffle tickets are also available at Plank Road Realty and the ABC Store in Wadesboro.

For information, call the Chamber at 704-310-8948.

And remember - it's this Friday! Come hungry. Oyster-eating technique is optional.



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**UNAUTHORIZED
HYDRANT USE**

The use of Anson County Water Department fire hydrants for obtaining water for agricultural or any other purpose without written consent of the Anson County Water Department is a violation of state and federal law.

Hydrants are for use by written-permitted users, water company or fire department personnel only.

The Anson County Water Department will take legal action against any individual or business that unlawfully obtains water from the Anson County water system.

PLEASE REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

- Anson County Sheriff's Office 704-694-4188, or the
- Anson County Water Department 704-694-5208

Hydrant use permit information is available from the Anson County Water Department.
Information is available at 704-694-5208.

**FARM
BUREAU
ANSON**

**Anson County
Farm Bureau
Annual Meeting**
Monday, October 5th

Location: **Lockhart-Taylor Center**
514 North Washington Street • Wadesboro, NC

Time: **Doors will open at 6:15 p.m.**
Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.
Business meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Admission: **We can only allow
2 people per membership**
You must be present for your guest to come.
*Please present your membership card at the door.

This is the Annual Meeting of the members of the Anson County Farm Bureau, Inc., a North Carolina corporation (the "Corporation"). During the meeting, the members will consider a proposed amendment to the Corporation's bylaws regarding the eligibility requirements for the Corporation's Officers and Directors.

We look forward to seeing you there. Kevin Martin, President

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