

Grace Senior Center Announces October Activities

Month features exercise, technology, crafts, book clubs, bingo and a Fright-Day Harvest Festival

Grace Senior Center has a busy October planned, with activities ranging from chair exercises and technology classes to fall crafts, bingo and a special Fright-Day Harvest Festival. There will be no Line Dance classes during October, November or December.

Chair Exercises will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m., although times may vary. Claris Companion Tablet technology classes will be offered Thursday, October 8, from 11 a.m. to noon and Monday, October 19, from 10 to 11 a.m.

- Other October activities include:
- Book Club: Thursday, October 1, 10 a.m. to noon.
 - Fuse Beads: Friday, October 2, 1 to 3 p.m.
 - Audio Book Club: Monday, October 5, 1 to 2 p.m., featuring The Safe Room by Lisa Unger.
 - Leaf Painting: Tuesday, October 6, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - Fall Canvas Painting: Friday, October 9, 1 to 3 p.m.
 - Make Fall Wreaths: Monday, October 12, 1 to 3 p.m.
 - Painting Pumpkins: Tuesday, October 13, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - Making Masks: Thursday, October 15, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - Pumpkin Wood Disc Ornament: Friday, October 16, 1 to 3 p.m.
 - Design Smooth Rocks: Tuesday, October 20, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - Ayfjovs Garden Paper Pot: Friday, October 23, 1 to 3 p.m.
 - Bingo: Monday, October 26, 1 to 2 p.m.
 - Harvest-ween Cards: Tuesday, October 27, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - Decorate Hats: Thursday, October 29, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The month wraps up with the Fright-Day Harvest Festival Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 30, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

These programs and activities are designed to keep Anson County seniors active, engaged and connected throughout the year.

Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, just past IGA on the left. For more information about these or other activities, call 704-694-6616.

Anson’s August Unemployment Rate Drops to 4.5 Percent

August rate improves from July and from a year ago, but remains above statewide average

Anson County’s unemployment rate moved in the right direction in August, falling to 4.5 percent, according to the latest figures from the N.C. Department of Commerce. The rate was down from 4.7 percent in July and from 5.0 percent in August 2025.

The county had a civilian labor force of 8,794 in August, with 399 people counted as unemployed. Anson’s 4.5 percent rate placed the county 90th among North Carolina’s 100 counties when counties were ranked from lowest to highest unemployment.

While the numbers improved, Anson continued to run above North Carolina’s overall not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.6 percent. Statewide, unemployment rates declined in 91 counties during August and remained unchanged in nine. Edgecombe County had the highest rate at 5.4 percent, while Currituck County had the lowest at 2.7 percent.

The picture among Anson’s neighbors was mixed, although most nearby counties posted lower rates. Richmond County was at 3.9 percent, Stanly County at 3.1 percent and Union County at 3.4 percent. Scotland County remained higher than Anson at 4.7 percent.

Perhaps the most encouraging number for Anson County is the year-to-year comparison. The local unemployment rate has dropped half a percentage point, from 5.0 percent in August 2025 to 4.5 percent this August. Statewide, 99 of North Carolina’s 100 counties recorded lower unemployment rates than a year earlier, with one county unchanged. All 15 metropolitan areas also experienced decreases over the year.

Statewide employment increased by 32,219 people during August to 5,040,683, while the number of unemployed workers fell by 5,300 to 188,467. Compared with August 2025, however, the number of employed workers was down by 22,829, while the number of unemployed workers declined by 30,660.

Commerce officials caution that employment estimates can be affected by significant seasonal patterns, making year-over-year comparisons particularly useful when looking at the not seasonally adjusted figures. The figures are also preliminary and subject to revision.

For Anson County, both comparisons point in the same direction this time: unemployment was down from the previous month and down from a year ago. The county still has ground to make up compared with the statewide rate, but 4.5 percent is better than 4.7 percent, and considerably better than the 5.0 percent recorded a year ago.

Additional employment data are available from the N.C. Department of Commerce at: d4.nccommerce.com.

Anson Mobile Food Market Returns October 15

Free produce, health screenings and helpful information will be available at Wadesboro Primary School

The Anson Mobile Food Market returns Thursday, October 15, and once again the price is difficult to beat: free.

The market begins at 10 a.m. at Wadesboro Primary School, which is located at 1542 Highway 52 South in Wadesboro. Attendees are asked to allow organizers enough time to get everything set up before the distribution begins. After all, even free vegetables need a few minutes to get ready for company.

Food will be distributed for as long as supplies last, with fresh vegetables, fruit and bread available when possible. Anson County residents can typically receive six to eight different types of fresh produce at each monthly market. What goes into the bag depends on what is available that month, so there may be a little element of surprise involved. Think of it as a produce grab bag, except considerably healthier than the kind with candy inside.

And organizers couldn’t make the requirements much simpler:

Nothing is required for you to receive produce, just come.

Volunteers will also be available to help elderly or disabled attendees with their produce bags. That’s especially handy if Mother Nature happens to be particularly generous with the potatoes that morning.

The event isn’t only about filling produce bags. Free blood pressure and blood sugar checks will be offered, along with information and booths focusing on healthy living. Participating agencies will provide information about tobacco use and hypertension, two areas identified in the county’s health assessment.

The monthly Mobile Food Market is intended to help address the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in Anson County while also connecting residents with useful health information and services.

The free event is sponsored by Anson County Extension and its many community partners.

So bring yourself, leave the grocery money at home and see what’s fresh on October 15. Just remember to give everybody time to unload the vegetables before you start eyeing the tomatoes.

Class of 1974 Plans Fall Gathering at Jay’s Seafood

October 17 dinner offers classmates another chance to catch up, reminisce and possibly improve a few old stories

Members of the Class of 1974 are invited to get together for an evening of food, fellowship and plenty of reminiscing on Saturday, October 17 at Jay’s Seafood Restaurant in Albemarle.

The gathering will begin at 5 p.m. at the restaurant on Stony Gap Road. Following the success of the class’s spring gathering, organizers are hoping for another good turnout and another opportunity for old friends and classmates to reconnect — and perhaps figure out who everybody is without first looking at a yearbook.

Dinner will be “Dutch treat,” with everyone ordering whatever they would like from the menu and paying for their own meal. That keeps things simple: no tickets, no complicated arrangements and no arguments over who ordered the extra shrimp.

There is no formal program planned. The evening is simply an opportunity to relax, visit and enjoy each other’s company. Considering the Class of 1974 has now accumulated more than half a century of stories since graduation, finding something to talk about probably won’t be a problem.

Organizers especially want to spread the word to as many members of the Class of 1974 as possible. Classmates are encouraged to pass the invitation along to others, including those who may not regularly receive announcements.

So mark the calendar for October 17, bring along some memories and enjoy another Class of ’74 get-together at Jay’s Seafood. And remember, after 52 years, if two classmates remember the same high school story differently, the better version probably wins.

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION ANSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

**The statewide General Election
will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.**



- **Photo ID:** Voters will be asked to show photo ID when they vote. All voters will be allowed to vote with or without ID. Voters who lack ID can get one for free from their county board of elections. Find out more at ncsbe.gov/voter-id.

- **Election Day:** Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

- **Early Voting:** Early voting will be held at the Anson County Board of Elections Office, located at 402 Morven Road, Wadesboro, NC 28170, from Thursday, October 15, 2026, through Saturday, October 31, 2026. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, October 31.

- **Absentee Ballots:** Absentee ballots will be mailed to voters who have requested them beginning September 4, 2026. Absentee ballots must be received by the county board of elections no later than 7:30 p.m. on Election Day, November 3, 2026. A voter can fill out an absentee ballot request at votebymail.ncsbe.gov, or by filling out a request form provided by the county board of elections office. The request must be received through the website or by the Anson County Board of Elections by 5 p.m. October 20, 2026.

- **Contests on the Ballot:** Contests on the ballot include U.S. Senate, U.S. House, N.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice, N.C. Court of Appeals Judge, Superior and District Court Judge, N.C. House and Senate, and countywide offices such as County Commissioner and School Board. A Statewide Referendum proposing amendments to the N.C. Constitution will also be on the ballot.

- **Voter Registration:** All persons who are registered to vote with the Anson Board of Elections may vote in this election. The voter registration deadline for this election is 5 p.m. Friday, October 9, 2026. Eligible individuals who are not registered by that deadline may register and vote at any early voting site during the early voting period. Individuals registering to vote at an early voting site will be required to provide current documentation of their residence (for example, a government ID, other government document, or a paycheck, bank statement, or utility bill).

- **Voter Assistance:** Voters voting in person are entitled to assistance by an election official, or, if assistance is needed due to disability or illiteracy, by a qualified person of their choice. Voting sites are accessible to all voters. Curbside voting is available for voters who are not able to enter voting sites without physical assistance because of age or physical disability.

- **Questions:** Questions? Call the Anson County Board of Elections Office at 704-994-3223 or send an email to boe@ansoncountync.gov.

Kelly Newton, Chair

Anson County Board of Elections



**FOR
ANSON COUNTY
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT**

**Experience, Leadership,
and Legal Knowledge Matter**

With more than 31 years of law enforcement experience, I have developed the knowledge, leadership, investigative skills, and understanding of North Carolina law necessary to serve as your next Anson County Clerk of Superior Court.

- **31+ Years of Law Enforcement Experience**
- **15+ Years of Leadership and Management Experience**
- **Former Chief of Police**
- **31+ Years of Criminal Investigative Experience**
- **Decades of Experience Working With North Carolina Law**

I have worked with North Carolina General Statutes for more than three decades and have remained current with legal updates and changes in the law. My career has required me to understand and apply these laws in real-world situations. Throughout my career, I have dealt directly with domestic violence and family disputes—situations that can involve divorce, child custody, property and residence disputes, and questions concerning an individual’s mental state. I have personally observed and investigated the circumstances surrounding these cases and understand how complicated and sensitive they can become.

I have also gathered evidence, interviewed witnesses, reviewed facts, prepared documentation, and made decisions based on law and evidence. These skills are directly relevant to the responsibilities of the Clerk of Superior Court.

The Anson County Clerk of Superior Court’s Office encompasses civil matters, criminal matters, and financial and bookkeeping functions. The current staff members are extremely knowledgeable and experienced, and I respect the important work they perform every day.

I’m Not Entering This Race Without Experience.

I’m bringing more than three decades of Experience, Leadership, Legal Knowledge and Public Service to the table.

Ready to Serve Anson County.