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

Community Celebrates Farm-City Week

Ag producers, business representatives and community leaders from across the county attended the annual Farm-City Week dinner, held Tuesday, September 19 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center of South Piedmont Community College in Wadesboro. The event was held to emphasize the collaborations between the agricultural industry and the business community, with 134 in attendance. Outstanding individuals were also recognized and awarded plaques for their dedication to agriculture and business for 2023.

Farm-City Week observances take place around the nation each year to strengthen the understanding of farm-city connections that provide our food, fiber and shelter. Anson County is fortunate to have strong ties that appreciate its agricultural base and its importance to the local economy. The Anson County Chamber of Commerce and Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District joined the Anson County Cooperative Extension staff to host the evening. The event combined the annual Farm-City Week observances with Brown Creek's annual awards dinner.

Sponsored by Anson County Farm Bureau guests were treated to a reception before the event, followed by a southern buffet. The evening program highlighted agriculture, award recipients and entertainment.

Plaques given during the evening included:

- Outstanding Farmer of the Year, awarded by Anson County Cooperative Extension to Steve Waddell, owner of Waddell Farms. He is pictured below with Aimee Colf.

- Outstanding Agribusiness was awarded to Mills Bottom Farms, Gracie Stinson, presented by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce. She is in the second picture down with David Edwards of the Anson Chamber.



- Anson County Conservation Farm Family awarded to Migma Farms, recognized by Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District. Receiving the recognition were Mark, Melissa, Clint and Mason Mills. (Third picture down.)



- Resource Conservation Workshop participants for 2023 were recognized and they were Haylee Owens. Heaviest Watermelon winners were: Nick Smith 35.2lbs, Jacob Goodwin 34.6lbs and Barbara Sikes 33.2lbs.



The evening's entertainment was bluegrass band, The Local Boys. The legacy of bluegrass music lives on in many styles, but the musicians defining themselves in tradition uphold the stories and techniques of yesterday's music. For more than two decades, one band doing that has been The Local Boys, a Bluegrass and Americana band based in Charlotte. The Local Boys love music that has grown and evolved over decades - old-time, bluegrass, country, and rock 'n' roll. Beginning their musical journey over 20 years ago in Maryland, The Local Boys have a long tradition of celebrating the deep roots of traditional bluegrass music.



This year's event kicked off a week of observing and celebrating agriculture in Anson County. The week ended with a Family Fall Fest on the square in Uptown Wadesboro and the annual Ag Fair at the Extension Center.

By Roshunda B. Terry, County Extension Director

Free Mental Health Awareness Event at HOLLA! on Sunday, October 22

The public is invited to a free Mental Health Awareness Event on Sunday, October 22, from 3 to 6 p.m. The event will feature vendors from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., a catered lunch with speakers from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m., and art therapy (canvas painting) from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

It takes place at the HOLLA! Community Center, located at 229 East Main Street in Morven.

The event is sponsored by Sunny Keez Events and HOLLA! Interested in being a vendor? The fee is only \$10. For questions and more information text 704-294-9556 or 704-774-0182.

June Witherspoon Craft Class

The Hampton B. Allen Library will have a craft class Monday, October 23 at 10:30 a.m. in the Library's Pritchett room. June Witherspoon will be the instructor. Everyone is invited to come. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.



Anson Middle School Volleyball Team's Eighth Graders Recognized

On Thursday, October 12 the Anson Middle School Lady Bearcats Volleyball Team got the victory over North Stanly Middle School 3-1. During the game the eighth graders on the volleyball team were recognized and presented with flowers and gift bags.

Pictured above are, from left: Ella Watson, Madilyn Sasser, Isabella Osborn, Elin Lockhart, Angeline Lee, AMS Principal Dr. Darrell Potts, Megan Kiser, Anna Dutton, McKenna Clarke and Layla Britt.

The team played East Middle on Tuesday, October 17...and won 3-0! The whole team is awesome! Congratulations! The next game is at home this Thursday, October 19, when the Anson Middle School Lady Bearcats take on Albemarle. Come out and enjoy the action!

Tighter Security for Varsity Football Games

The Anson County School System is bringing in more security officers and other safety measures at their high school varsity football games to tighten up safety. Here's what to expect upon arrival to the game:

STRONGER SECURITY: There Will be additional security personnel with a noticeable police presence at the game. The additional personnel will be provided in a collaborative effort between the Wadesboro Police Department and the Anson County Sheriffs Office.

METAL DETECTORS: Metal detectors will be used. Everyone attending the game, including students, parents, relatives, school personnel, and guests, will be subject to metal detection screening.

WATCH WHAT YOU BRING: Attendees are encouraged not to bring any type of bags inside facilities. However, the following bags are permitted:

- Bags that are clear plastic, vinyl or PVC and do not exceed 12" x 6" x 12"
- Small clutch bags, with or without a handle or strap, that do not exceed 4.5" x 6.5" (approximately the size of a hand)
- An exception will be made for medically necessary items after proper inspection. Diaper bags are permitted as long as the child is in attendance.
- Any bag brought to the athletic event may be subject to search prior to entry into the athletic facility.
- Prohibited items include bags, weapons of any kind and tobacco products, including vaping products.

ARRIVE EARLY: Allow enough time for parking, and be prepared to stand in line, go through metal detectors and enter the game, according to the school system.

ADMISSION TICKETS: Tickets can be purchased online at: ansonschools.org/AHS/7679-Athletic-Tickets.html

BATHROOMS & CONCESSIONS: Anson spectators will use the concession stand located at the Highway 74 end of the bleachers (located at the weight room). Anson spectators will use the bathrooms located at the end of the main entrance steps. Visitor spectators will use the concession stand and bathrooms closest to the visitor's side at the field house (next to the baseball field).

No elementary or middle school student(s) should be dropped off and left unattended.

Students must have an adult with them to enter and the adult must supervise them throughout their time at the game.

SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING: The school system encourages anyone who sees something suspicious to inform a school official or law enforcement immediately. Or you can use the See Something, Say Something App link located on the Anson Schools website at www.ansonschools.org.

"We want our high school athletic competitions to be safe and secure and that is why we are taking additional steps to work with law enforcement," said Superintendent of Schools, Howard McLean. "Varsity football games are a special event for our community, and the focus for our students and families should be the excitement of the game and pregame/halftime performances. We are doing everything we can to ensure safety at all varsity football games."

New Rides, New Entertainers and Loads of New Foods on Deck for the N.C. State Fair

N.C. State Fair visitors should bring an appetite for fun with four new amusement rides, two new grounds entertainers and over 30 new food items being part of the stellar lineup. The fair runs through this Sunday, October 22 in Raleigh.

Rides New rides range from the elegantly beautiful two-tiered Venetian Carousel to the high voltage thrills of Tesla AC, which is capped offed with six brightly lit lightning bolts hovering above two-person cars that attach to spinning and dipping arms.

Techno Jump and the surf-themed Wipeout round out the new ride offerings. On Techno Jump, riders spin in a circle while the arms of the ride rise and fall in different rhythmic sequences - up and down on alternating arms, up and down for all arms, a wave like upward and downward motion where one car follows the lead of the other ones or something different all together. Riders on the Wipeout face outward around the center orb as the ride churns in different directions, rocking and rolling like ocean waves.

Free Grounds Acts The Birdman: World Class Bird Shows will perform daily near Gate 7. These educational and conservation minded shows seek to highlight the relationship between humans and animals and showcase the natural abilities of the bird stars. Also new in 2023 is the Melody Farm Follies an animatronic theater show featuring Rocky Broccoli and his veggie friends plus a singing and dancing scarecrow.

Fair favorites Rock-It the Robot and Dale Jones, the one-handed juggler return to the fairgrounds for daily appearances. Look for Rock-It roaming around Kiddieland and check out Jones' show at North Dorton Area Patio.

New Food Over 30 new foods will be offered running the gamut from sweet to savory and including world-wide flavors from Africa, South America, Hungary, Jamaica, Mexico, the Mediterranean region, Korea and New Orleans.

Revamped Kiddieland Area - Coastal Credit Union Family Fun Zone at Cotton Park. Finally, the Coastal Credit Union Family Fun Zone at Cotton Park has been updated since the 2022 fair. New seating options, lights in the trees and four new food vendors will be in the area that will host Casey's Clubhouse and daily visits by the fair mascot Casey Cardinal, plus daily fire safety shows for kids.

For more information, visit the State Fair website at www.ncstatefair.org. The 2023 N.C. State Fair will run Oct. 12-22 at the N.C. State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. The fair offers an experience unique to North Carolina and is an unparalleled value with free entertainment, thrilling rides and games, thousands of animals, endless family activities, competitions, vendors and creative deep-fried delights. For more information, visit www.ncstatefair.org or connect on Facebook, X and Instagram at @ncstatefair.org.

Anson Mobile Food Market is October 19

The Anson Mobile Food Market will be held on Thursday, October 19, starting at 4:00 p.m. at Wadesboro Primary School, located at 1542 Highway 52 South in Wadesboro. Food will be given away, including fresh vegetables, fruit and bread (if available). There will be blood pressure and blood sugar checks, along with other healthy living topics and booths.

This free event will afford the citizens of Anson County to receive six to eight different types of fresh produce monthly. This is a free, so please come and get some produce. Nothing is required for you to receive produce, just come.

Atrium Health Anson, Anson County Extension, Carolinas Primary Care, Anson County Health Department and WellCare have partnered to provide these services.

Chicken & Dumplings at BRLC

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center will hold their annual Sarah & Joe's Chicken & Dumplings on Saturday, October 28, from 11:00 a.m. until 5 p.m. This is an Eat-in or Carry-out service. Donations will be accepted.

Donations will be accepted. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information you can call 704-826-8737, check their Facebook page or visit www.burnsvillele.org.

Free Thanksgiving Dinner Nov. 11

The Lamb of God Church in Wadesboro is hosting a community outreach, giving out free Thanksgiving dinner to-go plates on Saturday, November 11. They will also give away coats. The event begins at 11:00 a.m. The dinner plates and coats will be on a first come, first served basis.

This event will take place in the Wadesboro IGA parking lot, located at 805 Camden Road. For information call 843-623-3777.