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

Municipal Election Results

The Municipal Election was held on Tuesday, November 7. Here are the races and voting totals, with the winners in bold print & vote totals in parenthesis:

ANSONVILLE

• Mayor - **Angela (Tina) Caraway (97)**, Joe Estridge (49), Write-In Misc (1)

• Council - **Sarah Burns (99)**, Denise Watkins Cannon (95), Phyllis Watkins (90), Jesse T. Huntley (81), Mark Beloin (74), Write-In Misc (17)

LILESVILLE

• Mayor - **Bernice Bennett (91)**, Write-In Misc. (3)

• Commissioner - **Christopher Harrington (70)**, John Montgomery (54), Lewis Adams (52), Gaye Harrington (49), Charles (Chuck) Cook (46), Hannah Spencer (45), Randy Henry (42), Write-In Misc (4)

MCFARLAN

• Mayor - **Diane Timmons (21)**, Write-In Misc (3)

• Council - **Gail J. Whittington (24)**, Debbie Bryant (23), Michael Foster (17), Kim Gainey (17), Jerry Wilson Timmons (16), Gene Harney (12), Write-In Misc (6)

MORVEN

• Mayor - **Tim Watkins (47)**, Marjorie Cole (27), Write-In (1)

• Council - **Tanya Chance (44)**, **Corinthia Lewis Lemon (42)**, Alvis Snow (21), Write-In Misc (1)

PEACHLAND

• Mayor - **Clint Davis (48)**, Write-In Misc (3)

• Council - **Alex Xavier (39)**, **Jeff Davis (35)**, Kaylin Blake Treadaway (18), Write-In Misc (1)

POLKTON

• Mayor - **Myra Thomas Dalglish (61)**, Cynthia Williams (50)

• Commissioner - **Johnny Faulk (80)**, Jimmy Hildreth (71), W. Clifton Martin III (70), Sissy Stegall (68), Russell Goodwin (62), Bernard Sturdivant (49), Laurin Francey (23), Write-In Misc (2)

WADESBORO

• Mayor - **John Ballard (253)**, Write-In Misc (220)

• Council - **Garrett Snuggs (300)**, **JoAnn Bennett (275)**, Russell Sikes (174), Lewis Evans (157), Lawrence Parsons (60), Ida Cason (12), Write-In Misc (2)

David Edwards Announces Resignation from Wadesboro Town Manager Position

In a press release issued on Tuesday, November 7, Wadesboro Town Manager David Edwards announced that he is resigning from that position. Here is his release:

"At the November 6th meeting of the Wadesboro Town Council, I announced my resignation from the position of Town Manager for Wadesboro. In 2018, the Council saw fit to offer me this position and I have done my very best to serve the Council and citizens of Wadesboro with integrity and dedication to seeing this community grow in a positive way. Together we have made great strides in enhancing the business climate, providing the highest level of service for the lowest possible cost, improving our capital assets and salaries across all divisions, and preparing Wadesboro for future growth through land use and zoning updates.

Thank you to all who have supported me throughout this time, and thank you most of all to all the wonderful employees and elected officials who will no doubt continue to serve Wadesboro well in the future. My family and I will remain residents of Wadesboro and continue to serve in the community, and I look forward to seeing this town continue to thrive. My final day of employment with the Town will be January 4th, 2024, during which time I will continue to seek progress on the many projects we have ongoing and will assist the Town Council in selecting an interim or permanent replacement.

Thank you, David Edwards, Town Manager



WPD Officers Recognized

On Thursday, October 26 Wadesboro Police Department Sergeant T. Nolen and Patrolman A. Robson were recognized by the Anson County Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center (ACDVC) for their outstanding support to ACDVC and victims of domestic violence.

Sgt. Nolen (left) and Ptl. Robson (right) are pictured above.

Veterans Day Celebration and Luncheon on November 11

Harvest Ministries and City Reach Community Center are hosting Veterans Day Celebration & Luncheon this Saturday, November 11, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. All veterans are invited to attend. Veterans in attendance will receive a delicious free meal, a free gift, and a free photo.

The menu is: fried/grilled chicken, rice and gravy, beans, roll, dessert and a drink.

No reservation is required. For more information you can call 704-294-3153.

The location for City Reach Center is 1132 East Caswell Street (Highway 74) in Wadesboro. (Behind Pizza Hut.)

Veterans Day Service Saturday

A Veterans Day service will be held at North Wadesboro Baptist Church on Saturday, November 11 at 10:00 a.m. The community is invited to join in this showing of thanks to all our men and women who have served in the military.

The church is located at 1211 North Greene Street in Wadesboro.



Class of 1989 Makes \$2,500 Donation to Anson High School

The alumni of the Anson High Class of 1989 made a \$2,500 donation to Anson High School during this year's homecoming celebration. The gift which was earmarked for instructional supplies for students and classrooms.

According to the class representative Cynthia Redfearn, "The Class of 1989 is very grateful for our experience at Anson High. It helped to nurture and develop us into the men, women, professionals and humanitarians we are today." Redfearn stated that it is their hope that the donation will encourage other alumni groups to support our students, schools and community.

Anson High School Principal Chris Stinson stopped by the tailgating area during Friday's homecoming game for the official check presentation with members of the class.

The Anson County Board of Education Approves a \$41 Million New Middle School Project

At the Anson County Board of Education's Regular Meeting on Monday, October 30 the board unanimously approved to move forward with a \$41 million new middle school project. The new school will house 7th and 8th grade students when it opens, with the option to build a 6th grade wing at a later time. Anson County Schools will be working with Pinnacle Architect and Leitner Construction Company.

While North Carolina law states that local governments are responsible for school construction expenses, in 2018 retired Anson County Schools' Superintendent Michael Freeman and his team applied for a Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund Grant. The Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund was established to provide additional money to build school facilities in economically struggling counties. The state awarded Anson County Schools with a \$15 million Needs-Based Public School Grant for the construction of a new middle school. The \$15 million grant also required a \$5 million match by the local government. The grant for Anson County Schools was one of many awarded to counties across North Carolina.

Due to continued issues with the local government's audit history which prevented borrowing authority to assist Anson County Schools with construction expenses, in 2021 Superintendent Howard McLean and his team applied for another Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund Grant and were awarded \$15 million to go toward the new middle school project. These grant funds did not require a match by the local government.

Since being awarded the grant funds, Anson County Schools' Chief Financial Officer, Joy Drake, has identified over \$3 million that the state has authorized to be used for capital projects. In addition to the funds currently secured and identified, Anson County Schools plans to request over \$2 million from the local government sales and use tax account that are specifically designated for capital projects for Anson County Schools.

"Groundbreaking for the new middle school construction project is expected to begin after the beginning of the new year. If the building process goes as planned, the school will be completed some time in late 2025. It is exciting to see this vision finally come to life and we are looking forward to the groundbreaking ceremony in early 2024," stated Superintendent McLean.

The new school will be built behind Anson High School. McLean explained that part of the reason Anson County Schools decided to build a new middle school is because the current middle school has many ongoing issues that the district continues to "band-aid" due its age. "Our maintenance team does a fantastic job keeping the current middle school running as smooth as possible for student learning," stated McLean. There has not been a decision made yet on what will happen to the property once it is vacant.

More updates will be provided as they become available.

Anson Mobile Food Market is November 16

The Anson Mobile Food Market will be held on Thursday, November 16, starting at 4:00 p.m. at Lilesville Baptist Church, located at 118 Camden Street in Lilesville. 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 offers Anson citizens six to eight different types of fresh produce monthly. This is a free initiative, 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 in the months of September through November to offer the Anson Mobile Market.

This event is to assist in the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in the county. It will also serve as an educational event to offer education on the two targeted areas of the county health assessment which are tobacco use and hypertension. Agencies will be set up offering services and information in those two targeted areas.

The Compassionate Friends Meet Thurs.

The Compassionate Friends, a support group for parents, grandparents and siblings who have lost a child of any age, welcomes you to attend their monthly meetings. The upcoming meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9. They meet on the second Thursday each month, at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church on Lee Avenue in Wadesboro. "We need not walk alone."

For more information call Ken Caulder at 704-694-2524.

Remember to Change Your Smoke Detector Batteries

Each fall and spring when we set our clocks back or ahead an hour, it is also a good time to change your smoke detector batteries. Twice a year battery replacement helps ensure that your smoke detectors are in good working order.

You and your family deserve no less!

"Thank You Veterans" Gift Giveaway at Grace Senior Center

Operation Gratitude to be held on Thursday, November 9

Agenda

History Veterans Day is held on the 11th day of the 11th month in honor of the 11th hour on this day when World War I ended in 1918 - signaling Armistice Day.

Objective On this day Grace Senior Center is showing appreciation, gratitude and honor to the men and women who served in the United States armed forces.

Event Veterans Day is November 11, but Grace Senior Center will observe the day on Thursday, November 9, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

As each person comes to the Grace Senior Center Office they will receive a treat bag as a way to thank them for their service.

Goal Wanda Talbert, Director, said, "This event is our way of saying Thank You for your service!"

Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, just past IGA. The telephone number is 704-694-6616.

Helping those who have a master's degree in life.

Moderna Covid Vaccine Available at the Health Department

The Anson County Health Department has a limited amount of Moderna vaccine available. If you would like to schedule a vaccination, call them at 704-694-5188.

The Health Department also has flu shots available. If you are interested in getting a flu shot please call 704-694-5188.

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. You can find them on Facebook and the website is: www.co.anson.nc.us/164/Health-Department.

Grace Senior Center Has It Going On!

Grace Senior Center is an excellent resource for Anson County's senior citizens. They provide programs, services, activities and fellowship that are beneficial...ALL ARE FREE...AND ALL FUN & INFORMATIVE!

Be sure to check the Express Events Calendar for more activities at Grace Senior Center.

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

November Events

• **Chair Exercise** every Tuesday and Thursday, 10am-11am. (No class on November 21.)

• **Thursday, November 9 Thank You Veterans Event.** Free gift treat bags for vets. Drive thru 10am-4pm

• **Tuesday, November 14 BINGO** 12 noon - 1pm

• **Thursday, November 16** Bridge Club 1pm-3pm

December Events

• **Thursday, December 7 Annual Senior Christmas Luncheon** 12pm-2pm at Lockhart-Taylor Center. Drive thru.

• **Tuesday, December 12 One Day Trip to Concord Mills**, for shopping and lunch, 8am-5pm. Cost is \$33 for transportation. Call 704-694-6616 for info & to register.