

## Anson's County Commissioner

A County Commissioner job is to help with the health, safety, and the welfare of the county. They have meetings to discuss the budget for the county, to make decisions about programs, and protecting the county's image. That's why I sat down with Mrs. Anna Baucom who is the chairman of the Anson County's Commissioner's Board.

Mrs. Baucom was the first woman County Commissioner in the history of Anson County. She moved to Anson County in 1969. She was born and raised in Florida, then moved to Germany with her military husband. She relocated to Charlotte, North Carolina but decided to move to Anson County. Mrs. Baucom attended UNC Chapel Hill's School of the Government to study local government and county laws. Once graduated, she was appointed to the board to fill in a vacancy of the current term in 1993. She ran for county commissioner and became the first woman on the board in Anson County. Her first term was from 1993 to 1998. During her first term the landfill deal was her biggest issue. The landfill deal involved Lilesville's community and the already full landfill. They needed a way to move the trash either to a different fill or build a new one. After listening to many ideas she voted for it to be built. During that time the people of the town made signs saying "Anna Baucom Queen of Garbage". When her term was up she had ran for re-election and she lost. She only received one vote. In 2006 other commissioners on the board asked her to run for re-election and she won. She has been a county commissioner that election.

When Mrs. Baucom started she thought being a county commissioner was going to be easy. She was idealistic and promises the public many things. However, some of the promises she made couldn't be fulfilled due to the limited budget or the lack of power to do so. For example, she promised paved road but the money was not there. She realized budget meetings are hard when you have a limited budget. They like to focus on keeping programs that benefit the community. Mrs. Baucom was in favor of renovating the old Belk's store building and turning it into a center for veterans. She believed the county needed to honor men and women who served.

Mrs. Baucom has done a lot during her service as a commissioner for Anson County. Even though she was treated badly and doubted some of her decisions she still had the good of the county in mind. This will be her final term. Mrs. Baucom is sad but believes she has serviced this county well. She believes it is time for a new person with fresher ideas to take over her board seat. There is still a lot that needs to be done in Anson County for the good of the community. Mrs. Baucom was taught to give back to your community as it's have given to you. She believes that is something we all should do

Na'La E. Brown

Anson County 4-Her

Busy Bees 4-H club