

Blue Cross NC Allowing Early Prescription Refills Due to Anticipated Impacts from Severe Weather

In advance of anticipated severe weather in North Carolina, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (Blue Cross NC) is allowing early prescription refills to ensure that customers have access to the prescription drugs they need. This action is in effect for the entire state of North Carolina following Gov. Roy Cooper's declaration of a state of emergency on January 8, 2024. Early prescription refills are available to customers in all 100 North Carolina counties through February 7, 2024.

Early prescription refills for Blue Cross NC customers must be made while the state of emergency declaration is in effect. Customers with questions about their prescription drug coverage may contact the customer service number on their Blue Cross NC card. Members with questions about their coverage may log in to their self-service portal at blueconnectnc.com to send a secure message. The early prescription refill policy does not apply to controlled substances. Blue Cross NC will continue to update customers through the company's social media channels.

Please remember: Blue Cross NC always advises members to go to their nearest hospital during an emergency.

Funny, Random & Weird Holidays

- January 11 Thursday - Learn Your Name in Morse Code Day
- January 12 Friday - Marzipan Day
- January 13 Saturday - Make Your Dreams Come True Day
- January 14 Sunday - Organize Your Home Day
- January 15 Monday - Strawberry Ice Cream Day
- January 15 Monday - Bagel and Lox Day
- January 16 Tuesday - Nothing Day
- January 17 Wednesday - Benjamin Franklin Day
- January 17 Wednesday - Kid Inventors' Day
- January 17 Wednesday - Ditch New Year's Resolution Day

Anson County Activities to Commemorate the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Members of the Anson County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dreamkeepers Association are developing and preparing activities to celebrate the birthday of the late, slain civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The theme for this year's activities is "The Urgency of Creating the Beloved Community." This theme comes from the many references in Dr. King's speeches about building a community of "social equity and belonging, peace, and freedom from prejudice, i.e. a 'beloved community.'"

Events will begin with an MLK, Jr. Jazzy Gala which will be held at the HOLLA Center, located at 229 East Main Street in Morven on Friday, January 12, from 6:00 until 10:00 p.m. The soulful melodies of jazz music will be provided by the Stanley Baird Group. Expect an unforgettable evening filled with live performances by this renowned jazz artist. And, dance music will be provided by Anson County's own DJ Gate 3. Enjoy delicious food and drink along with a vibrant atmosphere. To purchase tickets for this event, go to the www.ansondreamkeepers.org website.

The annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Unity Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, January 13 at 9:00 a. m. on the steps of the Anson County Courthouse. The community breakfast will address themes of unity, love, peace, end of poverty, freedom from prejudice, and belonging-social equity. Area ministers will render thoughts and prayers on scripture and current events. Refreshments will be provided.

Also on Saturday, January 13, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dreamkeepers Association cordially invites you to participate in the Annual MLK, Jr. Parade at 1:00 p.m. in uptown Wadesboro. Participation in the parade is not only great fun but it also provides an excellent way to promote your organization free of charge.

Parade applications can be downloaded at: www.anson dreamkeepers.org and the application deadline is January 10.

On Sunday, January 14 all local churches and other organizations are encouraged to sponsor an activity at your church commemorating the birthday of Dr. King. A particular focus could be on creating the beloved community.

The annual Memorial March and program are scheduled for Monday, January 15 beginning at 8:00 a.m. The Memorial March will begin at the Anson County Department of Social Services building, located at 118 North Washington Street in uptown Wadesboro, and conclude at the SPCC Lockhart-Taylor Center where the program will start at 9:00 a.m.

For more information contact Ms. Winnie M. Bennett, 704-465-0867. All events are open to the public.

Anson Schools Sports Update

Anson High School Boys Varsity Basketball

• Tuesday, January 2 - **AHS lost to Piedmont 71-59 (conference game).** **Leading players:** Jayden Little 31 points, 6 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 steals; Ryan Robinson 14 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals.

This was our conference opener. We played well but did not get the job done on the defensive end. We can score but we need to improve on the defensive end. I have no doubt the guys will bounce back Friday at CATA and get the job done.

• Friday, January 5 - **AHS beat Chesterfield 67-33.** Varsity record is 8-5. **Leading players:** Jayden Little 33 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 5 steals; Ryan Robinson 8 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals; Courtney Sturdivant 7 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals; Graham Davis 6 points, 7 rebounds, 2 blocked shots.

We bounced back in a solid performance from the start. We were good defensively most of the night. This was an opportunity to get everyone playing time and they all responded very well. We got contributions from everyone. This will pay off for us as we move forward with our conference schedule. These guys are really fun to coach every day.

Anson High School JV Boys Basketball

• Tuesday, January 2 - **AHS JV beat Piedmont 55-42.** **Leading players:** Taviane Robinson 16 points, 11 rebounds; Tesean Harris 11 points, 3 assists, 4 steals; Slade Winfield 13 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals.

The young JV team was on point from the start and was never really in trouble in this game. Really good effort from everyone and it was a good job defensively. This group is getting better every day!

• Friday, January 5 - **AHS JV beat CATA 42-30.** JV record is 10-1. **Leading players:** Tesean Harris 10 points, 3 assists, 3 steals; Joshua Walls 6 points, 4 rebounds, 2 steals; Jackson Burr 7 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals.

The guys started slow as it was 4-4 at the end of the 1st quarter. Picked it up defensively in the 2nd quarter and really did a good job at both ends of the court in the 2nd half. This group is getting better daily as they learn the system and it is a real pleasure to watch them grow and have fun on the court.

Anson High School Girls Basketball

• Tuesday, December 19 - **AHS beat South Stanly 42-29.** **Leading players:** Zariah Massey 14 points and Titiyanna Burns 13 points.

• Tuesday, January 2 - **AHS lost to Piedmont 57-29.** **Leading player** was Titiyanna Burns with 11 points.

• Friday, January 5 - **AHS beat CATA 54-21.** **Leading players:** ZaKiyah Hixson 10 points, Titiyanna Burns 16 points, Dorhinna Rivers 15 points.

• Saturday, January 6 - **AHS lost to Cheraw 55-34.** **Leading player** was Titiyanna Burns 16 points.

Next games are Friday January 12 at home versus Monroe in Conference game. JV Boys 5pm • Varsity Girls 6pm • Varsity Boys 7:30pm.

Governor Cooper Announces \$26.7 Million in Funding for 114 Electric School Buses

Federal EPA funds from the Biden Administration will put new electric school buses on the road in NC

Governor Roy Cooper announced that North Carolina will receive \$26.7 million in federal funds to purchase 114 electric school buses as part of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean School Bus Grant Program.

Over 98% of the buses will be deployed in prioritized school districts in low-income, rural, and/or Tribal communities, serving over 300,000 students across 13 counties. Grant recipients include public schools, charter schools, and tribal schools with significant investments in Durham (38 buses), Charlotte (27), and Cherokee (15). Anson County is not a part of this program.

"New funding for electric school buses means protecting the health of children from harmful diesel fumes, cutting carbon emissions, saving money on bus maintenance for tight public school budgets, and creating good jobs in North Carolina," said Governor Cooper. "This investment is good for our students, schools, economy and planet and I appreciate the Biden Administration for investing in our communities across North Carolina."

These 114 new buses are in addition to the 31 buses awarded to North Carolina schools under the Clean School Bus Program's first round of funding in 2022. Gov. Cooper's administration already funded 43 electric buses in 2022 through his settlement with Volkswagen, bringing the total to 188 electric, zero-emission buses in North Carolina schools in the last two years. These awards contribute to several key pillars of Governor Cooper's goals: better resourced schools, building a clean energy economy, and creating a healthier environment for North Carolina's children and communities.

The Clean School Bus Grant Program was made possible by President Biden's Investing in America Agenda and 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Additional funding opportunities for clean and resilient infrastructure projects in North Carolina are expected this year.

EPA is currently accepting applications for the 2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Program until January 31, 2024. EPA encourages applicants not selected for the 2023 Clean School Bus Grant Program – and those that did not apply – to participate in current and future funding rounds.

More information on these projects, other projects funded nationally, and about the program is available on the EPA Clean School Bus website: epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/clean-school-bus-program-awards.



ANSON COUNTY GOP 917-776-3436 GET TICKETS NOW

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