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

School Board Meeting is April 29

The Anson County Board of Education moved their budget workshop from Monday, April 22 to Monday, April 29. Their monthly meeting will also be held on Monday, April 29. The workshop and meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

The budget workshop will begin at 2:00 p.m. Closed Session will begin after the workshop at 4:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters related to personnel and property pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (a)(6) and NCGS 143.318.11 (a)(5). Open Session to the public will begin at 5:30 p.m.

If the public wishes to sign up for public comment, they can sign up in-person. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting begins for any individual or group to indicate their desire to address the board. Public comment will be held during the open session portion of the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

North Carolina's March Employment Figures Released

North Carolina's seasonally adjusted March 2024 unemployment rate was 3.5 percent, unchanged from February's revised rate. The national rate decreased 0.1 of a percentage point to 3.8 percent.

North Carolina's unemployment rate increased 0.2 of a percentage point from a year ago. The number of people employed increased 3,280 over the month to 5,074,635 and increased 39,323 over the year. The number of people unemployed increased 1,098 over the month to 185,549 and increased 11,489 over the year.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey, increased 500 to 4,978,000 in March. Major industries experiencing increases were Leisure & Hospitality Services, 1,900; Construction, 1,800; Education & Health Services, 1,800; Financial Activities, 600; Information, 500; and Mining & Logging, 100. Major industries experiencing decreases were Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 2,100; Professional & Business Services, 1,800; Government, 1,200; Other Services, 700; and Manufacturing, 400.

Since March 2023, Total Nonfarm jobs increased 57,300 with the Total Private sector increasing by 43,600 and Government increasing by 13,700. Major industries experiencing increases were Education & Health Services, 23,300; Government, 13,700; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 10,700; Construction, 9,000; Financial Activities, 7,300; Other Services, 4,200; and Mining & Logging, 200. Major industries experiencing decreases were Manufacturing, 5,300; Information, 2,700; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 2,500; and Professional & Business Services, 600.



Wadesboro Police Arrest Devon Rayquan Hailey for Murder of Jamarqus Daquon Sellers

The Wadesboro Police Department, working in conjunction with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Union County Sheriff's Office, Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department, Greensboro Police Department, United States Secret Service, and the Marshville Police Department, conducted an operation that resulted in the arrest of Devon Rayquan Hailey at a residence in Marshville.

Hailey is charged with the March 6 murder of Jamarqus Daquon Sellers. He will be placed in the Anson County Jail without bond awaiting trial.

Wadesboro Police Chief Brandon Chewning said, "I'd like to thank the numerous agencies, officers, and citizens who assisted in this investigation and apprehension."

Plant Swap at the Marshville Museum

The Marshville Museum and Cultural Center will hold their annual Plant Swap event this Saturday, April 27. Everyone is invited to come to this popular event. Bring a plant, get a plant! Or you can make a donation and get a plant. (Please do not take more than you bring.)

Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions and give hints on growing your new plants. And, there are even door prizes!

This event takes place at the museum from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon.

The Marshville Museum is located at 201 North Elm Street. It is open for visits Fridays and Saturdays 10 to 4 p.m. and other times by appointments and at special events. They are closed on all national holidays.

Scheduled events are sent by email and also available on Facebook or the website www.mmcc1893.com. For info email Sarah Horne at shorne@windstream.net.



an incredible cast including Cleve Baxley, Liz Sleeper, Audrey McFadden, Zachary McFadden, Eden Tallman, Regina Forsyth, Carri Hilson, Tonya Keziah Manus, Evan Grier, Ava Sleeper, Iwan Hilson, Rebekah Forsyth, Malachi Forsyth, Karen Johnston, Donnie Lewis, Kerrigan Bennett, Manda Kaye, Allie Smith, Georgia Tolley and Surely Hilson.

The show is directed by Tommy Wooten, with Maggie Gibson. Sound and Lights are by Rachel Kostelnik. Set Design is by Teri Brown, Marshall Ray and Donald Perkins. Stage management is by Robert Graves.

The show runs this weekend, April 26-28, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.

There are group rates available for parties of 10 or more. Get your tickets now at ansoniatheatre.com or call 704-694-4950.

The performance will be dedicated to Mrs. Margaret Goins.

Last Weekend for The Jungle Book at the Ansonia Theatre

Welcome to the jungle!

The Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro has gone deep in the jungle for its production of *The Jungle Book*. This coming weekend's performances are your last chance to see this terrific play and super talented cast.

In this action-packed adaptation of the classic adventure story, precocious Mowgli grows up believing he's as fierce a wolf as any of the members of his pack. When he learns he is actually a human, he must discover how to reconcile these very different identities, and decide whether to remain with the pack, or return to the human world from which he was born. As he wrestles with his identity, he must be trained in the Law of the Jungle in time to defeat Shere Khan, the most feared animal in the jungle.

Jeremiah Forsyth stars as Mowgli, with Glenn Caulder as his teacher and friend Baloo. They are supported by

South Piedmont Community College will Celebrate its Class of 2024 with Two Ceremonies in May

"This is the most exciting season at South Piedmont, when our students' hard work culminates in the life-changing achievement of earning a diploma, degree, or certificate. With the credentials our graduates have earned, they are prepared to succeed at higher levels of study, in the workforce, and wherever life leads them. Congratulations, all," said President Dr. Maria Pharr.

Graduates from the fall 2023 semester and potential graduates from the spring 2024 and summer 2024 semesters will participate in commencement.

The curriculum ceremony will take place on May 11 at 9 a.m. at the Old Charlotte Highway campus, 4209 Old Charlotte Highway in Monroe. Friends and family may also watch via livestream online on YouTube. Just search "South Piedmont Community College Graduation 2024."

A ceremony for graduates of South Piedmont's School of College & Career Readiness, including those who've earned their high school equivalency or completed one of the College's workforce training programs for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, will take place on May 9 at 6 p.m. at Benton Heights Elementary, 1200 Concord Ave. in Monroe. That ceremony will be livestreamed online on YouTube. Just search "South Piedmont Community College Graduation 2024."

The guest speaker for the ceremony will be Kenneth W. Horne Jr, a member of the South Piedmont Board of Trustees. An honorary degree will be awarded to Fred Edwards, president & COO of Goulston Technologies.

Special Olympics Spring Games in Anson are April 30

Special Olympics Anson County will host its Spring Games on Tuesday, April 30 at the Anson High School Stadium. Opening Ceremonies will begin at 9:30 a.m., and the Games will run until about 12 noon.

Athletes will compete in Track and Field events at their various ability levels. All athletes will be accompanied by student buddies.

Would you like to help? Interested community volunteers should contact Sylvia Tillman, Local Coordinator, at (704) 690-0602.

Thank you for your support.

In the event of rain, the Games will be held on Thursday, May 2.

Over 190 NC Wineries Celebrating May as N.C. Wine Month

North Carolina's wine industry ranks among the top 10 nationally in production, and each May, the 190-plus wineries come together to celebrate with tasting rooms across the state hosting special events and promotions throughout the month.

N.C. Wine Month gives wine lovers, along with those who enjoy cider and mead, an opportunity to connect with this growing segment of North Carolina's craft beverage culture. As the industry has grown, so has the variety and quality of wines produced in the state.

"If you've never been to a North Carolina winery or haven't been recently, N.C. Wine Month is the perfect opportunity to get out and enjoy the quality and overall experience in our growing regions," says Brianna Burns, executive director of the N.C. Wine & Grape Council. "Over the last two decades, North Carolina has become a farm-to-glass state. Our wines, ciders and meads are grown here and made here. It's an agricultural success story that is gaining recognition nationally and internationally."

In 2023, a rosé from JOLO Vineyards & Winery in Pilot Mountain was named the "best rosé on the planet" at the prestigious Rosé Competition during the American Fine Wine Competition.

Sanctuary Vineyards in Jarvisburg on the Outer Banks is another shining example. The winery has captured numerous national awards for its wines in recent years by embracing a variety of grapes, from native Muscadines to European Vinifera to French American hybrids. Sanctuary general manager John Wright says steady breezes and sunny days provide a quality growing climate along the coast.

Earlier this year, Marked Tree Vineyards in Flat Rock earned two high scores from a prestigious wine critic for its regular and Reserve Chardonnay.

To learn more about N.C. Wine Month happenings, go to: ncwine.org/ncwinemonth. For an overview of all wine regions in North Carolina and browse listings of individual wineries, cideries and meaderies in each area, check out: ncwine.org/regions.

Wadesboro Police Department Tip Line - 704-694-2160

This is a release from the Wadesboro Police Department: Chief Chewning and the entire staff of the Wadesboro Police Department are committed to providing the Town of Wadesboro with professional, fair, and effective law enforcement. However, we realize this is only possible through a partnership with the community. We believe this reciprocal partnership must be rooted in trust between the department and you, the citizens we serve. We ask that you trust us with your tips, information, and knowledge, and we will in turn provide you with a safer community that we all call home.

To further those ideals, the Wadesboro Police Department has established a Tip Line, allowing all citizens to directly inform officers. If you have any information about a crime past, present, or future, please call (704) 694-2160 and leave a message with as much detail as possible. If you would allow us to contact you with any follow up questions, please leave your name and number, if not, anonymous tips are fine too. Even if you choose to leave your name, your identity, and any information you provide will remain confidential.

Thank you for helping make our home a better place to work, live, grow, and raise our children.

Beekeepers Meet Thursday

The Anson Beekeepers will hold their regular bee meeting on Thursday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Anson County Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The guest speaker is Kirk Kern of the Montgomery Beekeepers Association. He will talk about "Catching Swarms."

There will be 50-50 drawings to help earn funds for the association. If you are able to bring some items for the drawings, the Anson Beekeepers will greatly appreciate it. There will be no meal during the meeting.

Not a member but would like to learn more about the local chapter, beekeeping educational programs, or need a beekeeper to re-home a visiting swarm (it's that time of year)? Visit the "Anson County Beekeepers Association" Facebook page for more information.

Free Movie at Library is Military Wives

The Hampton B. Allen Library will be showing the movie *Military Wives* on Monday, April 29 at 10 a.m. in the Pritchett room. The movie is rated PG-13 and is a comedy. The film is inspired by a true story of military wives' choirs.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

Dollar Day Yard Sale on May 4

Contributions gratefully accepted with all proceeds going to help those less fortunate

Faith-Based Center of Hope is holding a Dollar Day Yard Sale at Harvest Ministries Outreach Center on Saturday, May 4 beginning at 7:30 a.m. The public is invited to enjoy shopping all the great bargains, with all the proceeds going to help less fortunate citizens in Anson County.

If you have any items to donate to the sale or would like to make a contribution to this worthy cause, please contact Vancine Sturdivant at 704-294-0480 or Patricia Robinson at 704-848-4995.

Harvest Ministries is located at 1134 East Caswell Street (Highway 74) in Wadesboro, behind Pizza Hut.