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

School Board Meeting for June 28 to be Live Streamed on YouTube

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their regular meeting on Monday, June 28. Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 3:00 p.m. Open Session to the public will begin at 4:30 p.m. The meeting will be live streamed on the Anson County Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. To find the channel you can search YouTube for "Anson County Schools." The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

Governors' orders on indoor gatherings will be enforced. Social distancing requirements will be enforced and masks will be required.

If the public wishes to sign up for public comment, they can sign up in person or go to the public comment link on the Anson Schools website at www.ansonschools.org to sign up. Public comment sign up will be from 3:45 to 4:15 p.m. on Monday, June 28.

Pee Dee Electric CEO Donnie Spivey Elected to National Rural Electric Board

Pee Dee Electric CEO and Executive Vice President Donald "Donnie" Spivey has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). The NRECA board is responsible for advancing electric cooperative business and policy priorities on behalf of 900 electric co-ops serving 42 million people across the nation. Spivey will represent North Carolina on the 48-person board, which consists of one locally elected director from each state where a voting member of NRECA is located.

"I am honored to have been selected to represent the electric cooperatives of North Carolina and share with a national audience our vision of working with and for our members to create a brighter future for the people and communities we serve," Spivey said.

A native of Anson County, Spivey began his career with Pee Dee Electric in 1985 as staff assistant, and was promoted to District Manager in 1993. In 1999, he was promoted to his current role of CEO and Executive Vice President. Over the course of his career, Spivey has actively advocated for the rural communities that are served by Pee Dee Electric and other electric cooperatives throughout North Carolina. He serves on numerous boards of directors, including the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Anson Economic Development Board and Sandhills Utility Services, Inc., which owns, maintains and operates the electric distribution system on Fort Bragg Army Base. In addition, he served as a former member of the ACES Board. In 2013, Spivey was appointed by Governor Pat McCrory to serve on the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority Board of Directors where he previously served as chairman.

Spivey's two-year term will begin March 2022 with the adjournment of the NRECA Annual Meeting.

"Having the opportunity to provide a local perspective on national issues facing electric cooperatives and their members is important for rural communities throughout North Carolina," said Spivey. "I look forward to serving as a voice for our state, our cooperatives and the communities we serve."

Pee Dee Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative whose goal is to provide reliable, dependable electric service for its members while focusing on value, quality customer service and enhancing life in the communities we serve. Pee Dee's service area consists of Anson, Richmond, Union, Stanly, Montgomery, Moore and Scotland counties. For more information about Pee Dee Electric visit pdemc.com.

Sun Protection and Tips for Seniors

Longer days and breezy evenings are reasons to get outside and participate in outdoor activities. While being active outdoors is a good thing, you also need to take precautions to protect yourself. Hot weather and bright sunlight can pose serious health hazards for elderly adults, and every year, countless seniors are hospitalized due to sun damage, dehydration, and heat exhaustion.

People suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are not able to compensate for the heat and properly cool itself. Older adults are more susceptible as their bodies return to normal temperatures more slowly and their bodies' cooling mechanism is not as efficient. Being overweight, having poor circulation, chronic medical conditions and high blood pressure or taking certain medications can also increase your risk. Very high body temperatures may damage the brain and vital organs.

Practicing proper hydration and sun protection are key steps in helping seniors make the most of the summer, while protecting your health and well-being. Here's what you should keep in mind:

- Air-conditioning is the primary protective factor against heat-related illness and death. If you don't have it, or to save money on your electric bill during the heat of the day, visit air-conditioned shopping malls and public libraries to help stay cool.
- During times of extreme heat temperatures stay indoors.
- Schedule outdoor activities carefully, limit sun exposure and rest in shaded areas. Remember the sun is hottest between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- When outdoors wear appropriate clothing: lightweight, loose fitting and light colored. Don't forget sunglasses and wide-brimmed hats.
- Avoid dehydration and drink plenty of fluids. Dehydration is common among older adults and can be life threatening. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids, consuming fruits and vegetables, and avoiding caffeinated and/or alcoholic beverages that can act as a diuretic. Don't wait to drink until you are thirsty as that can be a sign of dehydration!
- Always wear sunscreen. A sunburn damages your skin, causes a loss of body fluids and affects your body's ability to cool itself. Sunscreen can also protect against skin cancer, which is strongly associated with ultraviolet radiation that comes from the sun. Look for sunscreen that offers "broad spectrum" protection and is SPF 30 or higher. Other skin cancer prevention tips include wearing protective clothing, avoiding midday sun exposure and seeing your doctor for a skin exam.

By Roshunda Terry, County Extension Director



Golden Sweetheart Event at BRLC

They each were selected according to their golden ages. The gala affair's purpose was given by volunteer Mitchell Kiser. Music was arranged and coordinated by Mr. Sherman Smith and associate from Stanly County. The special crowning of the Golden Sweethearts was officially performed by Emcee Allen Jackson, Alton Jackson, River Pearson and Carol Smith.

BRLC volunteers Robert and Lizzie Lee, Marshall and Treamenda Caple, and Mitchell Giddings prepared the delicious Golden Sweetheart meal. The Kid's Café students who served as waiters were Dylan Hammond, Calvin Hammond and Gabriel Hersey, and waitress Laila Hammond. Malerie Smith served as the welcome hostess for all guests.

The room was full of laughter as the coronation dance begin. The Golden Sweetheart activities included the coronation dance, bingo games, twisting contest and the Locomotion line dance.

Inez Williamson and Alton Jackson provided a time of history education on nuggets from the past.

All guests who attended had photos made during this event. Guests were given Golden Sweetheart crowns to wear during the event, plus long stemmed red carnations, donated from Thompson Florist.

The restive decorations were provided and arranged by Mary Clark and associate. Her talent and skills made the BRLC assembly room look amazing. The color scheme consisted of black, gold, burgundy and white which transformed the assembly room. Each table was covered with lace, a tall decorative vase and decorative lighted candles with a hint of gold and red.

All Golden Sweetheart sponsors' names were placed on a golden heart. The golden hearts will remain on display throughout the year.

With your support this organization will continue to expanding serving families weekly.

This is a release from Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC): Adults, youth, and children recently attended BRLC's Annual Golden Sweetheart event. Youth who provided support to the Golden Sweethearts on this occasion were Jazzyling Brewer, River Pearson and Haylee Caple. Mr. Allen Jackson Assistant Director for Anson County Park & Recreation served in the role of Emcee.

BRLC Golden Sweethearts for 2021 were Mrs. Rosa Brewer and Mrs. Lillie Ledbetter, both of the Burnsville Community, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Thomas of the Peachland Community, and Mrs. Genova Griffin of Oakboro.

New Cases of COVID-19 in Anson County Continue to Slow

Vaccines are available. Ansonians urged to get vaccinated.

The latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department was 2,628 total reported cases of COVID-19, with only 9 active as of Monday, June 21. This was an increase of only 9 new cases since last Monday, June 14. The total deaths are 57.

If you need to call the Health Department the regular telephone number does not work. The temporary telephone number is 704-690-6757.

The NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) reported that statewide as of Monday, June 21 there were 238 new cases of COVID-19, with 13,368 deaths and 458 hospitalized.

Fireworks Show in Uptown Wadesboro is Saturday

Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. and the Town of Wadesboro will present a "drive-in" fireworks display this Saturday, June 26. It will begin at 9:30 p.m.

Spectators are encouraged to view the display in their cars from parking areas up-town.

The rain date is Sunday, June 27.

NC 2-1-1 Offers Information on Your Phone and Online

What is NC 2-1-1? NC 2-1-1 is an information and referral service provided by United Way of North Carolina. Accessible via an easy-to-remember, three-digit number, families and individuals can call to obtain free and confidential information on health and human services and resources within their community. Dial 211 or visit www.nc211.org.

When can I call NC 2-1-1? 2-1-1 is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Dialing 2-1-1 is free, confidential, and available in most languages.

Is NC 2-1-1 statewide? NC 2-1-1 is available by landline, cell phone, and VOIP in all 100 counties of North Carolina.

What information is available by dialing 2-1-1? NC 2-1-1 maintains a robust database with information on thousands of programs and services in North Carolina. We refer callers to organizations in their local community best equipped to address their specific health and human services needs including food, shelter, energy assistance, housing, parenting resources, healthcare, substance abuse, as well as specific resources for older adults and for persons with disabilities, and much more.

When an individual calls NC 2-1-1, a trained call specialist will conduct a search based on his or her geographic location to identify resources based on the caller's current needs. In addition to contact information for the community resource, the call specialist will provide eligibility requirements, the intake process for a program, the hours of operation, any requirements for appointments, and accessibility information, when available.

What role does NC 2-1-1 play in the event of a disaster? NC 2-1-1 is a member of the State Emergency Response Team and is part of the State's Emergency Plan. In the event of a natural or public disaster, NC 2-1-1 is a public information portal for residents to obtain real-time communications and resources related to the disaster. Caller needs are tracked in order to provide information on trends and local circumstances that residents are facing to emergency managers.

In 2016, more than 12,000 North Carolinians dialed 2-1-1 to get information on emergency evacuations, shelters, meal sites, water and food distributions, and post disaster clean-up and recovery assistance during Hurricane Matthew.

Does the online search tool provide the same results as dialing 2-1-1? The online database is the same database used by the call specialists. However, our call specialists are trained to search using specific keywords which may provide additional resources. If you don't find what you need online, we strongly encourage you to dial 2-1-1. Call specialists are available 24/7/365 to help.

What types of organizations are included in the database? The database includes non-profit organizations and government agencies that provide health and human services to citizens in North Carolina based on specific inclusion criteria.

More information is available at www.nc211.org.

Video provides guidance on how to use 211 website & help line

NC 211 is excited to share the new "How To" video, which guides individuals through the process of calling 2-1-1 and searching for resources on nc211.org.

Finding help can be overwhelming and many do not know what to expect from a call to 2-1-1 or realize that they can search the 2-1-1 database for programs and services in their area. This video provides detailed information to make the process easier to understand and help North Carolinians find the resources they need.

Find the video at nc211.org/2020/12/14/nc-211-how-to-video.

Community Outreach Offers Household Items

The Lamb of God Church in Wadesboro will hold a Community Outreach Event this Saturday, June 26 at 10 a.m. This will be a drive-in service, and they will be giving out free household items and paper products on a first come, first served basis.

The event will be held at 118 West Wade Street in Wadesboro. Please park in the rear or in the front and turn into 96.7 FM on your radio. Please remain in your vehicle, bags will be delivered to you.

If you would like to donate or volunteer for the event, please call 843-623-3777. The website is: www.logomchurch.com.

"Ice Cream Sunday" Event in Ansonville

Everyone is invited to come out this Sunday, June 27 for an event that sounds like fun, "Ice Cream Sunday!" Free ice cream for all who attend, from 1 to 4 p.m. The event will take place between the Ansonville Elementary School and the Caraway Business Center.

This event is presented by the Ansonville Planning Team.

Farmers Market is Open

Purchase locally grown vegetables and other items at the Anson County Farmers Market. It is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays through the end of September. The hours are 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Farmers Market is located 1736 Highway 52 South in Wadesboro, just past Wadesboro Primary School. For more information contact Francis Campbell at 704-690-0638.

Governor Cooper Proclaimed June 19 as Juneteenth Day

Last week Governor Roy Cooper proclaimed June 19 as Juneteenth Day in North Carolina, honoring the oldest known commemoration of the abolition of slavery in the United States.

"As we celebrate Black heritage, history and freedom, it's critical that we also take this opportunity to both celebrate the progress we've made and accept the challenge we still face to achieve true racial equality," said Gov. Cooper. "By addressing the systemic racism that has been in our communities for centuries, we can create a more just and equitable future."

Juneteenth marks the day in 1865 when Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas and announced the news of freedom, reaching some of the last enslaved men and women in the United States.

Despite over 150 years of progress since the abolition of slavery, Black communities still face economic, institutional and social barriers. Over the past year, communities across the state and nation have continued to grapple with these inequities in order to build a fairer, more just society.

In June 2020, Gov. Cooper established the Andrea Harris Social Economic Environmental Health Disparities Task Force to address the longstanding, systemic disparities in communities of color. He also created the North Carolina Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice to acknowledge and eliminate systemic racial bias in criminal justice.