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

Big Increase of Reported Cases of COVID-19 in Anson County

As of Monday, July 13 the Anson County Health Department posted that Anson County had 210 reported cases of COVID-19, an increase of 50 cases in the last week. 57 of those cases are active. At that point they had discharged 153 cases, 151 to baseline health and two deaths.

12 Year Old Killed in Drive-By Shooting in Wadesboro on July 7

This is a release issued on Wednesday, July 8 by the Town of Wadesboro regarding the drive-by shooting death of a twelve year old child on July 7: The Town of Wadesboro and the Wadesboro Police Department are saddened by the loss of one of our own in the last 24 hours. At approximately 11:50 p.m. on Tuesday night, July 7 our officers responded to a report of shots fired near of the 900 block of West Carolina Avenue, and arrived to find that two homes had been fired upon. In the minutes following, our officers discovered that a twelve-year-old child inside one of the homes had been struck during the gunfire. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of our local first responders, the child was pronounced deceased at the local hospital. Out of respect for the family, the name of the victim will not be released at this time. Three other children and three adults also in the home at the time were not harmed. We mourn today with the family, friends, and the community at the loss of life that occurred last night. Our prayers truly go out to them as we seek consolation for the family and justice for those responsible. As this nation reels from turmoil facing it on multiple fronts, our community must come together to address the issues with respect for each other and a determination to end this senseless violence on all sides.

As the Wadesboro Police Department begins to unravel the details of this incident, we are asking for help and cooperation from anyone who may have details about this tragic loss of life. It is extremely important to the investigative process that we are given honest and detailed information in order to track down those responsible and bring them to justice.

We are a strong and resilient community that has proven for generations that we are able to come together in difficult times, and that time has come again. Our officers are committed to serving this community with integrity and respect, but without the help of those with the pieces to the puzzle we cannot succeed, so please reach out to the Wadesboro Police Department via phone (704) 694-2167 or by message through our Facebook page if you have any information that may be helpful. Thank you, David Edwards, Town Manager & Thedis Spencer, Chief of Police

Kindergarten Drive-Thru Registration 2020-2021

Monday, July 20 Ansonville Elementary School
Tuesday, July 21 Lilesville Elementary School
Wednesday, July 22 Morven Elementary School
Thursday, July 23 Peachland-Polkton Elementary School
Friday, July 24 Wadesboro Primary School

Registration time at each school is from 2 to 6 p.m. Your child must be 5 years old by August 31, 2020. Parents are asked to attend one of the listed days above to register for Kindergarten. Parents who have already completed an online application will need to bring supporting documentation. Parents can come by any school to complete an application. Due to social distancing guidelines, families are asked to remain in their car. Staff members will visit your car to assist with registration and to collect supporting documents. Staff will be on-site to assist in answering questions.

Please bring: your child. Your child's birth certificate. Current address documentation (listed below). Current immunization (shot) record.

All applicants must submit at least one document from each of the lettered columns below. These documents are for address verification, and must reflect the address provided for enrollment.

Column A Copy of current lease and copy of most recent rent payment • Copy of deed OR record of most recent mortgage payment • HUD Closing Statement • Notarized residency affidavit from landlord affirming tenancy AND record of most recent rent payment • Section 8 agreement • Letter from approved agency (group * foster home purposes only)

Column B A utility bill or work order dated within the past 30 days, including: gas bill, water bill, electric bill, telephone bill, cable bill • A change of address from the post office *Mail with the correct address must be presented to the school within 2 weeks.

Column C Valid NC Driver's License • Current vehicle registration • Valid NC photo ID card *Dated within the past year • W2 form • Vehicle tax bill • Property tax bill *Dated within the past 60 days • Medicaid Card • Payroll stub • Bank or credit card statement

NC Pre-K Applications

The world has changed drastically in the last four months because of COVID-19. The global pandemic has impacted our daily lives, however it is time to prepare for the upcoming school year. There is still time to reserve your spot in the NC Pre-K program TODAY!

The NC Pre-K Program is FREE to qualifying families. It is a program designed to provide high-quality educational experiences to enhance school readiness for eligible four-year-olds. Early childhood education lays the foundation for future success.

Did you know children who attend high-quality programs such as NC Pre-K are more prepared for kindergarten? Applications are available at the Anson County Partnership for Children or online at ansonchildren.org. Children must be 4 years-old by August 31 to be eligible for the program. Don't miss the opportunity to enroll your child in the NC Pre-K program. The deadline has been extended to July 31, 2020.

Please drop off completed application to Anson County Partnership for Children, 117 South Greene Street, Wadesboro, NC 28170. For more information please contact the Anson County Partnership for Children at (704) 694-4036.



Confederate Soldier Statue in Front of Anson County Courthouse Removed

At their monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 7 the Anson County Board of Commissioners voted to remove the Confederate monument that has stood in front of an Anson County Courthouse since 1906. The board heard from a number of citizens prior to making their decision. Afterwards there was a 4-2 vote for removal, and the commissioners instructed the county attorney to organize the removal and storage of the statue. In the early hours of the next morning the statue was removed and relocated to an undisclosed storage facility.

During the board meeting there was discussion about ongoing negotiations with a private citizen who would pay for the relocation of the statue to a prominent location on private property. The identity of that citizen and location were not disclosed. The two commissioners who voted against removal wanted more information about that process. Plans are to remove the statue base in the future.

Summer Safety for North Carolinians

Summer is upon us, bringing weekend getaways, barbecues, pool excursions and more across the state. This year, summer plans may look a bit different as North Carolina kicks off July in Phase 2 "Safer at Home" as we continue the fight against COVID-19. While some extra precautions and planning may be necessary over the next few months, there are plenty of ways to have an enjoyable and safe summer. Here are a few safety tips no matter what your plans hold.

Travel Safely Every year, the NC State Highway Patrol warns motorists of the risks of excessive speeding, aggressive driving and distractive driving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2018, 9,050 vehicle crashes that occurred in June, July and August were fatal. Prepare yourself and others traveling with you for a trip by planning your route and getting plenty of rest the night before to ensure you arrive at your destination safely and on time. Take the time to check the oil, washer fluid, tire pressure and tread depth and battery power before leaving on your trip. Prevention and planning up front will lower the chances of breakdowns or other time-consuming consequences.

Be sure to bring along sanitation items to help keep your family healthy throughout your summer travels. During the COVID-19 pandemic, taking the following precautions should be taken when leaving your home:

- Get food from a drive-thru instead of going inside.
- Limit contact with surfaces at gas stations and rest stops as much as possible.
- Bring hand sanitizer to use when you return to your vehicle.
- Research state face covering and quarantine laws and have multiple face coverings if you are unable to launder reusable masks.

Don't make a habit of sharing that you are away from home or posting photos to social media while you are on vacation. This gives thieves the perfect heads-up that your home is vacant. Share all your photos and memories upon your return.

Read more about the risks of traveling during COVID-19 and more CDC guidelines at www.cdc.gov.
Heat Safety Experiencing extreme heat and high humidity in North Carolina is not uncommon during the summer months. Exposure to heat pushes the body past what it can handle, leading to heat-related illness and even death in some cases. Those who are elderly, young, sick or overweight are more susceptible to heat-related illnesses like heat exhaustion, heat cramps, heat stroke or sun stroke.

To reduce sun and heat exposure during summer months, stay indoors as much as possible or find shady places to spend time outdoors. Drinking plenty of fluids and wearing light-colored clothing can also help you stay cool. Cars can heat up quickly when it is hot outside. Never leave a child or pet inside a closed vehicle, even if it is running.

Be a good neighbor by learning the warning signs of heat-related illness and checking on those who you know are most at risk in your community.

Learn more about preparing for extreme heat at www.readync.org.

Water Safety Whether the beach, lake, river or community pool, there are plenty of places to cool off during the summer throughout the state. The ongoing pandemic may have caused public spaces to be closed, so check with local or state officials before traveling to stay updated on closures or restrictions.

If visiting a local pool or splash pad, pack cloth face coverings and some hand sanitizer. While face coverings should not be worn in the water, they should be worn over the nose and mouth outside of the pool if six feet of separation cannot be achieved. Social distancing should be adhered to in the pool as well. The American Red Cross recommends speaking with children on the importance of social distancing while out and finding alternate activities if a child cannot practice appropriate social distancing.

Boating and other water recreation can be a fun pastime if appropriate safety measures are taken. Here are a few items to check off the list before heading out on your next water adventure.

- Make sure every person on the vessel has a US Coast Guard approved life jacket.
- Check the weather before heading out. Storms can pop up quickly around the water.
- Ensure all equipment is working properly on the vessel before shoving off.
- Avoid swimming or paddling in high or fast-moving water. Always swim with a friend.
- Boating and alcohol don't mix. Don't drink and drive.

COVID-19 remains a public health threat, and North Carolinians must continue to be vigilant to slow the spread of the virus within our communities. Participating in the three Ws is an effective way to keep yourself healthy and looking out for those around you.

WEAR a cloth face covering over your nose and mouth.

WAIT six feet apart and avoid close contact.

WASH your hands or use hand sanitizer.

Impacts to the Logging Industry in NC

North Carolina's logging industry contributes \$800 million annually to the state economy. Since March 2020 every sector of the agricultural economy has been impacted by the global pandemic and the logging industry is no exception. Despite the high demand for tissue-based products, a drop in solid wood industries followed a housing market fall in April.

Recent trends shared by the Carolina Loggers Association in late May indicate that the logging industry has sustained a 30-35% loss in the last three months. This translates to a \$60-70M loss to North Carolina's economy. According to Rajan Parajuli, NC State University's Forest Economics Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, this loss is expected to increase as impacts of the pandemic persist.

One positive aspect that has not changed is that the weekly wage of loggers in NC has increased by 22% in the past decade. This may be due to a reduction in independent logging companies dropping from 688 in 2001 to the upper 400's currently.

Timber prices related to logging and hauling, otherwise called harvest margins, have also continued to move upward in NC. This is the difference between delivered and stumpage prices for pine pulpwood and sawtimber.

Anson county ranks 5th in timber harvests across the state. Historical trends prove logging is a crucial element of the NC forest sector, employing over 6,000 state-wide and serving as an important economic engine, especially in NC's rural economies.

Article submission by Aimee Colf, Horticulture/Forestry Agent

Bach's Lunch To Go is Set for Today!

Although the Anson County Arts Council would like to be able to have their Bach's Lunches like they normally do, at this time they do not see a safe, feasible way to do this, so they have announced their "Bach's Lunch To Go."

They will have a to-go lunch setup today, Wednesday, July 15, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the 108 Drake Gallery location on Rutherford Street in Wadesboro. The delicious menus is chicken salad lunch with sides, dessert and drink.

You can call now, 704-694-4950, and leave your name, number and how many plates you would like to reserve. Plates will be \$10. You can also pick up plates at the door.

To help reduce contact, no actual tickets will be printed.

Lions Club Brooms are Available Now

Brooms...brooms...brooms!

The Wadesboro Lions' brooms are available at these locations:

- Lacy's
- Martin Furniture
- Brasingtons
- Northcutt's Affordables (Marshville)

The brooms are excellent quality and affordably priced.

Funds from the broom sales the Wadesboro Lions Club provide eye exams and glasses to numerous people throughout the year. They also send VIPs (visually impaired children) to Camp Dogwood (a camp on Lake Norman. Over 1000 people go each summer); and to a special VIP Fishing Tournament for the blind where 500 VIPs enjoy fishing, meeting other blind and visually impaired people, and learning daily living skills.

And, they deliver food boxes at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

For more information please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448 for more information.

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