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

## Woman Killed in Sunday Night Shooting in Wadesboro

A woman was killed in a shooting that took place on Sunday night, July 16. Ella Campbell died after shots were fired in a home on Dogwood Street in Wadesboro. James Taylor was also shot, and was taken to the hospital in critical condition. No information has been released as to what led to the incident. No arrests have been made. Investigators have learned that a large crowd of people were in the home at the time of the shooting. Over 40 people have been interviewed, and the police are seeking more witnesses.

## North Carolina Citizens Will Save Millions in State Health Plan

North Carolina Treasurer Dale R. Folwell, CPA, announced today that the State Health Plan (Plan) will save approximately \$8.5 million beginning in January 2018 as a result of new terms negotiated for the administration of NC HealthSmart, the Plan's healthy living initiative that is administered by Active Health Management. The program offers health and wellness resources and services to support Plan members' personal health goals.

The renegotiated contract is for the first nine months of 2018 and places additional limits on the scope of the services provided. The Plan is refocusing its population health management strategy to the five diseases that are the largest drivers of cost: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, diabetes and hypertension. In addition, the Plan seeks to eliminate duplication of services already provided by other vendors.

"We believe that it is essential that the Plan focus on those who need the resources the most and where we can make the biggest impact," said Treasurer Folwell. "In addition, we are looking to partner with other groups that provide similar services either free to the public, or through existing contractual relationships, to continue to offer Plan members the resources they need to get healthy."

Treasurer Folwell pointed to the fact that a single patient could have up to five different case managers provided through the Plan for any one illness. "We need to be more efficient in the delivery of population health management services," added Folwell. "It will create the best possible path for a good outcome for the Plan member, and for the state's taxpayers."

The State Health Plan, a division of the Department of State Treasurer, provides health care coverage to more than 700,000 teachers, state employees, retirees, current and former lawmakers, state university and community college personnel, and their dependents.

## Letter to the Editor Seeking Donations for Community School Supplies Giveaway Event

Dear Business Owner or Community Leader,  
As you know, it is that time of year again....Back to School Time. While this is an exciting and busy time for families and students alike, it can be a burdensome time for many of our county's children and parents. Many of our students don't have the finances or resources to adequately prepare for the upcoming school year. It takes book bags, pencils, paper, crayons, markers and many other items to be successful in the classroom.

This is where we are asking for your assistance. This year Vancine Sturdivant and the Faith Based Center of Hope, along with Harvest Ministries, HOLLA, Sheriff Landric Reid and Stride with Pride Shoe Drive, and others are sponsoring the annual "Back to School" Giveaway.

This event will be held Saturday, August 19, beginning at 11 a.m. in the auditorium of Harvest Ministries Outreach Center. There will be a huge celebration and giveaway complete with games, gift cards, tablets and much more for the community.

Anson County students need our support! Together, we are asking that you, your organization or family would support this endeavor wholeheartedly.

Many local businesses have expressed in interest in supporting this community-wide event. We are writing to request monetary donation of \$100 (or any amount) to help purchase some school supplies. You can send this to PO Box 1254, Wadesboro, NC 28170. All gifts are tax deductible, and we ask that you please make checks payable to Harvest Ministries with "school supplies" on the memo line.

We are trying to have donations collected no later than Wednesday, August 16. This will give us ample time to gather the supplies, materials, book-bags, etc.

To donate items or to drop off items please feel free to contact Pastor Steve Adams at 704-695-2879, Vancine Sturdivant at 704-294-0480 or Leon Gatewood at 704-695-4968. Thank you.

We thank you for your time, and appreciate all you do and all the support you give to make Anson County a better place for all of us who call it home.

Respectfully, Steve Adams, Lead Pastor, Harvest Ministries Outreach Center

## SPCC Offering 1 Day Science Camp for Rising 6th to 8th Graders

South Piedmont Community College is offering a Science Camp on Tuesday, July 25 for rising sixth to eighth graders. The camp will take place at the Polkton campus in Room 203 of the Martin Tech Building.

SPCC is hosting the NC BioNetwork to help with the camp. Activities include a solar oven, soda rockets and homemade prosthesis devices to name a few. More information is available at [www.ncbionetwork.org/educational-resources/activities](http://www.ncbionetwork.org/educational-resources/activities). Register at [www.spcc.edu/summer-camp](http://www.spcc.edu/summer-camp). The \$10 registration fee will cover lunch.



## The Anson Singers to Present Free Concert in Cheraw

The Anson Singers will be coming to Cheraw to present a free choral concert. The concert, *An American Journey*, will include American folk and patriotic songs. The concert will be on Sunday, July 30 at 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, located at 300 Market Street in Cheraw.

The Anson Singers were founded in 2011, and is a non-profit community choral organization based in Wadesboro directed by Emily Privette. The group is comprised of members from Anson and surrounding counties, and is open to all who love to sing and create beautiful music. "Together, through music, we are unified as one voice, and that is one of the greatest treasures of singing!"

Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission for additional information at 843.537.8420 x 12.

## Solar Power Educational Program On May 27

A solar education program is being held that will explain the technology, construction, regulations, and economics of the utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that are increasing across North Carolina. Scheduled for Thursday, July 27, from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m., this event is being offered through Cooperative Extension and presented by the NC Clean Energy Technology Center, a division of the College of Engineering at NC State University.

The program will take place at the Union County Agricultural Services and Conference Center, located at 3230-D Presson Road in Monroe.

In addition to providing an understanding of the development and operation of these solar electricity generating facilities, attendees will learn about the various impacts of these systems on the community and the environment. Specifically, presenters will address common questions about PV panel toxicity, EMF/radiation, economic impacts, system decommissioning, and more. Presenters will also discuss the characteristics that make a site most suitable for solar and provide an overview of solar land leases.

In addition, an opportunity for attendee questions and answers will be provided after a 50-minute presentation. Tommy Cleveland, Solar PV Engineer, P.E., Advanced Energy and Steve Kalland, Executive Director, NC Clean Energy Technology Center N.C. State University, will lead the program.

North Carolina is experiencing rapid growth in utility scale solar. The Solar Energy Industries Association ranked North Carolina number two in the United States for cumulative installed solar capacity in 2016.

The objectives of the upcoming program are to educate landowners and elected officials, and to answer questions about solar opportunities within the County.

These topics may include: solar basics, environmental health and safety issues, landowner considerations, land use and impacts, local regulatory topics, solar policy, local economic implications, and also non-utility scale solar topics (such as residential, commercial and community solar).

Anyone interested is encouraged to attend, and the public is invited. Those audiences that will especially be interested are local government staff, county administrators, planning and permitting.

To help us plan, please call 704-694-2415 and RSVP by Tuesday, July 25. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m.

## McLeod Health Physician and Hospital Recognized for Excellence in Healthcare

McLeod Health Cheraw and Dr. William "Alex" Newsom were recently recognized for providing excellence in healthcare by national healthcare research leader Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC). The awards were presented during PRC's 2017 Excellence in Healthcare Conference in June.

Dr. Newsom, McLeod Cheraw Family Medicine, was honored for being ranked in the top ten percent in the nation as a 5-Star recipient. This award recognizes individuals who achieve excellence throughout the year by improving patient experiences, healthcare employee engagement and/or physician alignment and engagement based on surveys of their patients.

McLeod Health Cheraw also received a 5-Star HCAHPS Award for "Communication about Medications."

"It is exciting that our patient satisfaction survey results have earned our hospitals and physicians such prestigious recognition," said Cathy Lee, Vice President of Service Excellence for McLeod Health. "However, scores are not the true reason we celebrate. What makes these awards meaningful is the fact that our doctors, nurses and staff make the needs of our patients, their number one priority. The survey scores simply reflect that patient-centered philosophy."

"We are honored to be recognized for the excellent service our physicians and staff provide to our patients," said Mib Scoggins, McLeod Health Cheraw Administrator. "Our team is passionate about providing the best possible patient experience to those who entrust us with their care, and we work diligently to consistently exceed patient expectations."

For 17 years, PRC's annual Excellence in Healthcare Conference has brought together hundreds of healthcare leaders to focus on transforming the patient experience. The awards recognize organizations and individuals who achieve excellence throughout the year by improving patient experiences, healthcare employee engagement and/or physician alignment and engagement based on surveys of their patients.

**About McLeod Health** Recognized nationally for its quality and safety initiatives, McLeod Health has a leading regional presence in Northeastern South Carolina and Southeastern North Carolina and a dedication to the health of the more than one million residents of those communities it serves from the midlands to the coast. Constantly seeking to improve its patient care with efforts that are physician led, data-driven and evidence-based, McLeod recently received the Healthgrades 2017 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™. This distinction recognizes McLeod as one of the Top 5% of more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide for its clinical performance as measured by Healthgrades.

Founded in 1906, McLeod Health is a locally owned and managed, not for profit organization supported by the strength of approximately 750 members on its medical staff and more than 2,000 registered nurses. McLeod Health is also composed of more than 8,200 employees and approximately 90 physician practices throughout its 15 county service area. With seven hospitals, McLeod Health operates three Health and Fitness Centers, a Sports Medicine and Outpatient Rehabilitation Center, a Behavioral Health Center, Hospice, and Home Health Services. The hospitals within McLeod Health include: McLeod Regional Medical Center, McLeod Darlington, McLeod Dillon, McLeod Loris, McLeod Seacoast, McLeod Health Cheraw and McLeod Health Clarendon.



Dr. William "Alex" Newsom

## Anson Animal Shelter Needs Volunteers - Would You Like to Help?

The Animal Shelter depends on the help of volunteers to ensure that animal residents receive love and care. More volunteers will also help relieve the workload on staff which can result in more time for resident animals to be adopted before they are euthanized (put to sleep). Please consider volunteering. For more information on helping, call 704-694-4832.

Anson County Animal Shelter is listed on [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com). This is a searchable national database of pets available for adoption that includes a description and photo. All the animals that are up for adoption are listed and have a picture. Just go to [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com) and search for any Anson County town or zip code.

A rescue from Animal Shelter can bring lots of happiness and love into any home...and you will make the animal happy too. It's a win-win.

**And remember, older animals need a home and love too!**

## Free Movie is The Little Rascals

The Hampton B. Allen Library announced that the free movie for Monday, July 24 at 10:00 a.m. in the Little Theatre is *The Little Rascals*. Starring Spanky (Travis Tedford), Buckwheat (Ross Elliot Bagley), Alfalfa (Bug Hall) and Darla (Brittany Ashton Holmes), it is a fun-filled classic Little Rascals story filled with adventure and humor.

Everyone is invited to come, bring a friend and enjoy the movie. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

## Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District Meeting

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 25 at 10:00 a.m. at the BCSWCD office, located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro. For more information call 704-694-3516.