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

## 440 Reported Cases of COVID-19 in Anson County

As of Monday, August 31 the Anson County Health Department posted that Anson County had 440 reported cases of COVID-19. 28 of those cases were active. At that point they had discharged 412 cases, 408 to baseline health and four deaths.

**Recent history:** March 31 - 1 case; April 28 - 23 cases; May 26 - 62 cases; June 22 - 107 cases; July 27 - 285 cases; August 3 - 306 cases; August 9 - 328 cases; August 19 - 376 cases, August 26 - 408 cases.

## Hometown Hero Joshua Polk Aids in Arrest of Hawaii's Top 5 Most Wanted Criminal

Private First Class Joshua Polk, 2019 Anson High School JROTC Bearcat Battalion Commander, currently a US Army military police soldier stationed in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, recently apprehended one of Hawaii's top 5 most wanted criminals.

The felon was evading capture from Hawaii police officers when PFC Polk led the pursuit along with two other military police officers. Polk ran the much larger subject down, tackling and apprehending him. The criminal was wanted for a litany of multiple-count felony charges including murder, drug racketeering and gang affiliation.

Polk's willingness to put himself into harm's way for the safety of others speaks well of his training and individual commitment to protect his fellow citizens.

Polk's actions bring great credit upon himself, his unit, the U.S. Army, his home town community, and his Bearcat Battalion cadet family.

We are proud to call him one of Anson's own.



## Labor Day Weekend Marks The Launch Of Impaired Driving Initiative

**SHP Participates In Booze It & Lose It Campaign**

As Labor Day fast approaches, increased congestion across the state is expected as motorists travel to their intended vacation destinations. With this in mind, the State Highway Patrol is stressing the importance of sober driving throughout the holiday weekend.

Combining forces with the Governor's Highway Safety Program and more than 500 law enforcement organizations statewide, the SHP is participating in the GHSP's Booze It & Lose It campaign. Troopers throughout the two-week initiative will focus on multiple motor vehicle violations such as: excessive speeding, aggressive driving and driving while distracted. A special emphasis will also be placed on removing impaired motorists, attempting to prevent needless collisions from occurring.

"Removing impaired drivers before they harm themselves or someone else is among our highest priorities throughout the holiday weekend," said Colonel Glenn McNeill, Jr., commander of the State Highway Patrol. "Ensuring safe travel is a shared responsibility among both law enforcement and those who travel across our great state."

Last year, the SHP responded to more than 1,351 collisions throughout the Labor Day weekend. Among those collisions, 402 resulted in an injury and 12 resulted in one or more fatalities. 94 collisions within the same time frame occurred due to impairment of either alcohol or drugs.

Motorists can assist in reducing needless collisions by following the provided suggestions:

- Plan ahead by ensuring a designated driver has been selected.
- Use a ride sharing service if no designated driver is available.
- Prepare for delays by choosing alternate routes.
- Monitor speed limits and avoid driving distracted.
- Increase following distances

The Booze It & Lose It campaign began Monday, August 31 and will conclude on Sunday, September 13.

## Governor Roy Cooper Extends 11 p.m. Alcohol Curfew Through September

In an effort to continue slowing the spread of COVID-19, Governor Roy Cooper signed Executive Order 162 to extend the limited hours on the sale of alcoholic drinks in North Carolina. As the state continues to fight the spread of COVID-19, the Order requires restaurants to end the sale of alcoholic beverages at 11 pm. This Order will remain in effect through October 2, 2020.

"North Carolina has made good progress stabilizing our COVID-19 numbers, and this order will help us continue it," said Governor Cooper. "Now is the time to continue staying cautious and vigilant as we work to beat this pandemic."

Local governments that have implemented orders that end alcohol sales before 11 p.m. or that apply to other entities remain in effect.



Pictured above are Sam Cole (in green shirt), Anson County Extension Agent, and Guy Holley (orange shirt), Bertie County Extension Agent.

## Who is My Neighbor?

On early Tuesday morning, August 4, Tropical Storm Isaias touched down in Bertie County. Bertie is a small county, similar to Anson located in the northeastern part of North Carolina. According to reports there were 26 homes completely destroyed from the effects of the tornado.

With restrictions and so many uncertainties surrounding COVID-19, the damages from the tornado exacerbated an already difficult situation. Bertie County is roughly four hours from Anson. Despite the distance, Anson County 4-H was determined to be neighborly and help with the relief efforts.

Guy Holley, Bertie County Extension Agent, did a great job making counties in North Carolina aware of the ways they could support the Bertie County Tornado Relief efforts. Anson County Extension Director, Roshunda Terry advised Sam Cole, Anson County Extension Agent, in utilizing 4-H Volunteers to gather supplies to go towards the Bertie County Tornado relief. Roshunda has participated with disaster reliefs in the past and has received strong support from the 4-H Volunteers. She considers them to be a tremendous asset to Anson County 4-H and Anson County Extension.

Anson County 4-H Volunteers proved reliable once again as Sam informed them that he would be helping to get needed supplies to Bertie County. Within a week volunteers had filled a large trash can with toilet tissue, canned goods and other non-perishable items. After a week and a half there was a sizeable pile of supplies down at the Anson Extension Office. In total, they donated 385 pounds of supplies!

The drive from Anson to Bertie County is about 240 miles. Fortunately, Guy was willing to meet Sam in Raleigh, which was about halfway for both, to collect the supplies. Regardless of the distance, Bertie is our neighbor because in their time of need we were fortunate enough to be able to help.

Bertie County has partnered with PayPal to provide this relief fund for those most impacted by Tropical Storm Isaias and the Morning Road tornado. All donations will be dispersed by Bertie County to local families most in need to provide for food, temporary housing, and other personal assistance needs. This is the only official Bertie County monetary donation avenue, and 100% of its proceeds will be given directly to storm victims. To donate any amount, visit: [paypal.me/BertieStrong](https://paypal.me/BertieStrong). This article and photos submitted by Sam Cole



### Bertie County Morning Road Tornado Relief Fund

Bertie County has partnered with PayPal to provide this relief fund for those most impacted by Tropical Storm Isaias and the Morning Road tornado. All donations will be dispersed by Bertie County to local families most in need to provide for food, temporary housing, and other personal assistance needs. This is the only official Bertie County monetary donation avenue, and 100% of the proceeds will be given directly to storm victims.

**To donate in any amount, visit: [paypal.me/BertieStrong](https://paypal.me/BertieStrong)**



## Polkton Woman Bags \$200,000 Lottery Prize

Lora Sturdivant of Polkton is the lucky winner of a \$200,000 NC Education Lottery Bonus Bucks top prize. Sturdivant purchased her lucky ticket from Whit's Convenience on Highway 74 East in Polkton.

She claimed her prize on Thursday, August 27. After required federal and state tax withholding, she took home \$141,501.

Bonus Bucks launched in June with six top prizes of \$200,000. Two top prizes remain to be won.

**How NC Education Lottery Funds Benefit Anson County.** In Fiscal Year 2019, education programs in Anson County received \$16,361,947 in lottery funds. Elected officials in the state legislature decide how to best use the money provided to the state by the lottery each year.

- Prekindergarten \$346,059. Being ready to learn helps kids get the most out of school. The N.C. Pre-K program serves four-year-old children who are at risk of falling behind their peers as they prepare for kindergarten. Thanks to lottery funds, 69 children in Anson County were provided a free, academic pre-school experience last year.
- College Scholarships \$51,059. Lottery funds help college students get learning that lasts a lifetime. Lottery funds provide scholarships based on financial need to help students cover the costs of attending a state university or community college in North Carolina. Last year, 51 students in Anson County received scholarships.
- Financial Aid \$22,565. A second way that the lottery helps make college affordable is through the UNC Need-Based Grant Program. The money supports grants to help students cover the costs of attending a state university within the UNC system. Last year, 117 Anson County students received grants.
- Non-Instructional Support \$838,717. It takes a team to make schools work. Lottery funds helped support the operations of public and charter schools, including the costs of support staff such as office assistants, custodians and substitute teachers.
- LEA Transportation \$48,227. Just like students need a place to learn, they also need a safe way to get to school. Money raised by the lottery helps cover costs for school-provided transportation, like bus drivers' salaries, fuel, and other related costs. Last year, Anson County received over \$48,227 to help cover the cost of school transportation. Local officials decide the best use of the funds the county receives.
- School Construction \$55,320. Students need places to learn. School systems can use lottery funds to help build and repair schools. This helps meet needs that otherwise would have to be paid for by other means such as property taxes. Local officials decide the best use of the construction funds the county receives.
- Needs-Based School Construction Grant \$15,000,000. In 2017, legislators increased funding for school construction by creating a new needs-based grant program. This new program, funded exclusively with money raised by the lottery, helps small, rural counties with critical building needs to build new schools. Anson County received \$15,000,000 in the Fall of 2018\* to help meet their school construction and repair needs. \*Awarded in fiscal year 2019.

**Lottery Funds Have Supported Anson County for More Than a Decade.** Lottery funds have made a difference in Anson County every year since 2006. Over time, lottery funds have been directed by legislators to support different education programs, including paying for the salaries of teachers and teacher assistants and digital learning initiatives.

**Cumulative Total in Anson County for fiscal year 2019 was \$32,687,459.**

## Anson Farmers Market Open Wednesdays & Saturdays

The Anson County Farmers Market is open through November 1. The hours are 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays. It is located on Highway 52 South near Wadesboro Primary School. Be sure to come out and take advantage of great prices on locally grown produce and other items. For more information contact Francis Campbell at [Francis.Campbell@nc.usda.gov](mailto:Francis.Campbell@nc.usda.gov).

## Town of Wadesboro Labor Day Schedule

The Wadesboro Town Hall will be closed on Monday, September 7 for the Labor Day Holiday.

There will be no garbage pickup on Monday, September 7. Garbage collection will be shifted a day the entire week. Monday's route will be picked up on Tuesday, September 8, Tuesday's route will be picked up on Wednesday, September 9, etc. The normal collection schedule will resume on Monday, September 14.

If you have any questions, please call Town Hall at 704-694-5171.

## Anson County Government Labor Day Schedule

All Anson County offices will be closed on Monday, September 7. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, September 8. The Sheriff's Office and emergency services will be in operation on September 7.

## Charity Ride is September 19

The Misfit Bikers will hold their 4th Annual Charity Ride to benefit Operation Christmas Child on Saturday, September 19. Riders will gather at Papa Joe's Restaurant, with registraton at 9 a.m. and kickstands up at 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 per single rider, \$20 for two-up. For more information call Kevin at 704-475-0487, Mark at 704-695-4487 or Richard at 704-694-8988.