

1689
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #149
Wadesboro, NC
28170
Postal
Customer

THE EXPRESS

205 West Morgan Street • Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-694-2480 • TheExpressNews@gmail.com • www.TheExpressNewspaper.com

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

Anson County Covid-19 Update - Vaccines for Kids 5 and Older

Booster doses are available.
Ansonians are urged to get vaccinated.
Flu shots are available at the Health Department.

Information posted by the Anson County Health Department on Friday, November 19 showed 4,015 total Covid-19 cases (only 10 more than 11/15), with 64 active. The total deaths are 84.
Vaccines are available for everyone 5 years old and older, including walk-in clinics. (Children 5-11 by appointment only.) Vaccine boosters are available. They are free, and all you have to do is call the Health Department at 704-694-5188 for more information. Walk-in clinics are on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m.
The NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) reported that statewide as of Sunday, November 21 there were 2,401 new cases, with 18,597 deaths and 1,052 hospitalized, up significantly from last Monday (November 15) with 1,361 new cases. 72% of adults

Carnell Charles Caple, Jr. is Sentenced to More than Six Years on Federal Drug and Gun Charges



Acting U.S. Attorney William T. Stetzer announced that Carnell Charles Caple, Jr., 32, of Wadesboro was sentenced to 76 months in prison and three years of supervised release on federal drug and gun charges.
Robert R. Wells, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI in Charlotte, and Chief Thedis Spencer of the Wadesboro Police Department join Acting U.S. Attorney Stetzer in making today's announcement.
According to court documents and the sentencing hearing, on November 12, 2020, a Wadesboro Police Department detective conducted a traffic stop of the vehicle in which Caple was riding as a passenger. Over the course of the traffic stop, the officer asked the driver of the vehicle to step outside and instructed Caple to remain in the car. Caple did not comply and instead attempted to flee on foot. Law enforcement at the scene observed Caple discard a black bag while he ran with a firearm in his hand. Shortly thereafter, Caple tripped and fell and was placed under arrest.
According to court records, officers recovered Caple's firearm, which was loaded with 15 rounds of ammunition and one additional round in the chamber. Law enforcement later determined that the firearm was stolen. Law enforcement also recovered Caple's black bag, in which they found narcotics, drug paraphernalia, and another magazine loaded with 10 rounds of ammunition. Court records show that at the time of the offense Caple was on supervised release for a previous federal offense.
On July 22, 2021, Caple pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and cocaine, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. He is currently in federal custody and will be transferred to custody of the federal Bureau of Prisons upon designation of a federal facility.
In making today's announcement, Acting U.S. Attorney Stetzer thanked the FBI and the Wadesboro Police Department for their investigation of the case. Assistant United States Attorney Regina Pack, of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Charlotte, prosecuted the case.
This case is being prosecuted as part of the joint federal, state, and local Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Program, the centerpiece of the Department of Justice's violent crime reduction efforts. Through PSN, a broad spectrum of stakeholders work together to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in the community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them. As part of this strategy, PSN focuses enforcement efforts on the most violent offenders and partners with locally based prevention and reentry programs for lasting reductions in crime.

Pee Dee Electric Named '5-Star Co-op' by National Trade Association

Recognition honors co-op participation in nationwide voter engagement effort
Pee Dee Electric announced that it has been named a "5-Star Co-op" by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). The 5-star designation recognizes Pee Dee Electric's high level of participation in Co-ops Vote, a national get-out-the-vote campaign. The non-partisan campaign seeks to engage voters and boost voter turnout in areas served by electric co-ops all across the country.
"Presidential elections aren't the only ones that matter," said Donnie Spivey, CEO and Executive Vice President. "State and local elections have a huge impact on our day to day lives in the communities we serve. We're honored to be recognized by NRECA."
"Electric cooperatives play a unique and special role as a voice in their communities," said NRECA CEO Jim Matheson. "Elections are important, especially in rural areas, and Pee Dee Electric has used the Co-ops Vote program to increase awareness of our civic duty on Election Day, and every day. I'm pleased to congratulate them on this accomplishment as they make a real difference in the communities they serve."
The Co-ops Vote program can make a difference in our community. More information on Co-ops Vote is available at www.vote.coop.
NRECA is the service organization that represents the nation's more than 900 not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives. With 42 million members in 48 states, electric co-ops can stand together as a powerful voice in this year's elections.
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, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, Stanly and Union counties. For more information about Pee Dee Electric, please visit www.pdemc.com.



New Members in Threescore and Ten Senior 70's Club

Rock Hill Missionary Baptist Church inducted two new members into the Threescore and Ten Senior 70's Club. The club was established March 8, 2014, to honor the elders in the church.
Pictured above, from left, are George Robinson, Diane Robinson (new inductee), Catherleen Smith, Elizabeth Wright, Georgia Adams, Ineda Terry, Charlie Bell Lackey (new inductee) and Dr. T.J. Horne-Pastor.
Not present: Lillie A. Spencer, Rush and Georgianna Medley.

Connect Beyond Regional Mobility Plan in Motion to Roll Forward in Anson County

The wheels are in motion for the greater Charlotte region to implement a comprehensive transportation system. Project partners, Centralina Regional Council and the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC), have voted to officially endorse the CONNECT Beyond regional mobility plan.

This initiative is a first-of-its-kind plan that serves as a blueprint for how to implement a robust, interconnected network combining high-capacity transit lines, enhanced bus service and other innovative mobility solutions. CONNECT Beyond will cover a diverse area, crossing the dashed lines that split the Charlotte region including 12 counties, two states, four Metropolitan Planning Organizations, one Rural Planning Organization and two state Departments of Transportation.

"Over the past two decades, our region has experienced unprecedented growth and remained resilient through turbulent cycles. Access to safe, reliable, affordable and well-connected public transportation is critical so that everyone can benefit from this economic prosperity," said Geraldine Gardner, Executive Director of Centralina Regional Council.

Anson County is part of the plan's 12-county region which consists of Anson County, Cabarrus County, Cleveland County, Gaston County, Iredell County, Lincoln County, Mecklenburg County, Rowan County, Stanly County, and Union County in North Carolina and the urbanized areas of Lancaster County and York County in South Carolina.

"Time is our most incredible asset that each and every one of us have. And augmenting times becomes a determining factor in which mode of transportation we will choose as we are moving throughout the region," said John Lewis, Chief Executive Officer of Charlotte Area Transit System. "This is an issue of competitiveness. Being able to give individuals back the most amount of time in their commute and allows them more time pursuing business ventures, spending time with family and enhancing quality of life. And much of that is tied to our transportation system and our ability to connect."

CONNECT Beyond includes more than 150 recommendations that fit into the following five categories, known as Mobility Moves: Creating Mobility-Friendly Places, Expanding Mobility Choices, Strengthening Rural to Urban Connections, Building a Better Bus Network and Investing in Strategic Mobility Corridors.

Some of the many ways the plan would impact Anson County include: expanding mobility options to help people more easily get to and from work; focusing growth along Highway 74 in anticipation of future transit; and giving residents more access to medical facilities in surrounding counties and the ability to use human services transportation for underserved communities for non-medical trips. For more county information about CONNECT Beyond, visit centralina.org/regional-collaboration/regional-transit and for more detailed plan information, visit www.connect-beyond.com.

The next steps will entail Centralina and MTC working with transportation planning organizations, counties and municipalities within the project area to educate residents, facilitate cross-county coordination and secure resources to support early implementation priorities.

Added Gardner, "We are excited to begin rolling out the plan and working with local entities in the region to customize implementation and ensure mobility solutions for everyone. CONNECT Beyond is our north star in meeting the needs of our growing region."

About Centralina Centralina Regional Council is a public organization that was established to serve the needs of the greater Charlotte region, including Anson, Cabarrus, Gaston, Lincoln, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Stanly and Union counties. Its mission is to strengthen regional collaboration and improve quality of life by facilitating area-wide planning, collaboration and problem-solving, supporting local governments and providing direct health, aging and workforce services to individuals. Through these three levels of engagement and impact, Centralina seeks to unite the greater Charlotte region by a common vision for a thriving and prosperous place to live, work and play. For more information, visit centralina.org.

Anson County Thanksgiving Schedule

All Anson County offices will be closed on both Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Emergency services, law enforcement and the 911 center will be in full operation.

Anson County Schools Covid Dashboard Updated 11-19-2021

Location/Site	Quarantined Students	Quarantined Employees	Positive Cases Students	Positive Cases Employees
Anson Early College High School	0	0	1	0
Anson High School	4	0	2	0
Anson Middle School	8	1	3	0
Ansonville Elementary	8	0	3	0
Lilesville Elementary	3	1	2	0
Morven Elementary	9	1	3	0
Peachland-Polkton Elementary	0	0	0	0
Wadesboro Elementary	0	0	0	0
Wadesboro Primary	3	0	1	0
District Office	N/A	0	N/A	0
Transportation	N/A	0	N/A	0
Maintenance	N/A	0	N/A	0
Child Nutrition/Cafeteria Employees	N/A	1	N/A	0
Total	35	4	15	0

*Student Enrollment as of 11/19/21 2,950 # of Employees 513
*Enrollment changes daily % of Employees Positive 0.00%
% of Students Positive 0.51%

A link to the dashboard is on the Anson County Schools Facebook page.

Wreaths Across America Ceremony Honors Veterans

REMEMBER the Fallen HONOR those who Serve TEACH our children the value of Freedom.

On Saturday, December 18 at 12 noon Leavitt Funeral Home and Anson Community Hospice will be helping Anson Memorial Park to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.

Please help us honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.

There are 600 veteran graves at Anson Memorial Park, and the wreath coverage goal is all 600. At this point there are 140 wreath sponsorships.

Anson Memorial Park is located at 2207 NC Highway 742 South in Wadesboro.

Ceremony and Volunteer Information Ken Caulder at Leavitt Funeral Home said, "We are happy that you are willing to help with our Wreath Across America ceremony at Anson Memorial Park. Please do not forget to register to volunteer! That way you will get all updates about the cemetery itself."

Here are things to remember about the ceremony:

- Everyone of all ages and backgrounds is welcome.
- Please help ensure that all participants get the opportunity to place a wreath.
- Please follow the location coordinators instructions on where to place wreaths, as well as "how" they should be placed.
- We especially appreciate volunteers willing to help clean-up. Please check in with the location coordinator if you are interested in helping with the clean-up.

The most important thing to remember is to have a wonderful experience participating in the ceremony. Thank you so much for supporting the Leavitt Funeral Home and Anson Community Hospice and Wreaths Across America!

For information about sponsoring a wreath and/or volunteering on Wreaths Day, visit wreathscross-america.org/pages/162012. Also, you can contact Ken Caulder at: ken@leavittfh.com or 704-694-2524.

\$5 of every wreath sponsored will be donated to Anson Community Hospice.

The Express is on the web at www.TheExpressNewspaper.com