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

Anson County Board of Commissioners Meets December 5

The Anson County Board of Commissioners now meets two times per month. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5 at 6 p.m. The second meeting in December takes place on Tuesday, December 19 at 6 p.m. The meetings take place in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center which is located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro. To schedule an appearance at a board meeting, please sign up prior to the meeting. Information is available at 704-994-3201. The Commissioners' board meetings are live streamed on their YouTube channel. Also, the videos are archived so they can be viewed at any time. Visit youtube.com and search for Anson Commissioners.

Anson High School Student Arrested Nov. 28 for Carrying a Gun to School

On Tuesday morning, November 28, the Wadesboro Police Department's School Resource Officers recovered a firearm from a student at Anson High School. This firearm was located in the student's book bag while the student was going through a metal detector prior to the beginning of school. There have been no threats or acts of violence associated with incident and all students, faculty, and staff were safe. The student was charged with possession of a weapon on school property and placed in the Anson County Jail.

Called 911 by Mistake? Don't Hang Up.

Many people accidentally dial 911 when they are actually trying to dial one of North Carolina's 919 or 910 area codes. It also happens when people try to dial 411 for information. It is an honest mistake. It is a myth that people who mistakenly call 911 will get in trouble. Do not prolong the mistake by hanging up before you let the telecommunicator know it is a wrong number and everything is okay. When a caller hangs up on 911, even when the telecommunicator has not answered yet, the caller must be contacted to make sure there is no emergency. If they are unable to make contact by phone, the telecommunicator must send an officer to investigate. This interrupts telecommunications and law enforcement officers who could otherwise be responding to real emergencies. If you call 911 by mistake, please stay on the line until it is answered. Simply tell the telecommunicator that you dialed 911 by mistake and there is no emergency. This is an important way to conserve limited safety resources that everyone should follow. *By Sheriff Scott Howell*

Healthcare.gov Open Enrollment Now Open Through January 16.

Affordable health insurance is available

The NC Navigator Consortium welcomes the start of Open Enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace at Healthcare.gov, with a team of dedicated Navigators ready to help North Carolinians in all 100 counties get covered in the new year. While Open Enrollment lasts until Jan. 16, 2024, the NC Navigator Consortium's statewide network of health insurance Navigators offer FREE of charge services year-round, answering questions about health coverage, helping consumers update their HealthCare.gov policies and enroll in new ones after qualifying life events, with 80% of enrollees finding coverage for less than \$10 a month. Folks who need coverage starting Jan. 1, 2024, will need to apply by Dec. 15, 2023. The NC Navigator Consortium's federally qualified health insurance Navigators are available by free appointments (by phone, in person or virtually) to provide local help to consumers needing to apply for, or update, their Marketplace coverage. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 1-855-733-3711 or online at NCNavigator.net. The NC Navigator Consortium connects North Carolinians with qualified health plans that provide essential healthcare, preventive care, mental health care, ER care and maternity coverage, not limited by caps or pre-existing conditions. Our certified Navigators help North Carolinians maximize their coverage by:

- Taking time with consumers to help avoid mistakes.
- Presenting all options and ensuring their providers are in-network.
- Explaining terminology and processes to help increase health insurance literacy.
- Assisting consumers with estimating their income for the year ahead, one of the most difficult parts of the HealthCare.gov application process.

This year they are excited to welcome the expansion of Medicaid in North Carolina. Starting Dec. 1, 2023, North Carolinians between the ages of 19 and 64 could be eligible for Medicaid even if they didn't qualify in previous years. NC Medicaid covers most health services – including doctor visits, checkups, emergency care, hospital services, maternity and postpartum care, vision and hearing services, prescription drugs, behavioral health, preventative and wellness services, devices, and more. There's no monthly fee and copays are never more than \$4. The NC Navigator Consortium is the only federally funded entity of its kind in North Carolina, supported in part by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust and Cone Health Foundation. Learn more at ncnavigator.net, and follow them on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Members of the Consortium are Mountain Projects Inc., Access East, Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy, Council on Aging of Buncombe County, Cumberland HealthNET, HealthCare Access, HealthNet Gaston, Kintegra Health, NC Field and Pisgah Legal Services. The Consortium is led by Legal Aid of North Carolina. Legal Aid of North Carolina is a statewide, nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services in civil matters to low-income people in order to ensure equal access to justice and to remove legal barriers to economic opportunity. Learn more at legalaidnc.org. Follow them on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.



Director Tommy Wooten and Musical Director Gail Litaker have assembled a glorious ensemble to bring this show to life. Jennifer Gilmore leads the cast as Maria with Mary Lynn Railton as the Mother Abbess. Lance Barber stars as Captain Von Trapp and his children are played by Paige Mercer, Greyson Helms, Gracilee Bricker, Ari Metcalf, Calhoun Metcalf, Rebekah Forsyth and Emily Kirby. Mike Railton appears as Max, Lauren Wilson as the Baroness, and Tyler Wills as Rolf. The rest of the cast includes Karen Johnston, Angelis P. Cole, Ruth Ann Harris, Matthew Thompson, Robert Graves, Glenn Caulder, Logan Tallman, Donnie Lewis, Regina Forsyth, Teri Brown, Betsy Gaskamp, Candela Lopez Pita, Lilly Kirby and Kelly Kirby. Set Design is by Teri Brown with Lights and Sound by Rachel Kostelnik. The show runs December 1-10. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. On Saturday, December 2nd there will be a special audience sing-along at the 7:30 performance. Let your heart be blessed with *The Sound of Music!* Tickets can be purchased at ansoniatheatre.com or call 704-694-4950.

The Sound of Music Opens at the Ansonia this Friday

The Ansonia Theatre is thrilled to open one of the most beloved musicals of all time. *The Sound of Music* is an inspirational story, based on the memoir of Maria August Trapp. It follows a young nun in-training who serves as governess to the seven children of Naval Officer Captain Von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of the Nazi Regime take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire Von Trapp family must make a moral decision. *The Sound of Music* originally opened on Broadway in 1959 and won the hearts of audiences worldwide, earning five Tony Awards and five Oscars for the feature film version. In the decades since, the musical has been an audience favorite all over the World, and features the classic songs "Edelweiss", "My Favorite Things", "Do-Re-Mi" and "Climb Every Mountain."

Writers' Club Annual Contests in Prose and Poetry are Open for Submissions

Deadline is December 4. Enter your work for a chance to win!

The Anson County Writers' Club (ACWC) is now accepting submissions for its annual contests in prose and poetry. The ACWC will award over \$400 in prize money to the winners in adult, youth, and children's categories. Deadline is December 4, 2023. The adult contests are open to anyone residing in, having resided in, attending school in, or working in Anson County; or members of the ACWC. There is a \$1 entry fee that is waived for students at any institution of higher learning. There is no entry fee for students in grades 3-12. Rules and entry forms will be provided to all Anson County schools. Home-schooled students are also invited to enter. There are three ways to enter: 1) Submissions in Word can be emailed to: info@ansoncountywritersclub.org with "contest" in the subject line; 2) mailed to Anson County Writers' Club, 2023 Contests, Box 363, Wadesboro, NC, 28170; or 3) dropped off at the Hampton B. Allen Library. A complete copy of the rules and an entry form that must accompany each entry are available at the Hampton B. Allen Library or by writing to ACWC 2022 Contests, P.O. Box 363, Wadesboro, N.C., 28170 (enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope). Rules and entry forms are also on the ACWC website ansoncountywritersclub.org. Failure to follow the rules may result in an entry being disqualified. First, second and third place winners in the adult prose and adult poetry categories will receive \$50, \$30 and \$20, respectively. Youth winners (grades 9-12) will receive \$20, \$15 and \$10, respectively. Grades 3-6 and Grades 7-8 will compete separately in the children's division. Prizes are \$15, \$10 and \$5, respectively, for prose and poetry winners in both categories. All winners will receive a certificate suitable for framing and will be honored at a reception for friends and family on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024. The ACWC held its first contests in 1989 and since published 11 anthologies of the winning entries. Anson Pathways XI is available for purchase at the Anson County Arts Council or from amazon.com. (choose "books" and then "Anson Pathways").

Wadesboro Christmas Parade is December 7

The Wadesboro Christmas Parade will be held on Thursday, December 7 at 4:00 p.m. After the parade be sure to stay uptown and enjoy Christmas in the Village. Anyone interested in participating in the parade can visit this site to sign up: form.jotform.com/232854458550058. You can get more information by emailing uptownwadesboro@windstream.net. The deadline to sign up is December 2.

End of Year Red Cross Blood Drive

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC) and Burnsville Fire & Rescue Department will host an end of the year Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, December 8. It will start at 2:30 p.m. and last until 6:30 p.m. inside the Burnsville Fire & Rescue Department which is located at 13380 Highway 742, Polkton, across from BRLC. BRLC volunteers Michele Sanro and Nelson Jackson, along with supporting volunteers and community citizens, have worked together to help in every area with the Blood Drive. BRLC Director Carol Smith said, "We know that there are some who are not able to give blood and that's understandable, but I am kindly asking you who are able to please register with the Red Cross. Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter 'Burnsville' to schedule your appointment with no waiting. We have not experienced what it's like to need blood and not have it. To experience the lack of blood is very detrimental to anyone on earth. For individuals dealing with Sickles Cell African American blood has a component that helps to a greater degree in the midst of a Sickles Cell crisis." Smith continued, "BRLC is asking the Burnsville community, Anson county residents and others to please help with expanding this amazing Blood Drive opportunity. You may have wanted to give blood, but due to medical reasons, physical limitations or even fear you have not. Please let me encourage you as a first time donor myself. Last March I donated my first pint of blood with no problems. Will you join in this great experience? BRLC volunteers invite you to come and experience the gift of saying a physical life. In August our Blood Drive quota was met and we will do it again with community participation. BRLC has grown because of God First and special individuals like you who have and hopefully will continue to stand with this charitable organization. Thanks for helping to save lives one at a time." BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information you can call 704-826-8737, check their Facebook page or visit www.burnsvillelc.org.

Cheraw Arts Commission Presents Twilight Concert

The Cheraw Arts Commission will present a Twilight Concert featuring Cantate, a Hartsville quartet, on Thursday, December 7. The performance will be at Kevin Lear's - 140 Second Street at 6:30pm. Musical selections will include traditional carols. In addition, the Celebration Ringers, a First Presbyterian Church handbell choir, will participate as a part of the program. The quartet which was organized in March 2021, chose its name, Cantate, because it is a Latin word which means sing! This word, including the exclamation mark, exemplifies the spirit with which these four vocalists and their director perform. They are all former members of the Hartsville Chamber Ensemble. These friends share a love of singing, and through many hours of rehearsal, they strive to deliver a seamlessly blended sound. Cantate is under the direction of Ronda Wilkes McElveen. Admission to the concert is \$10 for Adults and \$8 for Students. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the Cheraw Community Center-200 Powe Street. For additional information, contact the Cheraw Arts Commission 843.537.8420, ext.12.

Anson Beekeepers to Hold Potluck Get Together

The Anson County Beekeepers will not have a regular meeting in December, but they will end 2023 by having a get together this Friday, December 1 at 6 p.m. This is a potluck and no gifts, but if you have honey bring it for the black jar honey contest at the Anson County Extension Office. Check their Facebook page for more info, "Anson Beekeepers Association."

Anson Democratic Partying Meeting

The Anson Democratic Party will hold in its monthly meeting this Thursday, November 30, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Lady Bug Restaurant, located at 800 East Caswell Street in Wadesboro. Municipal elected officials from the November 7, 2023 election are encouraged to attend. Candidates filing for the 2024 Elections are asked to be present. All registered Democrats are welcome.

Historic Bowman Senior High School Class of 1968 Reunion

Celebrating their 55th Reunion on Friday

Members of the Historic Bowman Senior High School Class of 1968 will be celebrating their 55th high school reunion on Friday, December 1, from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Harvest Ministries Event Center in Wadesboro. For information about registration please contact the following area captains: Pamela Vernon (Wadesboro); Catherine Sturdivant (Lilesville); Elnora Polk (Deep Creek and Ansonville); Sylvia Pratt (Morven); Cynthia Myles (Peachland); Eva Graves (Charlotte); and Josephine Harris (Chapel Hill, Hamlet, Rockingham, other areas of NC, and out-of-state). For additional information, please contact Harris, who is the Planning Reunion Committee Chair, at jharr122@nccu.edu, 919-619-9032; or 919-967-2650.

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