

Pee Dee Electric awards \$14,000 in Bright Ideas Education Grants to local educators funding a total of eight different projects. More than 1,000 students across all grade levels and subject areas in Anson, Richmond, Scotland and Stanly counties will benefit from these grants.

- Anson County Winners:** Anson High School – Dana Wood
Richmond County Winners: East Rockingham Elementary – Ashley Shepherd; Mineral Springs Elementary – Jessica Davis; Morrison Correctional Institution – Jamie Dunn; West Rockingham Elementary – Tonya F. Baldwin
Scotland County Winners: Carver Middle School – Catherine Gates
Stanly County Winners: Norwood Elementary – Bev Russell and Kristin White; South Stanly Middle School – Lisa Geraci

The Bright Ideas grant program is part of Pee Dee Electric ongoing commitment to community and education. To learn more about this and other community outreach efforts, visit pdemc.com or ncbrightideas.com.

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.

Active 2021 Atlantic Hurricane Season Officially Ends

The active 2021 Atlantic hurricane season officially concludes today having produced 21 named storms (winds of 39 mph or greater), including seven hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or greater) of which four were major hurricanes (winds of 111 mph or greater). This above-average hurricane season was accurately predicted by NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, a division of the National Weather Service, in their May and August outlooks.

"NOAA provided the science and services necessary to protect life and property before, during and after storms all season long," said NOAA Administrator, Rick Spinrad, Ph.D. "From essential observations to advanced warnings to critical response actions, NOAA supports communities so they are ready, responsive and resilient to the impact of tropical cyclones each and every hurricane season."

This year was the third most active year on record in terms of named storms, it marks the sixth consecutive above-normal Atlantic hurricane season, and this was the first time on record that two consecutive hurricane seasons exhausted the list of 21 storm names.

Scientists attribute the heightened hurricane activity in recent years to the warm phase of the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation that began in 1995 and favors more, stronger and longer-lasting storms. The Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation is thought to be driven by a combination of internal climate variability and changes over time in small airborne particles, often referred to as aerosols, over the North Atlantic. However, the relative contributions of internal variability and aerosols to the observed Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation remain uncertain. Additionally, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Sixth Assessment Report offsite link, released in August 2021, projects with high confidence that the global proportion of tropical cyclones that reach very intense (category 4-5) levels, along with their peak winds and rainfall rates, are expected to increase with climate warming at the global scale.

"The hard-working forecasters at NOAA's National Weather Service weather and water forecast offices and national centers, along with the National Hurricane Center, provided reliable forecasts and advanced warnings around the clock to safeguard communities in the pathway of destructive storms throughout this active hurricane season," said National Weather Service Director Louis W. Uccellini, Ph.D. "Their dedication and service are a recognized asset to the nation's resilience to these extreme events."

This season's storm activity started early and quickly ramped up, as it was the seventh consecutive year with a named storm forming before the official start to the season on June 1, and held the earliest fifth named storm on record. As to why, Matthew Rosencrans, lead seasonal hurricane forecaster at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center says, "Climate factors, which include La Niña, above-normal sea surface temperatures earlier in the season, and above-average West African Monsoon rainfall were the primary contributors for this above-average hurricane season."

NOAA's hurricane research and observations Scientists at NOAA's Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory successfully deployed five new extreme weather Saildrones to collect data at the ocean and atmosphere interface in the Caribbean and western tropical Atlantic. One uncrewed Saildrone captured the first ever video and measurements at the surface of the ocean during a major hurricane, withstanding 125-mph winds and 50-foot waves during Hurricane Sam. This data combined with data from other Saildrones, ocean gliders and aircraft-released sensors is helping NOAA to better represent the conditions that drive hurricanes within forecast models.

NOAA aircraft flew more than 462 mission hours to support hurricane forecasting and research. Data collected by these high-flying meteorological laboratories help forecasters make accurate storm predictions and allow hurricane researchers to achieve a better understanding of storm processes, which ultimately improves their forecast models. Thanks to data from these aircraft, NOAA satellites, and other sources, the National Hurricane Center accurately forecasted Hurricane Ida — which is tied for the fifth strongest hurricane to ever make landfall in the United States - hitting Louisiana as a major hurricane.

Since the launch of the storm surge warning and new inundation mapping in 2017, there have been 16 U.S hurricane landfalls, of which seven were major hurricanes. During this period, there are only seven known direct fatalities attributed to storm surge in the United States. In 2021, only one life was lost due to the storm surge accompanying the eight landfalling storms. Additionally, the delivery of Impact-Based Decision Support Services to NOAA's core partners throughout the season helped communities better prepare for and respond to landfalling hurricanes.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, NOAA Aircraft flew 32 mission hours collecting aerial damage assessment images to support emergency response efforts at NOAA's National Ocean Service. NOAA's aerial imagery aids safe navigation and is a critical tool in determining the extent of damage inflicted by flooding and assessing damage to major ports and waterways, coastlines, critical infrastructure and coastal communities.

Looking ahead

The 2022 hurricane season will officially begin on June 1. NOAA's Climate Prediction Center will issue its initial seasonal outlook in May, but now is the time to make sure your family is Weather-Ready by preparing for the season ahead.

2021 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names

Ana	Henri	Odette
Bill	Ida	Peter
Dan	Julian	Roco
Claudette	Kate	Sam
Danny	Larry	Teresa
Elsa	Mindy	Victor
Fred	Nicholas	Wanda
Grace		

Names provided by the World Meteorological Organization

Be prepared: Visit hurricanes.gov and follow @NWS and @NHC_Atlantic on Twitter. November 30, 2021

2021 Atlantic Hurricane Season by the numbers

- 21** Named storms (Average is fourteen)
- 5** Rapidly intensifying storms (Avg. 10)
- 7** Hurricanes (Average is seven)
- 4** Major hurricanes (Average is three)
- 58** Hurricane eyewall passages
- 462.2** Flight hours
- 1,310** Dropsondes deployed to gather vital atmospheric data
- NOAA Hurricane Hunters**
- NOAA underwater hurricane gliders**
- 66** Glider deployments
- 2,309** Glider days
- 78,328** Temperature and salinity profiles (These help improve forecasts for current storms)
- 15** NOAA weather satellites in operation
- 6th** consecutive above-normal season (Previous record: 4 from 1998 to 2003)
- 59** Facebook Live broadcasts from the National Hurricane Center

Church

THE CHURCH CALENDAR IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THESE SPONSORS

- DECEMBER 12**
Christmas Program & Memory Tree at Bethany Freewill Baptist Church on Old Lilesville Rd in Wadesboro, 6pm
ONGOING
Bible Study At Evangelistic Outreach Center, first and third Sundays, 4:30pm
Youth Bible Study At Min. Gregory Williams' home, Thursdays, 3 Franklin Street in Wadesboro behind Wade Mill, 5pm, all youth encouraged to attend, age 8 and up, refreshments served
Bible Study Every Monday, 6pm at Johnson Chapel Church
Bible Study Every Tuesday 6:30pm at God Will Make a Way Ministries, 1207 N Greene St, Wadesboro
Services At Faith Builders Ministries, 558 US 1 South in Rockingham (just off Hwy 74 Bypass). Sun-8am & 6pm. Mon night Bible Study 6pm. Fri Night Movies 7pm. Ministering to the whole man! Ted Ward, Pastor

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Events

DECEMBER 10 - 12
Ansonia Play
An Enchanted Bookshop Christmas. During the day Miss Margie's shoppe may look like any other used bookstore, but at night it's a place where magic happens. That's when the characters inside the books come alive. Fri & Sat 7:30pm, Sun 3pm. Show info & tickets ansoniatheatre.com or call 704-694-4950. Tickets sold at the door also.

DECEMBER 11
Free Groceries for Families in Need
 Drive-thru at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center. 9am-12 noon. Call 704-826-8737 for eligibility info & details. Located at 13349 Hwy 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. www.burnsville-lec.org.

Christmas Community Outreach Event. Free household items & paper products as well as Christmas Bags for the youth. First come, first served basis. By Lamb of God Church, 10am at 118 West Wade St in Wadesboro. Info 843-623-3777

DECEMBER 13
Board of Education Regular Meeting to be livestreamed on YouTube, Closed Session 3pm, Open Session 4:30pm. View at Anson County School's YouTube page. (Search YouTube for Anson County Schools.) Meeting takes place in Administrative Office Board Meeting Room, 320 Camden Rd in Wadesboro. Masks required. For public comment sign up in-person. Sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting.

DECEMBER 14
Christmas in the Park. Free & sponsored by the Town of Lilesville at Hatcher Park, 6-8pm with a tree lighting, Christmas carolers, visits with Santa, crafts for kids to make & take home, cookies & delicious hot cocoa. Free pictures with Santa to take home! If inclement weather, event will be held in Lilesville Fire Dept. Info 704-848-4711

Play Auditions
 For upcoming Ansonia Theatre play, *The Spitfire Grill: A Musical*, 6pm at the theatre. Be prepared to sing & read from the script. 112 S Rutherford Street in Wadesboro. Info 704-694-4950

DECEMBER 17 - 19
Ansonia Play
An Enchanted Bookshop Christmas. During the day Miss Margie's shoppe may look like any other used bookstore, but at night it's a place where magic happens. That's when the characters inside the books come alive. Fri & Sat 7:30pm, Sun 3pm. Show info & tickets ansoniatheatre.com or call 704-694-4950. Tickets sold at the door also.

ONGOING EVENTS
Lillie Belles Red Hat Society
 Meeting, third Tuesdays, 2:30pm, At Anson Health & Rehab, all Red Hatters invited
Cub Scouts Pack #530
 Meets each Thursday at Peachland UMC at 7pm. Info 704-994-9173
Regular Monthly Meeting of Wadesboro Housing Authority 2nd Tuesday each month at 12noon at Papa Joes
Childcare Association Meets every 3rd Thursday of Month, 6:30pm. Info 704-

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 Owner: Robbie Henry

Lilesville's Annual Christmas in the Park Event is December 14

The Town of Lilesville invites everyone to come to Hatcher Park in Lilesville for the town's annual Christmas in the Park. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, December 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. Among the activities will be a tree lighting, Christmas carolers, visits with Santa, crafts for kids to make and take home, cookies and delicious hot cocoa. A&T BBQ will be selling hot dogs, with all the trimmings, drinks, homemade chili beans and funnel cakes. Plus, make sure your children get a free take-home picture with Santa! The event is free and everyone is welcome to attend. There will be lots of fun for all ages, and a chance to visit with other members of the community. In the event of inclement weather the event will be held in the Lilesville Fire Department. For more information please contact the Lilesville Town Hall at 704-848-4711.

Auditions for Upcoming Ansonia Theatre Play

Auditions for the next play at the Ansonia Theatre, *The Spitfire Grill: A Musical*, will be held on Tuesday, December 14 at 6 p.m. at the Ansonia. Be prepared to sing and read from the script. The Spitfire Grill is a heartwarming and inspirational musical tale of redemption, perseverance and family. Percy Talbot has just been released from a five-year prison sentence for manslaughter. She is looking to make a fresh start in the small town of Gilead, Wisconsin, a place she found on a page in an old travel book. She finds a job waiting tables at the Spitfire Grill and tries to make a life for herself, and come to grips with her haunting past. The play runs March 4 - 13. The Ansonia is located at 112 South Rutherford Street in uptown Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-4950.