

Anson County Writers' Club Welcomes New Members

The Anson County Writers' Club meets on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, except in July and December. All meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

For more information call Sandy Bruney at 704-694-5211 or email: sandybruney@gmail.com.

2022 Travel Guide Taps Beauty and Soul of All 100 North Carolina Counties

The joys of travel flow from The Official 2022 North Carolina Travel Guide, which maps a journey to favorite places, unexpected pleasures, and vast opportunities to create lasting memories from first-time experiences. With its appealing mix of destination highlights, historical intrigue and savory stops, the new guide from Visit North Carolina arrives today to inspire discovery in mountain retreats, alluring towns, spirited cities and coastal havens.

"The best journeys begin with planning and exploring the possibilities," said Visit NC Director Wit Tuttle. "The new Travel Guide delivers ideas that make the most of moments on the road as well as the rewards of being in choice destinations. We're excited by the countless ways to forge 'firsts that last' with a guide that embraces all 100 counties, which are home hidden gems as well as greatest hits."

The Official 2022 North Carolina Travel Guide is free. The print edition is available at the state's nine Welcome Centers or by calling 800-847-4862 (800-VISITNC). Readers can also link to VisitNC.com/travel-guides to request a copy, access the digital edition or download a PDF version.

To frame the spectrum of travel options, the guide features a different cover for each of the state's three major regions. For the mountains, a shot of Oxbow River Snorkeling in Lake Toxaway captures a unique view of the French Broad River. Leah & Louise, a celebrated restaurant in Charlotte's creative Camp North End, draws focus to the culinary appeal found in Piedmont's cities. The coastal cover depicts the pleasures of a family getaway at Villa Capriani in North Topsail Beach.

Building on the Outdoor NC initiative to promote sustainable enjoyment of natural spaces, the guide highlights such wonders of the wild as migrating sea turtles and sand dunes; steers travelers to Wonders of Rock, Crowders Mountain and other state parks; and points the way to places for paddling and fishing. Special callouts throughout the guide invoke the seven Outdoor NC principles adapted from those of the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, an initiative partner.

Culinary travelers can follow guides for indulging in the North Carolina's barbecue heritage and checking out retro dining spots. Articles about Raleigh, Winston-Salem and other cities namedrop not-to-miss places for food and drink. Readers will relish the "Primo Pairings" section, which connects popular activities to craft beverage.

"For travelers who value stories and their meaning, the guide offers plenty of food for thought," Tuttle said. "Readers can find information and insight into the Black heritage of Asheville, Durham and Greensboro, and a feature on 'unsolved mysteries' adds intrigue to the journey. And whether the route is an interstate highway or a two-lane byway, the guide suggests stopping points that make the miles worthwhile."

In all, the 108-page guide showcases more than 350 locations. A fold-out state map expedites navigation as travelers chart getaways to play golf, gaze at the night sky or indulge in a luxury resort. More than 130 images capture the state's diverse beauty.

"Even the most seasoned travelers can find something fresh to enjoy on a North Carolina roadtrip," Tuttle said. "The 2022 Travel Guide will point the way."

About Visit North Carolina: Visit North Carolina is part of the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina. Established in 2014, the EDPNC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation that oversees the state's efforts in business and job recruitment and retention, international trade, and tourism, film and sports development.

The mission of Visit North Carolina is to unify and lead the state in developing North Carolina as a major destination for leisure travel, group tours, meetings and conventions, sports events and film production. For more information on North Carolina's destinations and travel assets, go to VisitNC.com.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heading out of town for the holiday season? Remember to unplug electronics that draw a phantom energy load. Some gadgets like TVs, phone chargers, gaming consoles, and tooth brush chargers use energy when plugged into an outlet- even when not in use.



source: energygov



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Church

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ONGOING

Bible Study & Prayer

At Kesler Chapel AME Zion every Wednesday 7pm

Bible Study Classes

Every Tuesday-Evangelistic Outreach Center on Hwy 74 in Polkton at 6:30pm

Worship Schedule

South Anson Church Family:
 • Shiloh UMC, 1752 Shiloh Church Rd. Preaching 1st and 3rd Sundays, Sunday School weekly, services start at 10am;
 • Sandy Plains UMC, 1154 Cason Oldfield Rd. Preaching 2nd and 4th Sundays, Sunday School weekly, services start at 9:30 am;
 • Pleasant Hill UMC 126 Church St. Preaching 2nd and 4th Sundays, Sunday School weekly. Services start at 9:45 am

Bible Study Every Wednesday night at 7pm at New Grove MBC. Need a ride? Call 704-272-8884

Events

JANUARY 4

Board of Commissioners Meet

6pm in Board Room, Suite 209, in Government Center, 101 S Greene St in uptown Wadesboro. This is the regular monthly meeting. Meeting available online at youtube.com, search for Anson Commissioners. To appear, sign up prior to meeting. Info 704-994-3201

JANUARY 10

Board of Education Called Meeting

to discuss retention bonuses to be livestreamed on YouTube. (*Search YouTube for Anson County Schools.*) Closed Session at 3:30pm, Open Session at 4:30pm. Meeting takes place at administrative Office Board Meeting Room, located at 320 Camden Rd in Wadesboro. Masks required for visitors.

ONGOING EVENTS

After School Program Kid Cafe Mon-Fri from 2:30-5:30p.m. at the Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center, 704-826-8737

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Rare Brain Infection, Pediatric Death Linked to Swim in a Private Pond in NC

Public health officials with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services reported on a child who died this past summer after developing an illness caused by an amoeba that is naturally present in freshwater. The child became ill after swimming in a private pond on their residence in central North Carolina in early August. To protect the family's privacy, no other identifying information will be released.

"Our heart-felt condolences and sympathies are extended to the family and friends of this child," said State epidemiologist Zack Moore, M.D. "Although these infections are very rare, this is an important reminder that this amoeba is present in North Carolina and that there are actions people can take to reduce their risk of infection when swimming in the summer."

Laboratory testing at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed the child's illness was caused by *Naegleria fowleri*, an amoeba (one-celled living organism) commonly found in freshwater. *Naegleria fowleri*, does not cause illness if swallowed but can be fatal if forced up the nose, as can occur during jumping into water, diving, water-skiing or other water activities.

Symptoms of *Naegleria fowleri* infection - an infection of the brain called primary amebic meningoencephalitis (PAM) - start with severe headache, fever, nausea and vomiting and progress to stiff neck, seizures and coma and can lead to death. These rare infections usually occur when it is hot for prolonged periods of time, which results in higher water temperatures and lower water levels. *Naegleria fowleri* grows best at higher temperatures up to 115°F.

As there is no means to eliminate this amoeba from fresh water bodies of water, in warmer areas where this infection has been more common, recommended precautions include:

- Limit the amount of water going up your nose. Hold your nose shut, use nose clips or keep your head above water when taking part in warm freshwater-related activities.
- Avoid water-related activities in warm freshwater during periods of high water temperature and low water levels.
- Avoid digging in or stirring up the sediment while taking part in water-related activities in shallow, warm freshwater areas.

Naegleria fowleri infections are rare, with only 147 known infected individuals in the U.S. (between zero and eight cases annually) from 1962 through 2019. North Carolina had six cases during that time period. This amoeba can cause severe illness up to nine days after exposure. A person cannot be infected with *Naegleria fowleri* by drinking water, the amoeba is not found in salt water, or in properly maintained and chlorinated pools.

For more information on primary amebic meningoencephalitis visit www.cdc.gov/parasites/naegleria.



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