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

Wanted by Police: Devell Exodus Tyson



The Wadesboro Police Department has obtained arrest warrants for Devell Exodus Tyson, 22 of Rockingham. Tyson is charged with Possession of a Firearm by a Felon and Discharging a Weapon into Occupied Property. The charges are the result of a December 20, 2023, shooting on White Store Road in Wadesboro that left two victims suffering from gunshot wounds. Both victims are expected to recover from their injuries. Anyone with any information as to Tyson's whereabouts is requested to call 911 or the Wadesboro Police Department at (704) 694-2167.

Anson County Board of Commissioners Meets January 16

The Anson County Board of Commissioners now meets two times per month. The second regular meeting for January will be held on Tuesday, January 16 at 6 p.m. The first meeting took place on January 2. 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](https://www.youtube.com) and search for Anson Commissioners.

Annual Toll Rate Increase for the Triangle and Monroe Expressways

The annual toll rate increase for the Triangle Expressway and Monroe Expressway took effect Monday, January 1. The North Carolina Turnpike Authority Board adopted schedules of incremental annual toll rate increases for both the Triangle Expressway and Monroe Expressway based on the financing requirements for each project. NC Quick Pass customers with a transponder driving a Class 1 or 2-Axle vehicle, traveling the full length of the Triangle Expressway, 18.8 miles, the cost will increase 14 cents to \$3.94, or 3.68 percent. NC Quick Pass customers with a transponder driving a Class 1 or 2-Axle vehicle, traveling the full length of the Monroe Expressway, 19.8 miles, the cost will increase 8 cents to \$2.85, or 2.89 percent. The full toll rate schedule for both facilities is available online. Toll revenue is used to pay off bonds sold to fund construction, as well as support the operations and maintenance of each toll facility.

Seniors Reminded to Review, Make Changes to Medicare Advantage Plans by March 31

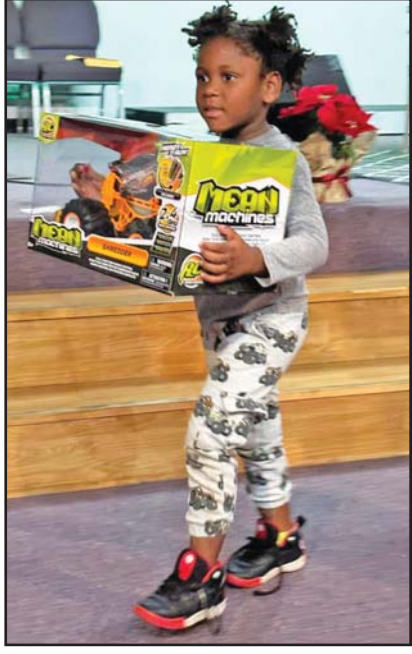
Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey and SHIIP, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program, remind seniors who have Medicare Advantage plans to review their coverage and make changes to their plans during the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period in North Carolina, which runs from Jan. 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024. "Our health can change significantly in a very short period of time," Commissioner Causey said. "If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan, now is the right time to make sure you have the plan that best meets your needs." If you're unhappy with your Medicare Advantage Plan (Medicare Part C) ([medicare.gov/health-drug-plans/health-plans/your-health-plan-options](https://www.medicare.gov/health-drug-plans/health-plans/your-health-plan-options)), you have options. Each year, there is a Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period from Jan. 1 to March 31 ([medicare.gov/basics/get-started-with-medicare/get-more-coverage/joining-a-plan](https://www.medicare.gov/basics/get-started-with-medicare/get-more-coverage/joining-a-plan)). During this time, if you're in a Medicare Advantage Plan and want to change your health plan, you can do one of these:

- Switch to a different Medicare Advantage Plan with or without drug coverage.
- Go back to Original Medicare ([medicare.gov/what-medicare-covers/your-medicare-coverage-choices/how-original-medicare-works](https://www.medicare.gov/what-medicare-covers/your-medicare-coverage-choices/how-original-medicare-works)) and, if needed, also join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan: ([medicare.gov/drug-coverage-part-d](https://www.medicare.gov/drug-coverage-part-d)).

If you switch Medicare Advantage Plans or go back to Original Medicare with or without a Medicare drug plan, your new coverage will start the first day of the month after your new plan gets your request for coverage. Keep in mind, if you go back to Original Medicare now, you may not be able to buy a Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) policy. For assistance with Medicare questions, contact SHIIP at 1-855-408-1212 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to speak to a SHIIP counselor. The Medicare Plan Finder can also help you find, compare and enroll in a new Medicare Advantage Plan or a Medicare drug plan in your area. You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for help. TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048. The Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period is only for people who are currently enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan. If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan and want to change your plan, check out your options today. Remember, the Medicare Advantage Plan Open Enrollment Period ends March 31. (SHIIP counselors are not licensed insurance agents. They do not sell, endorse, or oppose any product, plan or company. If you have questions about your specific plan, we encourage you to contact your insurance agent or insurance company.)

Live Bluegrass Music at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library is hosting a musical program on Monday, January 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the library's Little Theater. The featured musical group will be Anita and John Bishop with a concert of bluegrass music. Hope to see you there. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.



Harvest Ministries' Annual Community Christmas Blessing Provides Gifts, Toys, and Joy to Hundreds

Before Christmas, on Sunday, December 17 Harvest Ministries in Wadesboro was the place to be for hundreds of children and their families for the annual Community Christmas Blessing event, now in its 19th year. Before the giveaways and prizes, the hundreds in attendance enjoyed a Christmas program courtesy of Harvest, complete with Christmas carols, dances, and of course, visits from Santa. Lead Pastor Steve Adams encouraged the crowd with a Christmas sermon with the reminder of the true meaning of the season. At the sermons conclusion 32 people made decisions to give their lives to Jesus!



Adams shared, "This is one of the greatest days of our year, we look forward to the joy on the faces of children, and the smiles of their parents – but the ultimate gift is when people decide to follow Christ and find eternal life through Him." The event featured bicycles, earbuds, scooters, remote control cars, gift cards, 3 months of utility bills paid, Christmas triva, and over \$500 in cash given away. The highlight of the event was that every child in attendance left with 2 brand new toys for Christmas. Harvest founding Pastor Tim Adams summarized the event by saying, "Even after all these years it never gets old. Being able to bring the love, the joy, and the beauty of Christmas to so many is the true meaning of this season. It is incredible." Pastor Steve and Harvest would like to thank the many businesses, sponsors, and donors who make this event possible each year. A special thanks to Fred Poisson and Poisson Law firm, Lady Bug Restaurant, C&M Auto, Anson County Homes of Hope, Leaviitt Funeral Home, Pastor Michael McLeod, First Baptist Church (Sikes Avenue) Sylvia Pratt, the hundreds who donated online, and the faithful people of Harvest Ministries for their dedication and commitment to Anson County and beyond!

Anson County Shop with a Sheriff Christmas Gift Program Reached Over 90 Children this Year!

Sheriff Scott Howell would like to announce that Shop with the Sheriff was a great success this holiday season. "With all of the generous donors we were able to reach and help over 90 children who may have gone without presents this Christmas," Howell said. Sheriff Howell also thanks students from Anson County Early College who worked together to collect toys that were donated to the Sheriff's Office. Howell added, "With those toys and the donations of so many generous citizens of our county we were able to distribute toys to Hope Pregnancy Center, Anson County Partnership for Children and the Anson County Homes of Hope. Thanks to everyone who took part in this project. It was through your efforts that we were able to touch the lives of so many children. Together we can truly make a difference. Happy New Year from Sheriff Scott Howell and the Anson County Sheriff's Office staff."



Grace Senior Center Has It Going On In January

Grace Senior Center is an excellent resource for Anson County's senior citizens. They provide programs, services, activities and fellowship that are beneficial...ALL FREE...AND ALL FUN & INFORMATIVE! Be sure to check the Express Events Calendar for even more activities at Grace Senior Center. Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, on the left just past IGA. For information call 704-694-6616.

January Events

- **Thursday, January 4** Hot chocolate & hot coffee drop in, 11am-1pm & Book Club, 10am - 12 noon
- **Tuesday, January 9** BINGO, 12 noon - 1pm
- **Thursday, January 11** Bridge Club 1pm-3pm
- **Monday, January 15** Office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **Tuesday, January 16** Claris Tablet Workshop, 12 noon - 1pm
- **Thursday, January 18** National Popcorn Day, 12 noon - 2pm
- **Thursday, January 23** Claris Tablet Workshop, 12 noon - 1pm
- **Thursday, January 25** Movie Day, 12 noon - 2pm
- **Tuesday, January 30** Puzzles & Game Day, 12 noon - 2pm (Represent your favorite sports team.)
- **Chair Exercise** every Tuesday and Thursday, 10am-11am. (No class on January 4 & 16.)
- **Nutrition** every Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9am - 2pm

ACORNS Alert System Keeps the Community Informed During Emergency Situations

In May 2022 public safety officials in Anson County announced that ACORNS was now available to all residents, replacing the previous ACORN system. ACORNS is a free service that allows individuals to receive notifications sent from National Weather Service (NWS) and local authorities to stay informed on potentially hazardous situations involving weather, traffic and other emergencies, including the spread of the coronavirus. The switch to ACORNS allows residents to receive alerts via phone, text and email, and answer poll questions that will give Anson County officials critical information during emergency situations. Individuals who are signed up for alerts will receive reliable information from county officials, including tailored updates based on their specific needs and geographic location. Individuals who were previously signed up for ACORN need to enroll in ACORNS, and to review and update their information in the new platform to ensure accuracy. Residents and travelers to Anson County who were not previously signed up for ACORN should sign up for free at www.co.anson.nc.us to receive timely and actionable emergency alerts via email, text or voice message. They can also identify when and how they are alerted and communicated with before, during and after emergencies. Community members are encouraged to sign up for ACORNS and input or update their information and notification preferences today at www.co.anson.nc.us.

Wadesboro Lions Club Welcomes New Members

The Wadesboro Lions Club meets at the Papa Joe's Restaurant the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. For more information about these meetings or becoming a member, please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.

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