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

Covid Update for Anson County

According to the latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department on Friday, January 6 the county was at 8,200 total reported Covid-19 cases, with 103 active. There has been a recent Covid-related death which brings the total deaths to 101. On Wednesday, December 14 the county was at 8009 total cases, with 37 active and 100 deaths. On November 17 the county was at 7,940 total cases, with 25 active and 100 deaths. The Health Department stated that Covid cases have increased since the holidays. If you have not received your updated booster, please come and see them.

The Health Department offers Moderna COVID Vaccines on Thursdays. They offer the primary series and the bivalent "Fall" booster. They are offered on Thursdays in a walk-in clinic. No appointment is necessary.

Flu Shots Please note that flu numbers are high right now so if you have not gotten a flu shot, please do so. If you would like to schedule an appointment for a shot, please call (704) 694-5188.

The COVID testing site in Morven has closed, but you can still stop by the health department and pick up test kits to keep at home. If you aren't feeling well you can send someone and they will send some to you.

The Health Department is also offering N-95 masks. Stop in to pick one up.

For more specific information related to Anson County and NC please visit: covid19.ncdhhs.gov.

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-5188.



Pre-K Class at First Methodist Church Makes Food Donation

The NC Pre-K Program at First United Methodist Church in Wadesboro collected and donated food items to the "Helping Hands" Food Pantry of Harvest Ministries recently. A big Thank You to them for helping those less fortunate families in Anson County.

Anson Schools Threatened, Placed on Lockdown January 5

All Anson County schools were placed on lockdown at 10:20 a.m. on Thursday, January 5 after an unvalidated and nonspecific threat was made. The Wadesboro Police Department worked with the Anson County Schools and the Anson County Sheriff's Office to investigate this threat. Officers were stationed at the schools to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

At 2:30 p.m. all schools were moved from a full lockdown to a Level One Soft lockdown. A Level One Soft lockdown means that all of the outside doors are locked, and officials are controlling all access to the buildings. Students have regular activities inside the buildings and outside movement is supervised.

In announcing the Level One Soft lockdown, School Superintendent Howard McLean said, "Our students and staff members were not threatened nor are they in any danger. We still encourage parents to not check-out students while the lockdown is in place. Additional information will be communicated to you as soon as it becomes available. Thank you."

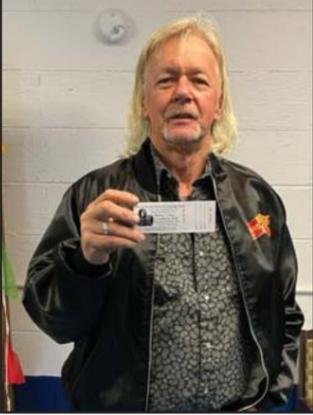
On Friday, January 6 the Wadesboro Police Department announced that they had identified the person responsible for the school lockdown. WPD was able to confirm that the threats were made with no intentions of being carried out.

The defendant is a juvenile, therefore no details will be released as to their identity. Juvenile petitions will be filed by WPD charging the offender with North Carolina General Statute 14-277.6. which is Communicating a threat of mass violence on educational property. This offense is a class H felony.

WPD Chief Thedis Spencer said, "The Wadesboro Police Department would like to thank the Anson County School System, the Anson County Sheriff's Office, the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department for their assistance in responding to and investigating this incident."

Jeff Powell Wins Set of Automobile Tires from BRLC

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center has announced the winner of a new set of car tires in their last raffle drawing of 2022. The lucky number was 039, a raffle ticket purchased by Mr. Jeff Powell of the Polkton community. The drawing was held December 28 at BRLC.



Mr. Powell is the owner of Carolina Green. James Tire Service along with others made this Tire Raffle possible. All funds from the raffle will support the BRLC's Kids Café afterschool program. Powell said, "I have never won anything before."

Anson Mobile Market is January 19

This is a release from the Anson Cooperative Extension: Atrium Health Anson, Anson County Extension, Carolinas Primary Care, Anson County Health Department and WellCare have partnered to offer the Anson Mobile Market. This is an event that will afford the citizens of Anson County to receive six to eight different types of fresh produce monthly. This is a free initiative, so please stop by and get some produce.

This event is to assist in the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in the county. It will also serve as an educational event to offer education on the two targeted areas of the county health assessment which are tobacco use and hypertension. Agencies will be set up offering services and information in those two targeted areas. There will be blood pressure and blood sugar checks, along with other healthy living topics.

The next event will be held on the Square in uptown Wadesboro (corner of Greene & Wade Streets) on Thursday, January 19. There will be two time intervals to pick up produce, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This gives those that are working and get off later the opportunity to come pick up items. Items will be on hand for you to carry your produce in along with some give aways. We hope many will come out and participate in this wonderful opportunity.

Barn Blast 2023, Will You be There?

After a two-year hiatus from being in person, the Anson County Partnership for Children (ACPC) is excited to host Barn Blast once again. Guests can look forward to dancing, games, and prizes while supporting a worthy cause. The Barn Blast will be held on Friday, January 27, starting at 5:30 p.m. at the South Piedmont Community College Lockhart-Taylor Center.



Annually, more than 300 families benefit from child passenger safety education, car seats, and the diaper bank program. Currently, more than 250 children are served through NC Pre-K and childcare subsidy at no cost to families. In addition, almost 7,000 children across Anson County have received Dolly Parton's Imagination Library books in the mail every month to add to their library because of Barn Blast funds. Approximately 50,000 educational resources from the Early Childhood Resource Center have been used by childcare providers, caregivers, and community members.

"However, none of these programs would exist without help from our community," said Caroline Goins, ACPC Executive Director. "I look forward to reconnecting with our many community supporters: businesses, organizations, and individuals at Barn Blast this year."

Poisson, Poisson, & Bower, LLC, and Uwharrie Bank will launch the night as presenting sponsors. Silent and live auctions boast a variety of treasures, such as handcrafted jewelry, romantic getaways, and sports memorabilia. All the favorite games will be available for the chance to win cash, trips to Caribbean islands, and more.

Guests will also be able to donate to the beloved Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program in memory of Kason Bennett Rogers, the son of Jason Rogers and Kristi Helms. The evening will finish with dancing and fellowship.

Goins continued, "The success of Barn Blast and the Partnership is a testament to this magnificent, compassionate community that values our children and their future. It is an accomplishment to make all of Anson County proud."

All proceeds benefit the Partnership's early childhood initiatives. Check out the Partnership's Facebook page for updates about Barn Blast. For more information on being a 2023 Barn Blast sponsor, call 704 694-4036 or visit the Partnership's website at www.ansonchildren.org.

The Anson County Partnership for Children is a non-profit organization formed in 1996 in response to the North Carolina Smart Start initiative. The Partnership's mission is "helping to make Anson County a better place to be a child and to raise a child."

County Offices Closed on Monday for MLK, Jr. Day

All Anson County offices will be closed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Commemoration on Monday, January 16. All emergency and law enforcement agencies will be in full operation.

Cheraw Arts Commission Photo Workshop

Join local photographer Ron Stafford on Saturday, January 14 10:30am to 12noon for a photography workshop at Old St. David's Episcopal Church in Cheraw. Ron will guide participants on a tour of this historic church.

This is a free workshop with registration required. All ages can participate. The workshop is limited to 10 participants. Phone cameras can be used for the workshop. Call the Cheraw Arts Commission 843.537.8420 x 12 to register and for additional information.

BRLC Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Annual Celebration

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday will be observed on Monday, January 16 at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center. Lunch will start at 12:00 noon and the program will follow immediately. Mrs. Lula Jackson, Director of Anson County DSS, is guest speaker for this annual event.

Kids Café After School, volunteers and other are sponsoring this annual event. You are invited to attend this enriching and memorable occasion. For more information contact office at 704-826-8737.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department.

The telephone number is 704-826-8737. For more information visit their website: www.burnsvillelc.org.

Let's Get it Poppin' with a Movie!

Grace Senior Center invites all seniors to come and enjoy the movie *Turning Red* on Thursday, January 19 at 12:30 p.m. The movie is free, and refreshments will be served.

For information call 704-694-6616.

Free Groceries Available to Eligible Families this Saturday, January 14

A new shipment of USDA perishable and non-perishable foods will be distributed via drive-thru this Saturday, January 14, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon, or as long as supplies last, at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC). All neighbors are asked to wear masks. Please don't enter the building.

All families that are eligible will be served as long as food remain. All neighbors that are eligible must have a current application on file. Neighbors that have not previously registered will be asked to complete an eligibility application before being served.

Registration will start approximately at 9 a.m.

Neighbors who arrive early will have the opportunity to take advantage of various Care Corner items.

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Food Distribution Division provides these food items through the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina in Charlotte and Feeding America.

You can contact BRLC at 704-826-8737 for information, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday through Thursday. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information check their Facebook page or www.burnsvillelc.org.