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

## School Board Meeting is January 29

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their regular monthly meeting on Monday, January 29. The meeting will open in the Administrative Conference Room and go immediately into Closed Session. Open Session to the public will be held in the Administrative Board Room. Meeting rooms are located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro. Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 4:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters related to personnel and property pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11 (a)(6) and NCGS 143.318.11 (a)(5). Open Session to the public will begin at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be live streamed on the Anson County Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. To find the channel search YouTube for "Anson County Schools." If the public wishes to sign up for public comment, they can sign up in-person. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting begins for any individual or group to indicate their desire to address the board.

## Anson Beekeepers Meet Thursday

For Anson Beekeepers and honey bee enthusiasts, the Anson County Beekeepers' meeting for this month will be held this Thursday, January 25 at 7 p.m. at the Anson County Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The group will talk all about honey. There will be door prizes and a 50-50 drawing. If you can bring something for door prizes, please do. Don't forget about the ACBA Winter Bee Class which starts on January 30 at 6 p.m. The cost is \$35 for individuals, \$40 for families. For information about the class, to register and to make payment, please contact Aimee Colf at 704-694-2915. For more information you can check the Anson County Beekeepers Facebook page, "Anson Beekeepers Association."

## Appreciation Soup Luncheon for Anson County Law Enforcement

The Pastor, Deaconess Board, and members of Harris Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church are inviting all Anson County law enforcement officers to come to Grace Senior Center for a delicious soup lunch and receive tokens of appreciation for your service in Anson County. The event takes place on Saturday, January 27, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. at Grace Senior Center, located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, on the left just past IGA. Officers, they will be delighted to have each of you as their guests to show their gratitude and to personally thank all of you for protecting us and keeping our towns, neighborhoods and county safe. Rev. Dr. Bernice Bennett said, "Please make a special effort to come and dine with us. We will be honored to have you as our special guests and are certain that you will enjoy your delicious meal and our time with the us."

## SPCC Hosting Event to Assist Students Applying for Financial Aid

South Piedmont Community College will host a free event to assist students in completing the FAFSA this Saturday, January 27, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. The FAFSA, Free Application for Federal Student Aid, is used to determine a student's eligibility for scholarships, grants, work-study opportunities, and any other available sources of financial aid. The 2024-25 FAFSA includes major updates from previous versions. During FAFSA Day at South Piedmont, the College's financial aid experts will work one-on-one with attendees to help them complete the application. The event is open to anyone planning to go to college, regardless of whether they intend to study at South Piedmont. "This is a community service event. The new FAFSA is significantly different from the applications that students and their families may have completed in the past. Our financial aid staff members will work alongside attendees, answering their questions and helping them to submit the form, making the whole process easier and less stressful," said South Piedmont's Director of Financial Aid Kerstin Alston. **The event will take place at the following date, time and location:** FAFSA Day at South Piedmont, Saturday, January 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Location: Old Charlotte Highway campus, 4209 Old Charlotte Highway, Monroe. Registration is requested, but not required. Lunch will be provided. Attendees should bring several required documents to the event in order to complete the FAFSA. A list of documents, answers to other common questions, and the link to register is available at: [fafsaday.info.spcc.edu](http://fafsaday.info.spcc.edu).

## Wadesboro Police Department Announces Tip Line - 704-694-2160

This is a release from the Wadesboro Police Department: Chief Chewning and the entire staff of the Wadesboro Police Department are committed to providing the Town of Wadesboro with professional, fair, and effective law enforcement. However, we realize this is only possible through a partnership with the community. We believe this reciprocal partnership must be rooted in trust between the department and you, the citizens we serve. We ask that you trust us with your tips, information, and knowledge, and we will in turn provide you with a safer community that we all call home. To further those ideals, the Wadesboro Police Department has established a Tip Line, allowing all citizens to directly inform officers. If you have any information about a crime past, present, or future, please call (704) 694-2160 and leave a message with as much detail as possible. If you would allow us to contact you with any follow up questions, please leave your name and number, if not, anonymous tips are fine too. Even if you choose to leave your name, your identity, and any information you provide will remain confidential. Thank you for helping make our home a better place to work, live, grow, and raise our children.



## Kilwinning Lodge #64 Installs Officers for 2024

Kilwinning Lodge #64 AF&AM in Wadesboro installed its officers for 2024 in January. Pictured above, from left, are: Speed Hallman, installing officer; Bryan Ratliff, tiler; Eric Forbes, senior deacon; John Jarman, senior warden; Hubert Wright, treasurer; Lockhart Taylor, master; Charles Holley, junior deacon; Ty Stroud, junior warden; Eddie Huntley, senior steward; Ronnie Traywick, chaplain; and Trent Ward, junior steward. The lodge, chartered in 1813, has been a positive force in Anson County since its inception. Its members support local charities in addition to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford and the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro. The mission of Freemasonry in North Carolina is to raise the moral, social, intellectual, and spiritual conscience of society by teaching the ancient and enduring philosophical tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, which are expressed outwardly through service to God, family, country, and self under the Fatherhood of God within the Brotherhood of Man. Freemasonry does not recruit members but inquiries about membership are welcomed.

## Multiple Vehicles and Business Broken Into, Juvenile Suspect Arrested and in Custody

**Lock your doors and remove valuables from your vehicle!** Between approximately 3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 22 and 5:00 a.m. on January 23, the Town of Wadesboro experienced an unprecedented crime spree. During these fourteen hours three vehicles were stolen, one business was damaged in an attempted breaking and entering, and more than thirty vehicles were entered and searched for valuables. Officers were able to quickly identify and apprehend the person(s) responsible for this crime spree. Due to the age of the offender(s), the Wadesboro Police Department was not able to release any identifying information. Wadesboro Police Chief Brandon Chewning said, "The unfortunate reality is that almost all these crimes could've been prevented by removing the keys and locking the vehicle. Perpetrators are simply looking for a quick in-and-out provided by an unlocked vehicle. Just as in this incident, criminals will go through parking lots and down streets checking door handles. If a vehicle is locked, they will likely move on to the next one unless valuables are left in plain sight." Chief Chewning continued, "With the community's help, we can reduce these crimes of opportunity and make our town a better place to work, live, grow, and raise our children." Chewning concluded, "I would also like to thank the community and officers for remaining vigilant and working together to quickly resolve this issue and continuing to make Wadesboro better everyday."

## Community Asked to Participate in CTE Survey

Career and Technical Education (CTE) has become increasingly popular across the United States as more people realize how crucial CTE is to the country. Yet, many people remain unsure of what exactly "career and technical education" is. Career and technical education (CTE) is the practice of teaching specific career skills to students in middle school, high school, and post-secondary institutions. CTE is split into 16 career clusters that apply to different high-demand careers: Health Science, Business, Sales, Finance, Information Technology, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), Manufacturing, Logistics, Hospitality, Government, Law, Agriculture, Human Services, Construction, Training, and Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, and Communications. **Anson County Schools' CTE programs need your crucial input!** Whether a parent, student, educator, local business, or community member, they want to hear from YOU! Your thoughts shape the future of Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Anson County. They have a survey that should take less than 5 minutes. Let's ensure our CTE programs reflect the diverse needs and aspirations of all residents. Together, we can make a lasting impact on education in Anson County! You can access the CTE survey on the school system Facebook page.

## Free Health Clinic Day at Grace Senior Center

Grace Senior Center in collaboration with Goshen Medical Center Mobile Unit will hold a healthcare clinic day on Wednesday, February 7, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the parking lot of Grace Senior Center. Healthcare providers and staff will be on-site and offer:

- Cardiac screening (Risk Evaluation and EKG)
- Depression Screening
- Tobacco Cessation Counseling
- Blood Pressure & Vital Signs Checks
- Free Covid Vaccines

Please call and register for the event at 704-694-6616. Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, on the left just past IGA. The telephone number is 704-694-6616.

## Grace Senior Center Has It Going On In February!

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 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.

**February Events**

- **Tuesday, February 6** Claris Tablet Workshop, 11:45am - 12:45pm
- **Wed., February 7** Mobile Health Event in parking lot 10am-1pm (Cardiac screening-Risk Evaluation and EKG, Depression Screening, Tobacco Cessation Counseling, Blood Pressure & Vital Signs Checks, Free Covid Vaccines). Register 704-694-6616
- **Tuesday, February 13** Claris Tablet Workshop, 11:45am - 12:45pm
- **Wednesday, February 14** Grace Senior Center **Valentine Social**, 2pm-4pm
- **Tuesday, February 20** Memory Bracelet Workshop, 11:30am-1:30pm
- **Thursday, February 22** Movie Day (*Last Vegas*), 10:45am-12:45pm
- **Tuesday, February 27** BINGO, 12pm-1pm
- **Thursday, February 29** Painting Canvas Pictures, 11:30am-12:30pm
- **Nutrition** every Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9am - 2pm

## Cheraw Arts Commission Offers Crochet Class in February

The Cheraw Arts Commission will offer a Crochet Class in February. Heather Edwards of Studio 256 in Wadesboro will provide instruction in creating the basic "Granny Square" on Thursday, February 1. The humble "Granny Square" can be used to create scarves, purses, and so much more. The class will be held from 1:00-3:00pm at the Cheraw Community Center - 200 Powe Street. All supplies are provided in the \$25 fee. Beginners and those who need to refresh their crochet skills can participate. Pre-registration is encouraged. Call the CAC at 843-537-8420 x 102 to register.

## Terry Jordan Invitational Golf Tournament is April 13

**Save the date!** The 9th Annual Terry Jordan Invitational Golf Tournament, sponsored by Gum Springs Baptist Church Youth, will be held on Saturday, April 13. The event will take place at Twin Valley Golf Club with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. This is a two man Captains Choice with 1 A player per team. The cost is \$65 per person which includes golf, a cart and lunch. Mulligans will be sold. There will be a split the pot on hole 14. Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place. Also Closest to the Pin Award and a Longest Drive Award. For registration and sign up sheets contact Twin Valley at 704-694-2336, or you can call Lynn Whitlock at 704-695-2200. A sign up sheet is available at Twin Valley. **Sponsorships are available** Call for more information: Lynn Whitlock 04-695-2200; Stephanie Austin 704-694-8788; or Evan Currie 704-690-1307.

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