### **Walmart Mailed to Management** A petition to be presented to Walmart management, asking them to reconsider the store closure, was

organized by Wadesboro citizen Bebe Hamilton recently. The petition was posted in several locations around Wadesboro seeking signatures. According to Hamilton, several of the petitions were taken down. "I probably could have received more

signatures, but someone ripped the petitions off the Walmart doors while workers were still present moving things out!" Hamilton said. "They also ripped the petition off my office building uptown next to Oliver's Restaurant, as well as at Arby's. I'm not sure how many names I lost!" Hamilton concluded, "I think if it weren't for the

stay-at-home order due to COVID-19, more people would have come out to sign after reading about the petition in The Express. Here is the letter dated April 12, 2020, that

accompanied the petition:

To: Mr. Travis Cutshaw, Market Manager,

Dear Mr. Cutshaw;

Enclosed please find signatures of 75 loyal Walmart patrons of your recently closed store in Wadesboro, NC. More signatures could have been produced had it not been for the horrible COVID-19 virus that has hit our nation. As many communities, Wadesboro is under government orders to remain at home. These patrons and our community are quite devastated that the decision was made to close this Walmart. People in our town and county now have to drive 25 miles to find the nearest Walmart. Now when the country is in such dire need for food, supplies, and neighborhood support, we need your presence to return now more than ever.

Two hundred some employees not only lost their jobs here but residents have lost their area Walmart store to buy their goods, supplies, medications, and services this store provided for them here in Wadesboro for some 30 years. So many people depended on this Walmart store for everything basic in their lives to help them exist.

It is understood there was some major economic problem that caused this store to close. Whether it was theft and/or poor management, the public shouldn't be punished. Please consider more stringent hiring procedures both in the hourly work force and in management positions to identify and solve the economic/and or theft problem, and bring this much needed retail environment, job-producing, and monetary fiscal engine back into our environment. Sincerely, Bebe Hamilton

#### **April Mobile Food Pantry Information**

Margot Barnes, Director of Anson Crisis Ministry has released statistics from the April Mobile Food Pantry which was held on Wednesday, April 1 at Peachland United Methodist Church.

Six pastors and volunteers provided the Food Pantry. Total Families: 85
 Children & Youth up to Age 18: 75 Youth & Adults Ages 19-64: 106
Adults Over Age 65: 38 "Anson Crisis Ministry received 2,693 pounds of undistributed food that is continuing to be given out," added Barnes. "We are experiencing increased requests for food because of the current crisis. We are also serving people who come to us from Marshville, Wingate and Monroe because we are allowed to do that if we are the closest food pantry to them."

Information about the next Mobile Food Pantry and Atrium Health Bus visit will be published in The Express when the date is set.

Anson Crisis Ministry is located at 117 North Rutherford Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-2445, email is ansoncrisisministry@windstream.net and the website is www.ansoncrisisministry.org.

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## 10 Library Hacks for Riding Out the Coronavirus

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#### Statement from Anson Schools Superintendent Michael Freeman

On Thursday, April 9 Michael Freeman, Superintendent of Anson County Schools, issued the following statement: ACS Students, Parents, and Community Supporters:

I want to thank you for your commitment to participating in all teaching and learning activities provided by teachers and other school staff. I also appreciate all parents and community members who are picking up and delivering meals from WES for children in our community.

As an effort to continue with the pattern of learning and completing instructional assignments daily, Anson County Schools will not have Spring Break as scheduled next week. We will not have class tomorrow (Friday, April 10, 2020) due to the state holiday; but class will resume on Monday, April 13, 2020. We are

> striving to provide all students support resulting in successful completions allowing the student to be promoted to the next grade level. This same support is being provided to our seniors providing them the honor and privilege of earning a high school diploma in May 2020. As we work together, I am confident that we will help each student reach this goal. Teachers and other staff are working eagerly to ensure student learning. I know many of you have questions about end of year events such as graduation,

> sports banquets, prom, etc. Keep in mind that we are currently scheduled to open school facilities up after May 15, 2020 based on Governor Cooper's Executive Order. If we do open school facilities plans will be in place to provide events such as the examples I have shared. We are in a holding pattern right now. If Governor Cooper closes schools beyond May 15 my team and I are exploring alternative strategies to honor our students. I cannot make final decisions on these events at this time due to unknown legal or health related directives that may be issued.

> In the matter of hard copy student instructional packets, we are not planning to allow students to return these documents to teachers or other staff members due to potential contamination that could contribute to community spread of coronavirus. Individual teachers will utilize different techniques to review student work such as allowing students to scan and upload copies of assignments, enter in answer responses, phone conversations, etc. This will be based on available technology options for the teacher and each individual student. Later on we may even post some answer keys and allow parents who are teaching at home the opportunity to check the work and then allow your child's teacher to provide feedback on any missed items.

> If you know of someone in need of a printed instructional packet please tell them that each school will have a self-serve set up for packets to be picked up beginning at 2:00 PM today. Just check under a covered walkway area at each school location. In cases where schools have documented 100% distribution of instructional packets or online learning options the self serve option will end.

> Please share the contents of this message with any parent or student you know of who does not have access to internet and technology support.

Thanks for your understanding, commitment, and caring support for children, Michael H. Freeman, Ed.S.. Superintendent

#### **Handwashing - Protection from Diseases**

Here are a few simple tips that can make a big difference in the effectiveness of

- 2) Apply soap and rub for 20 seconds 1) Wet hands
- 5) Use paper towel to turn off faucet

## washing your hands.

3) Rinse 4) Dry with paper towel

# Are you still trying to recover from Hurricane Florence?

Sandhills Community Action Program may be able to help.

Please let us know about your unmet or ongoing needs and how they relate to Hurricane Florence. Send emails to:

> info@sandhillscap.org Or call:

(704) 994-2306 Anson County (910) 947-5675 Moore County (910) 410-0207 Richmond County

There will be funding available to help low-income households address these needs.

A public hearing will be held via conference call on Tuesday, April 21, at 10am. Please call-in toll-free at 1-866-906-9888 and enter code 5046269.

We need public input regarding the best use of these funds.



Highway 74 West in Wadesboro • 704-694-3185