

## Anson County Health Department Highlights Impacts of Sexually Transmitted Diseases During STD Awareness Month

Spring is here and insects aren't the only thing we have to protect ourselves from. April is STD awareness month and the Anson County Health Department is encouraging everyone to stay safe and protected.

An STD is a sexually transmitted disease or infection. In most instances, STDs are passed from an infected person to another person during unprotected sexual activities. STDs remain a significant public health problem in the United States.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates there are 20 million new infections that occur each year in the United States. Nearly half of that amount is among teenagers and young adults between the ages of 15 to 24. About 80% of sexually active people are infected with an STD at some point in their lives. The cost of STDs to the U.S. health care system is estimated to be as much as \$16 billion annually.

In the 2016 Anson County Community Health Assessment, conducted by the Health Department in partnership with Carolinas HealthCare System Anson, STDs were listed as one of the top three health issues in the county. Anson County has some of the highest STD rates in the state underscoring the need for prevention.

Health problems caused by STDs tend to be more severe and more frequent for women than for men, in part because for women there are often no visible symptoms. However, both men and women can contract a sexually transmitted infection at any time if they engage in unprotected sexual activities. STDs can affect your health and cause reproductive health problems, fetal problems, cancer, and lead to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

There are more than 35 infectious diseases that are spread primarily through sexual activity. Some of the most common STDs are human papilloma virus (HPV), chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, herpes, trichomoniasis (Trich), hepatitis B, and HIV/AIDS.

Despite the news, there are effective ways to prevent, diagnose, and treat STDs. STD screening and early diagnoses are important in preventing transmission and the long-term health consequences of STDs. Abstaining from sex, reducing the number of sexual partners, and always and correctly using condoms are all effective prevention strategies. Safe and effective vaccines are also available to prevent hepatitis B and some types of HPV that cause disease and cancer.

Lori Burr, the Health Department's STD nurse, said, "The Anson County Health Department offers a comprehensive range of STD services, including testing and treatment. STD screening and prompt treatment (if infected) are critical to protect a person's health and prevent transmission to others." Burr noted that testing is completely confidential and minors do not need parental consent to receive STDs services. Burr also said that cost is never a barrier to receiving STD services at the Health Department as they're provided free for everyone.

The Health Department's hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The walk-in hours for the STD clinic are Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information on STDs, symptoms, or treatment, contact STD nurse Lori Burr at 704-994-3340.

The Anson County Health Department is located at 110 Ashe Street in Wadesboro. Learn more on STDs and treatment at [www.cdc.gov/std](http://www.cdc.gov/std).

For further information contact Dinikia Savage at 704-994-3342.

## FarmHouseBuffet

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Seafood Buffet & Menu Items  
Friday & Saturday 4:30-10

Sunday Country Lunch  
Buffet 11:30-4

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## APPROVED EARLY VOTING PLAN FOR MAY 8, 2018 PRIMARY ELECTION

DAY	OPEN	CLOSE	TOTAL HOURS
TUESDAY 4/24/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
WEDNESDAY 4/25/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
THURSDAY 4/26/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
FRIDAY 4/27/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
SATURDAY 4/28/2018	8:30 AM	1:00 PM	4.5
MONDAY 4/30/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
TUESDAY 5/1/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
WEDNESDAY 5/2/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
THURSDAY 5/3/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
FRIDAY 5/4/2018	8:30 AM	6:30 PM	10
SATURDAY 5/5/2018	8:30 AM	1:00 PM	4.5
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>			<b>129</b>

## Early Voting Has Begun

Steve Adams, Anson County Director of Elections, has released the schedule for early voting in the May election.

"You will see where our board did due diligence to extend the hours each day to allow for voters who work later to have the opportunity to cast their ballot," Adams said. "In addition, an extra Saturday was added as well."

## Storytime Every Tuesday at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library features Storytime for children every Tuesday at 10 a.m. This program is free and an enjoyable learning experience for children. For more information call 704-694-5177.



**CATHEDRAL BAPTIST CHURCH**

**We're Havin' a BAR-B-Q!**

**PORK or CHICKEN BBQ**

**FRIDAY, MAY 4 • 11am -7pm**

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Triangle Brick Company in Wadesboro, N.C. currently has an opening on 2nd & 3rd shift for a Maintenance Technician in our Packaging Department.

Candidate should be self-motivated and team oriented with safety as their # 1 priority. Responsibilities include maintaining mechanical, pneumatic, hydraulics and preventive maintenance on the machine to prevent downtime on equipment. Candidate should have a strong background in industrial maintenance and willing to be on call.

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Send resume to: [JulieP@trianglebrick.com](mailto:JulieP@trianglebrick.com)



**JIM SIMS COMMISSIONER**

**Peachland, Polkton, White Store**

**A VERY FEW OF MY INDIVIDUAL & COOPERATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- EMS Crew and Truck - Polkton (Saved Lives)
- White Store Water / White Store Zoning
- Areas of Peachland / Polkton Water
- Love Animals - Animal Shelter
- Industrial Cleanup - Peachland Creek
- Stricter Enforcement - Trash, Streets & Roads
- Equal Percentage of Fire Tax for All Fire Districts
- Decrease in Railroad Stoppage - Polkton
- Zoning for Great Business - Peachland
- "NO" Vote for Higher Taxes - Emphasized Wiser Spending
- Several State Grants
- Teachers' Supplements - Retain and Recruit the 'Best'
- Nonresident Tax Idea - Economic Development / Tourism Board
- Refusal for Coal Ash - Landfill (Lead, Arsenic, Mercury)
- Exemplarily Board Attendance and Involvement
- Attended a meeting to learn more about the facts for the new Bypass (Marshville-Charlotte). How it will affect Peachland, Polkton and White Store areas.
- Believe in Hard Work, Kindness and Jesus Christ (Lord and Savior)

*Whether or not you vote for me, I will still be your friend. And, may God bless you and your family.*

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- **NEXPLANON** is a matchstick size, flexible rod that implants under the skin on the upper arm. It provides 3 years of protection.
- **INTRAUTERINE (INSIDE THE UTERUS) DEVICES** are available in three different brands. Paragard for 10 years protection, Mirena for 5 years of protection, and Skyla for 3 years of protection.

Funded by Title X Reproductive Health

**OUR MEDICAL PROVIDER IS ABLE TO IMPLANT ANY OF THESE DEVICES**

**Call 704-694-5188 or visit the Anson County Health Department 110 Ashe Street in Wadesboro**