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

School Board Meeting is May 22

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their regular meeting on Monday, May 22. 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 about 5:30 p.m.

The meeting will be livestreamed on the Anson County Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. Find it by searching YouTube for "Anson County Schools."

The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

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.

HOLLA! 5k and Evening With the Authors is Saturday

HOLLA! is hosting its eighth annual 5k run and the second Evening With the Authors on Saturday, May 20th, at the HOLLA! Center. Uwharrie Bank is the presenting sponsor. The 5k is set to start at 8:00 a.m. and costs \$20 for individual racers. The literary fair will begin at 5:00 p.m., with an option to attend in-person for \$15 or via Zoom for \$10.

5k participants will enjoy a professionally measured and updated route. The race is for all ages and skill levels, including walking, jogging, or running. During the race, younger kids can join storytime and receive free books from the Anson County Partnership for Children.

This year's Evening With the Authors features 18 local and national writers. For adults ages 21 and up, attendees will have a chance to connect with some of the most talented writers in the industry. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be available for in-person guests.

CEO and HOLLA! Founder Leon Gatewood knows public support is important to his organization's success. "Our fundraiser is an opportunity for community members to help us continue making a positive impact with our children. Their support provides resources for young people to succeed," said Gatewood.

HOLLA! is a 501(c)(3) non-profit Community Development Corporation, located at 229 East Main Street in Morven. Donations are tax-deductible and used to support its various programs. The programs are designed to improve literacy rates and the social capital of underprivileged youth in Anson County. For more information about this event, you can visit the website www.holla.us or email leon@wadesboro.com.

Free Groceries Available to Eligible Families this Saturday, May 20

A new shipment of USDA perishable and non-perishable foods will be distributed to all who qualify this Saturday, May 20, starting at 9 a.m. for as long as supplies last, at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC).

All families that are eligible will be served as long as food remains. All neighbors that are served must have a current application on file. Neighbors that have not previously registered will be asked to complete an eligibility application before being served. Families or family members who receive federal food assistance automatically qualify. The US federal income scales will be a determining factor for individual's eligibility but not limited only to those guidelines.

Registration will start at 9 a.m. Burnsville Fire & Rescue have made their parking area available for neighbors to park and register.

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

Children are not allowed during the registration or distribution process.

You can contact BRLC at 704-826-8737 for information, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information visit their Facebook page or burnsvillelc.org.

Fish for Fun (and Free!) in Albemarle this Saturday

You are invited to Fish for Fun at City Lake Park in Albemarle this Saturday, May 20, from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Albemarle Parks and Recreation is partnering with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission for this event. If you don't have a fishing rod or license, they've got you covered. Loaner rods will be available while supplies last, and they will have a blanket fishing license for all participants on this day.

Door prizes are available while supplies last. All ages are welcome to attend. Kids will get a chance to enter their name into a statewide drawing conducted by the Wildlife Commission. The Grand Prize is a Unified Sportsman Lifetime License donated by Neuse Sport Shop in Kinston, which covers fishing inland and coastal waters and hunting in North Carolina. The Second-Place Prize, donated by North Carolina Council of Trout Unlimited, is a Comprehensive Inland Fishing Lifetime License. Other prizes include fishing poles, tackle boxes, camping chairs and waterproof Bluetooth speakers.

Register for this event at albemarle.recdesk.com/Community/Program/Detail?programId=410.

Play Auditions on May 24

The Ansonia Theatre will be holding auditions for *Pageant Play* on Wednesday, May 24 at 6 p.m. They are looking for two men and two women in their 20's-40's for this hilarious comedy!

You will be reading from the script. Show dates for *Pageant Play* are September 15-24.

Here's a brief synopsis of the play: Pinky Corningfield will do anything to make sure her little angel wins the ultimate title, Supreme Queen. When Marge, a newcomer to the pageant circuit, shows up and starts grabbing all the glory, Pinky and her minions, Bob and Bobby, use some unorthodox methods in order to ensure her darling, Chevrolet, is victorious.



Anson High School Girl's Track Team Wins Championship

Congratulations to the Anson High School Girl's Track Team for winning the 2023 2A Rocky River Conference Track & Field Championship! They had an outstanding season.

Local Food. Local Music. Local Fun. Got to Be NC Festival is this Weekend!

May 19-21 at the N.C. State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. It's FREE!

This is a release from the Got to Be NC Festival:

The weekend is coming, and we're busy getting ready for one of the BEST weekends of the year! Let's get together, kick back and enjoy everything that is great about North Carolina. Check out just a few of the reasons you don't want to miss out on the Got to Be NC Festival!

- The Agri-Plaza in the Graham Building will feature: alpacas, butterfly barn, Carolina Cooker Skillet Skee-Ball, chick hatchery, Chocolate & Chip the pardoned Thanksgiving turkeys, corn table, dairy goats, dairy milking classroom, feeder pigs, free kids' activities, Germ City, John Deere pedal tractor obstacle course, llamas, longhorn steer, N.C. Forest Service, State Highway Patrol, Pig Patch Birthing Center, sheep and more commercial vendors and exhibitors.
- You can't miss the Daily Tractor Parade at 1 p.m.
- Carnival rides and over 40 food trucks & concessionaires.
- Live local music on the Got to Be NC Music Stage and tons of free local entertainment throughout the grounds.
- Antique Tractor Pull on Saturday, May 20.
- All-you-can-eat BBQ at the Carolina Pig Jig on Saturday, May 20.
- We'll open the Heritage Circle Church at 9 a.m. on Sunday, May 21, for a service featuring The Master's Men.
- Action Alley on Sunday, May 21, so our smallest festival goers can explore working trucks and equipment of all types

The Fairgrounds will also host the Chatlee Spring Boat Show, Independent Labrador Specialty Dog Show, the Southern States Academy Horse Show and The Raleigh Market.

Food Lion Local Goodness Marketplace The Agri Supply Expo Center will be chock full of North Carolina food companies, distilleries and wineries sampling and selling some of the most delightful flavors North Carolina has to offer! Tickets - \$3

And did we mention...FREE admission & parking?

More information and a schedule of events is available at gottobenfestival.com or on the Facebook page: [gtbcncfestival](https://www.facebook.com/gtbcncfestival).

For up-to-date news and tips on how to maximize your fun at the festival, text G2BNC to 888777 and be a festival insider.

At the festival you can stop by the Waterfall Ticketing Kiosk to get tickets for the 2023 N.C. State Fair. We've got adult tickets on sale for \$8 and youth tickets are only \$4. This is your best deal of the season!



Anson County Beekeepers Meet May 23

All Anson County Beekeepers members are reminded that the upcoming meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23 at the Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. Come one, come all who are interested in honey bees regardless if you have bees or not.

Beekeepers meeting are open to everyone who is interested in having bees for honey and pollination as well.

For more information call Beekeepers Association President Jody Taylor at 704-475-7939 or check the Facebook page, "Anson Beekeepers Association."

Anson Mobile Food Market is May 18

The Anson Mobile Food Market will be held on Thursday, May 18, starting at 10 a.m. at Peachland United Methodist Church, located at 19 Allen Street in Peachland. Attendees can receive free food items as long as supplies last. This is a free initiative, so please stop by and get some healthy food for your family. The event will include blood pressure and blood sugar checks, as well information on healthy eating and lifestyle.

This event is held to assist in the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in the county.

Swing and Jazz Music with the Salisbury Swing Band Thursday in Albemarle

Albemarle Parks and Recreation hopes you'll join them for Thursdays at the Station this Thursday, May 18 for a performance by the Salisbury Swing Band at 7:30 p.m. at Market Station. The Salisbury Swing Band delivers a wide selection of songs, often with visiting vocalists.

The concert is free! All you need to do is bring a comfortable chair and enjoy the show.

The Market Station is located at 501 West Main Street in Albemarle. Refreshments will be available.

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

July Fourth Celebration Parade in Lilesville Set for July 1

The Town of Lilesville is once again hosting their 4th of July Parade! It will take place on Saturday, July 1, beginning at 11 a.m. The parade starts at the intersection of Camden and Wall Streets and ends at South Railroad Street by the old T.W. Bennett School.

Would you like to be in the parade? They welcome floats, vehicles, tractors, motorcycles, horses, and more.

The Town of Lilesville invites vendors to participate. Vendors can sell crafts, cups, wreaths, jewelry, apparel or other items to add to the celebration and fun. The vendor fees are \$20. Vendor setup begins at 8 a.m. and needs to be finished by 10 a.m. Also, walking vendors are welcome.

For information about participating in the parade or being a vendor, please contact Lilesville Town Hall at 704-848-4711.

Anson County Farm Bureau Awards Scholarships

Each year Anson County Farm Bureau generously awards scholarships to local students. This year they awarded five \$1,000 scholarships.

Farm Bureau stated, "Anson County Farm Bureau is very proud to present five deserving students each with a \$1,000 scholarship. This will go to the college of their choice to help further their education. We are very proud of these students accomplishments and look forward to what the future holds for them"

Pictured at right with the Anson County Farm Bureau President Ronnie Mills, are Lynlee Martin, Wykeria Little and Joshua Grantham.

Jada Harrington and Kaylee Eckersley were not present for the photo.

