

## THE EXPRESS

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

## Commissioners Meetings for June

## 2025-2026 proposed county budget public hearing takes place at June 3 meeting

The first June meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners takes place on Tuesday, June 3 at 6 p.m. The second meeting in June takes place on Tuesday, June 17 at 6 p.m.

Meetings take place in the Board Room, Suite 209, of the Anson County Government Center which is located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro.

To schedule an appearance at a board meeting, please sign up prior to the meeting. Information is available at 704-994-3201.

The Commissioners' board meetings are live streamed on their YouTube channel. Also, the videos are archived so they can be viewed at any time. Visit [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) and search for Anson Commissioners.

## Anson County Budget Public Hearing

A budget hearing presentation of proposed 2025-2026 Budget will be held on Tuesday, June 3 at 6:00 p.m. at the Board of Commissioner's meeting.

## Beekeepers Field Trip is May 31

The Anson County Beekeepers will take a Bee Field trip this Saturday, May 31 at 9:30 a.m. at Rodney's place, weather permitting. Check their Anson County Beekeepers Facebook for more details.

Not a member but would like to learn more about the local chapter and beekeeping educational programs? Do you need a beekeeper to re-home a visiting swarm? Visit the "Anson County Beekeepers Association" Facebook page for more information.

## Native American Awareness Day June 8

## Honoring Healing and Heritage

On Sunday, June 8 the community is invited to gather in unity and celebration at the upcoming Native American Awareness Day, taking place from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. This public event will highlight themes of recovery, education, prevention, and therapy while honoring Native American traditions through ceremonies, music, and cultural expression.

The event aims to raise awareness about issues impacting Native communities, particularly in the areas of health, substance abuse prevention, and mental wellness. Through a combination of educational booths, therapy resources, and cultural sharing, attendees will have the opportunity to learn, heal, and connect.

## Featured activities will include:

- Traditional Native American ceremonies
  - Guest Speaker Spiritual Leader Ron Eagle Wolf Sandoval
  - Live music and drumming performances
  - Informational sessions on recovery and prevention
  - Therapeutic workshops and wellness activities
  - Cultural education displays and community networking
- "This day is about creating space for healing and awareness, while also celebrating the beauty and resilience of Native cultures," said Chief Cochise Medicineshield Zerambo. "We welcome everyone to join us in learning, honoring, and supporting Native voices."

The event is free and open to the public, and families are encouraged to attend. Food, crafts, and community resources will also be available on-site. Donations are appreciated

Come join the event for a powerful and uplifting day that brings together culture, community, and compassion.

More information is available from Frank Zerambo at [medicineshield2024@gmail.com](mailto:medicineshield2024@gmail.com) or 980) 410-2885.

## South Piedmont Offers

## "Working Smart" Course to Equip Job Seekers with Essential Soft Skills

South Piedmont Community College is offering a valuable opportunity for individuals looking to strengthen their soft skills and enhance their workplace readiness through the "Working Smart: Soft Skills for Workplace Success" course, beginning July 8.

**This course is tuition-waived for individuals who are unemployed or underemployed.**

Delivered through a five-module, 16-lesson curriculum taught over a minimum of 24 hours, the course provides practical, career-building strategies. This class will be held July 8 through July 17, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Tyson Family Center for Technology, located at 3509 Old Charlotte Highway, Monroe, NC 28110.

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a Working Smart certificate, a credential that demonstrates to employers that the individual possesses key professional and interpersonal skills.

Individuals who successfully complete the course will be guaranteed a job interview.

"Employers are looking for more than just technical skills, they want employees who can communicate, solve problems, and demonstrate accountability," said Kristi Phifer, Director of Human Resources Development. "Working Smart equips participants with essential tools to not only land a job, but to thrive in it."

The course begins with self-awareness and self-management, then moves into practical workplace topics such as:

- Employer expectations
- Workplace ethics and accountability
- Effective communication
- Teamwork and problem-solving

To register or learn more, contact Kristi Phifer at [kphifer@spcc.edu](mailto:kphifer@spcc.edu) or call 704-290-5216.



including volunteers once they have registered. The number will determine what order you will be served. Due to the limited volunteers, waiting time for service can vary.

**Volunteers are always needed.** Please contact BRLC if you are looking for volunteer opportunities. BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information you can call 704-826-8737, check their Facebook page, email [burnsvillelc@gmail.com](mailto:burnsvillelc@gmail.com), or visit [www.burnsvillelc.org](http://www.burnsvillelc.org).

## Police Dept. Release on Juvenile Criminal Activity

*May 28 release from the Wadesboro Police Department:* We are aware of recent incidents involving juvenile criminal activity, including vehicle break-ins, vehicle thefts, and larcenies. Our officers are increasing patrols and will be riding through neighborhoods with their steady blue lights activated to enhance visibility and deter criminal activity.

The safety of every member of our community is our number one priority. We urge residents - if you see something suspicious, please don't wait. Call us immediately at 704-694-2167 or dial 911.

We truly appreciate your continued support. If you would like extra patrols in your neighborhood, you are more than welcome to reach out to us directly or comment on our Facebook page. Thank you for working with us to keep our community safe.

## Prepare for Active 2025 Hurricane Season

With hurricane season beginning Sunday, June 1, Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey urges residents to get ready now, as forecasters are predicting another extremely active season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecasts 19 named storms, nine hurricanes and four major hurricanes for the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season, which runs through Nov. 30.

"North Carolina has seen the devastation hurricanes can cause firsthand," Commissioner Causey said. "Last year, Hurricane Helene tore through our state, leaving behind massive damage and many people in western North Carolina are still recovering. Early preparation is critical to protect lives and property before a storm makes landfall."

In September 2024, Hurricane Helene struck western North Carolina, bringing catastrophic flooding and destruction. The storm caused 107 deaths, destroyed thousands of homes, and caused nearly \$60 billion in damage including roads, bridges and culverts.

Ahead of the 2025 hurricane season, Commissioner Causey has created a broadcast quality video and is sharing the following tips to help residents be prepared before, during, and after a storm. You can find the video on YouTube by searching for: "Hurricane Season Checklist: What You Need to Know."

**Before** Make sure you have adequate insurance coverage. Know exactly what your insurance policy covers. Homeowners' policies do not cover flooding. Be aware there is a 30-day waiting period before flood policies take effect. If you rent, your landlord's insurance only covers the building, not your belongings. You'll need renters' insurance to protect your personal items.

- Compile important documents. Gather important paperwork, including insurance policies, medical records and prescriptions. Be prepared to bring copies with you if you are forced to evacuate your home. Know how to get in touch with your insurance agent and company.
- Create a home inventory. Go room to room in your home and write down the brand name, description, estimated value and date of purchase of items in your home. It is also helpful to compile receipts, appraisal documents and serial numbers. Take videos or photographs of your belongings. Store your home inventory and related documents in a safe, easily accessible place online, on your smartphone, on your computer or in a fire-proof box or safe deposit box.
- Identify potential hazards around your home. Hanging tree branches, loose shingles, patio furniture and other outdoor objects can cause damage or injuries in a storm. Make repairs or secure large objects to reduce the threat.
- Check your emergency toolkit and to-go bag. Update items such as food, medicine and batteries. Make sure to include items for every member of your family, including pets.
- Electricity may go out, so make sure you have extra drinking water. Also, fill the bathtub with water for bathing and flushing the toilet.

**During** Shelter in place if officials advise it.

- Stay away from windows, glass doors and skylights.
- Find a safe place to stay in the interior of the home on a lower floor unless flooding is possible.
- Make sure your cell phone is charged. Do not use a landline if lightning is present.
- Turn off the electricity at the main breaker if flooding becomes a threat.
- Remain indoors until officials give notice that it is safe to go outside.
- If officials order an evacuation, do not come home until officials advise it is safe to do so.

**After** Sadly, fraud is very common after a big storm. Commissioner Causey encourages storm victims to avoid roofing and contractor scams by only working with licensed and insured contractors. Our NCDOI Criminal Investigations Division has a staff of Special Agents who investigate insurance fraud daily.

**Here are some things you should do immediately after the storm:**

Contact your homeowners' insurance agent or company to report the loss. Even if you have a separate windstorm or hail policy in addition to your homeowners' policy, your primary homeowners' insurer will investigate and adjust the claim even if you have wind or hail loss. Be patient as the insurer will likely be dealing with many claims.

- Make a list of the damage and take clear pictures before you make any temporary repairs.
- Do what you can to stop further damage from happening. For instance, place a tarp on your roof to prevent water from coming into the house. Keep receipts because your reasonable expenses to protect your property are part of the loss and may be reimbursed by your insurance company.
- Do not make permanent repairs until your insurance company has inspected the damage and you have agreed on the cost of the repairs. Check with your insurance company before you dispose of damaged materials or items.
- If your home is uninhabitable, check with your insurance company to determine which expenses will be reimbursed.

For more information on how to be prepared before, during and after any storm, visit [www.ncdoi.gov/disaster](http://www.ncdoi.gov/disaster) or contact the NCDOI Consumer Services Division at 1-855-408-1212.

## BRLC Offers Free Food Pantry Every Wednesday

## Burnsville's Food Pantry volunteers are needed

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC) operates their free Food Pantry each and every Wednesday morning unless the weather is truly bad.

BRLC has made a few minor adjustments during the Emergency Food Pantry hours. Volunteers will start accepting client registration application at 8:30 a.m. and cut off at 10:00 a.m. They ask all neighbors, if you are able, to please come inside to register. Once you have registered please return back to your vehicle, or you may wait inside.

Neighbors will not be able to register for someone who has not arrived. Neighbors cannot hold a spot for someone else when registering.

**All veterans are welcome**, as well as anyone who may need assistance with food. Emergency Pantry neighbors will be given a number for service, including volunteers once they have registered. The number will determine what order you will be served.

Due to the limited volunteers, waiting time for service can vary.

**Volunteers are always needed.** Please contact BRLC if you are looking for volunteer opportunities.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. For more information you can call 704-826-8737, check their Facebook page, email [burnsvillelc@gmail.com](mailto:burnsvillelc@gmail.com), or visit [www.burnsvillelc.org](http://www.burnsvillelc.org).

## Lunchtime Music &amp; Art on the Green in Cheraw

The Cheraw Arts Commission invites the public to Lunchtime Music & Art on the Green on Thursday, May 29, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Lewis Realty of Cheraw is the sponsor of the May event. Additional dates for the Lunchtime concerts are June 26 and July 24.

Local artists will be creating art en plein air (painting outdoors), while guitarist Kris Houser will provide music. Attendees are encouraged to bring lunch from a favorite dining establishment & lawn chairs.

The CAC will provide sketch pads and pencils for those who wish to Discover Their Inner Artist!

This is a free event for all ages. Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission at 843.537.8420 x 12 for additional information.

## Peace Pole Planting Event on June 4

The Rotary Club of Wadesboro invites the community to attend an event they are calling a Peace Pole Planting. It takes place at 11:00 a.m. in uptown Wadesboro, at the corner of Wade and Greene Streets, beside the gazebo.

The club stated, "May Peace Prevail On Earth" is referred to as an affirmation of peace and the Peace Pole placement furthers Rotary's goal of building a culture of peace throughout the world.

You can roll up your sleeves and lend a hand planting the Peace Pole and beautifying the area, or just come for the fellowship.

## Writers' Club Welcomes New Members

The Anson County Writers' Club meets on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, except in July and December.

All meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

For more information call Sandy Bruney at 704-694-5211 or email: [sandybruney@gmail.com](mailto:sandybruney@gmail.com).

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