

Hampton B. Allen Library is Now Open

The Hampton B. Allen Library is now open to the public with some restrictions. The hours are: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The library is closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

- They have a limit of 8 patrons allowed in the library at any given time.
 - Each patron will have a limit of 1 hour visit to allow other patrons equal time.
 - Patrons must wear a face mask.
- The library will continue to provide curbside service. Call 704-694-5177 for assistance.



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Remembering..... By Ed McBride



Farmer's Exchange Store

This time of year reminds me of the "early working days" of David C. Parker. He began business in a small brick building on Chesterfield Road.

Back then the Kiser brothers had a hot dog and hamburger sandwich shop right in the forks of Camden and Chesterfield Roads. On further back was Lewis Grocery Store that later became Carl's Food Center. Then, next on Chesterfield Road was Farmer's Exchange Store.

The picture above is a truck that I did on May 24, 1956, parked beside the Farmer's Exchange building. Note all the advertising there - Wayne Feeds, Seed, Baby

Chicks, Insecticides, Plants, Hotpoint Appliances and so on.

Many changes followed - such as closing out feed deliveries as they were, appliances, baby chicks - many other items.

David and Mary specialized in garden plants, seed, fertilizer and the like for the gardener. During some of the years they were involved in grower - starter pellets, etc. This was, of course, before we knew about Holly Farms, Tyson and others.

Many changes have since occurred. There are no more Kiser hot dogs, no Lewis Grocery, no Carl's Food Center - the entire "triangle area" now is IGA store and parking area.

North Carolina's June Employment Figures Released

The state's seasonally adjusted June unemployment rate was 7.6 percent, decreasing 5.2 points from May's revised rate. The national rate decreased 2.2 percentage points to 11.1 percent.

North Carolina's June 2020 unemployment rate increased 3.6 percentage points from a year ago. The number of people employed increased 227,498 over the month to 4,428,221 and decreased 444,125 over the year. The number of people unemployed decreased 252,047 over the month to 363,465 and increased 160,976 over the year.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey, increased 173,200 to 4,234,700 in June. Major industries experiencing increases were Leisure & Hospitality Services, 68,900; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 22,300; Government, 20,800; Other Services, 19,600; Education & Health Services, 18,900; Professional & Business Services, 10,900; Manufacturing, 9,000; Construction, 1,800; and Financial Activities, 1,200. The only over-the-month decrease among major industries was in Information, 200. Mining & Logging employment remained unchanged over the month.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates since June 2019:

June 2019 NC 4.0% / US 3.7%; **July 2019** NC 3.9% / US 3.7%; **August 2019** NC 3.8% / US 3.7%; **Sep 2019** NC 3.7% / US 3.5%; **Oct 2019** NC 3.7% / US 3.6%; **Nov 2019** NC 3.6% / US 3.5%; **Dec 2019** NC 3.6% / US 3.5%; **Jan 2020** NC 3.6% / US 3.6%; **Feb 2020** NC 3.6% / US 3.5%; **Mar 2020** NC 4.3% / US 4.4%; **Apr 2020** NC 12.9% / US 14.7%; **May 2020** NC 12.8% / US 13.3%; **June 2020** NC 7.6% / US 11.1%

Since June 2019, Total Nonfarm jobs decreased 340,400 with the Total Private sector decreasing by 306,200 and Government decreasing by 34,200. The only over-the-year increase among major industries was in Financial Activities, 300. Major industries experiencing decreases were Leisure & Hospitality Services, 136,200; Education & Health Services, 39,800; Manufacturing, 38,100; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 38,000; Professional & Business Services, 36,000; Government, 34,200; Construction, 11,200; Information, 4,700; Other Services, 2,200; and Mining & Logging, 300.

Free Groceries Available for Families in Need August 5

For families in need, free groceries will be available. The Anson and East Union Missional Network, Anson Crisis Assistance Second Harvest Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry will be held on Wednesday, August 5 at Wingate Baptist Church, located at 109 East Elm Street in Wingate. Please arrive and register between 8 and 10 a.m. The food distribution begins upon the truck arrival, usually between 9 to 9:30 a.m.

- Be sure to bring your own bags, boxes or carts to carry your food.
- Arrive between 8 to 10:30 a.m. to be sure you can receive food.
- If it is raining the day of or before the delivery, contact Anson Crisis Ministry for a recorded message to know if it is cancelled: 704-694-2445.
- You can only pick up food for yourself and one other registered household.

Interested in volunteering for the Mobile Food Pantry? Email tschumpert@wncumc.net. The goal of the Mobile Food Pantry is to feed the hungry and serve those in need.

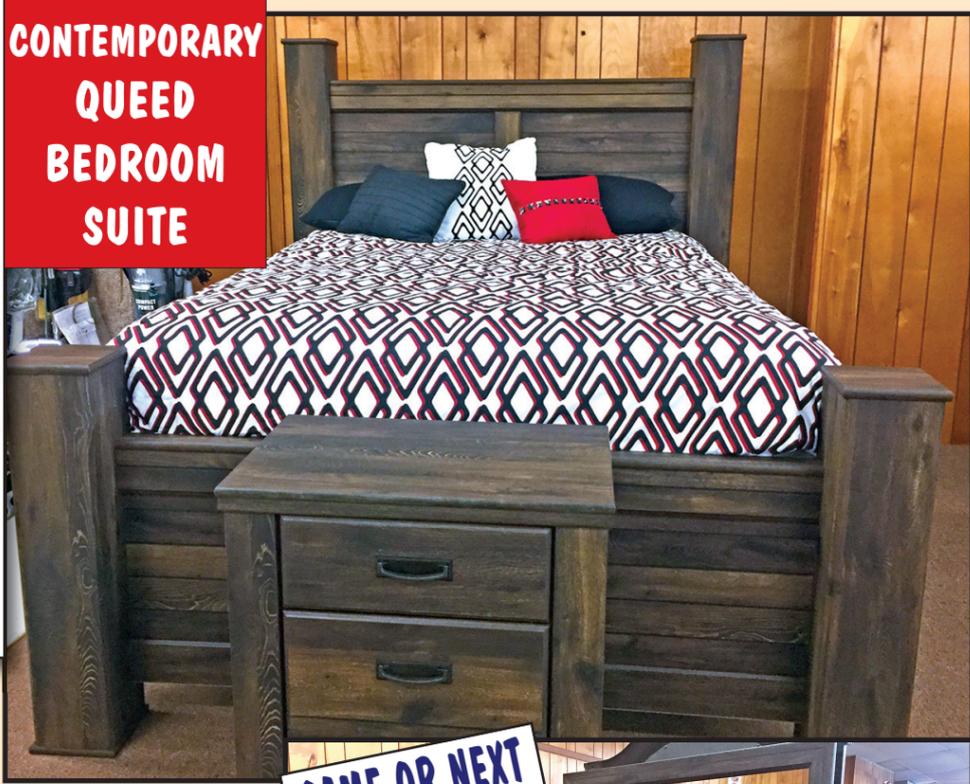
If you are in need before or after the distribution of food date, please contact Anson Crisis Ministry at (704) 694-2445 or Union County Crisis Assistance at (704) 225-0440.

Wingate Spring Semester Honors

Last Wednesday The Express published an article about Anson County students at Wingate University who had earned Spring Semester Honors. Haley Danielle Black earned a place on the President's List, but was not included in the article. The Wingate University President's List honors full-time students who earned a GPA of at least 3.8 with no grade below a C-.

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