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

Covid Update for Anson County

According to the latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department on Wednesday, July 20 there were 7,127 total Covid-19 cases, with 157 active and 99 total deaths. On July 13 there were 7,048, with 168 active cases; June 29 170 active cases; June 3 64 active cases. **COVID-19 history in Anson County:** March 31, 2020: 1 case; April 28 - 23 cases (no deaths); May 26: 62 cases (1 death); June 22: 107 cases (2 deaths); July 27: 285 cases (2 deaths); August 31: 440 cases (4 deaths); September 28: 605 cases (4 deaths); October 26: 720 cases (9 deaths); November 30: 937 cases (14 deaths); December 31, 2020: 1,444 cases; (28 deaths). **2021** January 25, 2021: 1,957 cases (42 deaths); February 22: 2,258 cases (53 deaths); March 29: 2,414 cases (56 deaths); April 30: 2,527 cases (56 deaths); May 28: 2604 cases (56 deaths); June 30: 2639 cases (57 deaths); July 26: 2,719 cases (58 deaths); August 31: 3,085 cases (63 deaths); September 30: 3,666 cases (76 deaths); October 25: 3,845 cases (81 deaths); November 24: 4,038 cases (85 deaths); December 30, 2021: 4291 cases, 179 active (88 deaths). **2022** January 30: 6,143 cases, 503 active (90 deaths); February 28: 6,504 cases, 122 active (98 deaths); March 29: 6,562 cases, 38 active (99 deaths); April 18: 6,566 cases, 2 active (99 deaths); May 24: 6,654 cases, 59 active (99 deaths). Please note that for more information regarding county/state statistics, refer to www.ncdhhs.gov.

Henry Walker Convicted of Attempted First Degree Murder

On Friday, July 22 Henry Walker was convicted by a jury of his peers in Anson County Superior Court for a 2021 shooting. Walker was convicted of the following offenses: Attempted 1st Degree Murder, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Intent to Kill, Inflict Serious Injury, Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon, and Possession of Firearm by a convicted Felon. Walker was arrested for a robbery and attempted murder that took place in Wadesboro on July 13, 2021. He was found in Burlington, North Carolina. Henry Walker, 62, a homeless man from Monroe, fled to Burlington after the robbery and shooting. North Carolina Superior Court Judge Honorable Dawn M. Layton sentenced Henry to an active sentence in the North Carolina Department of Public Safety Adult Corrections Divison for a term of 238 months to 298 months. The Wadesboro Police Department was assisted in this investigation by the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, and the case was prosecuted by the staff of W. Reece Saunders, Jr., District Attorney, Prosecutorial District 21.

Anson Ag Fair Set for September 24

After a two year break due to the pandemic, Anson County Cooperative Extension is pleased to announce plans for the 2022 Anson Ag Fair, set for Saturday, September 24. The 2022 Fair Rules and Regulations Booklets have arrived and are now available at the Cooperative Extension Center at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. The fair book is also available online at anson.ces.ncsu.edu. Click on the 2022 Anson Ag Expo & Fair link, and the book can be downloaded in pdf format, complete with registration forms. Information is also available on the Anson County Cooperative Extension Facebook page. If you have a green thumb, an artistic eye, or a flair for crafts, now is the time to start planning items to enter into this year's county fair. Set aside a jar of canned goods that turned out better than you planned. Finish up a craft project you have been working on. The County Fair portion of the fourteenth annual Anson Ag Expo and Fair will be held Saturday, September 24 at the Extension Center on McLaurin Street in Wadesboro, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. It will be here sooner than you think. Crafts, canned goods, ag products, photography, art and handicrafts will be welcomed for competition. Take down your vacation photo from the fridge and frame it. Add fertilizer to that favorite plant. Then bring them all down to the Extension Center and enter them in the fair! Remember that fair participation is open to youth as well as adults. Age groups available for competition consist of:

- **Pee Wee** - 0 to 5 years
 - **Pre-teen** - 6 to 12
 - **Teen** - 13 to 19
 - **Adult** - 20 and up.
- Now is the time to be planning to show off your talents at the fair!
- Registration for all entries will be taken in on Thursday, September 22, from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. The fair will be judged on Friday and open to the public for display on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. Items can also be entered into the "In Memoriam" and "Blast from the Past" categories. Items made by deceased loved ones can be entered in "In Memoriam" while items made prior to 2002 and never shown in a fair can be entered in "Blast from the Past."
- Cash premiums will be awarded from \$6 for First through \$3 for Third in over 200 categories. The 2019 county fair showcased 158 entries from 42 fair exhibitors, and \$506 was paid out in fair premiums. Class ribbons are awarded for all entries, with Best of Show and Juror's Choice ribbons awarded for each competition area per age division.
- For additional information, contact the Anson County Cooperative Extension Service at 704-694-2915. Come out and join the fun. There is something for everyone. Celebrate agriculture in Anson.

Photo Workshop in August

Join local photographer Ron Stafford on Saturday, August 6, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. for a photography workshop at Old St. David's Episcopal Church in Cheraw. Ron will guide participants on a tour of this historic church and its grounds. This is a free workshop with registration required. All ages can participate. Phone cameras can be used for the workshop. Call the Cheraw Arts Commission 843.537.8420 x 12 to register and for additional information. The workshop will be canceled in case of inclement weather.



Have You Noticed Rags Tied on Things Around Wadesboro?

On Friday, July 22 Lieutenant Kelly and Patrolmen Funderburk took time out of their busy day to remove trash and debris that was tied to fences, signposts and light posts around town. Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer said, "WPD Officers take pride in the Town of Wadesboro and we encourage all citizens to do the same." The rags and strings are attributed to the the person nicknamed "String Man" or "Rag Man" who is often seen around town. Lieutenant Kelly is pictured above showing how the rags are tied to a sign, and holding a bucket full of rags and string that he and Funderburk collected.



Pictured above from left are Chipper Long, Nathan Jenkins and Amanda Traywick. Donnie Lewis is at the back.

Ansonia Theatre Presents *Ghost: The Musical*

The Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro is proud to be making the regional debut of *Ghost: The Musical* playing August 5-14. Based on the Oscar winning film, this stage version follows the love story of Sam and Molly. After being murdered on the street Sam is left stuck between worlds as he finds out who his killer is, and that Molly's life is in danger. He seeks the help of psychic Oda Mae Brown who reluctantly agrees to help Sam uncover the truth about his death. Taking on the role of Sam is stage newcomer Nathan Jenkins of Chesterfield. Molly will be played by stage veteran Kimberly Smith of Marshville. Lance Barber of Rockingham is cast as Carl and Nekeisha Lindsey stars as Oda Mae Brown. The supporting cast includes Logan Tallman, Chipper Long, Amanda Traywick, Cice Summers, AJ Summers, Cleve Baxley, Karen Johnston, Ayla Perkins, Teri Brown, Mark Traywick, Donald Perkins, Glenn Caulder, Donnie Lewis, Tae Liles, Greyson Helms, Nautica Patton, Rachel Kostelnik, Jernnifer Gilmore and Maggie Gibson. The show is directed by Tommy Wooten, with Gail Litaker as Musical Director and Vera Holsey as Choreographer. Sound and lights by April McGinnis and the Stage Manager is Robert Graves. With a hauntingly beautiful score this show has songs that will reach the soul and tingle the senses including the Righteous Brothers classic hit *Unchained Melody*. Don't miss this show! Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Get your tickets at ansoniatheatre.com or call 704-694-4950.

North Carolina's June Employment Figures Released

The state's seasonally adjusted June 2022 unemployment rate was 3.4%, remaining unchanged from May's revised rate. The national rate remained unchanged at 3.6%. North Carolina's unemployment rate decreased 1.6 percentage points from a year ago. The number of people employed increased 12,675 over the month to 4,929,133 and increased 215,137 over the year. The number of people unemployed increased 1,767 over the month to 172,658 and decreased 74,565 over the year. Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey, increased 22,700 to 4,754,100 in June. Major industries experiencing increases were Education & Health Services, 5,700; Professional & Business Services, 5,000; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 3,700; Construction, 3,000; Government, 2,600; Financial Activities, 2,500; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 900; and Information, 700. Major industries experiencing decreases were Manufacturing, 1,100; Other Services, 200; and Mining & Logging, 100. Since June 2021, Total Nonfarm jobs increased 152,000 with the Total Private sector increasing by 160,800 and Government decreasing by 8,800. Major industries experiencing increases were Professional & Business Services, 48,800; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 32,500; Education & Health Services, 19,500; Financial Activities, 16,300; Manufacturing, 13,300; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 11,300; Other Services, 7,200; Construction, 6,100; and Information, 6,100. Major industries experiencing decreases were Government, 8,800; and Mining & Logging, 300.

Fundraiser Ride for VFW is Saturday

Calling all bikers, trikers, jeep, slingshot and spyder riders, VFW Post 10403 in Wadesboro is sponsoring a fundraiser ride this Saturday, July 30. Everyone is invited for food, fun and prizes! The ride will start at Anson Middle School on Highway 52 North in Wadesboro. Registration takes place at 10:00 a.m. Kickstands up at 11:15 a.m. The cost for single riders is \$15, double Riders \$20. For additional info contact Eddie Little, Post Senior Vice Commander, at 704-690-3679 or Donnie Lewis, Post Auxiliary President, at 704-320-6376.

Benefit Yard and Hot Dog Sale for Monica Williams

Everyone is invited to a fundraiser benefit for Monica Williams that will be held on Saturday, August 6 on the Square in uptown Wadesboro, at the corner of Wade and Greene Streets. The time is 7 a.m. until 12 p.m. There will be a yard sale and a hot dog sale featuring grilled hot dogs, chips and a drink for the low price of only a \$5 donation. There will be delicious cake slices for \$2. Come out for fellowship, good deals at the yard sale and some good food, with all proceeds going to a great cause. Any donations will be gratefully accepted. For information contact Rhonda at 704-475-0050 or Toforya at 704-690-5071.

HMOC Back to School Car & Motorcycle Show

Harvest is now gearing up for the huge Annual Back to School Car and Motorcycle Show that will be held on Saturday, August 6, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot. This free admission event will feature vendors, bounce houses, prizes, local businesses...as well as a pop-up shop in the City Reach Community Center with over 15 vendors and counting. For more information or to enter your motorcycle or car into the car show check out: hmoccarshow.weebly.com or contact David Mowry at 910-434-6440.