

1727  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit # 49  
Wadesboro, NC  
28170

Postal  
Customer

# THE EXPRESS

205 West Morgan Street • Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-694-2480 • [TheExpressNews@gmail.com](mailto:TheExpressNews@gmail.com) • [www.TheExpressNewspaper.com](http://www.TheExpressNewspaper.com)

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, August 10 there were 7,390 total Covid-19 cases in the county to that point, with 124 active cases. On August 3 the total was 7,324, with 198 active. The death toll in Anson County from Covid still stands at 99.

If you are positive or currently awaiting test results, please stay home. If you are experiencing symptoms, please get tested.

The Health Department stated, "The Covid Testing site on Morven Road is temporarily shut down due to changing vendors. We hope that it will be back up and running very soon. In the meantime, please note you can stop by the Health Department and pick up test kits to keep at home. If you aren't feeling well, you can send someone up here and we will send some to you.

We still offer Moderna vaccine on Thursdays (Walk-In). We are also offering N-95 masks and Rapid Covid tests here at Anson County Health Department. Stop in to pick one up."

For more specific information related to Anson County and NC please visit: [covid19.ncdohhs.gov](http://covid19.ncdohhs.gov).

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-5188.

## School Board Meeting for Monday, Aug. 29 to be Live Streamed on YouTube

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their regular meeting on Monday, August 29. Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 4:00 p.m. Open Session to the public will begin at about 5:30 p.m.

The meeting will be live streamed on the Anson County Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. To find the channel you can search 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.

## Veteran Services Office is Moving

The Anson County Veteran Services Office is relocating to the former Pee Dee Electric building, located at 575 Highway 52 South in Wadesboro. The move date is August 29, with the office closed August 24-26 for moving.

The county purchased the former Pee Dee Electric facility in order to move several county organizations there.

The Veteran Services Officer for Anson County is Andrea Lamonds. Her telephone number is 704-465-0086 and email address is: [alamonds@ansoncountync.gov](mailto:alamonds@ansoncountync.gov).

## Anson County Bridge Project Set to Begin this Month

The N.C. Department of Transportation has awarded a \$1 million contract to replace the bridge on City Pond Road over the North Fork of Jones Creek to a company called Smith-Rowe, LLC out of Mt. Airy.

Crews can get started as early as August 22, and are to have the bridge open to traffic by May 2023. Additional work like landscaping and vegetation establishment can go on through November 2023.

During construction, drivers will be detoured offsite via NC 109, Capel Dairy Road and NC 742, returning to City Pond Road.

For real-time travel information, visit [DriveNC.gov](http://DriveNC.gov) or follow NCDOT on social media.

## Christopher Leak Arrested, Charged with Murder of Nicolas Tyson

On Saturday, May 21 at approximately 12:28 p.m. the Wadesboro Police Department was dispatched to the area of Barrington Street in Wadesboro for a report of shots fired. Officers arrived at the intersection of Barrington and Marshall Streets where they found a black male lying unresponsive near the stop sign. Despite the best efforts of Wadesboro police officers and emergency medical personnel, 39-year-old Nicolas L. Tyson was pronounced dead at the scene.



The Wadesboro Police Department, with the assistance of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, immediately launched a methodical investigation that continues to this day. After countless hours of work by both agencies, arrest warrants were obtained yesterday charging 20 year old Christopher J. Leak with first-degree murder for the death of Nicolas Tyson.

Leak was arrested on Monday, August 15 by the Wake Forest Police Department and placed in the Wake County Detention Center with no bond. On Tuesday Leak was transported back to Anson County and locked up in the Anson County Jail to await trial, without bond.

In a release, the Wadesboro Police Department stated, "We would like to thank the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation for their assistance in this case. Teamwork between state and local agencies allows for both to be more effective and this arrest is yet another example of that relationship paying dividends to make our community better."

## Anson County History Program at the Hampton B. Allen Library

Ken Goins, educator, layperson and historian, will be the guest on Monday, August 22 at 10:30 a.m. for an in-house program at the Hampton B. Allen Library. The program will take place in the Pritchett Room. Ken will be discussing Anson's history, past and present.

Face masks are optional per county guidelines. Any questions call 704-694-5177.



Three teachers she recalled were Ruth Bennett, Marie Meyers and Mrs. Bullock. Some of the games children played then were shooting marbles and ring around the roses, to the best of her remembrance.

In 1945 Mrs. Shankle's husband George was drafted into the US Army at a very young age. She said he would say that he was "drug into the army." He fought in World War II. Mr. Shankle passed away in 1995.

The Shankles had four children. Their names are George D. Shankle, Jr., Edward Bruce Shankle, Jennie Marie and Mary Agnes. Mr. Agnes has lived in what she calls the homeplace since 1947.

## Remembering the Past with Mrs. Shankle

This is a release from Carol Smith of Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center: As Mrs. Mary Agnes Crump Shankle sits and relaxes on Sunday afternoons, she quietly remembers the days when she was much younger. She is still young at heart, but as we move forward we are not as fast or as quick. Mrs. Shankle is the widow of the late George Shankle. As we sat and listened, Mrs. Shankle took time to share her past memories which were a pleasure to listen to.

She is a longtime resident of the Egg Town Community of Anson County. This small community had one store, known as the former John and Fred Randall Store. The little quaint general store no longer operates. It now serves as a historical site at the intersection of Randall Road and John Davis Road.

Local Neighbors, years ago would gather to talk with each other at the little store. Community people would buy, sell and trade eggs plus other items as well. I was told that is how Egg Town got its names. Mrs. Shankle enjoys living there, going to church and spending days with her children, friends and local neighbors.

She spoke of the days she attended the Ansonville School. The year she graduated was April 4, 1947. Students only went as far as the 11th grade at that time. There were 13 girls and one boy to graduate along with her.

## Anson County Awarded \$262,000 in Development Grants

Anson County has received three economic development grants, totaling \$262,000, from the North Carolina's Southeast Product Development Fund. The grants, which are part of a \$5 million appropriation last year from the North Carolina General Assembly, will boost the development and enhancement of industrial sites and shell buildings across the Southeast's 18 counties. Support will cover a wide array of engineering, water, and wastewater infrastructure, design work, construction, roadway access, and other needs.

"Our region and our organization are moving forward aggressively in applying these funds to meet demand by businesses for industry-ready real estate product," says Jeff Etheridge, chairman of North Carolina's Southeast. "Companies reconsidering supply-chains in the wake of the pandemic and geopolitical concerns are seeking resilient, convenient, and reliable destinations for manufacturing, logistics, and other mission-critical operations. The Southeast wants to be ready for them. We are very grateful to legislative leaders for their leadership in making this program possible."

"Enhancing and building up our inventory of viable sites and buildings is one of our highest regional priorities right now, and we're collaborating with our county economic development partners to make sure these funds are applied in the most impactful way possible," explains Steve Yost, President of NC's Southeast.

### The grants will support three key projects in Anson County:

- 1) Architectural Services for Spec Building Design (Anson Economic Development Corporation) – The \$42,000 grant supports a \$47,500 engagement of architecture services to construct a shell building at Wadesboro Industrial Park. Anson Economic Development Corporation is also investing in the project.
- 2) Extension of Water and Sewer at Anson 74 Rail Park (Anson Economic Development Corporation) – The \$155,000 grant supports a \$750,000 initiative to extend water and sewer infrastructure to the 130-acre Anson 74 Rail Park. Also investing in the project are the North Carolina Railroad Company, the private sector, and the Anson Economic Development Partnership.
- 3) Industrial Site Identification and Validation (Anson Economic Development Corporation) – The \$65,000 grant supports a \$73,000 initiative to identify and validate available acreage for future potential development as industrial sites. Anson Economic Development Corporation is also an investor in the project. *Courtesy of AnsonEDP*

## North Carolina's COVID-19 State of Emergency Lifted

On Monday, August 15 Governor Roy Cooper ended the state's COVID-19 State of Emergency. With vaccines, treatments, and other tools to combat COVID-19 widely available, and with new legislation now providing the requested flexibility to North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) and health care providers to continue to respond, the state is poised to continue comprehensive pandemic response without the need for the State of Emergency.

Many of the state's public health measures combatting the pandemic had previously been lifted, but the State of Emergency continued to allow the distribution of vaccines and tests and regulatory flexibility to ensure staff capacity in the state's healthcare system. Following legislative changes made in the budget signed by Gov. Cooper in July that allow NCDHHS to continue to respond to the pandemic, the State of Emergency can be lifted.

"The pandemic brought unprecedented challenges to our state and people now have the knowledge and the tools like vaccines, boosters and therapeutic treatments to keep them safe," said Governor Cooper. "Executive orders issued under the State of Emergency protected public health and helped us save lives and livelihoods. North Carolina is emerging even stronger than before and my administration will continue to work to protect the health and safety of our people."

"COVID-19 is still with us, and North Carolinians now have multiple ways to manage the virus, so it doesn't manage us," said NCDHHS Secretary Kody H. Kinsley. "NCDHHS will remain focused on COVID-19 trends and data and ensuring we stay prepared."

## NCDOT, Highway Patrol Stress Move Over Law

The Move Over Law requires drivers to change lanes when passing a stopped emergency vehicle with flashing lights. But drivers aren't always adhering to the law, and that can cause life-altering situations.

"It's just sad, because it's totally preventable." N.C. State Highway Patrol Trooper Joseph Atwell said.

You have to move over, if you are unable to move over because of the traffic conditions you have to significantly reduce your speed.

Roger Hawkins, an N.C. Department of Transportation safety patrolman said, "This is a thing we deal with every day. You have to keep your eyes peeled all the time."

Atwell and Hawkins agree drivers do not follow the law often. Both careers put them on the side of an interstate week after week with vehicles whizzing by. "Vehicles are more than likely our No. 1 threat here on the highway patrol. There's no excuse and it's something I've dealt with personally," Atwell said.

This summer, both Hawkins and Atwell encountered drivers not moving over. Hawkins was on Interstate 40 in Pender County assisting a truck driver with a flat tire. When the job was complete, he thought all went well, and he got back in vehicle. "I looked in my mirror and I saw this car coming at a high rate of speed and it ran just right in the back of me," he said. "If you see lights, don't think just because they're yellow they don't mean anything."

The crash caused Hawkins' driver seat to break, and he was looking at the ceiling. Luckily, his brakes and seatbelt were on and he survived. Hawkins was back to work in a matter of days.

Atwell said when he pulls a driver over, "If we're anywhere near an interstate, I will attempt to do a passenger side approach so that if something does happen, I'll be on the passenger side of that vehicle – away from any danger."

A few weeks ago, the trooper was assisting deputies with a suspected drunk driver on a Wake County highway. "I was walking around my vehicle – I was going to get in the driver's side," Atwell said. "The sheriff's deputy stopped and asked me one question and it stopped me just long enough to pause and then that vehicle hit my car. If he hadn't have asked me that question – that would've been my body."

It was another suspected drunk driver who failed to move over.

### Together, NCDOT and NCSHP have a simple message: Move Over.

Hawkins said, "So you can slow down and take your time, not only for your life, but everyone else's life that's around you too. Because almost all of us have family too." "If you just look up and quit texting and driving, quit drinking and driving - just move over – all this could've been avoidable," Atwell added.

## Anson County Kids Expo is August 27

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce that the 2022 Anson County Kids Expo will be held on Saturday, August 27 in Uptown Wadesboro. This event focuses on the next generation of entrepreneurs and business owners.

The event offers kids (grades K-12) an opportunity to create, develop and market a product or service that they are passionate about. Strictly for kids only, adults are not allowed to help sell or market the child's product or service. The event is not only a showcase for the children, but an opportunity to understand the elements of owning one's own business. The kid vendors will learn and use real life skills such as math, communication, and creative thinking. Development and marketing of their product or service will have an impact on their sales at the event and offer them some insight into what it takes to own their own business.

Browse, shop and stay for the Awards presentation as they acknowledge Most Original Business Idea, Highest Business Potential and Best Presentation / Creativity.

Visit the Chamber's Facebook page or call 704-694-4181 for more information about sponsorships and to register.

## Join Union County Ag Extension for Canning 101

September is a great time for harvesting the last round of produce from your own garden. But what way will you make them last long throughout the year? What about canning? Join the Union County Agricultural Extension on September 8, 15, and 22 for their Canning 101 Home Food Preservations series where you can learn the ins and outs of the most traditional form of preserving your food.

The first session will be about the basics of canning and food safety while the following sessions will involve hands on experience with canning through the water bath and pressure method.

The cost of the series is \$23, which includes great resources on canning and take-home canned goods. Two classes will be offered in the morning from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and in the evening from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Registration for morning and evening sessions or get more information on Canning 101 by calling the Union County Extension office at (704) 283-3830. Join in for some great canning fun!