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THAT BESTON ALSO THE STATE AND ALSO THE STATE ALSO

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

Two More COVID-19 Deaths in Anson County in the Last Week

Vaccines are available. Ansonians urged to get vaccinated.

The latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department posted on Monday, August 16 showed 2,859 total Covid-19 cases, with 95 active. Over the weekend there were two more deaths from Covid-19, bring the total deaths to 60. Last Monday, August 9 there were 2,798 total Covid-19 cases, with 96 active and 58 deaths.

Vaccines are available. They are free, and all you have to do is call the Health Department at 704-694-5188 for more information.

The NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) reported that statewide as of Monday, August 16 there were 3,778 new cases, with 13,880 deaths and 2,651 hospitalized. 63% of adults in NC were vaccinated with at least one dose, 58% were fully vaccinated.

Two Purple Heart Veterans Honored with Ceremony in Peachland on Purple Heart Day

On Saturday, August 7 Peachland and surrounding area families gathered to honor Purple Heart veterans, on the occasion of Purple Heart Day, with a wreath laying ceremony. A brief history of the Purple Heart Medal was delivered and an appeal was made requesting that we never forget the great price paid by these Purple Heart Warriors. Two identified Purple Heart Veterans names and service history were read aloud and wreaths were laid at their markers. They are Joseph Roscoe Horne (1893-1965) and Charles Cecil Lowery (1888-1960), both World War 1 veterans. *Taps* was played and the American Flag was returned to full staff position, after having flown at half staff since daybreak. The ceremony ended with the Pledge of Allegiance recited and the *National Anthem* sung by all those in attendance.

This is a portion of the recitation: "There is no more powerful symbol of the sacrifices made by members of the armed services than the Purple Heart. The men and women who put themselves in harm's way, and who carry the wounds of battle, along with the loved ones who care for them, deserve our deepest respect.

General George Washington established what is now known as the Purple Heart Medal when he issued an order establishing the Military Badge of Merit on August 7, 1782.

The Military Badge of Merit was discontinued after the Revolution, but on February 22, 1932, the 200th Anniversary of the birth of George Washington, then-Army Chief of Staff General Douglas MacArthur resurrected the award and it was redesignated as the Purple Heart. Quite appropriately this reestablished Purple Heart Medal exhibits the bust and profile of George Washington.

Since 1932, the United States military has awarded more than 2 million Purple Hearts; 430,000 of those were awarded posthumously.

The Purple Heart is a reminder that freedom is a gift purchased at the greatest possible price. It is vitally important for all Americans to learn the history of this important military award and understand and honor the sacrifices of the many men and women in uniform who have earned the Purple Heart. It is imperative that we teach our children to live a life that is worthy of the legacy that these warriors have left for us." Veteran VFW post #9751 Commander David Glanville and Veteran Charlotte Artillery Civil War Re-enactor Eugene Jones laid wreaths at the Purple Heart Recipients markers. Mark Greene, a Purple Heart Veteran descendent, honored those gathered with the playing of Taps. The beautiful Wreaths were graciously provided by Quality Florist of Wadesboro, a wife and veteran husband owned business.



Maya Pond and Tracy Harrington show the take-home learning bags offered by ACPC.

activities with materials from take-home learning bags provided by the Partnership. Take-home learning bags are available for pick up at the Partnership's Early Childhood Resource Center, located at 117 South Greene Street in Wadesboro or in the Little Free Libraries across the county.

Little Free Libraries are located at McFarlan Town Hall, Lilesville Town Hall, First Methodist Church in Wadesboro, Ebenezer Baptist Church in Wadesboro, Morven Town Park, Wadesboro Park, Dunlap Park in Ansonville, and Polkton Fire Station.

For more information about virtual Storytime contact Tracy Harrington at 704-694-4036 or *tracy.harrington@ansonchildren.org*.

Monroe Expressway Wins Regional Transportation Award

America's Transportation Awards has recognized the Monroe Expressway with a regional "Best Use of Technology and Innovation" award. The award was presented to the North Carolina Turnpike Authority at the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) 80th Annual Conference.

James "JJ" Eden, Executive Director, North Carolina Turnpike Authority, said, "We're delighted to see the Monroe Expressway receive regional recognition for its innovative approach to transportation. In particular, we're grateful to the residents, businesses, and educational institutions in Union County for their strong support of this project."

The Monroe Expressway is an 18-mile tolled bypass of U.S. 74 in Union County that opened to traffic November 2018. Drivers who choose to take this route pay tolls with a prepaid NC Quick Pass account or receive a bill in the mail based on the vehicle registration.

In its nominating application, the North Carolina Turnpike Authority (NCTA) cited the innovative use of tolling to fund the construction of the Monroe Expressway faster than the project could be delivered through traditional means, bringing congestion relief to a heavily traveled region of the state. In addition, the use of all-electronic tolling technology makes the Monroe Expressway more convenient to use than traditional toll facilities with booths, which means no stopping or slowing down.

Both the Union County Chamber of Commerce and Wingate University provided testimonials to SASHTO in support of the Monroe Expressway. By winning at the regional level, the Monroe Expressway will advance to compete for a national award from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

America's Transportation Awards program, sponsored by AASHTO, AAA and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, recognizes DOT's for providing projects that make their communities a better place to live, work and play.

For more information about the Monroe Expressway and other NCTA projects, visit *ncquickpass.com* and follow @NCTurnpike and @NC_QuickPass on Twitter.

Don't Forget Your Roots

This is a release from the Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC): With the help of local neighbors and concerned citizens, Poplar Spring Missionary Baptist Church Original Cemetery #1 is being restored. The volunteers' restoration committee is slowly but surely making a difference at this historical cemetery. We have seen much improvements but there is still much to do. Will you kindly help us with this important project?

A wealth of history is being discovered that dates back to the early 1800s. Mr. William Ingram, born 1872 and passed away 1958, was the first grave marker documented. His 1877 and passed away 1957, was documented also. Golden M ife Mary Ingram, born Ingram, born July 25, 1911 and passed away August 12, 1944, was documented the same day. Golden M. Ingram served in World War II in the Army. His family members reside in Charlotte as well as other parts of the country. The rich history of those now laid to rest in this formerly abandoned cemetery were very instrumental in shaping Anson County, other counties, and even this country. During the second week of BRLC Summer Camp, students learned about the lives of individuals laid to rest in this cemetery. Families joined in and participated in a special outing there. Local family members shared information concerning the life of Charlie Boyd Broadway (1917-1959) who was also a military veteran and Lewis W. Broadway (1863 - 1950).We are reaching out to you, asking for your help in whatever way you can assist. You may be able to do physical labor, provide pictures, share information or provide obituaries for those laid to rest in this historical cemetery. Or perhaps you can financially support this effort. Whatever you do will be appreciated. The cemetery is located on Rocky Mount Church Road, across from Poplar Spring Baptist Church in the Burnsville Community. You will notice the elevated hill with 2 flags. Please stop and see what has been accomplished. There is a large tock that was painted white with the initials M B which stand for Missionary Baptist out front. Once the weather cools down we will be able to do more moving of limbs, trees and all sorts of debris. If you have any equipment such as chain saws, grass cutters, hedge cutters, wheelbarrows and axes we need your help.

Partnership Offers Virtual Storytime

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Due to the rising cases of COVID-19, the Anson County Partnership for Children has canceled in-person Storytime sessions for the immediate future. Therefore, Partnership will relaunch virtual weekly Storytime on their YouTube channel/ Facebook page.

"Our children and families are our top priority. We love connecting with our families, and we were excited to have a sense of normalcy again, but 'normal' wasn't going to keep our 'babies' and their families safe and healthy. We chose safe over sorry because we didn't want any regrets," said Tracy Harrington, ACPC Program Specialist.

Families can watch a new Storytime every Thursday and participate in the

Spaghetti Dinner for the Community

On Thursday August 19, starting at 4:00 p.m. youth Summer Fun Day Campers and younger campers at Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center will prepare a spaghetti dinner for the community. You can drive-thru or come inside.

BRLC Director Carol Smith said, "This meal is a way of saying thanks on behalf of the BRLC organization. If you want to bring a financial offering, thank you in advance. We could not do what we do without each of BRLC's sponsors. We hope to see you on the 19th. Drive-thru or come in."

2021 Anson County Kids Expo

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce that the 3rd Annual Anson County Kids Expo will be held on Saturday, August 21. 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 the Chamber acknowledges these notiables: Most Original Business Idea, Highest Business Potential and Best Presentation/Creativity in each age group. Winners will receive prizes as well as the opportuunity to promote their business through the Anson County Chamber! This event will be held on East Wade Street, between Washington Street and Lee Avenue. If your child will need help with set-up materials such as a tent, table, chairs - please contact the Chamber office at 704-694-4181. Please let the Chamber know how they can help so your child can apply! sponsorship For or entry forms and more information visit ansoncountychamber.org/kidsexpo.



COVID-19 Information

To stay up to date on COVID-19 in North Carolina, visit *ncdhhs.gov/coronavirus* or text COVIDNC to 898211. Call 2-1-1 (or 888-892-1162) for general questions or for help finding human services resources in your community. For a national perspective, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at *www.cdc.gov*.

For a world-wide perspective, visit the World Health Organization website at *www.who.int*. We hope to hear from you. We need your expertise in all areas.

The next cemetery clean-up day is Saturday, September 18 at 9:00 a.m. We would liove to hear from you. Any group or organization that wants to earn volunteers service hours please contact us.

For more information contact: Carol Smith at 704-778-7478, Allen Jackson at 704-221-1762 or David Perry at 704-385-8574.

More Than 8 Million Pounds of Roadside Litter Collected This Year

The N.C. Department of Transportation's crews, contractors and volunteers have collected more than 8 million pounds of litter from roadsides and are on pace to exceed the state's record for litter collection set in 2019.

"We're less than two months away from our annual Fall Litter Sweep, and we're counting on everyone to help keep this momentum going," said state Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette. "Please do your part by securing your loads before traveling, throw away trash in garbage bins, recycle when you can and make sure your friends and family do the same."

NCDOT and its partners have removed 8 million pounds of litter since Jan. 1. At this rate, NCDOT will exceed the 10.5 million pounds of litter collected in 2019.

The 2021 Fall Litter Sweep will be held from Sept. 11-25. To sign up for the litter sweep, go here. To learn more about the litter sweep, visit the program's webpage.

NCDOT's litter management programs are multifaceted. The department makes use of state-owned forces and contract services statewide. NCDOT's Sponsor-A-Highway Program allows businesses, organizations and individuals to sponsor litter removal along roadsides. NCDOT is also proud to partner with the more than 120,000 participants in the Adopt-A-Highway Program, where volunteers pledge to clean a section of our highways at least four times a year.

If you spot someone littering from their vehicle, report them with NCDOT's Swat-A-Litterbug app by downloading the app at *ncdot.gov/litter*.

Litter is unsightly, costs millions of dollars to clean up and can hurt the environment, tourism and the state's quality of life.