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

## Anson County Board of Commissioners Meet September 10

The next regular meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Monday, September 10 at 6 p.m.

The 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.

## Anson County's July Unemployment Rate Was 4.8%

Anson County's unemployment rate for July was 4.8%, basically unchanged from June's 4.9% rate. Statewide the unemployment rate was 4.1% in July, slightly lower than June's 4.2% rate.

Anson's total labor force in July was 10,426. Of that number 9,930 were employed and 496 were unemployed. In June the total labor force was 10,549 with 10,029 employed and 520 unemployed.

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 84 of North Carolina's counties in July, increased in four, and remained unchanged in 12. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.8 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.1 percent.

Thirteen of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases, one increased, and one remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount at 6.1 percent had the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.3 percent. The July not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.1 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 99 counties and remained unchanged in one. All 15 metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in July by 17,530 to 4,846,645, while those unemployed decreased 6,112 to 206,069. Since July 2017, the number of workers employed statewide increased 96,519, while those unemployed decreased 31,893.

## \$903,000 DOT Grant Approved to Help with Costs of Perimeter Fencing at Anson Airport

In May 2018 the N.C. Board of Transportation approved funds for much-needed improvements to 19 North Carolina airports. At that time Anson County received \$37,000 for new perimeter fencing around the terminal area of the Anson County Airport, named the Jeff Cloud Field.

In a new round of funding for 27 NC airports, the N.C. Board of Transportation has approved state and federal funding of \$903,240 to the Anson County Airport to help with the costs of installing phase II perimeter fencing around the entire airfield.

Anson County's airport is located near the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge, and that proximity adds to the risk of wildlife wandering onto the runway, potentially endangering aircraft taking off or landing. The perimeter fencing will minimize that kind of risk.

Chris Joffsen, an official with the airport said, "Just like when you're driving on the highway, deer and other wildlife present a danger to aircraft that are landing or taking off. Once the fencing is completed, operations here will become much safer, and pilots won't have to worry as much about encountering something on the runway."

North Carolina airports serve as a vital economic engine connecting people and business enterprises with the world. They are among the primary economic drivers in their local communities. Airports and aviation-related industries contribute more than \$31 billion to North Carolina's economy each year, according to a 2016 report. There are 123,400 airport-related jobs in the state.

The NCDOT Division of Aviation is responsible for airport and aviation system planning and development, and provides funding to local communities for constructing and improving airports throughout the state.

The funds awarded do not in all cases represent the total cost of the project.

## George Kanter Arrested for Bringing Drugs & Weapons into Court House

On Thursday, August 16 at approximately 4:50 p.m. George Lee Kanter (aka Kantner), 64, of Wadesboro entered the Anson County Court House carrying a concealed Lorcin 25 caliber pistol. The weapon was discovered by the deputies working at the entrance to the Court House once Kanter went through the required security check point. After searching Kanter deputies also located a concealed box cutter and methamphetamine.

Kanter was arrested without incident and placed in the Anson County Jail under a \$20,000 secure bond for the following charges: one count of carrying a firearm onto government property, one count of carrying a concealed weapon and two counts of possession of methamphetamine.

Sheriff Landric Reid stated that due to the alertness of his officers this incident was handled without any danger to the citizens or employees at the Court House. Sheriff Reid also said that he would like to remind everyone that if you can legally possess or carry a weapon to make sure you leave these items in your vehicle before entering the Court House, failure to do so is a violation of North Carolina General Statute.

## Burnsville School Reunion is Saturday

A reunion for everyone who attended Burnsville High School anytime from 1948 to 1960, including those who were in first to eleventh grades, will be held this Saturday, September 8. The event will take place at Twin Valley Golf Club in Wadesboro at 5 p.m.

The cost is \$22 per person. For information contact Ann T. Tarleton at 704-289-3765. Please send payment to: Ann T. Tarleton, 1822 East Roosevelt Blvd., Monroe NC 28112.



## Polkton Area Churches Unite to Collect School Items for Students in Need

Last Sunday, August 19 the churches of Polkton gathered together once again for a time of fellowship and a community mission project. This time the churches in town collected items for the Polkton-Peachland Elementary School. Mr. Travis Steagall, Principal of the school, joined them for the reception of the supplies.

Mr. Steagall mentioned that all the community is very supportive to the school, especially through Christian organizations. He said that sometimes the community at large is not aware of the great need that many of the students face in their everyday lives. He expressed thanks for the generous donations from the churches in Polkton, and he added, "Please remember that the kids also need our time."

After the giving of the donations, the members of the churches enjoyed a time of fellowship and camaraderie. The participating churches in this event were Saron Missionary Baptist Church, New Life Trinity Church, Evangelistic Outreach Center, Polkton Baptist Church and Polkton United Methodist Church.

Pictured above are, from left, Rev. Eddie Lee (Saron Missionary Baptist Church), Travis Steagall (Polkton-Peachland Elementary School Principal), Rev. Paulette Cash (Evangelistic Outreach Center), Rev. Hubert Sturdivant (New Life Trinity Church) and Rev. Hugo Villagrana (Polkton United Methodist Church).

## Anson and Chesterfield to "Battle For The Border" in Football Game this Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Chesterfield

Trophy presented by local nonprofit hospices

The Anson (NC) Bearcats and Chesterfield (SC) Rams will face off on the gridiron for the fifth annual "Battle For The Border" contest this Friday, September 7. The winning team takes possession of a trophy presented by non-profit hospices serving the two counties, Anson Community Hospice and Hospice of Chesterfield County.

"I am very proud to be associated with anything that hospice does," Anson Athletic Director James Wall said. "This is a great thing they are doing for our athletes. Chesterfield is a class act and we are excited to continue this rivalry."

Chesterfield Athletic Director Craig Hatcher added, "The Chesterfield High Athletic Department and football team are excited about continuing the competition with Anson High for the Battle For The Border trophy. We would like to thank Hospice of Chesterfield County and Anson Community Hospice for sponsoring this event for each of our athletic departments."

Anson will be looking to take possession of the trophy for the first time after falling to the Rams in the previous four attempts. Chesterfield holds a 6-2 series lead over the past eight seasons. Game time is set for 7:30 p.m. at Chesterfield High School.

"Hospice of Chesterfield County is pleased to partner with Anson Community Hospice to recognize the student-athletes at Chesterfield and Anson high schools. We look forward to continuing this tradition in the future as a way to also raise awareness about the availability of hospice care and services in our communities," Hospice of Chesterfield County Community Relations/Development Coordinator Cindy Beard said.

According to Anson Community Hospice Chaplain Chris Thornton "Anson Community Hospice is proud to partner with Hospice of Chesterfield County and support this great football rivalry." Lisa O'Neal, Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator, added, "Our goal as a non-profit organization is to educate our community on the benefits of hospice services and to provide quality compassionate care to families and patients in their time of need."

Anson Community Hospice, a division of Richmond County Hospice, Inc. and Hospice Haven, is a nonprofit "Hometown Hospice" and leader in end of life quality care in our community since 1985. Hospice of Chesterfield County is a community-based, nonprofit hospice founded by local churches and concerned citizens that has been providing compassionate care for the terminally ill since 1993. For more information contact Anson Community Hospice at (704) 695-1595 or Hospice of Chesterfield County at (843) 623-9155.



## Atrium Health Welcomes New Medical Director at Carolinas Primary Care in Wadesboro

Carolinas HealthCare System Anson provides a unique healthcare model with emergency department and primary care office together in one medical home

Atrium Health announced Donald W. Woodburn, M.D., as the new medical director at Carolinas Primary Care in Wadesboro. Woodburn began his new role earlier this summer and will continue leading primary care as part of the unique model at Carolinas HealthCare System Anson. The facility, which is part of Atrium Health, offers a community-focused model to deliver care, tailored for the residents in this region, with a continued focus on improving access to care while ensuring the right care when and where patients need it.

The Anson facility is a nationally recognized model that has increased access to care, improved care coordination and lowered the cost of care for patients. The facility is built around primary care and prevention and incorporates an emergency department with a core team of clinicians committed to healthier outcomes. Within the first year of operating the new model, emergency department visits decreased by nearly 8 percent, primary care visits increased, and we saw more appropriate utilization of the emergency department across the county.

"I look forward to working with the team in Anson to set a high standard for care, while educating patients in a county that has struggled with healthcare disparities," said Woodburn. "I believe in delivering great care at a lower cost, without cutting quality. By doing so, it will not only help the patient, but also help create a healthier community."

Woodburn has worked in internal medicine for more than 35 years. He has served as the medical director for various hospitals and centers in New York, Florida and, most recently, South Carolina. Prior to joining Carolinas Primary Care, Woodburn served as medical director at AnMed Hospitalist Services in Anderson, South Carolina.

He received his undergraduate degree in biomedical education from City College of New York and earned his medical degree from the College of Medicine at Howard University. Woodburn completed his internship at Lincoln Hospital in Bronx, New York, and his residency in internal medicine at New York- Presbyterian, Lower Manhattan Hospital, in New York City. After working in New York and Florida, Woodburn relocated to the Carolinas in 2000.

Patients who want to schedule an appointment can call 704-994-4500.



Donald W. Woodburn, M.D.

## Shop with a Cop Motorcycle Ride is Saturday

Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer has announced that the annual Shop with a Cop Motorcycle Ride will be held this Saturday, September 8. This ride raises funds that are used to help provide Christmas gifts for less fortunate kids in Anson County.

Registration will take place from 11 a.m. to 12 noon at the new Wadesboro Police Department, located at 212 South Rutherford Street. The cost is \$15 for single riders, \$20 for double riders. Lunch will be served. There will be 50/50 tickets, door prizes and lots of fun!

For more information contact Chief Thedis Spencer at 704-475-2695 or Sgt. Cannon at 704-465-8705.

## 50+ Club Meeting to Feature Daddy's Songs

Hampton B. Allen Library announces the 50+ Club meeting for Monday, September 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theatre with Dr. Leon Smith and David Napier. Leon and David will present a program of original songs with the musical theme Daddy's Songs. The program will include songs with titles: *Daddy Takes the Fear Away*; *T is for Texas*; *Daddy Knows* and *One of these Days*. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this special program.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

## Blood Drive at SPCC in Polkton September 6

Give blood and help save local lives! Donate blood with Community Blood Center of the Carolinas. Call 1-888-59-BLOOD or visit [www.cbcc.us](http://www.cbcc.us) to make an appointment at any location.

The next event coming up for Anson County will be on Thursday, September 6 at South Piedmont Community College in Polkton, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.