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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, September 7 Anson County was at 7,701 total Covid-19 cases, with 94 active cases. The total Covid-related deaths number remains at 99. On August 24 the cases number was 7,528, with 71 active.

If you are positive or currently awaiting test results, please stay home. If you are experiencing symptoms, please get tested. Please note that if you have taken a home test with positive results, you are not required to report it to the Health Department. However, if you would like to report it, you can call 704-694-5188 and they will take down your information and report in the state system.

A new COVID Testing site has been set up in Morven at the Church of God Prophecy (8447 US Hwy 52 South). Currently they are only administering PCR tests and are open Monday-Friday (9am-4pm).

You can still stop by the health department and pick up test kits to keep at home. If you aren't feeling well you can send someone and they will send some to you.

The Health Department still offers Moderna vaccine on Thursdays (Walk-In). They hope to be offering the new (Fall) Bivalent Booster Vaccines within the next few weeks. They will make an announcement when those are received and available.

The Health Department is also offering N-95 masks.

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

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-5188. You also can visit their Facebook page.

## Anson County Transportation System (ACTS) Public Input Session

The public is invited to attend a public input session to discuss the construction and building location for the new facility for the Anson County Transportation System (ACTS). The session is scheduled for 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 15 at the Anson County Government Annex (the former Pee Dee Electric facility). It is located at 575 Highway 52 South in Wadesboro.

If you are unable to attend the session you can send all comments, questions or concerns to Tanya B. Byrd, Director, at [tbyrd@ansoncountync.gov](mailto:tbyrd@ansoncountync.gov). You can also call 704-694-2596, or you can stop by Anson County Transportation System office. All comments, concerns or questions should be addressed to Byrd. Public comment ends on October 15, 2022.

## Anson Mobile Market is Saturday

This is a release from the Anson Cooperative Extension: Atrium Health Anson, Anson County Extension, Carolinas Primary Care, Anson County Health Department and WellCare have partnered in the months of September to November to offer the Anson Mobile Market. This is an event that will afford the citizens of Anson County to receive six-eight different types of fresh produce monthly. This is a free initiative, so please stop by and get some produce.

This event is to assist in the scarcity of fresh, healthy food in the county. It will also serve as an educational event to offer education on the two targeted areas of the county health assessment which are tobacco use and hypertension. Agencies will be set up offering services and information in those two targeted areas. There will be blood pressure and blood sugar checks, along with other healthy living topics. There will also be recipe cards for produce items you will receive each month to assist in cooking them.

The event will be held on the Square in uptown Wadesboro on September 15, October 20 and November 17. There will be two time intervals to pick up produce, 10:00am to 1:00pm and 3:00 to 6:00pm. This gives those that are working and get off later the opportunity to come pick up items. Items will be on hand for you to carry your produce in along with some give aways.

We hope many will come out and participate in this wonderful opportunity.

## It's Elementary School Night at the AHS Football Game Friday

All elementary school students are invited to participate

The Bearcats take on the Mt. Pleasant Tigers at home this Friday. It is a special night for Anson County elementary school students because this game is also Elementary School Night. Elementary students will walk with their school around the track before the game at 6:30 p.m. All students are asked to wear school spirit colors! The game starts at 7 p.m.

Participating elementary students report to the track by 6:10 p.m.

**Parents** Each Anson County elementary school student (K-5) will be provided one ticket for free admission to the Anson Bearcats versus Mt. Pleasant Tigers game. This ticket may only be used by the student.

School staff from each elementary school will be attending the game showing support.

Announcements will be made before the game inviting each elementary student to join other students from their school on the track to line up by school and then participate in a walk around the track showing support and cheering for our Bearcats. One adult may accompany each elementary student when they meet on the track. The adult may also walk the track with their child. Students will return to the stadium to sit with their family when the walk is complete.

Adults who accompany elementary students must pay regular admission price. Tickets will be sold in advance and can only be purchased online at the following link: [www.ansonschools.org/AHS/7679-Athletic-Tickets.html](http://www.ansonschools.org/AHS/7679-Athletic-Tickets.html).

Adults are encouraged to purchase tickets early to eliminate having to wait in line on game day. Unless you arrive extremely early, waiting to purchase tickets at the gate could result in the student not making it to the track in time for the walk.



## Anson County 4-H Livestock Draws a Crowd!

On Saturday, August 27 the Anson County Cattlemen's Association partnered with Anson County 4-H to host the 2022 4-H Farm Credit Show Circuit. The annual 4-H Farm Credit Showmanship Circuit, sponsored by Carolina Farm Credit and Cape Fear Farm Credit, provides youth ages 5 to 19 an opportunity to compete against other youth from across the region. The Showmanship classes are designed to gauge the 4-H'ers knowledge and skill with the animal. By participating in the 4-H Farm Credit Showmanship Circuit, youth learn leadership skills, record-keeping, communication and responsibility, while increasing their self-esteem.

The Anson Heifer Show was hosted in Ansonville and included 24 youth from Anson and seven surrounding counties. These youth brought with them more than 30 beef heifers to compete in the showmanship and breed classes.

Anson County participants in the Peewee Showmanship Class (non-competitive) were Clark Hayes, Nate Hatley, and Sadie Sikes. Anson County participant in the Cloverbud Showmanship Class (non-competitive) was Addie Sikes. Anson County Junior Showmanship Class participants were EB Carpenter (1st), Mason Mills (3rd), and Colton Garner (4th). In the Intermediate Showmanship, representing Anson County, Maddie Carpenter placed 1st. Anson County participants in the Senior Showmanship Class were Lynlee Martin (3rd), Clinton Mills (7th), and Abigail Underwood (8th). EB Carpenter of Anson County was also the Reserve Champion for the English Breed. Lydia Hill of Union County was the Supreme Champion and she won a weaver leather 5' showbox, galvanized steel, two doors, dolly donated by Southern States-Monroe. There are six more shows remaining in the circuit and once the circuit concludes, heifers participating in the showmanship circuit will be eligible to show at the State Fair.

Anson County 4-H Agent Samuel Cole said, "The Anson County Livestock Show continues to grow and we are both excited and thankful for all the participants, donors, parents, and supporters that help make this event possible! By participating in the 4-H Farm Credit Showmanship Circuit, youth learn leadership skills, record-keeping, communication and responsibility, while increasing their self-esteem."

Cole continued, "We would like to thank Heath Drye for allowing the show to be hosted on his property. We would also like to thank the Anson County Cattlemen's Association along with Bruce and Carla Shankle, and the various sponsors for all their hard work and support in bringing this event together."

For more information about this project and other ways that you can get involved with 4-H, contact Samuel Cole at (704) 694-2915 or by email at [srcole3@ncsu.edu](mailto:srcole3@ncsu.edu).

**About the NC Cooperative Extension** These county 4-H programs are all annual events. 4-H participation is open to all youth regardless of sex, race, religion or national origin.

## Proud Parents: Partnership Offers Interactive Playgroup

Young children and their caregivers are invited to attend the first Proud Parents playgroup for an afternoon of fun and learning together! Starting Thursday, September 22, Proud Parents, a Kaleidoscope Play and Learn playgroup, will be hosted by the Anson County Partnership for Children weekly. This program is offered free of charge.

Proud Parents is based on scientific evidence and helps families prepare their young children (birth to age 5) for success in school and life. The program is about having fun with other children and caregivers while children build social-emotional, language, cognitive, and motor development skills.

"Play is important to a child's social development, and Proud Parents offers the socialization time children need and enjoy," said Tracy Harrington, Anson County Partnership for Children. "We will provide all the exciting and developmentally-appropriate activities and toys needed for 90 minutes of fun and exploration."

Proud Parent provides an opportunity to learn about positive parent-child interaction and practice the skills in a safe space. The sessions will help parents and caregivers understand the importance of play and building a positive and secure connection with their children. Parents learn the "why" of play and the "how."

Proud Parents will alternate meeting times and locations every Thursday.

- The kick-off session will meet on Thursday, September 22, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. at Wadesboro Housing Authority, located at 200 West Short Place in Wadesboro.
- The following Thursday's session on September 29 will be held from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Partnership's Early Childhood Resource Center, located at 115 East Morgan Street in Wadesboro. Refreshments will be provided.

This is an opportunity for children not in a formal childcare setting to practice critical social-emotional skills among their peers before starting school.

Families are welcome to attend meetings at both locations, alternate between locations, or only attend meetings at one place. Caregivers will actively participate in the activities with their child(ren).

There is still time to join the fun! Proud Parents is available for caregivers who reside in Anson County. For further information, please contact Tracy Harrington at (704) 694-4036 or email [tracy.harrington@ansonchildren.org](mailto:tracy.harrington@ansonchildren.org).

## Make Plans for the Anson County Ag Expo and Fair Week

Fall is in the air and that means that Anson County Ag Expo and Fair Week is almost here.

Fair entries will be accepted at the Anson County Cooperative Extension Office (501 McLaurin St, Wadesboro) from 8:00am - 7:00pm on Thursday, September 22nd. There are multiple categories for fair entries, so there's something for everyone: Agriculture - Field Crops; Horticulture - Fruits & Vegetables, Flowers & Greenhouse Ornaments; Economics - Foods, Needlework & Clothing, and Handicrafts; Photography; Art; Blast From the Past - Needlework & Handicrafts; and lastly, In Memoriam - Needlework & Handicrafts. For further information regarding fair entries see the Anson Ag Expo & Fair '22 Rules and Regulations or contact the Extension Office at (704) 694-2915. Fair entries will be on display to the public at the Extension Office from 10:00am - 2:00pm on Saturday, September 24th; submitted items and winner's premiums will need to be picked up at 2:00pm this day as well.

Weighing for the Heirloom Watermelon Contest will be at the Extension Office from 8:00am - 7:00pm on Thursday, September 22nd. Only Moon & Stars watermelons will be accepted and considered for the heaviest grown prizes. You can also submit ≥100 saved watermelon seeds into the Heirloom Seed Bank and be entered into multiple, prize drawings.

Join the Anson County Cooperative Extension and the Brown Creek Soil & Water staff at the Wadesboro downtown square from 6:00pm - 8:00pm on Friday, September 23rd to partake in the festivities. The 2022 Family Fall Fest will have multiple food truck vendors, complimentary popcorn and snow cones, face painting, and carnival games. The hands-free watermelon eating contest will be at 6:15, the cupcake walk from 6:30 - 7:00, and dancing in the streets from 7:00 - 8:00.

The Anson Ag Expo & Fair '22 Rules and Regulations can be found online at [anson.ces.ncsu.edu/2022/07/anson-ag-fair-set-for-end-of-september](http://anson.ces.ncsu.edu/2022/07/anson-ag-fair-set-for-end-of-september).

## Betty Moore Griffin to Perform at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library will host a musical program on Monday, September 26, at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theater. Betty Moore Griffin will be the featured artist. Betty will perform country and southern gospel music. The library invites everyone to come and enjoy the program.

Face masks are optional. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

## Market on Market in Cheraw this Saturday

Market on Market will be held this Saturday, Sept. 17, from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon in downtown Cheraw. The family friendly monthly event features art, produce, food and entertainment on the Third Saturday of each month from May through the fall. Local farmers will also have produce and plants available for purchase.

There will be free art activities for kids in preparation for the upcoming SC Jazz Festival (October 13 -16).

Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission for additional information about the Market event. The office number is 843.537.8420 x 12.

## Randy Travis Music Festival is Saturday

The Marshville Chamber of Commerce presents the annual Randy Travis Music Festival. Coming Saturday, September 17, get ready for a thrilling family event; with live music, good food, games for kids, street vendors, and above all, the opportunity to socialize and enjoy the company of your friends in a fun safe environment. And, you can meet Randy!

### Lions Club Brooms Available

The Lions Club will have a complete assortment of their broom inventory for sale during the Randy Travis Music Festival in Marshville on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. They invite you to come over and say hello...and maybe purchase an excellent quality broom too! They will be in booth 61.

Brooms available there: household, soft sweeps, patio and whisk brooms. Plus they are selling raffle tickets for a \$15,000 prize!

All proceeds from the broom sales benefit the blind, visually impaired, and needy of Anson County and North Carolina. Donations are gratefully accepted.