

Fall Festival

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 5:30PM

COSTUME CONTEST AT 5:30PM FOLLOWED BY DINNER & EVENTS

This is a free community event!



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Teen Drivers Get New Option for Road Tests

Good news, bad news, parents. The good news: your teen now has more options to take their dreaded road test. The bad news: that means they might be behind the wheel sooner than you expected.

The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles (NCDMV) has started certifying private driver education schools to administer road tests for teens seeking their Level 2 Limited Provisional License. Translation: instead of spending an entire afternoon in line at the DMV, you can now spend an entire afternoon chewing your nails while your teen parallel parks in front of a stranger.

The plan is simple—let private schools handle the test, then send the successful (and hopefully careful) drivers to the DMV just to complete the paperwork. Wait times at license offices should shrink, efficiency should rise, and parents should probably stock up on chamomile tea.

The cost of these new school-based road tests? That's up to each school. So whether you pay in cash, card, or gray hairs, be prepared for a little sticker shock.

"By outsourcing some road tests to certified private driver education schools, we're providing more options for teens and their families while increasing efficiency at our driver license offices," said NCDMV Commissioner Paul Tine. In plain English: fewer cranky parents in line, fewer overwhelmed examiners, and more time for everyone to pretend they enjoy the DMV experience.

Schools are being certified through training sessions and will soon be listed on the NCDMV website. And that's not all: thanks to Senate Bill 245, teens will soon be able to upgrade from a Level 2 to a Level 3 license online. Because nothing says "peace of mind" like giving your teenager more driving privileges with the click of a button.

So buckle up, North Carolina. The roads may soon be filled with fresh drivers who've skipped the DMV line but not the teen confidence that comes with saying, "Relax, Mom, I've got this." More information at ncdot.gov/driverslicense.

Pickleball For Partnership Tournament is Saturday

Fundraising event supports children & families

Pickleball paddles are about to start popping in Mt. Gilead as the second Pickleball for Partnership fundraising tournament returns Saturday, October 4, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 127 E. Allenton Street. Organizers promise a full day of fun, food, and fast feet — all for a good cause - Anson County Partnership for Children.

Spectators are encouraged to bring a chair, cheer on the players, and maybe even practice their best "oohs" and "aahs" when someone nails a tricky shot. The Toasty Traveler food truck will serve breakfast and lunch, proving once again that the only thing better than winning a pickleball match is celebrating with a hot meal afterward.

For families, the event includes free children's activities and use of the playground beside the courts — a perfect way for kids to burn energy while parents wonder how pickleball suddenly became more popular than tennis.

Guests can also try their luck with 50/50 raffle tickets. Last year's winner walked away with over \$1,000, which, coincidentally, is enough to buy a small mountain of pickleballs. Tickets are available at the Anson County Partnership and Montgomery County Partnership offices or on the day of the event. The Anson Partnership office is located at 117 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro.

Special thanks go to Dr. Amy J. Horne for coordinating the tournament. Players are reminded to include their level of play when registering — no one wants to accidentally challenge a seasoned pro when they only just learned the difference between a dink and a drive.

"Every registration to this event brings us closer to achieving our mission of supporting the children and families of Anson and Montgomery Counties," organizers said. "Together, we can create a brighter future — one pickleball point at a time."

For more information, contact Anson County Partnership at 704-694-4036.

Funny, Random & Weird Holidays

- Oct 2 – Phileas Fogg Wager Day
- Oct 3 – World Smile Day: Flash those teeth—it's cheaper than a facelift.
- Oct 4 - Card Making Day: Glue, glitter, and a guaranteed mess on your kitchen table.
- Oct 4 – Taco Day: Finally, a holiday everyone agrees on. Pass the salsa!
- Oct 5 – Chic Spy Day: Look sharp, act mysterious. Remember martinis are optional.
- Oct 6 – Mad Hatter Day: Wear the silliest hat you own and pretend it's normal.
- Oct 7 – Frappé Day: A coffee milkshake? Don't mind if I do.



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Mon-Fri 8:30-5 Closed Saturday 8:30-1 Sunday