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The Help'n Hand Foundation Welcomes Back Toys for Tots

This is a release from Help'n Hand Foundation: Toys for Tots, a 77-year National charitable Program run by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, provides year-round joy, comfort, and hope to children in need across the Nation through the gift of a new toy or book. The impact of these toys and books offers children in need recognition, confidence, and a positive impact for a lifetime. It is such experiences that help children become responsible citizens and caring members of their community. Since 1947, the Program has evolved and grown exponentially having delivered hope and the magic of Christmas to over 301 million economically disadvantaged children. Because the need isn't just at Christmastime, the Toys for Tots Program also provides support throughout the year to families experiencing challenges and exceptional circumstances, thus fulfilling the hopes and dreams of millions of children in need beyond the holidays. The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a not-for-profit organization authorized by the U.S. Marine Corps and the Department of Defense to provide fundraising and other necessary support for the annual Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. For more information, visit www.toysfortots.org.

Hello, I'm Lamar Liles (Founder of The Help'n Hand Foundation) Asking you to join us as we begin the Anson County, NC 2024 Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. As many may recall we previously had a Toys for Tots program, due to the gap in between campaigns no funds nor inventory is available which led to

starting a completely New Local Chapter for Anson County. It also makes the need of donors even greater in order to provide toys to a child in need. This year's campaign season as well as toy request applications kicks off October 1, 2024. The Help'n Hand Foundation is working very hard to make our 2024 Toys for Tots Campaign a success, but we could never do it without the help of concerned citizens and business leaders. We rely on local businesses for assistance in several areas, including:

- Providing toy collections sites
- Assisting in the transportation and storage of toys
- Helping to promote Toys for Tots in the media
- Underwriting special events
- Providing a product or service suitable for auctioning
- Assisting with such critical services as printing

"Finding a present under the tree on Christmas morning is an experience every child deserves," said Lamar Liles, the Toys for Tots Anson County, NC Coordinator. Angela Caraway, Founder/Executive Director and staff of the Caraway Foundation has certainly done more than her fair share to help us bring that joy to children whose families have suffered so much. This has been an especially difficult year to raise toys and donations, so the Caraway Foundation effort in support of the Marine Toys for Tots program was a real godsend."

For the many volunteers who make Toys for Tots possible year after year, Toys for Tots embodies the true spirit of Christmas. The gift of a shiny, new toy - something that most children take for granted - means to a child in need that someone cares, that he/she hasn't been forgotten, that Christmas hasn't passed him/her by. The Marine Corps Reserve & The Help'n Hand Foundation believes that "Every Child deserves a Little Christmas," and we are asking you to help us send disadvantaged children of our community a message of hope this Christmas through the gift of a new toy, book, or game. If interested, We will be happy to meet with you to discuss the Toys for Tots Program in greater detail, and how you can help.

If you would like to connect with your local Toys for Tots Chapter to Host a Toy Drive, Apply for Toys, Donate Toys/Find Local Toy Collection Sites, Host a TFT Event, Local Volunteer opportunities and more, visit: anson-county-nc.toysfortots.org.

"We are very pleased to welcome Carly Little, owner of H.W. Little & Co as a local sponsor of the Anson County Marine Toys for Tots Chapter," said Liles. "Their community service goals certainly align with those the Marine Corps has promoted for nearly 77 years through our Toys for Tots Program. With their generous support we will be able to fulfill the Christmas holiday dreams of many children in need in Anson County, who otherwise might be forgotten. I would also like to Thank Ella Webster who will serve as Assistant Coordinator and Lashonda Spencer as Secretary for our local unit. These Four ladies' love for others and their community never goes unnoticed and after taking on an immense task and asking them to join me with no hesitation they stepped right in to help make this all possible. Again Thank You ladies"

Applications for grade school kids will be provided throughout the Anson County School System. Applications for 0-4 can be received from our Local Toys for Tots Campaign Main office located inside the Caraway Business & Learning Center located at 9162 US-52, Wadesboro, NC 28170. Electronically submitting a form from the local website is highly recommended but paper application will be available. A more detailed list of application pickup sites/ Toys Collection locations will be updated on the site and our Anson County Toys for Tots Facebook page. Questions or Concerns about this Ad or Anson County Toys for Tots Program you may reach the coordinator by email at Anson.County.NC@toysfortots.org or by phone at 704-294-2612.

We know from the smiles on children's faces and from the grateful appreciation of their parents, that the simple gift of a shiny, New toy - something that many take for granted - can make a tremendous difference in the life of a child. Hope is the key, and hope is what the Marine Corps Reserve is giving to children in need of America through the Toys for Tots Program.

Anson County's August Unemployment Rate

Anson County Anson County's unemployment rate for August was 4.9%, down just slightly from July's 5.0% rate. In August Anson County ranked #76 of the 100 counties statewide (low unemployment rate to high).

Anson's total labor force in August was 10,082, with 9,584 employed and 498 unemployed. In July the total labor force was 10,045, with 9,541 employed and 504 unemployed.

Statewide Statewide the unemployment rate for August was the same as July, 4.3%. Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 49 of North Carolina's counties in August 2024, decreased in 29, and remained unchanged in 22. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.4 percent while Dare County had the lowest at 3.3 percent.

Six of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases, five decreased, and four remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 6.0 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 3.5 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.3 percent.

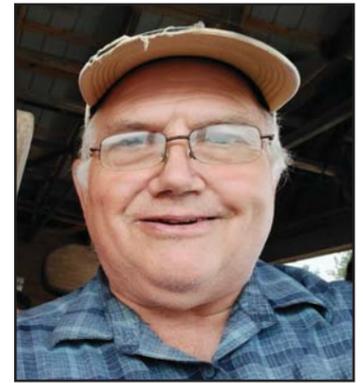
When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in all 100 counties. All fifteen metro areas experienced rate increases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in August by 46,616 to 5,028,047, while those unemployed decreased by 1,252 to 224,129. Since August 2023, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 22,985, while those unemployed increased 28,566.

Funny, Random & Weird Holidays

- Oct 4 Friday - World Smile Day
- Oct 4 Friday - Taco Day
- Oct 5 Saturday - Card Making Day
- Oct 5 Saturday - Chic Spy Day
- Oct 6 Saturday - Mad Hatter Day
- Oct 7 Monday - Frappé Day
- Oct 8 Tuesday - Pierogi Day
- Oct 8 Tuesday - Ada Lovelace Day
- Oct 9 Wednesday - Curious Events Day

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