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



#### **Anson County Board of Commissioners Meets December 17**

The Anson County Board of Commissioners will hold heir second December meeting on Tuesday, December 17. 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

The Commissioners' board meetings are live streamed on their YouTube channel. Also, the videos are archived so they can be viewed at any time. Visit youtube.com and search for Anson Commissioners.

#### Anson Mobile Food Market is Thursday

The next Anson Mobile Food Market will be held on Thursday, December 12, starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Anson County Animal Shelter, located at 7257 Highway 74 in Polkton, at the entrance to Field of Dreams.

Food will be given away, including fresh vegetables, fruit and bread (if available). There will be blood pressure and blood sugar checks, along with other healthy living topics This free event offers citizens of Anson County six to

eight different types of fresh produce monthly. This is a free initiative, so please come and get some produce. Nothing is required to receive produce, just come.

The event is sponsored by the Anson County Extension

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.

### School Board Meeting is December 16

The Anson County Board of Education will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 16. The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden

Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 3:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters related to personnel and property pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11(a)(6) and NCGS 143.318.11(a)(5). Open Session to the public will begin at 4:30 p.m.

If the public wishes to sign up for public comment, they can sign up in-person. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting begins for any individual or group to indicate their desire to address the board. Public comment will be held during the Open Session portion of the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

The meeting will be live streamed on the Anson County Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. To find the channel you can search YouTube for "Anson County

### Save Your Tabs!

The Women's Committee of the Anson County Farm Bureau is beginning a project to support the Ronald Mc-Donald House. Families are able to stay for free or reduced prices while their child is being treated at the hospital for a serious sickness or injury. The tabs may be small, but they help so many families in their time of need.

Tabs are sold to a recycling partner and the money is donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

A collection container will be at the Anson County Farm Bureau office, located at 211 Morven Road in Wadesboro. Please save your tabs from drink cans, canned foods, and even cat or dog food cans. You can drop them off at the Farm Bureau office Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to

Help us collect a million tabs for this excellent cause!



## Wadesboro Christmas Parade -**Beautiful Weather, Christmas Spirit!**

On Thursday, December 5 the Wadesboro Christmas Parade delighted onlookers with the sights and sounds of the season. The parade showcased many of our school children who were all smiles and wearing their favorite holiday attire for the occasion.

Six year old Lennon Cook who marched in front of the Anson High School Band said, "I love that song they play. It just makes me want to dance!"

Other favorites among the crowd included the Slingshot motorcycles, Anson Bearcat football team and cheerleaders, Santa Claus and the homemade floats.

The winner of the Best Homemade Float Award was Parsons Drug Company for the third consecutive year. Their Polar Express (pictured above) delighted attendees, and lots of free candy didn't hurt either! Congratulations to Parsons and to everyone else who participated in making this outstanding parade possible.

And, thank you Tami Newell and Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. for sponsoring this fan favorite holiday event for all of Anson County!

Look for lots more parade pictures in an upcoming edition of The Express!



On January 1,2025, the annual toll rate increase will include an additional rate increase for customers without a NC Quick Pass account or applicable out-of-state account. As a result, customers with an account will now save 50% on all North Carolina tolls compared to the current 35% savings.

The N.C. Turnpike Authority and NC Quick Pass have taken steps to ensure all customers have the opportunity to pay the lowest toll rate:

Launched new NC Only Account for customers to save 50% on tolls in North Carolina without the need of a transponder.

• Reduced the pre-paid balance requirement from \$20 to \$10 for new NC Quick Pass accounts.

 Launched retail partnerships to sell NC Quick Pass Sticker transponders in 7-Eleven locations near NC toll facilities and through Amazon.

 Sending 300k free transponders to customers who receive a toll invoice from NC Quick Pass between November 11, 2024 - February 28, 2025.

It costs approximately three times more to collect a toll from customers without a NC Quick Pass account compared to customers with an account. This additional increase will more appropriately allocate the higher costs to collect to customers that have chosen not to open an account, resulting in 50% savings for customers with an account.

Quick Pass encourages all customers to sign up for a NC Quick Pass acco NC Quick Pass account along with a transponder provides the most options, allowing customers to save 50% on tolls in NC and pay tolls in 19 states.

To learn more, open an account today, or receive a trasnponder visit nequickpass.com or the NC Quick Pass app.

### **Christmas Holiday Home Safety** Tips Ahead of this Year's Festive Season

With Christmas just around the corner, North Carolina Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey has compiled a list of home safety and driving tips to keep you and your family safe during the heart of the Christmas season.

The holiday season is a joyous time to enjoy festive meals with family and friends and deck the halls with beautiful Christmas decorations," said Commissioner Causey. "Folks are running errands, going shopping and traveling long distances to visit family and friends. But it's important to stay safe at all times at home and while driving to avoid potentially dangerous accidents. Use of candles and fireplaces, combined with an increase in the amount of combustible,

seasonal decorations in many homes during the holidays, means increased risk for fire.

The National Fire Protection Association reports that one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles and that two of every five decoration fires happen because the decorations are placed too close to a heat source. To cut down on this risk, Commissioner Causey offers the following tips to avoid a

fire in your house: · Place candles where they cannot be knocked down or blown over and out of

- reach of children.
- Keep matches and lighters up high and out of reach of children in a locked cabinet. • Use flameless, rather than lighted, candles near flammable objects.
- Do not burn Christmas trees, wreaths or wrapping paper in the fireplace. • Use a screen on the fireplace at all times when a fire is burning.
- Never leave candles or fireplaces burning unattended or when asleep.
- Check and clean the chimney and fireplace area at least once a year. • Do not plug in too many lights into a single electrical outlet, this can cause an overload

According to the American Safety Council, most traffic accidents occur between the afternoon of Christmas Eve and the evening of Christmas Day. Data shows traffic accidents and fatalities decline when Christmas falls on a weekday instead of weekend,

It's important to keep wires away from heat sources such as space heaters and fireplaces.

like it does this year.

- Commissioner Causey offered the following safety tips to keep your family safe on the roads during the holidays: Drive slowly. It's harder to control or stop your vehicle on an ice or snow-covered
- Increase your following distance so that you'll have plenty of time to stop for vehicles
- Always wear your seat belt and ensure that everyone else in your vehicle is buckled up.
- · Know whether your vehicle has an anti-lock brake system. Anti-lock brake systems prevent your wheels from locking up during braking. If you have anti-lock brakes, apply need to pump the brakes if your wheels start to lock up.

firm, continuous pressure to the brake pedal. If you don't have anti-lock brakes, you may To receive regular email correspondence from Commissioner Causey and NCDOI, signup at www.ncdoi.gov.

# Parks and Rec **Master Plan** Community Workshop

Aaron and Sadie Shaver (above) of Parsons Drug

Company spread joy - and candy - to the delight of all.

Anson County is updating its 2000 System-wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan. This new Master Plan will establish a vision for future park and recreation development for Anson County for the next 10 years. The community's input and support is

important to the plan.

sharing sessions have happened. Please attend the last workshop on Thursday, December 12 if possible. It takes place trom 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. You can learn about, and contribute, to the future of Parks and Recreation in Anson County. Thursday, December 12 at Ingram Room, Lockhart-Taylor Center. 514 North Washington

Two of three information-

Street in Wadesboro For info contact Parks and Recreation Director Wendell Small at (704) 695-2782 or wsmall@ansoncountync.gov.

### 2024 Anson County **Community Survey**

Anson County is seeking your input. Share your opinion and help shape the county's future.

Why participate? Guide Anson County's

- short & long-term priorities • Give feedback on current
- county services • Share your perspectives on the county's overall qual-

ity of life Who can take part? All Anson County stakeholders are welcome to participate, whether residents, business

owners or employees. The survey is anonymous. How do I participate? Scan the QR code on their Facebook page using the camera on your smart phone and follow the

prompt to the secure website, or visit: surveymonkey.com

/r/AnsonCounty2024 Complete the survey by December 13, 2024.

Questions? Call 704-994-3201 for information.