

Anson Schools' Christmas Giving Angel Tree Project

Gifts and groceries provided for 75 children and their families through generous community support

This is a release submitted by Anne Trexler Hyatt of Anson County Schools: Employees of Anson County Schools' Central Office, First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, Jon G's Barbecue in Peachland, Loba-Wakol in Wadesboro, Uwharrie Bank, numerous community members, civic organizations including the Anson Women's League, and anonymous donors recently provided Christmas gifts and groceries to around 75 children and their families in Anson County Schools through the Anson County Schools' Christmas Giving Angel Tree Project. Additionally, a generous monetary donation from Jon G's Barbecue, including a trailer full of unwrapped toys, allowed us to provide food and groceries to all 34 families this year.

We were blown away by the generous donation from the campaign Jon G's organized when their owners (Kelly and Jon) had a vision again this year to raise money for groceries and food for needy children and their families in our schools. They had an overwhelming response to their campaign from across North Carolina and other states. On Wednesday, December 15, Kelly and Jon gave First Presbyterian Church a donation for over \$1,400 to go toward the purchase of groceries for each family. First Presbyterian Church had previously set aside \$500 plus donations from church members. With both Jon G's donation and the church's contribution, over 15 buggies full of groceries were purchased to serve needy families.

Let it be known that we have the best Food Lion employees in Wadesboro. There was a team of cashiers, baggers and managers checking out the 15+ buggies. Everyone (including customers at Food Lion) worked as a team to help fill vehicles full of groceries. It was a heart-warming sight!

Any donations that came in after December 18 are used toward the Blessing Bag Project at First Presbyterian Church. The Blessing Bag Project (initiated by the children of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro several years ago), provides enough food each week for 25 children to take home during the weekend. The grocery bags are filled with food and placed in their bookbags for students to take home.

We were humbled by the generosity of the local community, people throughout North Carolina and beyond in making sure our children and their families had a wonderful Christmas this year. And, we were endlessly blessed to see the precious smiles from youngsters and see the tears and hear words of thankfulness from their mothers, grandmothers, and fathers as families received their gifts.

It was equally moving to hear excitement of the employees and citizens who contributed toward this project. Each person and business gave so willingly while knowing very little about the child - beyond his or her gender and age - for whom they had purchased gifts or donated beyond their feeding. It's much more wonderful to give than to receive, and a lot of people made 2021 a great Christmas for so many children. The hope and joy given to the families is priceless!

A BIG THANK YOU goes to the school guidance counselors, social workers, nurses and principals; it wouldn't have been possible without your willingness to work with the families and provide gift information for the project. Lastly, a special thanks to First Presbyterian Church members who worked behind the scenes, our central office staff and custodial crew for helping transport gifts and for helping make this project a success through their amazing teamwork.



Better Business Bureau Offers Tips for Holiday Returns and Exchanges

Holiday returns aren't easy! And we don't mean the part where you return the sweater she gave you.

Stores are not legally required to accept exchanges or give refunds, unless the merchandise was defective or misrepresented. While most retailers do offer refund and exchange programs, policies vary greatly from one store to another. Fortunately for shoppers, one positive outcome of the COVID-19 pandemic is that many retailers have become more lenient in their return policies. But be sure to double check policies this holiday season, even if you are familiar with the brand, as stores can change their policies whenever they want.

The following tips should help your holiday returns run more smoothly.

- Get to know store policies. Before you make a purchase, find out if the store has a return policy and, if so, how it works. Understand that many retailers change their policies for the holiday season. If the store does allow returns or exchanges, find out if you will need to pay a restock fee. Ask the staff if they offer cash refunds, exchanges, or only store credit. Store policies are usually posted at the check-out counter or printed on the back of receipts.
- Understand online store return policies. If you are shopping online, search for the seller's return policy and read it through before clicking "buy." Find out if they accept returns or exchanges, and who pays the shipping when an item is returned. In some cases, you can save on shipping fees by returning an online purchase to the local brick-and-mortar store.
- Get the details on a product's warranty. Most electronics and home appliances come with warranties that are to be fulfilled with the manufacturer, not the retailer. Find out how returns and repairs are handled if an item stops working or needs replacement parts. Will the retailer ship the item to the manufacturer for you? Or will you need to deal with the manufacturer directly? Knowing the answers will leave you well-prepared for any future issues.
- Keep your receipt and packaging. Most stores will only accept returns and exchanges if you can present the item with its receipt and original packaging. Always include a gift receipt with items you give and hold on to any gift receipts you receive.
- Bring your ID. To avoid holiday return scams, many stores ask to see your ID when you return an item. Sometimes retailers require you to bring your ID and the original form of payment. If this is the policy of the store where your gift is from, you may need the assistance of the gift giver in order to be reimbursed.
- Make returns in a timely fashion.

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Dr. Gary Henry



Brandi S. Queen, FNP-C

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TOWN OF MORVEN JOB NOTICE FULL TIME MAINTENANCE POSITION

The Town of Morven is now accepting applications to fill the position for Full-Time Maintenance.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, possess a driver's license with a good driving record, pass a drug test, and criminal background.

Duties include but are not limited to reading water meters, fixing leaks, and checking sewer pump stations. Any mechanical, electrical and plumbing experience will be helpful in determining the desired applicant.

Applications must be received by December 31, 2021, at 3 p.m. They can be picked up at Morven Town Hall between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. No Calls Please.

The Town of Morven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

New Arrivals

We have **HEATERS**
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Anson County Tax Collector PROPERTY TAX BILLS

DON'T LET PAYING PROPERTY TAXES BE A YEAR END BURDEN



You may mail payment to:

Anson County Tax Collector
101 South Greene Street, Wadesboro, NC 28170

Or you may visit our office and pay with cash, check, money order, credit / debit card. Or pay online at www.co.anson.nc.us.

The Tax Collector office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call 704-994-3218 for payment information.

A drop box on the Greene Street side of our building is available for after-hours delivery.

Feel free to break tax payments into partial payments that better fit your personal budget, but please be sure to complete payment by January 6, 2022. We hope you can use this extra time for budgeting tax payments over the next weeks.

Interest and fees on outstanding taxes will begin January 6, 2022.

Please settle taxes in a timely manner and avoid costly interest and advertising fees. Thanks to the many who have already paid 2021 taxes.

Thank you, Anson County Tax Collections

ANSON COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR • 101 South Greene Street
Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-994-3218