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

No New Reported Cases of Covid in Anson Since March 29

According to the latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department on Monday, April 4, Anson County was still at 6,562 total Covid-19 cases, the same number as reported on March 29. No information was released on active cases.

Covid Vaccines are available for everyone 5 years old and older, including walk-in clinics. (Children 5-11 by appointment only.) Vaccine boosters are available. They are free, and all you have to do is call the Health Department at 704-694-5188 for more information. Walk-in clinics are held on Thursdays, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m.

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro.

Covid Testing Free testing is available Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. without an appointment. They are closed for lunch 12 noon to 1 p.m. Testing takes place in the old hospital parking lot at 500 Morven Road in Wadesboro. No appointment is needed and there is no charge for the Covid test. Results will be called or emailed directly to the person tested or, in the case of children, to their parent or adult caregiver, in 2-3 days. They will test anyone over the age of 1.

Free home Covid tests are available by mail. The government website is www.covidtests.gov or call 800-232-0233.

Tornado Touched Down in Burnsville Area Last Thursday

On Thursday, March 31, as Anson County suffered high winds and storm conditions, a tornado touched down southeast of Burnsville at about 1:22 p.m. The tornado, classified as EF-2, had peak winds up to 120 miles per hour. It continued on a path to the northeast, remaining on the ground most of the time until it finally lifted approximately 1.5 miles southeast of Cottonville in Stanly County. The tornado's path was approximately 200 yards wide, and it traveled about 7.6 miles.

There were no fatalities or injuries.

The worst of the damage occurred at approximately 1:27 p.m. when the tornado was 1.5 miles east-northwest of Burnsville. Damage there consisted of a brick home that was shifted off of its foundation, several exterior walls were blown out, and more than half of the roof was removed. A nearby chicken farm also suffered severe damage and the loss of many chickens.

Tornado classifications: EF-0 Weak 65-85 mph; EF-1 Weak 86-110 mph; EF-2 Strong 111-135 mph; EF-3 Strong 136-165 mph; EF-4 Violent 166-200 mph; EF-5 Violent over 200 mph.

Do You Have Concerns About Falling?

A Matter of Balance class is free and can reduce the fear of falling and increase the activity levels of older adults who have concerns about falling. The Matter of Balance classes help participants learn to:

- view falls and fear of falling as controllable
- set realistic goals for increasing activity
- change their environment to reduce fall risk factors
- promote exercise to increase strength and balance

The Matter of Balance Class is designed to benefit community-dwelling older adults who:

- are concerned about falls
- have sustained a fall in the past
- restrict activities because of concerns about falling
- are interested in improving flexibility, balance and strength
- are age 60 or older, ambulatory and able to problem-solve

All participants are welcome, respected and valued. Please contact Grace Senior Center to request accommodations.

Grace Senior Center is offering A Matter of Balance Managing Concerns About Falls. The class starts Monday, April 11 and runs through Wednesday, May 4. Classes will meet twice a week for four weeks on Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Grace Senior Center. Call Wanda Talbert at (704) 694-6616 to register or for additional information about the class.

Grants Available for Teachers with 'Bright Ideas' through Pee Dee Electric

Starting April 1, teachers can apply for Bright Ideas education grants from Pee Dee Electric. The electric cooperative is providing grants of up to \$2,000 to bring creative learning projects to life and enhance education for local students. Teachers can apply online at www.ncbrightideas.com.

Pee Dee Electric will be awarding Bright Ideas grants to local teachers for the 2022-2023 school year, funding K-12 classroom projects in all curriculum areas, including art, history, math, reading, science and technology. Educators can apply as individuals or as a team. They must include a budget, project goals, implementation plan and description of how the project will engage students and enhance their success.

Since 1994, Pee Dee Electric has issued more than \$297,000 in grants, making possible 234 projects that have benefited students across Anson, Montgomery, Moore, Scotland, Stanly, Richmond, and Union counties.

The Bright Ideas education grant program is a shared initiative of all 26 electric co-ops in North Carolina. Collectively, Pee Dee Electric and North Carolina's electric cooperatives have issued more than \$14.3 million supporting 13,536 projects benefiting well over 2.8 million students statewide.

The final deadline to apply is Thursday, September 15. Interested applicants are encouraged to visit the website: www.pdemc.com/bright-ideas-grant-program to find details on submission requirements. For more information about the program and grant-writing tips, please visit www.ncbrightideas.com.

Pee Dee Electric is a not-for-profit cooperative whose goal is to provide reliable, dependable electric service for its members while focusing on value, quality customer service, and enhancing life in the communities they serve. Pee Dee's service area consists of Anson, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Scotland, Stanly, and Union counties. For more information about Pee Dee Electric, please visit www.pdemc.com.



Anson County 4-H Robowolves are Back in Action!

On Saturday, January 8 the Anson County 4-H robotics club kicked off their robotics season after a one-year hiatus due to Covid. The last time the Robowolves competed was two years ago at the FIRST Robotics district competition at UNC-Pembroke when they placed First.

Although going through a rebuild season, the 3661 RoboWolves were excited about brainstorming, designing, and building a robot for this year's competition. 4-H Club Leader and Anson Senior High science teacher Steffany Labree continues to do an amazing job providing an awesome learning opportunity for youth and she is optimistic about the season.

Applications Open for HBCU Internship, Fellowship Programs

The N.C. Department of Transportation is now accepting applications for the 2022 Historically Black Colleges and Universities internship and fellowship programs.

NCDOT's HBCU and Minority Institutions of Higher Education (MIHE) Internship Program provides hands-on experience for students attending HBCUs or Minority-Serving Institutions (MSI). Interns and fellows could learn about photogrammetry, drone technology, engineering and computations.

Internships The summer internship program is an ideal way for graduate and undergraduate students to gain work experience with the NCDOT, while learning what a career in the transportation industry can offer.

The internships also include professional development workshops on résumé building, business writing, networking and other work skills.

Fellows Applicants who apply to the Fellows program must have graduated within the past three years with a bachelor's degree or master's degree from one of North Carolina's HBCUs or MSIs. Fellows serve a two-year commitment within a selected NCDOT business unit and assist with everyday tasks and special projects.

Participants learn about every aspect of transportation, from building and maintaining roads to flying drones to managing the state ferry system. They also receive free trainings and opportunities to network with transportation professionals. Fellows are considered full-time temporary employees at NCDOT. The program helps develop a pool of qualified individuals for potential permanent positions within NCDOT and the transportation sector.

Applications HBCU internship applications will be accepted through April 14 and the fellowship applications will be accepted through April 15. Students who are selected for a fellowship will begin on May 31. Those selected for an internship will begin on June 13. To apply visit: governmentjobs.com/careers/northcarolina?keywords=HBCU.

If you are interested in learning more information, go to HBCU Outreach Initiatives and Programs at www.ncdot.gov.

Board of Education Budget Development Workshop is April 12

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their Budget Development Workshop on Tuesday, April 12 at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

Anson County Schools Covid Dashboard					April 1, 2022
Location/Site	Quarantined Students	Quarantined Employees	Positive Cases Students	Positive Cases Employees	
Anson Early College High School	0	0	0	0	
Anson High School	0	0	0	0	
Anson Middle School	0	0	0	0	
Ansonville Elementary	0	0	0	0	
Lilesville Elementary	0	0	0	0	
Morven Elementary	0	0	0	0	
Peachland-Polkton Elementary	0	0	0	0	
Wadesboro Elementary	1	0	0	0	
Wadesboro Primary	0	0	0	0	
District Office	N/A	0	N/A	0	
Transportation	N/A	0	N/A	0	
Maintenance	N/A	0	N/A	0	
Child Nutrition/Cafeteria Employees	N/A	0	N/A	0	
Total	1	0	0	0	
Total Students + Employees	1		0		

*Student Enrollment as of 04/01/22	2,949	# of Employees	513
*Enrollment changes daily		% of Employees Positive	0.00%
% of Students Positive	0.00%	A link to the dashboard is on the Anson County Schools Facebook page.	

Murder is a Fine Art Opens Saturday at Wingate University

Love a good mystery? Join students from Wingate University to help solve one this coming Saturday or Monday evening. *Murder is a Fine Art* is slated for 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 9 and Monday, April 11 in the Batte Center Rotunda.

The play is set at the Creative Connection Art Gallery, where renowned impressionist Pete Casso is preparing to unveil his latest masterpiece, Black Cat At Midnight, and art critic Libby LaBelle has her pen poised to pan not just the painting, but the entire event. The evening takes a turn when someone mysteriously drops dead.

"It will be up to the audience to interrogate the six suspects to discover who had the means, motive and opportunity to commit the crime," says Barbara Pann, the communication professor who is directing the play, a production of the University's Department of Communication and Art.

Pann says the cast of *Murder is a Fine Art* includes students from a variety of academic majors.

The interactive murder mystery is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. Call 704-233-8300 to reserve a seat.

The Batte Center is located at 403 North Camden Road in Wingate.

Lions Club Meets

The Wadesboro Lions Club meets at the Papa Joe's Restaurant the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

For more information about these meetings or becoming a member, please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.