# MAY 8, 2024 • VOLUME 35, ISSUE NO. 1817

205 West Morgan Street • Wadesboro, NC 28170 • 704-694-2480 • The Express News@gmail.com • www.The Express Newspaper.com Serving Anson County and the Municipalities of Ansonville, Lilesville, McFarlan, Morven, Peachland, Polkton and Wadesboro.

#### The Anson NAACP Meets May 19

The Anson County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) meets at 5:00 p.m. every 3rd Sunday of each month at the HOLLA! Center in Morven. The next meeting will be on Sunday, May 19. They welcome you to come and see what is going on. "Each one reach one."

The HOLLA! Community Center is located at 229 East Main Street in Morven.

For more information contact Anson NAACP President Sinic Marsh at mrshs6@yahoo.com or 704-254-0630.

#### **Board of Education Called Meeting**

The Anson County Board of Education will hold a called neeting on Monday, May 13 at 8:45 a.m. to discuss matters related to personnel and property. The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

#### **Atrium Health Women's Care** Mobile Health Event is May 18

'Drive to Thrive' provides a wide range of services

Atrium Health Women's Care Drive to Thrive is mobile care unit that provides a range of women's care services in a warm, welcoming environment. It will take place in the front lot of Atrium Health Anson on Saturday, May 18, from 9:00 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Atrium Health Anson is located at

2301 US Highway 74 West in Wadesboro.

Services include:

Cervical cancer screening (Pap smear)

Screening for urinary tract infections

 Screening and treatment for sexually transmitted infections Birth control (contraception), including same-day access to long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs), like

intrauterine devices (IUDs) First-time prenatal visits, if not established with an

OB/GYN • Postpartum visits • Ultrasounds Mammogram referrals
Social worker is

on-site to help connect with other resources Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are recommended. Call 704-468-0137 to schedule an appointment.

Visit AtriumHealth.org/MobileHealth or scan the QR code for the Drive to Thrive mobile health schedule, locations and more information. The website includes information on the Community Sliding Fee Discount Program that can provide up to a full 100% discount for qualifying patients.

#### Anson County AA Meeting Schedules

The Anson County Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Group meets on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. for an Open Topic Meeting. (Except the 2nd Monday of each month is an Open Big Book Study.)

The Harmony Group meets on Wednesdays at 12 noon for an Open Discussion Meeting.

Anyone who thinks they may have a problem with drugs or alcohol, AA wants to help.

All meetings are held at the AA Building, located at 2177 Country Club Road in Wadesboro, across from the EMS building. Meetings are non-smoking and handicap accessible.





Morven Elementary School Students Visit the Wildlife Refuge

On Monday, April 29 third grade students from Morven Elementary School spent time at the Pee Dee Wildlife Refuge learning about aquatic organisms and animals living in the pond. Students identified bones of animals after dissecting owl pellets and also discussed the different soil types in Anson County.

After lunch, students made a craft, learned about our solar system, and played a predator/prey game! It was a great day at the Refuge!

#### Public Meeting Thursday for Proposed Wadesboro Bypass

The N.C. Department of Transportation invites the public to learn more about a project in development to build a freeway on a new location between Polkton and Lilesville in Anson County. The Department is starting up environmental studies on possible corridor options to help improve congestion near Wadesboro and boost traffic flow and freight transportation between Charlotte and Wilmington.

The anticipated start date is 2030, with a cost of approximately \$275 million.

The U.S. 74 corridor is part of the National Truck Network, making it a popular route for truck traffic. Adding seasonal travelers to the coast creates congestion in areas like downtown Wadesboro and Anson High School. NCDOT is considering bypass alternatives both to the north and south, likely consisting of a four-lane, median divided roadway. Detailed design alternatives will emerge as development progresses

A public, drop-in style meeting will be held from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. this Thursday, May 9 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center, located at 514 North Washington Street in Wadesboro, inside the Ingram Banquet Room. People may attend the meeting at any time to discuss the project with NCDOT staff. There will not be a formal presentation.

NCDOT needs your assistance to identify possible corridors to be studied. Please consider these questions and opportunities for you to provide what you feel will be a good location for a corridor.

Who would benefit from a bypass?
How might the project impact you?

People who cannot attend the meeting may submit comments in writing, by email and by phone through June 7. All comments received will be reviewed and considered as the development process continues.

More information and project maps are available on the NCDOT Public Input website, ncdot.publicinput.com/G1023.

To send comments or learn more, email Wadesboro-Bypass@publicinput.com or call 984-205-6615, Code 4762. People can mail comments to NCDOT Project Development Team Lead Bryan Key at 1582 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C., 27699-1582.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this meeting. Anyone requiring special services should contact Alecia Hardy at 919-707-6072 or ext-arhardy@ncdot.gov so arrangements can be made.

People who speak Spanish and have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting. Call 800-481-6494. Additonal Information Economic prosperity will be promoted by supporting the efficiency of transport logistics and economic development throughout the state for economic regions and clusters of existing and emerging activity centers U.S. 74 has three locations currently on the 2023 NCDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program list as potentially hazardous intersections. There were 841 crashes from 2018 to 2023 (15% involving freight traffic) Traffic volumes in Anson County on U.S. 74 west of U.S. 52 (No-build):

### **Anson Mobile Food Market** is May 16

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The next Anson Mobile Food Market will be held on Thursday, May 16, starting at 4:00 p.m. at Peachland-Polkton Elementary School, located at 9633 Highway 74 East, between Polkton and Peachland. 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 and booths.

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 for you to receive produce, just come.

The event is sponsored by the Anson County Extension and its partners.

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.



## Break-In at Tractor Supply. BB Guns, **BBs and CO2 Cartridges Stolen**

Wadesboro Police have charged a juvenile with breaking into and stealing from Tractor Supply during the early morning hours of Wednesday, May 1. Police were called to this business for an alarm activation where they found the front doors had been damaged and opened. Tractor Supply identified several BB guns, BB's and CO2 cartridges as the items stolen.

Officers and Investigators began following up on leads and were able to identify the juvenile offender. Investigators believe the juvenile acted alone and do not expect to charge anyone else. Due the suspect's age, no identifying information will be released.

Investigators were able to recover the stolen property and return it to Tractor Supply.

## Health Department Offers Information for Pregnant Women and New Mothers

Are you pregnant or just recently had a baby?

The Anson Health Department invites you to come by and see their Health Educator Noelia Chumpitaz for a short and informative educational session. The information will be beneficial to you and your baby.



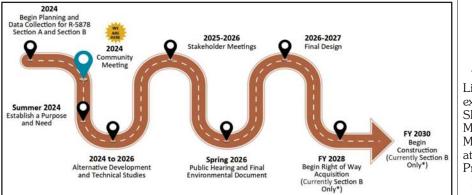
Everyone who participates will receive a gift just for attending the educational session. And, you will be entered into a raffle to win the prize pictured here.

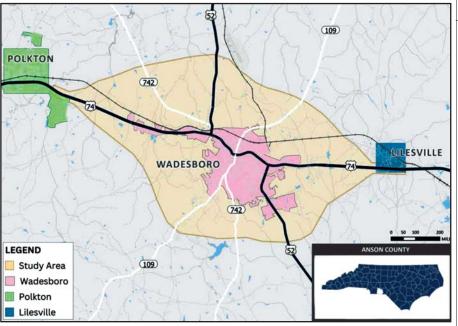
For more information call (704)994-3381

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. You can also find them on Facebook.

- 2022: 20,000 to 28,000 vehicles per day (vpd)
- 2045: 26,000 to 36,700 vehicles per day

Congested areas are often near resources such as Downtown Wadesboro and Anson High School, but are primarily related to the influx of seasonal travelers and freight traffic





#### Wadesboro Police Step Up Traffic Enforcement

Speeding is the leading cause for vehicle collisions. Officers from the Wadesboro Police Department will be conducting traffic enforcement in high crash areas in town. Be sure to buckle up...and slow down!

# **Chair Exercise Classes** at the Library

The Hampton B. Allen Library is hosting chair exercise classes with instructor Sheila Raye on Thursday, May 16 and Thursday, May 30. The classes begin at 10:00a.m. in the library's Pritchett Room

Everyone is welcome. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

# Hampton B. **Allen Library Music Program** Monday, May 13

The Hampton B. Allen Library will have a music program Monday, on May 13 at 10:30 a.m. in the library's Little Theater. The guest artist will be Randy Collins, Anson Economic Development Executive Director. Randy will be doing a mix of bluegrass and country music. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the music.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

VOTE MAY 14 **2ND PRIMARY ELECTION INFO ON PAGE 3**