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

Covid Update for Anson County

According to the latest information posted by the Anson County Health Department on Wednesday, July 27 there were 7,225 total Covid-19 cases, with 165 active and 99 deaths.

If you are positive or currently awaiting test results, please stay home. If you are experiencing symptoms, please get tested.

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

The telephone number is 704-694-5188.

Gregory Rashun Flowers Charged with First Degree Murder

This is a news release from the Polkton Police Department: The Polkton Police Department has been investigating an incident that occurred Saturday morning, July 23 on Rosa Lane in Polkton. During the course of the investigation leads were followed up on and interviews done. The investigation led to the arrest of Gregory Rashun Flowers on charges from this incident to include First Degree Murder. Flowers is being held at the Anson County Jail under no bond.



First and Foremost the Polkton Police Department would like to send their prayers and condolences to the Smith family. Second we would like to thank the Anson County Sheriff's Office, Wadesboro Police Department, NC SBI, Union County Sheriff's Office and all officers at Polkton Police Department for their assistance and resources during this investigation.

This is still an ongoing investigation and anyone with any information can contact the Polkton Police Department (704-272-7463) or NC SBI with any information.

Three Wanted Men Arrested on July 29

On Friday, July 29 the Wadesboro Police Department, along with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and the Anson County Sheriff's Office, conducted an operation that resulted in the arrest of three wanted persons. All three men were found hiding in the same apartment at Oak Hill Apartments in Wadesboro, and were taken into custody without incident. During the arrest, a firearm was recovered and charges related to that are still pending.

Two of the three men had North Carolina issued arrest warrants, while the other had a United States federal arrest warrant.

Arrested were:

- Kalib Dashan Howard of Wadesboro, date of birth 08/07/2001. Charged with Attempted 1st Degree Murder; Assault with a Deadly Weapon with Intent to Kill Inflicting Serious Injury; Possession of Firearm by Felon. Placed under \$1,000,000 bond.
- Quatay Willoughby of Monroe, date of birth 01/17/2000. Charged with Possession of a Stolen Firearm; Carrying a Concealed Weapon. Placed under a \$5,000 bond.
- Antwone JaMillius Howard of Wadesboro, date of birth 04/12/2000. Charged with Federal Arrest Warrant for Supervised Release Violation. No Bond/Release not authorized.



Kalib Dashan Howard



Quatay Willoughby



Antwone JaMillius Howard



Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge and Tourism Authority Host Tribute to Nancy Cornwell

On Wednesday, July 13 the Anson County Tourism Development Authority of hosted a ceremony at the Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge to honor and remember longtime board member and friend of the refuge Nancy Cornwell. Cornwell and her husband Milton Cornwell owned and operated Sullivan Place Bed and Breakfast in Wadesboro for many years.

The TDA has installed a bench in memory of Nancy Cornwell at Sullivan Pond. Mrs. Cornwell's daughter was on hand to accept the honor and share some remembrances of her mother and their frequent visits to the refuge, which is located on property her family once farmed.

State Announces Record \$789.4M for Drinking Water and Wastewater Project Funding Statewide

Unprecedented 385 projects for 225 NC Applicants, including Anson County and local towns

Governor Roy Cooper announced that communities statewide will receive a record \$789.4 million in water and wastewater infrastructure funding to help pay for 385 projects statewide, including 140 construction projects.

- Anson County received two fundings: Wastewater AIA for \$100,000 and Water AIA for \$300,000.
- The Town of Lilesville received \$4,537,830 in funding for Phase 4 Water Improvements.
- The Town of Peachland received \$5,709,055 in funding for Phase 1 Water Improvements.
- The Town of Wadesboro received two fundings: \$200,000 in funding for Water AIA and \$9,556,500 for Collection System Improvements.

"Clean drinking water is necessary for healthy families and thriving communities and businesses," said Governor Roy Cooper. "The historic level of investment provided by the American Rescue Plan will help increase resiliency, support economic growth in our state and improve access to clean water in the communities that need it most."

The Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Water Infrastructure received more than 700 applications from 94 of North Carolina's 100 counties, requesting more than \$3.1 billion. This funding round included the first awards of American Rescue Plan Act water and wastewater funding on the state level, as well as \$174,846,696 in funds that were appropriated in the 2022-23 state budget, signed by Governor Cooper on July 11, 2022.

"These funds will replace aging infrastructure and help utilities remain viable, which benefits the health and economic well-being of communities across our state," said DEQ Secretary Elizabeth S. Biser.

The Division of Water Infrastructure website (deq.nc.gov) features a map illustrating the statewide distribution of funded projects in the Spring 2022 funding round.

The State Water Infrastructure Authority approved the awards during the July 14 meeting. Funding this round also came from the Viable Utility Reserve and the Drinking Water and Wastewater State Reserves, funded from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds allocated to the State, and the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds. Projects funded from the Viable Utility Reserve are conditional upon approval by the Local Government Commission.

The Authority is an independent body with primary responsibility for awarding federal and state funding for water and wastewater infrastructure projects. Other responsibilities include developing a state water infrastructure master plan, recommending ways to maximize the use of available loan and grant funding resources, and examining best and emerging practices.

The application period for the next round of funding for water and wastewater infrastructure projects, which will include the first ARPA stormwater funding, ends on Sept. 30 at 5:00 p.m. The application training schedule is available at: deq.nc.gov.

Ghost: The Musical Opens Friday at the Ansonia Theatre

The Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro is proud to be making the regional debut of *Ghost: The Musical*, opening this weekend, August 5-7. The play will also run the following weekend, August 12-14.

Based on the Oscar winning film, this stage version follows the love story of Sam and Molly. After being murdered on the street Sam is left stuck between worlds as he finds out who his killer is, and that Molly's life is in danger. He seeks the help of psychic Oda Mae Brown who reluctantly agrees to help Sam uncover the truth about his death.

Taking on the role of Sam is stage newcomer Nathan Jenkins of Chesterfield. Molly will be played by stage veteran Kimberly Smith of Marshville. Lance Barber of Rockingham is cast as Carl and Nekeisha Lindsey stars as Oda Mae Brown. The supporting cast includes Logan Tallman, Chipper Long, Amanda Traywick, Cice Summers, AJ Summers, Cleve Baxley, Karen Johnston, Ayla Perkins, Teri Brown, Mark Traywick, Donald Perkins, Glenn Caulder, Donnie Lewis, Tae Liles, Greyson Helms, Nautica Patton, Rachel Kostelnik, Jernnifer Gilmore and Maggie Gibson.

The show is directed by Tommy Wooten, with Gail Litaker as Musical Director and Vera Holsey as Choreographer. Sound and lights by April McGinnis and the Stage Manager is Robert Graves.

With a hauntingly beautiful score this show has songs that will reach the soul and tingle the senses including the Righteous Brothers classic hit *Unchained Melody*. Don't miss this show!

Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Get your tickets at ansoniatheatre.com or call 704-694-4950.



Ghost: The Musical stars Nathan Jenkins & Kimberly Smith

Auditions for Upcoming Ansonia Play

The Ansonia Theatre will be holding auditions for the longest running show in history, *The Mousetrap* by Agatha Christie. Director Tommy Wooten is looking for five men and three women. You must be able to learn or speak with a British accent.

Here is the character breakdown: Mollie Ralston-30's; Giles Ralston- 30's; Christopher Wren- 20; Mrs. Boyle- 40-60; Major Metcalf- 50-70; Mrs. Casewell- 20's; Mr. Paravicini- 40-70; and Detective Trotter- 20's.

Auditions are Tuesday, August 9 at 6 p.m. at the theatre, located at 112 South Rutherford Street in uptown Wadesboro.

Wooten said, "We will be reading from the script. See you at the theatre!"

For questions call 704-694-4950.

Bach's Lunch To Go is August 17

The Anson County Arts Council invites you to enjoy a delicious lunch while supporting the arts. The next Bach's Lunch takes place on Wednesday, August 17, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The menu includes lunch, dessert and a drink, and it is curb-side pickup at the Arts Council's Drake Gallery & Studio. The cost is \$15 per plate.

Please text your order to 704-221-3038 or call 704-694-4950.

The Drake Gallery is located at 108 South Rutherford Street in uptown Wadesboro, next door to the Ansonia Theatre.

Benefit Yard and Hot Dog Sale for Monica Williams is Saturday

Everyone is invited to a fundraiser benefit for Monica Williams that will be held on Saturday, August 6 on the Square in uptown Wadesboro, at the corner of Wade and Greene Streets. The time is 7 a.m. until. There will be a yard sale and a hot dog sale featuring grilled hot dogs, chips and a drink for only a \$5 donation. There will be delicious cake slices for \$2.

Come out for fellowship, good deals at the yard sale and some good food, with all proceeds going to a great cause.

Any donations will be gratefully accepted. For information contact Rhonda at 704-475-0050 or Toforya at 704-690-5071.

HMOC Back to School Car & Motorcycle Show is Saturday

Harvest is now gearing up for the huge Annual Back to School Car and Motorcycle Show that will be held on Saturday, August 6, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot. This free admission event will feature vendors, bounce houses prizes, local businesses...as well as a pop-up shop in the City Reach Community Center with over 15 vendors and counting.

For more information or to enter your car or motorcycle into the car show check out:

hmoccarshow.weebly.com or contact David Mowry at 910-434-6440.

Next Week is National Health Center Week

ARMS is offering free Covid rapid testing and vaccinations on Tuesday, August 9

Anson Regional Medical Services (ARMS) is celebrating National Health Center Week, August 8-13.

ARMS Chief Executive Officer Gwendolyn E. Reed, MPA, RHIT said "In recognition of National Health Center Week Anson Regional Medical Services will offer free Covid rapid testing and free vaccinations on Tuesday, August 9, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m."

For more information call ARMS at 704-694-6700. ARMS is located at 203 Salisbury Street in Wadesboro. The website is: www.arms-chc.org.

The Express is on the web at www.TheNewspaper.com