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

## 376 Reported Cases of COVID-19 in Anson County

As of Monday, August 17 the Anson County Health Department posted that Anson County had 376 reported cases of COVID-19. 35 of those cases were active. At that point they had discharged 341 cases, 337 to baseline health and four deaths.

**Recent history:** On July 20 the Health Department reported 256 cases, on July 27 - 285 cases, on August 3 - 306 cases, on August 9 - 328 cases.

## Kilwinning Lodge #64 Recognized for Excellence

Kilwinning Lodge #64 Ancient Free & Accepted Masons in Wadesboro is one of 26 recipients of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina's 2020 Lion and Pillar Award for Excellence. The award is at the platinum, or highest, level.

Only about 7 percent of North Carolina's 371 lodges received Lion and Pillar recognition this year. Kilwinning qualified by supporting local and Masonic charities, performing volunteer work in the community, reaching out to lodge widows, contacting members who aren't able to attend meetings, and hosting speakers and education sessions for the benefit of members.

Lodge officers Howard Good (master), Eddie Huntley (senior warden), Scott Forbes (junior warden), Cam Comer (senior deacon), Lockhart Taylor (junior deacon), Jordan Lugo (tyler), Hubert Wright (treasurer), Speed Hallman (secretary) and Chesley Greene (past master) were instrumental in Kilwinning's achievement.

The Lion and Pillar Award recognizes lodge excellence in education, patriotism, philanthropy, Masonic membership and affiliated connections. The award name refers to Past Grand Master William R. Davie's coat of arms, which featured a lion supporting a pillar. Davie and North Carolina Freemasons were instrumental in the founding of the University of North Carolina. Davie laid the first cornerstone at UNC on October 12, 1793, an event celebrated annually on the campus as University Day.

Kilwinning Lodge, chartered in 1813, and has 95 members. Monthly lodge meetings are suspended until further notice on account of COVID-19. For more information see [64-nc.ourlodgepage.com](http://64-nc.ourlodgepage.com).



## BRLC Provided Free Hot Meals this Summer

This is a release from Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center: Breakfast and lunch was prepared and served 2 days a week by Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC) kitchen staff and volunteers during the summer months. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Caple were responsible for menu planning and grocery shopping, and the volunteers prepared food for low income children and seniors citizens.

Carol Smith, Director of BRLC, said, "Robert and Lizzie Lee assisted in preparing meals that were distributed free of charge to seniors citizens who called in for their meals daily. A total of 1,110 meals were served this summer. Mrs. Michelle Giddings volunteered daily throughout the summer in whatever area she was needed. Each Tuesday Nutrition Educator Cheri Bennett from Union County Extension Services' "Expanding Food and Nutrition Program" would spend 35 to 40 minutes providing training and support to the kitchen staff and volunteers. This training expanded and provided more insight on the daily food service."

## Wildlife Commission Reminds Dove Hunters to Practice Safety and Ethics

### Dove Hunting Season Opens on September 5

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Home from the Hunt campaign reminds hunters to follow state and federal laws and practice safe hunting techniques as dove season opens on Sept. 5.

The 2020-21 season for mourning and white-winged dove is separated into three segments: Sept. 5 through Oct. 10, Nov. 14 through Nov. 28 and Dec. 12 through Jan. 30. All hunters must follow applicable licensing requirements and hunting regulations.

The daily bag limit is 15 doves and shooting hours are from 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset for the entire season, including opening day. Hunting of migratory game birds by any method is not allowed on Sundays.

It is a violation of state and federal law to take migratory game birds with the use or aid of salt, grain, fruit or any other bait. Additionally, hunters need to be aware that an area is considered baited for 10 days following the removal of all salt, grain or other feed.

Migratory gamebirds may be hunted in agricultural areas where grain has been distributed as the result of normal agricultural operations. Information regarding agriculture and planting techniques may be obtained from a local N.C. State Extension Service Center.

The Commission advises dove hunters to follow these safety tips:

- Always adhere to established safe zones of fire.
- Always be sure to have the correct ammunition for your firearm.
- Never shoot at low-flying birds.
- Never place decoys on utility lines.

For more information on mourning doves, visit [ncwildlife.org/mourning-dove](http://ncwildlife.org/mourning-dove).



## Health Department Offers Drive-Up Testing for COVID-19

This is a release from the Anson County Health Department: The Anson County Health Department has begun COVID-19 testing through LabCorp. Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world. COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild (or no symptoms) to severe illness.

You can become infected by coming into close contact (about 6 feet or two arm lengths) with a person who has COVID-19. COVID-19 is primarily spread from person to person. You can become infected from respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. You may also be able to get it by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then by touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.

Covid-19 cases are rising in Anson County. As of this release there are a total of 376 cases, 35 active cases, and 4 deaths. Public health officials are trying to contain the virus through early identification and isolation of people who are infected, and contact tracing to alert people who may have been exposed before they potentially expose others. All of this starts with rapid and accurate testing of people who may be infected.

The Anson County Health Department is now providing drive-up testing clinic on Wednesdays by appointment only, along with available appointments throughout the week. Please call our number (704) 694-5188 for more information. Please refer to the DHHS COVID-19 dashboard for more information, including number of cases from other counties at [covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard](http://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/dashboard).

## Kids Expo Postponed Until Sept. 18

This is a release from the Anson County Chamber of Commerce: Due to the current guidelines and restrictions for COVID-19, the Chamber feels it is in the best interest of our kid vendors and public to change our Anson County Kids Expo to a VIRTUAL event. The date has been changed from Saturday, August 8 to Friday, September 18. All vendor applications (and a photo of the kid vendor) are due no later than Friday, August 21. For event details or a vendor form contact Shelby Emrich at [semrich@ansoncountychamber.org](mailto:semrich@ansoncountychamber.org).

## Ansonville Historical Society Announces Shutdown

This is a release from the Ansonville Historical Society: The Ansonville Historical Society is dissolving and therefore the Ansonville Historical Society Museum is closing. If you contributed an item to the Museum and would like it back, please call 704-826-8228 by September 19, 2020. We appreciate the support we have received over the last 16 years.

## Child Care Hotline Available To Help Families with School-Age Children Find Care

Families and caregivers in need of child care for children up to age 12 can call the child care hotline at 1-888-600-1685 to be connected directly to care options in their community that meet their families' needs.

"This hotline can help connect families with child care options as this pandemic continues to affect our families. We need to do everything we can to support working parents as we work to beat this virus," Governor Roy Cooper said.

"We know that families may need extra help finding school-age care options right now, as many schools have started the school year with remote learning only, and others are operating with children onsite on alternate days or weeks to meet social distancing requirements," said Susan Gale Perry, Chief Deputy Secretary for NCDHHS. "The Child Care Hotline can help families fill that child care gap by providing referrals to available school-age programs."

The hotline is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is a collaboration of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) and the North Carolina Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) network. Care will be offered by licensed child care providers who agree to meet NCDHHS health and safety guidelines.

As of Aug. 10, there were about 30,000 slots available for school-age children in licensed child care programs across the state.

For more information about child care during COVID-19, visit [covid19.ncdhhs.gov/information/child-care/child-care-information-families](http://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/information/child-care/child-care-information-families).

## Anson County Alcoholics Anonymous

The Anson County Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Group meets at 7 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays for a Closed Discussion Meeting. They have a Closed Speaker Meeting on the first Monday of each month only at 7 p.m.

The Harmony AA Group meets at 12 noon on Wednesdays for a Closed Discussion Meeting.

Closed meetings are for AA members only, or for those with a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking." No guests or visitors please.

All meetings are non-smoking and handicap accessible. All meetings are held at the AA Building, located at 2177 Country Club Road in Wadesboro. They are located between Twin Valley Golf Club and Wadesboro Health and Rehabilitation Center.

## Governor Cooper Declares August as Preparedness Month

Governor Roy Cooper has declared August as North Carolina Preparedness Month, encouraging individuals, families, schools and businesses to review their emergency plans and update their emergency supply kits.

"Facing a hurricane, a deadly tornado and an earthquake in the same week reminds us that North Carolinians need to be prepared for all kinds of emergencies, especially as we continue fighting COVID-19," Governor Cooper said. "Be sure to go over your family's emergency plan and include cloth face masks for each member of your family in your emergency supply kit."

"Ensuring your family, including the elderly and pets, are prepared to survive for at least three days for any emergency is important," said North Carolina Public Safety Secretary Erik A. Hooks. "Planning ahead and preparing a kit could save your life and lessen the chances you will need to be rescued or shelter during a storm."

"It's critical that everyone knows what to do and where to go when danger threatens," North Carolina Emergency Management Director Mike Sprayberry said. "Having an emergency plan and a basic supply kit in place, increases the likelihood you will survive and recover faster."

This is the time to be sure your family's emergency plan and emergency kits are updated for COVID-19. Be sure to follow these tips:

- If you are ordered to evacuate, plan to stay either with family or friends, or at a hotel if you can afford it. A public shelter should be a last resort during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Check online to be sure you "Know Your Zone" in case of evacuation orders in any of the twenty participating North Carolina coastal counties
- Include items in your emergency kit to help lower your risk during the pandemic including: cloth face masks, hand sanitizer & disinfecting wipes

For more information on how to ensure your family is disaster ready, go to [ReadyNC.org](http://ReadyNC.org), which features preparedness, evacuation, power outage and shelter information. Also, check to see if your local community offers an emergency alert service for its residents.

Know Your Zone is a tiered evacuation system for coastal residents and visitors that highlights areas most vulnerable to impacts from hurricanes, tropical storms, and other hazards. These predetermined evacuation zones in twenty North Carolina coastal counties simplify and improve evacuations in the event of an approaching tropical system. Visit [KnowYourZone.nc.gov](http://KnowYourZone.nc.gov) for more information. The website is available in Spanish at [ConozcaSuZona.nc.gov](http://ConozcaSuZona.nc.gov).

Follow North Carolina Emergency Management on Twitter and Facebook during August for daily tips on how you can be better prepared for emergencies and disasters.

## Lions Club Brooms are Available Now

Brooms...brooms...brooms! The Wadesboro Lions' brooms are available at these locations: Lacy's, Martin Furniture, Brasingtons, Northcutt's Affordables (Marshville)

The brooms are excellent quality and affordably priced.

Funds from the broom sales the Wadesboro Lions Club provide eye exams and glasses to numerous people throughout the year. They also send VIPs (visually impaired children) to Camp Dogwood (a camp on Lake Norman. Over 1000 people go each summer); and to a special VIP Fishing Tournament for the blind where 500 VIPs enjoy fishing, meeting other blind and visually impaired people, and learning daily living skills. And, they deliver food boxes at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

For more information please call Lion Jim Chandler at 910-571-1448.

The Express is on the web at [www.TheExpressNewspaper.com](http://www.TheExpressNewspaper.com)