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MARTIN FURNITURE FACTORY OUTLET
Highway 74 West in Wadesboro • 704-694-3185 Mon-Fri 8:30-5 Sat 8:30-1

Mon-Fri 8:30-5
Saturday 8:30-1

Highway Patrol Emphasizes Safety During School Year

As students across North Carolina go to school, the State Highway Patrol is requesting the motoring public to keep safe travel a top priority. More than 14,000 school buses will be hit the roadways, transporting over 790,000 children to and from school. With this in mind, motorists are encouraged to plan for delays as congestion is to be expected during the morning and afternoon commute.

Troopers statewide will increase their focus in and around school zones, monitoring driver behavior both before and after school. Emphasis will also be placed on ensuring motorists stop for school buses as troopers will ride on various buses during their respective routes.

According to state law, motorists are required to stop when a school bus is displaying its mechanical stop signal or flashing red lights and the bus is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers. The driver of any other vehicle that approaches the school bus from any direction on the same street, highway, or public vehicular area shall bring that other vehicle to a full stop and shall remain stopped.

"The primary focus of every student across our state should be on education," said Colonel Glenn McNeill Jr., commander of the State Highway Patrol. "Our mission is simple; ensure that focus does not waiver due to safety concerns while traveling to and from school."

Motorists are encouraged to follow the provided suggestions during morning and afternoon travel:

- Plan ahead for potential delays between the hours of 6 to 9 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.
- Never pass a stopped school bus under any circumstance
- Reduce speeds when approaching school zones
- Avoid driving distracted
- Be mindful of school bus stops along chosen routes
- Stay alert in and around school zones for pedestrians and crossing guards

While SHP and law enforcement across the state will be partnering to facilitate safe travel for students of every age, this responsibility must be shared by everyone. With this in mind, motorists are encouraged to assist the Patrol in reporting dangerous drivers by dialing *HP (*47) from their mobile device. Callers are requested to provide their location, nature of offense observed and description of the vehicle in question.

Anson County's July Unemployment Rate

Anson County Anson County's unemployment rate for July was 5.0%, up from June's 4.0% rate. In July Anson County ranked #80 of the 100 counties statewide (low to high).

Anson's total labor force in July was 10,045, with 9,541 employed and 504 unemployed. In June the total labor force was 10,217, with 9,732 employed and 485 unemployed.

In March 2020 the unemployment rate in Anson County was 4.9%, just before it was affected by the pandemic.

Statewide Statewide the unemployment rate for July was 4.3%. In June it was 4.1%. Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 83 of North Carolina's counties in July 2024, decreased in three, and remained unchanged in 14. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.8 percent while Dare County had the lowest at 3.2 percent.

Twelve of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases and three remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 6.0 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 3.3 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.3 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 98 counties and decreased in two. All fifteen metro areas experienced rate increases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in July by 1,753 to 5,073,877, while those unemployed increased by 10,557 to 225,504. Since July 2023, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 13,213, while those unemployed increased 35,437.

It is important to note that employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns; therefore, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in the not seasonally adjusted estimates.

Grace Senior Center Has It Going On In September!

Grace Senior Center is an excellent resource for Anson County's senior citizens. They provide programs, services, activities and fellowship that are beneficial...ALL FREE...AND ALL FUN & INFORMATIVE!

Check the Express Events Calendar for even more activities at Grace Senior Center. Grace Senior Center is located at 199 Highway 742 South in Wadesboro, on the left just past IGA. For information call 704-694-6616.

- **Thursday, August 29** Cool down Ice Cream Day! 10:00am-12 noon
- **Friday, August 30** Corn Hole gameplay, 2:00-3:00pm
- **Tuesday, September 3** BINGO! 11:15am-12:15pm
- **Wednesday, September 4** Claris Companion tablet workshop 10:30-11:15am (Morven site)
- **Thursday, September 5** Murder Mystery: Book by James Patterson book reading & discussion 12:15-1:15pm
- **Friday, September 6** Grandparents support roundtable discussion with Anson Dept. of Social Services 2:00-3:00pm
- **Monday, September 9** Peep Dee Wildlife Refuge presentation 2:00-3:00pm
- **Tuesday, September 10** Advance Directive Workshop (Stephanie Wilson & Sarah Dean) 11:15am-12:15pm
- **Thursday, September 12** Senior Picnic in the Park & SHIIP Shred-A-Thon at Little Park 10:00am-1:00pm
- **Monday, September 16** Teen Mobile Cellphone & Information Workshop 2-3pm
- **Tuesday, September 17** Carolina Dunes Behavior (India Hatton) Depression/Suicide Workshop & Information for Seniors 10:00am-12 noon
- **Wednesday, September 18** Claris Companion tablet workshop, 10:30-11:15am (Peachland site)
- **Thursday, September 19** Movie screening "Last Vegas" 10:45am-12:45pm
- **Friday, September 20** "Name that Tune" 1:00-2:00pm
- **Monday, September 23** Sip & Paint (fall leaves) 2:00-3:00pm
- **Wednesday, September 25** Claris Companion tablet workshop, 10:30-11:15am (Wadesboro site)
- **Thursday, September 26** Hands-On CPR Class taught by Stephanie Wilson from Atrium Health Anson 10:00am-12:00 noon
- **Friday, September 27** BINGO! 12:30-1:30pm
- **Monday, September 30** Facials & Skincare Presentation (Phyllis Cox) 2-3pm

CPR Classes at the Health Department

Could YOU be someone's lifeline? If you are interested in a Hands-Only CPR session, stop by and see the Anson County Health Department Health Educator, Noelia Chumpitaz, and she will be glad to work with you.

Infant CPR Want to learn Infant CPR Anytime? Infant CPR Anytime teaches the life-saving skills of CPR, choking relief and more. Learn and practice on your own at home or share with friends and family, and be prepared to act with confidence when unexpected emergencies happen.

Call to make an appointment and reserve your spot at (704) 994-3381. The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro.

Funny, Random & Weird Holidays

- Aug 29 Thursday - According to Hoyle Day
- Aug 30 Friday - Frankenstein Day
- Aug 31 Saturday - Eat Outside Day
- Sep 1 Sunday - Emma Nutt Day
- Sep 1 Sunday - No Rhyme or Reason Day
- Sep 2 Monday - Bison Ten Yell Day
- Sep 3 Tuesday - Skyscraper Day
- Sep 4 Wed. - Eat An Extra Dessert Day

TOUCHING LIVES CHANGES TOMORROWS



DON'T MISS OUT ON AN OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

North Carolina has more than 12,000 children in foster care. Currently, there are 0 foster homes in our county, causing 25 vulnerable children to be placed outside of our district.

THE CHILDREN OF ANSON COUNTY NEED YOU!

- Requirements:**
- Be an Anson County resident, 21 years or older, married or single.
 - Have a stable home and income.
 - Maintain a drug free environment.
 - Completion of MAPP training. (10 week course at no cost to you.)
 - Submit to fingerprint identification.
 - Pass a criminal check.

MEETING: MAPP (Model Approach to Partnership in Partnering)
DATE: Tuesday, September 17 at 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Anson County Department of Social Services (DSS)
118 North Washington Street in Wadesboro

For additional information:
Evelyn Hamilton 704-994-3432 • Carrie Rorie 704-994-3430



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