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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 Tuesday, September 27 the county was at 7,836 total Covid-19 cases, with 31 active. There was a Covid-related death, bring the total deaths to 100. On Wednesday, September 14 the total Covid cases in Anson County were 7,774, with 61 active and 99 deaths.

NCDOT Sending Millions to Help Municipalities Improve Transportation

Anson County to receive \$311,240 in funds

The N.C. Department of Transportation is distributing more than \$154.8 million in State Street Aid to Municipalities, known as Powell Bill funds, to 508 municipalities statewide.

The initial allocation, or half of the total appropriation, was distributed this week. The other half will be paid by Jan. 1. In Anson County the allocations are:

- Ansonville \$22,486.88
- Lilesville \$16,061.74
- McFarlan \$3,089.13
- Morven \$14,383.97
- Peachland \$17,058.90
- Polkton \$64,368.45
- Wadesboro \$173,796.68

“Powell Bill funding allows us to complete a lot of transportation projects important to North Carolina communities from Murphy to Manteo,” said State Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette. “Municipalities can use these funds on projects that make our state a wonderful place to live, work and play.”

The Powell Bill funds are used primarily to resurface municipal streets but also may be used to maintain, repair, construct, or widen streets, bridges, and drainage areas. Municipalities can also use Powell Bill funds to plan, construct and maintain bike paths, greenways or sidewalks.

The amount each municipality receives is based on a formula established by state law, with 75 percent of the funds based on population and 25 percent based on the number of municipality-maintained street miles. The annual population figures are provided by the Office of State Budget and Management.

The fund is named for Junius K. Powell, a former state senator and mayor of Whiteville. Powell was the primary sponsor of the 1951 bill to help the state's cities with urban road problems. The first allocation of Powell Bill funds was for \$4.5 million and was distributed to 386 cities and towns.

Visit the Connect NCDOT website (connect.ncdot.gov) for a complete list of the municipalities receiving Powell Bill funds, the amounts they are receiving and more information about the program.

September 26 - 30 is North Carolina Clean Energy Week

Governor Roy Cooper has proclaimed September 26-30, 2022, as North Carolina Clean Energy Week to highlight the work the state is doing to advance clean energy. “North Carolina is leading the way in the transition toward a clean energy future,” said Governor Cooper. “We’re taking bold action to create new clean energy jobs that will boost our economy as we tackle climate change to help save our planet.”

Governor Cooper’s administration is focused on transitioning the state to a clean energy economy. In January, the Governor signed Executive Order No. 246 which laid out the next steps to transition North Carolina to a clean energy economy while centering environmental justice and creating economic opportunities across the state.

Executive Order No. 246 takes steps to emphasize environmental justice and equity in the state’s transition to a clean energy economy. The Governor’s Office is currently developing its Deep Decarbonization Pathways Analysis. The NC Department of Transportation is developing its Clean Transportation Plan. Every cabinet agency has designated an environmental justice lead and is utilizing agency public participation plans to enhance transparency and encourage engagement with communities historically left out of the participatory process.

The Governor’s Executive Order No. 246 expanded upon long-standing climate leadership, including Executive Order No. 80

signed in 2018. Executive Order No. 80 highlighted the state’s commitment to fight climate change and took action to reduce emissions and transition to clean energy. In June 2021, Governor Cooper issued Executive Order No. 218 which established offshore wind development goals. The Governor signed House Bill 951: Energy Solutions for North Carolina in October 2021, and the Utilities Commission is currently working to craft its plan along with nearly 40 participating parties.

These actions are making North Carolina less dependent on fossil fuels, bringing new high paying jobs to the state and helping remedy disproportionate environmental, economic, and health impacts on people of color, low-income communities and indigenous communities.

The Governor’s administration is also working to create more opportunities for great-paying jobs in the clean energy sector. In August, Governor Cooper joined U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo to announce that the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration is awarding a \$23.7 million American Rescue Plan Good Jobs Challenge grant to North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University to create STEPs4GROWTH, a clean energy workforce training program.

Revised Anson County Schools Calendar for 2022-2023

At the Board of Education’s regular meeting on September 26, 2022, the board approved revisions to the 2022-2023 School Calendar. A summary of those revisions are below:

- Anson High Schools’ Bell Schedule is now 8:25 a.m. - 3:25 p.m. (it was previously 8:30 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.)
- May 5 is now a regular school day (it was previously an optional teacher workday)
- District Graduation is now Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. (it was previously Tuesday, May 30).



Sheriff Landric Reid’s patrol vehicle was draped in black and covered with flowers from the community this past Thursday, September 22. The courthouse flags were also lowered to half-staff to honor the late sheriff.

Anson County Sheriff Landric Reid Died Unexpectedly on September 21

Anson County’s first black sheriff remembered as the people’s sheriff

Anson County Sheriff Landric Reid passed away Wednesday, September 21 at his home.

Services for Sheriff Reid were held on Sunday, September 25, 2022, at Anson Middle School. Interment followed at Westview Memorial Park in Wadesboro.



Sheriff Reid laid in repose at the Anson County Courthouse on Sunday, September 25, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and then was escorted to Anson Middle School where he laid in repose until the funeral hour.

The public viewing for Sheriff Reid was held on Saturday, September 24, 2022, at Smith Funeral Home. Reid is survived by his wife Cassandra Reid and daughter Christina Reid.

Landric Reid served as sheriff for eight years, after running for the office in 2014. He was Anson County’s first African American sheriff.

Sheriff Reid was born and raised in Cabarrus County, NC where he was the youngest of five brothers and sisters. He was educated in the Cabarrus County school system and was very involved in sports. In 1984 Reid joined the United States Army, which he credits for changing his life and opening new doors. After receiving an Honorable Discharge in 1988, Reid joined the North Carolina National Guard. He also worked in the Research Triangle Park as a Research Assistant for Rhone Poulenc Agriculture Company from 1988-1991.

In 1991 Reid entered and graduated from the NC Highway Patrol Academy and served as a State Trooper until retiring in 2014. In February of 2014 Sheriff Reid filed to run for the Office of Anson County Sheriff. After winning the May primary and the November General Election ballot. Sheriff Reid was sworn in as Anson County Sheriff on December 1, 2014. That day he said, “I appreciate the support of my loving wife Cassandra and daughter Christina.”

and July runoff, Sheriff Reid was the only name on the November General Election ballot. Sheriff Reid was sworn in as Anson County Sheriff on December 1, 2014. That day he said, “I appreciate the support of my loving wife Cassandra and daughter Christina.”

In 2011 Sheriff Reid and Patti Poulcott created a program called Stride for Pride that collected and distributed new tennis shoes to underprivileged youth of all diversities in Anson County, from kindergarten to 12th grade. Over the years they distributed shoes to many thousands of youth so they could attend the first day of school feeling confident in a new pair of shoes. Sheriff Reid would say, “We can help our youth ‘Stride With Pride’ their way to success.”

Patti Poulcott said, “My heart is in a million pieces. I never dreamed I would be without Landric so soon. He made me a better person. We were good together and made a difference in a lot of people’s lives. Landric walked the walk and talked the talk. If he said he would do something that was like money in the bank.”

Poulcott continued, “Landric was a person of great integrity. I have never known a finer all around person. He lived his life as we all should. He put others first and invested his time in people. I thought he treated me special, but as I have heard lots of stories over the last few days....he treated everyone he knew special. That is just who he was.

From the moment I met Landric we were instant friends, and we did a lot of good things together over the years. On the Friday before he passed he came by my office and we were planning what we were going to do for a family for Christmas and shop with the sheriff. He was really excited about it. What a huge loss for our community. Landric lived his life as a sermon. A sermon on humanity, love, honor, respect and humility. Landric believed in standing up for others. His favorite quote was, *You’ve got to stand for something or you’ll fall for anything.*

I could talk about him for days. I will continue the projects we have started, I always said the shoe drive was Landric’s baby and I was honored to a part of it. We were like two peas in a pod we made each other better.

If I could only say one word about Landric...awesome!”

The head of the Sheriff’s Association, Orange County Sheriff Charles Blackwood, noted his long relationship with Reid in the announcement of his death.

“It is as a colleague and personal friend of Anson County Sheriff Landric Reid, and in my role as president of the NC Sheriffs’ Association, that I share the sad news of Sheriff Reid’s unexpected death earlier today,” Blackwood said. “Sheriff Reid and I started our tenure as sheriffs at the same time, and we attended the Sheriffs’ Leadership Institute together. We have been close friends for the last ten years. Our families have enjoyed time together at NCSA events and conferences.”

“Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family, friends, and the Anson County Sheriff’s Office,” Sheriff Blackwood concluded.

Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson said, “I got to spend some personal time with Sheriff Landric Reid last week the morning before a Sheriffs Commission meeting. For more than an hour, he told me how important it is for a person “to tell their story.” He told me his story...

While I had no idea it would be the last time, we talked deeply of how important family and friends are to us, how much we meant to each other, about our health (physically, mentally, and spiritually), and the deep void we felt after the loss of Sheriff Peterkin and Sheriff Clemmons. We also talked about what we would say to them if we could and laughed at what they would probably tell us back.

Sheriff Reid was a true friend, a brother, and great soul. He was quick to crack a joke with me and equally as quick to be there when needed. You could always count on him. My heart aches for his family, staff, and community.

Sheriff Reid will certainly be missed. He left a mark on my life as he did for so many others. In his honor, make sure you “tell your story” to the ones you love!

Love and compassion to Sheriff Landric Reid family, friends, staff, and community!”

Anson County’s Unemployment Rate 4.9% in August

Anson County Anson County’s unemployment rate for August was 4.9%. That ranked Anson County #19 in low unemployment to high statewide. One year ago in August 2021 the rate was 6.3%. In July 2022 the unemployment rate was 4.7%. Here are other past rates: **2022:** June 5.3%; May 4.7%; April 4.6%; March 4.9%; February 5.1%; January 5.1%. **2021:** December 4.4%; November 4.7%; October 5.2%; September 4.9%; August 5.8%; July 6.5%; June 6.1%; May 5.5%; April 5.4%; March 5.9%; February 7.5%; January 7.7%. The **2020** rates were: December 7.1%; November 7.2%; October 7.2%; September 8.5%; August 8%; July 10%; June 7.9%; May 10.1%; and April 8.2%.

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 August was 3.9%. Here are other statewide past rates: **2022:** July 3.7%; June 4.1%; May 3.6%; April 3.4%; March 3.6%; February 3.7%; January 3.8%. **2021:** December 3.2%; November 3.4%; October 3.6%; September 3.8%; August 4.4%; July 4.6%; June 4.9%; May 4.5%; April 4.4%; March 4.6%; February 5.6%; January 6%. **2020:** December 6%; November and October 6.1%; September 7%; August 6.8%; July 8.9%.

Anson’s total labor force in August was 10,163. Of that number 9,667 were employed and 496 were unemployed. In July the total labor force was 10,133, with 9,658 employed and 475 unemployed.

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 98 of North Carolina’s counties in August and remained unchanged in two. Edgecombe County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.9 percent while Buncombe, Swain, and Chatham Counties each had the lowest at 3.1 percent.

All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 6.5 percent while Asheville and Durham-Chapel Hill each had the lowest at 3.2 percent. The August not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.9 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in all 100 counties. All 15 of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in August by 52,600 to 4,914,946, while those unemployed increased by 9,779 to 199,869. Since August 2021, the number of workers employed statewide increased 187,171, while those unemployed decreased 40,417.

Anson County Board of Commissioners Meets October 4

The next regular meeting of the Anson County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, October 4 at 6 p.m.

The meetings take place in the Board Room, Suite 209, Government Center which is located at 101 South Greene Street in uptown Wadesboro.

To schedule an appearance at a board meeting, please sign up prior to the meeting. Information is available at 704-994-3201.

The Commissioners’ board meetings are live streamed on their YouTube channel. Also, the videos are archived so they can be viewed at any time. Visit [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for Anson Commissioners.

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