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

School Board Meeting is November 21

The Anson County Board of Education will hold their regular meeting on Monday, November 21. Closed Session will begin immediately after the opening of the meeting at 4:00 p.m. Open Session to the public will begin at about 5:30 p.m.

The meeting will be live streamed on the Anson County Schools' YouTube channel for the public to view. To find the channel search YouTube for "Anson County Schools." The meeting will be held in the Anson County Schools' Administrative Board Room, located at 320 Camden Road in Wadesboro.

If the public wishes to sign up for public comment, they can sign up in-person. A sign-up sheet will be available 30 minutes before the meeting begins for any individual or group to indicate their desire to address the board.

What Is N.C. REAL ID?

Beginning May 3, 2023, federal agencies will enforce the REAL ID Act, which requires a REAL ID, U.S. passport or another federally approved identification to board commercial flights and enter secure federal buildings.

The N.C. REAL ID is a REAL ID Act-compliant driver license that is just like a traditional license or ID but has a star at the top. Driver licenses and IDs without a gold star are noted "Not for Federal Identification."

N.C. REAL ID Is Completely Optional You do not need a REAL ID driver license or identification card to do any of the following: Drive; Vote; Apply for or receive federal benefits (e.g., Veterans Affairs, Social Security Administration, etc.); Enter a federal facility that does not require an ID (e.g., a post office); Access a hospital or receive life-saving services; Participate in law enforcement proceedings or investigations (e.g., serve on a federal jury, testify in federal court, etc.).

A REAL ID, however, might be helpful for anyone who frequently: Boards a commercial airplane; Visits nuclear sites; Visits military bases; Visits federal courthouses, federal prisons or other federal facilities.

An individual without a REAL ID or U.S. passport may still be able to board flights or make visits to the facilities mentioned above, but they may have to provide additional documentation with their traditional license or ID.

Getting an N.C. REAL ID Even though the federal law is not effective until May 3, 2023, you can get a REAL ID now. To do so, visit an N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles driver license office with the required acceptable documentation described below:

- One document (with full name) proving identity and date of birth
- One document (with full name and full Social Security Number) confirming Social Security number
- Two documents (with current physical address) proving North Carolina residency
- For non-U.S. citizens, one document (with full name) proving legal presence/lawful status
- If applicable, one or more documents verifying any name change

Be Prepared for Your Office Visit Heading to the NCDMV for your N.C. REAL ID? Use the N.C. REAL ID Document Wizard to create a list of documents you will need for your visit. Go to the N.C. REAL ID Wizard at www.ncdot.gov/dmv/real-id-wizard.

Other Details to Know Your first N.C. REAL ID cannot be obtained online. It can only be issued at a driver license office, where required documents will be scanned and permanently stored, as required under federal law, in your NCDMV record.

- Getting an N.C. REAL ID driver license or ID card costs the same as getting any other license or ID for the first time, and the process is similar.
- If you get an N.C. REAL ID outside of the renewal period, the cost is same as a duplicate license or ID card.
- You will have to take a new photo, but no tests are required.
- The cost is the same as a renewal, if the REAL ID is obtained within six months of expiration. You will have to take a vision test and take a new photo.
- Applying for a North Carolina driver license or ID card will cancel any licenses or ID cards from other states through the State-to-State Verification program.

Make an Appointment Skip the line at driver license offices by making an appointment online at: www.ncdot.gov/dmv/license-id/driver-license-appointments.

If you do not find an available appointment, please continue to check back as new available appointments are added each day.

Please note: When making your driver license office appointment, select "Duplicate License," unless you are renewing your license. In either case, make sure you tell the examiner you want to make your license or ID a REAL ID when you check in.

More information is available at ncdot.gov.

November is Alzheimer's Month

Alzheimer's is a progressive disease, where dementia symptoms gradually worsen over a number of years. In its early stages, memory loss is mild, but with late-stage Alzheimer's, individuals lose the ability to carry on a conversation and respond to their environment. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. Those with Alzheimer's live an average of eight years after their symptoms become noticeable to others, but survival can range from four to 20 years, depending on age and other health conditions.

Although current Alzheimer's treatments cannot stop Alzheimer's from progressing, they can temporarily slow the worsening of dementia

symptoms and improve quality of life for those with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. Today, there is a worldwide effort under way to find better ways to treat the disease, delay its onset, and prevent it from developing according to, Unicityhealthcare.

For more information contact Katia Vanderhorst at the Anson County Health Department at (704) 994-3387. Facebook: Anson County Health Department



Anson High Alumni Basketball Tournament and Fundraiser

Event put on by Sandhills Voter Initiative

The Anson County Alumni Tournament and Championship was a success! Some of the best players who have ever played at Anson High School came back to participate. The tournament was held on September 24, and the championship took place on October 15. The games were played at Anson Middle School.

The Sandhills Voter Initiative sponsored the events. Voter registration and other community resources were available. Sixty players from 21 graduating classes of Anson High School came out to show off their talents and put on the orange and blue one more time! Ultimately the classes of 2011-2015 defeated the classes of 2016-2021 in the championship game with a score of 71-66. Danny Bailey, AHS class of 2012, took home the MVP award!

Allen Jackson II of the Sandhills Voter Initiative said, "You can't spell community without unity, and unity is exactly what we need to tackle the challenges we face in our community! We are better together, so a big thank you to those who helped make this event possible: Anson County Schools, Harvest Ministries and New Rural Project.

For more information about the Sandhills Voter Initiative you can find them at Sandhills Voter Initiative on Facebook or reach out via email: SVIanson2022@gmail.com.

Love Local Holiday Campaign

This is a release from the Anson County Chamber of Commerce: Join the Anson County Chamber of Commerce and local businesses across Anson County for our Love Local Holiday shopping extravaganza and giveaway! Visit and spend with participating businesses to earn a chance to win one of four cash prizes. Wherever you see this flyer, simply scan the QR code at the register, complete your entry, and pat yourself on the back for keeping your dollars local and supporting local businesses. We will take care of the rest, announcing winning participants on Friday, December 16.

Are you a local business interested in participating in this program? Call the Chamber at 704-694-4181 or email semrich@ansoncountychamber.org. All locally owned and operated businesses in Anson County are invited to participate - current and future Chamber members alike. Participation includes broad promotion through the Chamber's Love Local Holiday (#lovelocal) digital campaign, business and spotlight profiles in member communications and via social media properties, and more! There is no cost to participate, and all resources will be provided to participants prior to the program launch.

HealthCare.gov Open Enrollment is Now Open

NC Navigator Consortium welcomes the start of Open Enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace at HealthCare.gov with an updated website to help North Carolina residents get covered at NCNavigator.net. While Open Enrollment lasts until Jan. 15, 2023, the NC Navigator Consortium's statewide network of health insurance Navigators work year-round to answer questions about health coverage, help consumers update their HealthCare.gov policies and enroll in new ones after qualifying life events. To that end, the upgraded NCNavigator.net makes it easier to connect consumers with the information they need, and access to the free, unbiased help finding quality, affordable coverage they have come to trust.

Open Enrollment for HealthCare.gov Marketplace coverage will not end until Jan. 15, 2023, but those who need coverage starting Jan. 1, 2023, will need to apply by Dec. 15, 2022. The NC Navigator Consortium's federally qualified health insurance Navigators are available by free appointments (by phone, in person or virtually) to provide local help to consumers needing to apply for or update their Marketplace coverage. Appointments may be scheduled online by calling 1-855-733-3711 or online at NCNavigator.net.

The new NCNavigator.net features FAQs and resources to educate consumers on the importance of health insurance, the difference between HealthCare.gov and Medicaid/CHIP and more. The site also features important updates such as next steps for Bright Health policyholders following the termination of their policies, and those who may be impacted by the end of the family glitch which makes it possible for families to purchase coverage other than employer-sponsored health insurance.

"The service we provide is even more critical now the family glitch has been fixed, making millions more eligible for coverage on the HealthCare.gov Marketplace," said Mark Van Arnem, director of the NC Navigator Consortium, who added that coverage has never been more affordable. "Thanks to tax credits and subsidies made possible by the Inflation Reduction Act, four out of five enrollees are getting covered for \$10 or less."

The NC Navigator Consortium connects consumers to qualified health plans that provide essential health benefits and preventive care, in addition to mental health care, ER care and maternity coverage, not limited by caps or pre-existing conditions. Health insurance Navigators help North Carolinians maximize their coverage by:

- Taking time with them to help avoid mistakes
- Showing all options, ensuring their providers are in-network
- Explaining terminology and processes, increasing health insurance literacy
- Assisting them with estimating their income for the year ahead, one of the most difficult parts of the HealthCare.gov application process

The NC Navigator Consortium is the only federally funded entity of its kind in North Carolina, supported in part by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Learn more at NCNavigator.net, and follow on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Members of the Consortium are Access East, Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy, Council on Aging of Buncombe County, Cumberland HealthNET, HealthCare Access, HealthNet Gaston, Kintegra Health, NC FIELD and Pisgah Legal Services. The Consortium is led by Legal Aid of North Carolina.

Legal Aid of North Carolina is a statewide, nonprofit law firm that provides free legal services in civil matters to low-income people in order to ensure equal access to justice and to remove legal barriers to economic opportunity. Learn more at legallaidnc.org. Follow them on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

SBI Agents Arrest Albemarle Police Officer Logan Andrew Johnson

On Monday, November 7 the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) was requested by the Chief of the Albemarle Police Department (APD) to investigate allegations of criminal misconduct involving an APD officer, Logan Andrew Johnson, and a minor based on information the police department received. SBI agents with the Southern Piedmont District office immediately began an investigation.

On Tuesday, November 8 Johnson was arrested in Albemarle and charged with the following: one count of felony statutory sex offense with a child under the age of 15; one count of felony indecent liberties with a child; and one count of felony solicitation of a child by computer or electronic device.

After going before a magistrate, Johnson was issued a \$500,000 secured bond and was booked at the Anson County Jail in Wadesboro. No additional information was available at press time.



Johnson

Wadesboro Christmas Parade Set for December 1

Entry deadline is Nov. 23

Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. (UWI) is accepting entry forms for the Wadesboro Christmas Parade that will be held on Thursday, December 1, starting at 4:00 p.m.

Walkers will assemble at the corner of East Morgan Street and Morven Road. Vehicles will line up on Morven Road (enter from Highway 52 South) at the designated number. Line up numbers will be available after the entry deadline of November 23.

Additionally, professional float rentals are available on a first come, first serve basis. The cost will be \$450 for the float rental, which will include sponsor/organization sign on the side. Please email UWI at uptownwadesboro@windstream.net if you are interested in renting a float or have any questions about the parade.

Grace Senior Center Christmas Luncheon for Seniors is December 1

Grace Senior Center's Annual Senior Christmas Luncheon Drive-Thru will be held on Thursday, December 1 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center, located at 514 North Washington Street in Wadesboro.

Lunch will be served from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. for that one day only.

Seniors must call and register at (704) 694-6616, and we are asking all seniors to stay in their cars... they'll bring it to you!

Registration ends on Wednesday, November 23.

Black Friday Sale at the Drake Gallery

The Drake Gallery at the Anson County Arts Council will have a Black Friday sale on November 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Be sure to check it out for beautiful art made by area artists.

The Drake Gallery is located at 119 South Rutherford Street in uptown Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-4950.