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

Health Department Now Features a Fun, Free and Educational Book Vending Machine for Kids

The Anson County Health Department now has a book vending machine. You can stop by and your child will receive a free token to get a book! It is pictured below.

The KFC Foundation awarded a \$10,000 grant to the Anson County Partnership to make the book vending machine project on their wish list come true.

The Partnership for Children provides services focused on raising the quality of early care and education, supporting families, advancing child health, and expanding literacy through collaborative strategies and building relationships in the community.

"The Anson County Health Department has enjoyed the partnership with the Anson County Partnership for Children. This relationship has enabled books to be offered to children who visit our facility," said Lisa Clark from the Anson County Health Department. "A seating area for children and book stands have been implemented among other activities, which have enabled thousands of books to find their way to children to grow their own home library. The addition of the Book Kiosk from the KFC Foundation will add a new method of engagement and increase excitement in reading books. We hope to continue expanding our opportunities to inspire and help prepare children for the future."

"Anson County is making great strides in literacy advancement thanks to the collaboration of the Health Department and funding from the community organizations. By working together, we are equipping our young children and families with the necessary tools to improve their reading skills, leading to greater success in their personal and academic lives. We are proud to be a part of this initiative and look forward to continued progress," said Caroline Goins, Director of Anson County Partnership for Children.



Anson Middle School Lady Bearcats Basketball Team

Congratulations to the Anson Middle School Lady Bearcats of Basketball! They got the win Tuesday, November 14 over North Stanly Middle School! The score was 23 to 17. Way to go ladies - way to start the season.

The Sound of Music Opens at the Ansonia on December 1

The Ansonia Theatre is kicking off the Christmas holidays with the beloved classic play, *The Sound of Music*. The play debuts on Friday, December 1 at 7:30 p.m. and runs through Sunday, December 10. Presentations will be Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.

Here is some information about *The Sound of Music*: The final collaboration between Rodgers & Hammerstein was destined to become the world's most beloved musical. Featuring a trove of cherished songs, including "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "My Favorite Things," "Do-Re-Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen" and the title number, *The Sound of Music* won the hearts of audiences worldwide, earning five Tony Awards and five Oscars. The inspirational story, based on the memoir of Maria Augusta Trapp, follows an ebullient postulate who serves as governess to the seven children of the imperious Captain von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of Nazism take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire von Trapp family must make a moral decision.

Come enjoy this wonderful production to find out what happens!
Director Tommy Wooten said, "Hey guys! Here's something good! On Saturday, December 2 at our 7:30 p.m. performance we will be having our first audience sing along! This is for all those people who know and love this music and want to sing along. Spread the word! Saturday night only! (If you sing out loud any other night, we might have to call the authorities! lol)"

To purchase tickets visit ansoniatheatre.com or call 704-694-4950. The Ansonia is located at 112 South Rutherford Street in uptown Wadesboro.

County Offices Closed Thursday and Friday

Anson County offices will be closed for Thanksgiving holiday this Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24.

Emergency services and law enforcement will be in regular operation.

Frying a Turkey for Thanksgiving? Here are Some Safety Tips:

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to gather with family and friends for a delicious meal, but it's easy to lose focus on fire safety. Turkey frying can be dangerous because oil fires happen quickly. Make sure to plan for fire safety especially when cooking this holiday season.

Unattended cooking is the No. 1 cause of home fires and injuries in the United States related to turkey frying.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Thanksgiving Day is the peak day for fires caused by cooking with approximately 1,000 home fires occurring on this day.

Turkey fryer fires cause an average of five deaths, 60 injuries and more than \$15 million in property damage each year.

Outdoor, gas-fueled turkey fryers are discouraged unless they are used by a properly trained professional. A better alternative is to use newer turkey fryers, which are powered by TRU-Infrared technology, and require no oil.

The Office of State Fire Marshal offers the following safety tips for frying turkeys this Thanksgiving:

- Use extreme caution when cooking with oil. Hot oil can spill or splash onto the flame, igniting a fire. Also, oil inside a turkey cooker pot can stay dangerously hot for hours after use.
- Don't overheat the oil. Cooking oil, if heated beyond its cooking temperature (375 degrees), can ignite.
- Turkey fryers should not be used under a garage, deck, breezeway, porch, barn or any structure that can catch fire.
- **Make sure the turkey has thawed completely before putting it in a turkey fryer.** Frozen, or partially frozen turkeys, will cause hot oil to splatter or produce hot steam, which leads to burns.
- **NEVER use water to extinguish a grease fire!**



Ansonia Theatre in the Running for Multiple Broadway World Awards

You can vote for our local theatre!

The Ansonia Theatre is nominated for eight different awards in the Broadway World Charlotte Awards. BroadwayWorld is the largest theatre site on the internet, covering Broadway, the West End and beyond to 100 US cities, 45 countries and in 12 languages worldwide. The site has over six million monthly visitors.

You can vote for the Ansonia at broadwayworld.com/charlotte/voteregion.cfm. Don't forget to confirm the email once you have voted!

Tommy Wooten Director of the Ansonia Theatre wrote, "We are honored to be nominated amongst many talented people from all over our big region! Please vote."

Here are the categories the Ansonia is participating in:

- Best Costume Design Of A Play Or Musical - Britany Price *Into the Woods*
- Best Direction Of A Musical - Tommy Wooten *Into the Woods*
- Best Ensemble - *Into the Woods*
- Best Musical - *Into the Woods*
- Best Performer In A Play - Amanda Traywick *Pageant Play*
- Best Supporting Performer In A Musical - Tyler Willis *Into the Woods*
- Best Supporting Performer In A Musical - Lauren Wilson *Into the Woods*
- Favorite Local Theatre - Ansonia Theatre

NC AgVentures Accepting Applications from Anson County Farms for Grants

NC AgVentures is accepting applications from family farms in Anson County that have an idea for an innovative agricultural project to increase farm profits. They will award up to \$8,000.

RSVP the Anson Extension to attend an informational session that will be held on Wednesday, November 29, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Extension Office, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro.

For more information you can contact Aimee Colf at 704-694-2915.

Anson County Electric Vehicle Charger Ribbon Cutting

A new electric vehicle (EV) charger is officially open in Wadesboro!

The new charging infrastructure was made possible through partnerships with North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition (CCFC). This charging infrastructure project, known as the Anson County DC Fast Charge project, consists of a newly installed EV fast charging station, located at the Anson County Government Annex Building, 575 US-52 in Wadesboro, the former Pee Dee Electric facility. It is intended for electric vehicle owners using the I-74 corridor traveling between the mountains and the beach.

The new charging station was installed after a previous charging station, owned by Pee Dee Electric, relocated their operations to a new location. The new charging infrastructure allows once again for the county to be a reliable location for both local EV drivers as well as those passing through.

Join Anson County on Thursday, November 30 at 11:00 a.m. to officially open the new charging site. Anson County staff, as well as CCFC staff, will be on hand to provide more information about the project and answer questions.

For more information contact Wendall Small at wsmall@ansoncounty.org or Megan Upchurch at mupchurch@centralina.org.

Veterans Day Service Held at North Wadesboro Baptist Church

A Veterans Day service was held at North Wadesboro Baptist Church on Saturday, November 11. The service was graced by the singing of "God Bless America" by Korean War Marine Veteran Reece Dutton, pictured at right.

Thank you Mr. Dutton for your service and your patriotism.



Moderna Covid Vaccine is Now Available at the Health Department

The Anson County Health Department has a limited amount of Moderna vaccine available. If you would like to schedule a vaccination, call them at 704-694-5188.

The Health Department also has flu shots available. If you are interested in getting a flu shot please call 704-694-5188.

The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro. You can find them on Facebook and the website is: www.co.anson.nc.us/164/Health-Department.

Register Now for Parks and Recreation Basketball

Anson County Parks and Recreation is accepting registrations now for their basketball program. It is open to these age groups: Micro (3-5); Grades K-2nd; 3rd-4th; 5th-6th; and 7th-9th.

You can register online until December 8 at anson.recdesk.com. For information call 704-994-3025.

Free Movie at the Library is Searching for Bobby Fischer

The Hampton B. Allen Library will be showing the movie *Searching for Bobby Fischer*. The movie is based on the true life story of Josh Waitzkin, the 7 year old chess prodigy. It will be shown Monday, November 27 at 10 a.m. in the library's Pritchett Room. The movie is rated PG. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

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