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**Secure Your Load**

When you are carrying a load in your truck or pulling a loaded trailer please be careful that your load is secured.

Here are important tips:

- Before driving, make sure everything in your vehicle is tied down
- Secure larger items directly to your vehicle
- To keep smaller items from flying out, cover them with tarps, nets or covers
- Don't overload your vehicle
- Your vehicle's load shouldn't go above the level of your truck or trailer
- All items should be covered to keep them stable

**Writers' Club Welcomes New Members**

The Anson County Writers' Club meets on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro, except in July and December. All meetings are open to the public. New members of all ages are welcome.

For more information call Sandy Bruney at 704-694-5211 or email [sandybruney@gmail.com](mailto:sandybruney@gmail.com).

**Church**

**JANUARY 7**

**First Service at New Church Building With Official Entering Into the Sanctuary** at House of Prayer Missionary Baptist Church, located at 600 Camden Rd in Wadesboro, 3pm. All are welcome!

**ONGOING**

**Free Exercise Class**  
Every Wed & Thu, 5:30-6:30pm at New Grove MBC. Need a ride? Call 704-272-8884

**Wednesday Bible Study** At New Meltonville MBC, 7pm  
**Wednesday Intercessory Prayer** at New Meltonville MBC, 6:30pm

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



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

**Events**

**ONGOING EVENTS**

**Bridge Club**  
2nd Thursday each month, 1-3pm at Grace Senior Center, 199 Highway 742 South, Wadesboro, just past IGA. Info 704-694-6616.

**Senior Cafe**  
4th Thursday each month, 2:30-3:30pm at Grace Senior Center, 199 Highway 742 South, Wadesboro, just past IGA. Info 704-694-6616.

**North Carolina's November Employment Figures**

The state's seasonally adjusted November 2023 unemployment rate was 3.5 percent, increasing 0.1 of a percentage point from October's revised rate. The national rate decreased 0.2 of a percentage point to 3.7 percent.

North Carolina's unemployment rate decreased 0.4 of a percentage point from a year ago. The number of people employed increased 2,417 over the month to 5,095,540 and increased 134,850 over the year. The number of people unemployed increased 2,816 over the month to 182,214 and decreased 17,642 over the year.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey, increased 13,600 to 4,949,300 in November. Major industries experiencing increases were Professional & Business Services, 3,100; Education & Health Services, 2,900; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 2,800; Construction, 2,500; Government, 2,500; Financial Activities, 2,300; Other Services, 500; and Mining & Logging, 100. Major industries experiencing decreases were Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 1,900; Information, 1,100; and Manufacturing, 100.

Since November 2022, Total Nonfarm jobs increased 103,800 with the Total Private sector increasing by 86,800 and Government increasing by 17,000.

Major industries experiencing increases were Education & Health Services, 33,800; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 21,200; Professional & Business Services, 20,300; Government, 17,000; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 11,300; Financial Activities, 4,200; Other Services, 2,100; and Mining & Logging, 100. Major industries experiencing decreases were Manufacturing, 5,500; Construction, 500; and Information, 200.

**Space Heater Safety Tips**

Portable electric space heaters can be a convenient source of supplemental heat for your home in cold weather. Unfortunately, they can pose significant fire and electric shock hazards if not used properly. Fire and electrical hazards can be caused by space heaters without adequate safety features, space heaters placed near combustibles, or space heaters that are improperly plugged in.

Heating equipment is the second leading cause of home fires in the US. More than 65,000 home fires are attributed to heating equipment each year. These fire result in hundreds of deaths, thousands of injuries and millions of dollars in property damage.

Safety should always be a top consideration when using space heaters. Here are some tips for keeping your home safe and warm when it's cold outside:

- Make sure your space heater has the label showing that it is listed by a recognized testing laboratory.
- Before using any space heater, read the manufacturer's instructions and warning labels carefully.
- Inspect heaters for cracked or broken plugs or loose connections before each use. If frayed, worn or damaged, do not use the heater.
- Never leave a space heater unattended. Turn it off when you're leaving a room or going to sleep, and don't let pets or children play too close to a space heater.
- Space heaters are only meant to provide supplemental heat and should never be used to warm bedding, cook food, dry clothing or thaw pipes.
- Install smoke alarms on every floor of your home and outside all sleeping areas and test them once a month.
- Proper placement of space heaters is critical. Heaters must be kept at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including papers, clothing and rugs.
- Locate space heaters out of high traffic areas and doorways where they may pose a tripping hazard.
- Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet. Do not use an extension cord or power strip, which could overheat and result in a fire. Do not plug any other electrical devices into the same outlet as the heater.
- Place space heaters on level, flat surfaces. Never place heaters on cabinets, tables, furniture, or carpet, which can overheat and start a fire.
- Always unplug and safely store the heater when it is not in use.

**Funny, Random & Weird Holidays**

- December 28 Thursday - Card Playing Day
- December 29 Friday - Pepper Pot Day
- December 30 Saturday - Bicarbonate of Soda Day
- December 31 Sunday - Make Up Your Mind Day
- January 1 Sunday - Polar Bear Plunge Day
- January 2 Monday - Buffet Day & Run It up the Flagpole and See If Anyone Salutes It Day & Science Fiction Day
- January 3 Tuesday - Fruitcake Toss Day & Festival of Sleep Day

Accepting New Patients

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**The office will be closed on Monday, January 1**

**Access to family planning health care is critical to reaching your life's goals.**

Unplanned births account for nearly **1 IN 10 DROPOUTS** among female students at community colleges.

**FAMILY PLANNING IS THE FOUNDATION**  
[www.nationalfamilyplanning.org](http://www.nationalfamilyplanning.org)

**Schedule a physical and/or birth control consult today at the Anson County Health Department**

**ANSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
110 Ashe Street  
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