

Anson Women's League's Dancing with the Stars is Friday!

With days away from Anson Dancing with the Stars, six local celebrity teams are shining off their dancing shoes to compete for 2019 Grand Champion bragging rights.

Anson Dancing with the Stars is this Friday, May 31 at Wadesboro Primary School, located on Highway 52 South, across from Coffing Hoist. The doors will open at 6:15 p.m. and the show will begin at 7 p.m. Admission tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.

The dancers competing for the Anson Dancing with the Stars Grand Champion title are Dave and Caty Edwards, Curtis and Toforya Hailey, Mike and Wendy Hill, Anne and Luke Hyatt, Thedis Spencer and grandson Kyler, and Gina Clark and her niece Sophia Goodwin.

• Dave and Caty Edwards have local roots and recently moved back to Anson County. Dave is the new Town Manager of Wadesboro and Caty is a mental health counselor at Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition. Dave and Caty are actively involved in the community with Brown Creek Baptist Church, Young Professionals Anson, Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. and the Anson County Chamber of Commerce. "They are ready to put Caty's dance skills to the test!" said Caroline Goins of Anson Women's League. Caty danced for twelve years growing up, then danced in college on her school's clogging team. "We are putting all of our efforts into creating a fun dance to perform and watch. If we win, awesome, but our goal is to help raise a lot of money. If that happens, it is a win for all of us, even if we don't bring the trophy home," said Caty. Dave and Caty are dancing for Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition.

• Curtis and Toforya Hailey are high school sweethearts, born and raised in Anson County. Curtis is a Navy veteran, spending 30 years serving our country. Currently Curtis works at Columbus McKinnon, and Toforya works for Anson County as a revenue clerk. Curtis and Toforya are involved in the community with Kesler Chapel AME Zion Church and other community organizations. Curtis and Toforya are dancing to have a good time and support a good cause. "Neither of us has a dance background, but we are always ready to have fun," said Toforya. "You can expect a funny and spectacular performance from this couple because they always have people laughing," said Caroline Goins. Curtis and Toforya are dancing for the Kesler Chapel AME Zion Church Missions Fund.

• Mike and Wendy Hill are newcomers to Anson County, but it hasn't taken them long to fall in love! "The community of wonderful people along with the rich history of the area and beautiful countryside. We wanted to make a difference in the community and bring Twin Valley back to life for everyone to enjoy," said Wendy. "Mike and Wendy operate Twin Valley Golf Club and are responsible for the many improvements and additions in the last year," said Caroline Goins. "We may not be great dancers but what we lack in skill, we will make up for in spirit!" said Wendy. Mike and Wendy are dancing for the Anson County Partnership for Children.

• Anne and Luke Hyatt - Luke is a Healthful Living Teacher and Football Coach with Porter Ridge High School in Union County. Luke was a Regional Teacher of the Year winner and finalist for the NC Teacher of the Year in 2006. Anne serves as a Public Information Officer, Board of Education Clerk, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent for Anson County Schools. Anne is involved with the Anson Women's League, Relay for Life of Anson County, Uptown Wadesboro, Inc., and the Sandhills Region Education Consortium PIO Group. One of the most treasured affiliations they have is being faithful members of First Presbyterian Church in Wadesboro where they both teach Sunday School, teaching in the Children's Worship Center, serve as Youth Group Leaders, play handbells and sing in the contemporary choir.

"We do enjoy music and are true rookies at this dance thing! Neither of us has dance training, which could be scary! We are here to have a good time and to help raise money for the AWL's outreach projects," said Anne. Anne and Luke are dancing for First Presbyterian Church of Wadesboro Mission Fund.

• Thedis Spencer and grandson Kyler - Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer has dedicated his life to serve and protect the citizens of Wadesboro. His grandson Kyler is the youngest competitor, a spunky kindergartener at Ansonville Elementary School. "Have you seen that adorable face? Kyler is definitely their secret weapon to win! He is the cutest!" said Caroline Goins.

• Gina Clarke can be seen solo or with her family entertaining crowds throughout Anson County with her acting and singing talents," said Goins. Gina is an Anson County native who has been on some sort of stage her whole life. From churches all over Anson County to the Ansonia Theatre and now she's guiding others on stage as a director for the Uwharrie Players. Her niece Sophia Goodwin is joining her in Dancing with the Stars. Sophie is a lot of talent in a small package. She has been singing since she was born and twirls baton at Majorettes by Melanie. She is a student at Victory talent in Marshville and recently won first place with her very first solo on a competition stage. They are dancing for Harmony Community Church's Hope on Wheels program. Hope on Wheels is an outreach

program that gives to those that are less fortunate and reaches out to show them the love of Christ.

Chris Stinson, Anson High School principal, and Anson Dancing with the Stars 2014 Grand Champion, will be the Master of Ceremony. Leon Gatewood, CEO of Helping Our Loved ones Learn and Achieve (HOLLA!) will be the DJ.

A panel of esteemed judges will rank the dancers. They are Fred Davis, Principal of Wadesboro Primary School, Kristie McCollum, an instructor at Victory Talent Dance and Gymnastics, and Tanya Jackson, Zumba instructor and Anson County Schools staff member. The combined total of judge and spectator votes will decide the reigning champion dancers.

Attendees can vote for their favorite couple by purchasing voting tickets, which will be sold at the event. Votes are \$1 per vote or \$5 for 6 votes.

The winning couple will receive the Anson Dancing with the Stars Mirror Ball Trophy and \$100 towards their favorite local charity.

Snacks and drinks can be purchased at the event. Cash only for tickets and snack sales at the event. All proceeds will benefit the Anson Women's League Scholarship fund and other community service projects.

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Luke & Anne Hyatt



Thedis Spencer & Kyler



Gina Glarke & Sophie Goodwin

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