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# THE EXPRESS

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

## Gerald Cannon Designated as Anson Sheriff for Next 4 Year Term

See coverage of how the process took place on page 2 of this edition of The Express.

## Health Department is Giving Flu Shots

The Anson County Health Department has begun giving Flu shots on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and then 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. For an appointment call 704-694-5188 and press 1.

The Health Department accepts these insurances as in-network: Blue Cross Blue Shield; Cigna; United Healthcare; Medcost; Aetna; Multiplan; Ambetter; Medicare; Wellcare Medicare; Medicaid; and Medicaid – Prepaid Health Plans: 1. Healthy Blue, 2. Amerihealth Caritas, 3. Wellcare - Medicaid, 4. Carolinas Complete Health, 5. United Healthcare - Medicaid. Patients without one of the primary health insurance plans listed above or who do not have any insurance may be seen using the Sliding Fee Scale. Household members and income for the household is used to determine the percentage pay for the patient. The Health Department is located at 110 West Ashe Street in Wadesboro.

## Dizzy Gillespie Jazz Festival in Cheraw

Dizzy Gillespie's hometown of Cheraw, SC ushers in its 17th year of the South Carolina Jazz Festival October 13-16 with four days of great jazz and exciting activities. The weekend, which coincides with the 105th anniversary of Gillespie's birth, will showcase the unique bond Gillespie shared with his South Carolina roots and jazz. A wide variety of free events and one ticketed concert are scheduled for Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday October 13-16. This year's festival will culminate on Sunday, October 16, with a Free Jazz concert at First Presbyterian Church of Cheraw.



Over 24 Jazz performances are scheduled during the festival that include in-school performances. The concerts will feature regional musicians from both North and South Carolina and beyond. The festival kicks off with a free concert on Thursday, October 13th at the Dizzy Gillespie Homesite Park featuring Cheraw native Robert Gardiner Jazz Quintet. Robert is an educator at Lander University and also the founder of the SC Jazz Masterworks Ensemble.

Featured artist for the ticketed evening performance on Friday, October 14 at the Theatre on the Green will be New York based Trumpet Player Alphonso Horne & the Gotham Kings. South Carolina musician Mark Rapp & the Dizzy Gillespie Celebration Band with guest vocalist Martina DaSilva will perform at a free outdoor concert on Saturday evening, October 15.

Weekend activities include free performances at Cheraw's Centennial Park featuring the 208th Army Jazz Band, a Be-bop parade, evening jazz crawls, and a jazz lunch and brunch. Music will be presented at the Gillespie family's home church, Wesley United Methodist on Saturday, the 15th. Art abounds during the weekend with Art on Town Green and the festival's 13th Italian Madonnari Chalk Competition. Attendees can enjoy a self-guided Historic Cheraw Cell Phone Tour to over 25 points of interest, including Dizzy Gillespie related sites. Tickets for the Friday, October 14 concert at the Theatre on the Green are \$25 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets call the Cheraw Arts Commission 843.537.8420 x12 or visit [www.scjazzfestival.com](http://www.scjazzfestival.com).

## Domestic Violence Coalition Candlelight Vigil is October 27

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Anson County Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Center (ACDVC) participates in the Silent Witness program during the month of October to mourn those who have died because of Domestic Violence, celebrate those who have survived and connect with those who work to end Domestic Violence.

During October life-sized wooden silhouettes will be placed in the county, each bearing the name of a person who once lived, worked, had friends and family that loved them - whose life ended violently at the hands of an abuser - someone they knew or loved.

Gail Dove of ACDVC said, "Domestic Violence often goes unreported. In Anson County, from July 2021 to June 2022 ACDVC assisted 278 victims of Domestic Violence; 39 were male and 239 were female. The age bracket with the highest incidents is 26-40 years old. We had 364 calls to our crisis hotline. According to statistics, one in three women and one in four men have been victims of some form of violence by their intimate partner. Every nine seconds a woman is assaulted. From October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 there were 55 Domestic Violence related deaths in North Carolina alone."

On Thursday, October 27 at 6:00 p.m. a candlelight vigil will be held at the front steps of the Anson County Courthouse. ACDVC invites the public to join us during this special time of remembrance.

Anson County's known victims include Laura Parker, Rebecca B. Morrow, Cindy B. McIntyre, Linda Kay Walters, Argatha H. Clark, Connie Newton, Mary Jane Lee Seuss, Mary Polk, Danette Streater, Daisy Coleman Melton, Larry Lindsay, Sherri Feely Marshall, Doretha Polk Smith, Deborah Wall Smith, Jennifer Dawn Howell, Elnora Sturdivant, Kim Campbell, Rodney Smith, Linda McCain, Joseph Michael Hall, Daejunae Williams, Sherika Monique Little, Esther Brooks Hildreth.

There are three unnamed victims and two unborn children. For more information please contact ACDVC at 704-694-4499. The 24-hour crisis line number is 704-690-0362.



## Wadesboro Rotary Club Celebrated its 95th Anniversary in September

On Thursday, September 1 more than 50 Rotarians, Interactors, and distinguished guests gathered to celebrate Wadesboro Rotary Club's 95th anniversary and unveil a permanent Wadesboro Rotary Club display at the Leavitt House. Tommy Allen, Anson County Historical Society, welcomed all in attendance and gave a brief history of the building.

Chuck Horne shared the history of the Wadesboro Rotary Club: Twenty-two years after the very first Rotary Club formed, 17 men met at the courthouse and began the plans to charter the Wadesboro Rotary Club. The first official meeting of the Wadesboro Rotary Club was at the National Hotel in uptown Wadesboro with District Governor Dave Clark and members of the Sumter, SC and Charlotte, NC Rotary Club in attendance.

As the club grew, so did the acts of service, such as providing Christmas trees for the underprivileged, aid for children with crippling disabilities, a loan fund for college students, sponsoring a Boy Scout organization, and many other projects for the well-being of the people in Anson County.

Now the Wadesboro Rotary club distributes approximately \$40,000 to support the mission of local nonprofits such as Anson County Schools, Anson County Partnership for Children, Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition, Anson County Arts Council, and Anson County NC Cooperative Extension, to name a few.

"Education has always been important to the Wadesboro Rotary Club," said Club President Stephanie Wilson. Rotary has sponsored special projects such as 3D printers for Anson High School and blessings in a backpack.

"Our club sponsors the Anson High School and Anson County Early College Interact Clubs continued Wilson. "We also honor the Teacher of the Year awardees and give about \$8,000 in scholarships annually."

However, the Wadesboro Rotary Science Center and Henry H. "Punky" Morton Planetarium is arguably one of the club's most significant contributions to the community. The Planetarium allows elementary school students the opportunity for scientific discovery through hands-on learning.

At the celebration Don Scarborough recognized Bob Garris, Richard Johnson, Emmett Patterson and Gene Ward as members with 50 or more years in Wadesboro Rotary Club. Preston Burns holds the most extended membership, with 74 years of service before his passing.

Rotary International 7680 District Governor Kamlesh Chandan thanked current Rotarians for their service to the community and challenged Rotarians to grow as individual service members and as a club. County Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn read the proclamation announcing September 2 as Rotary Day in Anson County to honor the history of Rotary in our community.

Wilson closed with an explanation of the Rotary Club items on display in the Leavitt House, including the minutes from the first Wadesboro Rotary Club meeting in 1927.



From left, Emmett Patterson, Bob Garris and Gene Ward were honored for more than 50 years of service to the Wadesboro Rotary Club.



County Commissioner Jarvis Woodburn (as a Rotary member) and Club President Stephanie Wilson during the proclamation for Rotary Day on September 2.

## The Mousetrap Play Opens this Weekend at the Ansonia

The world's longest running play is coming to the Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro.

*The Mousetrap*, by Agatha Christie has been running in London for 70 years and going strong. One of the reasons for its success is the brilliant script and the rich characters in this mystery.

A timeless tale of "whodunit," Christie strands seven strangers at Monkswell Manor during a blizzard. But, a police sergeant unexpectedly arrives, worried that a murderer-at-large is among the guests of the Manor. Before he can investigate, one of the guests is killed, starting an investigation into the lives and histories of everyone there. One of them is the killer, and another one of them may be next. Will the police be able to solve the case before another "mouse" falls?

This two-act eight-character play is part drawing room comedy and part murder mystery. Amanda Traywick and Matthew Thompson star as Mollie and Giles Ralston, the new owners of the Inn. Joining them as the guests are Ansonia newcomers Luke Cleveland as Christopher Wren and Talia Tallman as Mrs. Boyle. The rest of the cast is rounded out with Ansonia stage veterans. Jennifer Gilmore stars as Miss Casewell, Lance Barber is Major Metcalf, Robert Graves is Mr. Paravacini and Carson Traywick plays Detective Trotter. The show is directed by Tommy Wooten, with Maggie Gibson.

*The Mousetrap* is a double-barreled whodunit full of twists and surprises. The show runs October 14-23, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at [ansoniateatre.com](http://ansoniateatre.com) or by calling 704-694-4950.



## Chamber Oyster Roast...Tickets are Going Fast!

Join the Anson Chamber for their 2022 Chamber on the Half Shell presented by Anson Health & Rehabilitation and Loba-Wakol. This event will take place on Saturday, October 22 at Twin Valley Golf Club, from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Chamber on the Half Shell will feature an all you can eat buffet complete with steamed oysters, fried shrimp, fried fish, hush puppies, coleslaw and all the fixings! There will also be a complimentary open bar complete with wine and beer to quench your thirst! And, just in case you feel like dancing, Al G & Friends Band will join the party beginning at 7:00 p.m. to turn up the volume!

Individual tickets cost \$70, but hurry, there are a limited number of tickets available! For information or to purchase tickets email: [info@ansoncountychamber.org](mailto:info@ansoncountychamber.org), call 704-690-3234, or visit [www.ansoncountychamber.org](http://www.ansoncountychamber.org).

## Elementary Parent / Teacher Conferences are October 13

Students at Anson County Elementary Schools will have early dismissal at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday 13 for Parent/Teacher Conferences. Conferences will be held from 1 to 6 p.m.

## Author Daija Rivers at the Library October 17

The Hampton B. Allen announces an author event Monday, October 17 at 11:00 a.m. featuring local author, Daija Rivers.

Everyone is invited to join in and learn about Daija's book and her writing journey. She will have books for purchase. Face masks are optional. Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

## Holiday Play Auditions

*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* follows the outrageous shenanigans of the Herdman siblings, deemed the "worst children in the history of the world," who take over the Sunday school Christmas pageant and end up teaching the town the true meaning of Christmas. This play runs December 9-18. Auditions will be held on Tuesday, October 18 at 6 p.m. at the Ansonia Theatre. Be prepared to read from the script.