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**Cheraw Arts Commission Presents
"Frosty: A Musical Adventure" December 10**

The Cheraw Arts Commission presents The Barter Players in "Frosty: A Musical Adventure" in December. The musical production is scheduled for Saturday, December 10 at 2:00pm at the Theatre on the Green in Cheraw.

"Frosty" will delight all ages as a young orphan named Billy discovers magic in a stolen hat. When he places the hat on a snowman's head, that snowman comes to life! Can Frosty help Billy find his real family in time for Christmas? Join them on a thrilling quest through New York City as they discover that the real magic of the Season is Love.

On June 10, 1933 Barter Theatre opened its doors in Abingdon, Virginia, proclaiming "With vegetables you cannot sell, you can buy a good laugh." The price of admission was 40 cents or an equivalent amount of produce. Four out of five theatregoers paid their way with vegetables, dairy products and livestock. To the surprise of many, all the seats for the first show were filled. The concept of trading "ham for Hamlet" caught on quickly. At the end of the first season, the Barter Company cleared \$4.35 in cash, two barrels of jelly, and a collective weight gain of over 300 pounds. Today, The Barter Theatre is a year-round regional theatre with more than 160,000 visitors each year.

Advance tickets can be purchased at the Cheraw Community Center - 200 Power Street- Monday-Friday - 8:30am-5:00pm. Ticket price for Adults is \$8 and student/child tickets are \$6. For additional information, call the Cheraw Arts Commission 843.537.8420 x 12.



Online Retail Fraud Losses Approach \$380 Million in 2022

It's holiday shopping season and many consumers are searching online and social media for the perfect gifts. While shopping online is easy and convenient, Better Business Bureau (BBB) warns online shoppers searching for gifts and other merchandise to do their research, be mindful of social media scrolling, and use credit cards to avoid scammers.

The warning is an update to BBB's in-depth study, Theft on a Massive Scale: Online Shopping Fraud and the Role of Social Media, issued last December.

Online shopping scam reports to BBB Scam Tracker (bbb.org/scamtracker) remain just under all-time highs reached in 2021 with losses approaching \$380 million. According to an October BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust report, scams being perpetrated online have risen 87% since BBB Scam Tracker launched in 2015. Of those reports, a vast majority of consumers lost money, making online shopping fraud one of the most dangerous and successful, according to the BBB Institute's research.

In many cases reported to BBB's Scam Tracker, the scammers entice shoppers with hard-to-find items, low prices, and fast delivery. Nearly 36% of all online retail fraud reports to BBB Scam Tracker originated through a fake website. Scammers used social media and email to initiate about 40% of reported scams.

In 2022, online retail scams remain one of the most reported frauds to these groups, and mirror's BBB's findings: Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Consumer Sentinel Network, and Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC).

These scams have three top warning signs in common:

- Prices that are too good to be true
- Websites that look legitimate, but credibility falls apart after a closer look,
- Credit card payment failures lead the seller to ask for payment over peer-to-peer payment apps or with gift cards.

Fraudsters use a variety of methods to collect money, including credit cards, money transfer services (Venmo, Zelle, PayPal) and gift cards. PayPal is the only cash-sharing app that offers some protections for consumers, though reports to BBB show mixed success in obtaining refunds. BBB recommends consumers pay with a credit card when possible, as those companies have strong procedures in place for disputing fraudulent transactions.



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FOREVER TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

This event is open to all community members. Please join us on:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH 6PM

Leavitt Funeral Home 2036 Morven Road in Wadesboro

If you would like to place an ornament on the Forever Tree in honor or in memory of someone, please contact: Sandy Black, Bereavement Coordinator at Anson Community Hospice (910) 997-4464. The deadline is December 7.

Or mail completed form to:

Anson Community Hospice, 1119 US Highway 1 N, Rockingham, NC 28379

We request a \$10 donation per ornament. Donations are tax-deductible and will help fund grief support for the community.

Place ____ ornament(s) in **HONOR** of: _____ Place ____ ornament(s) in **MEMORY** of: _____

Name and address of individual(s) to send acknowledgement to: _____

Name and address of the donor to send thank you note to: _____

• **RSVP for Tree Lighting Ceremony.**

Will attend the Forever Lighting Tree Ceremony, Yes _____ No _____

Number of Guest _____ Contact number _____



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