

# Marshville Museum and Cultural Center Celebrates Five Years on June 17 with Event

This is a release from Margaret Pigg of the Marshville Museum and Cultural Center: The Marshville Museum and Cultural Center opened on June 17, 2012, with many guests and good wishes from Marshville town officials and other dignitaries. At our first birthday party it was reported that there had been more than 1,000 visitors, 20 classes sponsored by the Union County Community Arts Council through a grant, ranging from genealogy to old fashioned Christmas ornament making. There were approximately 200 individuals in the classes, of which 123 were children. About 60 volunteers had given more than 24,000 hours of labor including the 6 months of preparation for opening.

In 2013 a "Care to Share" grant from Pee Dee Electric provided money for a new HVAC system to be installed in the building in conjunction with the Town, which owns the building.

For our fifth birthday I thought it would be interesting to have a recap of our activities. There have been 18 classes for children, 8 classes for adults, not including Quilting each first Tuesday morning and Knitting on the first Tuesday afternoon. Jack has had approximately 300 participants in his four-session genealogy classes. We have had a variety of art exhibits by 30 local artists and had receptions for them. Each year the 5 classes of third grade students from Marshville Elementary School walk to the museum for a special visit to learn about our local history. Numerous other groups have come for tours arranged when the museum is not open. Twice we had special Black History Month presentations by professionals, along with art exhibits by black artists. There have been two programs presented by authors who discussed their books. Some other presentations have been pottery making and spinning. Each fall there is a tea and fashion show which is enjoyed by the ladies.

From Wingate University we have had several interns to help us, two of whom were working for class credit. Along with a grant from UCCAC we helped a local student prepare a book of photos of historic Marshville homes for his senior thesis. He donated one of his books to the museum and the photos that he took are available for purchase at the museum, as well as the book from him.

Several of the volunteers have interviewed local folks and made CD recordings of their memories. We have 47 oral histories, 29 "Color Purple" filming memories and 20 interviews with people to record their memories of the train derailment in Marshville on April 10, 1984. These CDs are available for anyone to listen to at the museum and we can make copies if anyone wishes one.

A special treat each spring is the plant exchange which was the vision of Wanda Bradley. She wanted us to offer heirloom plants and seeds and call the event "Looking Back at Grandmother's Garden". Master Gardeners are on hand to answer questions and this has become one of our most popular and fun events.

All of our classes and programs are sponsored by the Union County Community Arts Council and the Grassroots Arts Program. In addition to 4 arts council grants, we received a second grant from Pee Dee Electric with which we had spotlights installed in the big room and enhanced lighting on the art wall, as well as carpet on the wall to make hanging the art easier and more attractive. In 2016 the Town of Marshville approved the hiring of a specialist in renovation to repair the tin ceiling in the big room. Later in the year, they approved the removal of the old carpet and installation of wood-look laminate floors in the two front rooms, custom made storm windows and some roof and chimney repairs. The Board of Directors approved and funded the installation of the same flooring in the remainder of the building. An anonymous donor who was very impressed with the museum gave the security system.

Each fall the Board has a fund drive to solicit donations to pay the museum's utilities and other expenses since the Town does not provide those for us. However, the Town provides internet service for us and one of our members has created a facebook page and is constructing a website for us. Our website is [www.mmcc1893.com](http://www.mmcc1893.com) and the email address is [mmcc1893@gmail.com](mailto:mmcc1893@gmail.com). Jack McIver edits a monthly newsletter which he emails to subscribers at the first of each month. If you would like to be on this list, send a request to him at [mciver1@windstream.net](mailto:mciver1@windstream.net).

Concerning fund raising: a local artist, Mary Erickson, has donated an original oil painting valued at \$2,100 for us to raffle. Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25. The painting will be given away at our 5th birthday celebration which will be June 17, from 1 to 3 p.m. To purchase tickets contact any museum volunteer or come by the museum.

We always need more volunteers so if you would be interested in joining this busy group, just call Norma Moore at 704-385-9392 or Phyl Simpson at 704-624-6214. And thanks to all of you for your wonderful support over these five years.

## Market on Market in June in Cheraw this Saturday

Market on Market continues on Saturday, June 17, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in downtown Cheraw. The family friendly monthly event features art, produce, food and entertainment on the third Saturday of each month from May through October. Local farmers from the Cheraw's Farmer Market will bring their produce to the downtown area for purchase. Market on Market will also feature an art component with face painting and hands on art activities.

A variety of food items will be available for purchase from restaurants. River's Edge will have their famous home churned ice cream at the restaurant. The Wine Factory will be open for brunch from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Cheraw Merchants Association will present Ping Pong Ball Toss during the Market. The toss will be at Centennial Park at 11 a.m. Participants can vie for gift certificates and prizes from local merchants.

Contact the Cheraw Arts Commission for additional information about the Market event. The office number is 843.537.8420 x 12.

## USDA Farm Service Agency County Committee Nomination Period Begins June 15

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced today that the nomination period for local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees begins on Thursday, June 15. "County committees allow farmers and ranchers to make important decisions about how federal farm programs are administered locally to best serve their needs," said Acting FSA Administrator Chris Beyerhelm. "We strongly encourage all eligible producers to visit their local FSA office today to find out how to get involved in their county's election. There's an increasing need for representation from underserved producers, which includes beginning, women and other minority farmers and ranchers."

County committees are made up of farmers and ranchers elected by other producers in their communities to guide the delivery of farm programs at the local level. Committee members play a critical role in the day-to-day operations of FSA. Committees consist of three to 11 members and meet once a month or as needed to make important decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs, county office employment and other agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms. Nationwide there are over 7,700 farmer and ranchers serving on FSA county committees.

Farmers and ranchers may nominate themselves or others. Organizations, including those representing beginning, women and minority producers, may also nominate candidates to better serve their communities. To be eligible to serve on an FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in an agency administered program, and reside in the local administrative area where the election is being held.

After the nomination period, candidates will encourage the eligible producers in their local administrative area to vote. FSA will mail election ballots to eligible voters beginning November 6, 2017. Ballots will be due back to the local county office either via mail or in person by December 4, 2017. Newly-elected committee members and alternates will take office on January 1, 2018.

To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign an FSA-669A nomination form. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available at [www.fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections). All nomination forms for the 2017 election must be postmarked or received in the local FSA office by August 1, 2017. Locate your local office at [offices.usda.gov](http://offices.usda.gov) and visit to get more information.

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## Men For A Change 2017 In Support Of The ANSON COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER

*We join our hearts and voices this Father's Day - To stand united and make this Pledge. We hope you will join us in this Pledge and Daily Commitment.*

'I pledge to seek equality and respect in all my relationships with women. I commit to lead by example, to be a role model to other men and a mentor to our younger generations, to create violence-free futures in our community for women and children.'

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