THE EXPRESS • September 24, 2025 • Page 3 Suicide Suspected in Death at

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Anson Correctional Institution

A person in custody at Anson Correctional Institution died Sunday morning of an apparent suicide, according to a news release from the N.C. Department of Adult Correction. Diamond Desire Lavario, 43, was found unresponsive in her cell around 8:10 a.m. on September 21. Prison staff began life-saving measures, and EMS responded, but she was pronounced dead at 8:35 a.m.

Officials investigating after woman found unresponsive in cell

Local law enforcement has been notified and is investigating, while the N.C. Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine the official cause of death. Both steps are standard procedure in all deaths that occur in custody. The Department of Adult Correction is also conducting its own internal investigation. Authorities said no foul play is suspected.

Lavario was convicted of assault in Alamance County in 2023. She had been serving her sentence at Anson Correctional Institution, with a projected release date in 2032.

Governor Stein Calls for Congressional Action on ACA Tax Credits to Keep Health Care Costs Down for Hundreds of Thousands of North Carolinians

"Too many North Carolinians risk either being priced out of health insurance entirely or paying exorbitant costs to continue to get essential health coverage.

On September 10 Governor Stein called on Congress to extend the Affordable Care Act (ACA)'s enhanced premium tax credits beyond December 31, 2025, to protect North Carolinians from skyrocketing health care costs. Without congressional action, 157,000 North Carolinians will become uninsured and another 888,000 will see their health care premiums double.

"We have a responsibility to stay laser-focused on lowering costs for families, including health care costs," said Governor Josh Stein. "We cannot stand by as health care costs skyrocket for families across North Carolina and the country, and I urge you to do your part and take swift action to extend the enhanced premium tax credits.

Since enhanced premium tax credits began in 2021, hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians have been able to get affordable health insurance. From 2023-2024, nearly 80% of enrollees nationally were able to find plans that costs \$10 or less per month, compared to only 36% without the help of enhanced premium tax credits. If Congress does not take action to extend them by September 30, the enhanced premium tax credits will expire on December 31. Then, it will be too late for many to opt into affordable health insurance.

The NC Department of Insurance has indicated the expiration of premium tax credits "will make it more difficult for people to afford their premiums." Rural residents, young people, and low-income North Carolinians will be harmed the most if Congress fails to act. In Dare, Hyde, Brunswick, Pamlico, and Transylvania counties, which will face the highest increases, enrollees will be forced to pay more than \$1,000 more per year in annual premiums.

When younger, healthier people exit the marketplace, costs increase for everyone. These exits also create a more volatile and untenable market for insurers, creating concerns that more insurers will pull out of the individual market altogether. At a time when North Carolina's health care system is already under extreme pressure due to drastic federal cuts to Medicaid, Governor Stein is committed to ensuring health care remains accessible and affordable for North Carolinians.

Friends of the Library Open House **Promises Books, Board Games, and Bluegrass**

The Friends of the Hampton B. Allen Library Board invite the community to their annual Board Meeting and Open House on Thursday, October 2. The evening begins at 5:00 p.m. with the annual board meeting, open to the public, where elections for officers will be held.

Afterward, things open up with a full slate of activities, including the launch of a Teen Advisory Board, board games, children's activities, Legos, and even a Pokémon Card Trading Post. Guests can also stop by the information station, sign up for library cards, and meet the dedicated staff and Friends members who help make the library thrive. Light refreshments will be served.

At 6:30 p.m. the fun continues with a toe-tapping Bluegrass Jam Session, proving once again that the library is more than just books - it's a hub of community, creativity, and connection.

The Hampton B. Allen Library is located at 120 South Greene Street in Wadesboro. For more information, call 704-694-5177, visit www.srls.info.



Faith-Based Center Of Hope Yard Sale October 4 Promises Treasures And Laughs

Clear out the trunk, bring a friend, and maybe even rent a U-Haul, because the Faith-Based Center of Hope is hosting their "HUGE MONTHLY YARD SALE" on Saturday, October 4, starting bright and early at 8:30 a.m. The action takes place in the parking lot across from Papa Joe's Pizzeria at 911 East Caswell Street in Wadesboro.

This isn't your average yard sale. It's the kind where you come looking for a lamp and leave with a bread maker, three picture frames, and a slightly mysterious garden gnome. Best of all, every penny goes to help our less fortunate brothers and sisters, so you can justify buying that questionable VHS collection as "charity work."

Donations and contributions are welcome - because someone else's "what is this thing?" might be another person's treasure.

For more information (or to confess how many things you plan to haul home), contact Vancine Sturdivant at 704-294-0480.

So mark your calendar and bring your best bargaining skills. Remember: one person's clutter is another person's comedy gold.

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Anson County Farm Bureau **Annual Meeting** Monday, October 6th

Location: Lockhart-Taylor Center 514 North Washington Street • Wadesboro, NC

Time: Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. Business meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Admission: We can only allow 2 people per membership

You must be present for your guest to come. *Please present your membership card at the door.

This is the Annual Meeting of the members of the Anson County Farm Bureau, Inc., a North Carolina corporation (the "Corporation"). During the meeting, the members will consider a proposed amendment to the Corporation's bylaws regarding the eligibility requirements for the Corporation's Officers and Directors.

We look forward to seeing you there. Kevin Martin, President



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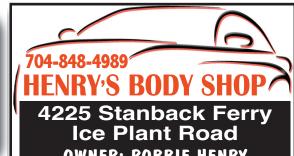
Highway 74 West in Wadesboro 704-694-3185 Mon-Fri 8:30-5 Sat 8:30-1

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