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

Christopher Carroll Raffaldt Charged with Kidnapping and Stabbing Victims on October 5

On the morning of Thursday, October 5 deputies from the Anson County Sheriff's Office responded to Carolinas HealthCare System Anson in reference to an assault and kidnapping. Deputies spoke with the victims in the case who were admitted to the hospital with injuries.

The victims told the deputies that they were at the residence of Christopher Carroll Raffaldt, located at 692 George Ratliff Road in Peachland. One of the victims stated that she was Raffaldt's girlfriend, and that she, along with her mother and her mother's boyfriend, were staying the night at the residence. Raffaldt's girlfriend stated that early in the morning hours of October 5 Raffaldt became upset with her and grabbed a large knife and cut her with it. She stated that she started screaming for help, and that Raffaldt began strangling her. After hearing the screams for help, the victim's mother and her boyfriend came to see what was going on, and at that point Raffaldt stabbed her mother in the abdomen. The victims stated that they pleaded with Raffaldt to let them go and seek medical treatment, but Raffaldt refused to let them leave, saying that he would kill them before he would let them leave. The victims stated that Raffaldt left for work around 6 a.m. and agreed to let them go if they would not go to the police.

Deputies were able to arrest Raffaldt within a few hours without incident. The victims were treated for the injuries and later released.

Raffaldt was charged with one count of First Degree Kidnapping, one count of Assault with a Deadly Weapon Inflicting Serious Injury, one count of Second Degree Kidnapping, Assault by Strangulation and one count of possession of Firearm by a Felon. He was placed in the Anson County Jail under a \$750,000 secure bond, and is scheduled to appear in Anson County District Court on October 16, 2017.



Christopher Raffaldt



Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center's Yard Sale and Charity Ride

This is a release from the BRLC: The Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center celebrated their annual God's Glorious Charity Ride recently. The route consisted of more than 100 miles round trip. This special event celebrates the beginning of Fall/Autumn Season. It is also a time for all of us to financially give back to support the outreaches that Burnsville R&L Center Volunteers does weekly. The services that BRLC provides to families in Anson County and the surrounding areas would not happen if the community of folks did not share their resources. With the community's efforts families are able to get help with food, childcare and education tools to name a few.

The God Glorious Charity Ride was coordinated by Burnsville local men and women who enjoy motorcycle riding as a sport. The committee that made this ride happen were Nelson Jackson, Jewel Brewer, Mitchell Liles, Curtis Crump, Bobby and Rosemary Sturdivant, Johnny Burns, James Brewer and Danny Pearson. The Anson County Sheriff's Office and the Wadesboro Police force were very instrumental in directing traffic and making sure that the riders had a safe ride through the heart of Anson County.

The bikers rode to towns including Gaffney, SC, Cheraw, SC, Charlotte, Kannapolis and Conover, NC.

The Kids Café after school workers and volunteers prepared a big breakfast for this event. Bikers, non-riders and supporters enjoyed the breakfast together.

During the opening ceremony the BRLC bikers committee made a presentation to Mrs. Ella Thomas, her daughter Amy and son in law Chris Turner. The presentation commemorated the hours of volunteer service Roger Thomas donated to BRLC. Roger always supported the God Glorious Bike Ride, and worked with the food transport department.

Lunch was prepared by BRLC volunteers. Instrumental and vocal music was provided by musician McKinley Sandifer of Charlotte as the riders continued to celebrate.

The huge yard sale had many great items to choose from. We will continue to provide the items on Wednesday morning during the food Pantry outreach and on Saturdays. Just stop in.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. The telephone number is 704-826-8737.

Traffic Stop Leads to Seizure of Methamphetamine and Marijuana

On Saturday, October 7 at approximately 6 p.m. a deputy with the Anson County Sheriff's Office was patrolling near Ansonville when he observed a red truck traveling north on Highway 52. The deputy observed the truck weaving in and out of its lane of travel. The deputy conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and identified the driver as Kyle Martin of Ansonville. While speaking with Martin the deputy could smell a strong odor of marijuana emitting from the vehicle, and he observed a clear plastic bag inside the vehicle containing a green vegetable material. A search of the truck was conducted, and marijuana along with a bag containing crystal meth and drug paraphernalia was seized.

Martin was arrested and placed under a \$10,000 secure bond for possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. He is scheduled to appear in Anson County District Court on October 17, 2017.



Kyle Martin

Community Celebrates Farm-City Week

Ag producers, business representatives and community leaders from across the county attended the annual Farm-City Week dinner, held Tuesday, September 19 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center of South Piedmont Community College in Wadesboro. The event was held to emphasize the collaborations between the agricultural industry and the business community, with 148 in attendance. Outstanding individuals were also recognized and awarded plaques for their dedication to agriculture and business.

Farm-City Week observances take place around the nation each year to strengthen the understanding of farm-city connections that provide our food, fiber and shelter. Anson County is fortunate to have strong ties that appreciate its agricultural base and its importance to the local economy.

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce and Brown Creek Soil and Water Conservation District joined the Anson County Cooperative Extension staff to host the evening. The event combined the annual Farm-City Week observances with Brown Creek's annual awards dinner. Sponsored by Pee Dee Electric, guests were treated to a reception before the event, followed by a barbeque buffet. The evening program highlighted agriculture, award recipients and entertainment.

Plaques given during the evening included:

- Outstanding Farmer of the Year, awarded by Anson County Cooperative Extension, to Todd Moore, Todd Moore Farms.
- Outstanding Agribusiness was awarded to Brown Creek Creamery, received by Jeff Poplin and Robert Stovall, and presented by the Anson County Chamber of Commerce.
- Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District recognized the Anson County Conservation Farm Family, Barkman Farms. Receiving the recognition were Galen and Kyle Barkman.

The evening's entertainment was comedian Mike Goodwin of Columbia, SC. Goodwin entertained the group after dinner with a show of humor and fun, emphasizing the southern peculiarities that makes us all laugh.

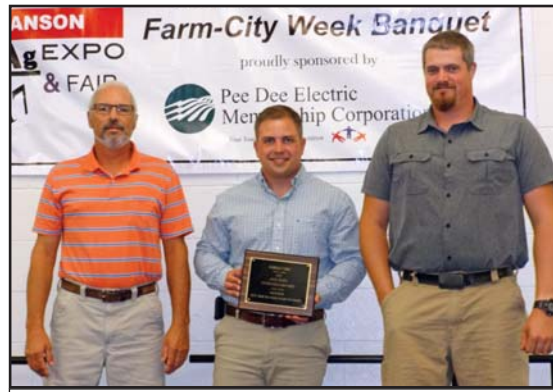
This year's event kicked off a week of observing and celebrating agriculture in Anson County. The week ended with a Family Fall Fest at Circle G Arena.



Jessica Morgan, Agricultural Agent, presents the Outstanding Farmer of the Year Award to Todd Moore.



Shelby Emrich, Chamber Director, presents the Outstanding Agribusiness Award to Jeff Poplin and Robert Stovall with Brown Creek Creamery.



Jake Barbee, Soil & Water Resource Conservationist, presents the Conservation Farm Family Award to Galen and Kyle Barkman of Barkman Farms.

Compassionate Friends Meet Thursday

The Compassionate Friends, an international support group for parents, grandparents and siblings who have lost a child of any age or cause, meets this Thursday, October 12 at 7 p.m. in the Training Room at Pee Dee Electric, located on Highway 52 South in Wadesboro.

For information call Becky at 704-272-7449 or Irvin at 704-694-8774.

BRLC Annual Chicken & Dumpling Dinner is Saturday

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center will hold their annual Chicken & Dumpling Dinner this Saturday, October 14, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. You can eat in or carry out. This delicious fundraiser is to help with the purchase and installation of a new heating and air conditioning system. Plates are only \$6.

Beginning at 8 a.m. there will be a huge yard sale too, featuring great buys for the home, office and the entire family.

BRLC is located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from the Fire Department. The telephone number is 704-826-8737.

Peachland Fire Department BBQ is Saturday

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy delicious barbecue at the Peachland Fire Department this Saturday, October 14. They will be serving pork and chicken plates for \$9, eat in or take out.

It begins at 11 a.m. and runs until 8 p.m., or until sold out.

Hornwood Named One of North Carolina's Top 100 Private Companies

Hornwood, Inc has been named to the 2017 Grant Thornton North Carolina 100 (NC100), which ranks the state's largest private companies by revenue.

"We are honored to be named to the 2017 Grant Thornton North Carolina 100 list," said Hornwood's President Wesley Horne. "This recognition reaffirms our prominence in North Carolina and our commitment to the community. We are proud to be recognized as one of the most innovative, top-performing businesses in our state."

Since 1984, the NC100 has ranked the state's largest private companies by revenue in the most recent fiscal year, based on data provided by the participants.

To view the complete 2017 list, visit GrantThornton.com/NC100.

Nine AMS Seventh Graders are Eligible for Duke TIP Program

Dr. Richard Courtright from Duke University came to Anson Middle School to discuss the prestigious Duke TIP Seventh Grade Talent Search. Nine Anson County seventh grade students performed at or above the 95 percentile on their end-of-year assessments making them eligible for this program. The students are Hillary Adams, Zohaa Ali, Jada Harrington, Sang "William" Park, Jacqueline Cherry, Joshua Grantham, Jordan Williams, Sheneeka Allen and Xylia Marshall.

These students will take either the ACT or the SAT this year. They will also be eligible for various scholarships and summer programs at different universities in North Carolina.

Overall these academically talented students will receive benefits such as specialized publications and resources, educational guidance, recognition of their abilities, and academic challenges.

To Kill a Mockingbird Opens this Weekend at the Ansonia

The play *To Kill a Mockingbird*, directed by Tommy Wooten debuts this weekend at the Ansonia Theatre. The play, adapted by Christopher Sergel, will run for two weekends, October 13 to 22. On Fridays and Saturdays the curtain rises at 7:30 p.m., and on Sundays at 3 p.m.

The cast includes Atticus played by Jason Clarke, Scout by Charley Williamson, Jem (dark hair) played by Caden Clarke and Dill (in glasses) played by Isaac Clarke.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.ansoniateatre.com or call 704-694-4950.

Uptown Wadesboro Fall Festival is October 28

Uptown Wadesboro, Inc. will hold its Annual Fall Festival on Saturday October 28, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Square in uptown Wadesboro. The activities include trick-or-treating at uptown businesses, games with prizes, storytelling, costume contests for children, and pets and pumpkin painting with prizes. The Anson County Partnership for Children will be providing free books to the children too. For further information call 704-695-1644 or visit www.uptownwadesboro.com.

Storytime Every Wednesday at Partnership for Children

The Anson County Partnership for Children offers Storytime in the Early Childhood Resource Center each Wednesday, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. for children ages 3 to 8. For more information call 704-694-4036.

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