

# THE EXPRESS

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

## Man Breaking Into Home Fatally Shot

Sheriff's Deputies are investigating the shooting death of a man that occurred early Saturday morning, March 15. Deputies were called to a mobile home in a mobile home park just outside the Wadesboro city limits off Avery Road at 4:19 a.m.

Sheriff Tommy Allen said that his office's investigation had determined that Archie Hoskins, 29, an Ansonian, had gone to his former girlfriend's trailer and broke through the front door into the home. Once inside he broke through the back bedroom door, and at that point was shot by the home owner's current boyfriend. Hoskins died at the scene.

Sheriff Allen said that his office, along with the State Bureau of Investigation investigated the shooting. The Sheriff did not release the name of the person renting the trailer, other than to say that she was Hoskin's former girlfriend with whom he had a child. The Sheriff also did not release the name of the man who fired the shot that killed Hoskins.

Allen said, "This lady had lived with her sister in this trailer park for several months, but had only moved into this trailer the day before this shooting happened. Records show that police had answered at least six domestic calls between this couple over the past five years, as far back as 2003. They had been living separate for the past year, and she had been seeing this other person for some time."

Allen went on to say, "Hoskins was shot once with a large caliber handgun, which officers have recovered. The body was sent to the office of the Chief Medical Examiner for an autopsy."

"We have talked with everyone involved. We have interviewed the man who did the shooting. He has been completely cooperative with us. At this time no charges have been filed, and our report is being turned over to the District Attorney for any further consideration," Allen added.

The Sheriff's Office and the SBI are investigating the incident.

## Sheriff's Deputies Making Life Tough for Drug Dealers

Sheriff's Deputies have arrested a number of individuals on various drugs charges. On Monday, February 25 officers stopped a vehicle in the Morven area leaving a known drug area and displaying an improper tag. During the traffic stop officers found illegal drugs, including 80 grams of cocaine with a street value of approximately \$3,500, marijuana, several hundred dollars in cash, a shotgun and a handgun.

Four people were arrested and the vehicle they were driving was seized. Arrested in this incident were: 1) Matthew Antrawn Lawery, age 21, DOB 06-25-1986, address given: 2030 West Market Street, Cheraw, SC; 2) Kenneth Thomas Willoughby, Jr., age 21, DOB 08-27-1986, address given: 231 McRae Road, Morven; 3) Johsua Atwain Miller, age 21, DOB 10-15-1986, address given: 5663 Hwy 109 S., Chesterfield, SC; and 4) Audrey Ann Backman, age 21, DOB 09-16-1986, address given: 4127 Capers Court, Florence, SC.

All four suspects were charged with three counts of Trafficking in Cocaine; one count of Sell and Deliver Cocaine and Marijuana each; Possession of Marijuana; Carrying a Concealed Weapon; and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Each was placed under a \$100,000 bond and a court date was set for April 14.

On Wednesday, March 12 Sheriff's Deputies executed a search warrant at a residence on Pineview Circle, a trailer park south of Wadesboro. There officers seized illegal drugs, money, a handgun and drug paraphernalia. They charged a husband and wife with various drug violations.

Charged in the incident were Timothy Tyrone Alexander, age 29, DOB 05-21-1978 and Lafredia Crowder Alexander, age 35, DOB 06-29-1972. Both lived at 151 Pineview Circle, Wadesboro. Both individuals were charged with: Possession and Possession to Sell and Deliver Cocaine; Maintaining a Dwelling to Sell Illegal Drugs; and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond was set at \$100,000 for the husband and \$10,000 for the wife, and a court date was set for May 19.

## Awaiting Spring's Official Arrival...

Just in case you forgot to mark it on your 2008 calendar of events, spring is right around the corner. Depending on what day the vernal equinox occurs in one's geographical location, spring arrives on March 20 or 21. With it marks the beginning of activities most of our citizens seem to enjoy. From foliage to fishing, baseball to barbeques and from Easter to egg hunts - tis the season for some good times.

"Spring is seen as a time of growth and renewals of new life (both plant and animal). It is also seen more generally as the start of better times," states Allen Lyon. "It falls between winter and summer and has an illustrious reputation as being the favorite seasonal pick for most Americans. Whether or not you agree isn't important. What is important is that you be reminded of the offerings spring presents."

In addition, be mindful of the variations in spring weather conditions. They can be extreme and go from very cold to very warm within a matter of hours. In fact, some of the United States largest snowfalls have occurred in March. Severe weather, especially in the south typically includes hail storms, tornadoes and thunderstorms. So now is a great time to put into action a plan for dealing with all kinds of weather conditions for you and your family's safety.

Growth, renewal and the start of better times sounds pretty inviting. Let us all renew our spirits, grow in strength and the admiration of beauty and begin a new day in a better way. With such roads to follow spring cannot possibly steer us in the wrong direction. Now walk that path with sunshine on your face and a "spring" in your step, but don't forget that plan for blustery weather conditions just in case you're faced with a storm.

By Melanie Morse

## AHS Majorettes Place First at Walt Disney World



The hard work and dedication of the Anson High School Majorettes certainly paid off as they took first place in the dance/twirl division of competition at Walt Disney World's Hollywood Studios. They are pictured from left, Lisbeth Hanna, Sarah Lisk, Sadie Freeman, Terrin Williams and Mary Kait Rivers. Outstanding job girls and congratulations on your big win! Photo and story by Melanie Morse

On Friday, March 7 the Anson High School Majorettes took center stage before a standing room only crowd at Disney's Hollywood Studios (formerly MGM). The girls, Lisbeth Hanna, Sarah Lisk, Sadie Freeman, Terrin Williams and Mary Kait Rivers, performed a twelve-minute 60's style show with a Twirl-A-Go-Go theme and were widely acclaimed by a very enthusiastic audience. Judging was fierce, but the girls came away with a crowd-pleasing, high-scoring performance and received superior reviews, while also taking first prize in the dance/twirl division of the competition! "Do your best," the three words I spoke to them just prior to their performance is exactly what they did. I couldn't have asked for more and proud doesn't begin to express the feelings we all felt after such a great showing by the twirlers.

During their stay in Florida the majorettes did much more than compete and perform. They were blanketed with experiences they may not otherwise have been exposed to, and the Year of a Million Dreams Celebration at Walt Disney World was surely apropos to those encounters. Between the five majorettes, I feel confident there were at least a million dreams disseminated, and they committed their best effort toward fulfilling as many of those as possible.

After jetting to Orlando, the majorettes visited the Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom and Hollywood Studios where they set off on safari, traveled effortlessly through space, visited over twenty different countries while experiencing their cultures, were thrilled by roller coaster rides and were terrified by a thirteen-story drop within an elevator! They were amazed by the artistry of Cirque du Soleil's La Nouba, a show described as "where dreams clashed with reality and the mundane mixed with the marvelous." This show served as a precursor to other artistic events they will now be attuned. Knowing what's out there and showing them cultural events they would not ordinarily see will hopefully broaden their horizons, keeping them interested in an important facet of life, the arts.

With several girls enrolled in Spanish courses at Anson High School, they enjoyed authentic Mexican food while admiring landmarks indigenous to Mexico, the ancient Mayan Ruins and a very realistic erupting volcano, to name a couple. They even managed to speak a bit of the native language while ordering from the menu. Quite impressive it was!

It was a three-day excursion filled with as many educational and culturally diverse experiences as could be heaved into a 72-hour time frame, arriving home weary but more aware of what the world has to offer. Each sampled many, many things meant to wet their whistles, while leaving them yearning for more. And of course, there were hours of just plain fun tucked into that 3-day window of opportunity as well.

Walt Disney's vision is certainly evident in the "Million Dreams" campaign, and these five Anson County girls will never forget the wonderful opportunity afforded them by many of you. Thank you citizens of our community for helping see to fruition the reality of such dreams. All five girls had one common wish. Their wish, that you, the people of Anson County would know how grateful and appreciative they are for the part you played in their successes both on the stage and throughout their all-encompassing journey. A heartfelt thank you goes out to the parents and friends accompanying the girls as well. It was a delightfully decadent trip filled with many dreams come true. Your presence made it a more worthwhile, wonderful and wide-eyed experience, one you hopefully can forever share.

We all have a higher regard for the girls talent, role modeling and wise decision making. You would have beamed with pride too as Anson County was definitely represented admirably by the AHS Majorettes. I am honored to be your coach, girls.

## Household Water Well Loan Program

The Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project, Inc. has received \$988,100 from the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development to create a loan program for homeowners needing to repair or construct water wells for their residences. The new loan program is designed to assist low to moderate income individuals needs loans to construct, refurbish and service their well systems. Loans from the program cannot be used for other purposes.

North Carolina is a participating state of the program which purpose is to target loans to the significant numbers of homeowners whose geographically isolated households lack water service, and for whom it is not feasible to be connected to new or existing community water systems.

Applicants must own and occupy the

home for which they are applying for a water well loan. It may not be associated with the construction of a new dwelling. It may not be used to substitute for water service available from collective water systems. The home must be located in a rural area. The combined household income for an individual applying for a loan should not be more than 100 percent of the median non-metropolitan household income for the state. Priority will be given to those who are disabled, elderly or who have minor children.

The loans have a one percent interest rate and a twenty year repayment term. \$8,000 per household is the maximum amount that may be borrowed.

Loan applications will be available soon at [www.southeastrcap.org](http://www.southeastrcap.org). Interested parties may also contact Beth Pusha, Director of Loan Fund Programs at 540-345-1184 or [bpusha@sercap.org](mailto:bpusha@sercap.org).

## Veterans Event in Fayetteville

You and your family are cordially invited to the First Annual Welcome Home Event sponsored by the Fayetteville, Virginia Medical Center OEF/OIF Transition Team to be held on Saturday, April 19, from 12:30 to 4 p.m. The event will be held at Methodist University, located at 5400 Ramsey Street in Fayetteville. Veterans and their families are invited to enjoy the many activities, including:

- VA Healthcare information and enrollment
- Military equipment
- Motorcycle groups
- Other displays will be on show!
- Representatives from local and national organizations will be on hand to answer questions
- Appearances by the Wells Family Band and other musical groups
- Refreshments for everyone
- Entertainment for the children
- Door prizes for OIF/OEF veterans

For more information, please call 1-800-771-6106 ext 5836.

## Wadesboro Primary School Students Practice Tornado Drill

Mrs. Tammy Gathings, Wadesboro Primary School Physical Education teacher,



is shown here crouching with students from Ms. Earlene Tillman's Kindergarten class during a tornado drill. The drill was held as part of North Carolina Severe Weather Awareness Week.

In the drill students filed into the school's hallways and curled into the tuck-and-cover position. This position helps students protect their head and neck.

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