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First Degree Murder Charges Brought Against Two Men in Destry Horne Death

During a press conference held on Thursday, April 7, Polk County, NC Sheriff Donald Hill announced that his office had issued First Degree Murder warrants on two men in connection with the shooting death of Destry Horne of Anson County on March 31 in Columbus, NC. The men were arrested in Florida on April 4 on other charges.



Edwards



Fernanders

Quintae Darelle Edwards, 23, of Simpsonville, SC and Kwame Fernanders, 22, of Spartanburg, SC are both being charged with the first degree murder of Horne.

In the press conference the Polk County Sheriff's Office reported on what they described as a crime spree that Edwards, Fernanders and another person, Kayla Black, 19, had done, including multiple robberies, the murder of Horne, a home invasion and kidnaping a minor. The three were arrested in Leon County, Florida on Monday, April 4 for the home invasion and kidnaping that took place in Gainesville, Florida. They will be extradited to North Carolina to face multiple charges, but Sheriff Hill did not know when that will take place.

Early on the morning of March 31, before the murder of Horne, there was an armed robbery in Landrum, NC. Sheriff Hill said his office believes the trio was involved in that incident, and he expects charges to be brought against all three for that crime. They also stole at least three vehicles during that several day period.

The press conference included an appearance by Terry Horne, Destry Horne's brother. He spoke of his family's love of Destry and the importance of Destry to his community. Terry Horne thanked the Polk County Sheriff's Office for their work in solving his brother's murder.

Sheriff Hill concluded the press conference by saying that he felt sorry for the Horne family. Hill said he knew the Horne family was grieving Destry who was a "hard working man who was trying to provide for his family."

Youth Camps at the Ansonia Theatre this Summer

The Ansonia Theatre will hold two Summer Youth Camps to expose Anson youth to the arts. They promise to be very educational and lots of fun - with acting, singing and dancing offered.

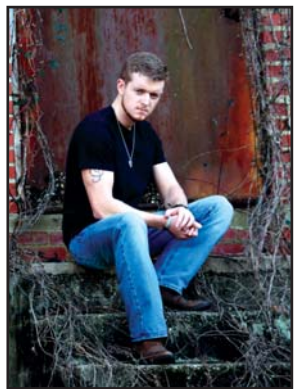
Session One is a two week camp that focuses on putting a show together covering all aspects of the stage. It runs from June 13 to 24, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Participants will workshop their own adaptation of the classic *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, with a community performance on June 24! Last summer there was a cast of 60 in the production of *Charlotte's Web*. Come join the fun! The tuition is \$100.

Session Two is entitled Musical Theatre Camp. It runs from July 18 to 22, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This one week camp focuses on singing and dancing as students create a big musical revue that will knock your socks off! Last summer this camp featured Broadway songs that had been sung by kids. This summer things will get kicked up a notch as the students tackle Broadway songs sung by adults. Directed by Tommy Wooten, Gina Clarke and Gail Litaker, this camp will be one to remember! The tuition is \$50.

More information and applications for both camps are available at the Anson County Arts Council, located right next door to the Ansonia. The telephone number is 704-694-4950.

Lucas Gathings and Band Among Top Four in Battle of the Bands

Ansonians urged to come to semi-finals competition this Friday in Charlotte



Lucas Gathings of Wadesboro won a spot in the top four bands to compete in the Carolina Country Music Festival Battle of the Bands. The contest is sponsored by radio station 96.9 The Kat, Coors Light and the Carolina Country Music Festival. Nineteen bands began the trek and received votes from fans to determine the top four acts that will proceed to the semi-finals. Lucas earned enough votes to place him in the top four moving him to the semi-final round.

Semi-finals will be held at Dilworth Neighborhood Grill in Charlotte this Friday, April 15t at 9 p.m. Winners will be determined based on crowd participation, so everyone is invited to attend this event!

The best two bands from the semi-finals will compete for the top spot to become the opening act for Keith Urban and Jake Owen during the Carolina Country Music Festival in Myrtle Beach on June 10.

Band members include Lucas Gathings and Sydney Davis of Wadesboro, Michael Welch and Austin Welch of Lilesville, Garth Rivers of Pageland and Adam Speaks of Marshville. Fans may follow their journey on the Lucas Gathings Music Facebook page.

Brown Bag Book Club Meets April 18

The Brown Bag Book Club will meet on Monday, April 18 in the Pritchett Room of the Hampton B Allen Library at 12 noon for a covered dish and author talk. J. A. Bolton, native of Richmond County and known as "Richmond County's own professional story teller" will be the speaker. If you want to hear someone tell humorous stories, he is the man.. "Live, love, laugh" is his motto. Please make plans to attend, bring a covered dish and a friend - enjoy the fellowship. If you have any questions or need additional information please call the library at 704-694-5177.



Many Beautiful Prom Gowns and Accessories Donated to Anson Students

Anson County officials and Anson County Early College Principal Carrie Decker are pictured here showing some of the prom dresses and other items donated for Anson County students. There were many beautiful gowns and accessories.

ACEC Career Development Coordinator Robbie James photographed several students who, along with county officials, displayed the prom donations. Pictured with the students are County Commissioners Vancine Sturdivant and Ross Streater, County Commissioner Clerk Bonnie Huntley, Magistrate Weaver Thomas, Sheriff Landric Reid, Clerk of Court Mark Hammonds, Anson County Manager Megan Gardner and Wadesboro Police Chief Thedis Spencer.



Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge Annual Youth Fishing Rodeo is Saturday

When & where? Saturday, April 16, 8 a.m. until noon. Sullivan Pond, Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge

What to expect Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of the Pee Dee Refuge are proud to present the 2016 fishing rodeo. Children 12 and under may enter the rodeo, but all ages are invited to participate. Prizes will be awarded to the youth with the largest fish, the smallest fish, and the most fish caught.

Fishing rods, tackle and bait will be available if you do not have your own, so come on out for this great outdoor event and help celebrate an eventful national pastime. A hot dog lunch will be provided by the Friends of the Pee Dee NWR following the fishing activities at 11 a.m. Other goodies will also be provided.

Directions The Pee Dee NWR office is located on Highway 52 North approximately 7 miles north of Wadesboro. Look for the brown refuge signs on Highway 52. Turn into the refuge drive, then continue straight 1/2 mile past the office to Sullivan Pond. For more information you can call the Refuge office at 704-694-4424.

Play Lone Star & Laundry and Bourbon Coming to the Ansonia

Two one-act plays by James McClure entitled *Lone Star & Laundry and Bourbon* is coming to the Ansonia Theatre. Tickets go on sale on April 18.

"Outrageously funny!" It's 1972, two years after Roy Caulder, once the hero of his high school class in Maynard, Texas, has returned from the Vietnam War to find everything he knows has changed. About all he has left are memories of his glory days, his adoring younger brother Ray, his wife Elizabeth and his now crumbling 1959 pink Thunderbird. This is one of the funniest nights of theatre that you will ever experience!

For ticket information call the Arts Council at 704-694-4950. The show is rated PG-13 for adult language and situations.

Area High Schools and Middle Schools to Compete in Second Annual Robotics Challenge

South Piedmont Community College and Union County Public Schools will host 50 teams from Union and Anson County high schools and middle schools for the second annual Robotics Challenge this Saturday, April 16, at SPCC's Center for Technology and Health Education (3509 Old Charlotte Highway, Monroe).

The event is free of charge and open to the public. Doors open at 8:30 a.m., with the competition starting at 9 a.m. The high-tech fun is expected to continue until approximately 4 p.m.

Everyone is invited to come out and encourage Union County's future engineers and to promote STEM education. Concessions will be available for purchase on site.

Prizes will be awarded following the competition. In addition to SPCC and UCPS, other sponsors for the event include the Union County Chamber of Commerce, Make It in Union County, Goulston Technologies, Greiner Bio-One, ATI and the Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center.

For more information, contact Jamie Campagni at (704) 290-5890 or jcampagni@spcc.edu.

Relay for Life Survivors' Social

The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Anson County invites all cancer survivors and two guests to attend the 2016 Anson County Survivors' Social. This event will be held on Sunday, April 24, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church of Wadesboro, located at 208 South Greene Street.

If you would like to attend please RSVP to Amy Turner as soon as possible at 704-826-8407. It is best to call after 6 p.m., and you may leave a message with your contact information.

Great News for the Spring Outdoor BBQ Enthusiast!

The Anson County Chamber of Commerce will conduct a raffle at their April 22 golf tournament again this year, and they have an outdoor grill and a patio heater on the raffle ticket just in time for spring! You do not have to be a participant in the tournament or be present to win. Tickets are \$1 each or 25 tickets for \$20. They are available at the Chamber or at H.W. Little Hardware! The drawing will be held at the golf tournament.

• Char-Broil 6 burner gas grill • 87" tall outdoor patio heater
The Chamber sends a special thank you to Ambassador Health & Rehab of Wadesboro and H.W. Little & Company for their donations for the raffle.

Cooking Food That Heals

Yes, there is hope to reverse diabetes, heart disease, cancer, arthritis, high cholesterol, or high blood pressure or obesity with food and a positive lifestyle! Come learn more at the next healthy living and cooking classes at Pathway to Peace Ministries on Sunday, April 17, from 3 to 5 p.m. The cost is free, and you will also be able to eat dinner too! The location is Highway 109 South, 2 miles past Deep Creek Road (11775 NC 109 South, Peachland, NC). For more information call 704-695-1441.

Family Support Group Meets Tuesday, April 19

Connections Family Support Program hosts a monthly family support group opened to parents, grandparents, and foster parents. This is a time for those with children who have behavioral, emotional and/or learning challenges to share their experiences and learn from others.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19. The group meets the third Tuesday of each month, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library in the Pritchett Room. Brunch is provided at no cost.

Contact Suzanne Maness at (910) 627-1769, toll free (877) 211-5995, or by email at connectionsfsp@gmail.com to register. The deadline to register is Friday, April 15.

Pee Dee WALL Meets April 28

Pee Dee WALL will hold a meeting on Thursday, April 28 at 6 p.m. in the Hampton B. Allen Library.

The Express is on the web at www.TheExpressNewspaper.com