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

## Polkton Police Chief Mullis Assaulted by Bradley Lenoir Taylor, Jr.

Polkton Police Chief Kevin Mullis was seriously assaulted Wednesday afternoon, August 17th while trying to intervene in a domestic dispute on the sidewalk in front of the Police Department. Sheriff Tommy Allen said that a little before 2 p.m. that Wednesday a female came to the Polkton Police Department seeking help from a boyfriend she said was threatening and following her. The boyfriend almost immediately showed up and got into a scuffle with Chief Mullis as he tried to protect the female. Mullis was struck several times about the face and head and was knocked unconscious as both fell to the sidewalk. Investigators believe Mullis struck his head on the sidewalk or pavement as he went down. The suspect, who was identified as Bradley Lenoir Taylor, Jr., fled the scene in a white Honda Civic. When officers and EMS arrived at the scene a few minutes later they found Mullis bleeding about the head and face. He was taken to the Monroe hospital where he was treated for cuts and abrasions and later released that night.

"My officers were doing marijuana eradication that day and when this call went out we had an extra number of officers on duty. Within a few minutes we had dozens of officers in the area, deputies, highway patrol, Wadesboro Police and a State Highway Patrol helicopter. We searched several houses and areas the suspect was known to frequent or live and heavily patrolled that end of the county. We later found the vehicle parked under a carport out from Polkton a couple of miles," Allen said.

The Sheriff said that he and his officers talked to family members and encouraged them to try to contact Taylor by cell phone to turn himself in. "The family was very cooperative and worked with us all afternoon," Allen said. Shortly before 5 p.m. on Wednesday the Sheriff's Office received a call from Taylor's father saying he was bringing his son to the Sheriff's Office. There he was arrested and charged with assault on a government official.

Taylor is currently in the Anson County Jail under a \$250,000 bond. The Sheriff said he expects other charges to be filed once the investigation is completed. The SBI is assisting the Sheriff's Office in the investigation. Chief Mullis is recovering at home.

## The Hidden Talents Open for Sandy B and the AllStars this Saturday at the Ansonia



Some of the members of the Hidden Talents are pictured here. They are, from left, Whit Davis, Aaron Hinson, Leon Smith, Sean Tarlton, Richard Harrington, Marti Cupples, Lincoln Martin, Kenny Harrington and Wilbur Moore.

In a release from the Arts Council: A special event at the Ansonia Theatre in Wadesboro will take place this Saturday night, August 27. From Augusta, GA, Sandy B and the Allstars will be entertaining the crowd. But before that...the Hidden Talents will get everyone ready!

This popular Anson County Band consists of a group of men who play together for fun and the love of music. As local residents say, "listening to The Hidden Talents is just fun - a lively, toe tapping good time!" Since their formation in 1995 they have had over 100 performances, mostly in Anson County, but also in Union, Stanley and Richmond Counties and in Cheraw.

Playing trumpet and harmonica on Saturday night will be Dr. Whit Davis, a retired physician who has lived in Anson County since 1960. He started playing trumpet as a teen and was honored to play Taps at funerals for World War II servicemen, and then later in a band aboard the destroyer, USS Knapp.

Brothers, Richard and Kenny Harrington who grew up in Lilesville will both be playing acoustic guitar and doing vocals. They come from a very musically talented family, which included their father, Jack Harrington, who played with this group until shortly before his death.

On keyboard will be Aaron Hinson. Aaron has been playing some kind of musical instrument since the age of 4,

and in bands during the Korean war and later.

Joseph Huntley of Wadesboro will be playing drums. Joe has played in several local bands around the region, including the Sammies.

Banjo and violin will be played by Vic Lowry, who has played all kinds of different instruments since childhood.

Wilbur Moore has played with bands such as Fats Domino, Jerry Lee Lewis and Kitty Wells for about 35 years. He will be playing the electric guitar.

Leon Smith, a retired professor at Wingate University, will be on the banjo and fiddle. Dr Smith is known to many Ansonians as the talented artist who cast the bronze sculpture of Lord George Anson.

Of course due to other obligations, one or more of the musicians may change.

The group is very excited to be part of a major event in the newly renovated Ansonia Theatre. They will be playing from 7:30 to 8 p.m. before Sandy B and the Allstars take the stage. In fact, The Hidden Talents may slip in a little early while folks are coming in. It should be an altogether wonderful evening!

Tickets are available through the Anson County Arts Council or at Lacy's for \$20. Try to get tickets in advance, because the last two programs at the Ansonia were sold out! More information is available at 704-694-4950.

## Ag Expo to Host South Atlantic Lumberjack Competition

"Let the wood chips fly!"

The 2011 Anson Ag Expo & Fair will host the South Atlantic Woodsmen's Association (SAWA) Lumberjack Competition on Saturday, September 24 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro. Beginning at 12:30 p.m., the event will continue throughout the afternoon.

You may have read about Anson County native lumberjack Logan Scarborough in the local newspapers and seen him on ESPN or on the STIHL website, but now is your chance to see Logan and many other lumberjack professionals compete in person right here in Wadesboro.

The day will feature several exciting lumberjack events. For instance, accuracy is the name of the game in the Axe Throwing event as the competitors throw double bitted axes from twenty feet away at a four-inch bull's eye. In the Underhand Chop event, the SAWA lumberjacks blast their way through eleven inch yellow poplar logs with six pound razor sharp axes. Precision is the key to a fast axe cut in the Standing Block Chop event. There is one man, one six foot saw, and one goal in the Single Buck Saw event - to be the first sawyer through the wood.

As a true challenge of strength and dexterity, the competitors in the Springboard event use axes to chop pockets into a 9-foot poplar pole, place 6-inch wide platforms into the pockets and chop while balancing 8 feet in the air.

The Stock Saw event featuring MS 660 STIHL Magnum chainsaws leads up to the crowd's favorite event, the Hot Saw, with highly modified deafening chainsaws ripping off three cuts in fewer than six seconds.

At the end of the day winners will be announced in each of the six events and an overall winner of the Wadesboro competition will be named. The competition will feature Polkton resident Logan Scarborough, the 2010 National Collegiate STIHL Timbersports Champion. Logan won the national competition last August in Salem, Oregon after winning the 2010 Southeastern Regional Competition in Montecello, Arkansas. He also competed in the 2010 World STIHL Timbersports Competition in St. Johann, Austria.

Son of Don and Elaine Scarborough of Polkton, Logan graduated from North Carolina State University in May 2010 with a BS degree in Forest Management. Employed by the Forestry Division of Crop Production Services, Inc, Logan also owns and operates Plank Road Forestry in Wadesboro.

In addition to Logan, other nationally known professional lumberjacks will compete on September 24. They include father-son team, Mike and Matt Slingerland from Rockwell, NC and Mike's wife, Barb Slingerland, and his daughter, Sara Slingerland. SAWA announcer and lumberjack Daryl Weakland of Concord, NC, another 2011 National STIHL Timbersports competitor, will also compete in Wadesboro. Throughout the fast paced SAWA event, Daryl will involve the audience in trivia questions, give-a-ways, forest education and games for the kids.

When the competition is over the lumberjacks will be glad to sign autographs for SAWA fans young and old on the "cookies" cut from the competition logs. For more information on SAWA and current lumberjack standings in each competition category, visit [www.sawalumberjacks.com](http://www.sawalumberjacks.com).

The Anson Ag Expo & Fair would like to thank the following generous sponsors of the Wadesboro SAWA Lumberjack Competition: Anson Wood Products, Pryor Gibson, Anson County Tourism Development Authority, Culp Lumber Company, Plank Road Forestry and Wadesboro Rotary Club.



Logan Scarborough will be among the contestants in the upcoming Lumberjack Competition at the Ag Expo.

## Natural Disaster Declared from Drought and Heat

Emergency loans available to eligible farmers

On August 16 Secretary Vilsack with the US Department of Agriculture declared a natural disaster in the State of South Carolina based on damages and losses caused by drought and excessive heat that occurred from April 1, 2011 and continuing.

In accordance with Section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 11 adjacent counties in North Carolina are named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA emergency (EM) loan assistance. Anson County is one of those NC counties. The others are Jackson, Richmond, Transylvania, Brunswick, Macon, Robeson, Union, Columbus, Mecklenburg, and Scotland.

Tina Atkins with the Anson county FSA said that effective August 16, 2011, farmers in Anson County may apply for FSA emergency (EM) loans for physical and production losses. April 16, 2012 is the deadline for filing an application.

Atkins said that any farmer who suffered a physical or production loss should contact his/her office for additional information. The local office is located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro and has office hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Veteran's Day Parade to be Held November 11

The Anson County Veteran Services Office is striving to make the Anson County Veteran's Day parade a veteran-oriented celebration of all the veterans who have served our country. The parade will be held on November 11 at 10 a.m.

The parade will begin at the corner of East Martin and North Washington Streets, going west to North Rutherford Street where it will continue south ending in front of the Ansonia Theatre.

For more information or to be in the parade, contact Theodore Ward at (704) 694-4418 or [tward@co.anson.nc.us](mailto:tward@co.anson.nc.us).

## Hundreds of Pot Plants Seized

Anson County Sheriff's Deputies and the SBI seized 896 growing marijuana plants on Thursday, August 18th. The officers found the plants growing in a heavily wooded area off White Store Road, between Wadesboro and White Store. Sheriff Tommy Allen did not give out the exact location but said it was believed to be on paper company land. "Seldom is the property owner involved or even aware of these large plots of marijuana that we find growing around the county. The people involved in growing it like to find remote areas that are seldom checked. In this case this was typical," the Sheriff said.

Unlike several large marijuana finds last year, there were no signs of a camp site at this one. Allen said that this looked like it was basically planted and left to grow on its own and would be harvested this fall.



Deputies used several pickup trucks and trailers to haul the plants out of the woods. The Sheriff's Office was assisted by helicopters from the NC Highway Patrol and the National Guard.

## Be Cautious as School Begins

Anson County Schools will start back Thursday, August 25th and Anson County Sheriff Tommy Allen reminds citizens to be extra cautious, especially the first few days as students, parents and teachers all begin new routines at schools across the county.

"Safety is our primary goal in getting the children and the parents who drop children off, safely to and from schools. There will be some traffic congestion around many of the schools; buses will be back on the roads for the first time in several months; kids will be excited and parents will sometimes be frustrated with having to hurry up and wait. I encourage everyone to take your time; leave a little earlier than usual; allow for traffic and be very watchful around the schools as buses, cars and children are all coming and going at the same time," Sheriff Allen said.

The Sheriff said it was very important that drivers watch buses as they load and unload. Children are often excited and may run across roads without looking. Remember, passing a stopped school bus is a very serious offense that may cause you to lose your driver's license along with a heavy fine. Parents should already know by now where their child should be and when. But if there is any doubt please call the school ahead of time.

Area police departments, the Sheriff's Office and Highway Patrol will have extra patrol around the schools for the first few days. "We will be not only looking for what we can do to make things safer for all but will be looking for those drivers who totally disregard traffic laws or drive reckless in and around the schools," Allen said.

"By giving yourself a little extra time those first few days and talking with your child ahead of time about basic safety rules, you will reduce your frustrations as well as your chances of being involved in some tragic accident and increase your child's safety to and from school. We want this to be a safe school year and start it off right," concluded the Sheriff.

## Property Tax Bills Have Been Mailed

In a release from the Anson County Tax Department: Anson County 2011 property tax bills were mailed to taxpayers on Thursday, August 18. Property tax bills are due September 1. Payments can be made in two ways. 1) Taxpayers can mail their payments to Anson County Government Center, 101 South Greene Street, Suite 115, Wadesboro, or 2) pay in person at the Anson County Government Center between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays.

Payments postmarked after January 5, 2012 will be considered delinquent and assessed 2% interest for the 1st month, 3/4% for all months thereafter until paid. Delinquent taxes will be advertised and a \$20 per tax bill assessment will be applied.

Questions regarding property listings, real estate values or tax bills should be directed to the Anson County Tax Assessors office at 704-994-3290. Questions regarding payment of tax bills should be directed to the Anson County Tax Collectors office at 704-994-3291. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Put Life Back Into Your Life

Grace Senior Center offers Living Healthy Workshop

Are you an adult age 55 or older with an ongoing health condition? If you have conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, chronic pain, anxiety, the Living Healthy Workshop can help you take charge of your life. Join a free 2 1/2-hour Living Healthy Workshop, held each week for six weeks.

Learn from trained volunteer leaders with health conditions themselves. Set your own goals and make a step-by-step plan to improve your health—and your life.

You'll get the support you need, find practical ways to deal with pain and fatigue, discover better nutrition and exercise choices, understand new treatment choices, and learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family about your health.

Classes will be held every Tuesday, from September 13th through October 23rd at Grace Senior Center, from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

Sign up now. Spaces are limited. To Register or get more information, please call Rita Short at 704-694-6217.

## Blood Drive at SPCC August 30

Community Blood Center of the Carolinas is holding a blood drive on Tuesday, August 30 at South Piedmont College in Polkton. The drive will run from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. All donors will receive a free t-shirt for participating. Remember, the minimum weight requirement to donate is 120 pounds.

More public drives can be found by logging on to the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas website at [www.cbcc.us](http://www.cbcc.us). CBCC also has donation centers in Charlotte, Belmont, and Union County. You may call 704-972-4700 to make an appointment at any location.

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