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

Samuel L. Hudson Charged with Two Counts of Attempted First Degree Murder



On Thursday, September 1 at approximately 4:34 a.m. officers of the Wadesboro Police Department responded to a residence at 1122 Old Charlotte Road in Wadesboro in reference to a shooting. When officers arrived on the scene they were approached by Samuel L. Hudson. Hudson told the officers that he shot his son Samuel L. Rorie and his girlfriend Zondia Evelyn Gaddy. Rorie was shot in the arm and Gaddy was shot in her abdomen. Rorie was treated for his injuries and released. Gaddy is still at Carolinas Medical Center being treated for her injuries.

Detectives determined that the shooting was the result of an ongoing domestic argument.

Hudson, 41, was charged with two counts of Attempted First Degree Murder, two counts of Assault with a Deadly Weapon with Intent to Kill Inflicting Serious Injury, and one count of Possession of a Firearm by a Felon. He is being held in the Anson County Jail with no bond, with a court date set for September 12, 2016.

Anson County's Unemployment Rate Was at 5.8 Percent in June

Anson County's unemployment rate for June was 5.8 percent. This was a slight increase over May's 5.3 percent figure. Statewide the unemployment rate for June was 5.2 percent.

Anson's total labor force in June was 10,780. Of that number 10,157 were employed and 623 were unemployed. In May the total labor force was 10,865, with 10,294 employed and 571 unemployed.

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 96 of North Carolina's counties in June and decreased in four. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 9.2 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.9 percent.

All fifteen of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases. Among the Metro areas, Rocky Mount at 7.5 percent experienced the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 4.1 percent.

The June not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 5.2 percent.

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in all 100 counties. All 15 metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in June by 16,521 to 4,610,373 while those unemployed increased 20,931 to 250,385. Since June 2015, the number of workers employed statewide increased 98,317, while those unemployed decreased 44,144.

Polkton Fun Day is Saturday

Looking for something fun to do? Come on out to Polkton Fun Day! It will be held this Saturday, September 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This year's event features something for all ages. For the kids there will be a bounce house and slide combo, a trackless train ride, and a "Tubs of Fun" amusement ride that's sure to excite children of all ages! There is no charge for any these fun things...they are all free!

For the adults there are numerous booths offering shopping and information. And, live entertainment! Come hungry...there will be LOTS of food and sweets to choose from!

The Town of Polkton hopes each of you will be "making tracks for a fun day at Polkton Fun Day!"

Morven Mayor Theodore Carr to Celebrate 80th Birthday with Walk from Morven to Wadesboro

Morven Mayor Theodore Carr will celebrate his 80th birthday by inviting all elected officials and citizens to meet him at the HOLLA! Community Center in Morven at 6 a.m. this Saturday, September 10 and walk with him to Bojangles in Wadesboro. Even though his invitation is for everyone, it is especially for Anson County Sheriff Landric Reid. Mayor Carr also stated he will purchase breakfast for anyone who completes the challenge.

Carr was born September 10, 1936, in Virginia. After serving four years of active duty and four years in the reserves with the Army, he became a police officer. Mayor Carr moved to Morven fifteen years ago, and three years later became mayor. In 2015 he was re-elected to the position of mayor and currently serves.

Carr stated, "I went to my physician four months ago, and was told me that I am in perfect health."

Suicide Intervention Workshop Offered Free of Charge September 23

SafeTALK is a half-day workshop that prepares participants to identify people with thoughts of suicide and connect them with life-saving first aid resources. The workshop will be held on Friday, September 23, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, located at 410 East Washington Street in Rockingham. Dana Cea will present on understanding the importance of suicide alertness, identifying ways people invite help when they are at risk, developing an effective method to engage with people who are at risk, and connecting at risk people with resources that can carry out a full-scale intervention.

This workshop is free, and lunch and materials will be provided. Contact Suzanne Maness at (910) 627-1769, toll free (877) 211-5995, or by email at connectionsfp@gmail.com to register. Space is limited to the first 30 people to register. The deadline to register is Tuesday, September 20.



Lucas Gathings Band Advances to Regional Finals of Country Showdown

Lucas Gathings and band have won a top spot in the Regional Finals of the Country Showdown. During this year's contest in York, South Carolina the Lucas Gathings Band performed two original songs, *Dixie in the Heart* and *Get Down in the Country* and walked away with the win. They will represent Interstate 107 FM in the Regional Finals that will be held in Voldasta, Georgia on October 22, 2016. The group will be one of seven finalists from southern states in the Georgia Regional Finals. They have worked extremely hard to advance in this competition and they are excited to represent the Carolinas in this endeavor.

Anyone interested in becoming an individual or corporate sponsor may email them at lucasingathingsmusic@gmail.com to obtain more information. Fans may follow their journey on the Lucas Gathings Music Facebook page.

The Country Showdown is America's largest and longest running country music talent search. The road to the finals begins with preliminary contests that are held in cities and towns all across the United States. The competition progresses to the National Final that takes place at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tennessee. Over the years, stars such as Miranda Lambert, Martina McBride, Jason Aldean and Toby Keith have participated in the competition. Winners of the National Final are awarded prizes valued at \$100,000 and receive the coveted title, "Best New Act in Country Music."

Band members are pictured from left: Michael Welch of Lilesville, Garth Rivers of Pageland, Austin Welch of Lilesville, Lucas Gathings of Wadesboro, Meredith Mills of Pageland and Sydney Davis of Wadesboro.

As Archery Season Approaches, Keep Your Sights on Safety

As archery season for deer opens September 10 statewide, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission reminds hunters to practice safety in the field.

"Hunting season is the time when hunters put into practice all of the safety precautions they learned during hunter education," said Carissa Shelton, the Commission's western outreach manager. "Archery season comes with its own set of regulations and safe practices, both of which are the responsibility of the hunter."

Hunters should always take the time to use binoculars to positively identify their target and anything beyond that target before releasing an arrow. Additionally, they should always point their crossbow, longbow or compound bow in a safe direction.

Shelton reminds archery hunters who use a tree stand to:

- Use a full-body safety harness at all times.
- Ensure all belts, chains and attachments are in working order before use.
- Maintain three points of contact when climbing.
- Utilize a haul line to raise and lower equipment.
- All bowhunters should follow these safety tips:
 - Never carry a bow with a nocked arrow.
 - Never "dry-fire" a bow - Releasing without an arrow can cause sudden breakage.
 - Load a crossbow only when in a fixed hunting position.
 - Keep fingers and thumb below the rail of a crossbow at all times.
 - Use a flashlight when changing locations during low-light conditions.

For more information on hunting seasons, Hunting Heritage Apprentice Permits and the Hunter Education Program, go to www.ncwildlife.org/hunting.

Ag T-Shirts are Here

Celebrate agriculture! And show your pride in Anson County's agricultural heritage by wearing a t-shirt that says so. Celebrating Anson County Agriculture t-shirts have arrived at the Cooperative Extension Center and are now available.

Grey shirts with red print are \$8 for adult sizes and \$6 for youth sizes. Funds from the sale of shirts will go back into the cost of them. The project is not one to raise money, simply to promote agriculture.

Shirts are available at the Extension Center, located at 501 McLaurin Street in Wadesboro. They can be purchased Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon and 1:00 until 5:00 p.m. while supplies last. Celebrate Anson County agriculture! The t-shirt design is by Agricultural Extension Agent Aimee Colf.



BRLC After School Program Kids Cafe is Now Available

Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center's Kids Café is available and taking applications for after school students ages 5 to 14 years.

- Kids Café is extended to all parents who need this service • Professionally trained staff, nutritious meals, snacks, physical activities and help with homework is provided.
- Affordable prices • Clean, safe environment, and convenient location. Located at 13349 Highway 742 North in Burnsville, across from Fire Department
- Times of Operation 3 until 5:30 p.m. - and longer if services are needed Monday through Friday • Services can be provided on days when school releases early if needed
- Drop-ins are welcome, but parent must enroll students in advance

BRLC is available to serve all families. For more information call 704-826-8182 or 704-826-8737. The contact is BRLC Director Carol Smith.

Growing Opportunities for Farmers and Forest Landowners

Land ownership may be a family's greatest asset or only form of wealth. Maintaining local ownership of privately owned land is of particular importance. Often veterans, women, minorities, heir landowners, beginning farmers, and limited resource landowners lose profitable farm or forestland because they are unfamiliar with local agriculture/forestry agencies capable of providing technical and/or cost-share assistance.

Aimee Colf, Horticulture Agent with the Cooperative Extension, said, "Join us as we bring these resources together during a program September 13 at Centenary AME Zion Church in Lilesville, off Highway 74 East. We will share tips on how rural families can retain land, install environmental conservation practices, save money, and increase agricultural productivity."

This program is open to everyone. It will be hosted by Dr. Joshua Idassi, Natural Resource Extension Specialist, NC A&T University and Aimee Colf, Horticulture Agent, Anson Cooperative Extension. The day-long program runs from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. It includes a forestry tour in Lilesville and presentations from the following state and federal agencies: Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), Anson County Tax Office, Anson County Forest Service, and the NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS).

Please preregister by contacting Aimee Colf at 704-694-2415 or aimee_colf@ncsu.edu. For accommodations for persons with disabilities, please contact Mrs. Colf at least seven business days before the event.

Bloodmobile at McLeod Health Cheraw on Friday

There will be a Bloodmobile Blood Drive at McLeod Health in Cheraw on Friday, September 9, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you would like to be a blood donor, please call Arielle Williams at 843-320-5509 to make an appointment.

50+ Club Meeting to Feature Program of Stories and Songs of the Depression Era

The Hampton B. Allen Library announces the 50+ Club meeting for Monday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theatre. Dr. Leon Smith, accompanied by David Napier on the bass, will be doing a program of original stories and songs on the Depression Era Orchestra dealing with the subject of love. Everyone is invited to come, bring a friend and enjoy this special program.

For more information call 704-694-5177.

Monthly Caregiver and Foster Parent Support Group Meeting

Connections Family Support Program hosts a monthly caregiver and foster parent support group the third Thursday of each month. This is a time for caregivers and foster parents to share their experiences and learn from others, while obtaining support and resources.

The group will meet on Thursday, September 15, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Richmond County Department of Social Services, located at 125 Caroline Street in Rockingham. The meeting is free, and dinner will be provided. Contact Suzanne Maness at (910) 627-1769, toll free (877) 211-5995, or by email at connectionsfp@gmail.com to register. The deadline to register is Monday, September 12.

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