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

Five Arrested and Charged in Nightclub Shooting and Murder

The Chesterfield County SC Sheriff's Office announced that they have detained and charged five men in connection with the shooting death of Jefferson "Rex" Rivers in his nightclub on August 18. Rivers was shot along with four others during the shooting which took place after Rivers had thrown several men out of the club. Among the other victims were two juveniles, ages 15 and 17. They were both treated and released from the hospital. The other two men shot were Malcolm Staton of Polkton and Nigel Bivens of Marshville. They both were shot in the head and were in critical condition as of the last report.

Charged in the crime were: Dontrel Shyhee Blakeney, 17 - Murder, Attempted Murder, Possession of a Weapon During a Violent Crime, Conspiracy, Accessory After the Fact of Murder, and Accessory Before the Fact of Felony; Lee Jernard Burns, 23, of Polkton - Murder, Attempted Murder, Possession of a Weapon During a Violent Crime, Conspiracy, Accessory After the Fact Murder, Accessory Before the Fact of Felony; Corderrick Arsenio McLendon, 25, of Wingate - Conspiracy, Accessory After the Fact Murder, and Accessory Before the Fact of Felony; Demetry Rayshawn Reid, 21, of Polkton - Conspiracy, Accessory After the Fact Murder, and Accessory Before the Fact of Felony; and Reginald Aldel Reid, 24, of Polkton - Failure to Report a Crime, Conspiracy, Accessory After the Fact Murder, and Accessory Before the Fact of Felony.

Lilesville Fire Department Receives Medium Rescue Certification

Lilesville Fire Department is now a Certified Medium Rescue Provider from the North Carolina Association of Rescue and Emergency Medical Services. The Department has a full complement of medium rescue equipment that is carried on the Engine and Rescue Truck Company. This certification was awarded to the department following an inspection on August 17 of specific equipment required and by having a specific number of personnel certified as North Carolina Vehicle and Machinery Rescue Technicians.

Fire Chief Randy Henry commented, "All Lilesville citizens should feel safe knowing the Lilesville Fire Department has the right equipment the right training, and quality volunteers and staff to accomplish the mission." Chief Henry also thanked his members for all their hard work and dedication.

This is a professional standard that has been adopted in North Carolina from NFPA 1006, NFPA 1670. The standards are monitored by North Carolina Association of Rescue and Emergency Medical Services. By meeting this standard, it identifies the fire department as having met the required equipment cache and most importantly it identifies that the department has met the requirement of the personnel training criteria. The standards for training require that at least eight members be trained as a state certified Vehicle and Machinery Rescue Technician and eight members trained as Medical Technicians as required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction. Currently the department has 10 members who are state certified as North Carolina Vehicle and Machinery Rescue Technicians and 9 members certified as North Carolina Emergency Medical Technicians.

"By meeting the required training standard alone is a high achievement for the department in providing services to the citizens of Lilesville and our community," said Assistant Chief Marty K. Morton, Jr. Mayor James Richard Harrington said, "On behalf of the town of Lilesville I would like to congratulate and thank Lilesville Fire Department and their members on this achievement. It is a great example of their desire to constantly improve their already outstanding services to the citizens of Lilesville and the community. This speaks for the level of training, professionalism and leadership that is part of our fire department in providing quality service to the citizens of Lilesville and its fire district."

Lilesville Fire Department is one of only two fire departments in Anson County to have met the certification of Medium Rescue Provider, with the other being Ansonville Fire Department. Both departments plan on being a Heavy Rescue provider by January 2014.

Lilesville Fire Department is also offering free smoke detector installation to citizens of Lilesville. If you would like to have a smoke detector installed in your home please call the fire department at 704-848-4194.

Lumberjack Exhibition Returns to Ag Expo

The 2013 Anson Ag Expo & Fair will once again host the South Atlantic Woodsmen's Association (SAWA) Lumberjacks on Saturday, September 28 at the Lockhart-Taylor Center in Wadesboro.



Beginning at 12:30 p.m., the demonstration will continue throughout the afternoon.

The day will feature several exciting lumberjack events, including the STIHL Stock Saw, Axe Throw, Underhand Chop, Standing Block Chop, Single Buck Saw, Double Buck Saw, Hot Saw, and a favorite, the Springboard Chop. Throughout the SAWA exhibition announcers will explain the various events, involve the audience in trivia questions, giveaways, forest education and games for the kids. When the demonstration is over the lumberjacks will be glad to sign autographs for SAWA fans young and old on the "cookies" cut from the logs. Anson native Logan Scarborough will be among the lumberjacks participating and signing autographs.

The Anson Ag Expo & Fair would like to thank the following generous organizations and businesses for making the Wadesboro SAWA Lumberjack Demonstration possible: Anson County Tourism Development Authority, Anson Wood Products, Culp Lumber Company, Plank Road Forestry and Wadesboro Rotary Club.

Healthy Living & Eating Seminar Sunday

Pathway to Peace Ministries presents ANEWSTART, healthy living seminar and cooking class this Sunday, September 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. Learn how to cook plant-based foods that will heal you. Learn how to lose weight, have more energy, reduce cholesterol, reverse diabetes, lower blood pressure, and much more.

Interested? Come! Seminar and cooking class is FREE! It will be held at 11775 Highway 109 South in Peachland. For more information call 704-695-1441.



Anson Emergency Personnel Participate in 911 Memorial Stair Climb

On Saturday, September 7 members of the Wadesboro Police Department, Wadesboro Fire Department and other emergency service departments in Anson County participated in the 9-11 Memorial Stair Climb in Charlotte at the Duke Energy Center. The Stair Climb is a national event that supports the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Firefighters, Law Enforcement Officers, and EMS members climb flights of stairs in memory of those who lost their lives September 11, 2001.

Every climber carries a photograph and biographical sketch of a firefighter who lost their life on that tragic day. Many climbers climb in full uniform as they pay tribute to their fallen brothers and sisters.

Wadesboro was represented by George Bolger, Mitchell Sutton, Colton Sutton, Justin Block, Jessica Pigg and Brad Taylor. Several of those who participated described the memorial as being very humbling and emotional. Others stated that the experience and feelings are indescribable. They were very proud and honored to stand with fellow brothers and sisters of various emergency service departments in memory of those who gave their lives to save others.

"We are very proud of the entire team for participating in such an important event," stated Chief Thedis Spencer of the Wadesboro Police Department. "We all know that when we enter the field of emergency services we may be asked to sacrifice our life for another one day." Wadesboro Fire Department Chief Jimmy Burns said, "The team climbed in honor of and to remember those who gave their lives without hesitation to save others that terrible day. We will never forget the brothers and sisters we lost on September 11, 2001. The team did an outstanding job and again we are so proud of the team's dedication and their representation of all that we stand for."

Pictured above from left are Marc Sessions, Justin Block, Jessica Pigg, Mitchell Sutton, Colton Sutton, George Bolger and Chief Spencer. Josh Leviner is in the police car.

Polkton Fun Day is Saturday

Looking for something fun to do this Saturday? Come on out to Polkton Fun Day! This year's event will feature something for all ages, from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. For the kids, there will be 6 bounce houses, a children's parade and a trackless fire truck that's sure to excite children of all ages. For the adults, there are numerous booths that will offer such things as crafts, monogrammed items, home décor, information about local agencies and lots more. There's even something for everyone's four-legged friends. There will be a pet show on stage beginning at 11 a.m.

For those who come hungry, and we hope that's everyone, there will be LOTS of food to choose from including breakfast items, wings, Philly cheesesteaks, fajitas, tacos, hotdogs, bbq and much more! And they didn't forget those with a sweet tooth. You'll have your pick of funnel cakes, apple jack pies, shaved ice and much more!

On stage entertainment throughout the day is sure to please anyone. There will be everything from local dance talent to country and jazz. The Fun Day finale will be The Tarheel Rhythm Band. This band from Troy will provide music ranging from country to southern rock to gospel until 10 p.m. The Town of Polkton hopes each of you will be "Making Tracks for a Fun Day" and joining them this Saturday for Polkton Fun Day!

- Here is the schedule for the day:
- 9am - Opening Ceremony • 9:30am - Dance Time Studio • 10:30am - Children's Parade
 - 11am - Pet Show • 12 noon - Local Dance Talent (Corey & Kayla Lowery plus more talent)
 - 1-3pm - Stanley Baird playing jazz • 4pm - Zeb Croft playing acoustic country with vocals
 - 6-10pm - Tarheel Rhythm Band playing southern rock & beach music

Carolinas HealthCare System-Anson Community Celebration

Carolinas HealthCare System-Anson will bring a new model of healthcare delivery to the community, and they invite you to help celebrate the development of their new medical campus. Join them and hundreds of community leaders, elected officials, physicians, hospital staff, Carolinas HealthCare System executives and others for this family-friendly event.

This event will take place on Saturday, September 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Anson High School, rain or shine. Activities will include health screenings, prayer breakfast, refreshments, fun and athletic games for children, shuttle bus tours of the new medical campus, sign-ups for physician appointments, the Carolinas HealthCare System MedCenter Air helicopter, information booths featuring community organizations, giveaways and registration for special prizes, and parking for cars and buses.

Olé! Flamenco Vivo II to Perform at Ansonia Theatre

Whirls of colorful dresses, explosions of clicking castanets, strumming guitars and stamping feet. Vivacious and passionate dancers, singers, and musicians sharing the Spanish flamenco tradition. Experience the passion and excitement with Flamenco Vivo II at the Ansonia Theatre on Friday, September 27th.

Flamenco Vivo II is one of the nation's premier flamenco and Spanish dance companies. Flamenco Vivo II Carlota Santana was established in 1983 by Carlota Santana and Roberto Lorca. The company is now based in New York City, North Carolina and Madrid, Spain. Carlota Santana has been designated "The Keeper of Flamenco" by Dance Magazine in recognition of her commitment to creating new works and developing young artists and choreographers. She has dedicated her company to the mission of connecting cultures using the universal spirit of flamenco. During its 30-year history, the company has used this multicultural art form to build bridges between cultures and inspire audiences from diverse cultures.



What is the Soul of Flamenco? It is not only the performers themselves, but what they carry inside - the impassioned investment of each dancer, singer, and musician. Flamenco is an expression of feeling, a community built on emotions. Happiness, sadness, joy, and sorrow are translated through this eloquent art form, expressing the vital essence that lives within each of us. These universal emotions are shared across time and physical boundaries, and are the foundation of Flamenco. The seeds of Flamenco were planted many years ago by different cultures. Today it has blossomed into a theater art performed throughout the world. Flamenco originated in southern Spain in the region called Andalucía. Its influences include Gypsies, Jews, Arabs and Christians.

A special way of showing support in flamenco is to shout "Olé!" This is a Spanish way of telling the performers you like what you see. You are invited to shout "Olé!" when you clap at the end of each dance.

The performance will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, September 27th at the Ansonia Theatre. Tickets are available for \$12 at the Anson County Arts Council (704-694-4950) or via PayPal on the website www.ansoniatheatre.com. Season tickets which include Flamenco Vivo II are now available at the Anson Council Arts Council.

Applications Still Accepted for Day of Caring 2013

This year's Anson County United Way Day of Caring is fast approaching. The Day of Caring is scheduled for Saturday, October 5, with a Kick-off Ceremony to be held at 7:30 a.m. on the uptown Wadesboro Square. A continental breakfast will be provided prior to the ceremony and lunch will be served at First Baptist Church for volunteers and applicants.

Both Volunteer Team applications and Project Site (those needing help) applications for this year's Day of Caring are being accepted until this Friday, September 13. If you would like to volunteer to be part of a team, or you are a person or non-profit agency in need of help, please hurry and submit your application! Electronic applications are available through the Anson County Chamber of Commerce (www.ansoncounty.org) and Town of Wadesboro (www.cityofwadesboro.org) websites. You may also contact Ashley Rivers at 704-848-4121 or Cindy Taylor-Kupfer at 704-694-2600 for questions or to submit an application.

BCSWC Board Meeting is September 24

The Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District monthly board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 24 at 10 a.m. at the BCSWCD office, located at 1758 Morven Road in Wadesboro.

Anson County Historical Society Fall Social is Thursday

The Anson County Historical Society cordially invites you to their Fall Social on Thursday, September 12. Come enjoy the gardens of the Society from 5:30 to 7 p.m. There will be light refreshments and music provided by Carson Hill. The Historical Society office is located at 206 East Wade Street in Wadesboro.

Compassionate Friends to Meet Thursday

The Compassionate Friends, a support group for families who have lost a child of any age, will meet this Thursday, September 12 at 7pm in the Training Room at Pee Dee Electric on Highway 52 South in Wadesboro.

For information call 704-694-8774 or 704-475-5005.

Blood Drive is Saturday

The Community Blood Center of the Carolinas (CBC) will hold a Blood Drive on Saturday, September 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Polkton Town Hall, located at 35 West Polk Street. There is currently a regional blood shortage so the CBC is calling on the public to donate blood as soon as possible. All blood types are needed immediately.

Call 704-972-4700 or visit www.carolinadonor.org to make an appointment today.

Please note the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas' minimum weight requirement for blood donors is 120 pounds.

Brown Bag Book Club Meeting

The Brown Bag Book Club will meet on Monday, September 16 at 12 noon in the Pritchett Room at the Hampton B. Allen Library for a pot-luck lunch (please bring a dish and a friend) and author talk. Cindy Ponds Newell of Anson County is the author. She has two new books coming out soon and will be talking about them. Please come out and support her in this endeavor.

If you have questions or need additional information please call the library at 704-694-5177.