

Tree Stand Safety Should be a Top Priority for Hunters

Tree stand-related injuries are almost always avoidable, according to the Hunter Education Program of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, yet more people are hurt in tree stand falls than any other category of hunting incidents. The Home From The Hunt™ safety campaign has made tree stand safety a top priority in North Carolina for the 2011-2012 hunting season. Hunter Education Program instructors will emphasize proper use of tree stands and elevated hunting platforms. Wildlife Officers have investigated two fatalities in connection with tree stand falls already this hunting season.

"Following some basic guidelines can prevent injuries and won't interfere with a successful hunt," said Travis Casper, the state's acting hunter education coordinator. "Maintain three points of contact when climbing up or down; wear a full body safety harness at all times; and check belts, chains and attachment cords before use. Follow manufacturer's instructions."

- Other recommendations include:
- Never carry anything as you climb – use a haul line to raise and lower an unloaded gun or other equipment once you are safely seated in the tree stand.
 - Have an emergency signal (cell phone or whistle) and let someone know where you plan to hunt and when you plan to return.
 - Select a healthy, straight tree and don't exceed maximum weight settings.

Tree stands should be inspected prior to use, especially if you have left your tree stand up for an extended period of time. Exposure to the elements will damage straps, ropes and attachment cords, and potentially lead to breakage and failure.

"Take the time to thoroughly check the stability of the stand and the tree it is attached to before you climb up," Casper said. "Your life could depend on it."

In North Carolina, all first-time hunting license buyers must successfully complete a Hunter Education Course, offered free to the state. Go to www.ncwildlife.org to consult the online version of the 2011-2012 N.C. Inland Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Regulations Digest or call 919-707-0031 for more information.

Hunter Education Program Says Hunt Like The Future Depends On It

The Hunter Education Program of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is urging sportsmen to encourage others to hunt, while many hunting seasons are under way, with a slogan of "Hunt Like The Future Depends On It." "For the future of conservation, the next generation needs to hunt. It's that important," said Travis Casper, state acting hunter education coordinator. "We need to mentor youth and present a positive image of hunting to everyone."

The Hunter Education Program teaches – and sportsmen practice – stewardship of natural resources. Sportsmen also provide the economic backbone for habitat conservation, wildlife research and resource protection.

"Call it nature or the environment, but hunters are an invaluable part of it," Casper said. "If it weren't for hunters, the endangered species and nongame species wouldn't fare as well. Hunters get the credit for the resurging populations of numerous species of game animals in North America."

Resources for mentoring and youth involvement in the outdoors are provided by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, with many conservation programs that foster learning, such as Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, youth hunts, disabled sportsmen and mobility-impaired hunting and fishing opportunities, and a fishing tackle loaner program. The Hunter Education program offers Youth Hunter Safety Skills Tournaments for students to compete and improve skills in team and individual competition, and the National Archery in the Schools Program, extended through physical education classes for grades 4-12 in public schools.

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Carolyn Morman Publishes Book of Poetry

In a release from Carolyn Morman: Carolyn Marie Morman, who was born and raised in Lilesville, has recently realized one of the American Dreams - publishing her own book entitled Awakenings, a book of poetry. Morman has been writing poems most of her adult life.

Morman says that, "most folks here in Anson County can find her on her way uptown to the Hampton B. Allen Library most days." Awakenings is available through Xlibris.com, Amazon.com, and BarnesandNoble.com. It is presently available only online. However, Carolyn plans on having a book signing at the local library in the near future and her book will be available there.

Morman says this book has been in the making for over 20 years, and she has spent a lot of time and energy in writing it. Most of her poems are inspired by everyday people, personal friends and loved ones, and special events that have taken place in her life. Her very first poem she ever had published, entitled the Charlotte Symphony, with Jesus Is The Answer, Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Church, and Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church are among her favorite poems.

Carolyn M. Morman graduated from Anson Senior High School in June 1987. She attended the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and majored in Business Administration two years, 1987 to 1989. She also attended Richmond Community College in January of 2000 and received a Certificate in Nursing Assistant with an 4.0 average. She attended South Piedmont Community College where she is majoring in Early Childhood Education and plans to return in the spring.

Morman worked at the Mental Health Association as a Peer Specialist (whose name has changed to Monarch) where she was a facilitator on several classes dealing with mental health issues that affect many different people from all walks of life. She is a member of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church where she sings on the Mass Choir, and is the secretary of the Adult Missionary Circle under the Leadership of Missionary President Jackie Anderson. She volunteers and helps with secretarial work under the Leadership of her Pastor Tony W. Barr Sr. and First Lady Sharon B. Barr. Most importantly she has a teenage son named Elijah A. Willoughby. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Mary and William Ratliff, the late Marvin Melton Sr., Mrs. Thelma Melton-Randolph. Her grand-parents are Mrs. Lula McBride, Mrs. Elois Darrell-Morman, and the late Mr. Henry Thomas Cash. She has five siblings, Melissa Morman, Darrell Morman, Marvin Melton Jr., Doris C. Melton and Kevin Melton.

Morman resides in Wadesboro now and plans on working on her second poetry book along with a novel entitled The Long Walk Home.

Anson County Low Income Energy Assistance

In a release from the DSS: Anson County Department of Social Services will begin taking applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) starting on December 1, 2011, for the target population of households where all individuals are age 60 and older or households who are determined disabled by Social Security and are receiving services through the Division of Aging and Adult Services. If there are any LIEAP funds remaining after January 31st, 2012, all other households may apply. The program will end on February 28, 2012. Applications will be taken Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Changes for 2011-2012 LIEAP are:
- Households will no longer receive a Low Income Energy Assistance (LIEAP) check in February.
 - Energy assistance payments will be paid directly to the heating provider such as power, gas or Fuel Oil Company.
 - Everyone must apply for the program, no households are automatically eligible.
 - LIEAP provides a one time, annual payment to vendors for eligible households.

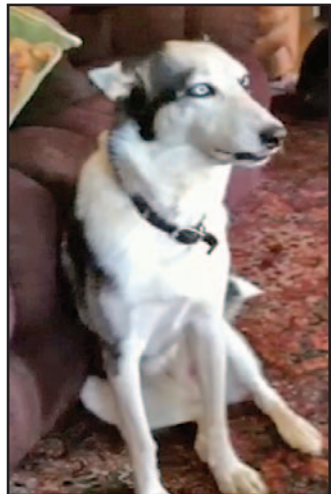
For more information please call 704-694-9351.

RLC Food Commodities Every 4th Tuesday

The Burnsville Recreation and Learning Center holds their USDA food commodities the fourth Tuesday of every month for anyone in Anson County who qualifies. The time is 9 a.m. until all items are distributed.

For more information call Carol Smith at 704-826-8182 or 826-8737. In accordance with Federal Law and US Department of Agriculture policy BRLC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

MISSING DOG



Belle went missing on Tuesday morning, November 29th from West Wade Street in Wadesboro. She is a Siberian Husky, slim in build with bright blue eyes. She has a black collar with identification information.

If you see her or if you are able to catch her, please call. **704-695-2247**
704-695-6696

Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol at Wingate

The Library at the Ethel K. Smith Library at Wingate University will host Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol read by readers from Waxhaw's Storefront Theatre. The reading will be held on Friday, December 16 at 7 p.m. in the library on campus.

General admission is \$10 per person. Contact Christy Inge at 704-233-8091.



Bud & Kimberly Ratliff announce the birth of their daughter Gracie Ann Ratliff. She was born November 5, 2011, at CMC-Union. She weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 21 inches long.

She has a proud brother by the name Hunter. Her grandparents are Anthony and Patty Ratliff of Wadesboro, Tommy and Virgie Long of Stanfield, and Ted and Mary Moore of Wadesboro.

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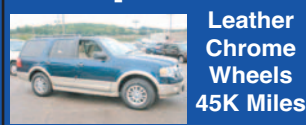
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