

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Note: this page -blast from past - is a picture, so you will not see the story continued from here elsewhere in this 2024 paper. It is a snapshot of a page 1 from this same week but many, many years ago in the News-Era.....you can always go to kershawnews-era.com and go to Archives at the top left for papers in the 2000's. For the 90's and earlier, a trip to the library and microfiche would be your option.

Kershaw THE NEWS-ERA

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Kershaw resident dies in shooting incident

Man suffers multiple gunshots when he answers front door

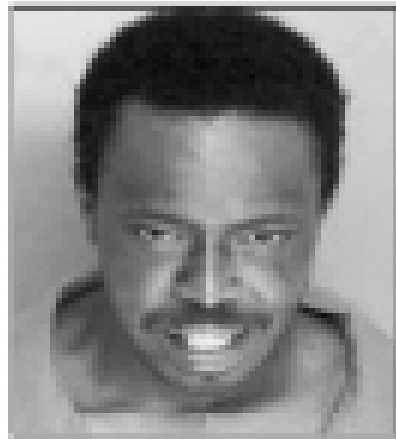
Kershaw News-Era
Press Release

A Kershaw man was shot and killed when he answered a knock on his door Saturday night.

Quintal Reheemiah James, 38, of 6524 Palmetto Street, Kershaw, was shot by Rodney Thompson, 41, of 215 James Street, Kershaw. The incident

occurred at the victim's residence about 8:30 p.m. Saturday.

According to the Lancaster County Sheriff's Department preliminary investigation, there may have been some type of ongoing disagreement between James and Thompson that may be the catalyst for this incident. The investigation has



Rodney Thompson

shown that Thompson came to James' residence and when James opened his door, Thompson fired a pistol and numerous rounds struck James. Thompson then fled the scene.

Lancaster County EMS was dispatched and arrived on the scene to begin treating James. EMS removed James from the scene and was transporting him to a local hospital for air transport but James died prior to transport.

An arrest warrant was

issued for Rodney Thompson for murder. He was located a short time later in Kershaw County, where he was arrested and transported to the Lancaster County Jail and turned over to Lancaster County Sheriff's Office Detention and then transported to the Lancaster County Detention Center.

Dead for Thompson has been denied.

The Lancaster County Sheriff's Office is investigating this murder.



Warm weather has brought out some favorite signs of spring like this busy honeybee working on an azalea blossom. Photo by Tim Deaton.

LC looking at changing government

By Joseph Garcia, Jr.
Press Editor

Lancaster County Council may consider changing its form of government if there are significant cost savings generated by merging the Finance Department and the Treasurer's Office that would be made possible by the change.



HWMA

Council discussed the issue briefly Monday evening during the regular meeting at Council Chambers. While many council members expressed curiosity about exactly what the change would mean, County Auditor Cheryl Morgan knew exactly what it meant and didn't like how it might affect her position.

According to documentation in council's packet, Council may consider changing from a Council - Administrator form of government to a Council - Manager. The change would give County Council the authority to decide if the County Auditor and County Treasurer are appointed or elected.

Morgan, who has served the county for 20 years, spoke during citizens' comments in opposition of the change. She noted that only two of the 46 counties in South Carolina have the manager form of government.

One of the two counties is neighboring York County.

"I think citizens are better served by having the right to vote," she said.

Should council agree to move forward with the change, voters would be able to vote on the referendum question on the November 2010 ballot. Before then, however, the change would have to be approved by the Justice Department.

Reportedly, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 requires any change in form of government in South Carolina to be cleared through the Justice Department. State

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Census off to good start in town, LC

By Joseph Garcia, Jr.
Press Editor

Participation figures are high in Lancaster County and especially the Town of Kershaw where 43 percent of residents here have already completed their U.S. Census questionnaires and mailed them back in.

According to tracking figures, 45 percent of Lancaster County residents have completed their questionnaires. Kershaw is leading the county

with the number of census forms already turned in. Lancaster is close behind with 42 percent of questionnaires turned in.

Kershaw County is also doing well with 39 percent of forms already completed and mailed in. South Carolina is ahead of the National average for completed forms, which stands at 24 percent completed and mailed in. South Carolina has completed and mailed in 36 percent of the forms that went out.

U.S. Census questionnaires went out two weeks ago for those with physical mailing addresses while those the PO Boxes are being asked to go by a local census assistance center to pick up their questionnaires.

The Kershaw Area Resource Exchange (KARE) has been established as a Census assistance center offering anyone interested help completing the questionnaire and answer

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Event to mark Child Abuse

By David Kellin, LBSWCP
Kershaw Correspondent

Kershaw Counseling is taking a lead this April in Kershaw by organizing information and events to bring awareness to childhood abuse. The efforts begin with the Proclamation by Mayor Rhodes and the Kershaw Town Council to declare April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Kershaw.

Planned for this month are one event, and several articles for the newspaper. Information will be given

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Work to start on CareNet Clinic

By Jim McCreary, Jr.
Editor/Publisher

CareNet Executive Director/CEO Clarence Carter said his group hopes to have a Kershaw clinic operating by the middle of this year.

CareNet recently completed a lease agreement with the Town of Kershaw to use the former Kershaw Community Health Education Center building on East Marion St. to house the clinic. CareNet offers affordable health care to uninsured and underinsured people.

"We hope to get started renovating the building pretty

quickly," Carpenter said. "We have our floor plan figured out."

CareNet will renovate the space to include four examining rooms, a lab area, a waiting room, four offices, and a reception area.

Carpenter said the Kershaw CareNet Clinic will start out operating from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. three days per week, staffed by one physician, a nurse, and the necessary administrative personnel.

"We're prepared to go to five days a week and half a day on Saturdays if the demand is there," he said.

Future plans also include

adding a pharmacy to the facility if the dirt base warrants it. In the meantime, CareNet has worked out an agreement with a local pharmacy that will enable its patients to get prescriptions filled at a lower price. CareNet provided \$1.3 million in free prescriptions last year.

Carpenter said that there are 164 community health centers in South Carolina, but CareNet operates differently from most of them. Most are staffed by doctors volunteering after work hours and have a difficult time maintaining operations over a long period of time. Funded by a combina-

tion of grants from foundations and small fees and supported by in-kind services from local governments, community hospitals and medical practices, the agency hires its medical and administrative staff.

CareNet works with 80 physicians in the area, negotiating lower fees for patients and helps them set up payment plans for more expensive medical services. In addition to the pharmacy, which provides free and discounted medications, the agency also has medical equipment like hospital

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