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County sheriff's deputies as they confronted him near Swan Lane in Canton, Sheriff Mason said.

"Two Union County residents, Charlie and Louise Payne, were found shot to death in their home on Nottely Dam Road," Sheriff Mason said. "Their vehicle was missing, it was a 2007 Ford F-150 pickup, grey in color."

Sheriff Mason said that a witness saw Anthony Payne speeding out of Nottely Dam Road on Tuesday afternoon, April 2nd in that vehicle, which lead authorities to make him their prime person of interest in the case.

"We entered that truck on the GCIC as missing/stolen," Sheriff Mason said. "That truck was located in Cherokee County, GA. Mr. Anthony Payne was not with that truck at the time that it was located by Cherokee County."

"Information from the persons in that truck led Cherokee County authorities to Swan Lane in Canton," Sheriff Mason said. "At approximately 1:30 a.m., Cherokee County deputies encountered Anthony Payne, he brandished a weapon, deputies urged him to drop his weapon, shots were fired."

"Anthony Payne was pronounced dead at the scene in Canton," Sheriff Mason said. "We had not secured murder warrants for Anthony Payne at the time of his death. We simply had a lookout for his father's stolen F-150."

Sheriff Mason said that two weapons were secured at the Swan Lane location in Canton.

One weapon recovered, the gun Anthony Payne used to fire at Cherokee County sheriff's deputies. The second, a weapon believed used to kill Charlie and Louise Payne, Sheriff Mason said.

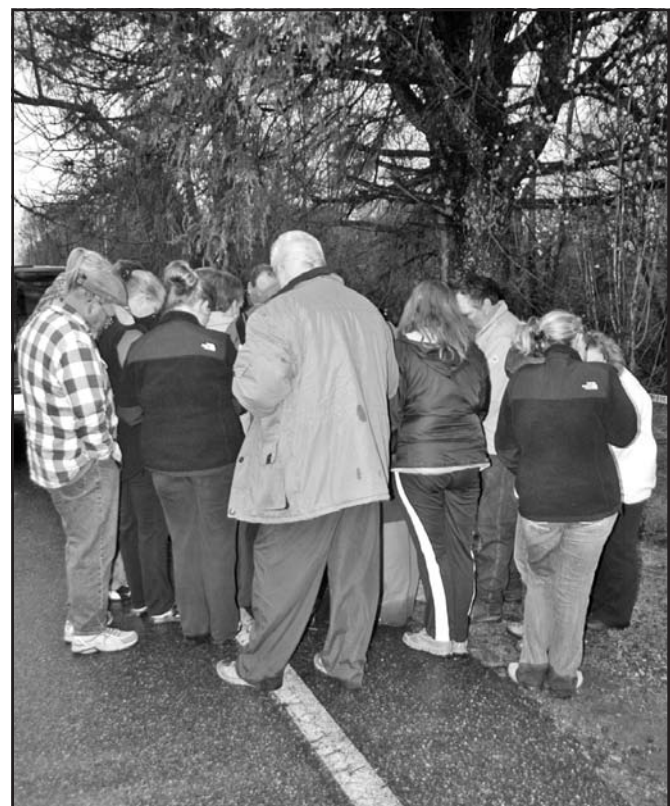
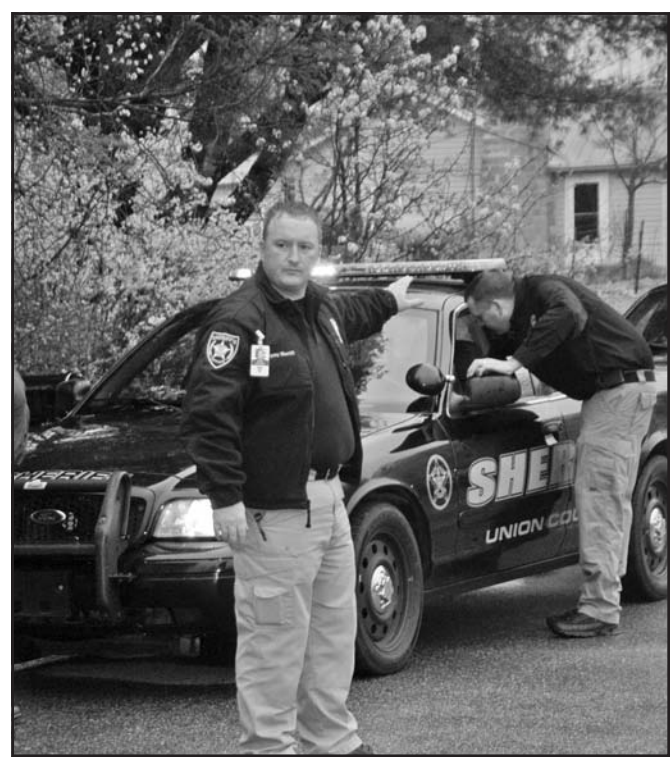
"Obviously, this is all still under investigation at this time," Sheriff Mason said. "We're working with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, and the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office trying to piece all of this together."

Events leading up to the shooting death of Anthony Payne in Canton began to unfold on Tuesday. That's when authorities believe Anthony Payne had a confrontation with his father at Charlie Payne's home on Nottely Dam Road.

Charlie Payne died in his living room, his wife Louise was wounded in the living room, and made a run for the bedroom, where she died.

Louise Payne was shot at least twice, Sheriff Mason said.

"Unfortunately, we don't have a motive for this



Above, Lt. Doug Loyd directs traffic on Nottely Dam Road following the discovery of the bodies of Charlie and Louise Payne on Thursday. Below, family members pray outside the home of the victims. Photos/Charles Duncan

shooting, and we never will," Sheriff Mason said.

Neighbors, huddled in front of the Payne residence say the last time they saw Charlie Payne alive was on Tuesday afternoon, April 2nd, when they saw him tilling his garden spot.

Charlie and Louise Payne were discovered Thursday afternoon by family members who had not heard from them in a couple of days.

Meanwhile, according to the state Department of Corrections, Anthony Payne was in and out of state prison since 1997 for burglary, theft and drug convictions. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison 2006 for drug-related charges.

He was released by the state Pardons and Parole Board in February 2009. Anthony Payne returned to state prison in June 2011 for multiple theft-related charges.

He was released by the state Pardons and Parole Board in October 2012.

All totaled, Anthony Payne spent slightly more than five years in prison for a laundry list of convictions in Union County, and two fraud convictions in Gilmer County, Georgia Department of Corrections records show.

Funeral services for Charlie Payne were held Monday at Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery.

Funeral services for Louise Payne are scheduled for 2 p.m. Wednesday, at Mountain View Funeral Home. Graveside services are to be held at Ebenezer Baptist Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at Mountain View Funeral Home from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday.

Graveside services for Anthony Payne were held Monday at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery.

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have not been collected by the federal government even though they have been paid to do so.

"It is time for the federal government to fulfill its obligation to Georgia and collect this waste and store it safely in the determined areas that have been built and designed for just this reason," Commissioner Echols said. "I am working hard with Georgia Power to get this done. The consumers don't need to pay double for a service the federal government has already been paid for."

Commissioner Echols also is an advocate for the use of natural gas and actually owned a 1999 Honda that ran on natural gas.

"I drove that car for years, but the aggravation of not being able to find fuel in Georgia made me decide to sell it," Commissioner Echols said. "There are only five filling stations in the state that provide natural gas as fuel and it was just too limited."

"I sold it to a man from Oklahoma where natural gas filling stations are plentiful and he pays 99 cents for a gallon of fuel to drive my old car," Echols said. "That speaks volumes about how beneficial natural gas can be for Georgia."

Commissioner Echols also spoke about the use and distribution of free government cell phones.

"There are a million government-issued cell phone users in the state and 117,000 of those clients have more than one phone," Commissioner Echols said. "We

are working on legislation now that will require those recipients to pay \$5 per month for their phone. This will help all the residents of Georgia with telecommunication costs and reduce the dependency on the federal government by many Georgians who abuse the system. It is just another way we are trying to cut spending waste."

Echols was elected to the PSC in 2010 and hails from Athens. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia where he received three degrees.

Echols lives in Athens with his wife Windy and their seven children.

Echols closed by thanking the Rotary Club for inviting him to speak and for all their service to the community and to the state of Georgia.

He invited all present to follow the actions of the PSC online via Facebook or through the PSC Web site PSC.State.Ga.Us and to contact him with any concerns.

The Rotary Club is a valuable entity for Union County and is a humble organization that is concerned for the welfare of all the citizens of the county and throughout Georgia and even on a global scale.

There motto is, "Service above Self" and they adhere to that in many ways that are very beneficial to a lot of people.

Thank a Rotarian the next time you meet one because who knows, it may be you they are helping in the future.