

It was good heads up patrol work by Deputy Jesse Blankenship that stopped a Breaking and Entering in Progress and resulted in the arrest of two individuals in the early morning hours on the 24th of February. Deputy Blankenship was patrolling in the area of US 25 N., when he noticed a suspicious vehicle parked at the entrance of Thompson Nursery located at 3525 Asheville Hwy. Blankenship approached the car and found Mr. Samuel Paul Gudger sitting in the passenger seat. No one else was in the car. As the deputy questioned Gudger, he noted lights coming on inside the business and could tell that someone was inside. Keeping Gudger occupied by questioning, the deputy waited until the person inside the business returned to the car squeezing through the chain locked gate as she exited the business area. This individual was identified as Melodie Marie Lamontagne. A call to the owner confirmed that despite the stories given by the two, no one was supposed on the property or inside the building, which has experienced thefts in the past. .

Ms. Lamontagne was charged with Felonious Breaking and Entering and placed under an \$8000.00 secured bond.

Mr. Gudger was charged with Felony Aid and Abet, and placed under a \$6000.00 secured bond.

Sheriff Davis noted that "These arrests are the result of this departments' emphasis on aggressive patrol enforcement in all areas anytime the officers are not answering specific calls for service. There's an old saying that states, "some folks are just lucky, but the harder you work, the luckier you get". Deputy Blankenship was working hard and it paid off."