

## Saluda Police Department Promotes Defensive Driving Course ‘Alive at 25’

The Saluda Police Department is taking the offensive on defensive driving, aiming to reduce the number of people who die on the roads.

On April 10 Saluda Police Department sponsored a presentation by The South Carolina National Safety Council on the Alive at 25 program.

Devon Hughes, who serves as the statewide coordinator for Alive at 25, was on hand to give the presentation which was at the Saluda Town Hall at 10:00 Thursday. Hughes said that these senseless and tragic wrecks by teenagers are avoidable. In addition, this program is utilized by 15 high schools throughout the state and even more across the United States to curb fatalities among drivers 15 to 24 years old.

This young driver intervention program zeros in on drivers between the ages of 15 and 24, the group most likely to be involved in fatal collisions. It is a 4 ½ hour driving safety course that focuses on the behaviors and attitudes of driving. The ultimate goal: to save lives.

Initiated at Dutch Fork High School after the school suffered six fatalities in one school year, the program is gaining momentum across the state. Interim Chief Holloway is interested in getting the program in the Saluda area “before we have a fatality of a young person that becomes part of the grim statistics”.

To register for Alive @ 25 the form and dates for classes in Columbia or Aiken can be obtained from the South Carolina National Safety Council at 803-732-6778, 1-800-733-6185. The course fee is \$35.

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**Saluda Interim Police Chief Charles Holloway with Devon Hughes from the “Alive at 25” program.**

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