

Southern Pines man charged with murder

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A Southern Pines Man, who last year beat a female acquaintance to death, this week pleaded guilty to second-degree murder. Garland Beal was sentenced to a maximum 17 years in prison for killing Terry Lynn Baker. The victim was on her way to make funeral arrangements for her daughter who had committed suicide. As Baker passed Beal's residence on Pennsylvania Avenue angry words were exchanged and Beal descended from his second floor balcony to confront Baker. A tussle ensued and Baker was killed. Investigators testified that alcohol was involved.