Written by Steve Frank
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A quick-thinking Watauga clerk is being credited with foiling a potential scam—or worse. The clerk at the unnamed NC-105 business reported that early in the weekend, she had been approached by a lady, who was asking for get cash because she and her husband were from out of town and needed money,saying her husband was sick and needed to go to a doctor. Sheriff Len Hagaman's email said that the quick thinking clerk told the woman she was an EMT and offered to check the husband, and to call medics. The clerk also stated she had a friend who works at the hospital and she could be seen by someone there at no cost. The clerk then said the lady became very nervous and said 'that was OK but, they simply needed money for gas and food, and they would see their doctor down state.' Now thinking this was a scam, the clerk told the woman that she was not authorized to take money from the cash register, but would be glad to call the boss in. The increasingly nervous lady replied they did not have time enough to wait then practically ran out of the business. The clerk told officers she saw the lady get into a small red truck, and the two left so quickly she could not get the tag number. The Sheriff's Office is warning merchants of such attempts to get to a business' cash, and asked for anyone similarly approached to let them know.