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14 PAGES

"Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it."



You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch! Be that as it may, Mr. G made an appearance in Calhoun Falls on Saturday, Dec. 4 for the Calhoun Falls Christmas parade, and gave us a scary pose. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Abbeville plans

Economic development incentives City tackles reimbursement plans

By Henry E. Green Abbeville City Council

has passed first reading on two ordinances that create development.

Together, these ordinances create a process by which the City may provide reimbursement of the infrastructure costs incurred by people who engage in economic development projects.

At its November meeting, Council passed first reading on a proposed ordinance "to create an economic development article and reimbursement program for new property developments."

This is Ordinance 10-2021, and could deal with any new property development--from a factory to a new restaurant, according to Mike Clary, Deputy Administrative Officer for the City.

The city would reimburse any person developing property for industrial, commercial or residential purposes up to the entire estimated cost of invest-

associated with such development."

incentives for economic would be calculated in annual installments not to exceed 50 percent of the amount of City property taxes collected for that year from the improvements brought about through the development, and those annual installments could occur for up to 10 years," Clary said.

In addition, City Council passed at its November meeting first reading on a proposed ordinance to create a reimbursement incentive for water and sewer construction costs for subdivision developments.

related ordinance.

The City "continues to adopt and develop new programs to encourage residential development to facilitate the creation of more viable housing for current residents and potential new residents in the future."

"Population decline is 366-5017.

ments in infrastructure an ever present problem for rural communities throughout the county," The reimbursement the proposed ordinance continues.

> The creation of a new incentive program will allow for the City of Abbeville to be a better destination for subdivision growth in the future."

> In order to be eligible for the reimbursement of costs of constructing water and/or sewer lines to a residential property development, preliminary certification by the City Manager and final approval by City Council must be obtained.

The subdivision reimbursement process occurs over four years, and Ordinance 11-2021 is a is in connection with the infrastructure costs per subdivision lot, said Clary.

> Greenwood and Newberry do have similar existing programs, he said.

> For more information, one may call Austin Walker, the City's Community Development Director, at

Christmas parade

By Henry E. Green The City of Abbeville will have its annual Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 11, at coordinator for the City 11 a.m.

As of press time, about 30 participants were expected to participate in the parade, including community groups such as the Abbeville High School cheerleaders, the American Legion,

and businesses such as Arts performing "The WCTEL and Commercial Printing, according to Emily Bledsoe, events of Abbeville.

The parade will be part will follow the traditionof a very busy day, with the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce hosting Breakfast with Santa at the Belmont Inn, and the Abbeville Community Performing

Best Christmas Pageant Ever" at the Opera House--all on Saturday, Dec. 11!

The Christmas parade al route, moving down North Main and through Abbeville's Court Square before breaking up on South Main near its intersection with Magazine Street.



The First Baptist Church of Abbeville was awash in color with beautifully decorated tables during the Dec. 4 Senior Banquet at the Christian Life Center. Illusionist Jim Diehl provided the entertainment, amazing the crowd with his magic tricks, including the feat of slipping out of a straitjacket following in the footsteps of Harry Houdini. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



The Calhoun Falls Charter cheerleaders were part of the recent Calhoun Falls Christmas parade. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Trinity to be featured on WMS ornament

By Henry E. Green **Trinity Episcopal Church** in Abbeville will be featured in the 32nd edition of the Wright Middle School Christmas ornaments, according to Ann Hawthorne, WMS media specialist and coordinator of the program.

WMS has been selling Christmas ornaments every year since 1989 as a fundraiser for the school's media center.

Each year, a different Abbeville landmark is fea-

tured on the ornaments. Last year, it was the CSX Caboose on the grounds of the McGowan Barksdale Bundy House.

This year, it is Trinity Church, one of Abbeville's historic churches. Trinity, with its Gothic Revival architecture, is widely admired for its beauty.

The red and white ornaments this year are on sale at the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce, and at Wright Middle School. They sell for \$10.

"They go quickly," said Hawthorne, who encouraged people to call and reserve an ornament.

A number of ornaments from past years are still available, but many are sold out.

Trinity's congregation, meanwhile, was formed in 1842, and the current building was completed in 1860.

For more information, one may call Wright Middle at 366-5998.



Tony and Candy Roper of Abbeville won the 2021 Prevention Advocacy Award from Cornerstone earlier this year. (Contributed photo)

Gateway wins award from Cornerstone

By Henry E. Green

The Gateway Recovery House, located on Vienna Street in Abbeville, has won Treatment Partner of the Year award from Cornerstone, the area commission on alcohol and drug abuse.

Gateway is a home for women in recovery.

"It was in February of 2020 that we actually took our first resident," said Bethany Stoll, director of the Gateway Recovery House

Gateway currently houses eight women, who are making the transition back into normal life after struggling with addiction, Stoll said.

Residents of Gateway stay there anywhere from eight months to 16 months.

While at Gateway, they work hard to get back into the mainstream, according to Stoll.

a treatment program," she said.

They might attend AA meetings for example, or attend classes at Cornerstone, Stoll continued.

"There's a house mother who supervises daily activities (at the house)," she said.

Gateway residents do pay to stay at the old house. "They pay a program fee each week to be there," she said.

This does not cover all the costs of Gateway, according to Stoll. "We rely on support of local churches and businesses," she said.

Gateway is run by a board of directors from the local community.

It is housed on a house which is approximately 100 years old. The two-story house has five bedrooms "They find a job and work and six bathrooms, a living

room, a dining room, a kitchen, and a den.

The house, through a collaboration of local churches, businesses and individuals, was renovated to provide for Gateway.

It was all a volunteer effort, and the grand opening was

held in October of 2019. Many referrals come from places such as Faith Home, Greenwood Recovery, and other places throughout the state.

The residents come from throughout South Carolina and beyond.

Gateway is a nonprofit organization, and it reflects what its founders saw as a need, according to Stoll.

"There was a lack of transitional housing for women coming out of shorter rehab programs," she said.

This award was presented to Tony and Candy Roper of Abbeville by Cornerstone, the area commission on alcohol and drug abuse, earlier this year. (Contributed photo)

The Ropers are originally from London, England, and they have lived in America for 22 years--with most of that time in Abbeville.

Cornerstone honors

Abbeville couple

By Henry E. Green

Volunteering their time to

help people get the help

they need, Tony and Candy

Roper of Abbeville have

won the Prevention Partner

award from Cornerstone,

the area commission on alcohol and drug abuse.

The award, presented

in November, recognizes

them for their involvement

with the Greenwood-Ab-

beville Coalition, a group

of collaborating agencies

working for the prevention

of substance abuse, agen-

cies including Cornerstone,

Faith Home, and law en-

The Ropers volunteer their

time with the Coalition. "We

direct people to the services

that are available," Tony

forcement agencies.

said

Both are retired--Tony from the music industry, and Candy from reflexology. "She's a qualified reflexologist," Tony said.

Tony remembers how several years ago he and Candy attended a community meeting in Greenwood at Saint Mark's Methodist Church, a meeting which in turn spawned the creation of the Greenwood-Abbeville Coalition.

The Coalition presents a number of events during the year to highlight the problem of drug addiction and the lives lost to that problem. "We have a candlelight

vigil every year," he said. It is always at the end of August, and one vigil is held in Abbeville and the other in Greenwood.

"It's very low-key," he said. "We do ring a bell for every life lost. It is low-key but very, very powerful."

The Coalition is not a religious organization, per se, but does work closely with a number of churches.

Tony said that he and Candy also serve as volunteers in the guardian ad litem program.

"We are the voice of children in court," he said, noting that they work with attorneys representing abused or neglected children. The Ropers serve as advocates for these young people from troubled circumstances.



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ication, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch."

John 10:22-23 KJV

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Silent night South Side Baptist Church in Abbeville planning Live Nativity

By Henry E. Green Putting a fresh perspective on the Christmas story, South Side Baptist Church in Abbeville will once again have a Live Nativity.

The Live Nativity will be on Dec. 20, Dec. 21, and Dec. 22--Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday--at 6 p.m. each night.

"We're doing it an hour each night--6 to 7," said Janet Ferguson of Abbeville, a member of South Side Baptist Church.

The night of Dec. 20 will be Children's Night, with children playing the parts of Mary and Joseph and the shepherds and the Wise Men, and the Baby Jesus will be a doll.

The Live Nativity was started by retired pastor Rev. Earl Hartley a number of years ago.

Ferguson estimated that the church has been doing

this at least 20 years, "with much help from many members of our church."

"It takes a lot of people to put it together," she said. Everyone has a different task. Some of the men put the stable together and do the lighting as well.

"Most of the costumes were made by the ladies many years ago--about 20 years ago," she said.

"Several years we had live animals," she continued. "Our animals usually consist of the goats."

The goats were provided in the past by families from the church.

None of the participants talk during the Live Nativity, which is held on a hillside just outside the church and beside Highway 72, and the event seems to be a hit every year, especially with motorists passing by on the highway. "We have people slow down and pull over in the median," she said, noting that other people park in the parking lot of the church, walk down the sidewalk and gaze at the Live Nativity scene.

Sixteen people participate every night, with eight people performing in 30-minute shifts.

"We have great participation," she said. That includes members of the church's youth group.

"Our youth are very willing to participate," she said.

The weather, meanwhile, has varied from year to year--from the shivering kind to the kind in which the participants were actually perspiring.

"We actually stood in sleet one year," he said. "We've done it in all kinds of weather."





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It has been nine years since you left us. They say time will heal. Neither time nor reason will change the way we feel. one are the days we used to share, but in our hearts you are always there. The gates of memories will never close. We love and miss you 12/8;1 more than anybody knows. Mrs. Mamie Sylvia Killingsworth, Wife Sylvia, Wilvia & Mamie, Daughters Lee, Willie E, Rodekescia & Jimmeca, Grandchildren Roderick & Romeo, Great-Grandsons Faith & Justices, Great-Granddaughters





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South Side Baptist Church in Abbeville is planning a Live Nativity. Here's a scene from a South Side Nativity of the past. (Contributed photo)



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Perhaps you sang a tender song Or came to pay a call; Perhaps you sent a lovely card, Or just sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent beautiful flowers,

If so we saw it there. Perhaps you sent or spoke kind words,

As any friend could say; Perhaps you were not there at all,

But just thought of us that day.

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Or maybe furnished a car; Perhaps you rendered a

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Pictured from left to right: Andy Timmerman, Abbeville Promise Co-Chair; Jeff Lewis, General Manager of Little River Electric Co-op; Zack Smith, Manager of Finance and Administration of Little River Electric Co-op; Lee Logan, Freshwater Coast Community Foundation Secretary. (Photo contributed)



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Little River Electric CO-OP and Cobank contribute to the **Abbeville Promise**

Submitted by Jess Tollison

Jeff Lewis, General Manager and Zack Smith, Manager of Finance and Administration of Little River Electric Co-op, present a check for \$10,000 to Abbeville Promise campaign Co-Chair Andy Timmerman of Abbeville First Bank and Lee Logan, Freshwater Coast Community Foundation (FCCF) Secretary. This contribution is the third payment in a \$50,000 pledge which will be distributed equally between the Abbeville Promise and the Little River Electric Co-op Donor Advisor Fund, man-

aged by the FCCF. Due to Little River's relationship with CoBank, the gift has been matched in an equal amount. "We are proud to support and participate in the Abbeville Promise and the FCCF. We are also excited and extremely grateful that CoBank matched our donation. It truly is special to help make a difference for our youth as they work toward accomplishing their future goals," Lewis stated. The Abbeville Promise scholarship program will provide any Abbeville County resident who earns a high school diploma the opportunity to earn an as-

sociate degree at Piedmont Technical College free of tuition and fees.

CoBank is a part of the Farm Credit System. It was created through a merger of eleven banks in 1989. The bank's primary purpose is to provide financial services and loans to public utilities, agribusinesses, and electric cooperatives.

For more information about the Abbeville Promise or to donate, contact the Freshwater Coast Community Foundation at 864-446-2773 or abbevillepromise@ wctel.net.



A fundraiser fo the free medical clinic of United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County was held on Dec. 2, at the home of Bill and Edna Boone in Abbeville. Bill (right) conversed with Jenny O'Quinn (left) during the fundraiser. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

A Slice of Mike

"I'll Never Remarry, But I'll **Never Live Alone**"

By Mike Elis

As a writer, one of the here in the United States, and social, but truthfully I



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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: YEAR IN REVIEW ACROSS

1. Coalition of countries

- 5. King trump-er, sometimes
- 8. Cuckoo bird
- weevil 11 12. Smelting waste
- 13. Kitchen-wear
- 15. Coke or Pepsi
- 16. Check-in via text, email, etc.
- 17. Settler transport
- 18. *2021 Super Bowl winner, two
- words
- 20. Before long, to Shakespeare
- 21. Jeopardy
- 22. Auction action 23. Puts down
- 26. Coroner's performance
- 30. Band booking
- 31. Snicket of "A Series of Unfortunate
- Events"
- 34. Stravinsky's "The of Spring"
- 35. Mine passages
- 37. *Build Back Better
- 38. Eucharist plate
- 39. Table hill
- 40. Good review
- "Tit for 42
- 43. Buck feature, pl.
- 45. *First female VP
- 47. Evergreen creeper
- 48. It goes with gin, according to
- Snoop Dogg
- 50. Mongolian desert
- 52. *COVID-19, e.g. 55. Poison ivy or Poison oak
- 56. International Civil Aviation Org.
- 57. Distinctive smell 59. House coat
- 60. Asian cuisine food thickener
- 61. Pelvic parts
- 62. Gallery display
- 63. Self-proclaimed greatest boxer
- 64. Count on

DOWN

- 1. "Monty Python" broadcaster Rioter's take 2 3. Cantina pot 4. Fasteners or holders 5. Cover story 6. *Suez too tight for Ever Given Like custard 7. 8. Mythological ship 9. "High" time 10. Wayside stop 12. Thinly spread 13. Look forward to Papers, leaked offshore 14. * account information 19. Banana refuse, pl. 22. Exchange for money 23. Old World lizard 24. *January 20th honoree 25. Anti-elderly one 26. Those not in favor 27. Pita, alt. sp. 28. Take without asking 29. Gossiper, Yiddish *Perseverance landing spot 32. 33. Edible tuber *Kabul's organization in power 36. 38. *The Nobel Prize was awarded to Ressa and Muratov 40. Snoop around 41. Snowmobile brand 44. Give the boot 46. *"Stronger" by Cindy McCain, e.g. 48. Southwestern hut 49. Sushi restaurant staple gum, food additive 50. 51. Leave out
- 52. Home to the Leaning Tower
- 53. Not in use
- 54. One in mattress
- 55. Spot for a facial
- *Actor Liotta, star in "The Many 58. Saints of Newark"

most difficult tasks is figuring out where that fine line is between what is appropriate to share and what I need to keep to myself. I announced the separation from my wife in a column (which she and I amused ourselves in writing), I have spoken openly about scars from how I was raised in a bunch of my columns, and I have discussed my hatred for broccoli in several of them.

"Mike, after much testing, you have tested positive for Multiple Personality Disorder."

These were the words from my therapist who I have been seeing. Well, me and apparently others inside of me as well. I knew that my personality changes like the wind blows so I was not shocked by this news. Luckily, I (I mean we) have a very mild case and it is actually common with performers.

As we were going through different ways I can help cope with this, I told him I would be fine as I would not be going through this alone; a little multiple personality humor made my therapist laugh and he told me that my sense of humor will help me get through.

He asked me after showing me the results if I had any questions. "Yeah, do I now have to pay three times as much now for these sessions, or just for me?'

So, what now? Not that my life is changing as I am still the same people I was yesterday. I read that

there are about one million people with split or multiple personality disorder. I am not sure if that includes our other selves; so it could actually be 300,000. Also, multiple personality is much more common in women than in men: it definitely happens after women have a wedding ring on their fingers. Queue the boos from the crowd.

My therapist says I need to make a lot of changes, mainly to my physical routine. I have been told to basically eliminate sugar, exercise daily, stay hydrated, and meditate every few hours to keep my mind right. Wait, what? I would need three of me to spend my time and energy on this with everything else I do in my professional career. Oh, I'm sorry; our professional career.

In January, I will be doing shows opening for the hilarious Michael Winslow (Police Academy, Spaceballs, Gremlins). It is quite fitting that I will be opening for the man of 100,000 voices. God has a sense of humor and I am sure this is just yet another way of his telling me that he enjoys using me in any ways necessary for good entertainment.

I have been told a lot over the years that I have changed. It has been said of me that I crave attention and I have been told that I am quiet and introverted. Some would say I am kind and giving while some may say I'm selfish. Many would think I am outgoing

spend most nights at home and rarely go out. Although some may think I have a lot of friends, I have very few because I don't trust very easily and many bail because they do see there is more than one side to me. Truthfully nobody knows the real me, and truthfully neither do I.

But this is not supposed to be dark humor. I am truly blessed with more than I ever deserve, maybe enough for two to four people.

So, should this have been talked about in a column? Not sure, but I am a writer. And for my readers, you get my thoughts, my heart, and my soul. I don't do this to always bring puppies and rainbows. Life isn't always like that.

We have enough censorship in the world of comedy and journalism; and I am real.

Some may not agree with this topic for a column. It is possible that one of the haters might dwell within me.

Don't forget to join Mike and Heather for Ugly Sweater Team Trivia on December 9th, 7pm at the Belmont Inn to benefit Toys for Tots this holiday season. Every toy you bring will give you one extra point for your team (maximum 5 point bonus). \$5 per person entry fee.

Sign your team up and reserve a table by calling The Belmont Inn at 864-459-9625. Maximum five members per team.

Conservation District Stan Keaton honored for community service

By Henry E. Green

An icon in the Abbeville County agricultural community was honored Monday night, as Stan Keaton was recognized by a representative of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.

Keaton, now retired, had a long and successful career as an agriculture teacher, and one of his students happened to be Fred Raines, the chairman of the Abbeville Conservation District board of commissioners.

Raines presided over the dinner meeting Monday night, attracting approximately 35 people.

Keaton, meanwhile, was recognized by Tyler Brown, DNR's program manager for South Carolina's conservation district.

A Conservation District commissioner emeritus, Keaton was praised by Raines as a great teacher who made a big impact on the lives of his students.

"He earned their respect," said Raines.

Keaton, meanwhile, was given a chance to provide some remarks. "I've been so humbled," he said.

He went on to say that a scholarship set up in his name had already accumulated as much as \$16,000. "Thank you for all the work

that you do," he told the commissioners. He also praised Calhoun Falls Charter agriculture teacher Nancy McCannon for her work with FFA. "Nancy's done such an excellent job," he said.

In other news, a Calhoun Falls Charter student was honored as the top "soils" student. Keegan Curry finished second in the state in an FFA soils judging competition.

Curry was unable to attend, and McCannon accepted the award on her student's behalf.

In addition, Brown swore in Sam Gilliam, also one of Keaton's former students, as a Conservation District commissioner.

Finally, Eric McCall was recognized as the Conservation Farmer of the Year.

The Abbeville Conservation District is one of approximately 3,000 conservation districts throughout the country, according to Brown.

The conservation district program was established in the 1930s, in the aftermath of the Dust Bowl, when soil erosion was a big problem. Conservation districts promote wise use of natural resources, and in South Carolina, commissioners volunteer their time to serve.

The Abbeville Conservation District board of commissioners meets on the second Wednesday of every month, Raines said. In addition to Gilliam and Raines, other Conservation District commissioners include Eric McCall, Susie New and Barry Edmunds.



"Walk through Bethlehem" and Cold Springs Mennonite Church won honors in the Due West Christmas parade of Dec. 3. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



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THE GREATER ABBEVILLE **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** Business of the Month



Chunky's provides a casual, diner-like atmosphere for the Abbeville native and passerby alike. Conveniently located off of Highway 72 next to Savitz Pharmacy, we specialize in Greek-Italian cuisine.

Come check out our expansive menu featuring Italian Baked Pasta, Chicken, Fish, and Meat platters, Salads, Sandwiches, Wraps, Wings, and our Home-



During the Dec. 6 Abbeville Conservation District Christmas dinner, Stan Keaton was recognized by DNR's Tyler Brown for his service as an educator. They were joined by District commissioners and District clerk Melody Coursey: (from left) Susan Keaton, Barry Edmunds, Stan Keaton, Eric McCall, Sam Gilliam, Tyler Brown, Susie New, Fred Raines, and Melody Coursey. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Eric McCall (left) was recognized as the Conservation Farmer of the Year by Fred Raines (right), chairman of the board of commissioners for the Abbeville Conservation District -- all during the Abbeville Conservation District Christmas dinner, held Dec. 6 at the Abbeville County Agricultural Building in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Pet of the Month



Delilah is as pretty as her name. She is a 2-year-old mixed breed that loves cuddles and human affection! Delilah is one of our playgroup rockstars and absolutely loves playing with other dogs. Delilah wants a home with a fur brother or sister for Christmas!

Adoption Fees are reduced to \$25 for Delilah, sponsored by Abbeville Humane Society.That includes spay/ neuter, vaccines, rabies voucher, dewormer, flea treatment and microchip. Visit Abbeville County Animal Shelter M/W/F 10-5, Sat. 10-3. Call 366-6639.



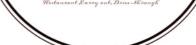


Meet Gizmo! Gizmo gets so excited when people approach him that he pounces just like an arctic fox into the snow! He is a mixed breed and is about 1.5-years-old. He plays great with female dogs but doesn't care for male dogs. All he wants for Christmas is a family with a big bed to pounce into!

Adoption Fees are reduced to \$25 for Gizmo. sponsored by Abbeville Humane Society. That includes spay/ neuter, vaccines, rabies voucher, dewormer, flea treatment and microchip. Visit Abbeville County Animal Shelter M/W/F 10-5, Sat. 10-3. Call 366-6639.



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Mr. Morton's legacy Abbeville garden clubs join together for Arbor Day celebration

By Henry E. Green Trees.

They give us shade. They're good for the environment.

No wonder we love them. Members of the garden clubs of Abbeville gathered Friday at the Educational Garden in Abbeville to share that love--specifically, to celebrate Arbor Day, a time to highlight the significance of trees and all they do for us. About a dozen people gathered around a black gum tree they had chosen for planting.

They helped represent Abbeville's three garden clubs--Rose, Chrysanthemum, and Creative.

Together they presented a program in honor of a holiday started by J. Sterling Morton, a Nebraska journalist and editor.

He was also a "zealous tree lover" who spearheaded the creation of the first Arbor Day back in 1872. Amillion trees were planted on that first Arbor Day, said

Kristina Sutherly. In 1885 Arbor Day was made a legal holiday in Nebraska, and today it is celebrated in all 50 states. Chrysanthemum Garden Club president Rose Graham turned to the Bible for inspiration, reading verses from Genesis, including the famous "In the beginning" verse, and the one in which God presents stewardship of the earth to humankind. "Today we plant a tree as

visionaries," said Graham. Planting a tree provides a faith in the future.

Barbara Littell noted that responders searching through the rubble of the Twin Tower in New York after 9/11 found, to their amazement, a tree among all the devastation.

The miracle of trees is also mentioned in a poem by Joyce Kilmer, a poem she read aloud:

"I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree." And Robin Gerardi of Abbeville noted that the at the black gum tree was a good selection for planting because it was strong and disease resistent.

In closing, the group listened to a recording of a John Denver song about trees and nature.

The program was opened by Mary Alice Hall, the president of the Garden Club Council of Abbeville.

"The Chrysanthemum Garden Club provided the program and the planting of the tree," Hall said Monday. Each year a different club has the Arbor Day program, she said. The three clubs make up the Council.

"We had several guests there who had an interest in the activities of the garden club," said Hall.



Garden club members gathered at the Educational Garden in Abbeville Friday for an Abor Day program. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Eye to the future Abbeville Lions plant trees at area schools in observance of Arbor Day

ing is now more important

"An Arbor Day celebration

can be as large or as small

as you want to make it.

Your Arbor Day can be a

few neighbors gathering to

plant trees in a park near

your home or at a nearby

school. Arbor Day can be

a single class project or an

event for the whole school.

National Arbor Day is the

last Friday in April, but many

states observe Arbor Day

on different dates according

to their best tree-planting

"In 1885 the National Edu-

cation Association called for

observation of Arbor Day in

all of the nation's schools on

the official Arbor Day of their

seasons

than ever.

times

By Henry E. Green Most holidays celebrate the past.

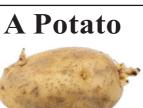
That's not the case with Arbor Day, Abbeville Lions will tell you. It looks to the future--when you plant.

With this in mind, Abbeville Lions planted red maple trees Friday at Westwood Elementary and John C. Calhoun Elementary in conjunction with Arbor Day. We caught up with the Lions at Westwood, where fourth graders came out and sat on the grass while Lion Charles Crowther explained the significance of Arbor Day.

The brainchild of J.Sterling Morton, Arbor Day has its roots in the 19th century, and celebrates the joy and the value of trees.

In South Carolina, Arbor Day is celebrated on the first Friday in December, Crowther told the youngsters.

Different states celebrate it at different times due to differences in growing



own State." Crowther shared some After his presentation, the Arbor Day history:

Lions invited the fourth grad-"Arbor Day is a nationalers to come up and deposit ly-celebrated observance shovels full of dirt into the that encourages tree planthole which had been dug ing and care. Founded by J. in front of the school. Sterling Morton in 1872, his Even Westwood principal simple idea of setting aside a special day for tree plant-

Paul Anderson and curriculum coordinator Angie Ferguson helped.

Lions Charles Williams, Sandi Hood, David Dority and his wife Claudia, and Rick Pressly also helped out.

The Arbor Day tree planting is a tradition among the Lions, who have been planting trees at Westwood for years, and recently extended the tradition to John C. Calhoun Elementary in Calhoun Falls.

Sandi Hood is the current president of the Abbeville Lions Club, which meets on the first Thursday of every month, except July, at the Abbeville Veterans Memorial Foundation building in Abbeville.

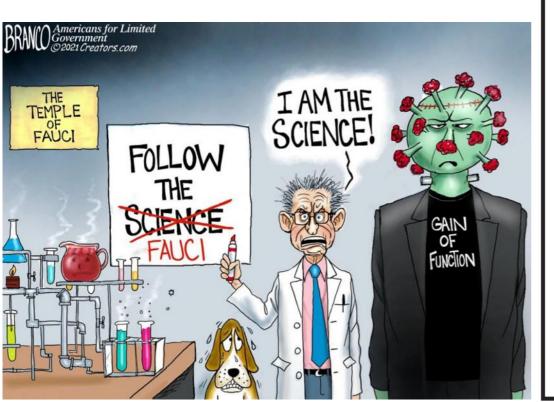


Abbeville Lions held Arbor Day programs at Westwood and John C. Calhoun elementary schools recently. Here they are at Westwood Elementary, letting the students help in the planting process. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Walk Through Bethlehem **Cold Spring Mennonite Church** Dec 8-12 ~ 6:00-8:00pm



Abbeville Lions planted trees at Westwood and John C. Calhoun elementary schools for Arbor Day on Dec. 3. Posing for a picture at Westwood were (from left) Abbeville Lion Rick Pressly, Westwood principal Paul Anderson, Westwood curriculum coordinator Angie Ferguson, Greenwood County Lions David and Claudia Dority, Abbeville Lions Club president Sandi Hood, and Abbeville Lions Charles Williams and Charles Crowther. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)





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NOTICE OF NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION **RATE INCREASE**

Due to an increase in everything (except possibly your income), but mainly due to gasoline and postage, we must increase the subscription price of The Press and Banner in and around surrounding counties from \$40 per year to \$45 per year and increase the subscription rate to outside surrounding counties from \$55 to \$60 per year.

As we continue to strive to publish informative, positive, accurate and only researched and edited news, we appreciate your interest and support of Abbeville County.

Thank you, The Staff of The Press & Banner A Part of the Abbeville County Community Since 1844

Abbeville County's The Press and Banner and Abbeville Medium



Abbeville County Farm Bureau recently made a donation to United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County. Farm Bureau's (from left) Abbeville County Farm Bureau federation presented Barney Gambrell, Abbeville County Farm Bureau secretary Debby Ramey, and Abbeville County Farm Bureau insurance agency manager Brent Branham, made the donation to Mike Shirley of UCMAC. The \$1,000 donation is to benefit the food pantry system of UCMAC. Shirley is the UCMAC food pantry director. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

'Best Christmas Pageant' planned

By Henry E. Green

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" will open at the Abbeville Opera House on Thursday, Dec. 9.

Tickets are \$16 and \$12 for children and senior citizens, and may be purchased online.

Two dollars from each ticket goes to a Historic Preservation Fund.

The musical, which will begin at 7 p.m., will last 55 minutes, and does not have an intermission.

Presented by the Abbeville Community PerformingArts Foundation, the musical represents a return of live theater to the Opera House. The show will run Dec.9, 10, 11, and 16, 17, and 18, at 7 p.m. each night, and

there will be a matinee at 2 p.m. on Dec. 18, according to Jodi Miller of Abbeville, who is directing "Pageant."

The plot involves a woman in the community who is thrust into putting on a church Christmas pageant, when the original director breaks his leg and has to go into the hospital, said Miller. "Just when everyone is sure that the whole thing will be a disaster, something

happens to change the outcome," she said. "The show is perfect for all

ages as it runs just over one hour in length."

Leading the cast are Lindsay Johnson, Bobby Hamby, Claire Davis and Alexis Worley, Miller continued. This is the first production of the Abbeville Community Performing Arts, according to Miller, who is assisted in her director's work for "Pageant" by Kaitlyn Worley.

Tickets may be purchased at aftontickets.com, or on the Opera House or Abbeville City websites, or at the Opera House during business hours.

The ACPA will be tasked with facilitating theatrical performances at the Opera House as well as other community oriented events in tandem with the professional acts brought in by the City's Community Development Department, according to information provided by the City of Abbeville.

Warm December On a weekend marked by mild temperatures, parades proceed

By Henry E. Green Friday evening's Due West Christmas parade may have included a first for the town of Due West--a camel.

Due West Mayor Jeannie Knight said following the parade that to her knowledge this may have been the first time a camel had shown its hump--so to speak--in the Holy City.

She was referring, of course, to Curtis the Camel--yes, a live camel that was part of the parade. Curtis, led by a very careful handler, was helping promote "Walk through Bethlehem," presented by Cole Spring Mennonite Church and Cold Spring Mennonite School as a sort of extension of the Live Nativity.

"Walk" takes place Dec. 8-12, and it won honors in a parade which helped usher in the Christmas season for Abbeville County.

The very next day, Calhoun Falls and Donalds held their parades, on a day which seemed, with its mild temperatures, far more appropriate for April than for December.

The Calhoun Falls parade featured many more entries than had initially signed up. "This was the largest pa-

rade we had had in more Learning Center, according than 20 years," said Rebeca McCaslan, executive director of the Calhoun Falls Chamber, which presented the parade.

Following the parade, there was entertainment at the Calhoun Falls market, including the Outlaw cheerleader team, and FIERCE dance team, and the duo of Nicole Quinn and Janice Corriveau singing Christmas songs.

"Santa was available for pictures," she said. "There was a bouncy house for the children, and I had 18 vendors to shop with, and two food vendors."

The parade was led by the Hardwood Cruisers motorcycle club, who also did a blanket drive, and more than 100 riders took part in the parade, according to Terri Stone, the Donalds Town Clerk.

The parade was presented by the Town of Donalds and the Donalds Fire Department, and cash prizes were awarded for the best entries. In first place was the Dance Hall Academy, and in second place was the Dixie High School Band. Third place honors went to Playhouse Daycare and

to Ronnie Vaughn, Donalds Fire Chief.

Meanwhile, in the Due West parade, the first place honors went to Dixie High School FFA, followed by Due West Robotics, and Cold Spring Mennonite Church, with "Walk Through Bethlehem, according to information provided by the Town of Due West.

Retired Dixie High School teacher Millen Ellis was the grand marshal in the parade, which concluded at the Due West park, where there was a lighting of the Tree for Life, providing the climax to a project which was coordinated by the Due West Lions Club.

Erskine interim president Dr. Tom Hellams spoke during the tree lighting program, noting that the tradition of Christmas trees was started by the Germans, and the tradition of having lights on Christmas trees was started by Reformation reformer Martin Luther.

Amos Cunningham of the Level Land community led the group assembled at the park pavilion in singing Christmas songs, including "Silent Night" and "White Christmas."

Rotarians planning **Reindeer Run**

By Henry E. Green The 12th Annual Abbeville Rotary Club Reindeer Run will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11, according to information from the club.

Held in support of the Angel Tree Bicycle Fund, the 5K event will begin with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. at Abbeville First Bank.

The registration fees for this 5K event are as follows: runners, \$20; walkers, \$15, and children under 18, \$15. Bicycles are also welcome in the event, and the top male and female runners will be recognized.

Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, one may call 864-366-2158.

The Abbeville Rotary Club has weekly meetings at the Belmont Inn, and in addition to the Reindeer Run, the club presents a cornhole tournament in the spring, and the Abbeville Rotary Bowl in the fall.

The Rotary Bowl, a fixture

In addition, the club has a scholarship program to benefit worthy graduates of Abbeville, Dixie and Calhoun Falls Charter.

Matthew Johnson is the current president of the club, which was established in 1963.

The Angel Tree Bicycle Fund, meanwhile, is part of the Christmas Angel Tree project, which reaches hunon the Abbeville sports dreds of children throughout



The Greene Center of Abbeville's Main Street United Methodist Church looked a little like Santa's workshop recently, as volunteers wrapped presents for the Christmas Angel Tree. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Dixie High School senior Landon Mitchell and his sister, Dixie sophomore Lauren Mitchell, could be found helping out with the Christmas Angel Tree project at the Greene Center of Main Street United Methodist Church recently. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

One may register at Abbeville First Bank or the

scene for more than half a century, features a day of recreation league football in which Abbeville teams are typically pitted against teams from neighboring communities.

the area.

Abbeville Rotarians have for many years delivered bicycles on Christmas Eve as part of Christmas Angel Tree.



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Editorials & Comments

THE PRESS AND BANNER AND ABBEVILLE MEDIUM December 8, 2021



Vaccination: The Other Side of the Story

By Geoff Hult

Vaccination is certainly one of the biggest and most polarizing subjects of the day. The government, media, and medical establishment tout as universal truth the safety, efficacy, and necessity of vaccines that only the cognitively impaired, selfish, and irresponsible question or disbelieve. Not every member of the medical establishment holds this position, however, and here we will examine why that is.

One of the common assertions from proponents of vaccination is that vaccines eradicated certain diseases, such as smallpox and polio. If this is true, and the science is clear on this, then explain why Dr. William Douglass, MD, (1926-2015) asserts just the opposite: "What the vaccinators don't tell you is that communicable diseases have been declining at a steady rate for 150 years and that there is no relationship between the various diseases and the onset of immunization. Without exception, the vaccine program for each of the childhood diseases was inaugurated after that particular disease had begun to disappear. Contrary to what

same was true with polio in that history shows that the sickest were the vaccinated. Her book shows the same thing as the aforementioned doctors have asserted in that the decline in mortality had nothing to do with medical interventions and everything to do with sanitation, social programs, and nutrition. The susceptibility to these diseases were due to poor nutrition, lack of hygiene, and an inadequate clean water supply. Dr. Humphries explains that none of her colleagues had actually studied vaccines but instead believed the endless soundbytes they had heard over the years about vaccines being safe and effective and having eradicated smallpox and polio. Doctors are rewarded for going along with the vaccination program and it is very detrimental to their careers not to do so, and

this is especially true today. Dr. Humphries also explains that vaccines have never really been safe, and they never will be because the process of vaccination defies the natural function of the immune system. Our immune systems are designed to deal with pathogens, but when pathogens artificially introduced are into the body by way of vaccination, there are inevitably other harmful substances such as aluminum, mercury, and formaldehyde in the vaccines. There is literally nothing in a vaccine that our bodies actually require or is good for us. With that, the risk of cancer, autoimmunity, and neurological disease goes up. The more vaccines that are administered, the more the risk for chronic disease and death. And yet, the more vaccines pediatricians administer, the more money they make. Follow the money and have friendship with the established order or be labeled a quack and risk losing their license if they investigate for themselves, or question vaccine safety and efficacy in any way. This is the choice pediatricians have. People love to invoke the word "science" when it comes to this subject, but science is only valid when the people and/or institutions employing it are honest and unbiased. People seem to forget that people are not pure in their motives or behavior much of the time, being that we are of a fallen nature. Much of what is called science is really fraud and lies masquerading as science. Who better to demonstrate this than Richard Horton, editor of the Lancet, one of the most well known medical journals in the world. Published in the Lancet in April, 2015, Horton wrote: "Much of the scientific literature, perhaps half, may simply be untrue. Afflicted by studies with small sample sizes, tiny effects, invalid explanatory analyses, and flagrant conflicts of interest, together with an obsession for pursuing fashionable trends... science has taken a turn towards darkness." The

British Medical Journal had a higher estimate of about 85% of studies being fraudulent. It's simple: Pharma has a tremendous influence on the outcome of studies, hospitals, the media, and academia. And their interest is not your health.

Although there is fraud, there is also real science employed by ethical doctors in search of truth and one of those doctors is Dr. Paul Thomas, MD. Dr. Thomas, along with Dr. James Lyons-Weiler, Ph.D., conducted a study on the children in Dr. Thomas' practice, Integrative Pediatrics, in Portland, OR. On November 22, 2020, their study entitled "Relative Incidence of Office Visits and Cumulative Rates of Billed Diagnoses Along the Axis of Vaccination" was published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. The study showed that children who were partially or fully vaccinated suffered from a wide range of chronic diseases at a far higher rate than the unvaccinated. This was for all conditions one would not think to correlate with vaccination. Their conclusion stated the following: "We can conclude that the unvaccinated children in

Sens. Scott, Ossoff Introduce **Bipartisan Legislation to Boost** National Security Opportunities for HBCU Students

Submitted by Senator Tim Scott WASHINGTON — U.S. Senators Tim Scott (R-S.C.) and Jon Ossoff (D-Ga.) today introduced the bipartisan HBCU National Security Innovation Act. to help connect students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) with national security and innovation programs in the defense industry and private sector.

"As technology continues to advance, our nation faces unprecedented threats that will require new skills and innovation," said Sen. Scott. "That's why I am proud to work to build an enduring connection between Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the Department of Defense. This bill will not only open

doors to new opportunities for diverse students, but it will also allow the Department of Defense to tap into a deeper talent pool than ever before, bolstering our national security for years to come."

"The HBCU National Security Innovation Act will support the growth of America's HBCU's in research, development, and innovation vital to American national security," Sen. Ossoff said. Sen. Scott is also a consponsor of the bipartisan Cybersecurity Opportunity Act, which would expand cybersecurity training programs at HBCUs and other institutions that serve a high proportion of Pell Grant recipients in South Carolina and nationwide.

san, Congressional HBCU Week.'

caucus, Sen. Scott has long championed legislation to support and improve our nation's HBCUs.

In 2019, his FUTURE Act was signed into law, permanently reauthorizing HBCU funding.

In 2020, his HBCU Partners Act was signed into law, strengthening the relationship between HBCUs and federal agencies.

In May of 2021, he introduced the IGNITE HBCU Excellence Act to invest in infrastructure at HBCUs, enabling them to expand their transformational work.

In August of 2021, he introduced a resolution to formally designate the week of September 6, 2021 as "National Historically Black As co-chair of the biparti- Colleges and Universities

US House of Representatives

Rush, Duncan Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Protect Americans from Carbon Monoxide-Emitting **Portable Generators**

Submitted by Congressman Jeff Duncan

Washington, D.C.-Today, U.S. Representatives Bobby L. Rush (D-III.) and Jeff Duncan (R-S.C.) announced their introduction of the Portable Generator Safety STANDARD Act (H.R. 6135), bipartisan legislation that would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to create mandatory consumer product safety standards for portable generators to protect Americans from death and injury. There are currently no mandatory safety standards for portable generators, which emit carbon monoxide — a

their utilities are cut off. But the pernicious lack of mandatory safety standards for portable generators has led to many people unwittingly poisoning themselves and their families," said Rep. Bobby Rush. "This is a horrible occurrence that happens all too frequently. We need a federal response to bring these preventable poisonings to a screeching halt."

"My bipartisan Portable Generator Safety STAN-DARD Act is an answer to the appalling deaths and injuries caused by portable generators in states across the nation," Rep. Bobby Rush continued. "This is not a partisan issue - these tragedies occur in red states and blue states, in urban and rural communities alike. And as the climate crisis accelerates the frequency and intensity of storms and natural disasters, ensuring that mandatory safety regulations for portable generators are codified into law is more important than ever. I thank my colleague, Rep. Duncan, for joining me on this important and lifesaving legislation." "I'm excited by emerging technologies making home electricity generators safer by addressing the risks of carbon monoxide," said Rep. Jeff Duncan. "This is an affordable technology that saves lives in emergency situation, and it is time to make this the legal

safety standard for all generator producers. The costs of doing this are low, the impact on the price of generators will be minimal, but the costs of not doing this are measurable in lost lives. I want to thank Rep. Bobby L. Rush for leading this important bipartisan legislation and giving me the opportunity to be his co-lead. I am hopeful that we can get this important bill across the finish line in 2022."

The Portable Generator Safety STANDARD Act combines the strictest portions of the two existing voluntary standards: one developed by UL of Northbrook, formerly Underwriters Laboratories, and one developed by the Portable Generators Manufacturers' Association (PGMA). New generators would be required to have a sensor that would stop the machine if carbon monoxide levels were detected at 400 parts per million or if levels averaged 150 parts per million over any 10-minute period.

you have been told, this includes polio...

Another doctor stating essentially the same thing is Dr. Archie Kalokerinos, MD: "Up to 90% of the total decline in the death rate of children between 1860 and 1965, because of whooping cough, scarlet fever, diptheria, and measles, occurred before the introduction of immunizations and antibiotics.

And yet one more echoing this comes from Dr. Nancy Banks, MD: "They say that the introduction of vaccines actually reduced the amount of infectious disease, but if you go back to the beginning of the century you will really see that the thing that was reducing infectious disease was an improvement in diet, an improvement in sanitation, and an improvement in education." Dr. Banks goes on to explain how and why most in the medical field believe the maxim that vaccines are safe and effective and have eradicated diseases: "...when you're going to medical school you actually think that you're studying science. But you're studying the science that someone has decided is appropriate for you. And the science they consider not appropriate for you, you don't study." This is a small sample of many similar voices in the medical field that most never hear about due to gross censorship.

One of the most intelligent and effective communicators on vaccination is Dr. Suzanne Humphries, MD. In her 2013 book, coauthored with Roman Bystrianyk, "Dissolving Illusions: Disease, Vaccines, and the Forgotten History," she shows that smallpox was not eradicated by vaccination, and that, in fact, it was the opposite where with vaccination the disease increased and death rates went up. The

this practice are not, overall, less healthy than the vaccinated and that indeed the vaccinated children appear to be significantly less healthy than the unvaccinated." See this study for yourself on Dr. Thomas' website doctorsandscience.com. Their study was funded by donations from the public.

What this study shows is that vaccines are in reality covert biological weapons. The maxim that vaccines are safe and effective is a half truth. There is nothing safe about them but they are indeed effective as biological weapons that create for the industry an abundance of customers in need of drugs and treatment who are never healed. This is not by accident. Dr. Richard Moskowitz, MD, echoes this: "It is dangerously misleading, and indeed the exact opposite of the truth, to claim that a vaccine renders us 'immune' to or protects us against an acute disease, if in fact it only drives the disease deeper into the interior and causes us to harbor it chronically instead ... '

Finally, consider that Pfizer, Johnson and Johnson, and Moderna are all headquartered in the USA when reading this verse from Revelation:

"And the light of a lamp shall not shine in you any more at all. And the voice of the bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you any more at all. For your merchants were the great ones of the earth, for by your drug sorcery all the nations were led astray." (Rev. 18:23)

healthimpactnews.com principia-scientific.com thecovidblog.com doctorsandscience.com

Geoff Hult nonwo222@gmail.com poisonous, colorless, and odorless gas that builds up quickly in enclosed spaces. At certain levels, just five minutes of exposure is enough to be fatal.

Carbon monoxide poisoning from portable generators has killed nearly 1,000 Americans between 2005 and 2019, and between 2005 and 2017, more than 15,400 people were sickened enough from portable generator fumes to require treatment at an emergency room.

"Americans across the country rely on portable generators for power after storms and other disasters, and many Americans living in poverty turn to generators for their power needs when

The new legislation would also require that portable generators have the following safety features:

·Maximum carbon monoxide emission rates

Shutoff capability in elevated carbon monoxide environments

·Clear labeling marking the direction of exhaust

·Cords no shorter than 30 feet in length

Piedmont Tech Fall Graduations Set for Dec. 16

Submitted by Kristine Hartvigsen

Piedmont Technical College (PTC) will hold two in-person fall commencement exercises on Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021.

An afternoon ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. for Administrative Office Technology, Business, Computer Technology, Commercial Art, Public Service, and Engineering & Industrial Technology graduates.

An evening ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. for Health Care, Associate in Arts, and Associate in Science graduates.

Both commencements will take place in the James Medford Family Event Center on PTC's Lex Walters Campus-Greenwood.

The student speakers for the 3 p.m. ceremony will be Amy Marshall, a Human Services major from Leesville, and Haylee Godfrin, a General Technology, Advertising Design/Photography major from Greenwood. Student speakers for the

7 p.m. ceremony will be Jake Roberts, an Associate Degree Nursing major from Greenwood, and Jaqueline Escobar-Rivera, a Cardiovascular Technology major from Newberry.

In the interest of safety, PTC has increased security measures for all graduation ceremonies. Face coverings are required, and all guests are encouraged to leave unnecessary items in vehicles. Umbrellas and balloons will NOT be allowed into the event. Any bags carried into the Medford Center must be made of clear plastic.

This is a ticketed event.

Each individual ticketholder, including children, will be entitled to one seat only. The Emerald City Brass will provide musical entertainment.



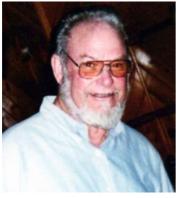
Christmas greetings from the Abbeville County Library system! That's what Library system director Mary Elizabeth seems to be conveying in the Calhoun Falls Christmas parade, held on the afternoon of Saturday, Dec. 4. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Obituaries

Vann

Jimmie Vann, 79, of Abbeville, SC, husband of Nancy Virginia 'Ginny' Mc-Curry Vann, died Saturday, December 4, 2021 at his residence. He was born in Graceville, FL to the late Porter Vann and Josie Cobb Vann.

Employed by the Bay School System in Panama City, Florida, Jimmie retired after many years of service as an electrician. He was a talented craftsman, taking great pride in his woodworking ability. Jimmie completely furnished their home with beautiful handcrafted furniture. He was an outdoorsman spending many happy hours hunting, fishing and camping. Jimmie was a member of the Abbeville Congregational Holiness Church. He loved his family, especially his grandchildren, who were the lights of his life.



Jimmie Vann

In addition to his parents, Jimmie was preceded in death by eight brothers, Ralph, Foy, Leroy, David, Raymond, Bill, Floyd and Robert Vann; a sister, Emma Vann Hinson.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Ginny, of the home; two sons, Chuck Nash (Dana) of Abbeville, SC and J.R. Vann (Kayla) of Grand Island, Nebraska; daughter, Hope Lewis of Greenwood, SC; two

grandchildren, Katie Lee Nash and Griffin Lewis; and a sister, Doris Vann Williams (Ron) of Bonifay, Florida.

Graveside services will be 2:00PM, Saturday, December 11, 2021, in Long Cane Cemetery with Rev. Louie Murray and Rev. David Robinson officiating. The family will receive friends following the graveside and masks are required.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Jimmie, may be sent to Hospice and Palliative Care of the Piedmont, 408 W. Alexander Ave., Greenwood, SC 29646.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral. com.

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Vann family

Raines speaks at mental health event

By Henry E. Green

What would you do if you saw someone in a crowded restaurant choking to death, Krissi Raines asked her audience Friday night at the 57th annual mental health banquet, held Friday night in Due West at the Erskine College dining hall, and presented by Mental Health America-Abbeville County.

You would try to save that individual, wouldn't you? Well, the same thing would apply to someone suffering a mental health issue, Raines indicated.

The director of the Bow and Arrow Center of Hope has spent a number of years working to educate the public about how to be mental health first responders.

One focus of her work has been suicide prevention, and she has spearheaded the Caroline Project, named after a young Abbeville woman who took her own life several years ago.

"In 2020 we lost 23 people to suicide in Abbeville County," she said.

Raines was instrumental in making possible a visit by suicide prevention activist Kevin Hines, who about 20 years ago attempted to take his life by jumping off the Golden

Gate Bridge.

Miraculously, he survived--something that put him in a very select group, as only about one percent of people who jump off the Golden Gate Bridge live to tell about it.

Raines is known for her work in training people in mental health first aid.

The banquet also featured a welcome from interim Erskine president Dr. Tom Hellams, as well as presentations from Erskine professor Dr. Brianna Van Scoy and Janice Gray, interim director of the Abbeville mental health clinic.

Dr. Van Scoy provided a profile of the psychology department at Erskine, where 75 percent of the psychology students go on to do graduate work.

The field of psychology has a number of branches, such as that of industrial organization psychology, helping people become better leaders.

There is also a masters program integrating faith and psychology, with an eye to training people to become Christian counselors.

"We're doing wonderful things at Erskine," she said.

There are nine assigned staff members at the clinic,

which is a branch of the Beckman mental health clinic.

Hellams provided a brief history of Erskine College and Seminary. The seminary was established in 1837, and the college in 1839.

Today the total enrollment is just over 1,000 students, and business is the most popular major.

Hellams touched on the special relationship which the college has had with the association for approximately 60 years.

Also Friday night, Former Abbeville mental health clinic director Waymon Coleman was presented with a certificate in honor of his work with the mental health association.

Gray was also presented with a certificate to present to former clinic director Nicole Pierce, in recognition of her work with the clinic.

Raines was presented with a poinsettia, and Michelle Bolden was inducted as a new board member for the association.

There was also a moment of silence, in memory of the late Dr. Randy Ruble and the late Charles Carlisle, two men who helped organize the mental health association in Abbeville County many years ago.

Carpenter 🏁

John Morris Carpenter, 94, resident of Abbeville Nursing Home, widower of Ethel Hughes Carpenter, passed away Monday, Dec. 6, 2021 at Abbeville Nursing Home. Born in Ottawa, IL, he was a son of the late Bill and Hazel Carpenter.

John was twice married, first to the late Charlotte Sawyers Carpenter.

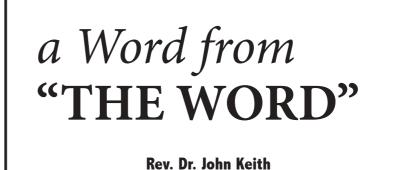
John was a United States Army Veteran having served

remained a widower. (He na; six grandchildren, 14 was the second youngest of seven). Early in his career, he worked for American Can Company in Neenah, Wi. In the rotor gravuve dept. for 20 years. He moved to Illinois to start his own printing company with a friend and date in Wisconsin. worked for another 10 years before he retired.

great-great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. He was the last member of his immediate family.

A Celebration of John's life will be conducted at a later

Memorials in memory of John may be made to Cross-The family would like to roads Pregnancy Center, send a big THANK YOU to 428 Grace St., Greenwood, the staff at The Renaissance SC 29649 or to Lutheran



The Touch



jkeithfbca@gmail.com

Matthew 8:2 "And behold, a leper came and worshipped him, say-

in World War II. He attended Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois where he fell in love with a young lady, Charlotte Sawyers, and they were married for 33 years when Charlotte passed from cancer. John moved to South Carolina from Illinois and met and married the lovely Ethel Hughes in 2000. Upon her death in 2010, John

Abbeville Nursing home for 12 Oaks Drive, McCormick, their excellent care for John SC 29835. during his final days.

Survivors include: two be made to the Carpenter daughters, Catherine C. Carpenter (David) of Wisconsin and Elizabeth A. Wicklund (Matthew) of Colorado; two step-sons, Allen Hughes neral Home and Cremation (Tonya) and Steve Hughes (Felicity) of South Caroli-

Assisted Living and The Church by the Lake, 100

Online condolences may family by visiting www.chandlerjacksonfh.com.

The Chandler-Jackson Fu-Services is assisting the Carpenter family.

Nance

W. C. 'Billy' Nance, 90, of Abbeville, husband of Joy Hall Nance, died Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at his residence. He was born in Abbeville to the late William Enoch and Essie Lee Ellis Nance.

A 1949 graduate of the last graduating class of Antreville High School, he married the love of his life, Joy Hall, on December 16, 1949. Mr. Nance was employed by Abbeville County Public Works where he capably supervised the operation of the county farm and landfill retiring after many years of loyal service. He owned and operated Nance Lawnmower Services for 18 years. Mr. Nance was a Mason for over 60 years, served as Past Master and was a charter member of the Dew Drop Lodge. A charter member with the Antreville Fire Department, he was widely respected though out the Abbeville area. Mr. Nance was a life time member of Providence Presbyterian Church.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Hilda Sue Nance.



W.C. 'Billy' Nance

Mr. Nance is survived by his wife or 72 years, Joy, of the home; two sons, Ronnie Nance (Susan) of Donalds and Terry Nance (Brenda) ofAbbeville; two daughters, Sue Crook (Danny) and Lena New (AI) all of Abbeville; nine grandchildren, Jeff Nance (Amanda), Greg Nance (Rhonda), Matthew Patton, Rebecca Brickle (John), Brenda Crocker (Curtis), Kelly Crook Youngblood, Christy Edwards (Scott), Will New (Tecie) and Carrie Slemp (David); eighteen great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter.

Funeral services to celebrate Mr. Nance's life was 11:00AM, Saturday, December 4, 2021 in Providence Presbyterian Church, Lowndesville with Rev. Lee P. Kennerly officiating. The family visited with friends following the service.

The family expresses their sincere gratitude to Mr. Nance's caregivers, the Team of Agape Hospice Care of SC and the Senior Helpers of Greenwood.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Mr. Nance, may be sent to the Providence Presbyterian Church Cemetery Fund, PO Box 226, Lowndesville, SC 29659 or Agape Hospice Care of SC, 326 Montague Ave., Greenwood, SC 29649.

The family is at the home. A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral. com.

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Nance family.

ing, Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean. (3) Then Jesus put out his hand and touched him, saying, I am willing; be cleansed. Immediately his leprosy was cleansed."

Paul and Margaret Brand are medical doctors in India. India has more than three million people with leprosy, and Dr. Paul Brand was the first orthopedic surgeon to treat them. Dr. Margaret Brand is an ophthalmologist. The Brands had one patient named Sadan who looked like a miniature Gandhi. Sadan understood what rejection as a leper was. He was made fun of, kicked, even turned away from hospitals. Sadan said, "I can still remember when Dr. Brand took my infected, ulcerated feet in his hands. Dr. Brand and his wife were the first medical workers who dared to touch me." Sadan had undergone numerous operations, including "tendon transfers, nerve stripping, toe amputations, and cataract removal." Despite his suffering, here is how Sadan, a man who suffered from leprosy, characterized his life. "I must say that I am now happy that I had this disease.Apart from leprosy, I would have been a normal man with a normal family, chasing wealth and a higher position in society. I would never have known such wonderful people as Dr. Paul Brand and Dr. Margaret, and I would never have known the God who lives in them." I wonder if the leper de-

scribed in Matthew 8 felt

like Sadan? He knew what it was like to be rejected, to be lonely, to not feel the touch of another human being.

Let me give you the context of this passage. Jesus had been up on the mountain delivering the sermon on the Mount. Verse 1 informs us that when Jesus came down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. Verse 2 marks the suddenness of the approach of the leper to Jesus—"and behold a leper came and worshipped him..."

Notice the boldness of this leper. He had been rejected by his fellow man because of his loathsome disease, but his disease bred a desperation within him and he interjected himself between Jesus and the multitude around him. I can see in my mind's eye how the crowd reacted when the leper suddenly approached Jesus-maybe a gasp, a startled look on their faces, and then they part like the Red Sea—they did not want to touch a leper.

Notice the reluctance of the leper—"Lord if you are wiling you can make me clean." Leprosy made a man unclean and the leper felt unclean. He was not doubting the ability of Jesus to heal him, just his willingness. I see a certain feeling of unworthiness in the leper. He did not feel

worthy of being healed. He knew that healing was available but he felt so repulsive that it was not possible for him. Notice the reply of Jesus, "I am wiling ... " verbally, Jesus assured the man that he was willing and visibly He demonstrated that He was willing—He touched him.

Can you imagine how reassuring that touch was to the leper? That might have been his first touch by a human hand in months even years. There was power in that touchimmediately the leprosy was cleansed and the man was healed. There was compassion in that touch, the very compassion of a loving God for His creation was in that touch. There was communication in the touch, the love of God was communicated in that touch.

Let me remind you that no one is outside the healing, cleansing touch of Jesus. You may feel repulsive because of your sin, but the gentle, nail-scarred hand of Jesus can reach down and not only touch you but lift you out of the pit of sin and cleanse your soul. No matter how repulsive you may feel because of your sin, Jesus still loves you. No matter how unworthy you may feel, Jesus loves you and He will cleanse you of the leprosy of sin if you come to Him and ask Him.

Lowndesville club has big plans for 2022

By Henry E. Green The Lowndesville Community Club is planning a number of good things for 2022, said club president John Parnell Thursday.

"I think we've got some things lined up that will be fun for everybody," said Parnell.

Established in the spring of this year, the club is looking to breathe new life into the Lowndesville community, which takes in several hundred people.

The club has had much success this year with several events, including live music from a bluegrass band playing in the Lowndesville park, a fall festival and a car show.

2022 will provide an opportunity to continue with that success.

"We're going to put on a beauty pageant," said Parnell.

He envisions a "Valentine's Day-themed beauty pageant" that will help revive a Lowndesvlle tradition--the town, he said, used to have a pageant every year.

Live music will also be part of the good times. Parnell is hoping for a "Lowndesville Opry," with a live band playing periodically at the Lowndesville community center.

The club has plans for the summer as well. Parnell would like to see a movie night during the warm season, with an outdoor movie to be shown at the Lowndesville ball field.

And for the fall, Parnell is

hoping to repeat the success of 2021.

"We really had a good turnout for the fall festival," he said.

And "the Lowndesville Bash was a huge success," with nearly 100 cars featured.

Parnell is hoping to have these gatherings again in 2022.

Interestingly, Lowndesville used to have a community club years ago. The current incarnation has all new members, and the 25-member club meets on the second Monday of every month at the Lowndesville community center.

Parnell himself owns an auto restoration shop in Iva. "I grew up in Lowndesville," he said.



On a cold, cold Tuesday, Dec. 7, Abbeville's American Legion Post 2 held a Pearl Harbor remembrance program, with remarks by Legion 2 commander Terry Greenfield. Veterans marked the anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)





In the photo featured, Manfred Laurmann stands before one of the many fireplaces where he has added his artistic touch, location 167 Depot Street, the Resolute House, circa 1901. (Photo contributed)



"Artisans in Our Midst, Lowndesville"

Submitted by Alicia J. Harvey

Those in Abbeville County may certainly take pride in the wide array of artisans that are in our midst, one of which has landed in the beautiful historic town of Lowndesville. Featured is Manfred Laurmann, native of Scandinavia, who has found his new homeland.

Mr. Laurmann has been in

ular those of historic nature. Anyone who has visited Lowndesville will recognize the iconic Lowndesville Banking Co. structure located in the heart of town on Hwy 81, circa 1872. Laurmann was able to restore the beautiful brick façade, no small undertaking, year of 2010.

1901. Laurmann not only restored the masonry within the house but outside as well incorporating bricks from the property kilned locally during the 1870s and New Orleans. Again, the future repurposing the past.

For those who wish to learn and return the historic gem to more about the restoration its original glory during the work in Lowndesville or for private tours at Resolute, In the photo featured, Lau-please utilize the following for rmann stands before one contact purposes: Resolute of the many fireplaces he House, Restoration/Private has added his artistic touch, Tours, C/O Alicia J. Harvey, location 167 Depot Street, PO Box 181, Lowndesville

American Legion Post 2 held a special program on Tuesday, Dec. 7, to mark the anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, an attack which drew the United States into World War II. Post commander Terry Greenfield provided a brief presentation, and "Taps" was played. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Work on Trinity restoration goes on

By Henry E. Green Work continues on the restoration of Trinity Episcopal Church in Abbeville. The new steeple renovation is almost complete and is generating considerable enthusiasm and compliments from all over town, according to a recent issue of the Abbeville Anglican, the church newsletter.

Most of the tower work is now complete and final repairs will begin on the narthex, the newsletter continued.

The church is once again

receiving bus tours and groups of visitors every week.

On a recent visit, Bill Fitzpatrick, Vice President of Friends of Trinity and a member of Preservation SC, stated that they hoped to meet with the new bishop after his consecration in the new year to discuss the overall Trinity restoration plan, according to the newsletter.

Meanwhile, Trinity has continued its work in the community. The church held in early October its

annual Blessing of the Animals, and a number of people brought their animal friends to be blessed by Rev. Ken Tucker.

The Trinity congregation was established in the 1840s, and the current church building was completed on the eve of the Civil War.

"Trinity Episcopal Church in Abbeville is an architectural wonder nestled in Upstate South Carolina," according to the church website.

the Lowndesville township for over 10 years and has certainly made his mark with his beautiful mason work on several structures, in partic-

the Resolute House, circa SC 29659-0181.



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Our Christmas Shoppe will be filled with excellent gifts and memorabilia for your holiday shopping!

There is no charge, but donations are most welcome!



The Friends of Abbeville County Libraries are establishing a shop in this building on Abbeville's Court Square. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

'Parvo' outbreak hits animal shelter

By Henry E. Green The Abbeville County Animal Shelter is dealing with an attack of parvovirus among its dog population.

The animal shelter was, at press time, closed to the public, and the animals were quarantined to keep the virus from spreading.

The disease can be fatal to dogs, said Abbeville County Director David Garner.

According to the County Director, human beings cannot catch it, but they can

carry it on their clothes, and diarrhea. transmit it to their pets.

Veterinarians are being consulted on the situation at the animal shelter.

According to PETMD, humans cannot get "parvo" from dogs, and dogs cannot get parvo from people.

The disease, which is highly contagious, is spread through contact with contaminated feces, and largely affects puppies and adolescent dogs. Symptoms include severe vomiting and

The Press and Banner supplied last Wednesday a number of old newspapers for the animal shelter--newspapers, it was said, to be used to line kennels at the shelter.

Operated by Abbeville County, the Abbeville County Animal Shelter is located on Old Calhoun Falls Road on the western outskirts of Abbeville.

Library 'Friends' start downtown shop

By Henry E. Green Anew shop, "The Reading Bug," has been established in the Poliakoff building on Abbeville's Court Square by the Friends of the Abbeville County Library System.

"The Friends are renting the main floor," said Library System director Mary Elizabeth Land. "It is a retail space in support of the Abbeville County Library System. Books are \$5.00, as are literary tote bags. We have some children's toys and greeting cards, as well.

"The Poliakoff Family have always been big supporters of the library system, and Nate's mother was a librarian at Clemson University for almost 40 years, so it is particularly fitting that the Friends of the Library are renting the space."

The hours of the shop are still to be determined, she went on to say. "We are appreciatively

accepting volunteers, so the hours will be somewhat

dependent on their availability."

The building is owned by The Knox Building, LLC, based in Abbeville, according to Nate Reuland, stationed on a Marine Corps Air Station, MCAS, just outside Jacksonville, N.C.

Reuland, the owner of The Knox Building, LLC, is a senior chief petty officer with the U.S. Navy.

He closed on the purchase of the building in September of this year.

The Friends of the Abbeville County Library System began using the building last month, according to Reuland.

"Their tenancy began on Nov. 1 of this year," he said. He and his wife Saenggaow, who is originally from Thailand, are hoping to establish a spa on the second floor of the building in the summer of 2022.

For Reuland, Abbeville has that "small town" feel that reminded him of his youth.

"I grew up in Clemson, South Carolina," he said. He recalled with fondness his mother's many years of work as a librarian at Clemson University.

The town of Clemson, he said, has changed through the years, and much of that small town charm he experienced when he was growing up is no longer there.

Abbeville, on the other hand, has that same feeling of "interconnectedness," and downtown Abbeville possessed all the old familiar qualities--the abundant friendliness of the people among them.

And Abbeville, like Clemson, is part of the Upstate, he went on to say.

As for the building, which dates from the 19th century, Reuland says that it was originally a tavern and was known as the Knox Building. For many years it was owned by the Poliakoff family, which operated a department store there.



The Outlaws cheerleading group performed at the Calhoun Falls market following the Calhoun Falls parade on the afternoon of Saturday, Dec. 4. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)





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Sports & Recreation

The Press and Banner AND ABBEVILLE MEDIUM December 8, 2021



Abbeville High School's Jeremiah Lomax has been selected to play in the Touchstone Energy Bowl. Posing for a picture were (from left) Little River Electric manager Jeff Lewis, Lomax, Jeremiah's father Tony Lomax and AHS head football coach Jamie Nickles. (Contributed photo)

'Last three standing' for football contest

By Henry E. Green

Three finalists remain for the last edition of the Press and Banner football contest--Ricky Balchin, Wanda Partridge, and Ron Dye--according to Contest Editor Lamar T. West.

They are the "last three standing," and the winner will be announced next week, said West.

Meanwhile, there was plenty of football action, an abundance of Kodak moments.

Our favorite was the "fake slide" by Pitt quarterback Kenny Pickett during his touchdown run in the ACC championship game--a game, by the way, in which Pitt put a large amount of hurting on Wake Forest, 45-21. Pickett proved he could run as well as pass on his way to eclipsing the numbers put up by NFL legend, and Pitt alum, Dan Marino.

number of Demon Deacon defenders before continuing on his race to the end zone. It was Pitt's firstACC championship in football, and we have the feeling it won't be the last.

The SEC championship game, of course, matched two titans of the college football world--Georgia and Alabama, with Alabama coming out on top.

The game was played at the Mercedes Benz Stadium in Atlanta, and it's a safe bet that most of those in attendance were Georgia fans, so that it was almost like a home game for the Bulldogs.

Like the Pitt-Wake Forest game, the Georgia-Alabama game featured a star quarterback. Alabama's Bryce Young is a true contender for the Heisman, and he showed it in the Georgia game.

just might be the case, as they compose two of college football's Final Four.

The other two, of course, are Michigan and Cincinnati.

Yes, Buckeye fans are still smarting over Ohio State's loss to the Wolverines -- a loss which ended the Scarlet and Gray's eight game winning streak over the Wolverines.

And yes, it will be just a little weird not to see OSU among the finalists for the national title.

Ohio State trailed by only one point in that game in Ann Arbor, before the Wolverines came back in a big way in the second half.

For those of you who are into turbans and crystal balls, we see Alabama winning the national championship--again.

Area players named to All-State teams

A number of Abbeville County high school players were named to All State teams, according to published reports.

They include Jeremiah Lomax of Abbeville High School. Selected as a linebacker for the 2-A team, Lomax has also been named to play in the Shrine Bowl on Dec. 18. He intercepted five passes this season to lead AHS, and he returned

all five interceptions for touchdowns.

Calhoun Falls Charter senior Marquice Turman and Dixie's Hunter Satterfield were slected for the 1-A team. Turman had 43 total tackles, and three tacks for loss, and a pair of intercepted passes.

Satterfield had five interceptions on defense, while finishing with more than 1,000 yards of total offense and 14 touchdowns on offense.

Making honorable mention for 1-A were Raheem Clark and Ty Moon of Calhoun Falls Charter, and Landon Mitchell and Travis Wilson of Dixie.

Making honorable mentiton for 2-A were Abbeville's C. J. Vance, Antonio Harrison, Dawson Hughes, Ty Cade and Addison Nickles.

WE'RE HIRING....

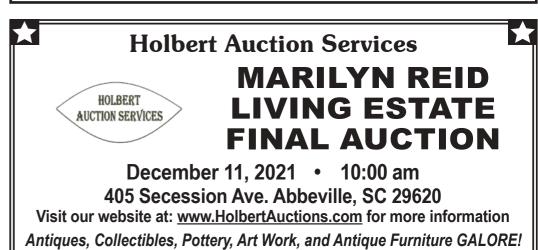


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Pickett took off running, and then pretended he was going to slide, faking out a

It has been said by more than one person that Georgia and Alabama might face each other again, and that

We also see University of South Carolina and Clemson emerging victorious in their bowl games.

Meanwhile, bring on the eggnog...

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Classifieds & Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371PC with the Probate Court of ABBEVILLE COUNTY, the address of which is 903 WEST GREENWOOD ST., SUITE 2300 ABBEVILLE, SC 29620, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, which-ever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371PC) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of claim, the amount claimed. the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Harold Spencer Whitman Date of Death: 09/11/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100313 Personal Representative: Marie Whitman Address: 1545 Barnes Station Rd., Iva, SC 29655 11/24;3tc

Estate: Alma Pierce Waldrop Date of Death: 9/15/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100314 Personal Representative: Deborah L. Syms & Robin D. Gerardi Address: 800 N. Main St. Abbeville, SC 29620 & 1000 N. Main St. Abbeville, SC 29620 11/24;3tc

Estate: Larry Eugene Fleming Date of Death: 10/17/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100317 Personal Representative: Kathy F. Ready Address: 810 Woodside Dr. Johnston, SC 29382 11/24:3tc

Estate: Geraldine B. Gable Date of Death: 11/02/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100318 Personal Representative: Shelby Vargo Address: 904 Sharon Church Rd. Abbeville, SC 11/24;3tc 29620

Estate: James Ralph Lindley Date of Death: 10/21/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100319 Personal Representative: Deborah L. Black Address: 116 Sawmill Road Honea Path, SC 29654 11/24;3tc Estate: Nancy Rebecca Brock aka Nancy B. Brock Date of Death: 9/14/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100320 Personal Representative: Brandon Emery Shedd Address: 1125 Turkey Creek Rd. Ware Shoals, SC 29692 11/24;3tc

Estate: Jimmy Clayton Smith Date of Death: 10/25/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100323 Personal Representative: Brooke L. Smith Address: 1259 Hwy 72 West, Abbeville, SC 29620 12/1:3tc

Estate: George Visanka Guy Date of Death: 09/21/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100324 Personal Representative: George Taylor Guy Address: 207 Haltiwanger Road Greenwood, SC 29649 12/1;3tc

Estate: Vicky Lynne Harlen Date of Death: 10/26/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100327 Personal Representative: Raym nd Rolla Harlen Address: 528 Hwy 20, Abbeville, SC 29620 12/8;3tc

Estate: Betty Jane Davenport AKA Betty Jane Porter Davenport Date of Death: 10/27/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100330 Personal Representative: Robbie Sextor Address: 6747 Hwy 252 Donalds, SC 29638 12/8:3tc

Estate: Clara Lucille Epps McNeill Date of Death: 09/19/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100331 Personal Representative: William McNeill & Shirley Walker

Address: 1201 North Main Street, Abbeville, SC 29620 & 581 Boyds Mill Road, Laurens, SC 29360 12/8;3tc

Estate: Sherri Dawn Hilley Date of Death: 10/30/2021 Case Number: 2021E50100333 Personal Representative: Joseph Ray Hilley Address: 6624 Hwy 252 Donalds, SC 29638 12/8;3tc

Estate: Billy Truman Hall Date of Death: 10/21/2021 Case Number: 2021ES0100332 Personal Representative: Margaret Rebecca Hall Address: 131 Moore Street, Abbeville, SC 29620 12/8;3te

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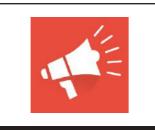
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Lowndesville plans Christmas parade

By Henry E. Green Lowndesville will have a Christmas parade on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 3 p.m., according to Mayor Rufus Waters.

It will follow the traditional parade route, with line up at Charlie Creek Road at 2 p.m., and the parade will proceed down Main Street before breaking up at the Community Center, said Town Clerk Scotty Willoughby.

There will be a reception at the Community Center with light refreshments

after the parade, and music and vendors--in a plaques will be awarded for the best entries in various categories, and Santa will be there as well, Willoughby continued.

The theme of this year's parade, which is being presented by the Town of Lowndesville and the Lowndesville Community Club, is "Christmas Spirit, Sparkle and Shine."

This has been a busy autumn for the town of Lowndesville. In November there was a classic car show, as well as live

"Lowndesville Bash."

There was a "Haunted Trail for "Halloween," and "Trunk or Treat" for the kids, Willoughby continued.

"Over 500 people went through the Haunted Trail," he said, adding that the car show featured more than 50 cars.

In September, there was "music in the park," with a live band, Willoughby continued.



Yvonne Nickles Whiteside of Abbeville is one of the volunteers for Abbeville's Christmas Angel Tree project, which brings joy to hundreds of area kids at Christmastime. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Santa Claus usually rides up in a fire truck during a Christmas parade, but in the recent Calhoun Falls Christmas parade he rode up on a wagon. Talk about mixing things up a little! (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)





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Jim Diehl, an illusionist, played the saxophone during the First Baptist Church of Abbeville senior banquet, held on Dec. 4. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)





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