## **ABBEVILLE COUNTY'S**

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ABBEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29620—WEDNESDAY, January 13, 2021

14 PAGES

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



Newly elected County Council member Billy Norris was recently sworn in to a new term of office by Abbeville County Magistrate Carolyn Brownlee. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Norris new County Council chairman

By Henry E. Green Billy Norris was elected County Council chairman line, Abbeville, from Forest Monday night, and Charles Goodwin vice chairman, as Abbeville County Council elected on Monday night officers for the new year.

Council also held a public hearing on a resolution adopting the Abbeville County Hazard Mitigation Plan, but nobody signed up to speak concerning the plan.

Council during the meeting passed the resolution.

Abbeville County Director David Garner explained that the plan has to be updated declare a state of emergenevery five years, and the resolution represents the latest update.

72 East and Mill Road North at the Greenwood County Agricultural to General Commercial.

Council had first reading on Ordinance 2021-02 to change the name of Starlite Ridge Drive to Tranquil Star Ridge Drive in Abbeville County.

All first readings are read into the record by the County Council chairman, and, in accordance with a County Council ordinance, a vote is not necessary.

Council passed Emergency Ordinance 2021-02 to

tion to modify the appointments made by Abbeville County Council, a resolution reflecting updated information concerning various county-related agencies.

In his County Director's report, County Director David Garner noted the recent passing of Calhoun Falls Town Council member Wayne Pless, as well as that of Arlene Smith, who served the county many years in the EMS division.

He also congratulated the newly-elected Abbeville County Clerk of Court, Shandal Boggs, who was sworn into office recently.

## Virus numbers continue steady climb

By Henry E. Green The number of coronavirus cases in Abbeville continues to spiral.

As of Sunday, Jan. 10, Abbeville County had 1, 226 confirmed coronavirus cases, and 21 confirmed coronavirus-related deaths, according to DHEC figures. The numbers continue to show a steady climb. The county had 1,043 cases on December 23, and 911 on Dec. 9, according to published reports.

In Abbeville's neighboring counties, Anderson had 13, 097 cases, and 282 deaths, while Greenwood had 4,633 cases and 95 deaths.

Laurens County had 4,103 cases, and 93 deaths, while McCormick County had 487 cases, and seven deaths. In the state as a whole, there were 323,855 cases,

and there have been 5,315 coronavirus-related deaths. In the United States as a whole, there are approximately 22.5 million cases, and approximately 374,000 people have died.

The CDC (Centers for Disease Control), meanwhile, has a number of tips to follow for helping to avoid the coronavirus.

According to the CDC, for example, one should not ride in a vehicle if the driver or other passengers who do not live with you are not wearing face coverings.

Another tip is that, concerning the use of transportation. Before you leave, you should wash your hands with soap and water at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.

Once you reach your des-

tination, you should wash your hands again, or use hand sanitizer as soon as possible.

During travel, you should try to keep at least six feet from people who are not in your household.

The pandemic is now approximately one year old, and the state of California has, according to ABC News, reported more than 30,000 deaths.

Here in Abbeville County, the pandemic has affected a multitude of aspects of daily life.

Abbeville City Hall, for example, is open by appointment only.

The ray of hope, of course, is that of the vaccine. Vaccinations have already begun at Abbeville Area Medical Center.

With the plan, he went on to say, the County is eligible for a number of grants.

In other matters Monday night, Council passed third reading on Ordinance 2020-17 to amend the Abbeville County Zoning Map for a parcel of land of approximately 8.09 acres located between Highway

cy for Abbeville County in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Council tabled a resolution authorizing the County Director to enter into a contractual agreement with Alliance Consulting Engineers for professional services related to the development of a County Wide Water and Limited Infrastructure Evaluation and Planning Study. Council passed a resolu-

Council went into executive session, but took no resulting action when returning to open session.

Before the meeting, Abbeville County Council members James McCord, Rick Campbell, Billy Norris, and Charles Goodwin were all sworn in to new terms of office by Abbeville County Chief Magistrate Carolyn Brownlee.

## Vaccinations planned

#### By Henry E. Green

AAMC board member Sharon Davis-Norryce and AAMC physician Dr. Trey Moore discussed with Abbeville City Council Tuesday night current COVID-19 cases and the roll out plan for vaccinations in the community.

The hospital plans to launch a vaccination program for seniors, and one may consult the hospital Website for further information.

Also, City Council made a presentation recognizing Scott Sutherland's family with a plaque for his 32 years of service to the City. Sutherland, who retired on Dec. 4, 2020, passed away recently.

Thomas E. Hite, III, the City Attorney, administered the Oath of Office to city judges Bill McNeil, Carolyn Brownlee and Ed Strickland for a two year term of office. City Council approved a mutual aid agreement

between the Police and the Sheriff's Office. This is a continuation of an existing agreement, for assistance in matters such as emergency services and arrests.

Council also approved a tie in point land negotiations. The City wishes to begin negotiations for parcels for the construction of a tie-in point with the Duke electric distribution system.

Council approved the Cooper sand dredging agreement.

City Manager Blake Stone requested approval to begin negotiations to extend the agreement for an additional three years with Cooper Sand for dredging in Rocky River and the backwaters of Lake Secession.

Council approved the Unit Number One Hydro Turbine Generator Repair Bid.

Council agreed to take the bids of Crowder Industrial Construction, Hydro Repair Specialists, and Integrated Power Services.

In new business, Mayor Trey Edwards announced football championship proclamation presentations for Jan. 23.

This event, to be held at the Civic Center, will honor the AHS football team, and the cheerleaders, and the three state champion rec football teams, and their cheerleaders.

Edwards also talked about the UCMAC transportation survey. UCMAC is making a needs assessment for the need for public transportation in Abbeville County..

Council listened to applicants for a performing arts board which the City is establishing.

Also under the heading of new business were discussions of town hall meetings and a City-wide clean-up.

The City is expected to have town hall meetings in February at the Civic Center. The City plans the clean up in the spring, and residents are welcome to join in.



State Senator Billy Garrett, accompanied by his wife Denise, his daughter Tara and grandson Jackson, was sworn in by retired South Carolina Chief Justice James Moore (far left) during a Jan. 5 swearing-in ceremony at the Abbeville County Courthouse. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## State Senator Billy Garrett sworn in

By Henry E. Green Billy Garrett was officially sworn in as a State Senator on the afternoon of Tuesday, Jan. 5, in the courtroom of the Abbeville County Courthouse in Abbeville.

Garrett will represent State Senate District 10 in the General Assembly. A Republican, he defeated Democratic incumbent Floyd Nicholson in the general election in November of last year.

Garrett, accompanied by his wife Denise, his daugh-

ter Tara and grandson Jackson, was sworn in by retired South Carolina Chief Justice James Moore.

The attorney plans to have office hours in Abbeville on the first Monday of every month, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Abbeville County Administrative Complex in Abbeville.

The office hours will allow him to meet with constituents, and listen to their concerns.

No appointments will be necessary, he said.

"I'll see anybody during those times," he continued. Garrett said that the State Senate post represents his first time holding elected office.

The invocation Tuesday afternoon was provided by Rev. Larry Smith, pastor of New Life Pentecostal Holiness Church in Hodges.

Garrett held similar swearing-in ceremonies in other parts of State Senate District 10 last week.

## Filing opens for special City election

#### By Henry E. Green

Filing opens today--Wednesday, Jan. 13--for a special election to fill the unexpired term of Trey Edwards on Abbeville City Council, according to the Abbeville County voter registration office.

Filing opens at noon today, and the filing period funs to

noon on Friday, Jan. 22, for the special election, which will be held on Tuesday, March 9.

Those individuals wishing to file as candidates for the seat must reside in City Council District Three, and to file they must go by the voter registration office during normal operating

hours during the filing period, and fill out the necessary paperwork, and pay the filing fee of \$75.

For more information, one may call the office at 366-2400, extension 53.

Edwards gave up the City Council District Three seat when he became Mayor of Abbeville.

### Queen of the contest Abbevillian Linda Nickles knew very well indeed the game of football

#### By Henry E. Green

Linda Nickles knew her football, and she put that knowledge to good use when she played the Press and Banner football contest. Herknowledge and expertise were often rewarded, as Linda was a perennial winner in the contest, so much so that we named her to the Press and Banner Pigskin Prognosticators Hall of Fame.

No, there's not really any such thing, but if there were, she would definitely have been in it.

When she passed away recently, we lost a lady pleasant memories.

When she would come in to the Press and Banner to put her entry into the football contest box, this resident of Parker Street brought laughter and good times into the newsroom.

Abbeville is a community that loves its football, and Linda could be found conversing about the game with people who loved the sport as much as she did.

As the mother of AHS football coach Jamie Nickles, she came by her love of the sport naturally, and she loved her Panthers, but

who left us with a wealth of she also was a fan of the University of South Carolina Gamecocks.

> Like all Gamecock fans, she learned to take the bad news with the good, learned to negotiate the peaks and valleys that are part of being a lover of the Garnet and Black.

> When the Gamecocks lost, she would take it all in stride, seasoning it all with her sense of humor.

> Linda incorporated the special qualities that we associate with living in a small town.

> Parker Street will never be the same.



We know that Christmas of 2020 is in the rear view mirror, but this Christmas decoration at the Abbeville Area Medical Center was a particularly memorable one. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Farewell, 2020 Trustees looked at bottled water, transfers

#### By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County School District took a look during a meeting last year at the number of students transferring out of the School District to other districts.

Dr. Skip Hopkins, director of student services with the District, provided a brief profile during the Sept. 22 school board meeting.

"The 61 students (transferring out of the Abbeville County School District) were granted a release this

year to attend other districts," said Hopkins shortly after the meeting.

"The majority of those are teachers who work outside of our district and want their children to attend schools in the county where they are employed."

On the other hand, 11 students have transferred into the School District, said Hopkins.

The presentation which Hopkins made on the topic of student transfers was

one of a number he made on various student-related topics.

For example, he commented on bottled water being used at District schools to help curb the spread of the coronavirus.

"Due to water fountains being shut down as a safety precaution, the district has purchased bottled water to distribute daily to students," he said.

## District joins forces with **Erskine for courses**

#### By Henry E. Green The Abbeville County

School District has a partnership with Erskine in the offering of dual credit courses, a District official said.

"Three dual credit courses through Erskine College are currently offered on the campus of Dixie High School," said Brandi Sears, the School District's Director of Instruction and Accountability.

"These include English

101, English 102 and Teacher Cadet. We were in discussions with Erskine early last year about expanding the course offerings. However, those were halted by the closure of schools in March. We look forward to resuming conversations with Erskine regarding dual credit opportunities."

"This is similar to the Advanced Placement (AP) courses that we offer," Sears said

"AP Calculus is taught at AHS, and AP Advanced Composition is offered at DHS. Students from both high schools may participate in those courses as well."

Sears mentioned the collaboration in a presentation before the school board last fall, in connection with a discussion among trustees of high school course comparisons in the District.

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## **CF** Council member Pless passes away

By Henry E. Green The community of Calhoun Falls was saddened when Calhoun Falls Town Council member Wayne Pless recently passed away after an illness.

safety departments during his time on Council.

Town Council members had committee assign-

ments, and Pless would report on the operations, for example, of the fire department or police department. Born in Georgia, Pless served many years in law enforcement, including Pless worked with public the Ware Shoals Police Department, the Calhoun Falls Police Department. and the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office, according

to his obituary.

He was a guiding force behind the town-wide cleanup, and a major Calhoun Falls car show, his obituary continued.

A special election is expected to be held in the spring of 2021 to fill his unexpired term.

## Wright Middle teacher wins 'Golden Apple'

#### By Henry E. Green

A Wright Middle School science teacher, Paula Weis, has won a Golden Apple Awards sponsored by WYFF-TV (Channel Four) and Ingles grocery stores. This is a special award because a student nominates the teacher receiving the honor, and Gage Evans, an eighth grade Wright Middle student, nominated her for the award.

She has never won the award before. In his nomination letter, Evans praised her for her caring spirit, and her hands on teaching style.

Weis, a science teacher, has taught at Wright 25 years. An Abbeville native, she graduated from Abbeville High School, Anderson College, and Erskine College.

She is married to Alan Weis, and they have two grown children, and five grandchildren.

"I feel as if I have been in

American Standard Walk-In Tubs

this job because God gave me a talent to teach in the style that I teach."

In eighth grade science, she teaches kids about astronomy, force and motion, and waves--not necessarily the kind at the ocean, but "physical science" waves.

She confesses that she does not use books often, preferring a more hands-on approach, and it has served her well.

"It began when I was a Gifted and Talented teacher," she said.

"It makes them think the processes through," she said. "We hear it, we see it, we do it."

Hands on learning is also the best way, she feels, to reach middle school students. "It keeps them involved, and learning at the same time."

Weis was one of a number of Golden Apple award winners.

After she was nominated,

she was videotaped by a team from Channel Four that included reporter Hannah Ward.

Paula was teaching the students about "the diameter of the solar system in a lab using play dough.

"It's a really neat thing," she said, adding that it paid rich dividends in instruction.

"In this lab students learn the diameter of the solar system, from largest to smallest," she said. "They also learn the solar system in order from the sun."

In the community, she attends Main Street United Methodist Church, where she is on the education committee, and shares a children's sermon every Sunday.

"I have a classroom motto," she said. "Today is the first day of the rest of your life. We don't go backwards--we go forward."

## Farewell, 2020 Pandemic put mental health in peril for many

#### By Henry E. Green

In a year as stressful as 2020, mental health was a concern for many.

Maintaining peace of mind was a goal which not everyone attained, and may have been the implicit message of a program held on Abbeville's Court Square last fall.

That program was a suicide prevention event, coordinated by Krissi Raines of Abbeville.

Raines, a mental health professional who has taught mental health first aid, was the emcee for a Touched by Suicide program on Abbeville's Court Square in September.

She described it as "a remembrance event for the

lives we have lost in Abbeville County to suicide."

Meanwhile, the City of Abbeville recognized with a proclamation September as Suicide Awareness Month, and Raines was at the City Council meeting where the proclamation was presented.

Raines described the mournful effect of the pandemic on mental health.

"Many adults struggle with anxiety and depression and there has been an increase in the number of people suffering from it," she said.

Due to Covid-19, one in four adults struggles with a mental health issue. " but because of the stress from the pandemic we are seeing

an increase in mental health issues among adults and youth/children.

"We have also seen an increase in overdose and suicides nationwide as well as in our region. "

The National Suicide Prevention Hot Line is 1-800-273-TALK.

Later in the year, we saw Krissi and some friends on the streets of Abbeville, where they were participating in World Kindness Day.

The thrust, on the positive side of the ledger of mental health, was to provide an act of kindness to someone, who would then pay it forward.

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## Fire fighters fight three structure blazes

Rural Abbeville County has been beset by a number of fires lately, according to Abbeville County Fire Marshal Tim Williams.

"We've had three structure fires," since Dec. 30, 2020, said Williams.

The first one, at Keowee Road, involved a single wide mobile home, the Fire Marshal said.

The call came in to 911 at 4:24 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 30, and fire fighters arrived on the scene within 10 minutes.

Fire crews found the single wide mobile home 50 percent involved, Williams continued.

The fire was under control in 20 minutes, brought under control by Antreville and Keowee fire departments, with assistance from Ebenezer fire department of Anderson County.

Red Cross assisted two residents of the home. Upon investigation, fire fighters

found an electrical short. that led back to a heater.

The second fire occurred in the early morning hours of Dec. 31, at Seneca Street Extension in the Monterey community, Williams continued.

Fire fighters from Monterey, Calhoun Falls and Sharon responded to the alarm at 1:20 a.m., and were on the scene within 10 minutes.

Fire fighters found a double wide mobile home with moderate smoke showing. Upon entry into the home, the fire fighters found a small fire in the laundry room area, and alerted the Fire Marshal for investigation.

That investigation indicated that the fire was suspicious in nature.

The Sheriff's Office obtained a search warrant for State Law Enforcement Division, and the investigation was turned over to SLED and the Abbeville County

Sheriff's Office.

The third fire occurred on Jan. 10, with the call coming in at 5:46 p.m., and Keowee, Antreville, and Ebenezer fire departments responded to a call of a reported structure fire at Bailey Lane, Williams continued.

Fire crews arrived on the scene in less than 10 minutes, and found a double wide mobile home 25 percent involved.

Fire crews made an aggressive interior attack to extinguish the fire, and upon investigation they found an electrical issue which caused the fire.

With these three fires, only one of the three had a working small alarm.

One civilian was injured in the Bailey Lane fire, and that individual, a man, was transported by EMS to Anderson for treatment of non life threatening injuries, the Fire Marshal continued.

### Capitol offense County residents react to recent violence in Washington, D.C.

#### By Henry E. Green Wednesday, January 6, is

a day which Americans will not easily forget.

After a pro-Trump mob broke into the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C., the Abbeville County residents we spoke to were as shocked as everyone else.

"It was a shame and a of Abbeville.

"I think it was disgusting and dangerous to our country," said Bill Lesesne of Due West. "The heart of the problem was the often

it was a rigged election. These charges have been investigated all over the country since November and there is not one proven case of any widespread fraud. There have been a few cases of individual fraud by people from both parties but nothing on a scale that would change an election. disgrace," said Jane Agan The internet has made it easy for millions of people to believe false stories and conspiracies and there is no way to correct the reams of false stories especially if trusted leaders keep repeat-

repeated false charge that ing them. I pray that people on all sides of our political divide will lessen the hatred and mistrust and treat each other with love."

> Dr. William Boone of Abbeville, in a recent letter to the editor, described how leaders need to communicate in a civil manner.

"Regardless of affiliations or agendas, leaders need to figure out how to communicate peacefully in order to get their point across and their wishes known." he wrote.



## a Word from **"THE WORD"**

**Rev. Dr. John Keith** 

**The Promise** 



ikeithfbca@gmail.com

Deuteronomy 4:29-31 "But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul. (30) When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, when you turn to the Lord your God and obey His voice (31) (for the Lord your God is a merciful God) He will not forsake you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them."

John Bunyan was a Baptist who was imprisoned in England in the 17th century. His crime was that he refused to sign a document affirming the Church of England's statement of faith. While in prison, Bunyan wrote the classic allegory, "Pilgrim's Progress," regarded by scholars as one of the most significant works of religious English literature. In one beautiful passage, Christian and his traveling companion Hopeful are awaiting certain death in Doubting Castle. Christian and Hopeful are praying through the night when all at once Christian sees the light of Easter break forth in his heart. Here is how he responded to that light: "What a fool am I...to lie in a stinking dungeon when I may as well walk at liberty. I have a key in my bosom called Promise that will, I am persuaded, open any lock in Doubting Castle."

When one looks out on the situation that faces our nation, it could result in one languishing in Doubting Castle. As we face a new year, many face it with dread because of the recent events that are happening in our nation-there is chaos, confusion, violence, mistrust of the media, mistrust in our government, etc. These things we have been witnessing are the result of a breakdown in the moral fiber of our nation. But Deuteronomy 4:29-31 shares a promise from God.

First a little background. Moses is preparing the Israelites for his fast approaching death. In chapter four he reminds them of their covenant with God and the tendency of the Israelites to not follow through on their commitment to God. He shares with them what will happen to them if they worship false gods. Right in the midst of that warning, Moses shares this wonderful promise to them. Notice three things about this promise.

First of all, it is a precious promise. Even if they forsake God and worship false gods, there is hope for them if they repent and return to God.

I believe there is still time for America to repent and return to God. The Lord promises to be found if we seek Him with all of our heart and soul. If one seeks God with all their heart and soul it is total, complete, whole-hearted. It involves real repentance and a hunger for God.

Secondly, it was prompted by distress. Notice verse 30--- "when you are in distress ... " why did the distress come? Because of their disobedience and worship of false gods.

Can anyone deny that our nation is in distress? Can there be any doubt that the distress has come because of our willful disobedience concerning God's moral precepts?

It has been my prayer all throughout this pandemic and political chaos that our nation would hunger and seek the Lord. To date, I have not seen that, but I am still hopeful that it will happen.

One of the tragedies of our day is that the times are desperate but God's people are not. We still think we can fix our nation without God's help-that is simply not true. If we could fix it on our own we would have done so by now.

Finally, this promise was provided by God's covenant with His people. Notice verse 31-God promised not to forsake them or forget them because of the covenant He had made with their fathers. God made a covenant with His peoplethe children of Israel.

God has made a covenant with His people-believers in Jesus Christ. Listen to what Hebrews 13:5 says: "...For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you."

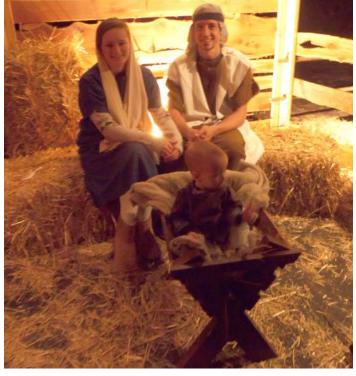
As a believer in Jesus Christ I claim that promise-you can too.

One thing sticks out to me in verse 30, it is the phrase "and all this things in the latter days ... "

Folks, we are living in the latter days. To me that means that this wonderful promise is good until the end of time. This promise is good nationally and individually. In these distressing times, seek the Lord with all you heart and soul-you are guaranteed to find Him.

## Wanted: Wheels

The "Walk through Bethlehem," presented last month by Cold Spring Mennonite Church, included this "Live Nativity" scene. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



## UCMAC board cancels its annual banquet

#### By Henry E. Green

Chalk it up to the virus. The board of directors of United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County voted Thursday night to cancel this year's volunteer appreciation banquet, in the light of coronavirus concerns.

UCMAC has held the volunteer appreciation banquet in March of every year for a number of years.

The event has provided an opportunity to recognize the volunteers who make UCMAC what it is.

Indeed, UCMAC is an all-volunteer organization based on a network of collaborating churches. It has three component ministries--an emergency assistance division, a food pantry with branches in Abbeville and Calhoun Falls, and a medical clinic.

Last year's banquet was held at First Baptist Church of Abbeville.

"At our annual meeting last March we had 91 volunteers

listed on the program," said UCMAC finance director Jane Agan. "There were about 85 attendees at the meeting."

This year, the coronavirus pandemic in the Abbeville County community was a major factor in the decision to cancel the event.

According to DHEC figures, as of Thursday, Jan. 7, Abbeville County had 1, 171 confirmed cases of the virus, and 21 confirmed coronavirus-related deaths.

### UCMAC launches needs study on topic of public transportation

By Henry E. Green Does Abbeville County need a public transportation system?

United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County is coordinating a needs study to gauge the need for public transportation here.

The study was spawned largely because of the transportation concerns which a number of UCMAC clients reported having.

They were having trouble getting to places as essential as medical appointments.

A number of them do not

have automobiles of their own, often because they cannot afford to have them. Dr. William Boone, the

executive director of the United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County, has sent a letter to the 89 churches that he said are located Abbeville County. Attached to each letter is a survey.

"Every household in Abbeville County should fill out the survey and return it so that we can understand the need for public transportation," Boone said.

The survey asks questions such as:

--How do you travel to work now?"

--How do you travel to appointments?

--How do you travel to shop for basic needs?

--Does a lack of transportation options prevent you now from working?

--Have you ever quit a job or lost a job because you had no reliable transportation to get to work?

Boone encouraged people wishing to complete the survey to reach out to the following link: <u>https://</u> www.surveymonkey.com/ r/6ZH9FSL

## Rental and Mortgage Assistance Available



## Due West Robotics, library join forces

#### By Henry E. Green

Though the Abbeville Promise is largely geared toward providing a financial pathway for Abbeville County residents who want to attend Piedmont Technical College, it does provide options for attendance at other technical colleges, according to Foundation administrator Lee Logan.

The Abbeville Promise provides that Abbeville County high school graduates can attend Piedmont Technical College free of tuition and required fees, assuming they meet the other qualifications.

Abbeville Promise was created by the Freshwater Coast Community Foundation, and Logan said recently that if a course study is not available at Piedmont Tech, the Promise will pay the way for an Abbeville County high school student to attend another South Carolina technical college if that technical college has the program that the student wants to study.

"They would need to meet the same criteria as they were going to Piedmont Tech, such as attending full-time and applying for all state and federal grants and scholarships that might be available to them," Logan continued.

"We currently have two students doing that at Greenville Tech. They are studying culinary arts and construction management," he said. "Once they find out that Piedmont Tech does not offer their course of study, then they can search other technical schools to see if they can find their program," Logan continued.

"We suggest that they then contact the Freshwater Coast Community Foundation administrator to secure a letter that they can present explaining how they could secure the scholarship," that could be sent to the other technical college, Logan continued.

For more information, one may call the Foundation at 446-2773.



Newly re-elected Abbeville County Council member Rick Campbell, with his wife Ann by his side, was sworn into a new term of office Monday night by Abbeville County Chief Magistrate Carolyn Brownlee. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)





Personnel at Abbeville Area Medical Center staged a "Live Nativity" scene last month before Christmas. Other Live Nativity events were staged at South Side Baptist in Abbeville, and Cold Spring Mennonite Church presented a "Walk through Bethlehem." (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

### Abbeville Area Medical Center to announce COVID-19 Vaccine appointment process

### Submitted by Meg Davis

Abbeville Area Medical Center will be announcing later this week how those aged 70 and over can make an appointment to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

The hospital currently orders and receives the Pfizer vaccine from SC DHEC weekly. AAMC has been requesting enough vaccine to vaccinate those included in the current

1A phase, which does not meet the minimum 925 dose order to receive the frozen vaccine. Unfrozen, the vaccine is only viable for five days.

AAMC does, however, have the capacity to store the frozen vaccine and has requested a large quantity to meet the Governor's mandate to begin providing vaccinations to those 70 and over as well as continue with the vaccination of those in the current 1A phase.

"We are committed to providing the vaccine to those who qualify at this time as quickly and efficiently as possible," stated Cindy Buck, AAMC CEO. "Vaccine supplies are still limited and this process will take time so we ask for your patience."

It is also important to note that the person receiving the vaccine must return to the same location to receive the second dose after 21 days. A follow-up appointment will be made at the time the first dose is administered. The second dose must also be the same brand as the first dose for the vaccine to be effective.

The hospital will make the announcement of when appointments will begin to be accepted on its website <u>www.AbbevilleAreaMC.com</u> and Facebook page <u>www. Facebook/AbbevilleAreaMC</u> later this week along with what email and phone number to use.

It is important to continue following all safety measures, and we strongly encourage community members to continue wearing a mask, practicing physical distancing, frequently washing their hands and staying home when sick. These are proven ways to slow the spread and will be essential to ending the pandemic, even as we begin to vaccinate.

FREE COVID-19 Mobile Testing Clinic Schedule

## BAPTIST CHURCH invites you

to join us via Livestream for service

## Livestream

Sunday @ 10:15am | Wednesday @ 6:30pm

## Visit <u>abbevillefbc.com/fbc-sermons/livestream/</u>

307 North Main Street Abbeville South Carolina



Rev. David Green, Senior Pastor Jeffrey Reed, Minister of Music & Missions Rev. Daniel Royster, Student Pastor Barb Meade, Office Manager <u>WWW.ABBEVILLEFBC.COM</u>

### For further information call 366-1770

#### \*\*Please DO NOT CALL for results\*\*

Results are typically received within 48-72 hours. Positive tests are called first followed by negative. Make sure voicemail is set up & the mailbox is not full.

\*Go to the event page on Facebook/AbbevilleAreaMC or to the calendar section of AbbevilleAreaMC.com, download your paperwork, neatly fill out the highlighted areas & bring it with you to expedite the testing process\*

### Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> • 8:30am-2:00pm

Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28 (Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

### Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>

### 8:30am-2:00pm Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28

Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28 (Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

### 9:00am-1:00pm Monticello Golf Course

1148 Barksdale Ferry Road McCormick

### <u>Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> • 8:30am-2:00pm</u>

Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28 (Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

### Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>

### 8:30am-2:00pm Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28

Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28 (Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

\*\*Additional Date!!\*\* 9:00am-1:00pm Monticello Golf Course

1148 Barksdale Ferry Road McCormick



Smaller. Smarter. Safer.

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: THE GRAMMY AWARDS
ACROSS
1. Nothing-but-net in basketball

6. "Zip it!"

- 9. The
- \_ in Switzerland 13. Ann Patchett's novel "Bel
- 14. "Mele Kalikimaka" wreath
- 15. Ten million, in India
- 16. Fire in one's soul
- 17. Crematorium jar
- 18. Trail follower
- 19. \*Artist with most 2021 Grammy nominations
- 21. \*Powerhouse Award 2020 winner
- with six 2021 nominations
- 23. \* Sayer's "You Make Me Feel
- Like Dancing" 24. Pettifoggery
- 25. Lending letters
- 28. "Through" in text
- 30. Butcher's discards
- 35. Fortune-telling coffee remnant
- 37. Crew equipment
- 39. Asian goat antelope

Answers on back page

DOWN 1. Union foe 2. Stuff for sale, sing. 3. Capital of Indiana, for short Counter seat 5. "The Green 6. Swerve \*"I Can't Breathe" artist 8. Delhi language 9. Seed coat 10. Trickster in Norse mythology 11. Like "Dead Poets Society" school 12. Blood fluids 15. Winnowing remains, pl. 20. Salmon variety, pl. 22. Flying saucer acronym 24. Event attendance 25. Kind of committee, two words 26. Movie trailer, e.g. 27. He had no cause? on Me" by Lady Gaga and 29 Ariana Grande 31. Cheese on Peloponnese 32. "...when out on the lawn there such a clatter...





This "Square Crow" outside the Welcome Center on Abbeville's Court Square provided a fresh way to welcome visitors to Abbeville last fall. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## **Promise provides** other study options

By Henry E. Green Though the Abbeville Promise is largely geared toward providing a financial pathway for Abbeville County residents who want to attend Piedmont Technical College, it does provide options for attendance at other technical colleges, according to Foundation administrator Lee Logan.

The Abbeville Promise provides that Abbeville County high school graduates can attend Piedmont Technical College free of tuition and required fees, assuming they meet the other qualifications.

Abbeville Promise was created by the Freshwater Coast Community Foun-

dation, and Logan said recently that if a course study is not available at Piedmont Tech, the Promise will pay the way for an Abbeville County high school student to attend another South Carolina technical college if that technical college has the program that the student wants to study.

"They would need to meet the same criteria as they were going to Piedmont Tech, such as attending full-time and applying for all state and federal grants and scholarships that might be available to them," Logan continued.

"We currently have two students doing that at Greenville Tech. They are studying culinary arts and construction management," he said. "Once they find out that Piedmont Tech does not offer their course of study, then they can search other technical schools to see if they can find their program," Logan continued.

"We suggest that they then contact the Freshwater Coast Community Foundation administrator to secure a letter that they can present explaining how they could secure the scholarship," that could be sent to the other technical college, Logan continued.

For more information, one may call the Foundation at 446-2773.

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

- 40. "Polar Express" roof rider
- 41. Toughness
- 43. \*Two-time Grammy winner Kelly
- 44. Watch word?
- 46. \*Best New Artist nominee Cyrus
- 47. "Clueless" catch phrase
- 48. \*Black Pumas' nominated record
- 50. Hand-me-down
- 52. NYC time zone
- Loaf, winner of one Grammy 53. \*
- 55. Nirvana's "Come as You
- 57. \*Post Malone's twice-nominated work
- 61. \*Venue of 2021 Grammy Awards
- 65. Dig, so to speak
- 66. Reunion bunch
- 68. Silk-patterned fabric
- 69. On Elsa of Arendelle's head
- 70. Historical period
- 71. Join the cast of, two words
- 72. Balkan native
- 73. Dog's greeting
- 74. Bed cover
- 10 Grammys 36. Nancy Sinatra's boots 38. Sinbad's seven 42. Semolina source 45. Cloth armband 49. Get the picture 51. Movie genre, pl. 54. Off kilter 56. Longer than #70 Across 57. A and B, e.g. 58. Doing nothing 59. \*Katy Perry's 2013 Grammynominated song 60. Stewie Griffin's bed 61. Unforeseen obstacle 62. Low-cal 63. One of Great Lakes
- 64. Email folder
- 67. Composer Gershwin



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#### We Cancel Timeshares for You

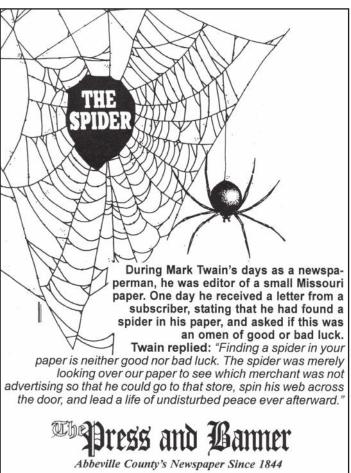
Many people believe their timeshares cannot be canceled, but they often can be. Our founder and CEO. Chuck McDowell, has successfully fought in federal court for the right to help timeshare owners — like you — out of their "binding" agreements. Whether you were misled or pressured, you may have an easy exit.

#### How Does the Cancellation Process Work?

- Start with a FREE consultation to discuss your needs.
- If we see that the circumstances of your agreement qualify you to exit the timeshare, you'll be assigned a specialist to walk you through gathering documentation.
- Our Resolution Department then works quickly to have your timeshare and related fees permanently terminated.

We are able to help most timeshare owners that contact us. You could be one phone call away from complete peace of mind.





Office 864/366-5461 • Fax 864/366-5463

#### January 13, 2021 THE PRESS AND BANNER and ABBEVILLE MEDIUM Page 7

## Vets Town Hall slated for early February

#### By Henry E. Green

There will be a Vets Town Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Abbeville Veterans Memorial Foundation on Longbranch Street in Abbeville, said Terry Greenfield, American Legion Post 2 commander.

The event is being presented by the American Legion Post 2 in conjunction with the Abbeville County veterans affairs office.

"We're having the director of the South Carolina department of veterans affairs, Will Grimsley," he said.

Grimsley will be talking about how the department is being restructured, and he will also speak about veterans benefits and other veterans-related issues, such as

well as the National Defense Authorization Act.

There is a high rate of suicide among veterans, and Greenfield says that, according to one estimate, that every day, as many as 20 veterans take their own lives across America.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder is one factor in the prevalence of suicide among veterans, as well as easy accessibility to weapons.

Greenfield said that the Post 2 and the veterans affairs office here in Abbeville County asked Grimsley to come and talk about veterans issues.

There will be a question-and-answer period at

veterans' mental health, as the end of the meeting, which is free and open to the public.

> "Veterans, their spouses, and their families are all welcome," Greenfield said. Abbeville County is home to about 3,000 veterans.

> Grimsley, meanwhile, was recently appointed veterans affairs director for the state. The town hall will be a good opportunity to disseminate accurate information.

> Grimsley has traveled throughout much of the state to discuss with veterans his plans for restructuring, and to talk about other veterans issues.

"This is our first time hosting something like this," said Greenfield.



There will be a Vet Town Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Abbeville Veterans Memorial Foundation on Longbranch Street in Abbeville. This sign on Abbeville's Court Square tells the story. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Daily Bread Bakery **BAKING A DIFFERENCE** Happy New Year! We will reopen January 14th with

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FRIDAY 8 AM - 3:30 PM

SATURDAY 9 AM - 2 PM

www.dailybreadbakeryllc.com **109 WASHINGTON ST. • ABBEVILLE, SC** 864-366-4404

## Abbeville County School District Water fountains shut down to curb virus

#### By Henry E. Green

The coronavirus has touched so many aspects of life in South Carolina, and efforts to curb the virus have touched a multitude of aspects as well.

Water fountains may be a good example, as the Abbeville County School District has shut down water fountains in its schools to help thwart the spread

of the virus, according to Abbeville County School District Director of Student Services Dr. Skip Hopkins. The Abbeville County School District is alone, he will tell you.

"I'm pretty confident saying that all districts in SC have shut down water fountains," he said. "We were purchasing bottled water at the beginning of the year but

have moved to five gallon 'touchless' water coolers on each hallway.

"The water and other cleaning supplies have been funded through the federal CARES Act."

The CARES Act, a federal piece of legislation, was signed into law in late March of last year as an economic stimulus in response to the coronavirus pandemic.



The Long Cane Cemetery Association will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 6:00 PM at Harris



Funeral Home.

All members are invited to attend.



### **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2021** ABBEVILLE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX 903 W. GREENWOOD ST. 6:30 PM

There will be a public hearing February 8, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Abbeville County Administrative Complex at 903 W. Greenwood St. to discuss the following:

1) Ordinance (2021-01) to change the name of Starlite Ridge Drive to Tranquil Star Ridge Drive in Abbeville County.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

# Self Regional COVID-19 testing events open to the community:

Greenwood County residents are invited to our drive-through testing site for a free COVID-19 test.\*

Mondays and Thursdays in January Time: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (CLOSED January 18 for MLK Jr. Day) Location: Former Greenwood Medical Park 303 West Alexander Ave., Greenwood S.C. 29646 (Please enter from Alexander Ave. near the corner of Alexander Ave. and Spring Street. Look for the Self Regional Health Express.)

### \*MyChart users may pre-register at mychart.selfregional.org. Or, call (864) 725-8200 to pre-register for your COVID test.

Tests are first come, first served as long as testing materials last. Insurance will be billed, but there is no out-of-pocket cost for testing.

More SRH dates, times and locations to be announced soon. Always check the Self Regional website and Facebook page for latest info. about community testing events.



1325 Spring Street, Greenwood, S.C. 29646 selfregional.org

## Obituaries

### **Nickles**

Malinda "Linda" Tolbert Nickles, 73, resident of 108 Parker St. passed away peacefully Saturday Jan. 9, 2021 at her home with her loving family by her side.

Born in Abbeville, SC she was a daughter of the late James Darraugh Tolbert and Evelyn Ware Tolbert. Linda was a retired Customer Service Representative with Winn Dixie Groceries. She attended Mission Baptist Church and was a member of Little Mountain Presbyterian Church. Linda was an avid Abbeville Panther and South Carolina Gamecock football fan. She was so proud of all the accomplishments her an Church Cemetery. The

coaching Panther Football. her son Mr. & Mrs. Jamie She will be missed by her Nickles 305 Wilewood Rd. loving family and her many friends.

Survivors Include: her son Jamie Nickles (Misty) of Abbeville, SC; three sisters Rose Mary Terrell, Gail Terrell and Barbara Sprouse (Mike) all of Abbeville, SC; grandsons Connor and Addison Nickles; a special nephew Brant Anderson.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday Jan. 12, 2021 at 2:00 PM in the Chandler Chapel at Chandler-Jackson Funeral Home with Mr. Pat Hodge officiating. The burial followed in Little Mountain Presbyterison Jamie earned while family is at the home of

Abbeville, SC.

The family received friends Tuesday afternoon from 12:30 until 1:45 at the funeral home prior to services. Memorials in memory of Linda may be made to Agape Hospice, 529 Mills Ave Greenville, SC 29605 or to the Abbeville Booster Club, PO Box 1214 Abbeville, SC 29620.

Online condolences may be made to the Nickles family by visiting www.chandlerjacksonfh.com

The Chandler-Jackson Funeral Home and Cremation Services are assisting the Nickles family.

## Obituaries

### Davis

Grace Link Davis, 90, of Abbeville, wife of the late Carl H. Davis, died Sunday, January 10, 2021 at the Abbeville Nursing Home. She was born in Abbeville to the late George Emma Link and Mattie Lou Pursley Link.

Mrs. Davis graduated from Abbeville High School, class of 1949. A gifted writer, she shared her talents through her poetry. Mrs. Davis was an active member of First Baptist Church in Abbeville and the Loyal Workers Sunday School Class.

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her three brothers, Rayford Link, George Link, and William

Fisher

Juanita Cann Fisher, 88 of Abbeville, wife of the late W. Marshall Fisher, died Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at her daughter's home in Dahlonega, GA. She was born in Calhoun Falls to the late J.O. and Sara Hall Cann.

Mrs. Fisher attended Sharon School. Formerly employed with Abbeville Mills, she later retired from Hodge Frozen Food. Talented in many areas, Mrs. Fisher enjoyed baking, especially wedding cakes, and was well known for her sewing abilities. Happiest outdoors, she could often be found working on the farm. Mrs. Fisher, a lifelong Christian, was a member of Rocky River Presbyterian Church and active in the Presbyte-

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Patti Jo Fisher; two brothers, David and Alton Cann and a sister, Alice Price.

Grace Link Davis

'Bill' Link and two sisters, Ovelle Price and Jean

Jones. Mrs. Davis is survived by a sister, Madge L. Adams (Aubrey) of Abbeville and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were 3:00PM, Tuesday, January 12, 2021 in Forest Lawn Memory Gardens with Rev. Tripp Speer officiating. The family received friends immediately following the service.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Mrs. Davis, may be sent to First Baptist Church, PO Box 825, Abbeville, SC 29620.

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

Harris Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Davis family.

## Obituaries

### **McCalla**

Evelyn Reaber McCalla, 81, of Iva, wife of the late Mattox P. 'Mac' McCalla, Jr., died Wednesday, December 30, 2020 at her home. She was born in Providence, RI to the late Karl Reaber and Edith Levenson Reaber.

Affectionately known as 'Honey', Mrs. McCalla was employed as an administrative office assistant for Dr. Anne Young in Anderson and retired from Anderson County Registration and Elections. She enjoyed involvement in the Mt. Carmel Yacht Club and playing Solitaire on the computer. Honey was a member of Weslee. Smyrna United Methodist

Church. Family was most vice was 11:00AM, Saturimportant to her, bringing much happiness and joy.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two in lva. sisters, Cynthia Reaber and Carolyn Hughes.

Honey is survived by two sons, Mac 'Little Mac' Mc-Calla, III of Lake Secession and Ike McCalla of Seneca; a daughter, Nancy Sanders (Jeff) of Elberton, GA; five grandchildren, Ashley Ashley (Chris), Alyssa McCalla, Isaac McCalla, Kristina McCalla, and Matt McCalla; and two greatgrandchildren, Allie and

A family graveside ser- McCalla family.

day, January 2, 2021 in Iva City Cemetery with Rev. Donnie Murdock officiating. The family is at the home

Memorial contributions, in memory of Honey, may be sent to Hospice of the Upstate, Rainey Hospice House, 1835 Rogers Road, Anderson, SC 29621.

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

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the

rian Women.

Mrs. Fisher is survived by



Juanita Cann Fisher

her children, Glenn Fisher (Shannon) of Greenwood, Chris Fisher (Frankie) of Abbeville, Shelia Fisher Story (Mark) of Dahlonega, GA, and Kelly Fisher of Grayson, GA; her sisters, Mary Clark of Sanford, FL and Lillian Hayes of Collettsville, NC; a brother, Allen Cann (Joyce) of Abbeville; nine grandchildren, Marshall Fisher (Cara), Sabrina Nicastro (Joey), Jacob Story, Amber McElroy (Jody), Spencer Fisher (Tayla), Ashleigh Story (fiancé, Thomas Hall), Austin Story, Alec Fisher,

and Zane Fisher; and five great-grandchildren, Chase Fisher, Kinzleigh Keith, Rease McElroy, Skylin Fisher, and Parker Nicastro. The family received friends 1:00PM - 2:00PM, Saturday, January 9, 2021 at Harris Funeral Home. Funeral services were at 2:00PM in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Corrina Gambrell officiating. Burial followed in Melrose Cemetery. Masks are required for everyone attending.

Those wishing to pay their respects visited Harris Funeral Home from 9:00AM -12:00PM on Saturday.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Mrs. Fisher, may be sent to Rocky River Presbyterian Church, c/o Martha Patterson, 426 Tugaloo St., Calhoun Falls, SC 29628.

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

Harris Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Fisher family.

Mrs. Christine Hutchison Vickery, 83, of Ruckersville Road, Elberton, wife of 53 years to Paul Durrell Vick-

Obituaries

dren.

Survivors include her officiating. Private interment children: Greg and Jennifer will follow in Forest Hills Vickery and Tina and Chad Memorial Park. Sizemore, all of Elberton;

grandchildren: Ashley and

Jason Nash, Justin and

Hannah Brown, Sydney

Vickery, Caroline Sizemore,

and Braedon Sizemore; and

great-grandchildren: Kinley,

band and parents, she is

preceded in death by her

siblings: Rachel Hutchison

Burt and Archie Bryan

ebrating her life will be held

at 11 o'clock in the Memo-

rial Chapel of Berry Funeral

In addition and her hus-

Aiden, and Elijah.

Hutchison.

ams and Rev. Tim Savelle

The family is at their

respective homes and will

receive friends at Berry

Funeral Home from 6:00-

8:00p.m. on Tuesday, Janu-

and contributions may be

made in her memory to

T.J. & Friends Foundation,

PO Box 6161, Elberton, GA

the online guestbook at

is respectfully in charge

of arrangements for Mrs.

Christine Hutchison Vickery.

Those wishing may sign

Berry Funeral Home

Flowers are accepted

ary 12.

30635.

Funeral services cel- www.berryfh.com.

on Wednesday, January 13, & Crematory of Elberton

ery, Jr., passed away on Sunday, January 10, 2021, at Pruitt Health at Spring Vallev.

Vickery

Mrs, Vickery was born in Abbeville, SC on November 18, 1937, daughter of the late Barney Bryan "BB" Hutchison and Mary Elizabeth Nelson Hutchison. She retired from Elbert Memorial Hospital in 1998 after 38 years of service as an xray technician and was a member of Francis Asbury United Methodist Church. She and Paul were avid campers and Chris enjoyed being "Grandmama" and "Meme" to her grandchil- Home with the Rev. Tim Ad-

Obituaries

### Brown

Dedrea Colleen Brown, 62, of Abbeville, SC died Sunday, January 10, 2021 at Magnolia Manor in Greenwood, SC. She was born in Abbeville to the late Ervin and Mary Little Brown. A 1976 graduate of Abbeville High School, Dedrea retired from the Lander University Physical Plant. She was an enthusiastic Abbeville Panthers fan faithfully attending as many games as possible. When her health declined, Dedrea still listened to every game on the radio. She was full of life and time spent with family, especially her grandchildren, always brought a smile to her face. Dedrea was a member of Shady Grove AME Church.



Dedrea C. Brown

She is survived by her son, Taz Brown (Kermille) of Powder Springs, GA; a daughter, Nakiya Cobb (David) of Abbeville; four visiting www.harrisfuneral. brothers, Darrell Brown (Jackie) of Durham, NC, Donald Brown of Greenville, SC Jeffrey Brown of Abbeville, and Todd Dawson (Pamela) of Rex, GA; four Brown family.

sisters, Donna Wallace of McDonough, GA, Leslie Temple (Rev. Richard Temple, Jr.) of Greenwood, Alice Evans (Rev. Charles Evans) of Greenwood, and Karen Blackwell (George Blackwell) of Abbeville; and four grandchildren, Jade Brown, Airman David Cobb, Jr., William Cobb, and Yadira Brown.

No services are planned at this time.

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

Harris Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Obituaries

### Pless

Wayne O. 'Killer' Pless, 64, of Calhoun Falls, SC, husband of Pat Beauford, died Friday, January 8, 2021 at Self Regional Medical Center. He was born in Franklin County, GA to the late Norman C. and Jessie Tavlor Pless.

Wayne attended Tri County Tech and graduated from the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy. His most notable employment was working at the Varsity in Atlanta. Wayne served with the Ware Shoals Police Department, Calhoun Falls Police Department and retired as a Deputy from the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office. Instrumental in developing the Calhoun Falls town wide clean-up and starting the Big Foot Antique Car Show, he was a dedicated servant Hilley (Tracey) of Abbeville to Calhoun Falls. Wayne currently served as a Calhoun Falls City Councilman and proudly supported the Calhoun Falls Fire Department. An avid Georgia Bulldog fan, for many years, he enjoyed wrestling and small engine repair. Wayne was a member of the Solid Rock Community Church. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Jo Ann uary 12, 2021. Sutherland Pless, six sis-



Wayne O. Pless

ters, Lois Phillips, Frances 'Ollie' Harris, Betty Jo Smith, Bonnie Rodriquez, Shirley Hill and Linda Smoak; two brothers, James and Jerry Pless.

Wayne is survived by his companion and best friend Pat of 12 years of the home; two daughters, Wendy Pless of Abbeville and Tasha Bryant (Scott) of Ware Shoals; two sons, Russ and Darrell Hilley (Linda) of Sandy Springs; his beloved pet and main sidekick, Louie; two brothers, Grady Pless (Kate) of Elberton and Ronnie Pless of Calhoun Falls; ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Those wishing to pay

their respects visited Harris Funeral Home, Calhoun Falls Chapel from 10:00AM -4:00PM on Tuesday, Jan-

The family will receive

friends 12:00PM-1:30PM, Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at Harris Funeral Home, Calhoun Falls. Funeral services will begin at 2:00PM in the funeral home chapel with Rev. John Ellis officiating. Serving as active pallbearers are, Chris Pless, Quentin Hilley, KC Waldrop, Vance Ashley, Stevie Willoughby, Russell Hilley and Trent Wilson. Honorary Pallbearers will be the Calhoun Falls Fire Department. Burial will follow in Melrose Cemetery.

Please follow all currently recommended CDC Guidelines regarding social distancing and face mask are required.

The family is at the home on Bamberg Street in Calhoun Falls.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Wayne, may be sent to the Calhoun Falls Fire Department, 401 Washington Street, Calhoun Falls, SC 29628.

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

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services – Calhoun Falls Chapel is serving the Pless family.



Newly-reelected Abbeville County Council member Charles Goodwin (center) was sworn in to a new term of office recently by Magistrate Carolyn Brownlee, as County Director David Garner (right), watched. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Obituaries

### Dorn

Phyllis Leaman Dorn, resident of Abbeville Nursing Home, died Wednesday, January 12, 2021. She was 92 years old. Mrs. Dorn was born to the late Cecil Frederick Leaman and Frances Wescott Leaman of Torquay England. Mrs. Dorn met her future husband, the late Otis M. Dorn, in England during World War II while his company was doing maneuvers at a lodge in Bishopsteignton. She traveled to America in October 1946 for a five-day journey on the ship "Queen Elizabeth" landing in New York. She married Mr. Dorn at John de la Howe School and they celebrated their 34th anniversary before he passed away in January 1981.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Dorn was preceded in death by sons, Terrence Philip Dorn, Lewis Frederick Dorn, and a sister, Doreen L. Mackenzie. She is survived by her children, James Dorn (Debbie) of London, KY, Jean Dorn Able (Johnny) of Abbeville, Robert Dorn a member of the Willington



Phyllis L. Dorn (Reba) of McCormick, Steve Dorn (Shelia) of Plum Branch, Michael Dorn (Rhonda) of Calhoun Falls, and a brother, Lewis Leaman (Angela) of Newton Abbot, England. She is survived by eleven grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

Mrs. Dorn was a devoted wife, mother, and homemaker, but later worked outside the home in textiles and as a counselor/houseparent for the Abbeville Boys Cottage at John de la Howe where she served for 10 years. She was

Presbyterian Church for 48 years and faithful participant in the Presbyterian Women's Circle serving as vice moderator for 20 years. Mrs. Dorn was a kind, loving person and will be remembered for her gracious spirit, even while her health declined. The family would like to thank the Abbeville Nursing Home staff for their nurture and care given to Mrs. Dorn during her extended period of long-term care.

Graveside services will be held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, Jan. 16 at the Plum Branch Cemetery with Rev. Lee P. Kennerly officiating. Visitation will be held after the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests memorial contributions be sent to the Willington Presbyterian Church, c/o Clerk of Session,1299 Simpson St. Ext., Calhoun Falls, SC 29628. Strom Funeral Home is

### assisting the Family.

## MLK Day to recall life of civil rights leader

#### By Henry E. Green

Monday, Jan. 18, is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and schools and government offices are slated to be closed in observance of the holiday. It is all in memory of a civil rights leader who accomplished much during a comparatively short life.

King fought against racial injustice in America, injustice that took a variety of forms.

A minister, King rose to prominence in the 1950s when he helped guide the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama.

A winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in the mid-

1960s, he is remembered by many for his "I have a dream" speech in Washington, D.C. in 1963, a high point in the March on Washington that he helped organize.

He was noted not only for his eloquence but for his philosophy of nonviolence, a philosophy in which he followed in the footsteps of Gandhi.

King had reservations about the Vietnam War, and spoke out against it.

He was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968, and following his death there were riots in many U.S. cities.

The third Monday in January is Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, and it has been a federal holiday since 1986. King's birthday is January 15.

More than half a century after his death, King's words still come alive.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that," he once said. "Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

Another quotation of King's is something often heard in programs held in connection with MLK Day:

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

## County still coping with coronavirus pandemic

#### By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County is still dealing with the COVID crisis, Abbeville County Director David Garner told Council Monday night.

In his County Director's report, Garner mentioned that South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster has issued an order to the effect that individuals 70 and older may be vaccinated.

Garner mentioned the passing of Calhoun Falls Town Council member Wayne Pless, and the passing of Arlene Smith, who served many years in Abbeville County EMS and the County finance department.

Abbeville County Council approved an emergency ordinance Monday night.

This ordinance places the county in a state of emergency in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The County issued a state of emergency proclamation last year.

In other news, County Council elected officers for the new year, and Billy Norris defeated Charles Goodwin 4-3 to claim the chairman's post.

Voting for Goodwin were Council members John Calhoun, Goodwin and Drew Simpson, and voting for Norris were James McCord,

Norris, Jason Bonds, and Rick Campbell.

Norris was nominated by McCord, and Calhoun nominated Goodwin.

Goodwin won the election for vice chairman, defeating James McCord for the vice chairman's post.

Campbell, Goodwin, and McCord were all nominated for the vice chairman's post, and McCord defeated Campbell in a "run-off," since initially none of the three attained a majority.

The County elections were handled by County Attorney Lee Roper.



Little River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**



Job Title:

Accounting, Payroll, and Human Resources Assistant

Job Category:

**FLEXIBLE TECHNOLOGIES** will be hosting a **DRIVE THRU JOB FAIR** on

Thursday, January 21, 2021 From 12:00-3:00 in their parking lot located at: 528 Carwellyn Road, Abbeville, SC 29620

Priority will be given to those who have both: 1. Applied online at: https://www.flexibletechnologies.com/ft/wp/careers/

2. Bring a resume

Masks will be required

The Feds Can Print Money... We can Print Anything Else! • presentation folders business/social stationery, cards newsletters, inserts, • invitations/cards tabloids product catalogues • die cut & embossing • annual reports, programs four color process brochures. hooklets For a

chures, booklets					
all your printing needs					
Banner Printing					
107 West Pickens St., Abbeville, SC 29620					
864.366.5461					
pb@bannercorp.net					

Job Code:	33-5371/31-2411	
Travel Required:	Occasional	
Position Type:	Full Time	
Date Posted:	January 11, 2021	
Posting Expires:	February 12, 2021	
	4:00 p.m.	
-	Position Type: Date Posted:	

Submit: 1) A Little River Electric Cooperative Employment Application, 2) a Cover letter, and 3) a Resume.

#### **Applications Accepted By:**

EMAIL:	MAIL:	OR DELIVER TO MAIN OFFICE RECEPTION:
JElliott@lreci.coop	Little River Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Little River Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Subject Line: Accounting,	Attn: Human Resources	Attn: Human Resources
Payroll, and HR Assistant	PO Box 220	300 Cambridge Street
	Abbeville, SC 29620	Abbeville, SC 29620

#### Job Description

1/13;1tc

#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Successful candidate must have a stable, verifiable work history and favorable credit score; must have/maintain a current S.C. Driver's License. A pre-employment credit check, physical, and drug screen required.

A bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, business, or related field with minimum 30 hours of accounting courses required with 3-5 years Payroll and Accounts Payable experience or a combination of education, experience and/or training. HR certificate preferred.

The successful applicant must:

- Be able to reconcile bank statements and benefit invoices.
- Be able to prepare reports and maintain database, ensuring that records are complete and accurate.
- Be able to work successfully with co-workers and consumer-members in a pleasant, courteous and professional manner and be able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors.
- Protect confidential information; record information, process, and file forms.
- Be able to learn and apply information from technical manuals for the completion of duties.
- Be able to learn and use accounting software programs to process business transactions, i.e. accounts payable and receivable, disbursements, expense vouchers and receipts.
- Work under degree of stress related to accuracy and deadlines.
- Prepare checks, deposits, budgets, and financial/HR/payroll reports.
- Update financial records/ledgers, research and resolve discrepancies, and have high level of accuracy & efficiency.
- Have exceptional verbal and written communication skills as well as computer literacy and strong keyboard skills.

#### **ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Assist the Manager of Finance and Accounting with duties including but not limited to accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, work order accounting, and general accounting. Assist the HR Manager with administering and coordinating employee benefit program implementation and records. This position also oversees and performs other office duties and responsibilities.

#### Smoke Free Workplace

See Full Job Description / Requirements and Little River Employment Application on Website.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## A Slice of Mike "I Have My Hang-Ups"

#### By Mike Elis

I was fifteen years old when I landed my first job. While many of my friends who were also starting their employment went the fast food or grocery store route, I did something that was much more glamorous.

Well, when I say more glamorous, the only details that made it more glamorous were that I had my own cubicle, a coffee and hot chocolate station with my own company logo mug, and behind me on the wall was one of those inspirational framed quotes with a golf ball on the putting green that could be seen in every office throughout the world in the late 80s and early 90s.

Yup, 15 years old and living the corporate life.

There is one detail that I left out. I was part of the profession that every living being despised the most. From 5pm to 9pm every Monday through Thursday, I was viewed as a descendant sent from the underworld to wreak havoc on your phone lines as I was, you guessed it, a telemarketer.

Over the years I have been a telemarketer, a collections agent, an insurance salesman, and a middle school algebra teacher. Let's just say I might hold the world record for most words thrown at me that aren't in Webster's Dictionary. Add these professions to the calls I made trying to get ladies who had my interest to go out to dinner

with me, I heard more dial tones than Fido's got fleas.

Oh, and there is one detail of this telemarketing job that I didn't tell you; I sold septic tank cleaner. Yes, that's right, septic tank cleaner, and I sold it during dinner time hours. So, you can imagine how often my solicitation calls went unappreciated. We had a script to read, and for those that fired back with a response, there was a quick response we had to reply with.

"My family and I are having dinner and it is not a good time to talk or think about my septic system. Can you please call back at another time?"

"Mr. Jones, I do understand and it is never a good time to discuss your septic maintenance until it is too late, wouldn't you agree? Now, will that be a Visa or Mastercard you will be using this evening?" To think that sometimes actually worked still to this day mesmerizes me and makes me question the human psyche. Yes, it keeps me up some nights.

I have always been somewhat sympathetic to telemarketers I asked out years ago, and because I have been there, done that, and bought the T-shirt. Well, maybe not the I mean, I do own a septic T-shirt, but the logo coffee mug. However, there is no screening process anymore to identify if the person answering the phone is your target audience. That's right, I'm talking to you Extended Warranty people. You say that this is your "final call" and I really wish you would keep your word on that and maybe even Google the <u>com</u>.

## Letters

#### Dear Editor,

Women never filed a lawsuit to inherit Jesus' church. Every country would have had fairness in their affairs

Letters

if that happened. Jesus' living will would have given everyone an abundant life and they never put it into action. Despite that he gives

us the opportunity to live a choice life by being good followers of him.

definition of the word "final."

I just want to reply "Oh yeah,

well the sound you are about

They even call my son, who

is thirteen years old. He just

got his first cell phone and the

telemarketing sharks have a

"Young man, do you own

a vehicle?" When he replies

yes, they get so excited.

"What is the year and make

"It's a 2017 Tonka Truck. I

got it for my tenth birthday.

You want my card number?

Let me grab my library card

from school; it has a number

on it." Then, to add insult to

injury, I taught my son to add,

"You should talk to my dad. He

owns a car lot and was looking

to add a warranty to the 161

cars he has on his lot. But, I

don't have his phone number.

Thanks for reading, but I've

got to go. The phone is ringing

and it's a private number.

Maybe it's one of the gals

maybe she wants to sell me

some septic tank cleaner.

system and it's 6:18pm, so...

Don't Forget that shows will

be returning to the Abbeville

Opera House starting with

the Pink Floyd Tribute Inter-

stellar Echoes with full lights,

lasers, and tribute band. Very

few tickets remain. Get your

tickets now at abbevillecitysc.

Have a good day." Click!

hot new lead.

of your vehicle?"

to hear is my final airhorn."

Jordan Cooper, Summerville, SC

### US House of Representatives

### **Duncan statement on US Capitol** and Electoral College

#### Submitted by Congressman Jeff Duncan

Congressman Jeff Duncan (SC-03) released the following statement regarding the events at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021 and his electoral college objections on the House floor:

"I strongly and unequivocally condemn the violence committed by protesters at the US Capitol. Like I said yesterday, destructive protests that disrespect law enforcement are never the answer - that's not how we should express ourselves. Our nation's Capitol is a bastion of freedom for people all over the world. It is a place where differences have been debated and governing has been worked out by Representatives of the people. It's called "The People's House" for a reason, and the House was violated under a banner of Constitutional protests to petition the government for redress of grievances.

"The violation of the Capitol, the Halls of Congress, and the symbol of freedom can't go unpunished. I have many concerns regarding the identity of some of the instigators, their motivations, and the tactics used to incite the violence and encourage the breach. All of this requires a full investigation to find out the people and the elements who perpetrated these acts and encouraged others to follow. I call on all agencies of law enforcement, both federal and in D.C., to find the perpetrators and prosecute them to the fullest extent. There's no question we need to find out more about yesterday's events.

"The assault on the Capitol did not change the substance of the issues at hand. And that is why - even after the chaos - I raised objections to electors from certain states that performed elections in clear violation of Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution. The fact

of the matter is that several states conducted elections in direct contradiction to their state laws, state constitutions, and the U.S. Constitution. I have been very clear on this issue, and there was very little debate on the other side of the aisle disputing these points. Unfortunately, after the events of the day, many Senators withdrew their objections, and the House only had the procedural requirements to move forward with votes and debates concerning electors from Arizona and Pennsylvania. I voted to object to both states' electors. This has always been about the Constitution and my oath to protect it - not a particular personality or person. Most of the people who have attacked me on my position to object haven't even taken the time to review the evidence and arguments I have presented. My hope is that even if someone disagrees with my decision, they will at least take the time to read how I reached it.

"A loud minority have called me seditious and a traitor to my country. They have suggested that I and some of my colleagues should be expelled from Congress for signing two amicus briefs in support of election integrity and for voting to object to electors. These accusations are revolting, politically motivated, and frankly, don't even make sense. I am following a constitutionally prescribed process as a Member of the House of Representatives that Democrats have utilized the last three times a Republican president has been elected (2000, 2004, 2016). In fact, South Carolina's own Congressman Jim Clyburn objected to the electors from Ohio in January 2005. So how can Democrats participate in constitutional prescribed processes, like impeachment and objection to electors, but Republicans can't? Why are we treated differently? Does this logic make the 31 Democrats who objected in 2005, like top Democrat Whip Jim Clyburn, Chairman Frank Pallone, and Chairwoman Maxine Waters seditious? Traitors to their country? Or does that label only apply if you have an R next to your name? This rhetoric needs to be dialed back.

"We need to learn from these events as a country. We have seen too much unrest this past year. Republicans have been unified in condemning violence and destruction in leftwing cities across the country while Democrat mayors and governors let mobs rule the streets. Where were Democrat leaders during the rioting, looting, burning, fighting, and attacks on police by Antifa and **BLM?** Where were Democrats when the violence escalated so rapidly in D.C. that Secret Service took President Trump to an underground bunker in fear the White House would be breached? Where were Democrats when left-wing mobs stormed Senate office buildings during the Kavanaugh hearings? Why didn't Democrats condemn Chris Cuomo when he remarked, "who says protests are supposed to be polite and peaceful?"

"Republicans and Democrats were quick to condemn yesterday's actions - and I have condemned them wholeheartedly. But all violence should be condemned, and that has simply not been the case with the violent protests we've seen in our cities over the past year. This type of hypocrisy only emboldens the perpetrators, and it normalizes and encourages radical behavior.

"I can proudly say I did my duty on the House floor and represented my constituents to the best of my ability by objecting to certain states' electors. Upholding the Constitution will always be my mission - I swore an oath to do so.

"Pray for our country. God bless the United States of America."

#### Dear Editor,

We all agree that misinformation can be a dangerous and bad thing, especially when it comes to matters of great importance. Matters of great importance like, say, a worldwide pandemic and vaccines that will allegedly stem the tide of said pandemic and save humanity. If the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines currently on the roll out are indeed safe and effective, to the tune of a 95% success rate, then misinformation about this truth should indeed be combatted. However, what is the real misinformation?

The major media tells us all the time about misinformation and "conspiracy theories" that are spreading like wildfire and must be censored and stopped. This justifies censorship of anything other than the official narrative; and Pharma, the media, and the government would not lie to us, would they?

A few questions to consider before moving on to the next points: Who believes entities like Pfizer and Moderna are here to help and heal people? They do not make money when the population is actually healthy. Who believes the major media is in the business of reporting accurate and truthful information? All news anchors are given scripts to read. They are actors and actresses, not journalists. Who believes the government is here to

help you? The word government comes from the latin 'guvernare,' which means to control, and 'mentis,' which means mind. The word government itself literally means the control of the mind.

There are many lamenting the "misinformation" about the COVID-19 vaccine that is being spread through "social media." It's easy to write this off as coming from social media because then, without investigation, people will believe no one of importance or with credentials is speaking out against the vaccine. The truth is, many health care professionals, PhDs, MDs, and nurses around the world oppose this vaccine and have the courage to speak out about it. This puts their licenses and careers in jeopardy not to toe the line and so many stay silent for that reason as well. Approximately half of the US population is opposed to taking this vaccine, and this is representative of all walks of life including those in the medical industry. Is this because they have all been suckered into believing the "misinformation," or is it because the truth is getting out there regarding vaccines and the COVID-19 vaccine in particular?

I learned about vaccines over the last five years, and more recently the Covid vaccine, not by social media, but from listening to doctors and nurses speak at length about the subject. The websites healthimpactnews.com and vaccineimpact.com contain

many stories daily about doctors and nurses speaking about the Covid vaccine, as well as reporting on the injuries and deaths that are currently happening in connection with the roll out of the "95% effective" vaccines. I have followed this throughout 2020 and have listened to many doctors refute the "safe and effective" mantra. Lets see those doctors get a platform on major media outlets for live, uncensored debates and let the public decide what the real misinformation is. As well, Dr. Paul Thomas, MD, of Oregon recently conducted a lengthy study of vaccinated vs. unvaccinated children. His findings were that the unvaccinated children were far healthier over time than the vaccinated. The Oregon medical board suspended his license within five days of the results of this study being published. Not because he conducted a faulty study or did bad science, but because his findings did not fit the Pharma and media narrative. Remember, vaccines and illness are big business and good health is not. The "safe and effective"mantra is the real misinformation.

Dig in and do your own research on these matters: healthimpactnews.com; vaxxter.com (this site run by osteopathic doctor Sherri Tenpenny); thelastamericanvagabond.com; vaccineimpact.com; childrenshealthdefense.org (this site run by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.)

Geoff Hult 366-3993

### Letters

Dear Editor,

#### **Enough is Enough!** Let's start over - it is a new year!

I love this country and hate to see it torn apart with people's bickering. Usually I represent the "silent majority" (we think we ought to do something, but we fail to do anything). However, I can no longer sit idly by; so here is my something -People try to remove my God and His name from their buildings, structure, etc. People try to disrespect my flag. People vandalize or destroy property that belongs to my fellowman or me. I say, "Enough is enough."

I am a portsider, a southpaw or just plain a left-hander, whatever you would like to call me. Statistically, people like me comprise approximately 10% of the population. This means we are a minority. However, we do not picket or destroy property or demand steering wheels be placed on the right side of cars so we can shift with our left hand or adjust the radio with our left hand. We do not protest because there are not enough baseball gloves, scissors or power tools made for left-handed people. We simply accept we are a minority and get along with others-we respect the concept of majority rules.

However, just because majority rules, the majority does not have the right to ignore the minority. Everyone in-

volved needs to stop, listen, build trust and move towards compromise.

Many of our leaders, whether they be political or part of an unruly swarm, are not helping the current dissolution that seems to perfuse throughout our United States of America. They become oblivious to words such as "compromise," "respect," or even "love" for their fellow man. (I use the word "man" as a universal term and do not think it necessary to specify gender or lack thereof.) These leaders need to "soften" their hearts, to use the term from the Book of Exodus Chapter 7. They need to place their country above their respective parties/ organizations or their personal agendas. Unfortunately, rather than compromise, it appears people are diametrically opposed to each other with thoughts of revenge.

Regardless of affiliations or agendas, leaders need to figure out how to communicate peacefully in order to get their point across and their wishes known. To do this, I would suggest they try these rules on for size:

Six Ground Rules for a Meaningful Dialogue

1. Suspend your preconceived ideas

2. Listen and absorb the other side's point of view

3. Ask questions when necessary, but remember both sides must use neutral language

4. Compromise - ask your opponents for "advice" not their "opinion" (If you ask for "opinions," this encourage opponents to see themselves as separate from you and thus decreases the odds they will compromise.)

5. Redraft the issue

6. Lighten up - people do not laugh because they think laughter makes them vulnerable. However, you gain so much through vulnerability because you let the other person in and that draws you closer together.

Some Thoughts before You Start the Dialogue

-Startanewhabit-remember the good from the past rather than the bad.

- Extend an olive branch with a random act of kindness (a gift).

-Remember what the novelist L. P. Hartley said, "The past is a foreign country: they do things differently there."

-Base the discussion around valid facts and not conjectures.

-Direct your anger towards problems - not people. Focus your energies on answers-not excuses.

- Remember the issues may be more complex than you think.

- Set your thoughts and opinions aside and listen to others. This will affirm the dignity of the other person, his/her values and beliefs, and will help to move towards a common goal.

-There is no limit to what can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit.

William R. Boone, Ph.D. Abbeville, South Carolina



Newly-elected Abbeville County Council member James McCord (center), with his wife Virginia by his side, was sworn in to a new term of office by Magistrate Carolyn Brownlee recently. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Getting Married?

Announce your upcoming wedding in the next edition of

The Press & Banner

107 West Pickens Street, Abbeville, SC 29620 Phone (864) 366-5461 Fax (864) 366-5463

Just stop by our office and pick up an engagement and/or wedding form. While you're here, be sure to check out our complete line of bridal needs.

> INVITATIONS WEDDING PROGRAMS **THANK YOU NOTES** NAPKINS MATCHES BOOKMARKS GIFTS **OTHER ACCESSORIES**

#### pandemic concerns By Henry E. Green performed on all of the primary How does a library survive a materials found in the libraries: book paper, newsprint, card-

Library copes with

Very carefully.

pandemic?

The Abbeville County Library System has modified its policies of operation to ensure safety during the pandemic.

"While these precautions have slowed down library activities, the Donalds, Calhoun Falls, and main branch at 1407 North Main Street are all open to patrons," said Mary Elizabeth Land, Abbeville County Library System director.

"Covid-19 safety precautions at the libraries were developed with input from Abbeville County government and the South Carolina State Library. Within weeks of the outbreak, the field of librarianship was already investigating how best to serve patrons of libraries nationwide, including materials testing. A study group known as Reopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) formed by the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and American science and technology firm Battelle worked to produce science-based information about how materials can be handled to mitigate COVID-19 exposure to staff and visitors of archives, libraries, and museums. Tests have been

board, buckram, book jacket Mylar, and DVD plastics.

"According to REALM studies, after one day there was no recoverable virus for the hardback book cover, the paperback book cover, or the DVD case. By day three, all five tested material surfaces resulted in no recoverable virus.

"The Abbeville County libraries are following the recommendations of REALM, whose primary advice is to quarantine returned items. All returned items at the main and branch libraries are boxed and set aside for a minimum of 72 hours.

The library has also taken precautions to minimize exposure to visitors to the library. Patrons are encouraged to wear masks. All library staff is masked. All public access computers are cleaned and disinfected after each use.

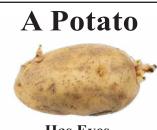
The main branch, as well as the Donalds and Calhoun Falls branches close 30 minutes early each day to clean the library. All surfaces (shelves, desks, computers, tables, and chairs) are disinfected.

Social distancing is encouraged through some physical re-configuration. The library has limited the number of public access computers to half, and restrooms are closed to the public. About half of library seating has been removed, and private study and meeting rooms are closed to the public. In addition, in-person programming has been suspended.

"All of this may make you wonder what still is available," said Land." The answer is (almost) everything! The stacks are open. All books, including children's, DVDs, audiobooks, music CDs, and the reference and genealogy collection are available."

Children's, teen, and adult programming is being delivered through the library's Facebook page, including virtual story time, which is released each Monday at 11 a.m.

"These precautions have been in place since the reopening of the libraries in the late spring," Land said. Usage at all three libraries is certainly down, as people have largely limited their social outings because of the pandemic. A lot of folks are coming in, getting what they need (computer access, faxing, new books) and heading home. We miss the hubbub of children in the building, folks catching up with friends, etc. but we certainly understand and we want people to stay safe."



Has Eyes, but it doesn't read this paper. You ought to be different. Don't be a potato. Subscribe now.

#### Pet of the Month



Ava is the perfect size dog for any home and family. She is dog friendly and loves to be outside and show off her sweet smile and cute ears. Her beautiful blue and white coloring will have you melting. Please come give her a chance.

Adoption Fees are only \$25 thru Nov. with support of Greater Abbeville Humane Society. Visit Abbeville County Animal Shelter M/W/F 10-5, Sat. 10-3. Call 366-6639.

## Visit the Church of Your Choice this Week!



ANGLICAN ST. ANDREWS ANGLICAN 7719 **BAPTIST BEULAH BAPTIST** 2066 Hwy. 72 E., 229-1615 BIBLE BAPTIST 14 Hwy 71, Abbeville, 366-4355 **CAMPFIELD BAPTIST** Abbeville, 446-3394 DUE WEST BAPTIST 218 S. Main St., 379-8110 EMANUEL BAPTIST 5481 Hwy. 28 N., 348-7455 FAIRFIELD BAPTIST Abbeville, 446-2060 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 307 N. Main St., Abbeville, 366-2597 LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST 2916 Hwy. 72 E., 229-3377 LITTLE RIVER BAPTIST 1427 Murdock Rd., Honea Path, 369-7134 LOWNDESVILLE BAPTIST Lowndesville, 348-2194 MIDWAY BAPTIST 1218 Hwy. 284, 446-2736 MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST 459-5829 NEW FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST 3298 Keowee Rd. Honea Path, 369-6838 NEW HOPE BAPTIST 4224 Hwy. 184 W. Due West, 379-8491 NORTHSIDE BAPTIST Calhoun Falls, 418-8392 PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST 500 George Alewine Rd. Due West, 379-2822 **ROCKY RIVER BAPTIST** 3234 Lake Secession Rd. Iva, 348-6581 SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST 1800 Hwy. 178 N. Honea Path, 369-7021 SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST 505 West Greenwood St., Abbeville SPRINGFIELD BAPTIST Hwy. 81 N, Calhoun Falls, 418-8332 ST. MARY'S BAPTIST Due West, 379-2769 **BIBLE** FREE BIBLE HOLINESS 190 Oak Grove Rd., 459-5813 CATHOLIC **SACRED HEART CATHOLIC** 366-5150 **CHURCH OF CHRIST ABBEVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST** 504 Haigler St., 366-1119 HAIGLER STREET CHURCH

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God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth

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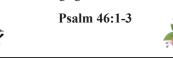
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give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.







Christianity will survive without America but America will not survive without Christianity.

(864) 366-5122



**Bob Whiteside** Adam Perdue

716 Hwy 28 ByPass, Abbeville, SC 29620 864-366-5954 864-366-4825 Fax





### Lander receives grant for Race and Identity Dialogue series

#### Submitted by **Graham Duncan**

Lander University will present a Race and Identity Dialogue series of virtual presentations and discussions beginning in January. The series is supported by funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities through a grant from South Carolina Humanities. It is offered by Lander's College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, and sponsored by the university's Diversity Advisory Council. The series joins other campus programming to address issues of justice, diversity, equity and inclusion.

Free and open to the public as well as members of the Lander community, the Race and Identity Dialogue series features virtual sessions that bring together scholars, civic and campus leaders, and students for the purpose of encouraging dialogue about race and identity. All participants will register for a session and be provided readings and other materials to review. Each session includes a presentation and opportunities for dialogue through question-and-answer sessions with speakers and discussion leaders.

Each session in the series will take place virtually on the platform Crowdcast, from 5:30-7 p.m. on the following dates:

·Jan. 21 – An Introduction to the Series: Prejudice, Privilege and Power

•Feb. 4 – The Story of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays

·Feb. 18 – Personal Writing as Personal Reckoning

·Mar. 9 – Letters on Blackness: Exploring African American Literature

Mar. 11 – African American Voices: A Poetry Workshop •Mar. 25 – Parenting and Telling Stories to Children Civic Action

•Apr. 22 – Civic Engagement and Your Own Story To register for a session, visit <u>www.lander.edu/ridia-</u> logue. Once registered, the Crowdcast platform allows participants to add events to their personal electronic calendars.

Series speakers include: ·Dr. Todd Shaw, distinguished associate professor of political science and African American Studies at the University of South Carolina; Ms. Mamie Nicholson,

president of the Self Family Foundation;

·Rev. Chris Thomas, director of the GLEAMNS Dr. Benjamin E. Mays Historical Preservation Site;

·Dr. Demario Watts, diat Lander; and

·Lander faculty members in English, history, political science, psychology and sociology.

Lander students will have an opportunity to tell their own stories in submissions to one of Lander's student publications: The Forum campus newspaper; and *New Voices*, the campus literary magazine.

The series is directed by Rev. Alexis Carter Thomas, part-time faculty member of religion; and Dr. Shaunette Parker, visiting lecturer of psychology. Thomas said, "Too often we have failed to adequately educate and carve out space to discuss how race and identity has shaped the land and lives of this nation. This series is an attempt to do this necessary work."

Parker added, "This Dialogue is an opportunity for all people to grow together." The spring sessions build upon pilot programming that was offered in Fall 2020 for

Lander students, staff and • Apr. 8 – Race, Politics and faculty through a grant from the Self Family Foundation of Greenwood. "Our fall sessions showed that students were eager for these conversations and benefited from self-reflections. By learning about Dr. Mays-an educator and activist from Greenwood County - and through speakers' skills in creating conversations, I am confident that any participant will learn about themselves, others and our society," said Dr. Lucas McMillan, dean of Lander's College of Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Structured as a series of presentations and question-and-answer sessions, the Race and Identity Dialogue aims to model good dialogue in a contentious rector of Student Activities social environment, and provide knowledge, create awareness and demonstrate skills for successful community and civic engagement.

> Visitwww.lander.edu/ridialogue, or call 864-388-8176 for more information.

South Carolina Humanities

The mission of South Carolina Humanities is to enrich the cultural and intellectual lives of all South Carolinians. This not-for-profit organization presents and/or supports literary initiatives, lectures, exhibits, festivals, publications, oral history projects, videos and other humanities-based experiences that reach more than 250,000 citizens annually. South Carolina Humanities receives funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as corporate, foundation and individual donors. It is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of community leaders from throughout the state.

## City looks at impact of Hogs & Hens event

#### By Henry E. Green

Despite COVID-19, the City of Abbeville's 2020 Hogs & Hens Festival did better than the previous year's Hogs & Hens event, City Manager Blake Stone told City Council in a report slated for Tuesday night's meeting.

An estimated 2,500 people attended the 2020 festival, whose expenses came to \$18,671.67, and whose revenue came to \$13,949. Those in attendance

had a spending impact of \$115,000.

The festival generated \$8, 050 in sales tax, and had a total economic impact of \$155,670.67, Stone said.

The Hogs & Hens Festival

was held in October of 2020 in downtown Abbeville, and featured live music as well as barbecue.

In other matters, Stone told Council that the City is currently in the process of transferring information technology services from PMPA to WCTEL, as approved previously by City Council.

This will require WCTEL to establish new services for the City, such as transferring over to a new e-mail server, a new firewall service, and various other applications that are a part of IT services, Stone continued.

This will likely extend the transfer period three to four months.

In other matters, the City will be making the transition from taking payments through Sturgis to the Logics Merchant System for payments to the City's public utilities, Stone continued.

The Logics Merchant System offers the following benefits, including an "IVR" phone payment system to secure over the phone payments, a web payment portal, and a system to tie billing software to record credit card payments to the customer's account.

The transition will reduce the annual maintenance fee from \$5,500 to \$4,200 a year, and will require only a one time start up cost of \$6,500, Stone continued.

## Community Calendar

#### Library board to meet

The board of trustees of the Abbeville County Library System will hold their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 4 p.m. at the main branch of the Library at 1407 North Main Street, Abbeville.

#### UCMAC encouraging people to fill out survey

The United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County is welcoming county residents to fill out a survey on the need for public transportation in Abbeville County.

the survey is available and we need to get as many responses as possible," said UCMAC executive director Bill Boone.

Boone encouraged people wishing to complete the survey to reach out to the following link: https:// www.surveymonkey.com/

"An electronic version of r/6ZH9FSL



Legals

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE FAMILY COURT EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT **COUNTY OF ABBEV-**ILLE

DOCKET NO. 2020-DR-01-116

#### SUMMONS

Laphonia Mars Oglesby V. Jeffery Scott Oglesby

## Keeping students, staff healthy priority

Superintendent's hopes for 2021

#### By Henry E. Green

What is the biggest priority for the Abbeville County School District for 2021? According to Abbeville County School District Superintendent Dr. Mason Gary, that might be summed up in one word-- "health."

That means keeping students and educators healthy in terms of keeping clear of COVID-19.

"My goal is to keep school open," he said.

That means keeping a particularly watchful eye on the coronavirus variant, which is more contagious than the strain to which we have all been accustomed.

"That's always on my mind," he said. "We just

daily."

The virus, of course, has affected options for instruction in the Abbeville County School District.

Currently, 75 percent of the students in the School District are engaged in face-toface instruction, and 25 percent in the iTech Academy. Students returned to class this past Wednesday--January 6--after winter break. In addition to keeping students and staff healthy, Gary wants to improve the District's physical facilities. "I want to see the capital improvement plan continue to work," he said.

Part of that plan involves the demolition of the press boxes at the stadiums at have to pay attention to it Abbeville and Dixie high

schools, and construction of new ones.

The School District is currently in the process of demolishing the press boxes, and will soon be engaged in the process of constructing new ones.

The Superintendent broached in a presentation before the Abbeville Rotary Club last year that he would like to see a one cent sales tax established to help finance capital improvements at District facilities, including Dixie and Abbeville high schools.

Gary has been conferring with members of the Abbeville County Legislative Delegation to discuss the viability of this option.

### Belmont Inn

of Historic Abbeville

**Because of the increase in COVID-19** cases, we have decided to cancel Sunday Lunch until further notice.

We want to protect our loyal guests.

We appreciate all of our guests and are sorry for the inconvenience.

We will be back soon!

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 $\stackrel{\circ}{\simeq}_{\mathfrak{S}}$  Pet of the Month Winnie is the cutest 3 mo. old kitten She is domestic shorthair with a beautiful tricolor. She is litter trained and it would be a shame for her to grow up in the

shelter. She has big beautiful eyes and the playfulness of a kitten. You will love her as soon as you meet her. Make Winnie a part of your family for the new year. Come take her home today.

The Belmont Inn

1/13;eow

Adoption Fees are only \$15 thru Nov. with support of Greater Abbeville Humane Society. Visit Abbeville County Animal Shelter M/W/F 10-5, Sat. 10-3. Call 366-6639.

#### YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified that an action has been filed against you in this court. Within thirty (30) days of the day you receive this Summons, you must respond in writing to the Complaint (a copy may be obtained by contacting the attorney below) by filing an Answer with this court. You must also serve a copy of your Answer to the Complaint upon Plaintiff's attorney at the address show below. If you fail to answer the Complaint, judgment by default could be rendered against you for the relief requested in the Complaint.

AARON V. TAYLOR Attorney for the Plaintiff 109 W. Court Avenue P.O. Box 1705 Greenwood, SC 29648

1/13, 1/20, 1/27;3tp

## **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: David Eugene Johnso Date of Death: 3/27/2020 Case Number: 2020ES0100310 Personal Representative: Brenda Bell-Johnsor Address: 1814 Old Hodges Rd. Abbeville, SC 12/30:3tc 29620

Estate: Melvin Davis, Jr. Date of Death: 7/25/2020 Case Number: 2020ES0100311 Personal Representative: Randy Davis Address: 412 Brookside Dr. Abbeville, SC 29620 12/30;3to

Estate: Melvin W. Davis, Sr. Date of Death: 8/16/2020 Case Number: 2020ES0100312 Personal Representative: Randy Davis Address: 412 Brookside Dr. Abbeville, SC 29620 12/30:3tc

Estate: Jerry Thomas Alewine Date of Death: 12/24/2020 Case Number: 2020ES0100315 Personal Representative: Roger Dale Alewine Address: 119 Cantrell Rd. Williamston, SC 29697 1/6;3tc

Estate: Jeffrey Ralph Smith Date of Death: 12/01/2020 Case Number: 2021ES0100001 Personal Representative: Jimmy E. Woods Address: 43 Fletcher Drive, Donalds, SC 29638 1/13;3tc

Estate: Robert Junior McGill Date of Death: 12/28/2020 Case Number: 2021ES0100003 Personal Representative: Kobert Couy Incom Address: 312 Tribble St. Honea Path, SC 29654 1/13;3tc Personal Representative: Robert Cody McGill

Estate: Ronald Cozart Mitchell, Jr. Date of Death: 12/12/2020 Case Number: 2021ES0100005 Personal Representative: Amanda E. Mitchell Address: 6432 60th St. N, Pinellas Park, FL 33781 Attorney, if applicable: Hannah Metts, ESQ Address: P.O. Box 1547 Greenwood, SC 29648 1/13;3tc



#### AUCTIONS

HUGE FARM MACHINERY AUCTION. Saturday Jan. 30. 10882 N. Brewington Road, Gable, SC. Call 843-426-4255. worldnetauctionslive.com SCAL 3965F 1/13;sw

ADVERTISE YOUR AUCTION in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 2.1 million readers. Call Randall Savely at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377. 1/13;sw

## Classifieds

#### **HELP WANTED**



#### DRIVERS

ADVERTISE YOUR DRIVER JOBS in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 2.1 million readers. Call Randall Savely at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

1/13:sw

### JOB VACANCY

Clerk of Court Abbeville County, South Carolina

Part time clerical position available in Clerk of Court's Office; 4 to 5 hours daily assisting staff as needed.

Resume, and application Shandal Boggs, to Abbeville County, PO Box 99, Abbeville, S.C. 29620. A full job description application and is available online at www. abbevillecountysc.com. **Resumes**/applications will be accepted until filled. Equal Opportunity Employer. 1/13:1tc

READ

the

LASSIFIEDS

### **JOB OPPORTUNITY**

Abbeville County Public Works Department is seeking qualified individuals to fill a part-time position of Recycling & Household Waste Collection site attendant. Attendants are required to promote recycling and to direct Abbeville County residents as to the placement of their recyclables and household waste. Must have own transportation and be available to work at any of our sites when needed. Job requires being in the elements of weather, standing on your feet for periods of time, and being able to lift up to 50 pounds. Recycling & Household Waste Collection sites are open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Applications are available at Abbeville County Public Works Department, 1094 Gassoway Farm Rd or Abbeville County Administrative Complex, 903 West Greenwood Street. Applications can also be found at abbevillecountysc.com. Submit completed employment application by Friday

January 29, 2021 to: **Recycling Coordinator** Robbie Hanna 1094 Gassoway Farm Road Abbeville, SC 29620

> Equal Opportunity Employer Phone (864) 446-8473

1/13;2tc

## **JOB VACANCY**

#### **Rural Fire Admin. Asst.** Abbeville County, South Carolina

Administrative Assistant for County Fire Marshal

Please submit resume and/or application to Tim Williams, Abbeville County Rural Fire, 903 W. Greenwood St., Abbeville, S.C. 29620.

A full job description and application is available online at www.abbevillecountysc.com.

Resumes/applications will be accepted until filled. Equal Opportunity Employer.

1/13;1tc



#### **Career Opportunities at** Savannah Lakes Village

Hiring Full-Time/Part-Time Golf **Course Equipment Operators** 

We are continuing to build a team that is focused on enhancing the experience of our members and guests at Savannah Lakes Village.

#### Here's what we are looking for:

- A great attitude and a drive for continuously improving
- A team member who lives what we believe (see below)

#### For our Equipment Operators

- One year golf course experience preferred
- High school diploma or GED preferred

#### We offer:

1. The ability to work in a strong, positive culture firmly grounded in a meaningful purpose.

2. Chances to learn and grow professionally.

3. The opportunity to work with like-minded team members you like and respect.

4. A place you can do great things that can immediately impact thousands of stakeholders, while having a great time with others who want the same.

5. A company that values its team members with competitive wages and benefits.

#### We believe:

1. All growth and improvements to community begin with attracting awesome people with unique talents to our organization who care for and love people as much as we do.

2. With the collective talents of our team, we can make Savannah Lakes Village the best community in the Southeast. 3. There is power and purpose when everyone works together in the support of common direction and goals.

If you share our beliefs, excitement and enthusiasm for growing our destination-we want YOU to join our Savannah Lakes Village family. Please pick up an application at 5812 US Hwy 378 West, McCormick, SC 29835 or request an application by sending an email to: <u>bcjones@slv-sc.com</u> or call 864-391-4116. Deadline to apply is January 25, 2021. EOE and Drug Free Employer.



#### VIASAT INTERNET

1/13;1tc

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Job Opportunity



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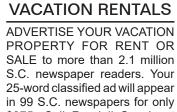


#### FOR SALE

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#### FOR LEASE

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6/6;tfp

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HAVE YOU OR A LOVED ONE been diagnosed with NON-HODGKINS LYMPHOMA after regular exposure to ROUNDUP HERBICIDE? If so, and you do not have legal representation, please call. Our legal team will help you get the compensation you deserve! Call: 877-319-0468 1/13;sw

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