



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



American Legion Post 72 in Calhoun Falls celebrated Flag Day on Monday, June 14, with the ceremonial disposal of about 100 American flags that had become tattered and worn. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

'Juneteenth' festival coming to Abbeville

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville's Juneteenth celebration will be coming up this weekend--June 18-20--and this festival with roots in American history promises to provide, through a celebration of African American culture, a blend of entertainment, food, art and crafts, for adults and children alike. Juneteenth is a celebration of the end of slavery in the United States back in the mid-19th century.

The name comes from June 19, the date in 1865, when a Union general in Texas proclaimed to the enslaved people there that they were indeed free, in the aftermath of the Emancipation Proclamation issued by President Abraham Lincoln several years earlier.

Abbeville's celebration is being planned by the Friends of Freedom, and will open with a concert at 8 p.m. at the Opera House by Amythyst Kiah, a Grammy-nominated recording artist, on the evening of June 18.

The following day--June 19--will feature a wealth of activities, including a welcome by former State Senator Floyd Nicholson in front of the Abbeville Opera House at 10 a.m.

An art exhibit will be presented by the Abbeville Artist Guild at the Greater

Abbeville Chamber of Commerce from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A number of community service organizations will be represented on Abbeville's Court Square, and there will be a craft show in the Livery Stable.

There will be a food truck alley at the old Harry's Plaza, and a bloodmobile will be on hand as well.

There will be activities for youngsters as well. There will be a Kid's Fun Zone on Saturday, June 19, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Crate and Quill.

There will be "freedom flag painting," as presented by the Abbeville Artist Guild from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be Freedom Day activities from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and Fun with the Firemen at the Abbeville Fire Department from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Juneteenth story time will be presented by the Abbeville County Library from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. and live performances from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Belmont Inn will also host a number of activities on June 19.

--10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Music by Mixmaster DJ Tim E.

--10:30 a.m. Vocalists Dwight Bozeman and Nick Murphy
--11:30 a.m. Attorney Montrio Belton

--12:30 p.m. Vocalists Dwight Bozeman and Nick Murphy

--1:30 p.m. Motivational speaker Kelvin Devaux, on the topic "Unity in Diversity."

--2:30 p.m. Hank Bilal

--3:30 p.m. Poet and storyteller Moody Black

--4:30 p.m. Community activist Nafi Griffin

In the Food Truck Alley in the old Harry's Ice Cream plaza, there will be music:

--11 a.m. to noon--Dance performance by the Phoenix Dance Academy

--Noon to 4 p.m. Teenage DJ Mixmaster DJ Mac

--4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Dance performance by the Dance Academy

At Divine Your Space, there will be a blend of music and public speaking:

--10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Music by Mixmaster D. J. Diddy

--10:30 a.m. Donald Burton (Dream Builders), on the topic "Juneteenth: A History"

--1:30 p.m. Former Abbeville Mayor Delano Freeman, speaking on the topic "Inspiring Our Youth"

--2:30 p.m. Nurse Angela Lee on health care and African Americans

Abbeville's Juneteenth celebration will end with a Soul Food Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., an event featuring local food vendors, with live music by trombonist Hal Bilal and the group Purpose.

Council probes grants, vending machines

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville City Council met Wednesday night, recognizing retirees from City service and tackling topics ranging from grants the City has recently received, to vending machines.

Also approved was a vending machine agreement. City Manager Blake Stone told Council in a memo that the City has finished negotiations with a "potential contractor" who would provide a vending machine. at either the City's public works department or public utilities department.

The City would retain 15 percent of the gross revenue from the machine, which would provide beverages and food.

Reports showing the stock and sales at the site will be provided to the City for record keeping purposes.

The term limit for the agreement will be one year and the equipment can be removed by the City with a 30-day written notice.

In other matters, Stone told Council that the City has completed the RFQ process for engineering for the proposed Highway 72 water line project.

The City ranked four firms on criteria such as firm experience and qualifications, and the firm of Alliance was ranked at the top.

"Upon approval of City Council, the City will begin contract fee negotiations with the top-ranking firm," Stone said.

"If the City and top-seeded firm cannot reach a fee agreement, the City will then begin negotiations with the second rated firm," he said. "If no fee can be agreed upon, the City reserves the right to reject any or all Statements of Qualifications. This is a necessary part of the funding application project."

Alliance is based in Columbia, said Stone on Thursday. "We're applying for funding" for the Highway 72 project, which would connect

the City utility system to the Greenwood water system, said the City Manager.

In other matters, Stone told Council that the City has received a VSAFE grant for \$29,943.66, and an SCPRT advertising grant for \$6,860.

The VSAFE grant is for the City fire department, for extrication equipment, and the SCPRT grant is for tourism-based advertising that the City uses on a day-to-day basis.

Council recognized City retiree Wayman Smith for 32 years of service to the City--1989-2021. Mayor Trey Edwards presented him with a plaque.

Also recognized was City retiree Eric Moats, in recognition of 33 years of service to the City--1988-2021. Moats was not present at the meeting.

In the public comment section of the meeting, Jim Grant and Asia Tate spoke about upcoming events in the City. (See related story.)



Lebanon Presbyterian Church, on the Mt. Carmel Road on the outskirts of Abbeville, celebrated its 200th birthday Saturday, with Pastor John Butler dedicating a slave burial site located nearby. Here Butler (far left) answers questions following the dedication. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Proposed City ordinance put on hold

By Henry E. Green

A proposed loitering and failure to stop ordinance originally brought before Abbeville City Council in May has been put on hold, said Mike Clary, Deputy Administrative Officer for the City of Abbeville, Friday.

The ordinance, designed to provide another tool in the war on crime in the city of Abbeville, passed first reading by City Council back in May, but did so only by a narrow 5-4 margin. A number of City Council members expressed reservations over whether such an ordinance was needed.

A City Council ordinance typically must pass through two readings before it can take effect. The ordinance

was not on the agenda for City Council's regular monthly meeting, held Wednesday night.

It is described by the City as an ordinance "establishing loitering and failure to stop regulation to encourage effective policing within the city limits."

The proposed ordinance states "It shall be unlawful for any person in the city to willfully and knowingly fail or refuse to stop when signaled, hailed, or commanded to stop by a police officer or other city officer, provided that the officer has reasonable suspicion that the person is involved in criminal activity."

It also states, "No person shall loiter or prowl in a

place, at a time or in a manner not usual for law abiding individuals under circumstances that warrant alarm for the safety of persons or property in the vicinity.

"Among the circumstances which may be considered in determining whether such alarm is warranted is the fact that the actor takes flight upon appearance of a police officer, refuses to identify himself or manifestly endeavors to conceal himself or any object."

Clary said Friday, "I am unsure as to when the ordinance will be on the agenda again. At this time Council is continuing to weigh the pros and cons of the proposed legislation."

Law enforcement encounter turns fatal

An Abbeville County man is deceased after a confrontation with Abbeville County Sheriff's Office Monday night.

Abbeville County Sheriff Ray Watson released the following statement about the incident:

"On 6/14/2021, at approximately 11:00 pm, deputies responded to an address on River Oaks Drive Iva, SC in regards to a suicidal sub-

ject and possible domestic situation," according to a news release from Abbeville County Sheriff Ray Watson.

"Once on scene, Deputies made contact with a male subject and the subject presented and pointed a firearm and failed to comply after repeated attempts to deescalate the situation to no avail. Subject was subdued by use of departmental firearm subsequently

succumbing to his injuries. SLED was contacted via state procedure for all officer involved shootings and now has the investigation. Any information request should be forwarded or requested through SLED."

According to WYFF-TV, no other injuries were reported from the incident.

The name of the deceased had not been released at press time.



Susan Botts is holding the original deed for the Belmont Inn. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Pictured from left to right: Ned McGill, WCTEL Board Member; Jake Simpson, John de la Howe student; Tim Keown, John de la Howe President; Kyle Gilreath, John de la Howe student; Jaquez Perry, John de la Howe student; Mike Thomas, WCTEL Board Member. (Photo contributed).

Belmont Inn deed dates back to 1903

By Henry E. Green
Susan Botts recently came into possession of the original deed for the Belmont Inn. The historic hotel opened in 1903, and has been an integral part of the Abbeville scene ever since. Susan and her husband Jim Petty, meanwhile, have been in possession of the hotel for slightly more than a year. This has been a busy time for them. Members of a Miata Club from North Carolina paid the Belmont Inn a visit recently, a club built around a love for the very popular Mazda Miata. The old hotel even had a turn at dinner theater. “From Broadway with Love” was staged on May 14. “The deed was filed in February of 1903 at the Abbeville County Courthouse,

she said. “It’s a very prized possession,” and Susan plans to frame a copy of it in the holed hotel to share it with the public. The 25 room hotel has been booked from 80 to 100 percent every weekend for the past four months,” she continued. “We appreciate the City bringing in out-of-town entertainment to the Opera House. People have been visiting to shop around town, and many people coming from all over the United States to visit Diamond Hill mine.” “We have been happily booking weddings, wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, baby showers, business events in recent months, which shows that people are now getting back to celebrating special

occasions. “We had a visitor from a couple of weeks ago. He was from Raleigh, North Carolina, and he had written a play about the Belmont Inn. He’s going to send us a copy and hopefully we can have that performed at the inn. “He researched and wrote the play this year. “We try to have entertainment in the inn, and have some that have become local favorites. “We appreciate the Abbeville Rotary Club continuing to meet and have lunch with us every week. We have ladies who enjoy bridge night and bunko. “If you have interest in having an event at the Inn, contact Susan at 459-9625,” she said.

WCTEL contributes to the SC Governor’s School for Agriculture John de la Howe

Submitted by Jess Tollison, Marketing Assistant
McCormick, South Carolina (April 26, 2021) – Mike Thomas and Ned McGill, board members of WCTEL, present a check for \$500.00 to John de la Howe President, Tim Keown and students. The check will help fund this year’s trip to the National FFA Convention. “On behalf of the SC Governor’s School for Agriculture, we are excited for our growing partnership with our WCTEL Starr/Iva Directors

and thankful for these funds! They will greatly help to offset these student’s travel expenses for the National FFA Convention in October. Thank you to Mike Thomas, Ned McGill, and Jeff Wilson for making this happen!” said Keown. The WCTEL Starr/Iva Donor Advised Fund was established at the Freshwater Coast Community Foundation from non-WCTEL company funds to provide charitable gifts in the benefit of the companies several geographical areas. West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.,

a member owned cooperative, was formed in 1952 to provide basic telephone services to the unserved areas of Abbeville and McCormick counties, and the Starr and Iva areas of Anderson County, in South Carolina. Today the WCTEL family of companies provides wireline and wireless voice, data, video, security, and hosted business services over a fiber optic network in a four county area in South Carolina. To find out more about West Carolina Tel, visit www.wctel.com.

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County Council talks trash Monday night

By Henry E. Green
Trash talk.

There was plenty of that Monday night at the County Council, with a presentation on the landfill, and passage of second reading of a “waste hauling” ordinance which an Abbevilian indicated was not fair to City residents.

Council had a public hearing and passed second reading on Ordinance 2021-07 to amend Ordinance 91-6 with respect to industrial, commercial, and municipal haulers of waste brought to the Abbeville County Landfill.

During the public hearing, Jim Grant of Abbeville spoke out against the measure, arguing that it would subject the citizens of the city of Abbeville to double taxation.

Conjuring up the specter of the Boston Tea Party, he asked Council to table the measure until they could talk with City officials about it. Grant noted that some City officials had expressed reservations about it (It actually was mentioned at a City Council meeting this past Wednesday night).

County Council did in fact table it later in the evening Monday night, taking action following executive session.

The executive session lasted at least an hour, to discuss a personnel issue on all departments, a contractual issue on County phones, and an economic development issue with regard to Project Ace and Project X, according to Clerk to Council Lynn Sopolosky. Following executive session, Council member Drew Simpson made a motion to approve second reading of Ordinance 2021-07, and vice chairman Goodwin seconded it, and the motion passed 6-0.

Council member Jason Bonds was absent from the meeting.

Also after executive session, Goodwin made a motion to increase the salary of the County Director by the amount discussed in executive session, and Council member McCord seconded the motion, which passed 5-1-0, with Council member Simpson opposed, Sopolosky continued.

Also Monday night, Greg-

ory Farrell with Smith Gardner presented an evaluation of the Class 3 landfill evaluation, an evaluation based on a study which the County paid the firm to conduct.

With a declining population, the County is not generating as much waste as had been anticipated.

The good news is that the County has at its landfill plenty of available space for many, many years, said Council member Rick Campbell Tuesday.

Council also passed Monday night third reading on Ordinance 2021-03, providing for a budget for Abbeville County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021.

Council passed third reading of Ordinance 2021-05 to authorize the County to charge and collect a uniform service charge for the improvement of fire protection services provided in Abbeville County.

Council also approved Resolution 2021-05 authorizing the County Director to enter into a contract with Dunn and Shirley of Anderson, South Carolina; Heaner Group of Greenwood; Thomas and Hutton of Greenville, and Consor of Greenville for engineering services for various roadway projects in Abbeville County.

Council passed Resolution 2021-16 authorizing the

County Director to enter into a contractual relationship with 72 Marine Sales, Inc. for the purchase of a 150 HP Mercury Motor including all labor, parts and warranty, to be installed in the Emergency Services Dive Boat in the amount not to exceed \$15,000.

Campbell voted in opposition, and said Tuesday that he does not believe that the County needs a dive boat.

The City is paying for half of the purchase price, since the boat is used sometimes at Lake Secession, he said.

Also Monday night, Council passed Resolution 2021-17, authorizing the County Director to enter into a contractual agreement with the

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for professional services related to toxicology reports associated with suspicious deaths.

Council also voted to approve the acquisition of a grant to the Abbeville County Library System--a grant allowing the Library System to purchase an SUV--a 2020 Chevrolet Equinox.

Library System Director Mary Elizabeth Land was on hand to answer questions.

Monday night's meeting was the last County Council meeting for economic development director Stephen Taylor, who is leaving the County ranks to join WCTEL.



Keith and Karen Ashley were recognized as Volunteers of the Decade during the Calhoun Falls Charter athletic banquet. Also recognized as Volunteers of the Decade were Fernando Sanders and Earl Wright. (Contributed photo)

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Caroline Scott, who graduated from Abbeville High School last month, is this year's recipient of the \$3,000 Joe Phillips/Frederic Thomas Memorial Scholarship, established by Frank and Wilma Phillips of Abbeville in memory of Frank's younger brother Joe and family friend Frederic Thomas. Caroline, the daughter of Stephen and Sandy Scott of Abbeville, is planning to major in electrical engineering at Clemson. Presenting the scholarship to Carolina (far left) were Frank Phillips and his wife Wilma, and Frederic's brother Wonzon Woods (far right). (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

AHS graduate wins Phillips scholarship

By Henry E. Green
Call it a tribute to the power of love and the bonds of friendship.
Caroline Scott, who graduated from Abbeville High School last month, is this year's recipient of the \$3,000 Joe Phillips/Frederic Thomas Memorial Scholarship, established by Frank and Wilma Phillips of Abbeville in memory of Frank's younger brother Joe and family friend Frederic Thomas.
Caroline is planning to major in electrical engineering at Clemson. An honor speaker at AHS graduation, she was a member of the Beta Club in high school, as well as the

National Technical Honor Society, Latin Honor Society, the AHS Academic Team, the Rho Kappa Honor Society, and the Interact Club.
Before his death in 2018, Thomas was well known to Abbevillians as a man who enjoyed singing gospel music, and he did so on a number of occasions, performing at the Abbeville Spring Festival, for example.
"Freddie will always be remembered as an Abbeville icon," according to the scholarship information.
A water fountain on the Square, meanwhile, tells the story of Joe Phillips. A plaque attached to the fountain de-

scribes how the fountain was placed there in Joe's memory.
Joe passed away in the summer of 1956 at the age of nine, and the water fountain was placed on the Square in 1983.
Frank, Freddie and Joe were all close friends, and Frank and Freddie continued their friendship after Joe's death.
The scholarship is open to any graduating Abbeville High School senior who intends to continue his or her education at a four year college or university or a two year college or technical college.
The scholarship applications are judged by a committee.

Local man wants to see cemetery kept up

By Henry E. Green
(The following article is the first in a series.)
An Abbeville man is working to get a local cemetery recognized as a historic site.
Richard London lives in Abbeville, and he is trying to get the Samuel Pollock Harbison College Cemetery placed on a national register of historic places.
To this end, he has been submitting information about the cemetery to the State Historic Preservation Office of the S.C. Department of Archives and History.
"I have been for awhile now," he said. He noted that anyone who travels through Abbeville County will sel-

dom find markers that testify to African-American history.
Yes, there is a plaque on Court Square to mark the lynching of Anthony Crawford in 1916.
There is also a marker for an AME church in rural Abbeville County.
"But there are other sites that have been overlooked," he said.
One of them, he believes, is Harbison cemetery, a resting place, located on Greenville Street Extension, that London said was connected to what was then Harbison College.
Harbison was an African-American college in Abbeville which burned

twice--once in 1907, and then again in 1910, according to the book *Old Abbeville: Scenes of the Past of a Town Where Old Time Things Are Not Forgotten*, by the late Dr. Lowry Ware.
In the second fire, three young men, all students, perished, according to Dr. Ware, who quoted newspaper sources.
The school, according to Old Abbeville, was moved to Irmo in the fall of 1910.
London said that the cemetery has been overgrown with vegetation in recent years, and he would like to see a concerted effort to keep it maintained.



Richard London of Abbeville is working to get Harbison cemetery in Abbeville nationally recognized. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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Members of the Calhoun Falls FFA Parliamentary Procedure team, which won the state FFA championship, include (front row) Laken Johnson, Laura Pickens, Cameron Williams (back row) Gracee Dixon, Ethan Alewine, and Bailey Pickens. (Photo courtesy of Nancy McCannon)

CF FFA chapter gets ‘Gold Emblem’

By Henry E. Green
Calhoun Falls FFA, a chapter based at Calhoun Falls Charter School, was recently awarded FFA Gold Emblem status, a prestigious honor given to top FFA chapters, according to Calhoun Falls FFA advisor Nancy McCannon. “Gold Emblem is awarded based on an eighteen page National Chapter Award application that looks at all of the activities that the chapter had during the year,” said McCannon. “The application is completed by my officer team each spring, looking back over the past 12 months.

A group of judges score the applications at state level. Then the top 10 are recognized as being Gold Emblem chapters. This makes six years in a row that Calhoun Falls has been part of this elite group. Our application is being forwarded to national judging which will take place this summer.” There were other good things to report as well. Two Calhoun Falls FFA members-- Gracee Dixon and Maddison Smith-- received their state FFA degree, McCannon went on to say. “FFA members earn degrees based on their participation in FFA events and community service,” she said. “Members must also have a Supervised Agriculture Experience Program (SAE) and have been members for 3 years. Members must have earned at least \$1000 from their SAE to earn the State Degree. I tell folks it is sorta like in Scouts where they are working toward getting Eagle Scout. With FFA they are working toward their American Degree.” In addition, the Calhoun Falls FFA parliamentary procedure team won the state FFA championship. (See related story.)

Participation in FFA events and community service,” she said. “Members must also have a Supervised Agriculture Experience Program (SAE) and have been members for 3 years. Members must have earned at least \$1000 from their SAE to earn the State Degree. I tell folks it is sorta like in Scouts where they are working toward getting Eagle Scout. With FFA they are working toward their American Degree.” In addition, the Calhoun Falls FFA parliamentary procedure team won the state FFA championship. (See related story.)

City of Abbeville ponders water line

By Henry E. Green
The City of Abbeville is considering establishing a waterline along Highway 72, extending its service eastward toward Greenwood, said City spokesperson Mike Clary this week. The Highway 72 Waterline Project is a proposed water line along Highway 72 that would extend the City’s water service from its current location just outside the City limits to the end of Greenwood CPW’s line just inside Abbeville County, he said. The purpose would be to encourage both residential and commercial development along Highway 72, according to Clary. “At this point we are entering negotiations with the

selected engineering firm and waiting to hear back on funding,” he said. Should the project move forward it would likely get started in 2022, said Clary. City Council took action Wednesday night to pursue engineering services on the project. (See related story.)

The ringing of the bell, which Grant said will come from the Abbeville fire department, will be appropriate since often when someone finishes a cancer treatment at a medical facility a bell is rung. Grant, who personally knows a number of people whose lives have been touched by cancer, said that he and a group of friends organized the event.

Bell ringing event to mark war on cancer

By Henry E. Green
An upcoming special program at First Baptist Church in Abbeville will highlight the war against cancer. Abbeville Jim Grant told City Council that there will be a special program at the Christian Life Center of First Baptist Church in Abbeville on Saturday, June 19 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., a program which will feature the opportunity to ring a bell either in memory of someone who

has lost his life to cancer or who is still fighting it. “There’s not a person in this room who hasn’t been touched by cancer,” he told Council. The program is open to the public, and someone who wishes to ring the bell either in memory or in honor of a loved one is welcome to call Grant at 992-9610, or simply show up at the Christian Life Center.

The ringing of the bell, which Grant said will come from the Abbeville fire department, will be appropriate since often when someone finishes a cancer treatment at a medical facility a bell is rung. Grant, who personally knows a number of people whose lives have been touched by cancer, said that he and a group of friends organized the event.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Donalds Town Council
Town of Donalds, SC
Notice of Public Hearing**

Where: Donalds Town Hall

When: Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm EST

Agenda:

- Town adoption of Abbeville County Ordinance on 2018 International Property Code
- Final reading Donalds Town Ordinance on Property Maintenance
- Final reading Donalds Town Ordinance on Recreational Vehicles (RV)

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Parliamentary procedure

CF FFA team wins state FFA championship

By Henry E. Green
Calhoun Falls FFA has won an FFA state championship in parliamentary procedure, according to CF FFA advisor Nancy McCannon. “The State FFA Convention (which was virtual) just wrapped up for this year,” she said recently. “CF FFA had a banner year. The biggest win was our Parliamentary Procedure team winning a state championship.” Members of the parliamentary procedure team included Laken Johnson, Laura Pickens, Cameron William, Gracee Dixon, Ethan Alewine and Bailey Pickens. “The Charter School FFA

won this same thing five years ago,” McCannon said. “We also won three other state championships in Greenhand Knowledge in 2016, 2017 and 2018.” The purpose of the FFA parliamentary procedure event is to “encourage students to learn to effectively participate in a business meeting and to assist in the development of their leadership, research, problem solving skills and critical thinking skills,” according to a Montana FFA Website. The chapter was also named a Gold Emblem Chapter, and two members received their state FFA degree--Gracee Dixon and Maddison Smith.

The chapter, based at Calhoun Falls Charter School, is part of the national FFA organization, which according to an FFA website is the “premier youth organization preparing members for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture.” The Calhoun Falls FFA staged a banquet at the Northside Baptist Church in Calhoun Falls in May, with more than 100 people in attendance. FFA teams compete with each other in leadership development events, such as soil judging or parliamentary procedure.

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Lebanon Presybterian Church, in rural Abbeville County, recently celebrated the 200th anniversary of its founding. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Abbeville County School District August 17 will be students’ first day

By Henry E. Green
August 17 will be the first day of school for students in the 2021-2022 school year for the Abbeville County School District, Abbeville County School District Superintendent Dr. Mason Gary confirmed Wednesday.
The 2020-2021 school year just concluded, with June 3 being the last day for students.
What can we expect in the 21-22 school year?
One thing we can expect is a return to face-to-face instruction.
“ACSD is looking forward to a face-to-face traditional schedule for the 2021-2022 school year,” according to the District website.
Meanwhile, the District is

having this summer to give those students who need it a helping instructional hand.
“ACSD is offering two summer camps this year. They are being held at Long Cane Primary from June 7th to July 1st,” said Brandi Sears, the Director of Instruction and Accountability with the Abbeville County School District.
“One camp is the Summer Reading Camp for third grade students. This program is offered in conjunction with the Read to Succeed mandate. It has been offered annually for several years, and we have approximately 36 students participating in the camp this year. The SCDE provides some

funding to assist with staff and bus transportation for the program.
During Summer Reading Camp, students will engage in various literacy activities including Reader’s Workshops, Writer’s Workshops, Interactive Read-Alouds, and Research and Collaboration.
“The second camp is for 4K preschool students and is serving approximately 20 pupils. This opportunity is provided using funds allocated by the SCDE for an expanded CERDEP program. During the summer camp, teachers will reinforce and enhance readiness skills that students will need for kindergarten.”

Talent on the rise Abbeville Artist Guild presents summer art camp for young people

By Henry E. Green
Paging Picasso.
Abbeville Artist Guild held a summer art camp last week for budding young artists.
Held at the Abbeville Youth Center on South Main in Abbeville, the camp was taught by Cecily Ferguson, an Abbeville County School District art teacher, and was designed for young people who “have a keen interest in art.”
The 14 students who participated in the camp are all

rising fourth through eighth graders.
Under Ferguson’s direction, their slate of activities included painting, producing handmade paper, and making a “dirty cup pour.”
On the morning of Monday, June 7, we caught up with Ferguson and her students taking a tour of downtown Abbeville.
Later, at the Youth Center, the youngsters drew pictures of what they had seen in downtown Abbeville, like

the clock on Court Square.
The summer camp is just one of a number of activities planned by the Artist Guild this year.
The Guild, a nonprofit organization which promotes the arts in Abbeville County, is also having a photo contest, and there is a new exhibit at the Welcome Center featuring Coca Cola memorabilia as presented by Josh Baughman, according to information from the organization.

In the shade of a tree Lebanon Presbyterian marks 200th anniversary

By Henry E. Green
Lebanon Presbyterian Church, on the Mt. Carmel Road toward the outskirts of Abbeville, celebrated its 200th birthday Saturday, with Pastor John Butler dedicating a slave burial site located nearby.
The church was organized on June 30, 1821, and the slave burials, beginning in the 1820s, took place over the next half-century, roughly.
There is a good chance that many of the enslaved individuals were members of the church.
Butler noted that we usually think of graves as being “six feet under,” but this was not always the case with slave burials, where graves were usually about four feet deep.
About one quarter of the graves have markers, and the burial site is the resting place of an estimated 150 to 200 people.
In the 1870s, following the Civil War, African Americans began forming their own churches.
Butler noted that the site is now registered with the state of South Carolina, and as such may not be lawfully disturbed.
The dedication program closed with those present

singing “Amazing Grace.”
Butler was present for questions following the dedication, noting that we do not know whether the slaves were buried in coffins or simply wrapped in sheets.
The discovery of the burial site came about when people noticed in the woods behind the church depressions in the ground.
The South Carolina Search and Rescue Dog Association sent a team to the site on a cold day in January to help search for possible grave sites.
The project was the subject of a story in The Press and Banner earlier this year.
What came to be known as the burial site is located behind a fenced cemetery which is, in turn, located behind the church, whose present building was constructed in 1962.
There is a fellowship hall next to the sanctuary, and in that hall there were set up a number of exhibits depicting the history of Lebanon Presbyterian.
One of the exhibits highlights a kerosene chandelier that was used in an earlier church building, one that was built in 1876—a wooden structure built before the current building, said congregation member Susie New on Monday.
In 1938, the church received electricity from Duke Power, said New.
According to a press release from the church, the congregation’s roots are in the old Hopewell Presbyterian Church, which was founded in 1760 on the Old Charleston Road in McCormick County. “By 1820, the Hopewell Church had relocated, and travel was difficult for Patrick Mullin and his wife, who were aged members of the congregation. At Mullin’s invitation, the Rev. Richard Cater, Hopewell’s pastor, began services in the area. Cater used the rock doorstep of the Mullin home and stood in the shade of a peach tree to deliver the first sermon of the soon to be Lebanon Presbyterian Church in 1820.”
The rock doorstep is now embedded in the western corner of the church’s front porch with the names of its former pastors.
During the dedication of the slave burial site, Butler quoted 1 Corinthians 12: 13, which reads in part:
“But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.”



Benefit Bash success for hospital foundation

By Henry E. Green
The Abbeville Area Medical Center Foundation’s Benefit Bash raised more than \$26,000.00 for the Foundation earlier this year—money that will be used to support the AAMC through the purchase of much-needed equipment, said Meg Davis, Marketing/Foundation/Volunteer Services Director for the hospital.
“Exactly what equipment will be purchased to benefit the hospital will be determined soon, but all funds received will most definitely allow AAMC to provide even better care to our patients.”
The Benefit Bash was held virtually. The silent auction went live on April 30 and closed May 8.
“We also hosted a virtual live auction on May 8th from 7-8 pm using a live feed,” Davis continued.
Foundation Board Chair Roddy Gray and Brad Evans, Foundation Board member, were emcees for the event, which had several major sponsors including HopeSouth, West Carolina Telephone, Abbeville First, Langley Automotive and Homecare Homebase.
During the live event, nine

live auction items were auctioned off that included a one-day fishing trip with Pro Angler Casey Ashley, a custom grill cart given by Stoll Industries, a recliner donated by Badcock Home Furniture in Abbeville, a three-night four-day stay at Fish Called Wanda Edisto Beach donated by Michael Sherard, a wine tasting for 10 at City Scape Winery, a recliner given by McAlister’s Home Furnishings, Cool Sculpting donated by Piedmont Plastic Surgery, a photography package given by Jon Holloway, and an Abbeville Show Package that included a gift certificate from the Belmont Inn, a dining certificate to the Village Grill and two tickets to every Opera House show this season, Davis continued.
The Silent Auction literally had something for everyone including dining certificates, lodging, home décor, jewelry, food, hand-crafted items and clothing, just to name a few.
The Jeweler’s Bench donated a citrine ring valued \$1,600 that was raffled off during the virtual event, and the lucky winner was Kathy Godby of McCormick, according to the Marketing Director.
“We weren’t sure how successful the auction would be this year since so many have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic,” Davis said. “The support was overwhelming — the 2021 Benefit Bash was the second most successful held. We send our heartfelt thanks to everyone who donated or purchased items.”
This was the second year the Benefit Bash has been a “virtual” event.
Is there as much participation in the auction when it is all virtual, Davis was asked.
“As far as participation, I think the positive of having a virtual auction is that anyone can join in and bid, not just those who would typically purchase a ticket and attend the in-person event,” she said.
“Probably the downfall would be that pictures of items don’t always do them “justice” and there’s something to be said about actually seeing the auction items and also the energy and fun that comes with participating in a live auction.”

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Janet Timms, a former nurse, was formally inducted into the School of Nursing Hall of Fame on May 7. Pictured is Timms' family (left to right) Isaiah Timms, Horace Timms, Cynthia Timms, Greg Timms, and Noah Timms. (Photo contributed)



Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Abbeville recently held a fish fry fundraiser, and among those helping out were (from left) Arthur Descoteaux, Chris Ceraldi and Pat Karls. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Janet Timms inducted to Clemson University School of Nursing Hall of Fame

Submitted by
France Parrish,
Clemson University

The Clemson University School of Nursing names new honorees into the school's Hall of Fame.

The number of Clemson University School of Nursing Hall of Fame plaques that adorn the second floor of Edwards Hall at Clemson has expanded to include two new honorees. Janet Timms, a former nurse and educator, and Gary Clary, a Clemson graduate and former South Carolina House Representative, were formally inducted into the School of Nursing Hall of Fame on May 7.

The Hall of Fame was established in 2019 to recognize those who have significantly influenced and advanced academics for the School of Nursing or the community's health, said Kathleen Valentine, School of Nursing director and Clemson University chief academic nursing officer.

"These two individuals have both had a tremendous influence on health care in our community," Valentine said. "We at the School of Nursing are grateful for their passion, dedication and leadership as we prepare the next generation of nurses as excellent clinicians, researchers and advocates for the public we serve."

End-of-life and home health care nursing pioneer Janet Timms felt called to help patients nearing the end of their life and those

who needed home health care, and she shared that passion, commitment and knowledge with students at the School of Nursing during her time as a professor from 1986-2008.

An Abbeville, South Carolina, native, Timms earned a doctorate in education from the University of Georgia in 1992, a master's and bachelor's degree in nursing from Clemson in 1986 and 1981, respectively, and an associate arts degree from Anderson University, then called Anderson College, in 1976.

Timms' husband, Horace, says she was proud of her education at Clemson. In several speeches to alumni and students, she told the audience, "I stand a little taller when I tell people I am a nurse. I stand a little taller when I tell people I am a Clemson graduate."

As a nurse, leader and professor, Timms significantly honored everyone's talents and elevated every program she touched, according to several Hall of Fame nomination letters. In her career, she worked at AnMed Health in Anderson, South Carolina, previously known as Anderson Memorial Hospital; the Anderson Area Mental Health Center; and Bon Secours St. Francis Hospital in Greenville, where she helped develop a home health care program.

While at the School of Nursing, she developed Community Nursing Services, which was available to those in South Carolina's

Anderson, Pickens and Oconee counties within a 12-mile radius of campus. This service was thought to be the first fully licensed and certified university-based program in the nation. In addition to teaching, she presented her research at regional, national and international conferences, including some at Napier University in Edinburgh, Scotland, and Cambridge University in England. After retiring from Clemson in 2008, she taught at Mercer University in Georgia until 2010.

Timms was nationally and locally recognized for her work with awards including the South Carolina Hospital Association R.N. of the Year Award, the American Cancer Society of South Carolina Award for Excellence in Public Health Education, the American Nursing Association Excellence in Nursing Education, the South Carolina Nurses Foundation Ruth A. Nicholson Research Award and the South Carolina League for Nursing Award for Excellence. She also received the Award for Faculty Excellence from the Clemson University Board of Trustees in 1996, 2002 and 2007.

She served on several community boards, including the South Carolina Pain Initiative, South Carolina Nurses Association and the South Carolina Collaborative on End-of-Life Care. Timms died on March 27, 2018.

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Black Excellence Expo slated for July

By Henry E. Green
Asia Tate told Abbeville City Council Wednesday night that she is planning the Second Annual Black Excellence Expo at Chestnut Street Park in Abbeville from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 18.

The purpose is to promote and uplift diverse businesses in the community, said Tate, who is the organizer of the event.

These businesses need to network with each other

to encourage others in order to ensure their mutual success.

Three different dance groups will be performing, including the Fierce Dance Academy, the Phoenix Academy of Art, and United Outlaws Cheerleading.

"I have over 35 vendors," she said. They will range from food vendors to those for cosmetics.

"Just a wide variety of things," she said.

The event will also include

a school supplies drive.

Tate lives in Abbeville, where she graduated from AHS in 2015, and recently graduated from Lander in December 2020, with a degree in early childhood education.

This will be the second Expo, said Tate, a small business owner herself, who says she hopes it will be an annual event.

There is no charge to attend.

"It's a free event," she said.

Roger Wicker of Antreville Farms was one of the vendors on hand at the Abbeville Farmers Market at the Livery Stable in Abbeville recently. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Holly Freeman of Abbeville was one of the vendors recently at the Abbeville farmers market at the Livery Stable in downtown Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Fall VIP Registration now underway at Piedmont Tech

Submitted by Kristine Hartvigsen
Strong relationships are grounded in trust, and as communities across the state tentatively return to "normal," some individuals may be pondering the next steps toward their pre-pandemic dreams. Piedmont Technical College (PTC) has a track record for being a strong, trusted partner in helping individuals stay on course and achieve their goals.

To help students go the distance, PTC staff work hard to remove barriers to attaining educational goals. With that in mind, students who register by June 29, the end of the VIP registration period, will get early access to courses and avoid the \$25 registration fee. Taking that further, the college is also offering a \$300 book voucher to any student who registers by July 15.

"These financial incentives, plus the fact that PTC is already the best value for higher education in the

region, position our students for maximum success," said Missy Perry, PTC's director of financial aid. "Many of our students are stunned to find out how many grants and scholarships they can qualify for to minimize their tuition cost."

First-time students and returning scholars alike can trust that PTC offers options consistent with a wide range of student needs.

"Whether students choose to complete a short-term certification or a two-year degree that will place them immediately into a well-paying job, they should expect to be hired. That is a PTC guarantee! If they would like to earn a bachelor's degree or higher, they should expect to save thousands of dollars toward reaching that goal," PTC President Dr. Hope E. Rivers said. "We are equipped to shepherd students along the path of their choice while delivering flexible and affordable program options."

Most programs across

the college's seven-county service area will return to in-person classes this fall, and PTC still offers plentiful options in hybrid and online courses to support a wide variety of very specific student work/life needs. Approximately 62% of our students attend part-time, many in the evenings.

"After admirably navigating the challenges of teaching online during the 2020 quarantine, our instructors have learned to turn on a dime as the need dictates," said Dr. Keli Fewox, PTC's vice president for academic affairs. "They are among the most flexible and qualified faculty in the region. In fact, I confidently compare them with the best professors anywhere in the entire country."

The full-term fall semester runs from August 23 to Dec. 10, 2021. To get started, students are invited to apply online for the fall semester at www.ptc.edu/apply, or they can contact admissions at 855-682-7094 to set up an appointment.

Savannah Wojtkowski, a junior from Dixie High School, is to participate in this summer's Virtual Youth Experience, a week-long conference that brings together 80 high-achieving students from across South Carolina to meet with state and federal leaders. (Photo contributed)



Local high school students go virtual this summer, compete for \$5,000

Submitted by Tricia Smith
Little River Electric Cooperative has selected Savannah Wojtkowski, a junior from Dixie High School, to participate in this summer's Virtual Youth Experience, a week-long conference that brings together 80 high-achieving students from across the South Carolina to meet with state and federal leaders.

The Virtual Youth Experience began last year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic when in-person meetings were cancelled for safety reasons. This year's experience will be a hybrid model with the first four days, June 21-24, taking

place virtually and the final day, June 25, taking place in person at Fairfield Electric Cooperative in Blythewood.

Speakers during the week include Sen. Lindsey Graham, Sen. Tim Scott, Rep. Nancy Mace and S.C. State Epidemiologist Dr. Linda Bell. Governor Henry McMaster will address the group during their in-person session on June 25 at 11 a.m.

In addition to hearing from influential speakers, the students will spend the week in teams learning how to create and produce audio podcasts that complete the sentence: *This is my country...* A group of S.C. journalists will judge the

podcasts and award \$5,000 college scholarships to each student in the winning group.

"We're building on the success of last year's event to offer even more opportunities for these outstanding young people to engage with well-known South Carolinians and each other," said Mike Ellis of Little River Electric Cooperative. "Besides making connections and having fun, they'll also have a great shot at earning money for college."

The 80 participating students in this year's Virtual Youth Experience are rising high school juniors and seniors representing 17 electric cooperatives throughout South Carolina.

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Detention Deputy Tammie S. Brown (right) , who works with Anderson County Sheriff's Office detention center and who lives in Abbeville County, received an Employee of the Month certificate from Anderson County Sheriff Chad McBride (left). (Contributed photo)

Abbeville County woman recognized

By Henry E. Green
An Abbeville County woman has been recognized by the Anderson County Sheriff's Office with which she works. Detention Deputy Tammie S. Brown, who works with Anderson County Sheriff's Office detention center, received an Employee of the Month certificate from Anderson County Sheriff Chad McBride. The certificate was for February, but the awarding of it was delayed because

of COVID. A letter of commendation submitted to the Sheriff by a detention center official explained how Brown's excellent performance of her duties resulted in positive results. Back on Feb. 11 of this year, Brown received word that one of the female athletes had contraband, and that that contraband was said to be a large quantity of methamphetamine. Brown investigated, and found that the substance,

and the total amount came to 67.4 grams of methamphetamine, according to the letter. A trafficking warrant was obtained by the law enforcement authorities, and Brown's investigation, according to the letter of commendation, prevented a "catastrophic series of events." Due to the large quantity of the substance, there could have been injuries and overdoses, according to the letter.

Electric cooperatives report lower carbon dioxide emissions

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Electric cooperatives today released data showing a decline in the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) released to generate the electricity they provide to 1.5 million South Carolinians. Between 2005 and 2020, their CO₂ emissions dropped by 41%, far surpassing the national 17% reduction target used by the United States. A new report from Central Electric Power Cooperative—the wholesale power buyer for the state's 20 independent, member-owned utilities—also projects that by 2027, emissions will fall by 47% from 2005 levels. According to a recent news release from Central Electrical Power Cooperative, Inc. Cooperatives are achieving this result by 1) adopting new technologies that do not rely on burning fossil fuels to produce electricity, 2) urging their power suppliers to close older, coal-burning power plants and 3) making agreements with power suppliers whose generating portfolios have lower emissions. Burning fossil fuels such as coal to make electricity releases CO₂ and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Reducing these emissions plays a key role in protecting our environment. By 2027, electric cooperatives in South Carolina could see at least a 47% reduction in CO₂. (See chart.) Central Electric released the projections based on data from its own suppliers. "This kind of progress should be celebrated, and

Central is proud of the accomplishment," said Rob Hochstetler, Central's CEO. "But we have urged our power suppliers, especially Santee Cooper, to accelerate the retirement of uneconomic coal-burning power plants." Specifically, Central has encouraged Santee Cooper to accelerate the retirement of four coal-burning units at the Winyah Generation Station near Georgetown, which the state-owned utility has announced will be closed—two in 2023 and two in 2027. Central has power purchase agreements with Santee Cooper, Duke Energy Carolinas and the Southeastern Power Administration. These suppliers produce electricity using coal, natural gas, nuclear, and water at hydroelectric dams, but the use of coal is being reduced. Central also has a growing list of power purchasing agreements with solar developers, more of which may be announced this month. "That's the beauty of our approach to power supply," said Rob Hochstetler, Central's CEO. "Rather than owning power plants, we make power purchase agreements. As agreements expire, we're able to bring in electricity from more environmentally friendly sources such as solar." "Clearly, the power purchase approach works on a large scale because electric cooperatives serve a third of the state's population," Hochstetler said. This trend of reduced emissions is reflected nationally

in the "Annual Energy Outlook 2021" from the U.S. Energy Information Administration, issued on Feb. 11. "U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions will decline for most years through the mid-2030s," the report projects. Though the report includes energy use by other economic sectors such as transportation, it states that the decreases "will largely be a result of changes in the carbon intensity (carbon dioxide per British thermal unit) of the fuel mix, especially in the electric power sector." "There's more to the increased use of carbon-free energy than meets the eye," said Hochstetler. "A growing amount of renewable energy is being produced by consumers themselves." The electricity generated on the user's side of the electric meter—usually by solar panels in South Carolina—is not measured in Central Electric's data. "We estimate as much as 20 megawatts of electricity are produced by some of the 800,000 co-op members across the state," Hochstetler said. "Since it's used directly by the co-op members and doesn't go through the electric meter, it may not be measured, but we know it's there." Cooperatives also have created a large network of community solar installations across the state. Community, or shared, solar is renewable energy, locally produced, for co-op consumer-members who want it, as explained at www.myscsolar.com.

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a Word from “THE WORD”

Rev. Dr. John Keith

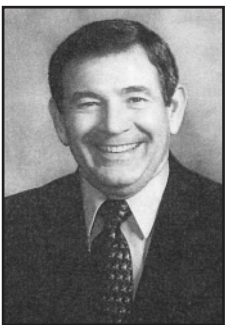
Unbelief

Psalm 78:41 “Yes, again and again they tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.”

Back in 1968, Robert Schuller traveled to the Soviet Union. He was stopped at customs for trying to smuggle Bibles. That might have been the end of his trip but miraculously he was allowed to enter the country. In Leningrad he was both shocked and intrigued when he learned that there was, in the city, a Museum of Atheism. He felt he had to see the museum in order to understand the State's fear of a religious belief system. The museum of Atheism was housed in a confiscated Catholic Church. Schuller wrote, “This house of God had been transformed into a house of unbelief.” A couple of displays caught his attention. “Heroes of the State” included people like Lenin, Castro, and Marx. The guide of his tour group enthusiastically told about each of these men and how they helped the country. In another room was a display, “Enemies of the State.” They were people Schuller knew: Billy Graham, Martin Luther King, the Pope. And among the names of these enemies of the state was his own name: Robert Schuller. When he saw his own picture on display he was frightened. He was even more disconcerted when, in the middle of the night, there was a knock on the door of his hotel room. “Follow me,” the stranger said, “Don't ask any questions.” Silently they drove through the dark city out to the country. Dr. Schuller was afraid. He

did not know what would happen to him, he did not know where he was being taken. Out in the country a plane was waiting for him. The plane flew for hours. From the plane he was led to a train which took him out of the Soviet Union to the safety of the free world. What an insult, a house of worship being turned into a house of unbelief. In our text I see the same insult, the people of God who should be trusting God were limiting Him because of their unbelief. Starting in verse 12 of this Psalm, Asaph enumerated all the ways God had blessed Israel. He related how God parted the Red Sea for them when they left Egypt. He repeated how God had led them in the daytime by a cloud and at night by a pillar of fire. He recalled for his readers how God had split the rock in the wilderness and gave them water and fed them in the wilderness abundantly with quail. Over and over again, Asaph repeats how the Israelites sinned against God by their unbelief. Finally in verse 41, Asaph states that their unbelief “limited the Holy One of Israel.” Instead of being a nation that mirrored the power of God, they became a nation of unbelief. This is a shocking statement. The fact that again and again they tempted God by their unbelief was shocking. How could they doubt the power of God after all He had done for them? Time and time

again God had delivered them and yet they failed to trust Him. This is also a shameful statement. After all God had done for them, they turned their back on the very one who had not only delivered them from bondage but provided for them all throughout their wilderness wandering. It is also a sad statement. Just think what God could have done for them if they had only trusted Him instead of tempting Him by their unbelief. Finally, God had enough and said that the present generation from 20 years old upwards, with the exception of Caleb and Joshua, would die in the wilderness and not see the land of promise. Folks, it is shocking to see the church of the living God tempt God by our unbelief. It is shameful, after all God has done for us. How dare we tempt Him by our unbelief? It is sad to see the church of the living God limp along in our present situation and not trust God. Covid has not decimated the church, unbelief has. Covid has not hindered the power of All mighty God, our unbelief has. Covid is not holding us back, but our lack of faith in All mighty God is holding us back. Folks, God is still on His throne. God is still sovereign, God is still in the soul saving business. We serve the same God today that Moses, Caleb, and Joshua served. They saw God do wonderful things and we will too if we trust Him like they did.



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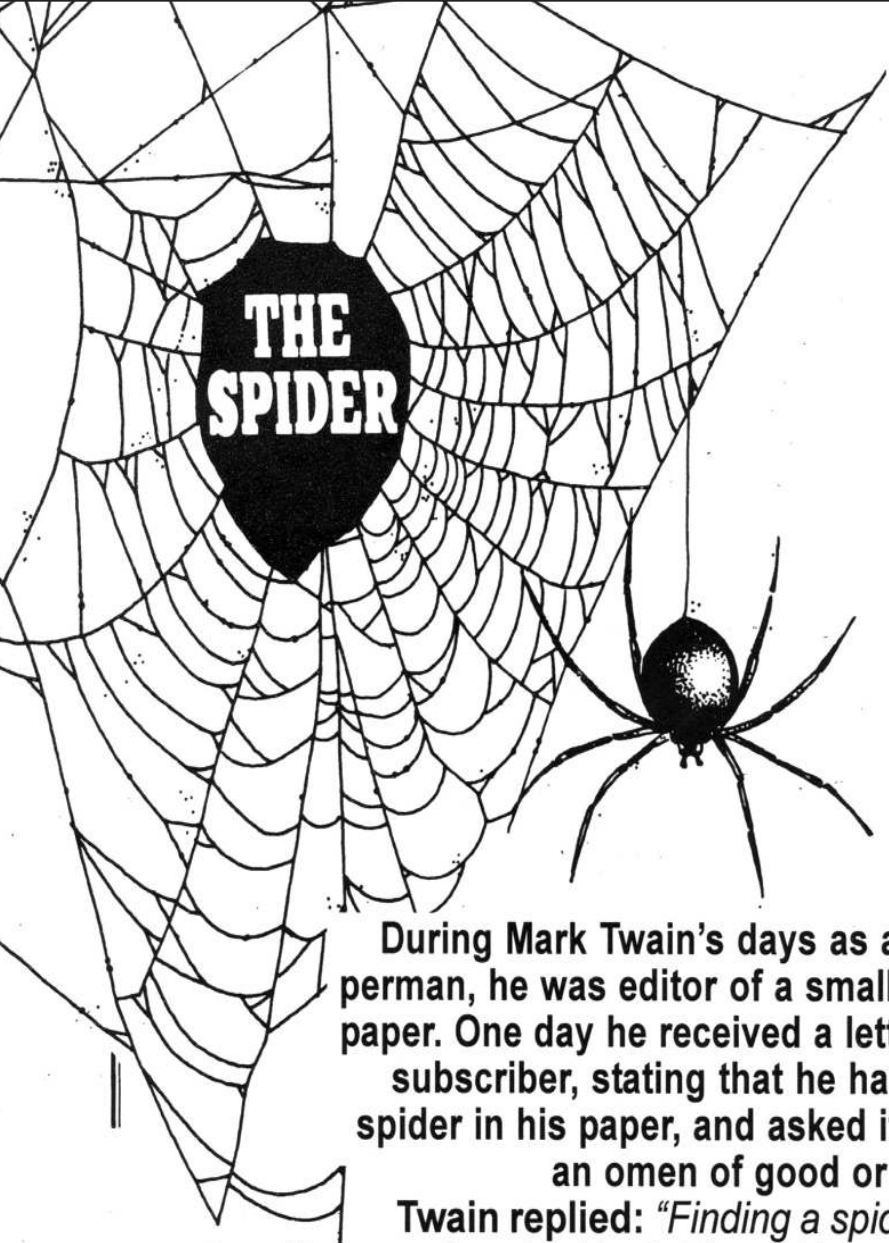
Innovative Partnership to create training opportunities for unemployed individuals

Submitted by
SC Technical
College System

Today Governor McMaster announced an innovative partnership between South Carolina's technical colleges and the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce to provide training opportunities for unemployed individuals in the state. The initiative is made available by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Funds. Unemployment claimants will have the option of exploring short-term retraining programs offered at their local technical college in lieu of conducting the weekly work search. Upon enrolling in and attending a short-term training program, the claimant continues to forgo the weekly job search. The cost of the workforce training program is free to the student. “As the federal unemployment programs come to an end on June 26, 2021, we want to ensure that claimants have access to all options involving training and employment opportunities. If someone is ready to make a career change, exploring the state technical college programs should be your first step. This free training could lead to a certification or credential, which provides you access into new or higher paying jobs,” said S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce Executive Director Dan Ellzey. “And, our agency is making this training more accessible to people who will remain on South Carolina unemployment insurance by relieving those claimants of the weekly work search requirement if they participate in the training.” In January, Governor McMaster awarded \$8 million in one-time federal funds to the S.C. Technical College System. The funds provide scholarships to cover the cost of training as well as

required course material and any assessments. “The key to building South Carolina's critical workforce lies in quick training and education programs geared towards high-demand fields,” said S.C. Technical System President Tim Hardee. “Our colleges are uniquely positioned to quickly get people negatively impacted by the pandemic back on their feet – training them in these high-demand fields and building more stability for their lives. We have identified 11 programs for this initiative that are 16 weeks or less in length, lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate, and have a high placement rate in critical workforce areas.” The identified training programs are being offered at technical colleges across the state and include: **Healthcare** Patient Care Technician: This healthcare program teaches you how to administer basic care to patients. Patient Care Technicians interact directly with patients to help with daily tasks. Emergency Medical Technician (EMT): Learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary to stabilize and safely transport patients ranging from non-emergency and routine medical transports to life-threatening emergencies. **Computer Technology and Information Technology** CompTIA (Computing Technology Industry Association) A+ Certification: The industry standard for establishing a career in IT, this program teaches you how to support today's core technologies from security to cloud to data management and more. **Transportation, Distribution and Logistics** Commercial Driver's License (CDL): This program offers hands-on training and in-depth classroom instruction necessary to under-

stand and master the daily requirements of a career in professional truck driving. **Manufacturing/Construction** ManuFirstSC (Manufacturing Technician): A basic manufacturing certification for individuals needing entry-level eligibility for manufacturing employment. The program covers the areas of manufacturing safety, quality awareness, production and processes, and maintenance awareness. MSSC (Manufacturing Skill Standards Council) Certification: This program helps individuals learn the basic skills and knowledge required for advanced manufacturing and supply chain logistics jobs. OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) Certification: Learn about common job-related safety and health hazards during this 10-hour or 30-hour training course. LEAN Six Sigma: Learn how to help an organization operate more efficiently by analyzing and improving their processes with the tools that you learn in this training program. Welding: Learn various welding techniques through a wide selection of course offerings. Heavy Equipment Operator: With a combination of in-class and hands-on instruction, this training will prepare you for a variety of construction jobs by teaching equipment safety, identification, operation, and basic maintenance. Lineman Technician: Learn to use the tools and equipment required for safe installation and repair of underground and overhead utilities through a combination of work in the classroom and field settings. Claimants will receive specifics about the initiative this week via email from the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce.



During Mark Twain's days as a newspaperman, he was editor of a small Missouri paper. One day he received a letter from a subscriber, stating that he had found a spider in his paper, and asked if this was an omen of good or bad luck. Twain replied: “Finding a spider in your paper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door, and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever afterward.”

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US House of Representatives

Duncan's “Old Glory Only Act” signs three more cosponsors after Biden Administration authorized U.S. embassies to hang BLM flags

Submitted by
Congressman
Jeff Duncan

Today, Congressman Jeff Duncan (SC-03) is filing three more cosponsors to H.R.85, the “Old Glory Only Act,” which will prohibit the flying of any flag other than the U.S. flag over United States diplomatic and consular posts. The most recent cosponsors are Louie Gohmert (TX-01), Rick Crawford (AR-01), and Brian Mast (FL-18), bringing the total number of cosponsors to twenty. The “Old Glory Only Act” was first introduced by Congressman Jeff Duncan in the 116th Congress on July 19, 2018, and in response to a State Department official putting a rainbow flag up over a South American embassy. The “Old Glory Only Act,” was then reintroduced on the second day of the 117th Congress this year, January 4th, 2021. Recently, Secretary of State Antony Blinken authorized all U.S. embassies and consulates overseas to fly the BLM flag on their official flagpole. According to reporting, an official

memo stated, “All U.S. diplomatic posts are strongly encouraged to use the department's resources to promote policy objectives to advance racial equity and support for underserved communities.” According to their website, among BLM's demands include defunding the police and opposing domestic terrorism prevention laws. Additionally, BLM co-founder Patrisse Marie Khan-Cullors Brignac, who resigned from the Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation last week amidst criticism of her lavish lifestyle and purchase of four multi-million dollar homes, also called for the end of Israel in 2015 during a panel at Harvard Law School. “If we don't step up boldly and courageously to end the imperialist project that's called Israel, we're doomed,” she commented during the panel titled “Globalizing Ferguson: Racialized Policing and International Resistance.” Earlier this year, Secretary Blinken also authorized U.S. diplomatic missions across the world to fly the rainbow LGBTQ+ pride flag

on the same pole as the American flag at embassies and consulates. “Our beautiful flag, Old Glory, is the single greatest symbol of freedom the world has ever known,” said Congressman Jeff Duncan. “It is an unmatched representation of liberty that is coveted around the globe, and it should be the only symbol that flies over our embassies in nations around the world. I believe no other flag or symbol can portray our American values better than Old Glory.” “Across the world, one and only one flag represents the United States, our citizens, and our collective values,” said Congressman Ralph Norman. “The U.S. Flag is the preeminent symbol of American exceptionalism and should never be used as a prop to promote any agenda or political ideology. Whether she flies on top of our embassies, consular offices, or any diplomatic post across the globe, Old Glory should stand alone. I want to thank Rep. Duncan for his leadership on this issue.”



Anne Marie Brooks (left), a rising sophomore at Clemson, was recognized by the Abbeville Conservation District at a Conservation District luncheon Wednesday. The young lady, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Brooks, was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship by Conservation District chairman Fred Raines (right) on behalf of the District . (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Conservation District presents awards

By Henry E. Green

Anne Marie Brooks, a rising sophomore at Clemson, and Grady King, a rising second grader at Long Cane Primary, were recognized by the Abbeville Conservation District at a Conservation District luncheon Wednesday. Brooks was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship from the District, and Grady was recognized as the winner of the Conservation District's poster contest. "We were very impressed with your activities," said District chairman Fred Raines in presenting the scholarship to Brooks. The scholarship is named

in memory of the late H.O. Mullinax, an influential member of the Conservation District. "We wish you the very best," Raines told Brooks. King, meanwhile, was presented with a check and a certificate. The Soil and Water Conservation District includes chairman Fred Raines, vice chairman Barry Edmunds, treasurer Susie New, and commissioners Sam Gilliam and Eric McCall. Associate commissioners include Dale Wilson, Mike Fleming, Mark Sumner and Nancy McCannon. The Conservation District works to promote conser-

vation of natural resources. Conservation districts in South Carolina are subdivisions of state government in partnership with Department of Natural Resources and USDA National Resource Conservation Service, according to the Land Conservation Assistance Network. A Conservation Districts consists of a board of five commissioners--three elected in the general election and two appointed by DNR, according to the Network. For more information, one may call the Conservation District at 459-5419, extension 3.

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Grady King, a rising second grader at Long Cane Primary, was the county wide winner of an Abbeville Soil and Water Conservation District poster contest. He was presented by Conservation District chairman Fred Raines (right) with a certificate, a \$75 check, and a blue ribbon during a recent Conservation District luncheon. Grady (left) is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Justin King of Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Fleet to Become Associate Member for Football in South Atlantic Conference

Submitted by
Erskine Athletics
Department

The South Atlantic Conference announced it will add Erskine College as an associate member in football for the 2022 and 2023 seasons. The Flying Fleet will be joined by Barton College as associate members and will be eligible for the Conference Championship and individual awards (Player of the Week and All-Conference) in the 2022 and 2023 seasons. "We are thrilled to have Barton and Erskine join the South Atlantic Conference as associate members in football," said South Atlantic Conference Commissioner Patrick Britz. "As two new programs in the region, both institutions have done a tremendous job of getting football off the ground and we look forward to having them join our conference for the 2022 and 2023 seasons." The addition of Barton and Erskine will increase the number of SAC football institutions to 12 starting in 2022 with the addition of full member Emory & Henry College. In addition to Barton, Emory & Henry, and Erskine, the SAC football programs are Carson-Newman, Catawba, Lenoir-Rhyne, Limestone, Mars Hill, Newberry, Tusculum, UVA Wise, and Wingate. Erskine, who just competed in its first football season in 2020 after a 69-year hia-

tus, will join the SAC as an associate member for the following two seasons. "We are thrilled to be part of the South Atlantic Conference in football beginning in the fall of 2022," said Erskine Director of Athletics Mark Peeler. "The SAC has a respected historical reputation in our geographical footprint, so to be able to compete with not only like-minded schools, but in many cases, natural rivalries is a blessing for the Flying Fleet. We are honored and grateful to be part of this conference which will provide our football program with an added boost as we head into our second year of play." "Erskine football could not be more excited about joining the SAC as a football Associate Member for the 2022 season," stated Head Coach Shap Boyd. "We are excited and we are looking forward to competing in one of the best Division II Football Conferences in the country. We appreciate the SAC including us and look forward to a hopefully long-lasting relationship." Among the nation's premier Division II Conferences, the South Atlantic Conference has sent at least one team to the NCAA playoffs for the last 27 years and have sent at least two teams in three of the last five years, including Lenoir-Rhyne advancing to the NCAA Quarterfinals in 2018 and 2019. In conjunction with the addition of Barton, Emory & Henry, and Erskine, the SAC

will look to play a divisional football schedule based on geography with the plan for the two divisional winners to meet in a conference championship game during the final week of the regular season beginning in 2022. "Moving to divisional play and having the ability to play a conference championship game is something that we have wanted to do for a very long time," Britz stated. "Our goal is to have two divisions of six with each division playing three cross-over games and two non-conference games each year, which will leave the final week of play open for a championship. Additionally, the remaining 10 teams will play cross-over games during the final week of the season. It is a unique concept, but we feel it will be a great experience for our student-athletes, coaches, and fans, as we put the top two teams on the field for the SAC title each year." The 2021 fall season will begin on Thursday, September 2 with Shaw traveling to Wingate for the first game of the season. The remaining teams in the SAC will begin play on Saturday, September 4. MORE ABOUT THE ERSKINE COLLEGE FLYING FLEET Visit the Official Home of Erskine Athletics at www.erskinesports.com Follow us on Social Media – Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube | Photos



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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: THE 4TH OF JULY ACROSS

- Steps to the river, in India
- Hot springs resort
- Meal in a shell
- Driver's misbehavior?
- *Grilling technique
- Medal of Honor descriptor
- Cracked open
- What Knave of Hearts stole from Queen of Hearts, sing.
- Raise one's rank
- *July 4th pyrotechnic display
- Hubble Space Telescope operator, acr.
- Chip dip
- i topper
- *Main Street tradition on the 4th
- Superlative of fummy
- Ribonucleic acid
- Store as fodder
- Moonfish
- Rose oil
- Number cruncher
- Fairytale garden dweller
- Indian Lilac tree
- Extinct type of zebra
- Steampunk decoration
- Did 2 + 2 (2 words)
- Crocheted blanket
- Swedish shag rug
- Ancient port city in Israel
- Smiley face
- *First President to hold July 4th celebration at the White House
- Snoop Dogg's "Gin and ____"
- Medicinal succulent
- Hit the bottle
- Earthenware pots
- View from a high-speed train?
- Observer
- "Glengarry ____ Ross"
- G, in solfa
- "The Fountainhead" author

DOWN

- Former tennis pro Steffi
- One who's made the pilgrimage to Mecca
- Petri dish filler
- Mother of Calcutta
- Roebuck's partner
- a.k.a. anorak
- A in B.A.
- **No ____ without representation"
- Unfortunately, exclamation
- *Drink to wash down burgers and hot dogs?
- Table scrap
- Steal, past participle
- What haters spew?
- Crane or heron
- Expecting woman's date
- Life force in Sanskrit
- Chipped in
- What Motion Picture Association of America did
- *Most popular July 4th decoration
- Notable period
- Polynesian island country
- Feudal lord
- Fish a.k.a. porgy
- Beer acronym
- *Lee Greenwood's "Proud to Be an ____"
- Blooper
- Sine ____ non
- Old-timer
- Force units
- Wedding tossable
- Jiggly dessert
- Run ____ of the law
- Type of sea bird
- Agitate
- Kickboxing moves
- Miso bean
- U.S. ____ in golf or tennis
- Egghead
- Leisurely run

New world to conquer

Ervin Bryson, a star athlete at Abbeville High School, moves on to coaching success in football

By Henry E. Green

What do you say to an Abbeville native who has found success and happiness as a football coach?

“Well done” comes to mind.

During his days at Abbeville High School, Ervin Bryson was a star in four--yes, four--sports, and he has carried his success as a student-athlete to the other side of the coin.

Bryson, you see, is the head coach and part owner of the Charlotte Thunder, an arena football team in Charlotte, N.C.

“We play at Bojangles Coliseum,” he said.

Bryson’s team is on the way to playing for an arena league championship, and it is easy to see that his energy and passion for football have carried over to his job.

Arena football, he will be the first to tell you, is different in a number of ways from the NFL version.

“It’s a 50 yard field versus a 100 yard field,” he said. “It’s only 27 yards as opposed to 54 yards in width.”

Bryson, who has been involved with arena football for 18 years, said his team plays in an arena that holds 8,200 fans.

Then, there is the season. Arena football season runs from March to the end of June.

“Our ball players are from all over the country,” he said.

And those players include some outstanding individuals.

“We have a running back named David Hamm,” he said.

Hamm is part of a package of success, whose ingredients include something which anyone familiar with Abbeville High School football is quite familiar with--the running game.

“Running the football is definitely our strength,” Bryson said. It is all the more successful because arena football is predicated on throwing the football.

“It doesn’t hurt that I’m from Abbeville,” he said.

In addition to Hamm, star players include Jalen McClendon, who played his college ball at Baylor, and Dean Charles, from Louisville, and Marlin Conley, from North Carolina Central.

Providing coaching assistance is Monterey Evans, who graduated from AHS in 1988, and is the brother of Panther great Leomont Evans.

Put it all together and it spells “success.”

“We’re the Number One team in arena football,” he said.

In fact, his team is getting ready to play the North Texas Bulls on June 26 for an arena league championship.

You will be able to find it online, and it will be televised as well.

Bryson is no stranger to success. In 2017, his team won the Canadian American Arena League championship.

In 2019, the Thunder also made it to the championship game, where they lost in a game played in Wheeling, West Virginia.

In 2020, COVID shut things down, but this year it’s all getting back to normal.

“This year we’re going to win (the championship) because we’re at home,” he said.

“Home” is special to Bryson, whose team has not lost a home game in three years.

“We’ve lost a couple of games on the road but none at home,” he said.

Football is second nature to Bryson, who graduated from AHS in 1987, and during his days at Abbeville High he played four sports--football, baseball, basketball, and track.

A running back in football, he was a point guard in basketball, and a center-fielder in baseball. In track, he won the state title in the 200 meters, the 400 meter relay, and the mile relay.

He played football at AHS under Mike Hendricks, known to his players as “Papa Hendricks.”

Hendricks is someone for whom he has considerable respect--someone he says did his best to mold his players into men of character.

Bryson lives in Charlotte during the week, and comes home for the weekend to Ware Shoals, where his wife Carrie lives, and where they run a restaurant, Magic Time Wings and Waffles.

Carrie works for the Abbeville County School District, where she supervises the English as a Second Language program.



Fernando Sanders (left) and Earl Wright (right) were recently recognized as Volunteers of the Decade at the Calhoun Falls Charter athletic banquet, along with Mr. and Mrs. Keith Ashley. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

CF Charter looking for new football coach

By Henry E. Green

Calhoun Falls Charter is looking for a new head football coach, after current coach Chris Watts resigned as head coach in the first week in June to take a teaching post in Greenwood, said Calhoun Falls Charter athletic director David Campbell Monday.

“We’re going to hire a new coach this week, and we should know after Thursday night’s board meeting (of the Charter School board of trustees) who that person

is,” he said.

Watts said Monday that he has accepted a job teaching seventh and eighth grade science at Westview Middle School.

Watts plans to help out with the Westview football team, in a capacity to be determined.

The Greenwood resident was at Calhoun Falls Charter three years.

His resignation was effective at the end of the school year in June, after guiding the Flashes through spring

practice.

“We had one lone win,” and that was against Ware Shoals, in his second year.

“It was probably the hardest decision I’ve had to make in my life,” he said.

Watts, who said he wanted to spend more time with his family, extended a ‘thank you’ to the town of Calhoun Falls for the time he spent there.

“Calhoun Falls is a very special place,” he said.



Abbeville native and AHS alumnus Ervin Bryson is the head coach for the Charlotte Thunder arena football team. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Samantha Ferguson was recently named the new head softball coach for the Dixie High School Lady Hornet varsity softball team. She was profiled in an article in last week’s paper. (Contributed photo)

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Classifieds & Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371PC with the Probate Court of ABBEVILLE COUNTY, the address of which is 903 WEST GREENWOOD ST., SUITE 2300 ABBEVILLE, SC 29620, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever 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.

LEGAL NOTICES

Estate: Gerald Gilbert Titus
Date of Death: 3/22/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100135
Personal Representative: Michael Simmerman
Address: 407 Ann St. Liberty, SC 29657 6/2;3tc

Estate: Nancy Gambrell Prince
Date of Death: 4/23/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100137
Personal Representative: Jimmy Herman Prince, Jr. and Russell Lee Prince
Address: 797 Winona Church Rd. Donalds, SC and P.O. Box 50441 Greenwood, SC 29649 6/2;3tc

Estate: William Hamilton Brickle
Date of Death: 4/07/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100141
Personal Representative: Betty Brickle
Address: 56 Brickle Lane Iva, SC 29655 6/9;3tc

Estate: Albert Lindsey Giles, Jr.
Date of Death: 05/14/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100144
Personal Representative: Jean C. Giles
Address: 2143 Flat Rock Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620 6/9;3tc

Estate: Sallie Mae Calhoun AKA Sallie M. Boggs Calhoun
Date of Death: 4/10/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100145
Personal Representative: Danny Boggs
Address: 2705 Walnut Drive Anderson, SC 29624 6/9;3tc

Estate: Ruth Lomax Cosby
Date of Death: 4/23/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100146
Personal Representative: Denise Cosby Collier
Address: 202 Fox Lake Drive West Columbia, SC 29170 6/9;3tc

Estate: Leonard Dwayne Canfield
Date of Death: 5/19/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100147
Personal Representative: Delane New
Address: 1747 Hwy 201 Abbeville, SC 29620 6/9;3tc

Estate: Willie Lee Hamilton
Date of Death: 3/5/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100151
Personal Representative: Jannie M. Hamilton
Address: 93 Horse Farm Rd. Iva, SC 29655 6/16;3tc

Estate: Robert Robinson, Jr.
Date of Death: 5/20/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100153
Personal Representative: Robert Alexander Robinson
Address: 118 Dutchman Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620 6/16;3tc

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that DolgenCorp, LLC, intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and off premises consumption of Beer & Wine at Dollar General Store #8254, 18 College St. Due West, SC 29639. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than July 2, 2021. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the person filing the protest;

(2) The specific reasons why the application should be denied;

(3) That the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);

(4) That the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and,

(5) The name of the applicant and the address of the business to be licensed.

Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL SECTION, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-0907; or faxed to: (803) 896-0110. 6/16;3tc

PUBLIC AUCTION

Contents of storage units (personal and household) listed below WILL BE SOLD to the highest bidder at Bypass Storage, 712 Hwy. 28 Bypass, Abbeville, SC on June 19th at 9:00 am:

Unit #115 - Ann Bryant

TO PREVENT SALE, accounts must be current by deadline at 5:00 pm March 18th, 2021. Call 378-0352 for amount due.

6/9;2tc

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7/4tfc

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3/23tfc

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6/6:tfp

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10/24:tfp

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8/2tfc

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11/25tfc

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7/2:tfc

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7	4	1	3	5	9	2	6	8
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9	1	5	8	6	3	4	2	7
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June 9, 2021 puzzle solution

Read Local

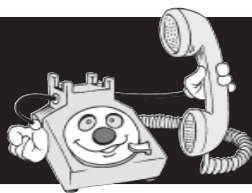
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Answers in next week's paper

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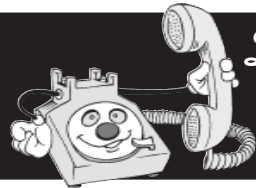
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