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14 PAGES

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

# Council pledges support for bill

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County Council is pledging its support for a General Assembly bill that would help firefighting services in South Carolina.

Council last week passed a resolution "to express Abbeville County Council's request that the General Assembly allow counties to increase the millage cap set by Section 6-1-320 of the SC Code of Laws in the limited manner set out in Senate Bill 401."

Abbeville County, along with the vast majority of citizens, acknowledges that South Carolina counties' abilities to raise revenue are limited due to the passage of Act 388 in 2006, the resolution states.

It is widely recognized that many counties have not raised their millage over the past couple of years due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Many fire districts are shifting from volunteer to career (paid) fire fighters and do not have the necessary revenue due to the millage cap restrictions mentioned below, the resolution states.

Many counties are using

outdated equipment and do not have the personnel to effectively provide critical and life-saving fire protection needs to the citizens of their county, the resolution continues.

Many counties are already close to their millage cap while others could potentially raise millage, but the slight increase in revenue would not pay for the services needed.

S.401 would allow counties to adopt an ordinance or resolution to suspend the millage rate limitation set out in §6-1-320 for the sole purpose of supporting a fire protection district created pursuant to Chapter 19 of Title 4 or those fire districts created pursuant to Title 6, the resolution continues.

The bill would provide a short-term solution by allowing for a one-time millage increase above the caps for fire protection within two years of the effective date of the legislation.

S. 401 is not a statewide tax increase but merely provides those counties in need with a resource to combat their already strained budgets caused by

loss of revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The resolution was passed unanimously by those Council members present.

County Council members Rick Campbell and Drew Simpson were absent from the meeting.

Abbeville County Director David Garner said the bill passed from committee last year.

The bill, if it becomes law, would definitely affect Abbeville County firefighting services—in a good way, according to Garner.

"It would allow us to avoid any additional fees and would allow the county to directly provide more funding to the FDs (fire departments) for their daily operations," he said by email. "It would only be available to the FDs and the county could not use the funds to support any other department or projects."

The bill was expected to pass third and final reading before moving on to the House of Representatives in the General Assembly, according to State Rep. Craig Gagnon.



Local veterans held a POW/MIA remembrance ceremony at the Abbeville County Administrative Complex on Friday, Sept. 17. American Legion Post 2 commander Terry Greenfield (left) provided remarks while veterans affairs officer Teresa Mahaffey and veteran Randy Spencer held the POW/MIA flag. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# Local veterans observe POW/MIA day

By Henry E. Green

Local veterans observed POW/MIA recognition day Friday, raising the POW/MIA flag at the Abbeville County Administrative Complex in Abbeville.

American Legion Post 2 commander Terry Greenfield first provided a presentation featuring POW/MIA statistics, and the history of POW/MIA Recognition Day, observed on the third Friday in September.

It is a time when Americans remember those who are or were at one time prisoners of war and those who are

missing in action.

The POW/MIA flag consists of a silhouette of a prisoner of war before a guard tower and barbed wire in white on a black field.

The words, "You are not forgotten," are underneath the silhouette.

Friday's program was presented by American Legion Post 2.

The American flag, and the state flag will fly at half mast just for the day, in accordance with a directive by Gov. Henry McMaster.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day was established

in 1979, Greenfield said.

The POW/MIA flag, meanwhile, was designed in the early 1970s. Mrs. Michael Hoff developed the idea for a POW flag in 1971, according to Greenfield.

In other veterans news, AmVets Post 111 will present a Veterans Day program in Abbeville on Nov. 11.

There will also be a Veterans Day parade in Calhoun Falls on Nov. 6, presented by American Legion Post 72.

More details will be provided on these upcoming events in coming weeks.

# 'Huge step' County Fire Marshal applauds move to purchase firefighting equipment

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County Fire Marshal Tim Williams is applauding Abbeville County Council's recent decision to purchase Self Contained Breathing Apparatus units for use in the Abbeville County fire system.

The units, funded through a bond, will replace outdated equipment, Williams said.

"It's a huge step for the

county" on providing "better protection for our firefighters," he said.

SCBA units are vital to fire fighting operations, allowing fire fighters to enter "Immediate Danger to Life and Health" environments, and search for victims and contain blazes, Williams continued.

There are about 265 Coun-

ty firefighters and 15 County fire stations, he said.

Council gave the green light at its Sept. 13 meeting to the purchase by passing a resolution authorizing the County Director to enter into an agreement with Safe Industries for the purchase of 167 self contained breathing apparatus units not to exceed \$999,780.

# Council approves pandemic compensation

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County Council gave the green light recently to a program to compensate County employees for their work during the pandemic.

During its Sept. 13 meeting, Council passed Resolution 2021-28, a "resolution authorizing the payment of incentive compensation to employees who performed during the COVID-19 pandemic from the American Rescue Plan," as the resolution states.

"The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Premium Pay Plan is an approved incentive program to compensate and reward County employees for the work performed during the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan is designed with a tiered strategy to compensate those at the highest risk of infection while also recognizing the contributions of every Abbeville County employee. Abbeville County Council is appreciative to

all Abbeville County employees for the work they performed during the COVID-19 pandemic," the resolution states.

"The intention of the Premium Pay Plan is to reward employees who worked through the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and 'incentivize' their retention with the county. As such, Abbeville County may annually renew this premium pay for the full amount described in the financial limits section for those employees continuing to work for the county pending County Council approval. The cutoff date for each year shall be January 1 after which employees hired after that date will be eligible for 25% of the compensation due under their tier. The planned time frame is to compensate employees for work dating back to May 2020 to the present.

Different classifications of employees are to receive different amounts of money, in the three-

tiered system:

Employees in Tier 1 include those in emergency services, E-911, the Sheriff's Office, the Detention Center, and fire departments, and these employees are slated to receive up to \$6,000, the resolution indicates.

Those in Tier 2 are those serving in public works, including solid waste, landfill, roads and bridges, and animal services, and these employees are slated to receive up to \$5,000.

Those in Tier 3 are employees in "all other county departments," and these employees are slated to receive up to \$4,000.

"County Council wishes to express its appreciation to County employees by providing incentive compensation to all County employees," the resolution states.

The compensation money is coming from federal funds provided through the American Rescue Plan Act.

# Treasure hunt Abbeville Artist Guild's Hide and Seek event big success, Agan says

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Artist Guild's Hide and Seek Art event was a big success, drawing a number of participants to downtown Abbeville in an event that promoted both art and business, said Guild treasurer Jane Agan Monday.

Pieces of art were hidden in 16 participating businesses, said Agan.

"We ended up with about 64 pieces of artwork," she said.

People were invited to go to the stores, after getting a map at the Welcome Center to show which stores were participating.

"Hidden" among the mer-

chandise were numerous pieces of art.

Watercolors, acrylics, pottery, two pieces of stained glass, a dozen pieces of wheel thrown pottery -- all were among the items in the treasure hunt.

There were also some ceramic coasters that had been painted and glazed, as well as about half a dozen little painted boxes, and a small bird house.

It was truly a diverse collection of art, and at least one dozen artists participated by donating their art to the project. All of the participating artists belonged to the Guild.

The seekers, meanwhile, were asked to limit their

finds to one item apiece.

This event had a twofold purpose. It "gave" the artists a venue for getting their art out in the community," she said.

The project also brought people to downtown Abbeville, said Agan, who noted that the Guild worked with the Downtown Abbeville Merchants Association on the project.

"We will do it again next year," said Agan.

The Guild's next project will be a workshop, "Jesse's Veggies," presented by artist Jesse Nance on Oct. 2 at 10 a.m. at the Abbeville Civic Center in Abbeville. Nance is also the Guild president.

# Performers announced for Due West Festival September 25

Submitted by Dick Haldeman

DUE WEST - The Town of Due West has announced entertainers to perform Saturday, September 25, at its Fall Festival from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Those to perform will include: 8 a.m., The Corner-

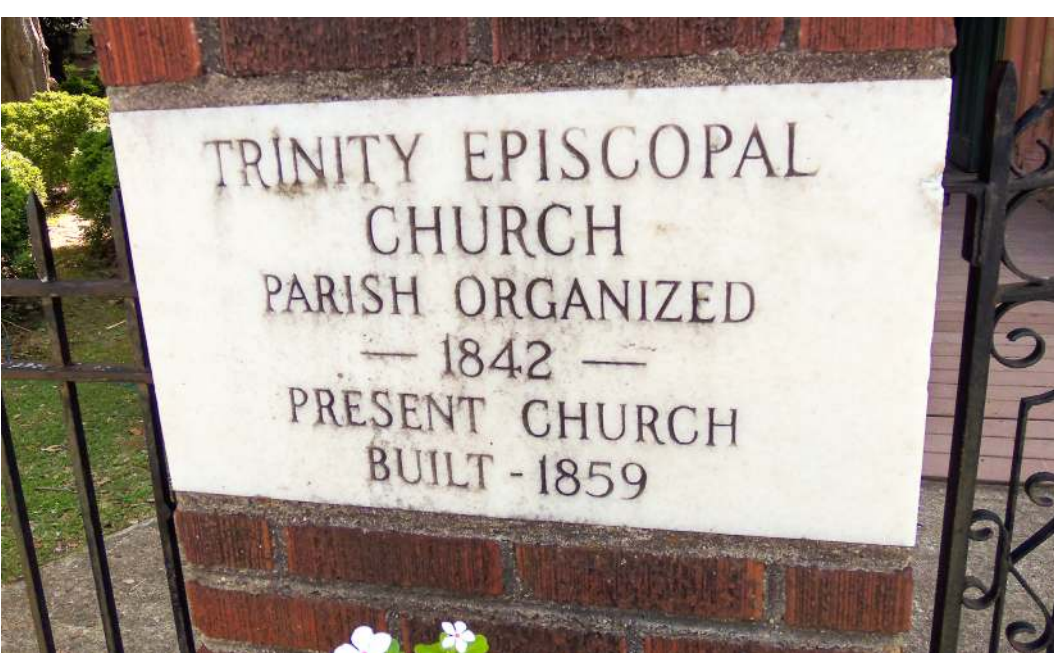
stones; 9 a.m., Man on the Moon Band; 9:30 a.m., Matt Buckland; 10:15 a.m., the Hartstrings; 11 a.m., Tugalo Holler with Michael Branch; and 12:15 p.m., Southern Waters Band with Joshua Dutton.

The festival will also feature an enormous yard sale from

scores of vendors and sales of a variety of southern food including BBQ from the Due West Lions Club. The festival will again be located on the Erskine College campus at the corner of Main and Beulah Streets in Due West, across the street from the Due West ARP Church.



Trinity Episcopal Church is still in the process of being restored, as can be seen here. The Abbeville church is considered a fine example of Gothic Revival architecture. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



This stone in front of Trinity Episcopal Church tells the story -- or at least part of it -- of a church which is the subject of a massive restoration effort. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Erwin Mill Road bridge to be replaced

**By Henry E. Green**  
The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) plans to replace the bridge along S-111, or Erwin Mill Road, over the Broad Mouth Creek in Abbeville County, according to SCDOT information provided by State Rep. Craig Gagnon.

The bridge, located approximately two miles east of the City of Honea Path, is structurally deficient and

is approved by the SCDOT Commission for replacement, according to SCDOT. Following the passage of the 2017 Roads Bill, SCDOT developed a plan that is targeted to significantly reduce the number of structurally deficient bridges in South Carolina within a 10 year time frame, according to SCDOT.

SCDOT has completed the Right of Way acquisition program and final design

efforts for the bridge.

In order to minimize the construction duration, project cost, and environmental impacts, the bridge, which is currently closed, will remain closed during construction.

The proposed detour will have a net length of approximately one mile.

Construction is expected to begin in late 2021, SCDOT reports.

# Commentary

## Abbeville County Council: \$pend, \$pend, \$pend!

**By Lamar T. West, Sr.**

Abbeville County Council is supporting a request to set aside Act 388, initially passed into law in 2006, which raised South Carolina sales tax to take some of the tax burden off of primary residence holders. In effect, this places the tax burden on all people spending money in South Carolina and is considered by most a fair tax.

Act 388 only allows counties to increase tax millage a certain percentage each year. We are also in a re-assessment year, which means because of inflation and lack of housing in Abbeville County (and a lot of other places in South Carolina) the property you owned last year valued at, for example, \$300,000, could be reassessed to \$375,000.

The tax value would be increased by 25% (which is great if you want to sell your property -- of course, you may be forced to), but the majority of citizens probably plan to stay in their homes. Plan on that move costing you 25% more as well.

**WHEREAS**, County is voting to keep the sales tax increase and change the law to allow them to increase millage as well.

This is not saying businesses and corporations can pay it, this is saying the individual can pay it.

The necessity for funds stated in the resolution is because County did not go up on taxes during the COVID-19 pandemic. Glad

to know the pandemic is over (sarcastic smile). If we are not mistaken, Abbeville County received a rather large amount of money from "Uncle Sam" for some much needed COVID-19 relief.

**WHEREAS**, the resolution states County fire districts would like to shift from volunteer to career (paid) firefighters and do not have the funds to do so. They state the need for more tax money from citizens of the County as the reason. Notice to those renting in Abbeville County: when taxes increase, rent increases as well. Will the incorporated (city/town) areas of the County be exempt from this tax increase as they already pay City taxes for fire protection?

**WHEREAS**, counties are using outdated equipment and do not have the personnel to provide critical and life-saving fire protection needs. Raising taxes is necessary?

Abbeville County Council just passed a resolution to spend \$999,780.00 to purchase equipment for the County fire departments. That is all but ONE MILLION DOLLARS for SOME new equipment. We are sure more new equipment will be needed as well.

Is this resolution for one million dollars also to be added to incorporated areas of the County? Perhaps it is time to see who is paying what for services rendered.

Abbeville County Council also passed another resolution obligating \$350,000 for

a water line for prospective county-wide water. We will help pay for the water line for Starr-Iva Water District to provide water to homes wanting Anderson County water on Lake Session and the Diamond Hill area. We assume the people on Lake Session and the Abbeville County School District (Diamond Hill School) will be purchasing water from Starr-Iva Water District in Anderson County for their water needs. The larger question: is this to going to cost people in the incorporated areas of Abbeville County?

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that while we are happy to see Abbeville County grow and prosper, it does beg the question: why live in the city and pay twice for the same services? Perhaps our City Manager and our City Council members should be asking these questions. People in the incorporated areas of Abbeville County should be asking their County Councilmen these questions as well.

People living in the incorporated areas are also in the County and should pay for the Abbeville Sheriff's Department, court system and landfill services.

We have been told most of our City and County road repairs are the State of South Carolina's responsibility, so let's just keep passing the BUCK. Can we at least get the City to paint the potholes white?

## Hopkins: District COVID numbers show decline

**By Henry E. Green**

The Abbeville County School District is seeing something of a sharp decline in COVID numbers, in both the positive students and the quarantined students, said Dr. Skip Hopkins, the District's director of student services.

"We currently have 14 positive students and 31 students quarantined," said Hopkins.

"Two weeks ago we had close to 60 positive and 144 quarantined," he said. "Our goal is zero positive and zero quarantined."

District representatives met with AAMC physician Dr. Trey Moore on August 10, conferring about the surge in the virus and how long it would last.

District officials are hoping that the District is on the

downward slope of a six to eight week Delta variant surge cycle, similar, Hopkins says, to what happened in Great Britain.

The School District saw an abundance of cases very quickly, but now that case number appears to be on the decline.

"And we're happy for that," he said. According to Hopkins, Abbeville County may be in Week Seven of the Delta variant surge.

"We anticipate the numbers continuing to go down," he said, adding, "I'm thankful our numbers are where they are compared to where they were two weeks ago."

Masks are optional in the District, where vaccination opportunities are provided at high school home football games, and people are definitely encouraged to take

advantage of those opportunities and get vaccinated.

Hopkins credited Abbeville Area Medical Center for its partnership with the District in helping bring the numbers down.

AAMC has been very efficient in testing students and teachers for the virus.

"Dr. Moore and his staff have met with us and given us feedback on protocols" regarding COVID, he said.

"They've been very good to us," he said. "They were equally important to us last year. They've been great to work with."

Hopkins ventured to say that the Abbeville County School District has been fortunate--it is probably one of the few school districts in the country which opened on time this year.

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## Bell Toll Ceremony September 2021

### Honoring Deceased Veterans

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**Capt. Marion E. Mundy**

**57** **US Army**  
**91** **US Marines**

The Abbeville County Veterans Organizations jointly sponsor a Bell Toll Ceremony on the last Friday of each month. The veteran's names that have passed away in Abbeville County during the month or anyone who was missed in the previous month will have their names read. This includes men and women from Abbeville County who live in other areas. The names will also include any military service member from South Carolina who was killed while on active duty. As each name is read, the Liberty Bell replica, "Big Bob" is struck once as a token of our respect and appreciation for each Veteran who served and for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for this great nation. Please join for this solemn ceremony on the Abbeville square at 1 pm, September 24th. Also, all veterans are welcomed to the American Legion meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Supper is served at 5PM and the meeting is at 6PM.

# Council commits to Lake water project

**By Henry E. Green**  
Are the residents of the Lake Secession area on the way to getting a public water system?

During its Sept. 13 meeting, Abbeville County Council took a step toward that goal, passing a resolution authorizing the County Director to enter into a contract with the Starr-Iva Water District for a Lake Secession water line up to \$350,000. Abbeville County Council has long envisioned county wide water; and Starr-Iva Water District has consented to aid in this endeavor by supplying water to the Lake Secession area.

This project will assist with providing water to the Lake Secession/Diamond Hill area. "Service to the Abbeville County portion of Lake Secession would be the realization of a goal defined by the County and Starr-Iva."

Patrick Jackson, Starr Iva general manager, provided the statement in support of the project:

"We at Starr-Iva Water were very pleased with the community's response to the potential project. Over 110 families formally committed to investing in a water tap, if available. Although all of these citizens will not be served with the initial phase, we plan to continue

expansion into the unserved parts of Abbeville County when customer participation is adequate and funding is available. The generous support from Abbeville County and diligent grassroots efforts from numerous individuals and organizations like the Friends of Lake Secession were essential to the successful completion of this RIA grant application. Please know that the Starr-Iva Water District is very grateful for the support from our community and Abbeville County."

He went on to supply a brief synopsis of the project: "The Lake Secession Water Line Extension (FY22) project will provide safe, reliable drinking water to as many as 51 residences in the McGill Circle community and will include approximately 3,500 linear feet of 8" Ductile Iron Pipe (DI), 1,500 LF (linear feet) of 6" DI, and 4,200 LF of 4" PVC water lines. Thirty-three customers along the route have already signed up for taps with assistance from Abbeville County who committed \$350,000 towards the project.

"Additionally, a grant application was made to the SC Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) for \$300,000. The total project cost is currently estimated at \$800,000. If

funding from RIA is successful, Starr-Iva Water anticipates that the project could be underway in late spring of 2022."

Jackson went on to say, in a telephone interview Thursday that the District should hear by the end of the year whether it received the RIA funding, and he noted also that Carlyle Shirley will be the consulting engineer on the project.

"I hope this is going to be the first of several phases," Jackson said. "There's a lot of interest up and down the lake."

What will Starr-Iva do if the RIA grant does not come through?

"We would hope to initiate some construction in the area without RIA's support but it would certainly have to be a scaled down version of the project," Jackson replied.

"We would also need to verify the County's support for a smaller project that served fewer folks than originally anticipated. The capital required for low-density, rural water projects often necessitates the leveraging of multiple funding sources or long term debt to create a viable project so the short answer to your question is, it depends, primarily on the factors mentioned above."



The Abbeville Artist Guild recently held a photo opportunity for winners in the Guild's recent photo contest. Winners included (front row, from left) Cecily Ferguson, Amanda Smith, Juliana Smith, and Meg Davis, and they were joined by (back row, from left) contest judge Steve Ehney and contest coordinator Buddy Wilson. The ladies are holding their winning photos. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# James Hughes Football Contest King

**By Henry E. Green**  
James Hughes of Calhoun Falls can come and claim his prize as the winner of the Press and Banner football contest for Week Number Three.

Contest Editor Lamar T. West crunched the numbers. "Eight entries missed on three picks, so 'Mister Tie Breaker' decided the winner," he said.

"The closest to Mr. Hughes was Mr. Burdette-- 'Tad Pole'--his guess of the 'total score' was off by only nine points," he continued.

The winner for the past two weeks, Adam Perdue, was in the running "just a little too far in his point selection" said West. "Keep those entries coming. Somebody will win \$50 next week. Good luck!"

Hughes rules over a week which saw Clemson defeat Georgia Tech and South Carolina lose to Georgia.

While both of those outcomes were expected, we were a little surprised that the Techies lost to the Charming Kitties by only eight points.

Meanwhile, there was no surprise at the margin of victory for the Bulldogs. The Gamecocks looked good at times, and kicker Parker White continues to do his job well, the defense did not exactly look like a group of

superheroes.

Two other games excited us--the Alabama/Florida game, and the Ohio State/Tulsa contest. If not for that failed two point conversation attempt, the Gators might have walked away with a win.

One more thing... It is definitely easy to see why Florida's opponents are a bit leery about playing in The Swamp. The Gator crowd definitely does its part to help the Boys in Orange and Blue.

The game was in Columbus, Ohio, at the Horseshoe, where the Buckeyes defeated Tulsa. That's not exactly a surprise, but what IS noteworthy is that Buckeye running back TreVeyon Henderson broke Archie Griffin's freshman rushing record. Henderson rushed for 277 yards and three touchdowns.

As for gazing into the crystal ball, we see Clemson picking up an important road win at N.C. State to the tune of 35-21.

South Carolina will be hosting a Kentucky team which is undefeated. In the past few years, the Wildcats have given the Gamecocks fits.

We hate to be pessimistic, but we see more of the same... Kentucky will prevail, 21-6.



The Dixie High School chorus performed at a suicide prevention memorial program at the Livery Stable in Abbeville recently. September is Suicide Prevention month, and the program was presented by Bow and Arrow Center of Hope. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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Abbeville High School alumnus Dylan Beauford has found success as a place kicker for the Erskine football team. (Contributed photo)

## Panthers prevail

*AHS makes very successful trip to Lowcountry, annihilating Woodland*

By Henry E. Green

Panther junior Antonio Harrison scored four touchdowns, rushed for 150 yards on seven carries, and Abbeville High School took advantage of three Woodland turnovers to defeat Woodland Friday night in varsity football, 52-7.

Abbeville came into the game ranked Number One in 2-A, while Woodland had not played a game.

Woodland, located in Dorchester, visited Abbeville last year, and was soundly beaten by the Panthers.

This year, AHS returned the favor, making the two hour and 45 minute drive down to the Lowcountry school.

AHS scored early and often, with Harrison setting the tone with a 35 yard touchdown run on Abbeville's first possession, and, with a successful PAT, the Panthers led 7-0 with 8:40 in the first quarter.

The Panthers continued their blitzkrieg later in the first quarter, with Bryson Hershberger scooping up a Woodland fumble and returning it to the Wolverine eight.

Alas, a holding call pushed the Panthers back, and several plays later, AHS had to settle for a 30 yard field goal attempt, but the Panthers were unsuccessful.

It was the first miss of the season for Panther kicker Addison Nickles, but the missed field goal was just about the only blemish on the night for the Garnet and Gold.

After trading possessions, the Panthers took over at the Woodland 32, and took advantage of this excellent field position, with Harrison scoring again on a 22-yard run.

With a successful PAT, AHS led 14-0 with four seconds left in the first quarter. In the second quarter, a punt return for a touchdown by Panther C.J. Vance was called back because of a penalty on Abbeville.

It did not matter, seemingly. AHS, starting at about mid-field, found the end zone again, courtesy of a seven yard run by Jamal Marshall. With a successful PAT, AHS led 21-0.

Shortly before halftime, Nickles was true on a 40 yard field goal attempt, and the Panthers led 24-0.

AHS was not done. Javarrio Tinch returned an interception 56 yards for a touchdown, and with a successful PAT, Abbeville led 31-0.

That was the way the first half ended, but there were more Panther fireworks to come.

It started when Harrison

returned a Woodland kickoff for 85 yards for a touchdown to open the second half, and, with a successful PAT, AHS led 38-0.

Woodland then began one of their most promising drives of the night, moving the ball all the way to the AHS 29.

Facing a fourth and one at the Abbeville 29, the Wolverines went for the yardage and did not make it, and AHS took over on downs.

The Panthers wasted no time, with Harrison rambling 68 yards for a touchdown. AHS led 45-0 with a successful PAT.

With a running clock, the Panthers found the end zone one more time, with Nick Goodwin scoring on a scoop and score to bring the Panther lead to 52-0.

In the fourth quarter, Woodland finally scored, providing the culmination for a 68 yard, 11-play drive. AHS led 52-7.

The score could have been worse. Carson Norman rambled 75 yards for a touchdown, but the score was called back because of an ineligible receiver down field.

Friday night's game was actually the first game of the season for the Wolverines, who had had COVID issues.

Abbeville improved to 4-0 with the win.

## Good foot forward

*AHS alumnus Dylan Beauford now place kicker for Erskine football*

By Henry E. Green

Erskine place kicker Dylan Beauford will tell you that being a successful kicker is in large part a matter of believing in yourself.

"It's very mental," he said. "You've just got to go out there and have a good mindset."

If you don't, you will never accomplish what you want between the goal posts.

And Dylan has accomplished much in his career as a kicker, going back to Abbeville High School, where he graduated in 2020, and where he had kicking duties for the Panthers.

At AHS, he achieved All Region and All State honors his junior and senior years.

At Abbeville, he blossomed as a kicker. In prac-

tice he kicked field goals as long as 61, and in games his longest was 47.

Now he is a freshman at Erskine, having transferred from Newberry, and has found EC much to his liking.

"It's a very Christ-centered school," said Beauford. "It's a very small school, which I like, too."

The teachers are nice, and so are the coaches, and Beauford is satisfied with a school that he said has a good atmosphere.

Beauford, who is studying elementary education with the hope of someday becoming a high school football coach, has kicked field goals as long as 60 yards in practice, and 41 yards during a game.

The young man is very disciplined. "I do practice a

lot," he said, noting that he may kick as many as 20 field goals during practice.

Beauford credits AHS assistant football coach Tony Temple with helping him get started in what has already been a distinguished career in place kicking.

"Coach Temple asked me to try out for the jayvees," he said, noting that the assistant coach had a hunch that Beauford had potential as a kicker.

"He knew I played soccer," said the Erskine freshman.

Beauford was only 14 when he made the junior varsity team, but only two weeks later he was pulled up to the varsity.

And he's never looked back.

## Dixie defeats Chiefs to get Region win

By Henry E. Green

Dixie defeated McCormick 10-8 Friday night in Due West, picking up a win in its Region opener, said Dixie head football coach Vic Lollis Monday.

Dixie scored first, on a Hunter Satterfield run, to go up 7-0, and then McCormick came back to score a touchdown, and made a two point conversion, to take an

8-7 lead.

The Hornets took the lead for good on a field goal by Andrew Nickles, to provide for the final score.

McCormick was on the six-yard line of Dixie with 41 seconds left, and attempted a field goal, and Dixie's Josh Miller blocked it, and the Hornets took a knee to end the game, the coach said. "It was a defensive battle

on both sides," Lollis said.

Dixie will have a bye this coming Friday due to a cancellation with Whitmire, because of COVID issues with Whitmire, the coach continued.

Dixie will go to Ware Shoals the following week for a Region battle.

The Hornets are 4-1 now, and 1-0 in the Region.

## Southside Christian defeats Blue Flashes

By Henry E. Green

The Calhoun Falls Charter Blue Flashes lost to Southside Christian 49-0 Friday night in Calhoun Falls, according to Blue Flashes head coach Juwan Owens.

Southside Christian, a Region foe, led 35-0 at halftime. "We were very inconsistent in the running game in the first half," said Owens, noting that the Flashes ran for about 15

yards in the first half, and 67 yards for the game.

Ty Turman was the leading rusher for the Flashes, with 47 yards.

The CF Charter punter Raikeem Clark was the "player of the game" for the Flashes, with some very good punts.

Southside Christian put the Flashes' secondary to the test. "They had 185 yards passing for the game," he

said.

This coming Friday the Flashes will travel to McCormick for a 7:30 p.m. game, a Region contest.

"We're trying to get better on offense this week," he said.

Owens respects the Chiefs. "They're a talented team, and they're very physical, and very fast," he said.

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# Abbeville to take road trip to B-HP

By Henry E. Green

Following a convincing victory over Woodland, Abbeville will now take another road trip, albeit one that's a bit closer to home.

Abbeville will make the journey to Honea Path this coming Friday night. Game time is 7:30 pm.

AHS head football coach Jamie Nickles voiced his respect for the Bears, whom

he called a "well-coached football team."

The Bears have five three hundred pounders among their linemen. They are 2-2, but they have lost to two undefeated teams, and they like to run about two thirds of their time on offense, and pass one third.

Facing B-HP, which has about twice as many students as Abbeville, will be

a "tall task," said Nickles.

This will be the first time in several years that the Panthers have played Belton-Honea Path, Nickles said.

Belton Honea Path, a 3-A School, will be facing AHS, a 2-A school which just happens to be the Number One ranked 2-A school in South Carolina.



Abbeville High School defeated Newberry at Newberry 35-6 recently, and these AHS players are waiting their turn to get on the field and display their gridiron skills. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# Brand New Abbeville High volleyball team has talent, leadership, says coach

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville High School volleyball is off and running--and serving!

AHS coach Anne Marie New provided a profile of the team and her coaching experience.

"This is my third year coaching," she said. "I coached my first year at Emerald, then last year started coaching at AHS. Last year we graduated two seniors. I also lost one of my biggest assets, my sister, Samantha Ferguson. She and I coached JV and Varsity together last year. She moved to Dixie High School and will coach softball in the spring. I miss having that time with her on the court! It felt like when we were in high school again. "

New was a shining star in volleyball at Dixie High School.

"In high school, I was a four time All-State player, five time All-region player, and three time Region Player of the year," she said. "I also was invited to play in the North-South All Star game my senior year. I also played on a nationally ranked volleyball club team."

This year's AHS volleyball team has not been unaffected by COVID.

"This year I have four seniors, a junior, three sophomores, and a freshman," she said. "Covid caused the cancellation of an early season tournament as well as a scrimmage for us this year. I think that this caused our team to not be as ready

for the games that we played and lost. Hopefully it will be a different story the next time we play."

And this year's team does have its share of talented players--and leaders.

"Garianna Burton is one of our biggest strengths," said New. "She is a sophomore who does just as well in the classroom as she does on the volleyball court. She made the region team last year and has improved greatly in the off season. Our other strength is having four starting seniors. This group of seniors all play club and work on their game in the off season.

I'm hoping this leadership will rub off on some of the younger kids so that we can be successful in the future."

## STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: WORLD SERIES ACROSS

1. Locker room infection?
6. Vow at #41 Across
9. Smoke plus fog
13. Veranda in Honolulu
14. Salmon on a bagel
15. Hindu religious teacher
16. To the left, on a boat
17. Hula dancer's necklace
18. Cheryl Strayed on the Pacific Crest Trail, e.g.
19. \*Winningest World Series team
21. \*Infield shape
23. Acronym, abbr.
24. Make or break, e.g.
25. Repellent brand
28. Minimal distortion
30. Loathes
35. Make children
37. Low-\_\_\_ diet
39. Cry of the Alps
40. Swarm like bees
41. Location of #6 Across vow
43. Tiny piece
44. Lack of intestinal movement
46. Siren's song
47. Buffalo lake
48. Makes sense, 2 words
50. \*Aid and \_\_\_
52. \*Game, \_\_\_ match
53. Like time with Bill Maher
55. Road, in Rome
57. \*Current baseball champions
61. \*Won in NLCS or ALCS
65. Mode of communication
66. \*\_\_\_ Now or Never
68. Styluses
69. \*\_\_\_ Martin, 5-time World Series champion
70. Bad-mouth
71. Upright in position
72. Let it stand, to proofreader
73. Is, in Paris
74. Rodeo rope

## DOWN

1. Kill
2. Spanish appetizer
3. Any minute, arch.
4. Winter cover
5. Of advanced technology, colloquially
6. Bad wishes
7. Buck's partner
8. Nitrous \_\_\_\_, a.k.a. laughing gas
9. Sink or this?
10. Type of shark
11. Damien's prediction
12. To put a girdle on
15. Showing signs of wear and tear
20. Writer \_\_\_ Jong
22. Retirement plan acronym
24. Like a Zoom session
25. Port of old Rome
26. \* \_\_\_ of dreams?
27. Let out of jail
29. \* \_\_\_ Classic
31. \*Runner's destination
32. Frankincense and myrrh, but not gold
33. Adjust, as laces
34. Between rain and snow
36. Outback birds
38. Prickle on a wire
42. \*Super Christopher
45. Definitely
49. p in mpg
51. Glittery decoration
54. Digression
56. Bone hollows
57. Young female socialites, for short
58. Fail to mention
59. Earnhardt of racing fame
60. Coating of aurum
61. Attention-getting sound
62. Pirates' affirmatives
63. \*ALCS counterpart
64. \*Nickname of Red Sox manager who won two World Series
67. \* \_\_\_ the season ..."

# Grant to fund transit system awarded

By Henry E. Green

A long-awaited grant to fund a transit system here in Abbeville County has been awarded, a grant which many hope will enhance non-emergency medical transportation here in the county.

"We received the \$100,000 grant from the National Rural Transit Assistance Program," said United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County executive director William Boone.

"The McCormick Area Transit System will be conducting this grant because they will be supplying the vehicles that will take our Abbeville County residents to their non-emergency medical appointments. They will have to contact the McCormick Transit System to set up their rides to and from the medical appointment.

Boone said he will be conferring with Becky Moon, Director of the McCormick Transit System, "to see how we may assist in getting the word out and how we get individuals to understand how the system works.

"I am just the guy that got the ball rolling for the project after (UCMAC staffer) Connie Normand told me that our UCMAC patients could not get to our clinic for their appointments," said Boone.

UCMAC is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization that has three component ministries--a free medical clinic, a food pantry system, and an emergency assistance ministry.

Boone has made a presentation before Abbeville County Council to impress on Council the need for such a system.

# Officials set 2021 dates for popular primitive hunting at Bussey Point

Submitted by  
US Army Corps of  
Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, J. Strom Thurmond Project, Forest, Fish, and Wildlife section will hold primitive weapons deer hunts in Bussey Point Corps Management Unit (CMU), located in Lincoln County, Georgia, in October, November and December.

These annual hunts maintain the deer population within the carrying capacity for the area, improve herd quality, and provide quality trophy opportunities. The 2,545-acre peninsula will open for scheduled hunts on the following dates:

- Dates Hunt Type
- Oct. 8 Archery ONLY
- Oct. 9 Archery & Muzzleloader
- Nov. 5-6 Archery & Muzzleloader
- Dec. 3-4 Archery/Muzzleloader

Hunting hours begin one hour before sunrise and end one hour after sundown

on each hunting day.

Hunters will be checked in and out, in their vehicles through the station located at the entrance gate. Hunters should remain in their vehicles during check-in and check-out. Hunters must present appropriate state hunting licenses and a state driver's license. Upon check-out hunters must check harvest in and/or provide survey answers before leaving the property. All hunters must abide by the CDC (https://bit.ly/37NFITT), Georgia Department of Public Health, and Lincoln County COVID-19 guidelines and mandates.

The bag limit is two does and one quality buck each day of each hunt. Quality bucks are those with racks having 15-inch main beam length or better on at least one side, or a 14-inch or greater outside spread. All state regulations, bag limits and harvest reporting will be strictly enforced. This is a non-quota hunt. All harvest

counts towards state bag limit.

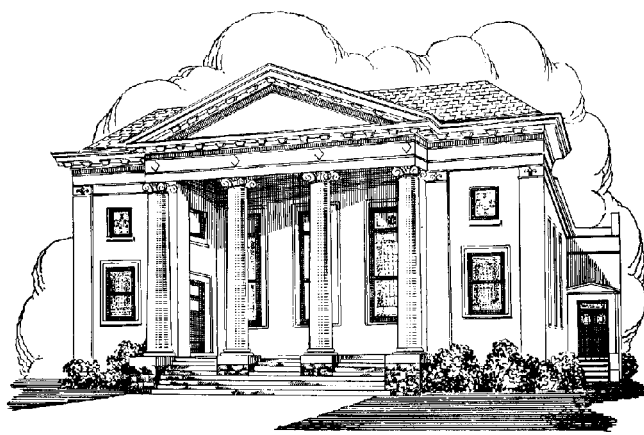
All hunts are limited to 100 hunters per day. Hunters will be registered on a first-come, first-served basis. Archery hunters are invited to participate in all scheduled hunts.

Park visitors who are not hunting are encouraged to find other recreation areas during the scheduled hunts. The management area will also be closed two days before each hunt except to hunters scouting or placing deer stands. No weapons are allowed in Bussey Point on scouting days.

To reserve or obtain a campsite at Bussey Point Recreation Area, call 877-444-6777 or visit webpage: www.recreation.gov.

For information regarding campgrounds and site availability near the Bussey Point CMU please visit the J. Strom Thurmond Lake webpage at: https://go.usa.gov/xfJUf.

# Abbeville First Baptist Church



is hiring!

We are accepting resumes at [abbefirst@wctel.net](mailto:abbefirst@wctel.net) for a full-time Office Manager (Secretary and Finance combined).

Job is open until filled.

# Abbeville Pentecostal Holiness Church

We will be celebrating Homecoming on Sunday, September 26th. Service will start at 11:00 a.m. with the Singing Epps Family as our featured guests. We will enjoy a potluck meal in the Fellowship Hall after the morning service. Come join us for a day of worship, fellowship, and some good food. The church is located at 109 Barnett St. For more information, call Pastor Jerry at 864-554-2299.

CROSSWORD													
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# Letter to the Editor

I used to think the utmost example of bravery was the resilient spirit of one person's ability; the endurance of self and selfish achievement in the midst of a world dictating its importance and meaning to the individual who struggled, often frustratingly, to push back against the world's dictates; its wants and needs.

Now I know that is not the definition of bravery.

Bravery is weathering both the calm and the storm and knowing God is with you during both times. For if God is with you, surely, who can be against you (Romans 8:31)? The final, perfect storm is upon us and we will be called to stand up and declare our allegiance to Messiah or to the prince of this world (satan,

the adversary). Align yourself with good lest you suffer eternal separation from the being who created you!

Stand firm and trust that God will be with you. For we are to endure this suffering only for a short time (1 Peter 1:6), considering the grand backdrop of eternity.

Bravery is aligning yourself with God's Will despite persecution, despite hatred, despite scoffers, despite scorn, despite "uncoolness." It's holding fast to unyielding faith despite intense adversity. The end times, I fear, will be much like the beginning times of the apostles spoken of in Acts.

There will be mistakes, of course, but there were mistakes when following your own will, too. And God's

Will reaps far better rewards than you could ever possibly conceive.

Be on the side of love, for God is love, though we've been told constantly the opposite is the case. We're in the birth pangs of our world's great shaking. I didn't ever think I'd see all this in my relatively short lifetime (34 years). It's imperative to choose an alliance, for at the rate things are accelerating according to biblical prophecy, we will be called to do so before too long. Hopefully it will be the alliance you were meant for.

*P.S. We were all meant to be with our Father, who art in Heaven.*

Amanda Smith

## Community calendar

### Guild to present workshop

On Saturday, October 2, the Guild will present Jesse's Veggies Workshop from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Abbeville Civic Center.

The cost is \$25 for AAG members and \$35 for non-members.

To register, one may call 366-5881, or email [abbevilleartistguild@gmail.com](mailto:abbevilleartistguild@gmail.com).

The deadline to register is Sept. 27.

### Lunch and Learn

There will be a Lunch & Learn on Tuesday, September 28, 12- 1pm, at Main St. United Methodist Church in Abbeville.

Are you soon turning 65?

Come learn how to sign up for Medicare. If you want to change your Medicare plan now is the time. Learn the difference between Medicare & Medicare Advantage plans.

To register call Ann Davis, 864-378-2315 or email [annjefferies@wctel.net](mailto:annjefferies@wctel.net) or call the church office, 864-366-2367.

### First Baptist plans hymn sing

First Baptist Church of Abbeville will have a hymn sing on Oct. 23 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend, and there is no admission charge. It is all

free!

### Hospital board to meet

The Abbeville Area Medical Center Board of Trustees is scheduled for Sept. 27 at noon. The meeting will be hosted at West Carolina Tel. Attendees have the option of attending virtually if needed.

1-843-427-0547 Code 773121733#

### Bluegrass in Lowndesville

J Rap Restorations in partnership with the Lowndesville Community Club will present the Cane Creek Bluegrass Band on Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. at the Lowndesville Park.

## a Word from "THE WORD"

Rev. Dr. John Keith

### End Times

**1 Peter 4:7 "But the end of all things is at hand; be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer (8) And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover a multitude of sins."**

Legendary football coach Vince Lombardi is credited with this statement: "nearing the end of a football game is the time to return to the basics of football." Here in 1 Peter 4:7-8 the apostle Peter reminds us that as we near the end of all things it is time to return to the basics of Christianity. Anyone with any sense of discernment can tell we are nearing the end of time as God prophesied in His Word. These two verses give us three things we should do as we near the end.

The first thing is we should live soberly. Basically, the word soberly means to keep one's mind steady and clear. That is difficult to do in these times in which we live. Our minds can become clouded with the fears of the days in which we live. As one listens to the news it is always bad and we are tempted to become depressed and throw up our hands in despair. Psalm 112:7 informs us how we can avoid that. Listen to this verse that describes a righteous person: "he will not be afraid of evil tidings, his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord."

We need to fix our hearts steadfastly on the Lord. That will keep us calm and collected. In Luke 21:28, Jesus

began to share some of the signs of the end of the ages.

In verse 28 Jesus makes this pronouncement: "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near." Did you catch that? Not only look up, but lift up your heads, i.e. don't hang your head in despair but lift up your head in expectation. If we fix our eyes steadfastly on the Lord we will be excited about His soon coming rather than dismayed over the events of the day.

The second thing is that we should live prayerfully. Peter tells us to "watch unto prayer." The word "watch" is the translation of a word that means be calm and collected in spirit. It is possible to be sober and not prayerful. Some folks are serious about the times but not prayerful. We should be in earnest prayer for our nation and for the millions of people all around the world who do not know Christ as Lord and Savior.

If Jesus were to come today, how many folks do you know that would not go to heaven? Shouldn't you be in prayer for their salvation? Shouldn't their lost condition drive you to your knees interceding for them? The urgency of the hour should make us

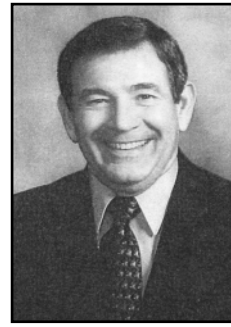
prayerful as we look for the Lord's return.

The third thing is that we should live lovingly. In verse 8 Peter tells us above all things have fervent charity. The word charity is the translation of the Greek word *agape*, which speaks of God's love.

Note the adjective before the word love—it is fervent. The phrase "above all" means in order of importance. In John 13:34 Jesus said, "a new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another: as I have loved you, that you also love one another. (35) by this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." The word "fervent" literally means "stretched out" and the idea it carries is that of an athlete straining to reach the goal.

That is what believers are to do in these end times—reach out in love to reach those who do not know Christ—strain to reach them with the love of Christ. When a runner nears the finish line he does not slow down, he keeps up the pace and speeds up if he can.

As we near the finish line let us not slow down our efforts of prayer and love for others—let us keep on keeping on until He comes.



[jkeithfbca@gmail.com](mailto:jkeithfbca@gmail.com)

Check out this week's football contest page for your chance to win \$50!

Visit the Church of Your Choice this Week!

## Philip Said

"By faith fill your soul with a due consideration of the provision that is laid up in Jesus Christ for this end and purpose, so that all your lusts, this very lust wherewith you are entangled, may be mortified. By faith ponder on this: that though you are in no way able in or by yourself to get the conquest over your distemper, though you are even weary of contending and are utterly ready to faint, yet that there is enough in Jesus Christ to yield relief to you" "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13)

– Excerpt From "Mortification of Sin"

by John Owen

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Daniel 9:9 KJV



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Abbeville Squared planted these flowers at the base on the veterans' monument on Abbeville's Court Square. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# Sounds pretty sweet!

## Portion of sale of doughnuts will go to benefit Abbeville Squared

**By Henry E. Green**  
Get your sweet tooth out! Abbeville Squared will collaborate with a local restaurant in early October on a fundraiser involving --wait for it--doughnuts. Two Brews restaurant on Abbeville's Court Square will sell doughnuts as a fundraiser for the group of volunteers which works to beautify downtown Abbeville. Mary Dixon of Abbeville Squared said that the doughnuts will be pre-ordered, and people will pick up their doughnuts and pay

for them between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. at Two Brews on Saturday, Oct. 2. To pre-order the doughnuts, which will be glazed doughnuts only, one needs to send a text in Messenger to Dee Dee Mitchell Baxter of Abbeville. "They can start doing it now, and they need to have their order in by Thursday, Sept. 30," she said. A portion of the revenue gleaned from the doughnut sales will go to Abbeville Squared, which also has a GoFundMe Page. The group is looking to

raise \$3,000 for flowers to plant in downtown Abbeville. The purpose of Abbeville Squared is to "promote Abbeville Town Square and other public spaces that have historical significance," according to the Abbeville Squared Facebook page. The group recently planted pansies, snapdragons, and variegated turmeric plant around the veterans monument between the Courthouse and the Opera House.

# City of Abbeville preparing for festival

**By Henry E. Green**  
The City of Abbeville will present the Hogs and Hens Festival on Oct. 15-16 in downtown Abbeville, according to Emily Bledsoe, special events coordinator. The festival will blend the joy of barbecue with the sweet sounds of live music. Barbecue vendors will be on hand to sell ribs, pulled pork, chicken, and other

goodies. "We'll have a couple of non-barbecue vendors as well," she said. There will also be a barbecue judging by the Southern Barbecue Network. Meanwhile, there will be live music, with a variety of styles, with bands performing on Court Square. "We'll have craft vendors on the Square and also in

the Livery Stable," she said. The crafts will be judged as well by the Abbeville Artist Guild. The festival will start on the evening of Friday, Oct. 15, and will continue throughout most of Saturday, according to Bledsoe. The festival has been held every year for nearly a decade.

# Election set in Due West

**By Henry E. Green**  
Marty Yannarella has resigned from Due West Town

Council, and a special election will be held in November to fill his Town Council seat. Yannarella resigned in August of this year, according to reports. A special election will be

held on Nov. 23 to fill his unexpired term, and filing for candidacy will begin on Sept. 29 at noon, and close on Oct. 8 at noon. The filing is by petition.



Boy Scouts from Abbeville's Troop 62 posted the colors Wednesday, August 11, during the Abbeville County School District's "opening day" event at Wright Middle, an event welcoming educators back for the 2021-22 school year. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# Council supports 'overflow' facility plan

**By Henry E. Green**  
Abbeville County Council is pledging its support to a project which Council members will help cope with the coronavirus pandemic. "Abbeville County Council expresses its support for efforts in the State Legislature to obtain State and/or Federal funds for the purpose of establishing and operating a temporary overflow facility in the Lakelands area for the treatment of COVID-19 patients," according to a resolution Council passed during a Sept. 13 meeting. "Furthermore, such a facility would be expected to provide treatment for COVID-19 patients who are unable to be placed in local hospitals and would allow local medical facilities to treat patients with life-threatening diseases and other conditions not related to COVID-19 who

are currently unable to receive critical in-patient care." The rationale? "Abbeville County and the greater Lakelands area have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and the Lakelands area continues to experience a significant spike in COVID-19 cases as a result of the delta variant," the resolution states. "The local hospitals serving Abbeville County and the surrounding area are encountering unprecedented numbers of patients requiring admission and/or treatment," the resolution continues. "There exists a situation in Abbeville County wherein patients requiring medical treatment and hospitalization are unable to obtain timely hospital treatment locally." According to published reports on Thursday, the

number of "total confirmed cases" of coronavirus in Abbeville County comes to 2,699, and the number of coronavirus-related deaths is 36, according to published reports. "AAMC has seen record numbers of patients in the Emergency Room over the last two weeks due to the current COVID-19 surge -- more than 50 a day, which for our hospital is a very high volume of patients," said Meg Davis, director of marketing, Foundation and volunteer services recently. "We typically see 25-30." The location of the overflow facility is yet to be determined, said Council chairman Billy Norris. "We do support it if it's needed, if the state feels like it's needed, and the hospital feel's like it's needed," he said.

# 'Lunch & Learn' to take look at Medicare

**By Henry E. Green**  
Healing Hands Ministry of Main Street United Methodist Church will present on Tuesday, Sept. 28, a Lunch & Learn program on Medicare, said program coordinator Ann Davis Wednesday. The program, which is all free, will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 28 from noon to 1 p.m. at the Greene Center of Main Street United Methodist Church. Lunch will be provided free. If you or someone you know will soon be turning 65, it will be time to sign up for Medicare. If you are not satisfied with your Medicare coverage, there is a window of time in which you can make

changes. That window of time lasts from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7, when you can make changes to your Medicare plan. Meanwhile, the program will take a look at a number of concerns commonly associated with Medicare. The program looks at: --How to maneuver through "the bureaucracy" to sign-up for Medicare. --How to choose a Medicare supplement plan and prescription plans --How to change plans if you are not happy with your current one --Differences between Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans --Means of assistance for meals, ramps, home repairs

and legal services presented by the Upper Savannah Area on Aging. To register to attend the program, one may call Ann Davis at 378-2315 or email her at [AnnJefferies@wctel.net](mailto:AnnJefferies@wctel.net). One may also call the church office at 366-2367. "Most of our programs are health-related," Davis said of the Healing Hands Ministry. Other programs have dealt with such topics as the benefits of music on your health, as well as vision, and meal preparation. Davis said she is assisted by Jane Agan and Gene Butler in the ministry. The church is located at the corner of North Main and East Pinckney in Abbeville.

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# Obituaries

## Waldrop

Alma P. Waldrop, 94, of Abbeville, SC, passed away on Wednesday evening, September 15, 2021, at the residence of her daughter, Deb Syms, where she lived since April 2018.

Alma was born on June 22, 1927 to Gordon N. and Etta P. Pierce in Homestead, Florida. The family moved from Homestead to Adel, GA when Alma was an infant and then back to Homestead where Alma graduated from Homestead High School in 1945. Following graduation, she began working as a telephone operator with Southern Bell Telephone. It was as an employee there that she met her husband, James L. Waldrop, who was a telephone repairman in Miami/Homestead. They were married on Alma's 20th birthday, June 22, 1947.

Alma was the loving mother of Jim's two children, James Randall and Gwendolyn Diane; as well as their four daughters, Linda Gail, Dawn Lilette, Deborah Louise and Robin Deanne.

She enjoyed playing basketball in high school. Alma learned to sew at an early age. She was a very talented seamstress who outfitted her entire family in clothing from work shirts, neck and bow ties and suit coats for her husband to all clothing for her children from infancy to adulthood. Alma made play and school clothes, prom dresses, wedding attire for all the attend-



**Alma P. Waldrop**

ants, as well as the bride, cheerleading and majorette uniforms, and clothing for other clientele. At one time, she even drove a flat-nosed school bus in Miami. Her family was amazed at the quiet, shy woman taking a job such as that, but Alma became a godly influence in many of the children's lives and received letters from some of those students telling her how much they loved her. Alma was an avid gardener, also. She enjoyed working in the yard, probably more than inside the house; however, she was a fabulous Southern cook.

Alma and Jim were faithful members of several Baptist churches over the course of their married life. She also taught Sunday School to children and adult women for many years. They were members of Sylvania Heights Baptist Church in Miami, Florida, First Baptist Church of Crescent City, Florida and Laurel Baptist Church in Greenville, SC.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Gwendolyn and

four siblings, Annalou, W.R., Reba and Nadine.

Alma is survived by a son, James Randall (Patricia) of Satsuma, FL, son-in-law, Barney William Cumbess (husband of the late Gwendolyn Diane), Linda W. Thomas (Earnest) of Huntsville, AL, Dawn L.

Stevenson (Alan) of Greenville, SC, Deborah L. Syms (wife of the late Rev. George J. Syms) of Abbeville, SC and Robin D. Gerardi (John) of Abbeville, SC; sixteen grandchildren, twenty-seven great-grandchildren and eighteen great-great grandchildren.

The family received friends 1:00PM - 2:00PM, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, in New Hope Presbyterian Church fellowship hall. Funeral services began at 2:00PM on Tuesday in the church sanctuary with Rev. James Norris officiating. Burial followed in Robinson Memorial Gardens, 1425 Powdersville Road, Easley, SC 29642.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Mrs. Waldrop, may be sent to Samaritan's Purse, Attn: Donor Ministries, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607.

The family is at the home in Abbeville, SC.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting [www.harrisfuneral.com](http://www.harrisfuneral.com).

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

**Missing person:** Adam Clark Harvey was last seen Sept. 11 around Mt. Carmel Rd. in Abbeville County wearing a black shirt and black jeans. He is a 23-year-old Caucasian male, is 6'1" and has red hair. If seen, please contact the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office at 864-446-6000. (Photo courtesy of Abbeville County Sheriff's Office)



## Inmate dies at Abbeville County Detention Facility

Abbeville, SC (09-16-2021, 12:32 am, EDT).

Dr. Mark Dorn, Abbeville County Coroner, advised that his office was notified around 9:00 am this morning, Thursday, September 16, 2021, of the sudden death of a male inmate at the Abbeville County Detention Facility. According to a recent news release from the Abbeville County Office of the Coroner.

EMS was notified, by the

Detention Facility personnel, that a 59-year-old male, who was arrested Wednesday night, September 15, 2021, for Driving Under Suspension by the Abbeville City Police Department, was found unresponsive this morning in a holding cell.

Life saving measures were initiated, but unsuccessful. He was pronounced dead at the Abbeville Area Medical Center.

**UPDATE: (5:51 PM)** The

name of the deceased was James Lanny Burdette, of Anderson, DOB 09-27-1961.

An autopsy is scheduled for tomorrow morning, Friday, September 17, 2021, at 9:30 at the Abbeville County Forensic Center.

The investigation is ongoing by the Office of the Coroner, the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office, and the State Law Enforcement Division.

## Obituaries

### Saxon

Jacqueline 'Jackie' Funkhouser Saxon, 77, wife of the late Larry Saxon, died Thursday, September 16, 2021, at her home. She was born in St. Louis, Missouri to the late George Funkhouser and Edith Dudley Funkhouser.

Jackie was a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great grandmother. She was involved with her family and held them close in her heart. Jackie was a member of Beulah Baptist Church.

She is survived by a son, Anthony Michael Tanner of Tennessee; three daughters, Kathy Denise Beauford (Randy) of Abbeville, Melis-



**Jacqueline 'Jackie' Saxon**

sa Ann Poole and Michelle Jennings, both of Anderson; a brother, Gary Wayne Funkhouser of Missouri; a sister, Geraldine Faye Bono of St. Louis, Missouri; numerous grandchildren,

great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

Graveside services in Warrenton Presbyterian Church Cemetery will be private.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Jackie, may be sent to the American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692.

The family is at their respective homes.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting [www.harrisfuneral.com](http://www.harrisfuneral.com).

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

## Southard

Claudia Annette Southard, 71, died Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at the Whitten Center in Clinton, SC. She was the beloved daughter of the late Elmer Robert Southard, Sr. and Evelyn Mote Southard.

Claudia, for most of her life, was a resident of the Whitten Center. She became family with the staff and enjoyed many friendships with her fellow residents. Claudia was of the Methodist faith.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Elmer Southard, Jr. and a sister, Linda Southard.

Claudia is survived by her brother, William E. 'Bill' Southard of Walterboro, SC; a nephew, William E. Southard, Jr. (Melissa) of Charleston, SC; a niece, Angela Southard Winther of Mt. Pleasant, SC and a sister-in-law, Candy Southard of Norman, OK.

Graveside services were 12:00PM, Monday, September 20, 2021 in Long Cane Cemetery with Rev. Brandon Fulmer officiating.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting [www.harrisfuneral.com](http://www.harrisfuneral.com).

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

## Deese

Cassie Deese, 64, of Abbeville, SC, wife of Curtis Deese, died Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at the Abbeville Area Medical Center. She was born in Fayetteville, NC to the late John McInnis and Ruthal Foster McInnis.

Cassie was reared in Kannapolis, NC and employed for many years with the What-A-Burger Restaurant as a waitress and cook. She enjoyed reading; most of all, Cassie loved her family with all of her heart.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Terry McInnis and sister, Trudy Blocker.

Cassie is survived by her husband of 29 years, Curtis, of the home; her children, Joey Lee Duty, Jr. of Abbeville, SC, Chris Deese of Harrisburg, NC, Patricia Blocker and Alisia M. Deese, both of Kannapolis, NC; two brothers, Mark McInnis of Abbeville, SC and Bruce McInnis of Shelby, NC; sister, Mary Gainey of Kannapolis, NC;

and a grandson, Christian Blocker of Mt. Pleasant, NC.

All services will be private. Memorial contributions, in memory of Cassie, may be sent to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting [www.harrisfuneral.com](http://www.harrisfuneral.com).

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

## Littleton

Tracy Blair Littleton 60, husband of Lynn Littleton, went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Sunday, September 12, 2021. Born in Greenville, he was the son of Frances K. George (Charley), and the late Vernard Littleton. Tracy attended Greenville High School and was a graduate of Clemson University. Tracy was a member of Warrenton Presbyterian Church. Tracy worked many years at Pirelli Cable where he enjoyed his co-workers, followed by his self-owned electrical and plumbing business. Tracy especially enjoyed spending time with



**Tracy Blair Littleton**

his family and many fur buddies which held a special place in his heart.

In addition, he was preceded in death by a brother, Dan Steading, and grandparents, James Wallace Knox and Ella Brooks Knox.

Tracy is survived by his wife of 30 years, Lynn; Two daughters, Blair Wallace (Caleb) and Brooks Littleton (Kaelan) of Abbeville; Mother, Frances K. George (Charley); A special aunt, Sara K. Morgan; A grandson Eli Wallace and future granddaughter Ansleigh Deese.

The family is at the home. A private memorial service will be announced at a later date.

## McNeill

Clara "Lucille" Epps McNeill, 91, widow of Samuel Lockridge McNeill went to be with her Lord Sunday Sept. 19, 2021 after passing at Carlyle Senior Care in Fountain Inn, SC.

Born in Greenville, SC she was a daughter of the late William Orin Epps and June Amanda McAllister Epps.

Lucille was a homemaker and enjoyed gardening, cooking, and doing yard work. She also enjoyed spending time with her

family and friends. She especially loved helping raise her grandchildren.

Survivors include: three sons Samuel Walker McNeill, Jr., William Tracy McNeill and Donald Lee McNeill all of Abbeville, SC; a daughter Shirley McNeill Walker (Charles) of Laurens, SC; a sister Martha Sandlin of NC; eight grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren; a nephew Don Gossett of Greenville, SC.

Funeral services will be conducted at Chandler-Jackson Funeral Home Chapel on Thursday Sept. 23, 2021 at 3:00 PM. The family will receive friends Thursday afternoon from 2:00 until 3:00 PM prior to services.

Online condolences may be made to the McNeill family by visiting [www.chandlerjacksonfh.com](http://www.chandlerjacksonfh.com)

The Chandler-Jackson Funeral Home and Cremation Services is assisting the McNeill.

## Slye

Deborah 'Debbie' Burns Slye, 68, of Due West, wife of Norman L. Slye, Jr., died Monday, September 13, 2021, at the Hospice House in Greenwood. She was born in Fort Campbell, KY to the late James and Katherine Ellis Burns.

Reared in Kenosha, Wisconsin, Debbie attended Bradley High School. She had a heart for service and was employed as a CNA at the Hospice House for six years. A multi-faceted crafter, Debbie enjoyed sewing, crocheting, cross-stitching and her specialty, making 'bashful dolls'. A marvelous cook, Debbie's kitchen was a favorite place in her home.

A member of the Abbeville First Baptist Church and the Koinonia Sunday School class, she was also involved

with the children's programs at the church.

In addition to her parents, Debbie was preceded in death by three brothers, Jimmy Burns, Michael Burns and Wayne Ellis; and a sister, Linda Lonas.

She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Norman; two sons, Daniel Wayne Slye (Melissa Hite) of Hodges and Timothy Michael Slye of Due West; brother, Ricky Burns of Kenosha, WI; sister, Cheryl Pierce (David) of Maine; six grandchildren, Kaitlyn Slye, Jacob Slye, Isaiah Slye, Kayen Rapley, Jaylyn Slye and Josephine Slye.

The family received friends 10:00AM - 11:00AM, Tuesday, September 21, 2021 in Harris Funeral Home. Funeral services began

at 11:00 AM in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Daniel Royster officiating. Burial followed at 1:00PM in M.J. 'Dolly' Cooper Veterans Cemetery, 140 Inway Drive, Anderson, SC 29621.

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

The family is at the home of Daniel and Melissa, 1860 Hwy. 185, Hodges, SC 29654.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting [www.harrisfuneral.com](http://www.harrisfuneral.com).

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



# Ssssssssssnake!

Submitted by  
**Charles Crowther**

Several years ago I attended an auction, prices were going super cheep. I spotted a couple of rolls of plastic netting. If they went for a couple of bucks, I would like to have them. Well, the items before the netting weren't selling, so the auctioneer added the next in line. Somebody bid a dollar, he added the netting, nobody bid, so the auctioneer added more and another gentleman then outbid others and bought it all. I approached the gentleman and asked if he was interested in selling the netting. He said yes, I could have it for a dollar, but I would have to take the snake, too. SNAKE, WHAT SNAKE?

It seemed that a snake had tried to crawl through one roll of netting some time ago and did not make it. His skeleton was still encased in the netting. Snake number one. I paid the dollar, shook the old snake out and took the rolls home.

Sometime later, my wife said that she needed some netting to cover flowers for protection from the deer. I brought it out and cut some for her. I lay the netting beside the air condition unit

and forgot about it. A month or so later, I was walking by the AC and saw something move. A small King Snake (about 18 inches) was caught in the netting. King Snakes are fairly docile and a good snake to have around. So, I got a pair of scissors and proceeded to cut the snake out of his predicament. It was pretty stressed out and laid there for about an hour, then crawled away. That was snake number two.

I moved the netting to my backyard shed, but in a wind storm it was blown down beside the building. A couple of months later I saw movement in the netting again. Snake number three was caught. Another King Snake about three feet long. Old Mr. Snake was happy to see me and was quite still as I cut it from the netting with a pair of scissors. After it was freed, it laid there for about 30-40 minutes just looking at me and then slithered away.

I decided to store the netting at the farm.

Sometime later, I was under the shed and saw the netting move again. Snake number four. This time a rat snake about 24 inches long. Rat snakes aren't too friendly and this one got feisty. I said, alright, I'll let

you be until tomorrow. Feisty was its downfall because the next morning when I went back to the farm some animal had made a meal of the snake. I cleaned up and put the netting up.

The following Spring as I was looking around the shed, I saw something lying on the floor. Snake number five. This time, it was a red-bellied water snake about 20-24 inches long. This snake had the same fate as snake number one. So, I cleaned up again and put the netting up again.

Last year while in the shed, I found number six in the netting. Another King snake, a pretty marked snake about 3 ft long. Unfortunately, I was too late and had to clean up again.

This year my wife said she needed more netting. I pulled the netting out and a small snake skeleton was in it (snake number seven).

The netting was put on the ground next to the garden. While cutting grass, I saw what you see in the picture (numbers eight and nine).

Why do I keep catching King Snakes? I have no idea, but there will not be a snake number ten. All that netting went to the landfill.



These quite deceased king snakes were caught in the wire helping to protect Charles Crowther's farm on the outskirts of Abbeville from intruders, such as deer. Crowther lives in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# Seventh annual deer supper coming up

By Henry E. Green

A number of local public safety agencies are collaborating to present the Seventh Annual Public Safety Deer Supper on Thursday, Sept. 30 at the Abbeville Agriculture Building in Abbeville, according to the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office.

The Abbeville County Sheriff's Office, the City of Abbeville Police Department, Abbeville County

Emergency Services, and the City of Abbeville Fire Department will be getting together to present the deer supper which will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and which will be "take out only."

It is all free to the public, and the menu will include barbecue, deer sausage, tenderloin, chicken and hash, and a variety of services will be served, but NO alcoholic beverages will be allowed.

The event is free to the public, and the public is invited to attend.

The Abbeville County Agriculture Building is located at 265 Industrial Park Road in Abbeville.

Deer suppers in the past have drawn hundreds of people, which Abbeville County Sheriff Ray Watson is hoping to make an annual tradition.

# PTC Automotive students receive EPA Certification

Submitted by  
**Kristine Hartvigen**

Nine automotive technology students at Piedmont Technical College (PTC)

recently completed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Section 609 Technician Training and Certification Program. Each passed the EPA's certification test with a score of 84% or higher.

"We are very proud of these students and their accomplishment," said Automotive Technology Program Director Gerald Sartin. "The certification is part of the U.S. Clean Air Act of 1990. Since 1992, federal law has required any technician who repairs or services a motor vehicle air conditioning system for payment must be properly trained and certified under Section 609. The certification is good for life."

Students who earned Section 609 certification are: Cole Cochran, Austin Dorn, Glen Gary, Jonathan Link, Brandon Lopez, Lawrance Partlow, Austin Rosas, Jonathan Saxon, and Kenneth Thompson.

"These young men have worked very hard to expand their skill set, and this certification will make them even more valuable assets in the automotive technology workforce," Sartin said.

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