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16 PAGES

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



Abbeville High School defeated Oceanside Collegiate Academy in Columbia recently to claim the 2-A state championship in varsity football. The Panthers' Jacob Ferguson (62) holds aloft the state championship trophy following the game. (Photo by Andy Johnston)

## ‘Absolutely fantastic’ AHS head football coach Jamie Nickles pleased with Abbeville turnout for state championship games

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville community has come together in a display of happiness following the AHS Panthers' victory over Oceanside to win the state championship Friday afternoon.

One observer was struck by how many fans Abbeville brought with them to Charles W. Johnson Stadium in Columbia.

AHS head football coach Jamie Nickles noted that Abbeville brought perhaps three times as many fans to the stadium Friday afternoon as did Oceanside.

One factor may have been that Oceanside has fewer alumni than Abbeville, since Oceanside has been in existence for only five years,

Nickles said.

The coach was indeed pleased with the turnout of the Abbeville fans.

“The crowd we had was absolutely fantastic,” the coach went on to say.

Nickles admitted that he was concerned at the beginning of the second half, when the Landsharks scored after they recovered an Abbeville fumble.

AHS soon recovered the momentum, however, and went on to win its eighth state championship under Nickles' direction.

The coach said he told his troops at halftime to “stay focused and finish the job.”

So where do they go from here? Is it too soon to ask about next year?

“We enjoy this for right now,” he said.

Abbeville County School District Superintendent Dr. Mason Gary had this to say about the Panther victory:

“I am very proud of our Abbeville Panthers who played and were coached so well Friday afternoon.

Many said it would be a ‘tall task’ to win, but as usual our players and coaches don’t back down and in this ‘David vs. Goliath’ game our young men played with heart, never stopped pounding away, and provided an old fashioned to Oceanside.

“I am so proud of the efforts of all who got us to this game and it was exciting to see.”

## City of Abbeville plans Christmas parade

By Henry E. Green

The City of Abbeville will present its annual Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 11 a.m.

The parade will begin on Lee Street, travel down Main Street, through the Square and end around Cherry Street, said City of Abbeville special events coordinator Emily Bledsoe.

“We don’t have an official grand marshal yet, although

we do have a group in mind!” said Bledsoe.

“Right now, we have about 30 entries including local businesses like WZLA, Wired Treats, and Richie Funeral Home.”

Many local churches and organizations will be in the parade as well, such as the Abbeville FFA, Abbeville Country Animal Shelter, Girl Scout Troop 3499, American Legion, and the

Captivating Montessori School. Of course, Santa will be in attendance too!

Those who wish to sign up for the parade may do so at the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/dmLB7sVr2a>

“We don’t award prizes for entries, but we’re looking forward to seeing all the floats, decorations, and costumes,” Bledsoe said.

The ornaments are here! The Wright Middle School Christmas ornaments are now on sale at the Abbeville County Chamber of Commerce and Wright Middle School, according to WMS media specialist Ann Hawthorne, who is holding one of the ornaments. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



## Man in red Mister Claus pays visit to Abbeville County community parades

By Henry E. Green

Santa Claus was very much in evidence this past weekend here in Abbeville County.

You could find Mr. Claus making an appearance in the Calhoun Falls Christmas parade Saturday, for example.

Presented by the Calhoun Falls Chamber of Commerce, the parade featured approximately 50 entries.

There were trophies for the best entries, as provided by Rebeca McCaslan, Calhoun Falls Chamber executive director:

- Classic car--Cadillac Karaoke, John David Fleming
- Classic Car runner-up--Tim Dixon as Santa in a yellow corvette
- Best Decorated Bicycle--Cason McCaslan
- Best Decorated

Float--McAllister's Chapel Best Float runner up--Savannah Grill

Best Performer--Phoenix Dance Academy

Best Performer runner up--Lincoln County band

Mr. Claus was a busy man, as he could be found at the Donalds Christmas parade, which was also held Saturday.

The winning entries in the Donalds parade included the following, according to Donalds Fire Department chief Ronnie Vaughn:

- First place--Westwood Sheds--Best Float
- Second place--Dance Hall Academy
- Third place--Dixie High School band
- The parade was presented by the Town of Donalds and the Donalds Fire Department.

Due West had its Christmas parade Friday evening. The winning entries, according to the Town of Due West, were as follows:

- First place--Due West Robotics
- Second place--Dixie High School FFA
- Third place--Due West ARP preschool
- The grand marshals were Dot and Tracy Carter of Due West.

Meanwhile, in Abbeville, the Abbeville County Chamber of Commerce presented a Cookie Walk Saturday afternoon.

The Walk included 136 participants, and there were 18 cookie stops, said Anna LaGrone, Chamber director, who thanked the participating merchants.



Santa Claus arrived in a buggy for the Calhoun Falls Christmas parade, held Saturday, Dec. 3. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



# Driver dies in crash

A driver died in a traffic accident on Old Hodges Road on the outskirts of Abbeville, according to published reports and to the Abbeville County Coroner.

According to published reports, the driver of a 2005 pickup truck was traveling south on Old Hodges Road near Fuller Road, about four miles north of Abbeville, when the truck crossed the

center line just after midnight Friday.

According to reports, the driver over-corrected and the truck went off the road, hit an embankment and hit a tree.

"He was ejected from the vehicle, and died at the scene of multiple blunt force traumatic injuries," said Abbeville County Coroner Dr. Mark Dorn Tuesday.

He was not wearing a seatbelt, the Coroner said.

The driver was identified as Marshall Brandon Wilson, 50, of Abbeville, Dorn said.

The Coroner stressed the importance of wearing seat-belts. If the driver had been wearing a seat belt, possibly "his life could have been spared," he noted.



Pictured from L-R: South Carolina House Member John McCravy III; WCTEL CEO, Jeff Wilson; WCTEL Board President, Wes McAllister; Senator Billy Garrett. (Photo contributed)

## The South Carolina House of Representatives recognized WCTEL during December board meeting

Submitted by  
Stephen Taylor

congratulating WCTEL on the occasion of the cooperative's 70th anniversary and "to wish the outstanding employees and administration many more years of service to the citizens of their community."

"WCTEL stands on the shoulders of our founding members ... those who recognized a need in our communities and knew our residents deserved the same services as those available in urban areas," says Jeff Wilson, WCTEL CEO. "They organized, made personal investments and went to work for each

other. Today, those same values have carried us into the next generation of connectivity: fiber internet. We couldn't be more pleased to serve our communities with fiber internet service that rivals some of the fastest service in the country."

WCTEL was also recognized by Broadband Now as the Top Fastest Internet Provider in South Carolina in the Small Provider Category, along with the Top Fastest Provider in Georgia and is among the Top 5 Fastest Internet Providers Nationwide for the same category.

Abbeville, S.C., December 5, 2022 – The South Carolina House of Representatives recognized West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative (WCTEL) during the cooperative's December board meeting for its longstanding history of connecting rural western South Carolina, first by telephone, and now with high-speed fiber internet.

South Carolina House Member John McCravy III and Senator Billy Garrett presented the resolution,

## Sheriff Ray Watson

### Cordially invites the Community

to the Memorial Service In Honor of Sgt. Danny Wilson & Constable Donnie Ouzts

The Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Abbeville County Law Enforcement Complex, 21 Old Calhoun Falls Road, Abbeville, SC 29620

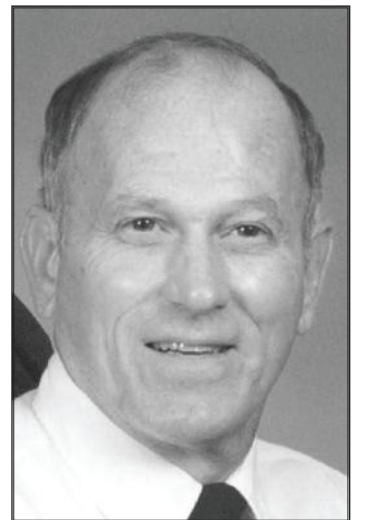
### In Memory & In Honor of Abbeville County's Fallen Heroes

Sgt. Danny Wilson



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04/29/1996-12/08/2003

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1 John 2:19 (KJV)

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Dixie High School FFA Chapter secretary Roz Partain, president Merri Beth Jacks, junior advisor Mary Katherine Hannah, historian Carson Wilson, and vice president Emalie White all made a presentation about a Dixie High School FFA project involving recycling -- all during the recent Abbeville County Soil and Water Conservation District Christmas dinner. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Doing their part Scouts from Troop 62 help out in community Thanksgiving dinner

**By Henry E. Green**  
Scouts from Abbeville's Troop 62 joined in the effort to make the community Thanksgiving effort a reality. "We all met at Abbeville's Main Street United Methodist at 9:30 am Thanksgiving morning, received lists of those to whom we would deliver food and then delivered the food door to door all over our community," said Troop 62 Scoutmaster Ed Patton. "It was an amazing effort by all parties involved." Amanda Morgan, Director of Community Health, Wellness and Outreach, praised the Scouts for their willingness to help out with

the effort. "The community could not have been served in the capacity with home deliveries as they were without their assistance," she said. "Their help was invaluable and appreciated." The Scouts have been making their mark in other ways. Among their many activities is their presentation of the colors to help open the teachers' assembly which the School District has every year at Wright Middle School in conjunction with the beginning of the new school year. "Our troop for many, many

years has presented the colors before the teachers meetings," Patton said. "It goes back as far as when Wright was still located on Branch Street. As a matter of note the old Wright Middle School flag pole now resides at our scout hut." Recently members of Troop 62 worked with the Corps of Engineers building a ramp, Patton reported. "The scouts traveled to the Georgia side of Lake Russell and spent their day fulfilling the portion of the Scout Oath that reads 'To Help Other People at all times,'" Patton said.

# Pass the turkey!

## Community Thanksgiving meal goes well, Amanda Morgan of AAMC says

**By Henry E. Green**  
There's just something about sharing a meal that establishes a particularly valuable bond of fellowship. Abbeville Area Medical Center took charge recently of plans for a community Thanksgiving meal held on Thanksgiving Day here in Abbeville. "The annual Community Holiday Meal for Thanksgiving went very well," said Amanda Morgan, Director, Community Health, Wellness and Outreach with Abbeville Area Medical Center. "It was well supported by over 30 volunteers and served 500 meals to those who are less fortunate. "We got the food from Haven of Rest Ministries in Anderson. This was a tradition prior to me taking the project. Morgan credited about half a dozen community members "as part of our food alliance task force that stems from Be Well Abbeville -- our community coalition--that have been meeting together to make sure we continue to meet the food insecurities of our county. "We established a sustainable model for any donations

since this annual tradition is all voluntary. It was important that the tradition of taking care of our community for holiday meals continue and establish a methodology to serving. "The amount of organization and details in planning to make sure volunteers had assignments, delivery routes were taken care of, and we had enough food at our partnership locations was important. New this year were area partnerships to collaborate and serve more food deserts around the county, she went on to say. "We partnered with Dreams with Open Arms in Calhoun Falls, and Abbeville Church of God," Morgan went on to say. "These two facilities picked assembled food boxes and distributed to their service areas for better accessibility. "The other two nonprofit agencies that have remained consistent with the outreach efforts of the Thanksgiving meal were the Abbeville Women's Faith Home ministry, and the Abbeville Boy Scouts. Both agencies provided services to their community in their time of need," she said.

**Reviving a tradition**  
The Thanksgiving holiday meal represents something of a revival of a tradition launched many years ago, a tradition which June and Rayford Prince of Abbeville were instrumental in establishing. For various reasons, including COVID, the tradition went into hiatus, but this year AAMC collaborated with a number of organizations, as Morgan indicated, to bring it back. Main Street United Methodist Church in Abbeville was the site of the community meal the Princes established, and this year it remains a focal point.

Incidentally, June and Rayford Prince were honored recently with a parade that proceeded past their home and that included the Abbeville High School marching band.

The parade was organized by the many friends of the couple, whose numerous contributions to the community include a prison ministry, and service to United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County.

## Bridges over borders Rotary exchange program offers numerous benefits, speaker says

**By Henry E. Green**  
Dan's favorite food is . . . fried chicken. He's not exactly unique in that. His love is shared by thousands of people in the Deep South, and beyond. What is interesting is that Dan is from Romania, and he's a Rotary exchange student living in the Greenville area. Dan, whose last name was not given, was a guest at the Abbeville Rotary Club recently. The 17-year-old visitor goes to Greenville High School, and is enjoying his time in the United States. "It's been great so far," he told Rotarians. He does have his good days and his bad ones, but the experience has been worth it. "I got out of my comfort zone," he said. Dan was introduced by Wade Cleveland, who told Rotarians about the Rotary exchange program, and its capacity to change the lives of young people in a most positive way. Cleveland, a member of a Rotary club in Greenville,

met with the Abbeville club's board of directors in October about the program. "A wise person once said, 'Pull a thread here, and it will unravel somewhere else in the world,'" said Cleveland, the Rotary District 7750 Youth Exchange Chair. "Thus, we are all connected. 'The whole world is where we live now,'" he said. Strengthening that connection is the Rotary youth exchange program. "Rotary operates the largest high school exchange program in the world," he said, noting that every year as many as 8,000 students broaden their horizons internationally with the program. Rotary has exchange programs of varying duration, and they all pay rich dividends, deepening your understanding of the world at large, according to Cleveland. The program promotes peace and good will, and creates global citizens. Host families do not have to be members of Rotary. More than one American has expressed concerns to Cleveland about the student

exchange program. "Is it safe?" they will ask him. To Cleveland, it illustrates something of an ignorance on the part of Americans about the world at large. After all, when was the last time you heard about a school shooting in a country other than the United States? Cleveland showed a number of photos depicting exchange students enjoying life. There were two French boys making crepes in the kitchen, there was a young lady from Norway who was crowned Miss West Oak High School. The exchange program is not immune to politics. "We're not doing exchanges with Russia right now," he said. During the question-and-answer session, Rotarian Mike Mahaffey noted that he had been an exchange student to Brazil when he was younger. "It's a great club project," Cleveland said. "You build enduring friendships."

## Three people arrested for area break-ins

**Submitted by  
Captain Matthew Graham,  
Abbeville County  
Sheriff's Office**  
The Abbeville County Sheriff's office has received numerous reports of storage unit break-ins dated all the way back to the first of the year, according to a Sheriff's Office news release. During the course of the investigation, investigators were able to make an arrest on three people responsible for a burglary that was

reported on 10/21/2022, where 14 guns were stolen. On 11/30/2022 Robert Anthony Taylor DOB: 10/10/1977 of Audrey Hardy Dr. Anderson, was arrested and charged with Burglary, Grand Larceny, and Criminal Conspiracy. On 12/1/2022 Cheryl Elaine Ashley DOB: 08/26/1972 of Coleman St. Apartments, Abbeville was arrested and charged with Petit Larceny, Burglary, and Criminal Conspiracy. Terry Prue Holley DOB: 01/01/1962 of Highway 284

Abbeville, was arrested on 12/5/2022 and charged with Burglary, Grand Larceny, and Criminal Conspiracy. Terry Holley and Cheryl Ashley have since been released on bond, while Robert Taylor is currently at the Abbeville County Detention Center awaiting bond. The Abbeville County Sheriff's Office is still actively investigating the other storage unit break-ins and hasn't been able to link the three mentioned above to any of the other ones.

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# Small Business Saturday Football game might have kept people home

**By Henry E. Green**

What will the Christmas season hold for Abbeville businesses?

One downtown Abbeville merchant called the Small Business Saturday a "disaster" in Abbeville.

The merchant, who asked to remain anonymous, said that the Carolina-Clemson football game, which was played that same day, and which started at noon, might very well have been a factor.

People stayed home to watch the game, instead of going out to shop.

The merchant said that Abbeville was not the only community suffering through it—a number of merchants in Greenwood reported a less than spectacular Small Business Saturday.

According to sba.gov, Small Business Saturday is "a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for their communities."

Observed on the last Saturday in November, Small Business Saturday falls between Nov. 24 and Nov. 30, and was first observed in

the U.S. in 2020, according to sba.gov

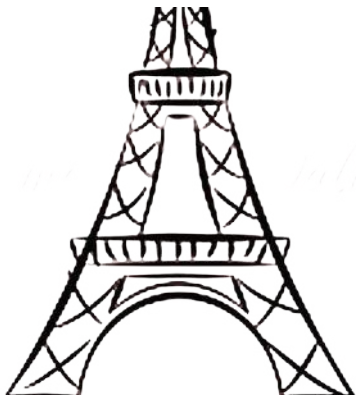
Despite the inauspicious beginning, the holiday season is rolling along, and this coming Saturday will be replete with various happenings.

The Abbeville County Chamber of Commerce is planning a Cookie Walk, while the City of Abbeville will present the Abbeville Christmas parade, and the Abbeville Rotary Club will present its annual Reindeer Run.

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12/7/22

## a Word from "THE WORD"



Rev. Dr. John Keith

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

### The Teacher

**Psalm 86:11 "Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name."**

I read about a pastor who went to visit a member of his church at his office. When he went in he noticed that the man had a huge Bible in a prominent place on his desk. The pastor commented on the Bible and the man replied, "Pastor, that is to remind me, I have done it enough my way and now I want to do things God's way." As I read this verse, that seems to be the sentiment David is expressing in this Psalm. As I read this verse in my mind's eye I can read between the lines and hear David saying, "Lord, I have too long done things my way and I want to do things the way you desire -- not the way I desire." This verse communicates three thoughts to me.

First of all, David really wants to learn the ways of God. He is declaring to God a willing heart. He is willing for God to show him His paths. I remember talking to a young lady one time whose life was a mess. She had been on drugs and her life was one of pure misery. I shared with her how

Jesus could change her life if she would give Him a chance. But she was not willing to release control of her life and give it to God. I told her, "Do you think God could mess your life up any worse than you have already done? You have tried life your way and failed, why not give God a chance?" But she would not do it. I hope that later on she did. Does that describe you? You did life your way and it did not go well, why not give God a chance to change your life?

Second, David is declaring that he is willing to submit to God's way. He tells God that if God shows him the right way that he would walk in it. Some folks have the mistaken idea that if they ask God what His will is that they can look it over and if they don't like it they can reject it. If you are not willing to submit to the ways of God He will not reveal them to you. God's way is not an option, it is an obligation. When He reveals it to us then we are obligated to obey Him. Are you willing

to submit to His way? If you are, He will reveal it to you.

Third, David admits that his heart wavers. He asks God to unite his heart to fear, or reverence His name. Jeremiah 17:9 says this about the human heart: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Your heart will deceive you, but the word of God will never deceive you. Your feelings will lead you astray but the word of God will lead you in the way of righteousness. Our human hearts are often divided between the things of God and the things of the world. Like David we need to pray for God to unite our hearts according to the word of God.

Is your heart divided? Ask God to unite your heart according to His word. Are you willing to submit to the truth of God's word? If you are, tell Him you are willing to submit to His way. If you are willing to submit to Him, God will certainly reveal to you His way.



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# Mental health banquet held at Erskine

By Henry E. Green

Beckman Mental Health Clinic counselor Savannah Wall likes to joke that her job is "a walk in the park"--Jurassic Park, that is.

Wall, a counselor with Beckman Mental Health Mobile Unit, and a certified trauma professional, was the featured speaker for the 55th Annual Abbeville Mental Health Banquet, presented by Mental Health America-Abbeville County. Thursday night at Erskine.

The mobile crisis unit is operational 24/7, and works closely with law enforcement in crisis situations, Wall said.

"We want to keep people out of jail, out of the hospital," and keep them from being "six feet under" as well.

The mobile unit deals with people who may be experiencing a variety of mental health crisis situations--they may be paranoid or suspicious, and they may be exhibiting aggressive or suicidal behavior.

To deal with these situations, Wall seeks to find out as much information as she can about the individual. She talks to the family, and she tries to find out what kinds of medications they may be taking, if any.

She accompanies law enforcement to the crisis location. Once there, she provides advice on how to bring the situation under control.

Before going to the crisis location, she will work with a call center or 911 to get as much information as she can to provide accurate and appropriate intervention.

The call center is based in Charleston, and it serves the entire state. Referrals may also come from the suicide prevention hot-line.

"Individuals in crisis can be extremely unpredictable."

Her post is funded through a grant from the state, and she works in Abbeville County and neighboring counties.

"We do see an 'uptick' around the holidays," in crisis activity, she said.

Other areas of the state have similar mobile units to deal with crisis situations.

"I do as much as public outreach as I can" to educate the public and other community leaders about

mental health crisis needs. Mental Health America-Abbeville County is an affiliate of Mental Health America, said MHA-AC treasurer Richard Haldeman. The local group helps sup-

Directors include Lisa Aiken of Donalds, Michelle Bolden of Abbeville, Henry Green of Abbeville, Mary Goodwin of Abbeville, Richard Haldeman of Due West, Debbie Johnson of Calhoun



Counselor Savannah Wall spoke on the theme "Reach Out for Mental Health" during the recent Mental Health America-Abbeville County banquet at Erskine College. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

port the local mental health clinic, looking to address crisis needs, housing and suicide prevention, he said, noting that it is an outgrowth of an organization, established in the early 1960s.

The banquet has been held every year at Erskine, for nearly six decades, and the local group has a slate of directors designed to help represent every part of the county.

Haldeman Thursday night provided a brief history of the group, noting that the late Martha Bauer, a public health nurse, was instrumental in its formation.

Haldeman paid tribute to four churches which he said have been steadfast in their support of the mental health association.

These churches, which include Springfield Baptist, Flat Rock AME, Trinity Episcopal Church, and Abbeville Presbyterian Church, and have been the "backbone" of the local group for years.

Also Thursday night, the group elected a slate of officers and directors.

They include President, Debbie Johnson, Secretary Cora Lee, and Treasurer Richard Haldeman.

Falls, Cora Lee of Donalds, and Vanessa Lyons of Abbeville. Ex Officio directors are Tony Johnson, MHA South Carolina Region I Director and Janice Gray, Abbeville County Mental Health Clinic Director.

Erskine psychology department chair Dr. Briana Van Scoy provided greetings from the college, and there were also comments from Johnson and Gray.

Gray described the operations of the clinic. "We have a staff of five," he said. The clinic serves 454 clients, including 285 adults.

Dr. Van Scoy expressed her appreciation for what the group does in the community.

"Thank you all for your support," she said.

Rev. Michael Turner, pastor of Springfield Baptist Church, provided the invocation.

Providing the benediction was Rev. Adam China, pastor, of Flat Rock AME Church.

Haldeman said Friday that Mental Health America-Abbeville County has about 30 members, and the banquet drew about 50 people.

These Abbeville Hisch School Panther mascots were all smiles -- and all teeth -- after Abbeville's 35-20 victory over Oceanside Collegiate in the state championship game for 2-A varsity football in Columbia recently. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



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Perhaps you sent beautiful flowers,  
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Perhaps you sent or spoke kind words,  
As any friend could say;  
Perhaps you were not there at all,  
But just thought of us that day.  
Perhaps you prepared some tasty dish  
Or maybe furnished a car;  
Perhaps you rendered a service unseen,  
Near at hand or afar.  
Whatever you did to console the heart,  
By word or deed or touch;  
We thank you, Oh so much!

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Here is a look at the Abbeville crowd cheering on their beloved Panthers at the recent state championship game, in which AHS defeated Oceanside Collegiate. (Photo by Andy Johnston)



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John David Fleming sang and provided one of the winning entries in the Calhoun Falls Christmas parade, held on Saturday, Dec. 3. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# Heat of battle

## Doug Kauffmann of Greenwood talks about the Rotary war on polio

By Henry E. Green

Rotary International has declared war on polio, and Doug Kauffmann is one of its foot soldiers.

A Rotarian from Greenwood, Kauffmann spoke to Abbeville Rotarians recently about the disease that used to be one of the scourges of childhood in the United States.

Thanks to vaccine, the threat from polio has diminished to a large extent in the U.S., and even in many countries beyond its borders, but declaring victory in the struggle against the disease would still be premature.

Polio, according to Kauffmann, is a paralyzing and potentially deadly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of five, but can endanger adults as well.

The virus spreads from direct contact with an infected person, through contaminated water and food, and inhaling droplets from coughs

and sneezes of an infected person, Kauffmann said.

Rotary 20 years ago adopted the goal of wiping out the disease, according to the Wall Street Journal.

In 1985, when Rotary launched its eradication effort, there were an estimate 350,000 new cases of polio in 125 countries. Last year, 1,263 cases were reported, and more than one million Rotary members have volunteered their time or donated money to immunize two billion children in 122 countries, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The first Rotary polio vaccination project happened in 1979 in the Philippines.

Today Afghanistan and Pakistan remain the only two countries where the Wild Polio Virus still exists.

The Wild Polio Virus is the most elusive form of polio and the hardest to identify where it exists.

Locations of the Wild Polio Virus can be identified through environmental

samples—positive tests for virus found in human sewage and stool samples.

Polio cannot be caught by receiving the Oral Polio Vaccine, which is safe, Kauffmann continued.

However, an individual may get polio through a Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus if they are not immunized against polio and they live where Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus is present.

While the Oral Polio Vaccine is safe for whoever receives it, it does contain weakened strains of live polio virus.

Even the United States is not entirely immune from the disease.

According to CNBC, an unvaccinated adult suffered paralysis in June from polio, the first case in New York since 1990.

Wastewater surveillance later found the virus had been spreading silently in the New York area for months, CNBC reported.

## Abbeville Community Federal Credit Union Members approve Merger with Peach State Federal Credit Union

Submitted by Abbeville Community Federal Credit Union

Lawrenceville, GA (November 29, 2022) – The members of Abbeville Community Federal Credit Union have approved a merger with Peach State Federal Credit Union. This announcement follows a vote that was held on November 28th at the credit union's Abbeville, SC branch during a Special Meeting of Members. The financial merger, which has been approved by the National Credit Union Administration, is effective December 1, 2022.

The merger is the result of Peach State and Abbeville's shared values, mission, and corporate culture. There is a shared commitment on the part of both credit unions' Boards and management to continue to grow while remaining highly competitive in today's financial marketplace.

Abbeville was founded in 1971 to serve the needs of local railroad employees

and their immediate families in Abbeville, Greenwood, Anderson, and McCormick counties. In January 2004, Abbeville was granted a community charter, and in July 2011, they became federally chartered. Their field of membership includes service to anyone who lives, works, worships, or attends school in Abbeville County, SC, as well as any businesses.

"There is no better time than the present to bring about positive changes for our members," said Trish Fuller, Manager at Abbeville Community FCU. "Our focus remains on our members and understanding their needs. We're excited about this merger as it will create more opportunities to expand services and deepen relationships for the communities we serve."

"This partnership will allow us to provide increased accessibility, more financial products, services, and additional resources that will make a positive impact on the Abbeville community,"

said Marshall Boutwell, President/CEO of Peach State. "This is a great example of a cooperative unity but more importantly, it demonstrates a strong commitment to the credit union philosophy of 'people helping people'."

About Peach State Federal Credit Union

Peach State is an \$820 million credit union that serves more than 75,000 members in Georgia and South Carolina. Operating as a not-for-profit financial cooperative, Peach State's mission is to provide quality financial services that meet the needs and exceed the expectations of its member-owners. For more information about our products and services, visit peachstatefcu.org. The credit union's passion for helping their members and community continue to grow guided them to create the Peach State FCU C.A.R.E.S. Foundation. To learn more about how Peach State cares, visit peachstatefcu.org/CARES.

## Advent and Christmas at Trinity Episcopal Church

Submitted by Cynthia Jefferies

Advent and Christmas have long been a time at Trinity for special programs for the community. For about 20 years, "Saturday Afternoons at Trinity" has been a time to receive a quiet time of prayer, meditation, and quiet music. The church is open for visitors from noon

until 4:00 pm when folks stop by to rest, enjoy the scene in the stained glass, sing along with the organ, or perhaps light a candle for a loved one who is sick, in trouble, or departed. We will have our community carol-sing this year, so we will have Christmas music and carols each Saturday until Christmas.

You are invited to join us,

bring a group from your church, bring your instrument to play along with the organ, or just sit quietly for some peace and get into the "Christmas Spirit" of the 61 churches in our diocese, Trinity attracts the most visitors with the exception of our cathedral church.

You are invited to join us on Saturday afternoons.

*Trinity Episcopal Church*

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### Public Notice City of Abbeville Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Meetings

Public notice is hereby given that the City of Abbeville's Planning Commission will meet on the following dates to review updates to the City's Comprehensive Plan:

- January 3, 2022
- January 24, 2022
- February 21, 2022

The meetings will be held at 6:00PM in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 100 Court Square.



# 'Walk' brings Christmas story to life

By Henry E. Green

Bringing the Christmas story to life in a special way, Walk Through Bethlehem is scheduled for Dec. 8-11 and Dec. 16-18, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. nightly, at Cold Spring Mennonite Church on the outskirts of Abbeville.

"Walk", now in its fourth year, is something of an extension of the concept of the Live Nativity, and it is all free.

It is all done outdoors, and those in attendance are divided into small groups moving from scene to scene, from the appearance of the angel to Mary to a trip to the "town" of Bethlehem, where townspeople can be seen doing everything from

making bread to playing the part of a blacksmith.

The story moves along to familiar scenes, from the appearance of the angels to the shepherds, to the Nativity itself.

Playing the part of all these characters are members of the Cold Spring church and school, and they are all dressed in period costume.

At the very end, visitors are invited inside the school gym for cookies and hot chocolate, and there they watch a Christian video.

In the event of rain, the performances will be cancelled.

Approximately 125 members of the church and school play parts in "Walk through Bethlehem," said

Cold Spring church member Robert Stoll.

"We had 4,500 (visitors) last year," he said, noting that the number of people in attendance has increased by about 1,500 each year since its inception.

"It has been a terrific success, and has blessed people from many different walks of life," he said, noting that it brings to life the "true meaning of Christmas."

"We start rehearsals several weeks ahead of time," he said.

Some of the costumes are bought, but most are made by the ladies of the church.

For more information, one may call the church at 446-2275.



These Abbeville High School cheerleaders helped cheer on the Panthers, as AHS won its 12th state championship in varsity football. (Photo by Andy Johnston)

### CROSSWORD

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  - Like daytime energy
  - \*2022
  - Van Gogh's famous flower
  - Poodle minus d
  - \*Late Queen
  - Volcano off Sicily coast
  - Leaves out
  - Elf's distinctive body part
  - \*Olympic host
  - \*Russia's target
  - Black sheep sound
  - Treat badly
  - Reason for Thanksgiving
  - Carl Jung's inner self
  - "But I heard him exclaim ' he drove out of sight, "Merry Christmas..."
  - Pick on
  - Pro \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bank, usually
  - Driver's aid
  - Jalopy
  - Back of the neck, pl.
  - Finish line
  - Fur of the marten
  - Paul Bunyan story, e.g.
  - \*Economic woe
  - Faultfinder
  - Tropical edible root
  - Soreness
  - Irretrievable loss
  - Gator's cousin
  - \*Super Bowl winners
  - Undertaking
  - "For \_\_\_\_\_ a jolly good..."
  - Archaic form of do, second person singular

**DOWN**

- Eyelid affliction
- Asian weight unit
- Smoothie bowl flavor
- Russian hunting sighthound
- Chemistry lab measuring device
- Parting words
- New Year's Eve get-together, e.g.
- Running competition
- \*Twitter's new proprietor
- Western Samoan money
- "\_\_\_\_\_ you ready?"
- Relating to shinbone
- Asparagus unit
- Amnion, pl.
- Barely obtain
- Erie or Suez
- Port-au-Prince country
- Like something vintage, usually
- About to explode
- Olfactory organs
- Athos' or Porthos' weapon
- Throw up
- Lecherous look
- Funereal container
- \*Tom Cruise's callsign
- "\_\_\_\_\_ -la"
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If so, we saw them there.  
Perhaps you spoke kindest words  
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But thought of us that day.  
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We thank you so much, whatever the part!

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- That the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);
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# Victorian Christmas highlights Society year

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County Historical Society has had a good year, according to Abbeville County Historical Society president Andrew Hartsfield.

During the spring of 2022, the Society hired K & D Contractors, based in Columbia, to restore the four grand chimneys on the McGowan Barksdale Bundy House.

"It took nearly two months to restore the four chimneys, as all were taken down to the roof line and rebuilt just as they looked in 1888," said Hartsfield. "The total cost to repair the chimneys came in just under \$85,000."

After the completion of the chimney restoration, the Society hired Adams and Coe Roofing, based in Anderson, to replace the roof.

The roof had last been replaced around 1992, and had begun to leak in a number of places, especially over the staircase.

"The cost to replace the roof came in just under \$75,000 and took the crew nearly two weeks to complete," Hartsfield said.

In July, the Society received a grant of \$150,000 from the State of South Carolina.

The funds from the grant were allocated for restoration and repair project and all of the money was used for the replacement of the roof and the restoration of the four chimneys.

In addition to the state

grant, the Society received a grant from the South Carolina Department of Archives and History in the amount of \$35,000.

"Funds from this grant were earmarked for an HVAC unit on the top floor of the house," said Hartsfield. "We installed a new HVAC unit on the two lower levels about five years ago."

Work still continues on the Franklin and Ann Pursley Railroad Museum on the lower level of the house.

"This has been an ongoing project over the last few years," Hartsfield said. "We had completed three rooms then decided last year to move forward and renovate the remaining five rooms. Two of those rooms are now completed and three are still under construction. All of these rooms are impressive and required much work as they are part of the original house that was constructed by Gen. Perrin in 1857. These eight rooms are all that remain of the original house besides two off the three cabins located behind the house. Three rooms will be dedicated to the railroad museum, one room will serve as the entrance to the museum and the last room now completed is dedicated to the Rough House."

The Society received other tidbits of good news during the year, including a donation from Darrow Kay, owner of the Rough House.

In addition, the Abbeville

County Museum was painted, and the Fell Log Cabin received a new roof.

During the first weekend in December, the Society hosted a Victorian Christmas at the McGowan Barksdale Bundy House, including a tour of the house, which was donated to the Society in 1989, and which dates from 1888.

"Our goal at the ACHS is to preserve and share Abbeville's rich history and instill a love of that history to the next generation," said Historical Society board member Courtney Mitchell. "History is so much more than words in a textbook. When people can feel connected to stories from the past not just by reading about it but seeing it, it leaves a much greater impact. That's exactly what our Museum and the McGowan-Barksdale-Bundy House provide to those who visit them."

Mitchell paid tribute to the success of "Victorian Christmas."

"We had close to 250 people come to this event!" she said.

Those in attendance came from as far away as Pendleton, Piedmont, and Hartwell, GA, she went on to say.

"And I hope that each one of them learned to love history just a little bit more by walking through this beautiful home."

Margaret Nickles (Smitty) a host of nieces, nephews, one great-nephew, and many friends.

A Service to Celebrate Brandon's life was 3:00 PM Monday, December 5, 2022, in the Harris Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Zack Little officiating. The family received friends following the service.

The family is at the home. Memorial contributions, in memory of Brandon, may be sent to the Greater Abbeville Humane Society, c/o Barbara Freese, 200 Greenville St., Abbeville, SC 29620.

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

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services is assisting the Wilson family.

a brother, Jeff Evans (Pat); several nieces and nephews. Ellen adored Lucy and looked forward to the birth of her new great-granddaughter, Eleanor Grace.

Graveside services were 3:00 PM Sunday, December 4, 2022, in Long Cane Cemetery with Rev. Mike Horne officiating.

The family expresses their sincere appreciation to Dr. Keith Scott, Kayla Beaty, and the team of HomeBridge Hospice for their loving care of Ellen.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to HomeBridge Hospice, PO Box 887, Abbeville, SC 29620.

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

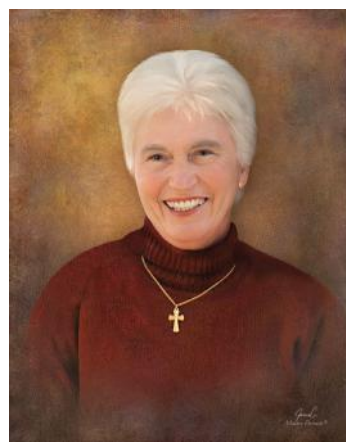
Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services is assisting the McNeill family

# Obituaries

## McCalla

Jean King McCalla, 83, of Iva, wife of the late John W. McCalla, Sr., died Saturday, December 3, 2022, at her home. She was born in Abbeville to the late Benjamin H. and Bessie Lee Erwin King.

A 1957 graduate of Abbeville High School, Mrs. McCalla entered the workforce at an early age as a nursing assistant with Anderson Memorial Hospital (AnMed); it is there where she met John, the love of her life of 47 years. She dedicated 30 years to Anderson County School District 3 having loved and cared for many children throughout her tenure. Most importantly, Mrs. McCalla was a mom who loved and adored her two sons, never missing a ballgame, school event, or art lesson. She was a member of Smyrna United Methodist Church in Lowndesville, Mt. Carmel Yacht Club, Lake Secession Association, and enjoyed volunteering with Meals on Wheels. Spending time with her children and grandchildren brought her much happiness.



Jean King McCalla

In addition to her parents and husband, Mrs. McCalla was preceded in death by a sister, Winton Lewis and three brothers, Julius 'Buddy' King, Osborne King, and Allen King.

She is survived by her two sons, John W. McCalla, Jr. and his wife, Kelly G., of Lake Secession and Jimmy S. McCalla and his wife, Kelly H, of Indian Land, SC; five grandchildren, Carly, Caleb, Morgan, Madison, and Ashlee (Eric); and a great-grandson, Ryan McCalla.

The family received friends 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM, Tues-

day, December 6, 2022, at Harris Funeral Home. Funeral services began at 1:30 PM in the funeral home chapel with the Rev. Richard Powell officiating. Burial followed in Melrose Cemetery.

The family extends their sincere appreciation to Agape Care Hospice and their wonderful staff who lovingly cared for their mother: Samantha 'Sam' Todd, Yomakisha 'Kisha' Gambrell and Dee Morris.

The family is at the McCalla Home on the Antreville Hwy. Memorial contributions, in memory of Mrs. McCalla, may be sent to Smyrna United Methodist Church, PO Box 100, Lowndesville, SC 29659 or to Good Hope Presbyterian Church, PO Box 396, Iva, SC 29655.

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 McCalla family.

## Minor

Ernest Watson 'Ernie' Minor, Jr., 79, of Abbeville, husband of Jean Smith Minor, died Sunday, December 4, 2022, at the Hospice House in Greenwood. He was born in Abbeville County to the late Ernest W. Minor Sr. and Dorothy Berry Minor.

Mr. Minor attended Abbeville High School. He was employed in maintenance for various textiles plants, before retiring after many years with the Abbeville County School District Maintenance Department. Mr. Minor, a member of Asaville Baptist church, served as a Deacon, a Trustee and Sunday School Director for 32 years. He was a beloved husband and father. He loved to work outside and could repair just about anything.

Mr. Minor is survived by



Ernest Watson 'Ernie' Minor, Jr.

his wife, Jean, of 59 years of the home; his son Ernest W. 'Ernie' Minor, III of the home; a sister, Margaret Minor Spence Richardson of North Carolina; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

The family will receive

friends from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM at Asaville Baptist Church on Friday, December 9, 2022. Funeral Services will begin at 2:00 pm with the Rev. DeWayne Evans officiating. Burial will follow in Forest Lawn Memory Gardens, 2699 Hwy 72W Abbeville, SC 29620.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of Mr. Minor may be made to the Asaville Baptist Church, c/o church secretary, 2843 Hwy 201, Abbeville, SC 29620, or Hospice Palliative Care of the Piedmont, 408 W Alexander Ave. Greenwood, SC 29646

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

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

## Talbert

Dorothy "Dot" Hall Talbert, loving mother of three and adoring wife to the late James B. Talbert, entered the arm of Jesus on Dec. 3. Dot was born in Abbeville, SC in 1929 to the late Arthur Lou Hall and Ada Powell Hall. She grew up surrounded by her large family. She had 10 brothers and sisters, and numerous extended family. Dot was influenced by her family to be a loving and caring woman, always giving her time to others. She lived her life in the service of others and loved the Lord. She taught her children and grandchildren by example. She was a faithful member of Congregational Holiness Church in Abbeville.

Survivors are: her loving daughter Carlene Griffin (Mike); beautiful daughter-

in-law Debbie Talbert; seven grandchildren Missy Purdy (Mark), Carrie Griffin (Chris), Jamie Talbert (Jamie Lynn), LeeAnn Saucedo (Ruben), Diana Feters (Kenny), Chris Talbert, and Erin Talbert (Bryan); sixteen great-grandchildren and two great-great grandsons; along with numerous other family and friends. She also leaves behind a great many wonderful caretakers at Abbeville Nursing Home that provided compassionate and loving care to Dot. She was the last member of her immediate family.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband and two sons Tony and Darrell and a grandson Clif Griffin also ten brothers and sisters.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday Dec. 6, 2022

at 2:00 PM in Congregational Holiness Church with the Revs. Marion Argo and Tim Dorsey officiating. The burial will follow in Greenwood Memorial Gardens. The family is at the home of her daughter Mr. & Mrs. Mike Griffin 126 College Ave. Abbeville, SC.

The family received friends Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 until 2:00 PM at the church prior to services.

Memorials in memory of Dot may be made to Congregational Holiness Church, PO Box 946 Abbeville, SC 29620.

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

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

# Obituaries

## Wilson

Marshall Brandon Wilson, 50, of Abbeville, husband of Kerry Bowie Wilson, died Thursday, December 2, 2022, in an automobile accident. He was born in Greenwood to Marshall Wilson and Myra Alexander Powell.

Brandon was a graduate of Abbeville High School, class of 1990, as well as Lander University. He was currently employed with Taylor Appliance Repair. Brandon adored his family and found much happiness in spending time with them and his many friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Fred M. and Anne Alexander, and Dr. William and Bernice Wilson.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Kerry, of the home; his children, Brady, Jaycie, and Kellar Wilson; Tyrell Haddon, who was loved like a son; his father,



Brandon Wilson

Marshall Wilson (Chris), of Piedmont; his mother, Myra A. Powell (Benjamin 'Banjo'), of Abbeville; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Johnny and Belinda Bowie; sisters-in-law, Jamie Marmon (Eric), Leslie Alexander (Michael) and Katie Bowie; special aunt and uncle Kitty and Daryl Thomson; uncle, Fred Alexander, Jr., (Jarrot); aunt,

## McNeill

Ellen Evans McNeill went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Wednesday, November 30, 2022, at the Abbeville Nursing Home. Ellen was born in Abbeville to the late James B. Evans, Sr., and Minnie Ruth Cox Evans and lived 84 years filled with love and joy. She was preceded in death by her husband, Gene. Gene and Ellen fell in love and married two weeks after they met, and this was followed by 67 happy years of marriage.

Ellen retired from Greenwood Mills - Mathews plant after 36 years of dedicated service. She was a member of Abbeville First Baptist Church, the Bible Study Sunday School Class, and the Tweenagers senior group. When able she worshiped at the Abbeville ARP Church. Ellen was a former member of the Rose Garden Club and Heritage House Board of Directors.



Ellen Evans McNeill

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her daughter, Lynn Houston; three brothers William B. Evans, James B. Evans, Jr., and James H. Thomerson; and a sister, Betty Styers.

Ellen is survived by her son-in-law, Don Houston; two grandchildren, Howie E. Houston (Megan) and Beth Ellen White (Stephen); great-granddaughter, Lucy;

Fishing Team.

She was an active member of the First Pentecostal Holiness Church and enjoyed being involved with the youth.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her sons, Charles Andrew Gann (Selena) and Charles Matthew Gann both of Clinton; her siblings, David Partain (Yvonne) of Hephzibah, Jessica McAlister (Wes) of Antreville, and John Partain (Bridget) of Antreville; her father and mother-in-law, Charles and Sue Gann of Clinton; and her sister-in-law, Angie Corley (Gary) of Laurens.

Funeral Services will be conducted 2 PM Thursday,

December 8th at the First Pentecostal Holiness Church with Pastor Mark Entekin, Pastor Scott Tumblin, and Pastor Sherrill Green officiating. Burial will follow at Pinelawn Memory Gardens. The family will receive friends, Wednesday, December 7th from 6-8 PM at Gray Funeral Home of Clinton.

Memorials may be made to the First Pentecostal Holiness Church, youth program, 403 Academy Street, Clinton, SC 29325.

Gray Funeral Home of Clinton is assisting the Gann family with arrangements. 1tp



## Stewards of the earth Soil and Water Conservation District has annual Christmas dinner

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County Soil and Water Conservation District held its annual Christmas dinner Monday night at the Abbeville County Agricultural Building, and those in attendance learned about a recycling project presented by Dixie High School FFA.

About 35 people were in attendance at the dinner, where conservation efforts in the community were recognized.

Josh Fox was recognized as Conservation Farmer of the Year, in recognition of his dedication as a farmer while Dixie High School agriculture teacher Josh Murdock was honored as the Conservation Teacher of the Year.

"The kids that we have at Dixie are outstanding," Murdock said in accepting the award.

Chapter secretary Roz Partain, president Merri Beth Jacks, junior advisor Mary Katherine Hannah, historian Carson Wilson, and vice president Emalie White all made a presentation about a Dixie High School FFA project involving recycling, the Environmental Stewardship

Recycling Initiative.

Students have been collecting plastic films from industries around Abbeville County, and these films are being processed at Dixie High School and then shipped to a recycling facility at Ninety Six, according to a description supplied at the meeting.

The proceeds from the sale of the film material will be used to fund the collection effort and any remaining profits will be used to help the Dixie FFA chapter meet budget needs during the school year.

The project originated from the idea that the net wrap and plastic films used in the making of grass hay and "haylage" should be able to be collected and recycled. Many farms have large piles of waste that are generated while hay is being distributed.

In order to give farmers the opportunity to participate in an environmentally responsible way of disposing of this waste, some local businesses have collaborated with Dixie High School and the Soil and Water Conservation District to help launch this initiative.

Recognition was given to

Abbeville County resident Eric McCall, who is also a Conservation District Commissioner, for his donation of a bale compactor.

Also Monday night, Calhoun Falls Charter School junior Alicia Roberson was recognized as the top soils student. Alicia, who is in her second year on the Calhoun Falls Charter FFA soils judging team, is the chapter secretary, and was on the Parliamentary Procedure team, according to information supplied by the District.

Alicia, who helps out with the Calhoun Falls farmers market, wants to be a special education teacher.

The District, which promotes conservation and educates people about it, has a board of commissioners. Fred Raines is the chairman, Barry Edmunds the vice chairman, and Susie K. New the treasurer. Eric McCall and Sam Gilliam are also Commissioners.

Associate Commissioners include Mark Sumner, Nancy McCannon, Dale Wilson and Mike Fleming.

Melody Coursey is the District Clerk/Coordinator, and Matthew Brown the District Conservationist.

The Abbeville County Soil and Water Conservation District had its annual Christmas dinner recently, and Dixie High School FFA advisor Josh Murdock (right) was recognized as Conservation Teacher of the Year by District chairman Fred Raines (left). (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



## Lions to plant trees at Westwood, JCCE

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Lions Club will have Arbor Day programs at elementary schools in Abbeville and Calhoun Falls on Friday, Dec. 9, according to Abbeville Lions Club clerk/treasurer Rick Pressly.

The Lions Club will have tree planting ceremonies at Westwood Elementary School in Abbeville and at John C. Calhoun Elementary in Calhoun Falls.

The programs are part of the fourth grade forester project, in which the Lions will plant trees and pass out loblolly tree saplings to

all fourth graders at each school.

The tree planting ceremonies had been scheduled for Friday, Dec. 2, in conjunction with Arbor Day, which is observed in South Carolina on the first Friday in December, but the Lions rescheduled the programs so as not to conflict with the state championship football game in Columbia, in which Abbeville High was scheduled to play Oceanside Collegiate.

The Abbeville Lions Club meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Abbeville County Veterans Founda-

tion building on Longbranch Street in Abbeville.

In addition to the fourth grade forester program, the club has a scholarship program and Lions conduct vision screenings for students at area schools.

Celebrating the beauty and the value of trees, Arbor Day has its roots in the 19th century. The first Arbor Day is believed to have been celebrated in 1872.

American statesman J. Sterling Morton is widely regarded as the founder of Arbor Day.



The Grand Marshals for the Due West Christmas parade were Dot and Tracy Carter. (Photo courtesy of Town of Due West)

## Rotarians planning annual Reindeer Run

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Rotary Club will have the 13th annual Reindeer Run, a staple of the Christmas season, on Saturday, Dec. 10, beginning at 8:30 p.m.

A fund-raiser for the club, this 5K event helps support the Angel Tree Bicycle Fund. One may register on-line on RunSignUp.org or in person at Abbeville First Bank or the Abbeville County Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, one

may call 366-2158 or visit the club's Facebook page.

The 5K event will begin with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. at Abbeville First Bank. "We had 55 participants last year," said Rotarian Andy Timmerman. "There is a cash prize for the top male and female runner."

The Bicycle Fund, meanwhile, is part of the Christmas Angel Tree project coordinated by Lori Glace of Abbeville.

Rotarians and friends give

of their time to gather on Christmas Eve morning to deliver bicycles to youngsters throughout Abbeville County.

The Abbeville Rotary Club also presents the Rotary Bowl every year at Hite Stadium, and the Abbeville Rotarians have a scholarship program for area students.

The club also presents a corn hole tournament in the spring at the Livery Stable in downtown Abbeville.

## Abbeville County Library announces Interim Director

Submitted by  
The Abbeville County  
Library System

The Abbeville County Library System is pleased to announce Faith Line as the Interim Director. Faith comes to Abbeville with 39 years of library experience. She retired as the Director of the Anderson County Library, where she spent 14 years. She also served as the Director of the Sumter County Library for 21 years after starting her career at the Pickens County Library. She has served as President of the South Carolina Library Association, the Southeastern Library Association, and as Chair of SCLENDS. She is a Rotarian and has been on

the boards of a number of organizations in Anderson and Sumter. She is a native of Kentucky but has lived in South Carolina for most of her life. Faith will be serving as the Interim Director while Mary Elizabeth Land is on medical leave.

Throughout her twenty-year tenure as Library Director in Abbeville County, Mary Elizabeth Land has accomplished much for the library system. From moving the Abbeville Headquarters branch to its location on North Main Street to reading to the Busy Bees Preschool, she has worked diligently to provide quality resources and build relationships within the community and beyond. Some of her most

recent accomplishments include securing a grant to provide community health advocates from the Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare, purchasing a library outreach vehicle, developing a Telehealth room in conjunction with Veterans Affairs and WC-TEL, and creating The Alt which provides space for programs and events such as Tai Chi and Faith Yoga. Abbeville County has benefited greatly from her time served as Library Director.

A celebration of Mary Elizabeth Land's service to the Abbeville County Library System and to the community will be held at a later date. The community will be invited to attend when details have been finalized.

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# Number 12

## Abbeville defeats Oceanside to win state championship in 2-A football



Abbeville High School quarterback Zay Rayford (4) picked up yardage for the Panthers during the state championship game in which AHS defeated Oceanside Collegiate. (Photo by Andy Johnston)

### State championship statistics

## AHS piles up big numbers on ground

By Henry E. Green

In the state championship game Friday afternoon, Oceanside actually had more yards of total offense than Abbeville, with the Landsharks piling up 405 yards of total offense to 334 for Abbeville, according to Weekend of Champions 2022 statistics.

However, Abbeville had 283 yards on the ground, to 83 for Oceanside. In the

air, the reverse was true, with the Landsharks securing 322 yards through the air to 51 for the Abbeville Panthers.

The Panthers were led in rushing by Jamal Marshall, with 83 yards on 10 carries.

Other Panthers with double digit rushing included Karson Norman with 70 yards, Zay Rayford with 53, and Ty Cade with 29, Altavious Patterson with 31, and

Antonio Harrison with 27.

Zay Rayford was two of six, for 51 yards, with one touchdown.

Landshark quarterback Edward Reidenbach completed 22 of 37 passes, with one interception, for 322 yards and three touchdowns.

The Landsharks were penalized five times for 48 yards, and the Panthers had two penalties for 10 yards.

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville has won the 2-A state championship in varsity football--again--with the Panthers defeating Oceanside Collegiate 35-20 Friday in Columbia.

The Panthers claimed their twelfth state title in a game played at the Charles W. Johnson Stadium on Two Notch Road in Columbia.

The Panthers are no strangers to the stadium, the home stadium of Benedict College in Columbia.

With one Abbeville wit calling it Hite Stadium South, it is a place where AHS had previously won a number of state championship games.

Friday, on a cool but picture-perfect day in the Midlands of South Carolina, the Panthers seemed to have little to no trouble with the Landsharks, who hail from the Charleston area.

Abbeville drew first blood with a 61 yard touchdown run by Karson Norman in the first quarter.

With the Panthers leading 7-0, the Landsharks tried to respond, but they got only as far Panther 34. Facing a fourth and four situation, Oceanside threw an incomplete pass, and the Panthers took over on downs.

AHS then launched a seven-play, 66-yard drive which ended with Ty Cade finding the end zone on a 23-yard run, and AHS led 14-0.

Oceanside again marched down the field, making it all the way to the Abbeville 18. Here, the AHS defense rose up and sacked the Oceanside quarterback, as the Landsharks were facing a third and five.

The Landsharks lost six yards on that play, and then

the Oceanside quarterback threw an incomplete pass, and AHS took over on downs at the Abbeville 23.

Again, the Panthers responded well, launching a 77-yard, eight-play drive that ended with a 31-yard touchdown pass from AHS quarterback Zay Rayford to Javario Tinch.

With a successful PAT, AHS led 21-0.

The Landsharks responded with a drive that ended just short of the goal line just before time ran out for the first half, and AHS led 21-0 at the break.

In the second half, Oceanside kicked off to Abbeville, but the Landsharks recovered a fumble on the return, and took over at the AHS 27. Two plays later, the Landsharks finally got on the board with a 24-yard touchdown pass, and Abbeville's lead was cut to 21-7.

Abbeville then launched a drive that ended when the Panthers, facing a fourth and two at the Oceanside 16, came up short, and the Landsharks took over on downs at the Oceanside 16.

The Landsharks could not capitalize, and an Oceanside punt gave Abbeville good field position at the Oceanside 47.

A face mask penalty against Oceanside gave Abbeville a first down at the Landshark 35. Four plays later, Rayford connected with Antonio Harrison to give the Panthers a first down at the Oceanside 10. On the next play, Rayford scampered into the end zone on a 10 yard run, ending the five play, 48 yard drive.

With the PAT good, AHS led 28-7, and the wheels

began to fall off for the Landsharks. The Panthers intercepted a Landshark pass at the Abbeville 15.

In the fourth quarter, AHS thwarted another threat, when Oceanside, facing a fourth and three at the Panther 38, threw an incomplete pass.

The Landsharks finally put together another touchdown drive, ending with a six yard TD pass. The PAT was blocked, but the Landsharks were coming back.

The Panthers answered with a drive that ended with a nine yard touchdown run by Antonio Harrison.

Abbeville led 35-13 with two minutes and one second remaining.

The Landsharks had one last hurrah, scoring on a 55 yard pass play that cut the score to 35-20, in the closing moments of the game.

However, by this point, the outcome did not appear to be in doubt. The Panthers had brought a big crowd with them, and the Abbeville faithful began to feel jubilant.

Following the game, the Panthers were honored with an awards ceremony, and AHS head football coach Jamie Nickles answered questions from the media, "We are just so proud of these kids," said Nickles following the game.

The AHS players were ecstatic as well. "We came a long way," said Karson Norman.

"It feels great," said Javario Tinch.

"It's a dream come true," said Addison Nickles, who hopes to be a kicker at the University of South Carolina.



A ferocious Abbeville defense was a factor in the AHS victory over Oceanside Collegiate in the 2-A state championship game. The Panthers were in white jerseys. (Photo by Andy Johnston)



Abbeville High School Panther Jae Harris (70) tackles an Oceanside player during the recent state championship game in which Abbeville defeated Oceanside to win the 2-A state championship in varsity football. (Photo by Andy Johnston)



Abbeville High School defeated Oceanside Collegiate Academy in the 2-A state championship game in Columbia. Here is Karson Norman (16) showing off his great speed. (Photo by Andy Johnston)



The Abbeville High School Panthers' Antonio Harrison (2) was one of the running backs that helped Abbeville win the 2-A state championship in varsity football recently. AHS quarterback Zay Rayford (4) was also an offensive threat. (Photo by Andy Johnston)



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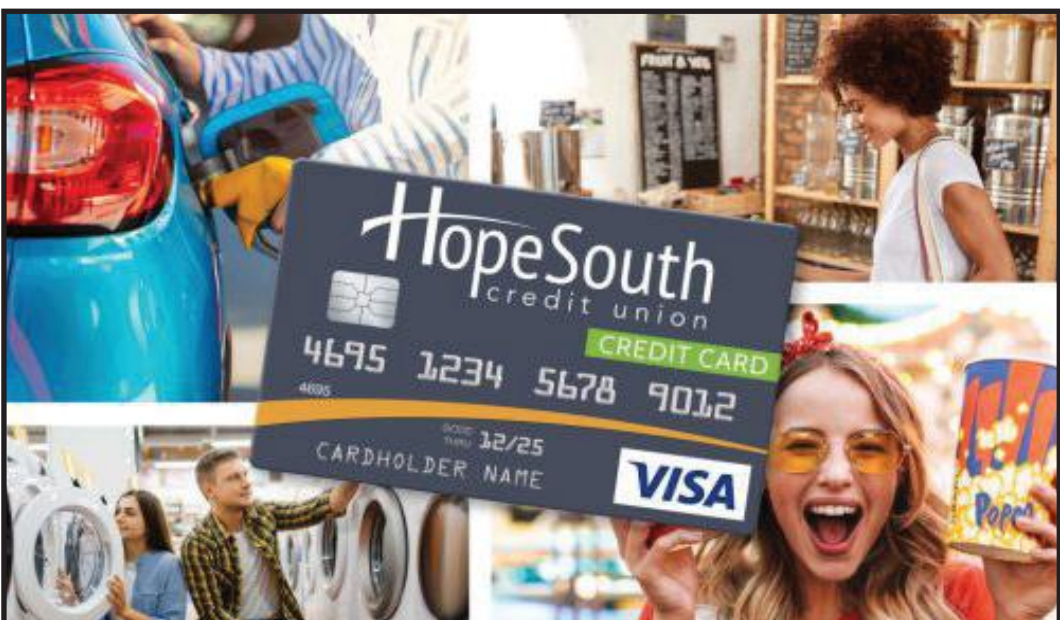


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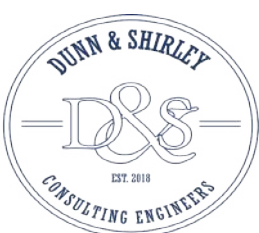
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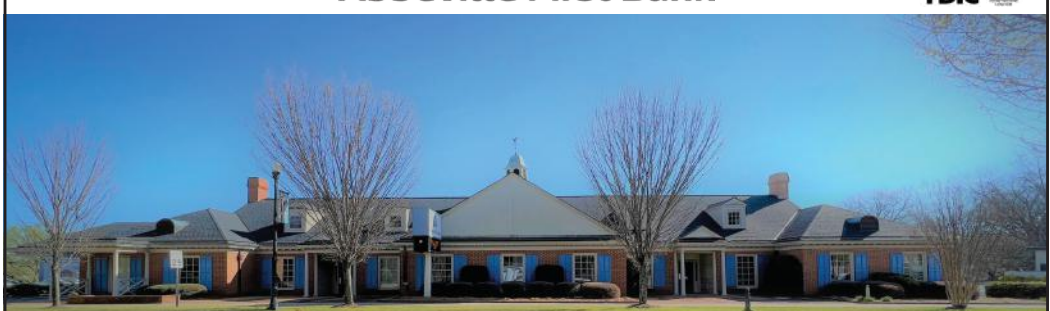
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State Senator, District 4



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Dixie High School wrestling coach Anthony Martin recently picked up his 400th coaching career win. (Dixie High School photo)

# Reaching the summit

## Dixie High School wrestling coach Anthony Martin attains 400th win

**By Henry E. Green**

Dixie High School head wrestling coach Anthony Martin remembers his first coaching career win.

"I was at Newberry High School starting a program," and his team defeated Greenwood High, he recalled.

Fast forward to the present, and Martin is enjoying a match his troops won against Pendleton—a match which happened to be his 400th career win.

A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Martin has been a wrestling coach for 22 years.

He wrestled while he was in college—at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Kentucky—and carried his love of the sport into the realm of coaching.

Martin, who also coached at Abbeville High School from 2004 to 2010, has won a variety of coaching honors, including 2009 South

Carolina Coach of the Year.

To what does he attribute his success as a coach?

"A Great WIFE that allows me to put in the long hours and the fact that both of our daughters love wrestling too," he replied.

Other people have provided inspiration in his coaching career as well.

"I have had some really great assistant coaches along the way: Wayne Reeve (NCAA National Hall Fame Member), Wayne Botts, Daniel Thomason, Austin Powell, Antonio Tillman, Mike Donald, Paul King, Randall Parnell and Tray Lee," he said.

"I have started three programs, and you really are dependent on parent support. A huge reason that helps in the success of winning is that we always attend wrestling camp wherever my college wrestling coach, Coach Wilder (one of the

best of all time) is located.

"The last 15 years we have been attending Southern Hospitality Camp in Camden GA, and he brings in elite coaches or national champions to train the attendees. Probably the last thing is to thank ALL of the parents of my wrestlers over the years for believing in Coach Martin's PHILOSOPHY of WRESTLING and allowing me to be part of their families! Without that support you can't run the program. AHUGE THANKS is owed to the following families: Boughman, Glace, Wertz, Spires, Donald, Hewell, Crowder, Tillman, Gary Oaks, Brewsters, McBride, Smalley, Baer, Stoltzfus—I am sure I have left several out.

"These families have been instrumental in establishing these programs and growing the sport in our area."

# AHS boys postpone season's first game

**By Henry E. Green**

The first game of the season for the Abbeville High School varsity boys basketball team has been postponed due to the deep run of the Abbeville High School football team in the playoffs, Abbeville High School varsity boys basketball coach Doug Belcher said Wednesday.

The Panthers had been scheduled to host McCormick on Dec. 10, but that game was postponed due to the deep run into the playoffs of the Abbeville

High School football team.

The Panther football team was scheduled to play Oceanside Collegiate this past Friday, Dec. 2, in Columbia.

"All the returning players (except one) are playing football," he said.

The game which had been scheduled for Dec. 10 is now projected to be played on January 7.

The Panthers will visit McCormick on Dec. 14, Belcher said.

Last year, the Panthers made it to the third round of

the playoffs, where they lost to Gray Collegiate, which in turn went on to win the state championship.

Among the returning players this year are Javario Tinch, last year's 2-A Player of the Year, and Zay Rayford, who is also the quarterback of the Abbeville High School football team, and Antonio Harrison, a star AHS running back, the coach continued.

The Panthers are highly favored to win their Region this year, according to Belcher.



Damarcus Leach (14) was one of the defensive mainstays for the Abbeville High School Panthers during Abbeville's victory over Oceanside Collegiate in the 2-A state championship football game in Columbia recently. (Photo by Andy Johnston)



This unidentified Abbeville High School Panther football player appears to be on the way to catching the ball for another Panther touchdown during the state championship game in which AHS defeated Oceanside Collegiate. (Photo by Andy Johnston)



Abbeville High School Panthers Jay Hill (10) and quarterback Zay Rayford (4) appear to be conferring during the 2-A state championship game in varsity football in Columbia recently. (Photo by Andy Johnston)

# 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.

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Estate: Barbara B. Stovall  
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Case Number: 2022ES0100295  
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Date of Death: 10/27/2022  
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Estate: Rebecca H. Harvey  
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