



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



The farm of Fred and Faye Raines on the outskirts of Abbeville was recently named a South Carolina Century Farm. Celebrating the occasion were (from left) Jeff and Carrie Cavanaugh (Fred's oldest daughter and son-in law), Fred Raines, Collins Morgan (granddaughter), Faye Raines (wife), Cora and Cason Cavanaugh (grandchildren), Landon Morgan (grandson), Krissi Raines (Fred's middle daughter), Amanda Morgan (Fred's youngest daughter), Taylor Grace Morgan (grandchild), and Jeremy Morgan (son-in-law). Photo courtesy of the Raines family

Raines farm named Century Farm

By Henry E. Green

The farm of Faye and Fred Raines on the outskirts of Abbeville was recently named S.C. Century Farm, a farm having been in the same family for more than 100 years.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors of Lake Hartwell Country (formerly Pendleton District Commission) and the Agricultural Museum of South Carolina, I am pleased to inform you that the Raines farm in Abbeville County has been designated a South Carolina Century Farm," wrote Les McCall, executive director of S.C. Century Farms, Bart Garrison Agricultural Museum of South Carolina, and Lake Hartwell Country Regional Tourism Commission, in a letter to Fred Raines.

"They (the Agricultural Museum) have a list of farms that have stayed in the same family for 100 years or more," Fred Raines said Friday.

There are approximately 320 Century Farms in South Carolina, according to Jordan Bannister, education coordinator for the Bart Garrison Agricultural Museum of South Carolina.

The recognition of the farm at 1606 Cedar Springs Road, Abbeville, as well as other "Century Farms," came on Saturday, Nov. 6, at Farm Fest in Pendleton at the Agricultural Museum, said Raines, who noted that he and his wife Faye were supplied with a certificate for the 211-acre property.

Other people who were part of the Century Farm program were on hand at the Farm Fest.

For the Raines family, it all started in 1898. "It's been in our family for well over 100 years," Fred said.

"My grandfather purchased the land in 1898 and my father purchased the land from his siblings in 1961," he continued. "Faye and I acquired my sister's portion

in 2001."

Thus, the farm has passed through three generations, and recently it acquired something else—a name.

Fred and Faye have three daughters—Carrie, Amanda and Krissi—and they let their kids come up with a name for the farm.

And their kids came through with something that managed to be charming and respectful—"Heavenly Farms—Where God rains/reigns/rains."

Raines likes what he does. "I have a deep appreciation of the earth in general," he said. "I've tried to make it productive and use it—and not abuse it."

Fred, who is also a deacon at the First Baptist Church of Abbeville, raises grass for his cattle, and puts up hay for the winter.

"I set out pine trees in 1989 and 1990 to try to grow them for the next generation," he added.

Special election slated in Due West

By Henry E. Green

Voters in Due West will go to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 23, for a special election to fill the unexpired term of Marty Yannarella, who vacated the seat earlier this year, said Abbeville County voter registration and elections director.

Polls will be open from 7

a.m. to 7 p.m. and voters will cast their ballots at the Due West Fire Department, London continued.

All registered voters living within the town limits of Due West are eligible to vote.

There is only one candidate on the ballot—Sandy Totherow of Due West—she continued.

"But there is an option to do a write-in," said London.

The winner of the nonpartisan election will serve the remainder of the unexpired term, or about 24 months.

For more information, one may call the Abbeville County voter registration and elections office at 366-2400, extension 53.

Mailing rates spur increase

The Press and Banner will be raising its subscription rates beginning in December.

A year's subscription will be going up to \$45 beginning with the December billing for people living in Abbeville County and neighboring counties.

For people living elsewhere the subscription rate will be rising to \$60 a year.

The increase is motivated by an increase in the U.S. Postal Service's plan to raise mailing rates.

Rates on periodicals have

increased by more than eight percent, an increase felt by small dailies and weekly newspapers.

The Postal Service's rise in rates has not been welcome news for a newspaper industry which, according to reports, has struggled considerably over the past two decades.

Advertising has been dealt a blow due to the Internet, and more than 2,100 newspapers in the United States have closed in the past 15 years, according to published reports.



A number of local churches celebrated Veterans Day recently by posting American flags out front. One of those churches was Sacred Heart Catholic Church on North Main in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Old school purchased

By Henry E. Green

Due West Robotics has officially purchased the old Carver School property in Due West, said Due West Robotics president Charles Angel Monday.

The organization purchased the property from Rev. Clinton Hall and the Jules Mars estate, and closed on the property on Nov. 1, Angel said.

The old Carver school, which had been vacant for some time, had started out as a segregated school before becoming one of Abbeville County's first integrated schools.

The school was eventually closed, and then for a time it was part of Destiny Ministries, Angel continued.

Due West Robotics, meanwhile, is still planning how to use the one-story, brick building situated on 14 acres of property.

There is asbestos in the building, which has structural concerns.

"We've got some big challenges to go through," he said.

The organization hopes to overcome these obstacles and bring to fruition a vision of a building which would not only serve as a headquarters for Due West Robotics, but as a place which would host robotics events, and would be, an Abbeville County's version of the Roper Mountain Science Center.

The hope is that the building could, in addition to hosting robotics competitions, host workshops relating to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)-workshops on everything from 3D printing to how to use CAD software, Angel continued.

This would be in sync with

a science and technology trend sweeping the country.

"STEM is huge," he said. Established in 2012, Due West Robotics will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary next March.

Over the years, hundreds of young people have participated in it, and perhaps thousands have been influenced by it.

In addition to Angel, the organization has a board of directors, including Sara Wojtkowski, vice president; Lee Logan, treasurer and chairman of the building committee; Jonathan Atkins, secretary; Robert Stoll, Patricia Hayner, and Andy Timmerman.

Angel is brimming with enthusiasm over the acquisition of the Carver School building.

"This is a huge step toward our next 10 years," he said.

WISHING YOU A

Happy Thanksgiving!



Colonial visions

Artist Eric Williams donates painting of Long Cane massacre to Museum

By Henry E. Green
Eric Williams of Greenwood has painted a rendering of one of the most infamous occurrences of colonial South Carolina--the Long Cane massacre-- and donated the painting to the Abbeville County Museum.

A retired National Park Service historian and 18th century living historian who used to work at the Ninety Six National Historic Site, Williams has long been fascinated by the story of the massacre, which occurred on Feb. 1, 1760. There is no truly cohesive narrative of the massacre--just a patchwork of stories.

The artist provided the following description of what happened all those years ago:

The massacre, he said, was one of a number of "planned coordinated attacks on English set-

tlements in backcountry South Carolina."

Enraged by settlers' encroachment on their hunting lands and confusing boundary lines, young Cherokee warriors staged their attacks in late winter, 1760.

"Long Canes was one of those settlements," said Williams. Warned of an impending attack, the settlers, led by Patrick Calhoun, gathered their goods in wagons and carts and headed for safety at Fort Moore, near what is now Augusta, Ga., he said.

The Cherokee attacked as the settlers were stuck in a boggy place near Long Cane Creek, and at least 23 settlers were killed, including 76-year-old Rebecca Calhoun, Patrick's mother. Approximately 20 Cherokees were killed.

The acrylic painting, meanwhile, measures 24 by 48 inches. Williams

began painting it in September and finished it in January. He estimates that he spent 187 and one half hours on it.

He has included in his painting 10 hidden objects "representing those often found at colonial American sites."

Thus, someone looking at the painting can search for the following items: a turtle, Spanish silver coin, English teapot, bone knitting needle, broken plate, pewter spoon, doll, loose shoe buckle, teacup, and a clay smoking pipe.

According to Williams, it is the first time the massacre has been captured on canvas.

Originally from Asheville, N.C., Williams likes to paint landscapes and seascapes.

"I paint several days a week at the art center in Greenwood," he said.



Delano Freeman, former mayor of the city of Abbeville, was the speaker for a Veterans Day program Thursday, Nov. 11. Lewis Jackson (seated, left), commander of the local chapter of AMVETS, was among those listening. Freeman served as mayor from 2016 to 2020. He serves also in the Army National Guard, and is currently a major, and is expected to be promoted soon to the rank of lieutenant colonel. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Those who serve

Former mayor Delano Freeman speaks at Veterans Day program

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville County remembered its veterans Thursday with a Veterans Day program at the Abbeville Veterans Memorial Foundation building in Abbeville.

Presented by AMVETS, the program featured former Abbeville mayor Delano Freeman, a 1991 Abbeville High School graduate and 1996 Clemson graduate who himself is a veteran who served in Afghanistan.

Veterans Day, he said, sprang from Armistice Day, which marked the end of hostilities in World War I--the eleventh hour of the 11th day of the 11th month--in 1918.

World War I was allegedly to be the war to end all wars, but it did not quite work out that way. Since that time more than 100 years ago, the United States has experienced conflicts ranging from World War II to Vietnam to Afghanistan, just to name a few.

The armed forces are instruments of American power.

"We don't make policy, but we must carry it out," he said.

The armed forces provide a brotherhood which is like no other--a brotherhood with which values such as courage and duty are associated.

"What if we had more people living those values?" he said.

Today the enemy we face is that of COVID-19, he said.

"Do not let your guard down," Freeman said.

Teresa Mahaffey, Abbeville County veterans affairs officer, told the veterans that the office is there to help meet the needs of veterans.

"We love you," she told them. "Our doors are always open."

Seven-year-old Zac Brooks, a second grader at Diamond Hill Elementary, helped Mahaffey draw a ticket in a drawing won by

veteran Ralph Gray.

Lele Anderson of the veterans affairs office presented him with a wooden flag.

Serving as master of ceremonies was AMVETS chapter commander Lewis Jackson.

In addition to Freeman's speech, the oldest veteran and the youngest veteran were recognized.

Hobart "Hobie" Erickson of Donalds was recognized as the oldest veteran present. The 94-year-old Erickson is a veteran of World War II, during which he served in the Army.

Melissa Jackson, meanwhile, is 18, and she is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Among those in attendance, in the audience of about 50 people, were State Rep. Craig Gagnon and Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees member David Brooks.



There was a Veterans Day program on Thursday, Nov. 11, at the Abbeville Veterans Memorial Building, and the program included a drawing, won by Ralph Gray (right) of Abbeville. Lele Anderson (left) of the Abbeville veterans affairs office presented him with this rendering of an American flag. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

NOTICE OF NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION RATE INCREASE

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

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

Thank you,
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and Abbeville Medium

Thirty-three-year-old Melissa Jackson, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, was recognized as the youngest veteran present at a Veterans Day program held at the Abbeville Veterans Memorial building on Thursday, Nov. 11. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Ninety-four-year-old Hobart Erickson was recognized as the oldest veteran present during a Veterans Day program on Nov. 11 in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)





There was a robotics scrimmage on Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Galloway Center on the Erskine College campus in Due West. Sara Wojtkowski, vice president of Due West Robotics, coordinated the scrimmage, which drew approximately 120 young people from the Upstate. State Rep. Craig Gagnon (center, foreground, with hands folded) was among those watching the robotics action, and the robot's action, on the table. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Trustees elect officers

By Henry E. Green
 The Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees met Tuesday night, electing new officers for the coming year. Abbeville County School District Superintendent Dr. Mason Gary opened the meeting and presided over the election of the officers. James Tisdale, Jr., nominated Brad Evans to be chairman, and there were no other nominations, and Evans was reelected chairman of the board. Joe Bryson nominated Tisdale to be vice chairman, and David Brooks nominated Tim Rhodes. There was then voting by secret ballot, and Dr. Gary announced that Rhodes had won—the margin of the vote was not announced. For the post of school board secretary, Brooks nominated Dunn, and Dunn was elected without opposition. Rhodes then called for the amendment of the agenda to add an executive session to discuss personnel in connection with something that needed to be addressed as soon as possible. The other trustees agreed, amending the agenda and going into the agenda about 10 minutes after the meeting started. After a 20-minute executive session, the board approved the “release of one contract.” The trustees passed first

reading on Policy GCCA, concerning shared leave. The board also passed first reading on Policy GDBC, concerning support staff supplementary pay/overtime. The board approved recommended textbooks adoption. Dr. Gary discussed updates on maintenance, finances, technology and curriculum. The school board also discussed a breakfast grant award, COGNIA accreditation, and the capital improvement plan. A group from the accrediting organization COGNIA visited the District virtually recently. “We are going to be accredited, but we have some things to work on,” said Dr. Gary. The breakfast grant award comes from the South Carolina Office of Health and Nutrition. The state has notified the School District that three district schools are eligible for a “breakfast expansion grant.” They are John C. Calhoun Elementary, Long Cane Primary, and Westwood Elementary. They have all received this grant. Each school will get \$10,000 this year, and \$10,000 next year. The intent is to increase breakfast participation, and increase the number of students partaking of breakfast at school. There was also a Gold

Star Highlights segment, in which AHS football player Jeremiah Lomax was honored for having been named to the Shrine Bowl and to a North South all-star football game. The Dixie girls cross country team, which won the state championship, was honored, as were team member Ashten Stoll, who won top individual honors, and Ansley Prescott, who came in second, and coach Cayce Prescott, who won Coach of the Year, and the Adult Education program, which won a Step Up to the Plate award, and Kathleen Yoder was recognized for having the highest score on her GED in South Carolina for 2021. “Keep up the hard work,” said trustee David Brooks. “We’re proud of you.” Other trustees voiced similar comments. In other matters: --Dr. Gary said that representatives of Thompson Turner and LS3P will make a presentation at the Jan. 14 board meeting about possible capital improvement options, with an eye toward a possible referendum. --The trustees discussed the merits of “benchmark testing,” a new kind of testing which gives teachers a benchmark on where the students are in learning the standards.

Not hard for the Yard

Businessman suggests revamping of area behind Court Square

By Henry E. Green
 The Wagon Yard, an area located behind the west side of Abbeville’s Court Square, might just be getting a make-over due to a presentation by an Abbeville businessman to Abbeville City Council Wednesday night. Joe Johns, who has a business on Abbeville’s Court Square and who is planning to establish some apartments on the Square, told Council that he has met with other Court Square property owners. They have come to the conclusion that behind the Square, in the area known as the Wagon Yard, there needs to be a lane which will provide access for emer-

gency services personnel, to benefit the people living in apartments in the back of the buildings facing the Square. Having a named road would be beneficial in terms of providing E-911 information in the event of an emergency, he indicated. Currently, there is an alley behind the buildings which many motorists use as a shortcut, and this alley is located on property owned by a number of property owners. “It’s a problem that probably needs to be addressed,” he said. “I agree—it needs to be done,” said City Council member Faye Thomas. Giving the Wagon Yard a

make-over might provide the opportunity for Court Square business owners to gain more revenue, by way of providing outdoor space for customers, said City Council member Matt Gambrell, who owns some of the property in the Wagon Yard. City Manager Blake Stone said that a plan will be prepared and presented to Council. The City, property owners, and SCDOT are expected to provide input. The Wagon Yard, said Mayor Pro Tem Benji Greeson, was a place where in years past people would leave their wagons while they conducted business on the Square.

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Mike Allen (left) helped out veteran Fred Malone (right) when Malone was having health concerns. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

A veteran's story

Fred Malone working through health crisis with help from friends, family

By Henry E. Green
"I get by with a little help from my friends," the Beatles used to sing.

Fred Malone, Jr., of rural Abbeville County can perhaps identify with that song. Earlier this year, the timely help of good friends--and family--might have saved him from the repercussions of a health crisis.

It was Sept. 24 of this year when Fred's girlfriend called Fred's friend Mike Allen. She was concerned because Fred was slurring his speech.

Mike, who lives on Douglas Mill Road, came on over to Fred's house, where Fred's condition was not getting better. Fred at one point started to collapse before Mike grabbed him.

"I called 911," Mike recalled. Fred did not at that time seek medical attention, but the next day, he called his son, as his condition had not improved.

His son, meanwhile, called 911, and this time Fred said "yes," and he was taken to Self Regional in Greenwood.

Fred, it was determined, had had a urinary tract infection and a mini-stroke, something from which he is just now getting recuperating.

His balance, for example, is still a work in progress.

"I credit this gentleman with saving my life," he said of Mike. "I probably would have lain there and died."

Fred said that he lost as many as 20 pounds during his time in the hospital.

"I'm still 20 pounds down as of this morning," he continued. "I hadn't been that low down since 1964, when I quit smoking," he said.

"I credit him and my girlfriend," he said of Mike Allen. "She was the one who recognized that I needed help."

Malone, said Mike, is the "backbone" of the Veterans

Museum in Greenwood.

"They call me the curator," said Fred.

The two men have a strong friendship. "We both have strong beliefs in our Lord and savior Jesus Christ," said Mike. "I consider it an honor to call him my friend.

"God definitely intervened that particular night," said Mike. "I never have believed in coincidences. That was no coincidence. It started with that phone call to me, and I responded."

"I've been through a lot in my life," said Fred. "I reckon right now I'm about 75 percent."

Nurses still come by to check on Malone, the Commander of the American Legion Post 20 in Greenwood.

Malone saw combat in Vietnam, where he was wounded, and he served in the Air Force and then the Navy.

The Abbeville Fire Department and State Farm® remind residents to "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety™"

**Submitted by
Bobby Patterson,
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The Abbeville Fire Department is teaming up with State Farm and the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety." This year's campaign, October 3-9, works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

"What do the sounds mean? Is there a beep or a chirp coming out of your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm? Knowing the difference can save you, your home, and your family," said Lorraine Carli, vice-president of outreach and advocacy at NFPA.

The Abbeville Fire Department and local State Farm agent Bobby Patterson encourage all residents to embrace the 2021 Fire Prevention Week theme. Bobby recently donated a Fire Prevention Week kit to the fire department which included posters, promotional items, magnets and children's activities.

"It's important to learn the different sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms," said Patterson. "When an alarm makes noise—a beeping sound or a chirping sound—you must take action! Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond."

Abbeville Fire Department shared the following safety tips to help you "Learn the

Sounds of Fire Safety":

- A continuous set of three loud beeps—beep, beep, beep—means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out.

- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.

- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.

- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

- Make sure your smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and fire prevention in general, visit www.fpw.org.

Pay \$0 for Classes at PTC

**Submitted by
Kristine Hartvigsen**

There are a lot of great jobs available in the region. Many of these opportunities require a college education or advanced training. For that reason, Piedmont Technical College (PTC) is fully removing the tuition cost barrier for current and future students who enroll through summer 2022.

"We don't want anything standing in the way of your

pursuit of a new or better career path," said Dr. Hope E. Rivers, president of PTC. "Every single credit program we offer is now eligible for 100% tuition coverage. It's truly a historic opportunity."

Made possible by a variety of funding sources, including federal, state, local and community aid, PTC's no-cost tuition option is available to South Carolina residents with a desire to begin or continue their

education. Eligible students must also enroll at PTC in a minimum of six credit hours (typically two courses).

"This step will ensure that citizens in our service region have access to all the benefits a college education provides," said Dr. Rivers. "When they leave us, they will be equipped to seek good jobs or pursue further education."

For more information, visit www.ptc.edu/free.

Warm Wishes To You at Thanksgiving

As we gather around with family and friends this holiday, we offer up thanks for the many blessings that make life meaningful. Gifts like friendship, love, health and prosperity make us especially grateful, and we hope you enjoy these same blessings in abundance at this special time of year and always.

To our valued friends, neighbors and customers here in the community, go our heartfelt best wishes for a joyous and healthy season. We deeply appreciate your kindness and support. Happy Thanksgiving!

Harris

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Abbeville Vintage Market

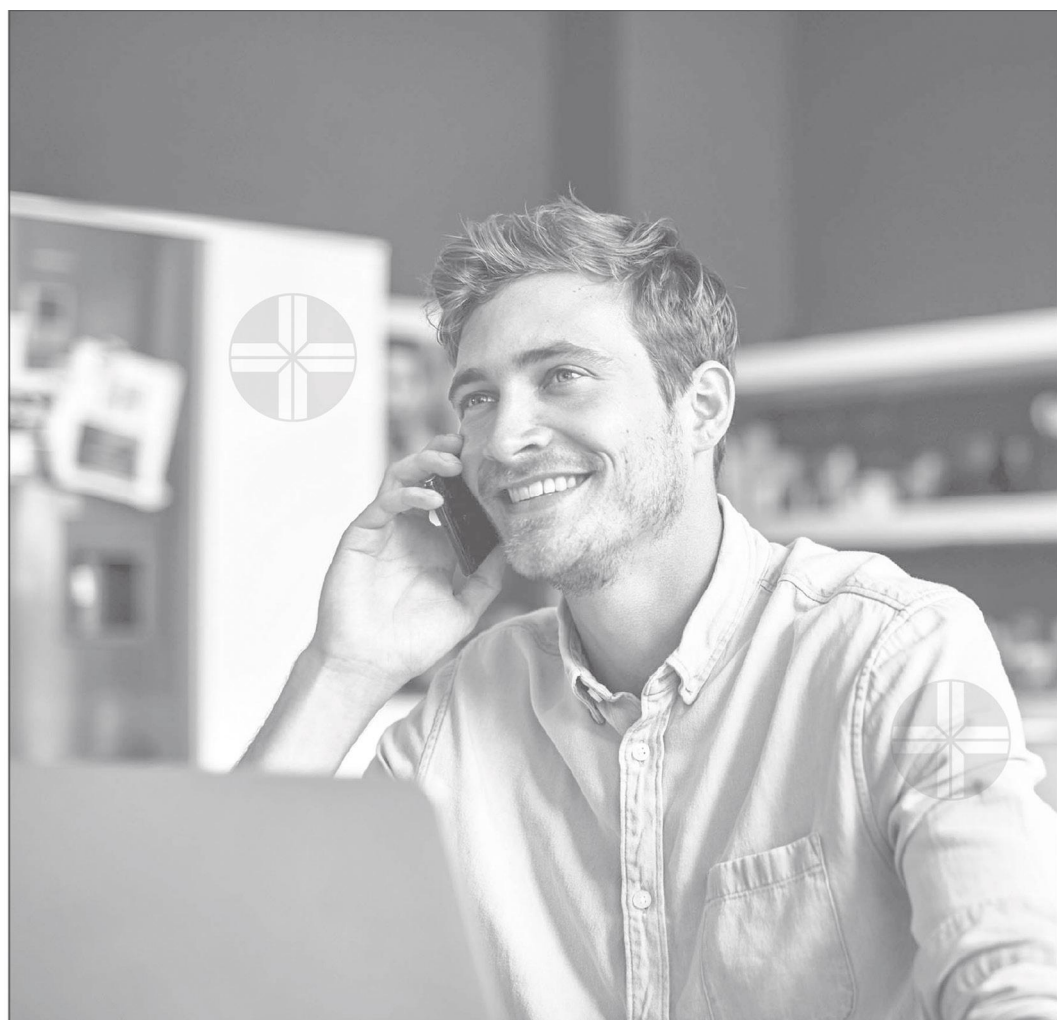
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Open House

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Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served!**



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Pages 6 - 11 of the Nov. 17th edition of The Press and Banner contain a list of Unclaimed Property held by West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. To receive a PDF copy of this list, email eileen@bannercorp.net

**LIST OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY HELD BY
WEST CAROLINA RURAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Below is a list of names of persons with unclaimed capital credit checks which were issued 2018 and 2019. The complete list of names can also be viewed at www.wctel.net. If you believe you are the owner of property included in this list, please email unclaimedproperty@wctel.net or call 864-446-9275. The following information will be needed:

- 1. Your name**
- 2. Your current address**
- 3. Your current telephone number or a contact number**
- 4. Your name as it appears on this list, if different**
- 5. Your previous service address with West Carolina Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.**
- 6. Your previous telephone number with West Carolina Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.**
- 7. The years you had service with West Carolina Rural Telephone Coop., Inc.**

To make a claim for a deceased person, please provide your information for items 1-3 and the deceased's information for items 4-7. In addition, please provide your relationship to the deceased.

A representative will answer your email or return your call in the order in which it is received.



Abbeville back Antonio Harrison (2) runs for a first down during the Panthers' 49-34 victory over Saluda last Friday night in the second round of the Class AA Playoffs in Abbeville. (Photo by Shawn M. Knox)

AHS, Gray Collegiate to clash in Winnsboro

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville will take on Gray Collegiate Academy at Fairfield Central in Winnsboro this coming Friday night. Game time is 7:30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased online, and parking on the Fairfield Central campus costs \$5. AHS head football coach Jamie Nickles has considerable respect for Gray Collegiate Academy, a public charter school based in West Columbia. "They're really talented," he said, adding that they are "well coached in every phase of the game."

The War Eagles are a spread team, and defensively they are "big, strong and fast," and on offense they have "the best running back in the state." Although they are a "spread" team, they like to run out of their spread format than they like to pass. Gray Collegiate's home stadium is too small for a third round playoff game, hence the need for a neutral site. The winner will play for the Upper State championship. According to AHS athletic director Maggie Jameson, Fairfield Central is located

at 836 U.S. Highway 321 Bypass, Winnsboro. Tickets may be purchased online only at GoFan.co and cost \$10. Gray Collegiate head football coach Adam Holmes said the War Eagles, who play in Region Three 2-A, are ranked Number Two in the state behind Abbeville. "We're 11-1," said Holmes, who said the sole loss during the regular season was to Gaffney. The game with Abbeville "should be a really good match-up," he said.

Kenny Hilley is King!

By Henry E. Green
Kenny Hilley of Calhoun Falls is this week's college football contest winner. "With a week with one of the 15 game selections postponed, the other USC and California, Kenny Hilley and Solomon Bowie missed only two picks," said Contest Editor Lamar T. West. The point total came to 753 points in the 14 games selected, and Kenny guessed 843 points and Solomon 875 points, with Mr. Hilley emerging the winner. Two other entries, belonging to Danny Cromer and Travis Lee, missed on three selections. Only two weeks are left for your chance to win, so study hard and pick the winners, West continued. Hilley is the king for a week which left Carolina fans

disappointed and Clemson fans happy. USC went on the road to play Missouri, and lost 31-28, and this coming week Carolina returns home to play Auburn before closing out its season by hosting Clemson. Carolina mounted a furious comeback against Mizzou, but fell just short. The Gamecocks are hoping to become bowl eligible, and they just might, but they will have to wait. Even though USC will be playing within the friendly confines of Williams Brice Stadium, Auburn, we believe, will be a bit too much for the Gamecocks. We gaze into the Crystal Ball and see the Auburn Tigers prevailing to the tune of 24-13. Clemson, meanwhile, had

no trouble with UConn, muzzling the Huskies to the tune of 44-7, but it will be a different story with Wake Forest. The Demon Deacons will, we believe, will tame the Tigers--South Carolina's version, that is--to the tune of 28-25. Auburn, we're told, is Clemson without the lake. As for the rest of the nation, is it too early to predict a national champion? Of course not! We predict Georgia will take home the prize. The Bulldogs are battle-tested, playing in arguably the best conference in the land. Someone mentioned Ohio State as a possible contender to put the Bulldogs back in their pen, but the SEC, we believe, is overall a better conference than the Big Ten. Time will tell, folks!

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Utility Imposter Scammers Ready as Temperatures Drop

COLUMBIA, S.C. – South Carolina utilities have joined with South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) and the Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) for Utility Scam Awareness Week (November 15-19, 2021) to warn consumers about utility imposter scams as consumers turn on their heat for the winter. According to a recent news release from the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs. Utility imposter scams can happen in-person or over the phone and come in a lot of shapes and sizes. Consumers have reported seeing scammers dressed like a representative of a utility company, going door-to-door and demanding payment in prepaid cards or else power would be shut off. The scammer may call and claim the consumer needs a new meter or they are late on their payments. Whatever form the scam takes, the red flags are the same. The top red flags of a utility imposter scam are: Asking for payment in prepaid debit, gift card, money transfer, payment app or cryptocurrency. No

real utility company will ever ask a consumer to pay with anything other than direct forms of payment like a bank account or credit card. If someone claiming to be a utility says you must pay in an uncommon form of payment, it's a scam. Every time. No matter what they say. Use scare tactics or threaten you into paying ASAP. Often a scammer will warn the consumer they are late with payment and if they don't pay immediately, their services will be shut off. Utilities are required to provide consumers with at least 10 days written notice before their service is shut off and a second notice a few days prior. Cold-call and ask for you to verify personal information. A cold-call is when you receive an unsolicited visit or telephone call made by someone trying to obtain payment or information for a service. If you receive a cold-call from anyone asking to verify private information like your account numbers/balances, Social Security number, date of birth, etc, hang up and directly call your utility company.

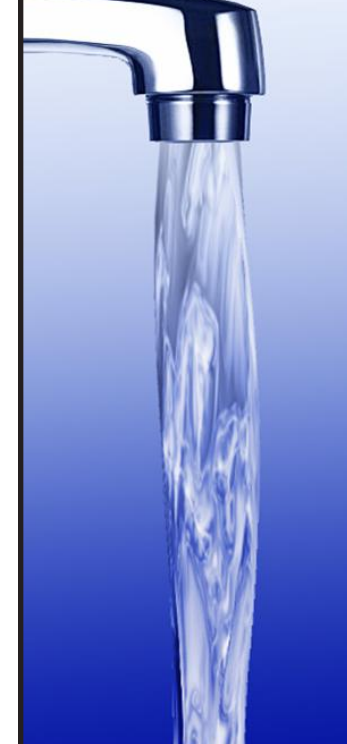
Consumers should also be wary of their caller ID's as scammers will "spoof" the number they are calling from, which causes the customer's phone to display a false caller ID. Often, the scammer will "spoof" a local number, perhaps even using the utility's standard customer service number. If you have any doubt about the legitimacy of a caller, hang up immediately and call your utility's customer service center. Dominion Energy South Carolina: (800) 251-7234 Duke Energy Carolinas: (800) 777-9898 Duke Energy Progress: (800) 452-2777 Santee Cooper: (800) 804-7424 Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina: Visit www.ecsc.org/co-op/info to find the direct number of your co-op.



Abbeville running back Jamal Marshall (6) crosses the goal line for a touchdown during the Panthers' 49-34 victory over Saluda last Friday night in the second round of the Class AA Playoffs in Abbeville. (Photo by Shawn M. Knox)



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Beginning October 2021
GLEAMNS will be providing water and waste water assistance. For information, please contact the GLEAMNS Community Services Department at 864-459-2100.



Abbeville defensive lineman Jae Harris (70) and linebacker Shunkevis Brown (23) stop Saluda running back Montrevious Baker (22) during the Panthers' 49-34 victory over the Tigers last Friday night in the second round of the Class AA Playoffs in Abbeville. (Photo by Shawn M. Knox)



Abbeville quarterback Zay Rayford (4) springs down the sideline on his way to the end zone for a touchdown during the Panthers' 49-34 victory over Saluda last Friday night in the second round of the Class AA Playoffs in Abbeville. (Photo by Shawn M. Knox)

All too familiar

Abbeville High defeats Saluda in second round of playoffs, 49-34

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville defeated Saluda Friday night 49-34 at Hite Stadium in the second round of the playoffs, and will move on to face Gray Collegiate at the neutral site of Fairfield Central High School in Winnsboro.

Saluda, as every die-hard Panther fan knows, defeated Abbeville in the Upper State finals back in 2019, in a thriller.

Friday night's game was almost as much of a nail-biter. To call it an offensive struggle would be almost an understatement. Saluda could not stop Abbeville's powerful running game, while the Panthers were subjected to an industrial-strength passing attack by the Tigers.

Saluda used an up-tempo style of attack which kept the Panthers on their Ps and Qs defensively.

Abbeville drew first blood, after Ty Cade recovered a Saluda fumble in the first quarter deep in Tiger territory, leading to a nine yard touchdown run by Jamal Marshall.

With a successful PAT, AHS led 7-0, but the Tigers came right back with a successful drive that started at the Saluda 13 and ended with a nine yard touchdown run. The score was knotted at 7.

From here the touchdowns rained down at an almost dizzying rate. Abbeville launched a 62 yard touchdown drive that ended with Antonio Harrison's four yard scoring run.

Abbeville led 14-7, at the end of the first quarter, and the Tigers trimmed the lead to 14-10 with a 22 yard field goal.

On Abbeville's next possession, the Panthers started with excellent field position at the AHS 44, and ended with a one yard Zay Rayford run. With the PAT good, AHS led 21-10.

The Tigers could not capitalize on their next possession, and had to punt after a three-and-out.

Abbeville was able to take advantage, courtesy of an 18 yard Zay Rayford run.

The Panthers had added a cushion to their lead, but the Tigers came back to again trim the lead with a field goal.

This time the Tigers were true from 38 yards, and Abbeville led 28-13 at the half.

In the second half, the Tigers kicked off to Abbeville, and again AHS was blessed with good field position, starting their drive at the Abbeville 48, and ending it with a 39 yard Zay Rayford touchdown run.

With a successful PAT, Abbeville led 35-13, but the Tigers came back with a

touchdown drive that mixed the run and pass, and ended with a four yard touchdown run, and Abbeville's lead was again trimmed--this time to 35-20.

The Panthers turned the ball over on their next possession, with the Tigers recovering at the Abbeville 48.

Six plays later, on a third and goal from the Abbeville six, Saluda rambled into the end zone, and with the PAT good, the Tigers crept just a little closer--to 35-27.

The Panthers came right back with a nine-play drive that ended with a 14 yard touchdown run by Jamal Marshall.

The drive, punctuated by Rayford's 50 yard run, put the Panthers ahead 42-27.

The drive got a boost when Saluda was called for an off-sides penalty which gave Abbeville a first down at the Tigers' 14.

The Tigers were not finished, however. Starting at their own 28, the Tigers mounted a touchdown drive which featured a most excellent aerial attack, and ended with a seven yard touchdown run. With the PAT good, the AHS lead was then trimmed to 42-34.

Abbeville added an insurance touchdown run courtesy of Marshall's nine yard run.



Abbeville linebacker Ty Cade (15) scoops up a loose ball and then runs in it to the end zone for a touchdown during the Panthers' 49-34 victory over Saluda last Friday night in the second round of the Class AA Playoffs in Abbeville. (Photo by Shawn M. Knox)

Dixie girls win state title in cross country

By Henry E. Green

The Dixie High School girls cross country team has won the state championship, according to Dixie High School principal Paul Prescott.

The Lady Hornets won the state meet, held in Columbia this past Friday, Prescott said Monday.

This was the first cross country championship for the Dixie girls team in school history, said Prescott, whose wife Cayce is the coach of the team.

Their two daughters, Ansley and Rachel, run cross country for Dixie.

Ashten Stoll, a seventh grader at Cherokee Trail Elementary, was the individual winner for 1-A girls cross country in South Carolina.

Her winning time was that of 20 minutes and 50 seconds.

Ansley Prescott came in second in the state in individual competition.

The top seven girls on the Dixie girls cross country

team competed in the event.

They included Ashten Stoll, Ansley Prescott, Rachel Prescott, Clara Angel, Nicole Hershberger, Ruth Ellen Redding, and Adyson Ashley.

Meanwhile, the Dixie boys team came in second in the state, behind Southside Christian.

Their top runner, Spencer Wieters, came in third in the individual competition.

"It was a good day for Dixie," Prescott said.



The Dixie girls cross country team has won the state championship. (Contributed photo)



Ashten Stoll has won the state championship in girls cross country. (Contributed photo)

Clinton's Arkansas: A Justice Free Crime Zone

By Geoff Hult

In 1982, CIA operative and drug trafficker Barry Seal set up a drug smuggling operation based in Mena, Arkansas. The tiny Mena airport was used to transport weapons to the CIA backed Nicaraguan Contras and as a base from which to transport cocaine throughout the United States. This operation during the 1980s and 1990s became one of the largest, if not the largest, cocaine trafficking operations in US history. It is estimated that Seal and his crew smuggled between 3 billion and 5 billion dollars worth of cocaine through

Mena between 1982-1986. Seal was killed in 1986 but the operation continued. This was an operation run by the highest levels of state and federal government, which is why it operated openly and brazenly with nothing ever done about it. Congressman Bill Alexander of AR stated: "The CIA contracted with various partners to transport arms to Central America, allowing them to bring drugs to Mena."

Bill Clinton was governor of Arkansas during this time and helped set up the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA). ADFA was developed ostensibly to provide low interest bond loans for churches, schools, and colleges. According to Larry Nichols, a former employee of ADFA, ADFA was the heart of the Clinton political machine and was really a money laundering operation. Nichols stated that 100 million dollars worth of cocaine was coming through Mena every month during the 80s and that ADFA played a major role in laundering that money through US banks in Florida, Atlanta, New York and the Bank of Credit and Commerce International in Luxembourg, Karachi, and London. The "loans" that ADFA made was just money being transferred and laundered. According to Nichols, the first loan ADFA made was to Park-O-Meter based in Russellville, AR, for 2.85 million dollars. POM used that money to retro-fit nose cone compartments for planes to be used for drug transport in and out of Mena.

As well, Don Tyson, president and CEO of Tyson Foods, donated approximately \$700,000 to Clinton's gubernatorial campaign and in return received a 10 million dollar loan from ADFA. A number of independent investigators concluded Don Tyson was involved in cocaine distribution, money laundering, and murder for hire schemes. Attorney General Janet Reno was approached with this information but she shut down any further investigation into Tyson. Clinton and Tyson were part of the criminal power structure and were thus protected by the highest levels of government. This is one example of how all investigations into everything connect-

ed with Mena would be sabotaged and never bear fruit.

IRS agent Bill Duncan and Arkansas State Police investigator Russel Welch compiled an extensive amount of evidence for indictments against Barry Seal and many others involved in the Mena trafficking operation, but nothing ever came of their work. They eventually realized nothing would ever come from their work as their respective agencies disavowed their investigations and destroyed their careers. Bill Duncan stated: "No indictments were ever returned against any of the individuals, and I can

crime lab backed Malak's ruling but never tested the boys for drugs. Kevin's mother, Linda Ives, disagreed with this absurd ruling and the boys' bodies were later exhumed. Forensic pathologist and Atlanta Medical Examiner Dr. Joseph Burton concluded Ives had been stabbed to death and Henry's skull had been crushed prior to their placement on the tracks. Malak was notorious for his rulings of suicide and accident in cases of obvious homicide and Clinton backed him because he was part of the Clinton crime machine. Linda Ives was met with consistent



Kevin Ives (left) and Don Henry (right) (source: vocal.media)

resistance from law enforcement and the State Crime Lab as she pressed for better answers. Linda Ives, Jean Duffey, and Saline County constable Harmon Reeves all testified and publicly stated that they believed the killers of Ives and Henry were deputies Jay Campbell and Kirk Lane of the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office.

In addition, there were several people who had knowledge of the Ives/Henry case and were all subsequently murdered themselves. Gregory Collins died of a shotgun blast in January 1989. Jeff Rhodes died of a gunshot to the head in April, 1989. Richard Winters died of a shotgun blast in July 1989. Jordan Ketelson died of a shotgun blast in June 1990. There were eyewitnesses to a man named Keith McKaskle as being present at the time of the boys' death but it is not clear what he was doing there. McKaskle later died from 113 stab wounds in November 1988.

This is but a small fraction of the events surrounding Mena in the 80s and 90s. Bill Clinton was not only aware of what was going on, but was part of the money laundering operation and a known cocaine user. There are scores of people who have been "suicided" over the decades who were deemed a threat to the Clintons in one way or another. If this system were legitimate, world class criminals like Bill Clinton would never rise to power. People like Clinton thrive under this system because the nature of the system is criminal and the US government is a criminal empire.

As well, this has nothing to do with Clinton's party affiliation. The Republican administration in the White House during the 1980s did nothing to intervene in the Mena operation either. Judgment is on the horizon.

"For YaHuWaH shall bring every work into judgment, including all that is hidden, whether good or whether evil." (Ecclesiastes 12:14)

To contact Geoff Hult, email nonwo222@gmail.com

US Senate

Scott, Toomey Introduce Bill to Stop Biden from Releasing American COVID-19 Vaccine Intellectual Property

Submitted by
Senator Tim Scott

Senators Tim Scott (R-S.C.) and Pat Toomey (R-Penn.) introduced the Preventing Foreign Attempts to Erode Healthcare Innovation Act to prevent the Biden administration from relinquishing intellectual property (IP) protections on COVID-19 vaccines, a move that would hand over our IP to malign actors like the Chinese Communist Party and undermine American innovation.

"The United States has already pledged more money than any other country toward global vaccine efforts," said **Senator Tim Scott**. "President Biden's willingness to cave to the World Trade Organization instead of guarding one of our most valuable assets from getting into the hands of bad actors is concerning. The president needs to draw a clear line in dealing with Beijing, and releasing our data ensures that China will benefit off the hard work and innovation of American workers, and will also en-

sure our next vaccine takes longer to develop."

"The Biden Administration should protect the intellectual property of American companies, especially those that produced COVID vaccines in record time," said **Senator Toomey**. "Instead, the administration is advocating foreign countries expropriate these precious American assets. Our bill would limit the administration from pursuing this misguided policy, ensuring American companies can continue their vaccine distribution efforts without fear of losing their intellectual property."

The House companion bill was introduced last week by Representative Byron Donalds (R-Fla.).

"It deeply concerns me to hear of the Biden Administration's plan to forgo IP protections on COVID-19 vaccines. This plan is a direct infringement upon American ingenuity and innovation and hands over our nation's intellectual prowess for the world's taking," said **Rep. Byron Donalds**. "This Administration has made it a point

to put America last, and this is just another glaring example of this sad reality. I appreciate my Senate colleagues Sen. Tim Scott and Sen. Pat Toomey, for championing my bill in the United States Senate and joining my efforts to prevent the Biden Administration from senselessly giving away America's intellectual property to countries like China."

Senators Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) and Richard Burr (R-N.C.) are also co-sponsors of the Preventing Foreign Attempts to Erode Healthcare Innovation Act.

Background:

The bill bars the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) from supporting the waiver of certain World Trade Organization (WTO) intellectual property protections for COVID-19 vaccines, as the Biden Administration announced it would.

The bill accomplishes this by "prohibiting the authorization of appropriations to USTR for supporting a measure at the WTO waiving certain intellectual property rights."

US Senate

Senator Scott, Colleagues Denounce U.S. Postal Service's 'Misguided' Banking Expansion

Submitted by
Senator Tim Scott

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-S.C.) joined Senator John Boozman (R-AR) and Republican colleagues in calling a new U.S. Postal Service (USPS) pilot program a threat to mail delivery and a misguided attempt to federalize financial services.

In a letter to Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, the senators raised questions about USPS' authority to implement a banking pilot program that includes check-cashing services.

"We are concerned that the pilot program exceeds the Postal Service's legal authority and fails to comply with relevant regulations and procedural requirements," members wrote in the letter.

The Postal Service

launched its postal banking pilot program in September without notifying Congress. It comes on the heels of losses of more than \$75 billion from 2007-2019. Last month the USPS announced it will further slow service and increase prices in attempt to fix its own notoriously poor financial footing.

"Given that these losses occurred during a period of time in which the Postal Service was exclusively focused on mail delivery, it would be imprudent to shift attention and resources toward an area in which the agency lacks expertise. It is essential that the Postal Service address this revenue shortfall by focusing on fixing inefficiencies with its mail delivery system, not pivoting to financial products and offerings with which the agency has

no expertise," members continued.

Cosigners of the letter include Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Ranking Member Rob Portman (R-OH), Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Pat Toomey (R-PA), Senate Appropriations Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee Ranking Member Hyde-Smith (R-MS), and Senators John Barrasso (R-WY), Mike Braun (R-IN), Tom Cotton (R-AR), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Kevin Cramer (R-ND), Ted Cruz (R-TX), Steve Daines (R-MT), Bill Hagerty (R-TN), John Kennedy (R-LA), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), Roger Marshall, M.D. (R-KS), Jim Risch (R-ID), John Thune (R-SD) and Tommy Tuberville (R-AL).

US House of Representatives

Duncan Supports States Pushing Back Against Federal Mandates

Submitted by
Congressman
Jeff Duncan

Today, Congressman Jeff Duncan commended the state leaders, governors, and attorneys general who are leading the way in pushing back against President Biden's unlawful COVID-19 vaccine mandates. Congressman Duncan recently signed on to a letter led by Rep. Arrington supporting attorneys general nationwide for their actions to legally challenge President Biden's vaccine mandates. "Americans should never be forced to choose between taking the shot or losing their livelihood to

provide for their families. I am proud to see governors and attorneys general in states across the country, including in South Carolina, pushing back against the federal government's unconstitutional COVID-19 vaccine mandates and suing the Biden Administration," said Congressman Jeff Duncan. "I am thankful we have strong leaders in our states nationwide who are willing to stand up for individual liberty and the medical freedom of the employees of their state."

"This is about liberty, and the government has no authority to force the COVID-19 vaccine on

Americans. I have no doubt President Biden's authoritative COVID-19 vaccine mandates imposed on over 100 million employees will fail to hold up in court," said Congressman Jeff Duncan.

"Mark my words, we will continue the fight Biden's authoritative COVID-19 vaccine mandates because they have no place in the United States. Republicans in Congress plan to work with our colleagues in the states to push back against this legislatively, and I encourage leaders nationwide to keep fighting against such overreach. In a free country, medical tyranny cannot stand."

Duncan Responds to Skyrocketing Inflation Due to Biden's Policies

Submitted by
Congressman
Jeff Duncan

Congressman Jeff Duncan issued the following statement as inflation reached a three-decade peak last month:

"Americans face the most expensive Thanksgiving and Christmas yet this holiday season due to top-down policies from the Biden Administration that have resulted in an unprecedented rise in inflation," said Congressman Jeff Duncan. "Last month, inflation hit a thirty-year high, and families are feeling the pinch.

Inflation is taxation on those who can afford it the least, and President Biden's reckless government spending will only cause inflation to surge."

"It is no surprise inflation hit a three-decade high last month considering the widespread labor shortage, skyrocketing fuel prices, widespread government stimulus, the supply chain crisis, and a decline in domestic production," said Congressman Jeff Duncan. "Inflation at this rate is unsustainable and hurts American consumers daily. Assuming the Biden Administration does not change

its course and continues to promote America-last policies that hurt the economy and drain Americans' pockets, we will continue to see inflation grow. It is evident the Biden Administration lacks economic responsibility or restraint, which has resulted in an economic crisis at the expense of hardworking Americans.

President Biden's so-called 'Build Back Better' agenda would super-charge inflation concerns and place an even greater economic strain on the backs of American consumers."

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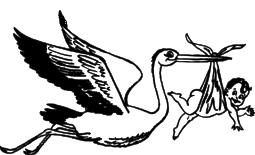


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Volunteers Nancy Walborn and Caroline Calvert, at Main Street United Methodist Church in Abbeville, are busy collecting shoeboxes from throughout Abbeville County for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. National Collection Week is Nov. 15-22 and millions of shoeboxes will be collected at over 5,000 drop-off locations before distribution throughout the world. Questions may be directed to Cecily Ferguson at 864-391-7888. (Photo contributed)



2021

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Abbeville vs Gray Collegiate

Friday, Nov. 19, 2021

7:30 p.m.

Fairfield Central in Winnsboro

SUE SIMPSON
AUDITOR
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The Abbeville County Local Emergency Planning Committee met recently, and among those in attendance were Abbeville County E-911 director Sharmel Miller (left) and Abbeville County Emergency Management director Will Blackwell (right). (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Volunteer training photo: (L/R) Bal Ballentine; Nancy Corley, Executive Director for Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont; Wells Ballentine. (Photo contributed)

Preparedness focus of local group

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County Local Emergency Planning Committee met Wednesday morning, reviewing the emergency response to the recent flooding in rural Abbeville County.

Abbeville County Emergency Management director Will Blackwell said that overall the response went well.

The group also discussed the recent active shooter training conducted by the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office at the Abbeville Area Medical Center.

Captain Tripp Crosby of the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office noted that the exercise went well.

"We still have a lot of requests for active shooter training," he said.

Abbeville County E-911 director Sharmel Miller noted that the County is still working on establishing a radio system for the County's first responders.

Blackwell noted that COVID appears to be on the decline here in Abbeville County.

"Luckily our numbers are going down," he said.

The vaccines seem to be doing their job, he said.

"We've done a really good job of staying ahead of this (in Abbeville County)," he said.

Blackwell did note that there is a possibility of a surge in the holiday season.

Committees like the LEPC are intended to build partnerships in the community, Scot Yarbrough of South Carolina Emergency Management Division told the audience.

"It's a good way to build a more resilient community and it may save your life," he said.

Meanwhile, Blackwell discussed the coming winter, noting that he is anticipating a wet winter, but one "on the mild side."

Yarbrough noted that the LEPC and similar committees in the state are all about building relationships in the community.

"I'd like to see this committee grow," he said.

About one dozen people were in attendance, including representatives of the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office, Abbeville County E-911, Abbeville County Assessor's Office, Abbeville County Fire, Due West Police, and Abbeville County Emergency Management, as well as Abbeville County Director David Garner, and Scot Yarbrough of South Carolina Emergency Management

The LEPC and similar committees throughout South Carolina, under state directives, serve to bring together many segments of the community to help ensure community preparedness for emergency situations.

Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont receives "Bal's Big Give"

Submitted by Andrea Scott

Bal Ballentine is still giving big with "Bal's Big Give."

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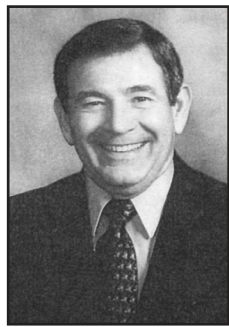
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Dixie High School and Calhoun Falls Charter FFA students (in dark coats) helped out with door prizes during the recent annual meeting of the Abbeville County Farm Bureau. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

a Word from "THE WORD"



jkeithfbca@gmail.com

Rev. Dr. John Keith
Success

2 Chronicles 1:10 "Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of yours?"

If God were to issue you a blank check for you to ask for anything you desired and He would grant it, what would you ask for? That is exactly what God told Solomon soon after he ascended the throne of Israel. In verse 7 of this same chapter, God appeared to Solomon in a dream at night and told him to ask what He should give him. Solomon asked for wisdom and knowledge to lead the nation of Israel. In a real sense of the word, God told Solomon to ask for whatever he desired for success as a leader of the Israelites and He would grant it. Three things from this passage come to mind.

First of all, Solomon recognized that he did not have the wisdom and knowledge to lead the nation. He knew that he was not wise enough to handle the task. He knew that if he were going to be successful in being their king he would need divine help. One of the problems of our modern age is that we think we can handle the complex problems on our own without God—it can't be done. If you want to be a success in life, you need divine direction. There are myriads of folks who make a complete and total mess of their lives because they think they are wise enough to rule their own lives. Some folks are afraid to let God have control of their lives—

they fear He will cramp their freedom, and mess up their lives. If you feel like that, let me ask you this question, is there any way God can mess up your life any more than you already have?

Second, notice Solomon's request. He requested wisdom and knowledge, two very important ingredients for success. Do you know what the difference is between knowledge and wisdom? Knowledge is the specific information about something while wisdom is knowing how to apply that information. What is the benefit of having the knowledge of the Encyclopedia Britannica without the ability to apply any of the knowledge? Some sage has made the comment, "knowledge is knowing how to take something apart but wisdom is knowing how to put it back together again."

Keep that in mind, there are folks who are deliberately and methodically tearing our nation apart who haven't the slightest idea on how to put it back together again. Knowledge is something man can gain, but wisdom is something only God can give. Solomon knew that unless God gave him the wisdom to lead the nation he would be a miserable failure. The same thing holds true for you and I—without the wisdom that comes from God, our lives will not be successful. Finally, notice God's re-

sponse to Solomon's request in verse 12—"wisdom and knowledge are granted to you; and I will give you riches and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like." God gave Solomon many blessings besides knowledge and wisdom. In Matthew 6:33 Jesus said, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added to you." In Matthew 6, Jesus addressed many of the concerns in life. He mentioned not laying up treasures on earth that are only temporary. He cautioned His disciples about worrying about what they would wear or what they would eat, and then in verse 32 He told them that their heavenly Father knew that they needed those things. In verse 33 he told them to seek God's kingdom first and God would take care of the rest.

Basically, He was telling them that if they wanted a successful life they needed to be in God's kingdom. No matter how successful one is in the material things of life, if he does not know Jesus he will ultimately fail because he will one day leave those material things when he dies.

The wisest thing anyone can do is come to Jesus—without Him you won't be successful.

Roses and thorns

District has learned lessons about instruction in pandemic's shadow

By Henry E. Green

The state of South Carolina has released school and district report cards, and the data in those report cards provided some good news for the School District, and underscored some challenges as well, against the backdrop of the pandemic, according to Brandi Sears, the District's Director of Instruction and Accountability. Sears discussed the data in a PowerPoint presentation during the Sept. 28 school board meeting, data reflecting graduation rates and standardized test scores in various subjects. First, the good news...

The graduation rate continued to increase in spite of the pandemic—the highest rate in recent years.

The percentage of the "graduation cohort identified as college or career

ready increased over last year," she said. The graduation cohort refers to the students who graduated or were scheduled to graduate in the past year.

"Even in the midst of COVID, our students performed at or above the state," said Sears.

"In each tested category, we were among the top of the 13 districts in the WPEC consortium," she said. WPEC is the Western Piedmont Education Consortium.

However, there was news that was less than good.

SCReady Math and SC-PASS Science reflected the largest decreases compared to 2019, and U.S. History EOCEP reflected the largest decrease compared to 2019.

EOCEP is the End of Course Examination Pro-

gram. The high school standardized tests are called End-of-Course Exams (where elementary and middle school students take the SCReady and SC-PASS).

Sears drew various conclusions about the data.

"Our faculty and staff adjusted to meet students' needs," she said, going on to note that "teachers and staff continued to work hard in the midst of the pandemic.

"We learned that remote learning is not the best for all students" and "that students missed valuable instructional time due to sickness and quarantine," said Sears.

The report cards are accessible to the public on the State Department of Education website, she said.

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US House of Representatives

Duncan highlights the importance of Reliable Energy & Advancing Nuclear Energy Technology in Committee Hearing

Submitted by
Congressman
Jeff Duncan

Today, Congressman Jeff Duncan (SC-03) provided comments and questioned Biden Administration official, the U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Hon. Jennifer M. Granholm, in the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy Subcommittee hearing on the fiscal year 2022 DOE Budget and priorities.

"The Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing today on the Department of Energy fiscal year 2022

budget and the importance of reliable energy. I took the opportunity to stress how important it was to utilize and improve existing technologies and sources.

"We have an abundance of natural gas in this country and an abundance of fossil fuels. In fact, in 2017, we became a net exporter of energy, but the Biden Administration's energy agenda is undercutting this progress. We can refine and export natural gas to countries worldwide and improve the quality of life for so many people. While we are not able to export renewable energy due to

the lack of transmission capabilities, we can ship the oil and gas that are produced and refined here in the United States.

"I was pleased to hear the Secretary's support for nuclear power and its essential role in meeting emission reduction goals, as well as meeting the 24/7/365 baseload power supply that our nation needs to drive our economy.

I was also encouraged by the Secretary's support for advanced nuclear technology and research. To that point, I do have concerns.



Abbeville First Bank recently made a \$2,000 donation to the United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County. Taking part in the donation photo opportunity were members of the Abbeville First loan department presented the donation, signified by this "big check" to UCMAC executive director Bill Boone: (from left) Susan Sherard, Kelly Youngblood, Bill Boone, Patrice Watt, and Tiffany Gambrell. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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19. *Brothers Grimm language
21. *Language considered to have most words
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25. Retriever's word, for short
28. Person, place or thing
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37. It has multiple limbs
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44. Letter-shaped girder
46. Russian mountain range
47. Curved molding
48. HNO3 acid
50. Egyptian goddess of fertility
52. Rub the wrong way
53. CISC alternative
55. Cry of horror, in comics
57. *First language spoken in outer space
61. *Once considered the language of diplomacy
64. Like old cracker
65. What acrimony and acrobat have in common
67. Get ready to drive, on a golf course
69. It's often rewarded with a medal in military
70. Sturgeon yield
71. Backyards separator?
72. "That was close!"
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74. "Silas Marner" novelist

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8. Flax-derived fabric
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10. Indian princess
11. Luau instrument, pl.
12. Mosquito net, e.g.
15. Teenagers' emotions
20. Nitrogen, in the olden days
22. *Greek N, pl.
24. Relating to dreams
25. **"Veni, vidi, vici" language
26. "My wife can vouch for me", e.g.
27. Prince's "Raspberry _____"
29. *Pakistani language
31. Make over
32. Eel in a sushi restaurant
33. Annotator
34. *Hellenic language
36. Popular way to cook tuna
38. *Greek H, pl.
42. More like a fox
45. Quaggier
49. Langley, VA org.
51. Be full of anger
54. Rabbit trap
56. Land on patellas
57. Invitation acronym
58. One of Four Corners states
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68. Favorite one

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Calhoun Falls

Holland slated to be sworn in in January

By Henry E. Green
Terrico Holland was recently elected Mayor of Calhoun Falls, and he is expected to be sworn in in January of 2022.

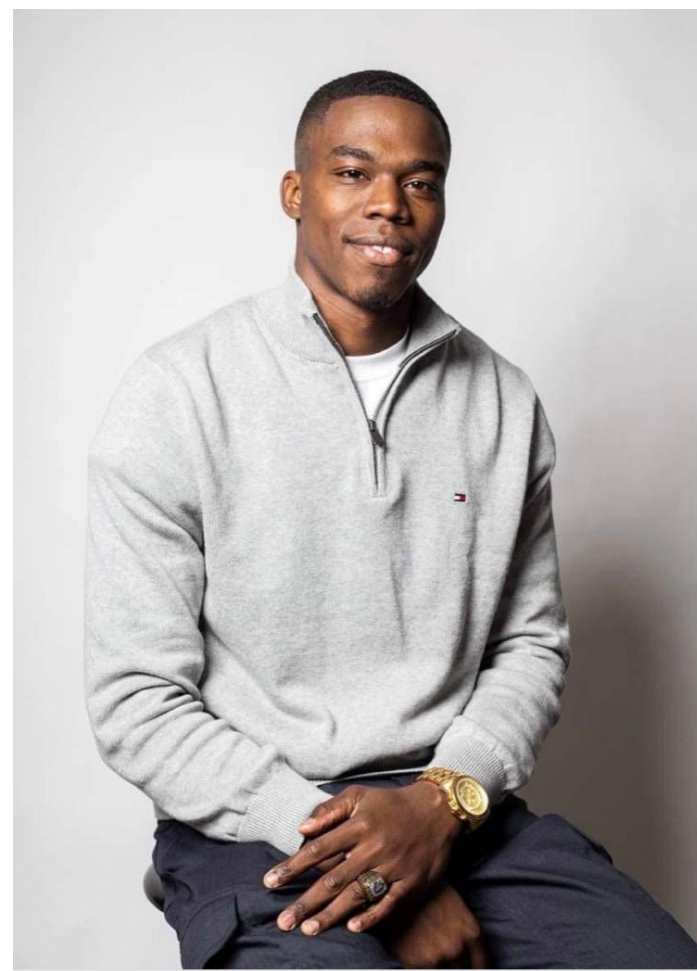
Born and raised in Calhoun Falls, Holland graduated from Calhoun Falls Charter in 2011, and went on to Southern Wesley-

an University, where he graduated in 2015 with a degree in recreation sports management with a minor in business.

Today he is the head coach for cross country at Calhoun Falls Charter, and the assistant coach for Calhoun Falls Charter track.

Holland would like to spruce up the town of Calhoun Falls so that it is neater and cleaner, and he would like to strengthen the town's recreation department, enhance business opportunities, and work on getting the community to come together in a spirit of harmony.

Terrico Holland was recently elected mayor of Calhoun Falls. (Contributed photo)



Lowndesville 'Bash' held

By Henry E. Green
The Lowndesville Bash was held in Lowndesville on Saturday, Nov. 13, and featured food, live music, vendors, a car show, and other highlights.

The event was spearheaded by the Lowndesville Community Club, which has been presenting a number of events highlighting the town of Lowndesville and

what it has to offer.

Earlier this year, for example, there was a performance by a bluegrass band in the Lowndesville park.

John Parnell is the president of the Lowndesville Community Club, which he has said has about 25 members.

Lowndesville is a small community in western Ab-

beville County.

The Bash was well attended, Parnell said Tuesday. "We had a good turnout," he said, estimating about 550 people showed up.

The Lowndesville Christmas parade is on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 3 p.m., and is presented by the Community Club and the Lowndesville Town Council.

City planning to have tree lighting Thursday

By Henry E. Green
The City of Abbeville will have its Christmas Tree lighting on Abbeville's Court Square on Thursday, Nov. 18 beginning at 6:30 p.m., according to City of Abbeville special events coordinator Emily Bledsoe.

There will be a countdown and then Mayor Trey Edwards will officially light the tree, which is built on a framework at the northern end of the Square.

"We will have a performance by Dance Dynasty," following the lighting, she

said.

The Abbeville group performed at the Christmas tree lighting last year, according to the City's special events coordinator. "We're excited to have them back this year," said Bledsoe.

There will be other highlights as well. "Red Gate Realty will be there and they will be providing hot chocolate for everybody," she said.

In addition, Cardinal Financial will be providing cookies to those in attendance at the event, which

will help provide a kickoff for the Christmas season in Abbeville.

That season will include the Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 11 a.m.

Other Christmas happenings will include Handmade for the Holidays, which the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce is planning to present the first weekend in December.

More details are to be announced in future editions of The Press and Banner.

Abbeville County Mental Health banquet set December 3; Krissi Raines to Speak

Submitted by Dick Haldeman

After a year's absence due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the annual Abbeville County Mental Health Banquet will be held for the fifty-seventh time Friday, December 3, at 6:45 p.m. in the Founders Room of Moffatt Dining Hall at Erskine College in Due West.

Mental Health America of Abbeville County sponsors the banquet that was held for the first time in 1963. Tickets are \$140.00 for a table of eight persons or \$20 if purchased individually. They may be obtained by writing MHA-AC, PO Box 861, Abbeville, SC 29620, or contacting MHA-AC officers

Debbie Johnson, president (864-391-2901); Cora Lee, secretary (864-379-2537); or Dick Haldeman, treasurer (864-379-8354).

Krissi Raines of Abbeville, mental health counselor and director of the Bow and Arrow Center of Hope, will be guest speaker. The Bow and Arrow Center established the Caroline Project to enhance mental health, prevent suicide, and support families who have lost loved ones to suicide. The Caroline Project recently sponsored a program at Erskine College featuring nationally known suicide prevention advocate Kevin Hines.

Earlier Ms. Raines coor-

minated the Project Aware Youth Mental Health First Aid Program sponsored by Abbeville School District 60. This program trained teachers, nurses, law enforcement, churches, and schools to deal with young people experiencing a mental health challenge, mental disorder, or mental health crisis.

Established 58 years ago, Mental Health America of Abbeville County supports housing, crisis needs, school-based counseling for mental health clients, suicide prevention programs, and a scholarship at Erskine College for students entering the Mental Health field.

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LAKE SECESSION WATER LEVEL DRAWDOWN

The water level at Lake Secession will be lowered to approximately 20 feet below full pool to do maintenance to the Hydro Dam. Drawing the water down will take approximately 25 days and will be accomplished by opening the spillway gates.

Drawdown will begin immediately following approval of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The target date to begin work is December 6, 2021. Upon completion of the work, the amount of time required to reach normal lake levels will depend upon the flow of the Rocky River and rain events.

If you have any questions, please call Abbeville Public Utilities at 864-366-5058.



Abbeville County First Steps, in collaboration with the Abbeville Housing Authority, will be distributing items to the community on Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Abbeville. Helping assemble the bags for the distribution were (from left) Housing Authority executive director Mary Chase Ford, Abbeville County First Steps executive director Angela Pruitt, and First Steps board members Lou Paradis and Sarah Kennerly. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

First Steps to have item distribution

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville County First Steps, in collaboration with the Abbeville Housing Authority, will be distributing items to the community on Nov. 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Abbeville, according to Abbeville County First Steps executive director Angela Pruitt.
“We’ll be distributing these items on Haigler Street at the Abbeville Housing Authority,” she said.

The items include candles, zip lock bags, various cleaning supplies, and other nonperishable items.
The distribution is open to anyone, and representatives of First Steps will be on hand at the Housing Authority Office on Haigler Street, Pruitt continued.
She thanked Housing Authority executive director Mary Chase Ford for her assistance in the distribution effort.

First Steps acquired the items from the organization Save the Children. Greenwood County First Steps was given the items from the organization Save the Children, and then donated some of the items to Abbeville and McCormick County First Steps.
“There’s about eight different items in each bag (to be distributed),” she said.
The items will be given away free of charge.

Obituaries

Weisner

Harry A. Weisner, II, 41, of 1662 Lake View Drive Extension, Laurens, SC, died Monday, November 15, 2021, at his father’s home. He was born in Spartanburg, SC to Harry Andrew Weisner and the late Susan Walker Weisner.
A 1998 graduate of Thornwell High School, Clinton, SC and 2002 graduate of The Citadel, Charleston SC, Harry was employed as a professional golf caddie for many years. He enthusiastically enjoyed golfing and cheering on The Citadel Bulldogs.



Harry A. Weisner, II

Harry is survived by his father of Greenwood, SC; a sister, Kathryn Michelle Booth (Patrick) of Lexington, SC; two nephews, Adam Kight (Sahara) and Conner Booth; and two

great-nephews, A.J. and Ezra.
No services are planned at this time.
The family will be at the home his father in Greenwood.
In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the American Society.
A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral.com.
Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Weisner family.

Obituaries

Miller

Anna H. Miller, 90, of Abbeville, SC, died at 3:00 pm, on Sunday, November 14, at her daughter’s residence in Goshen, IN. She was born on September 7, 1931, in Berne, IN, to Christian and Susan (Hilty) Schwartz.
On March 8, 1951, in Hartsville, OH, she married Leander Miller; he died August 4, 2006.
Anna was a member of Cold Spring Mennonite Church. She was a homemaker who had a servant’s heart and loved to cook.
In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband; son-in-law, Alvin Stutzman; granddaughter, Wanda Renee Miller; sister, Leah Schwartz; four brothers, Joe, Amos, Jake, and Sam Schwartz.
Surviving are four daughters, Susan (Yost) Miller of Goshen, IN, Esther (Glen) Miller of Middlebury, IN, Ruth (Delbert) Miller of Centreville, MI, Becky (John) Mast of Bergton, VA; eight



Anna H. Miller

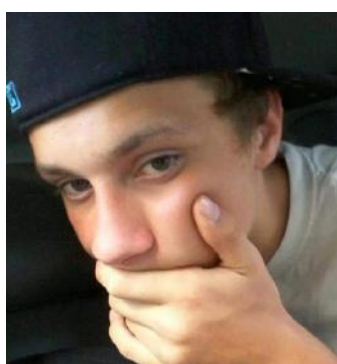
sons, Mike (Esther) Miller of Guys Mills, PA, Reuben (Mary) Miller of Abbeville, SC, Lee (Delores) Miller of Sarasota, FL, Dave (Diana) Miller of Westminster, SC, Larry (Ann) Miller, Wayne (Monica) Miller both of Sarasota, FL, Nathan (Dorcas) Miller of Cochranton, PA, Dale (Mariann) Miller of Delta, CO; 54 grandchildren, four step grandchildren, 71 great-grandchildren, 13 step great-grandchildren, one great-great grand-

daughter, two step great-great grandchildren; two brothers, Chris Schwartz of Decatur, IN, John (Esther) Schwartz of Monroe, IN; two sisters-in-law, Ruth Beachy of IL, Betty Schwartz of Shipshewana, IN.
The family will receive friends from 2:00 - 4:00 pm and 6:00 - 8:00 pm on Friday, November 19 at Cold Spring Mennonite Church. Funeral services will be 10:00 am on Saturday, November 20 also at Cold Spring Mennonite Church. Burial will follow in the Whispering Pines Mennonite Church Cemetery, Honea Path, SC.
Memorials may be given to Cold Spring Mennonite Church, 226 Cold Spring Mennonite Church Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620.
Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral.com.
Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Miller family.

Obituaries

Cromer

Jonathan Claude “Luke” Cromer, 24 passed peacefully on November 14, 2021 at Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital in Greenville, SC after an 8 year battle with cancer.
Born on June 26, 1997 in Greenwood, SC, Luke was the son of Audrey Cromer and Merle Raber.
Luke loves his family and friends and even though his disease took many things from him, he learned to find joy in the little things in life that many of us overlook.
His beautiful life will forever be cherished in the lives of his family: 6 sisters including Hannah Frost, Tristin Fields, Arizona Fields, Taylor Stoll (Weston), Ashley Raber and



Jonathan Claude Luke Cromer

Jessica Wilson; brother Dylan Raber; stepmom Christina Raber; stepparents Claude and Elaine Cromer, Vernon and Mary Ellen Raber and grandmother Nancy Cromer; aunts and uncles Charles Cromer, Glenn Cromer,

Lamar and Amy Sue Raber, Danny and Esther Marner and Jay and Gina Raber; and a niece, Meelah Sanchez.
Funeral services will be conducted Thursday Nov. 18, 2021 at 2:00 PM in the Chapel at Chandler-Jackson Funeral Home with the Rev. Chris Williams officiating. The burial will follow in Long Cane Cemetery.
The family will receive friends Thursday afternoon from 1:00 until 2:00 PM at the funeral home prior to services.
Memorials in memory of Luke may be made to the American Cancer Society C/O Conway Shirley, 144 Douglas Mill Rd Donalds, SC 29638.
11/17;1tp

Obituaries

Reece

Nancy Wilson Reece, 71, of Abbeville, died Monday, November 15, 2021 at the Hospice House in Greenwood. She was born in Abbeville to the late Joseph M. and Sennia A. Ashley Wilson.
A 1968 graduate of Abbeville High School, Nancy was employed with the former Winn Dixie Grocery Store in Abbeville. A lady of many talents, she particularly enjoyed gardening, sewing and fishing. With her vibrant personality, Nancy enjoyed meeting people and never met a stranger. She held her family close to her heart, especially her children, grandchildren and her great-grandchild. Nancy was a member of Lower Long Cane Presbyterian Church.
In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 30 years, Don Reece and a son-in-



Nancy Reece

law, Loren Jensen.
Nancy is survived by her children, Spence Sorrow, Jr. (Cora) of Midway, GA, Brian Sorrow (Stacy Norris) of Lake Secession and Shannon Brown (David) of Dallas, GA; brother, Joe Wilson, Jr. (Karen); her companion, Sammy Hall and family all of Abbeville; eight grandchildren, Brittany, Cassidy, Jordyn, Drake, Victoria, Zack, Nick, and Ben; great-grandchild, Wrenna; and all her fur babies which were special to her.

The family will receive friends 10:00AM - 11:00AM, Thursday, November 18, 2021 in Harris Funeral Home. Graveside services will begin at 11:30AM in Long Cane Cemetery with Rev. Ray Massey officiating.
Memorial contributions, in memory of Nancy, may be sent to the McCormick Humane Society, P.O. Box 900, McCormick, SC 29835; Hospice and Palliative Care of the Piedmont, 408 W. Alexander Ave., Greenwood, SC 29646; or the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8516.
The family is at the home. A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral.com.
Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Reece family.

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Kristi Smith (fourth from right) recently presented a donation on behalf of Abbeville First Bank to Due West Robotics, represented by this cluster of kids at a robotics scrimmage at the Galloway Center on the Erskine campus. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Contributions sought for DW Lions Club "Tree for Life"; gifts to Lions Charities Memorialize, Honor Loved Ones

Submitted by Dick Haldeman
 People from Due West and surrounding communities are invited to memorialize and honor loved ones through the Due West Lions Club's annual "Tree for Life" program which finances local, state and international Lions' charities. Gifts to the Tree for Life represent "lights" on the Due West Town Christmas Tree. Donors contributing by

November 19 will have their names printed in a Tree for Life booklet. The booklet will be distributed at the Tree Lighting ceremony following the Due West Christmas Parade Friday, December 3. Persons may purchase a "candle" for \$5, a "torch" for \$15, or a "lighthouse" for \$50 or more. Contribution forms for the Tree for Life may be obtained from Due West Town Hall. Contributions may be turned in at Due

West Town Hall or mailed to Due West Lions Club, PO Box 36, Due West, S.C. 29639. Contributions by check should be made to Due West Lions Club and marked "Tree for Life." Lions Vice President Lee W. Logan is chairman for The "Tree for Life," which has been part of the Due West Christmas celebration for two decades. Gene Judd is president of the Due West Lions Club.

Rabid bat confirmed in Abbeville County; one pet exposed

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) confirmed that a bat found near Tate Street and Waterford Lane in Calhoun Falls, S.C., has tested positive for rabies. No people are known to have been exposed at this time. One cat was exposed and will be quarantined as required in the South Carolina Rabies Control Act. The bat was submitted to DHEC's laboratory for testing on September 18, 2021, and was confirmed to have rabies on September 20, 2021. According to a recent news release from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. Never handle a bat or any wild or stray animal, alive or dead, with your bare hands. Any bat that could have had potential contact with people, pets, or livestock should be safely trapped in a sealed

container and not touched. Once a bat is released, it cannot be tested for rabies. Never release a bat that has potentially exposed a person or pet. "Rabid bats have been known to transmit the rabies virus," said Terri McCollister, Rabies Program Team Leader. "People don't always realize they or a pet have been bitten since bat teeth are tiny and bites are easy to overlook. Because of this, you should always assume a person or pet has potentially been bitten when:
 • They wake up to find a bat in a room;
 • A bat is found where children, pets, or persons with impaired mental capacity (intoxicated or mentally disabled) have been left unattended; or
 • They have been in direct contact with a bat."
 "Although bats can carry rabies, not every bat is infected

with the virus. Bats are an important part of South Carolina's ecosystems and deserve a healthy degree of respect just like all wild animals," said McCollister. You cannot tell if a bat, or any other animal, has rabies by simply looking at it. Rabies must be confirmed in a laboratory. Unusual behavior in bats that might indicate the animal has rabies includes daytime activity, inability to fly, and being found in places they are not usually seen, like in your home or on your lawn. Exposure is defined as a bite, scratch, or contact with saliva or body fluids from an infected animal. Be sure to immediately wash any part of your body that may have come in contact with saliva or neural tissue with plenty of soap and water and seek medical attention. If you believe that you, someone you know, or your pets have come into contact with this bat or another animal that potentially has rabies, please call DHEC's Environmental Affairs Greenwood office at (864) 227-5915 during normal business hours (8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday) or after hours and on holidays at (888) 847-0902 (Select Option 2). It is important to keep pets up to date on their rabies vaccination, as this is one of the easiest and most effective ways to protect against the disease. This bat is the second animal in Abbeville County to test positive for rabies in 2021. There have been 72 cases of rabid animals statewide this year. Since 2002, South Carolina has averaged approximately 148 positive cases a year. In 2020, four of the 168 confirmed rabies cases in South Carolina were in Abbeville County. Contact information for your local Environmental Affairs Health offices is available at www.scdhec.gov/EAoffices. For more information on rabies, visit www.scdhec.gov/rabies or www.cdc.gov/rabies.



Vance Anderson participated in Entrepreneurship class at Dixie High School in Spring 2021. There were community members that came in to judge the class competition. He won 1st place in the class competition. The top 2 places could have been sent to Yes Carolina/Engaging Creative Minds to be entered into the state competition. Vance advanced to the top 12 and then the top 5. He worked with a mentor, Virgil Virga, for the summer. They met regularly, filmed his commercial and refined and polished his presentation. On October 14, he went to Charleston to present against the 5 finalists. Vance had to participate in a Live Question & Answer session after the presentations. Vance was named the Paul Hulse Outstanding SC Entrepreneur of the Year. His prize consisted of seed money to start his business. (Photo contributed)

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