



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



The Reindeer Run presented by the Abbeville Rotarians on the morning of Dec. 12 included these two "dinosaurs" and their kids. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Election of City Mayor Pro Tem tabled

By Henry E. Green

During its Dec. 8 meeting, Abbeville City Council had prepared to elect a Mayor Pro Tem, but ended up tabling the election until later due to a tie vote in the election process.

Council member Faye Thomas, who had been serving as Mayor Pro Tem, was nominated, as were Council members Benji Greeson and Chris Crawford.

Thomas received two votes, while Crawford and

Greeson each received three votes apiece.

City Attorney Tombo Hite, listening in on the meeting electronically though he was physically absent, advised that Council have a runoff election between Greeson and Crawford, since each had three votes, and Council member Faye Thomas had two.

However, this election resulted in a tie vote as well, and Hite then advised that the election matter be

tabled.

There are typically nine members of City Council, including the Mayor, but the seat formerly held by Trey Edwards on Council is now vacant since Edwards became Mayor--leaving eight members of City Council altogether.

A special election is slated to be held to fill the City Council seat formerly held by Trey Edwards before he became Mayor (see related story.)

## Special City Council election set for March

By Henry E. Green

A special Abbeville City Council election is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, to fill the Abbeville City Council District Three seat, according to the Abbeville County voter registration office.

That seat had formerly been held by Trey Edwards, who vacated it after he was elected Mayor of Abbeville last month.

Those individuals wishing to file as candidates for the special election may do so at the Abbeville County voter registration and elections office in the Abbeville County Administrative Complex at 903 West Greenwood Street in Abbeville.

Voting in the election in March will be done at the Administrative Complex.

Abbeville City Council elections are nonpartisan.

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

Edwards noted Wednesday that his time on City Council District Three included serving about seven months of the unexpired term of the late Franklin Cape, and then he was elected in 2018 to the term he was serving when he was elected Mayor of Abbeville.



The Grinch was among the folks waving from this float in the Abbeville Christmas parade, held on Saturday, Dec. 12. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## We can see the light Vaccine on its way as coronavirus cases continue their sobering surge

By Henry E. Green

Representing a glimmer of hope in the sea of pandemic darkness, the coronavirus vaccine is on its way to hospitals across the country this week, and that includes Abbeville Area Medical Center.

"We expect it this week, but have not received a firm date," said Meg Davis, marketing, foundation and volunteer services for AAMC, Monday morning.

The plan is to vaccinate front line health care workers first, and then the rest of the population, according to reports published Saturday.

The vaccine is on its way as the coronavirus case numbers in Abbeville County continue to climb in a big way.

Indeed, at press time, Abbeville County was closing in on 1,000 cases. As of Sunday, at approximately 11:30 a.m., Abbeville County had 954 coronavirus cases, and

18 confirmed coronavirus-related deaths, as of the morning of Sunday, Dec. 13, according to data released by DHEC.

Among Abbeville County's neighboring counties, Anderson County had 9,017 confirmed coronavirus cases, and 232 coronavirus related deaths, while Greenwood County had 3,322 cases, and 79 deaths.

Laurens County had 2,811 cases, and 70 deaths, while McCormick County had 351 cases, and seven deaths.

The state of South Carolina has reached some enormously sobering milestones.

According to reports published Saturday, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control reported 3,137 confirmed cases and 47 additional deaths Friday.

More than 220,000 have been recorded in South Carolina since the begin-

ning of the outbreak, and 4,332 South Carolinians have died due to the coronavirus, according to published reports.

Indeed, case and hospital numbers in South Carolina are returning to levels not seen since the state's last spike over the summer, those reports indicate.

South Carolina is not alone. Other states, such as California, are also experiencing a "sobering surge."

In the nation as a whole, the number of COVID-19 deaths was approaching 300,00 at press time.

The phrase "grim milestone" has become widely used when reporting coronavirus death numbers.

The vaccination process has already started in the United Kingdom, and the first vaccination here in America went to a nurse in New York state, according to ABC News, the first person vaccinated in the U.S. for the coronavirus.



Vintage automobiles were part of the Abbeville Christmas parade held on Saturday, Dec. 12. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Two face attempted murder charges

By Henry E. Green

Two men face charges of attempted murder following an incident in Honea Path, according to an Abbeville County Sheriff's Office incident report.

Travis Howard Patterson, 31, of 1528 Grove Road, Anderson, and Christopher Eric Livingston, 26, of 347 Broadmouth Church Road, Honea Path, face charges of attempted murder, in addi-

tion to burglary first degree and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime.

The two men were arrested in connection with shots fired into a residence on J.T. Ashley Road in Honea Path on Dec. 3.

"I did visually observe approximately 14 shell casings as well as multiple bullet entries into the residence," a deputy indicated in the

incident report.

No one sustained physical injuries when the shots were fired, according to a Sheriff's Office spokesman.

Patterson was arrested the day of the incident, and Livingston was arrested on Dec. 10, the spokesman said.

Both arrests came following an investigation by the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office.





# 2020

## ABBEVILLE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP PAGE

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# Abbeville vs. Marion

## Dec. 18, 2020

### 6:00 PM

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# Friday, December 18th

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### Charlie W. Johnson Stadium, Columbia, SC





# Fatality arises from structure fire in county

**By Henry E. Green**  
Abbeville County fire fighters fought two structure fires recently, one of which produced a fatality, Abbeville County Fire Marshal Tim Williams said.  
One of them was on Wednesday, Dec. 8, at 9230 Highway 184 East, with Broadmouth, Donalds, and Ware Shoals fire departments responding to a reported structure fire, following a call at 7:15 p.m.  
Units arrived on the scene with a fully involved single family dwelling. Fire fighters extinguished the blaze in about 40 minutes.  
Fire fighters were on the scene within 10 minutes of

dispatch, and approximately 27 fire fighters from the three departments fought the blaze, bringing it under control within 40 minutes.  
The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Fire Marshal's Office, SLED, and the Sheriff's Office, Williams said.  
No injuries were reported to civilians or fire fighters.  
The second fire occurred on the same evening, about 1 a.m. at 30 Rice Road in the Donalds area.  
The Donalds, Cold Spring, and Due West fire departments responded with 23 personnel, and upon arrival they found a single wide mobile home, 80- percent

involved.  
Fire fighters found an elderly man with burns and smoke inhalation, and fire fighters treated him until Abbeville County EMS took over.  
Life Flight medical services were requested, and he was airlifted to a burn center in Augusta, where he succumbed to his injuries early Sunday morning, Williams said.  
Fire fighters extinguished the fire in about 40 minutes, the Fire Marshal continued.

Further investigation found a blanket and kerosene heater were the cause of the fire, and the cause was ruled accidental, Williams continued.



The Abbeville County School District has acquired two activity buses for the various schools in the Abbeville County School District to use. Dr. Skip Hopkins, the District's Director of Student Services, and Dr. Mason Gary (right), Abbeville County School District Superintendent, posed in front of one of them, as they were parked at the District Office. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# School District acquires two activity buses

**By Henry E. Green**  
The Abbeville County School District has acquired two activity buses for the various schools in the Abbeville County School District to use.  
Each bus can seat as many as 20, but the School District, due to coronavirus-related guidelines, will be seating fewer students on each bus: 12 instead of 20, according to Abbeville County Director of Student Services Dr. Skip Hopkins.

The buses, whose acquisition was in keeping with the District's capital improvement plan, are white with blue trim.  
The buses will be housed at the high school, but can be used by any of the District's schools.  
They can be used for a variety of activities, from field trips to excursions relating to sporting events. Baseball, softball and basketball teams can use them to travel to away games, for

example.  
The new buses cost the District \$56,630 each. They were purchased from Interstate Transportation Equipment in Columbia, SC, and both buses are 2021 Models, according to Dr. Gary and Dr. Hopkins.  
Dr. Gary thanked "our school board for their positive approach in utilizing our Capital Improvement Plan to complete projects such as these which have a direct impact on our students.



Cold Spring Mennonite Church presented "Walk through Bethlehem" recently. A dramatic presentation of the Nativity story, "Walk" had a cast made up of church members and Cold Spring Mennonite School students. Here, Mary, after being told she will give birth to the Baby Jesus, visits her cousin Elizabeth. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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9/9:60W

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**JANUARY 11, 2021**  
**ABBEVILLE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX**  
**903 W. GREENWOOD ST.**  
**6:30 PM**

There will be a public hearing January 11, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the County Council Chambers of the Abbeville County Administrative Complex at 903 W. Greenwood St. to discuss the following:

Resolution (2021-01) adopting the Abbeville County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

12/16:ltc

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# Council dispute arises over funds transfer

**By Henry E. Green**  
Abbeville County detention center personnel and Sheriff's deputies might be getting raises following action taken by County Council Monday night. Each detention center staff member will get a raise of \$2,000 and each deputy a raise of \$1,000, according to Council members Jason Bonds and Kristi Smith. The money for the raises is coming from the elimination of some positions in the detention center, which is under the control of the Sheriff's Office. The main goal is to help with employee retention, Smith said. The Sheriff has not been able to fill those positions in a long time, so there "was no need to keep positions

that aren't necessary to be filled at this time," she said. The money is coming from the elimination of a number of positions, Smith continued. While, according to reports, the resolution passed, some Council members wanted further clarification on the matter. The vote tally was four in favor, zero against, and three abstaining, according to reports. Voting in favor were Council members Smith, Bonds, Simpson and Prince. County Attorney Lee Roper is going to contact the Association of Counties to seek further clarification, Smith said. According to the resolution, Council's personnel committee has made the recommendation of salary adjustments in the Detention Center and Sheriff's Office "aimed at recruitment and retention." "A surplus can be created in these departments by eliminating four open positions in the Detention Center while maintaining jail operations," the resolution continued. These four positions have been open for several months, Smith has said. The resolution, as passed, included an amendment for the County Attorney to seek guidance from the Association of Counties on the matter, and if the Association returns favorable guidance to the resolution, the resolution will pass.

# Vaccine arrives at AnMed Health

**Submitted by Lizz Walker**  
AnMed Health received an allotment of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine this

morning. It has been properly stored in preparation for distribution to begin possibly as early as Friday, December 18, 2020. A team is finalizing plans

for allocation and distribution. AnMed Health will educate and encourage team members to receive the vaccine but not make it mandatory.

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Continue to wear a mask, keep a safe distance, and avoid large gatherings even if you test negative. If you're sick or have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, the best precaution is to stay home to keep your loved ones safe.

Find more helpful holiday planning tips at [scdhec.gov/holidaytips](https://scdhec.gov/holidaytips).

Visit [scdhec.gov/findatest](https://scdhec.gov/findatest) or call 1-855-472-3432 to find COVID-19 testing near you.

BE POSITIVE  
YOU'RE NEGATIVE



Healthy People. Healthy Communities.



# Video to promote Abbeville Promise

**By Henry E. Green**  
The Abbeville County Economic Development Partnership and Freshwater Coast Community Foundation are collaborating to produce a video to promote the Abbeville Promise. The Promise is a scholarship program that will provide every student who is a resident of Abbeville County and earns a high school diploma the opportunity to complete a two-year degree program at Piedmont Technical College free of tuition and fees, according to the FCCF. The Abbeville Promise campaign has raised more than \$1.2 million in contributions and pledges. One highlight of the Promise is that it saw a 15-point change in the number of graduating seniors from Abbeville County schools who are attending Piedmont

Technical College in the year following graduation from 23 percent in 2017 to 38 percent in 2019. The plan is for the video to be shown in high schools by guidance counselors, and to be shown as well on the Neighbor to Neighbor channel of West Carolina Tel and to current and prospective industries and companies, according to Lee Logan, administrator for the Abbeville Promise. Logan provided a report updating the progress of the Promise. Although PTC enrollment from entering high school seniors overall was down in Fall 2020 due to the impact of Covid, Abbeville County Schools retained increases in the number of graduating seniors attending PTC in the year following graduation--from 23% in 2017 to 28% in Fall 2020, the report

states. "While the percentage is lower this year than in 2019, we'd expect this to recover next fall as we're able to operate more normally, and as school counselors are better able to reach their students," the report goes on to say. Students funded by the Abbeville Promise continue to do well at PTC, with an average GPA of 3.0. "This indicates that in addition to encouraging enrollment, the program is also helping students succeed," the report continues. PTC continues to see cumulative increases in enrollment from eligible Abbeville County students, and 156 eligible students are attending this fall, and 59 have been funded by the Promise to date, according to the report.



One of the highlights of the holiday season is the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce's Christmas wreath auction, and the Chamber presented a reception recently to go along with the auction. Among those in attendance were (from left) Chamber director Janice Corriveau and Susan Jackson of Due West. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

# Recovery in Pandemic: Celebrating Connections

**Submitted by Teresa Roy**  
Masks, Distance, Fear, Anxiety, Loneliness, Depression. Since March, these have been the realities for many of us. Life has definitely been challenging. Unfortunately, early on, support systems dwindled as the relentless pandemic kept us away from the people and places that help us to feel centered, comforted, and calm. We have all felt the struggle to some degree. Even folks who have not spent their life on the fringe or felt marginalized or hopeless now have some sense of what isolation looks and feels like. For those in our community who suffer from substance use and mental health disorders, the start of the pandemic was especially challenging because it is hard to reach out from a distance. There is, however, good news. It is the same as it always has been - help is available and recovery is real! Recovery supporters have jumped into overdrive during this pandemic. Twelve-step and other behavioral health support meetings have gone

virtual; neighbors are talking about suicide prevention, substance use and mental health; people who in January did not know what Narcan was, are now reaching out to share information about the FDA approved opioid overdose reversal spray and helping others locate community distribution sites; community coalitions are working to link community members with needed resources and provide social outlets for support and encouragement; treatment centers have devised new ways to connect with patients safely; and an internet challenge, Greenwood Recovers, showed Charleston (and now the world) that while we might be a smallish town, we are mighty in our commitment to Recovery! I have never been prouder to work beside these recovery warriors than I have in the past five months. September is National Recovery Month, and the goal every year is to not only celebrate recovery but increase community connections. The pandemic has brought the need for true connection to the forefront. Along with the challenges, the pandemic has also brought us an opportunity for new ideas,

an increased passion for community, and hopefully more understanding of the need to reach out to others. This 2020 Recovery Month is truly one for the books. It is a brave new world. It requires a brave new approach to forming connections with others - for the sake of us all. The act of reaching out to share hope and encouragement provides hope and encouragement to the giver as well as the receiver. It helps both parties feel more connected to the world around them and reminds us all that we have real contributions to make, no matter how modest they may seem. The truth is you may be the only friendly face, source of hope, and affirming word someone has today. And that may mean life and death. While I have been so amazed by the work already done since March, there is more to do. The pandemic will end but hopefully the lessons we have learned will move with us into our next chapter. Join us in forging stronger connections in our community! Today seems like a good time to start!

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

**Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> • 8:30am-2:00pm**  
Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28 (future Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

**Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:30am-2:00pm**    **Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28**  
(future Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

**3:30pm - 5:00pm**    **Calhoun Falls Charter School**  
(205 Edgefield Street Calhoun Falls)

**Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:30am-2:00pm**    **Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28**  
(future Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

**9:00am-12:30pm**    **Monticello Golf Course**  
(1148 Barksdale Ferry Road McCormick)

**Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> • 8:30am-2:00pm**  
Abbeville Shopping Center - Hwy. 28 (future Abbeville YMCA/old Fred's location)

**Day change to accommodate those traveling for Thanksgiving**

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# US Senate

## Scott bill to strengthen partnerships between HBCUs and Federal Agencies Headed to White House

Submitted by  
**Senator Tim Scott**

Today, the United States Senate passed the HBCU Propelling Agency Relationships Towards a New Era of Results for Students (PARTNERS) Act, introduced by U.S. Senators Tim Scott (R-S.C.) and Chris Coons (D-Del.). The bill, previously passed in the U.S. House of Representatives, is now headed to the president's desk for a signature. If signed into law, this legislation will strengthen partnerships between federal agencies and the country's more than 100 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The HBCU PARTNERS Act builds on the President's 2017 executive order on HBCUs. It will require federal agencies with relevant grants and programs to undertake annual planning and coordinate their efforts to support and expand HBCU participation those programs. The bill strengthens the rigor and transparency requirements of existing law by requiring that agencies track their progress toward past goals and share their plans with Congress. In addition, it codifies the President's Board of Advisors on HBCUs, ensuring an ongoing avenue for the institutions' priorities and policy concerns to be raised. "Our HBCUs have unlocked opportunities for generations of students, especially in underserved communities, and I am excited that this bipartisan bill is making its way

to the President's desk," said **Senator Tim Scott**. "The HBCU PARTNERS Act is a great step forward for these schools and their students. I look forward to this critical legislation being signed into law to help these institutions continue their legacies." "HBCUs like Delaware State University play a critical role in helping to ensure that every American has access to higher education, and I'm so proud that our bipartisan bill to support the missions of HBCUs is one step closer to becoming law," said Senator Coons. "We have much more work ahead to make college accessible and affordable for all Americans, and HBCUs are an important part of that work," said **Senator Chris Coons**. The HBCU PARTNERS Act was co-sponsored by U.S. Senators Doug Jones (D-AL), David Perdue (R-GA), Kamala Harris (D-CA), Roger Wicker (R-Miss), Tim Kaine (D-VA), and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN). A companion bill was introduced in the House by U.S. Representatives Mark Walker (NC-06) and Alma Adams (NC-12). "Creating a comprehensive federal partnership with America's HBCUs is essential for Congress' shared goal of directing unprecedented support for North Carolina's HBCUs like North Carolina A&T, Winston-Salem State, Elizabeth City State, North Carolina Central, Bennett, Johnson, C. Smith, and Shaw – proud and historic institutions which I am priv-

ileged to support," **Walker said**. "With this bipartisan legislation passed through Congress and on its way to the president's desk, the HBCU PARTNERS Act further cements our nation's commitment to these vital educational institutions." "Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are agents of access and equity in this country," said **Congresswoman Adams**. "The *HBCU PARTNERS Act* recognizes these contributions in the most important way possible: by affording these institutions the ongoing support and investment needed to deepen their transformational work. This legislation will require every administration and the federal agencies it manages to plan and coordinate, on an annual basis, their efforts to strategically engage with and invest in HBCUs. In addition, it codifies the President's Board of Advisors on HBCUs, ensuring an ongoing avenue for HBCU priorities and policy concerns to be raised and addressed. Advancing the mission of HBCUs and the success of the communities they serve must be on the minds of our country's leaders, and more importantly, it must be part of their agendas." "Thank you to my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus and the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus for their support, as well as all of the organizations that are tireless advocates for HBCUs, in getting this bill passed," **Adams concluded**.

## Dress up your landscape with winter-inspired container gardens

by **Melinda Myers**

Clear out your fall containers and make room for some winter greenery. These planters are sure to brighten those dreary winter days and add life to your landscape. Transform weatherproof summer and fall containers for winter. Fiberglass, plastic, cement and wood will hold up to the cold, ice and snow. Don't subject terra cotta and glazed pots to the harsh elements that can cause them to crack. Remove faded fall flowers and add a bit of potting mix to fill the container within two inches of the top. Or select a new weatherproof container and fill it with potting mix. Consider your overall landscape design and other outdoor winter decorations when creating or purchasing a holiday planter. Place a couple of winter planters on your front steps or dress up your patio, deck or balcony and enjoy the view from the comfort of your home. Don't overlook those hanging baskets. Fill them with winter greenery to elevate your winter containers to a

fun new level. Fresh-cut needled evergreens like spruce, white pine, fir and broadleaf evergreen boxwood and holly combine nicely to form the backbone of your container design. Make it easy by using spruce tips to create vertical interest in a container. You only need to set a few in the center of the pot to look like a pro. Surround these with graceful white pine boughs to anchor the arrangement to the container. Add sprigs of other evergreens for additional texture and shades of green. Next, it's time to put your creativity to work. For those that prefer a natural look, consider white birch branches and stems of red twig dogwood, corkscrew willow or contorted hazelnut. Add a bit more color with berry laden winter holly branches and dried seed rudbeckias, allium, and coneflower seed heads or hydrangea flowers. Finish off your arrangement with a few evergreen cones and a bow. Or add a bit of glitz with painted and glittered cones, twigs, ornaments, or other

holiday adornments. You can purchase these or create your own with a bit of paint and glitter. Just make sure your materials will hold up to the winter weather. Once your arrangement is complete, water thoroughly. The moist soil helps keep greenery fresh and in place. Once the soil is frozen you can stop watering. The cold weather will help keep your greens looking good throughout the holidays and beyond. Extend the life of your greenery with an organic biodegradable antitranspirant. These materials help seal in the moisture, delaying the browning of cut greens. Always read and follow label directions carefully. Most need to be applied to evergreen boughs outdoors and allowed to dry before bringing it indoors or beginning your arrangement. For additional ideas and a bit of inspiration, watch my [Create Beautiful Outdoor Evergreen Containers video](#). You will find more ways to enhance your landscape with winter containers.



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# The Due Westerners get down to Business

Submitted by  
**Matthew Weyer**

Due West Robotics' FIRST® Robotics Competition (FRC) team, the Due Westerners, has been awarded the FIRST® New Team Grant. Only available to rookie or new veteran teams, the grant is \$4,000, half to be awarded now and half at the end of the season upon the completion of a season evaluation. The funds are restricted to registration fees for the upcoming season.

The application process for the grant included creating a business plan highlighting important team business functions. The Due West-

erners' Business subteam created the plan, which includes an outreach timeline, fundraising plan, and team budget. Matt Weyer, a member of the business subteam, facilitated the creation of the budget before presenting it to the Due West Robotics board for approval.

The FIRST® New Team Grant represents one of the major responsibilities of the Business subteam. Now that it is complete, the subteam will shift their focus to applying for awards, leading outreach events, marketing, and managing the team budget. The subteam consists of three team members. Team Outreach Coordinator, Clara Angel,

is responsible for planning and coordinating outreach events. Anna Dahlberg, a new FIRST® participant, has been elected the team Rules Expert and assists with outreach events, marketing, and applying for awards. Matt Weyer, one of two seniors on the team, manages the budget and leads applying for awards. Savannah Wojtkowski, a member of the programming subteam, also assists the business subteam with team branding and social media.

The FRC season officially kicks off in January 2021. To stay up to date with the Due Westerners' season progress, follow the team on Facebook and Instagram.

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# Anderson provides Civic Center update

**By Henry E. Green**  
Will the Abbeville Civic Center get a face lift?  
The City of Abbeville is studying the possibility of renovating the Civic Center which is situated on North Main Street and is used for a variety of things, from meetings to basketball.  
A memo from Assistant City Manager Fran Anderson provided an update.  
The architectural firm of McMillan Pazdan Smith has made an initial assessment of the Civic Center building and parking area, and presented cost assessments, including one for updates to the current building and the other for the construction of a new event building, Anderson indicated.

Proposed renovations to the current building would include bringing the building up to current codes, aesthetic updates to the entry way, the current event rooms, the addition of two warming kitchens, office and restroom updates with the addition of another restroom for an estimated cost of \$332,500, the Assistant City Manager continued.  
These updates would also include updating the front exterior appearance with a canopy overhang and courtyard.  
The City is currently having the HVAC system and the roof assessed in order to prioritize the different segments of the renovation project, the Assistant City


Manager continued.  
Other updates would include new bleachers and new flooring for the gym.  
Any updates that are not an impending requirement affecting the structure or use of the building could be implemented in phases depending on preference.  
New construction of an approximately 3,000 square foot building for events to include one warming kitchen and two restrooms is estimated at \$1,300,000. The event room could seat 186 with tables and chairs and 400 with chairs only, Anderson continued.  
Council listened to the presentation and took it as information.

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Greenwood County residents are invited to our drive-through testing site for a free COVID-19 test.\*  
**Mondays and Thursdays in December**  
**Time: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**Location:** Former Greenwood Medical Park  
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Look for the Self Regional Health Express.)  
**\* Call (864) 725-8200 to pre-register for your COVID test.**  
MyChart users may pre-register at [mychart.selfregional.org](https://mychart.selfregional.org).  
Tests are first come, first served as long as testing materials last. *Insurance will be billed, but there is no out-of-pocket cost for testing.*  
More SRH dates, times and locations to be announced soon. Always check the Self Regional website and Facebook page for latest info. about community testing events.

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Winners of this year’s Reindeer Run, presented by the Abbeville Rotary Club, included Spencer Wieters (left) and Ansley Prescott (right), and Reindeer Run coordinator Mark Meyers (center) presented them with prizes. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

‘Work to do’  
*Calhoun Falls Charter boys hoops team is young, coach says*

**By Henry E. Green**  
The Calhoun Falls Charter varsity boys basketball team is overcoming inexperience to find its way in its Region. “We’re still young,” said Shawn Turman, who is in his second year of coaching the Calhoun Falls Charter varsity boys basketball team. The Blue Flashes made it last year to the first round of the playoffs, where they were edged by Timmons-ville. This year, the Flashes have only two seniors to provide leadership on the team--forward Khalik Bryant and guard Mikey Tolbert. Turman has fashioned a group of starters, including guard Ty Moon, center Camden Durant, forward Bryant, guard Tylan Turman, and

guard Daquan Lewis. Lewis and Durant are freshmen. The team has some definite strengths. “We can shoot the ball pretty well this year,” he said. Rebounding, however, is something of a work in progress. “That’s a building block,” said Turman, who sees reason for optimism. “Our defense is much improved from last year,” he said. Calhoun Falls Charter is in the early stages of its season. “We’re two and one,” he said Friday. The Flashes defeated Palmetto Christian and Dixie, and lost to Emerald. “We lost that game due to second chance points,” he

said. The loss resulted in part from the rebounding edge Emerald enjoyed, said Turman, noting that rebounding was not the only factor but it was definitely one of the reasons. The Flashes’ next game will be to play Whitmire on Dec. 17 at Calhoun Falls, said Turman. McCormick, High Point, and Southside Christian are in the top tier of the Region, the coach said. As for Calhoun Falls Charter, the Flashes might not be the team to beat right now. “We just want to find our place in the Region,” he said. “We’ve got a lot of work to do.”

CF Charter starting basketball season

**By Henry E. Green**  
The Calhoun Falls Charter boys basketball team has begun its season, but has postponed two boys games with McCormick that had been scheduled for Friday, Dec. 11, and the cancellation was because of COVID 19 concerns, according to David Campbell, athletic director for Calhoun Falls Charter. The boys games that were postponed by Calhoun Falls Charter included a varsity boys game and a jayvee boys game. These two games are Region contests, and they will have to be made up at some point. In addition, McCormick

postponed a varsity girls game with Calhoun Falls Charter--also a Region game which will have to be made up, Campbell said. Calhoun Falls Charter started Region play with victories over Dixie in both varsity boys and varsity girls games. Before the Region play, the Blue Flash boys lost to Emerald, and the girls lost to Emerald as well. The CF Charter boys varsity head coach is Shawn Turman, and the girls coach is Joseph Cade. Cade said the Lady Flashes beat Dixie 50-48, with Jasmine Cade, with 26 points, leading the way for

Calhoun Falls Charter. The score was tied at 48 to 48 with eight seconds left, and Tramerria Robinson hit the winning basket- to put the Lady Flashes ahead for good, Joseph Cade continued. The Lady Flashes have also defeated Palmetto Christian, 60-19, and the leading scorer for Calhoun Falls Charter was Autumn Thomas, with 26 points, followed by Jasmine Cade, with 22. The Lady Flashes lost to Emerald 60-19, with Thomas leading the way with 11 points for Calhoun Falls Charter, the coach continued.

College football contest winding down

**By Lamar T. West, Sr.**  
Adam Purdue only missed one pick, picking Miami to prevail over North Carolina. “Mr. Tie Breaker would have favored Adam as well. Adam had one entry with two picks incorrect but still would have won the tie breaker. There were FOUR entries missing only two picks. Adam Purdue had 815 points as tie breaker, Mark Crider had 721 points, John Bombay had 837

points as tie breaker and Robert F. Scott had a guess of 838 points, but with 14 of the 15 game selections played, there was 799 points scored. This means Adam would have been favored by “Mr. Tie Breaker” as well. Sorry, Adam. There is still only one \$50 prize. This week will be the last chance, so get your entries in early and often (only three per person).

College football 2020 comes to an end as for the contest. Let’s all pray God will bless the vaccine and Communist China will stay out of our lives in 2021. With Joseph Biden as US President, we are going to have enough problems of our own in America! We do hope all took the opportunity to drive down to Georgia and vote, or maybe not?

Game to be played at Benedict at 6 p.m.

**By Henry E. Green**  
The Abbeville High School Panthers will take on the Marion High School Swamp Foxes for the 2-A state championship in varsity football in Columbia at Benedict College stadium at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18, according to Abbeville High School athletic director Maggie Jameson. The change in location

is the latest in a series of tweaks for the game scheduling. The state championship game, meanwhile, had originally been scheduled for Dec. 4 at 5 p.m. at Spring Valley High School in Columbia, but had to be rescheduled to Dec. 18 because of COVID concerns with the Marion football team.

The reason for the change in location and time to Benedict College at 6 p.m. was not told to AHS, Jameson indicated. Winning the state championship would be icing on the cake for the Panthers, who have not lost a game this season, and who clinched the Upper State championship with a victory over Gray Collegiate.

Wieters, Prescott tops in Reindeer Run

**By Henry E. Green**  
Two Dixie High School students were the top finishers in the Abbeville Rotary Club’s annual Reindeer Run Saturday in Abbeville. Spencer Wieters was the top male finisher, and Ansley Prescott the top female finisher.

“dinosaurs.” Mike and Naomi Long-necker of Abbeville dressed in their prehistoric best, looking like exceedingly friendly refugees from Jurassic Park, and getting a big laugh from those in attendance. Pushing a “baby buggy” that included their children, two year old Hunter, and 18 month Ocean, they might have been the most colorful participants in the event, and they most assuredly would have won Best Costume if prizes for that had been given out. “We had 77 people registered to participate in the Reindeer Run,” said the event’s coordinator Mark Meyers. Dixie is slated to receive a trophy as the school with the most participants. The proceeds from the Reindeer Run go to the Christmas Angel Tree bicy-

cle fund, providing bicycles and spreading considerable joy to kids in the community at Christmas time. The Reindeer Run is just one of the activities of the Abbeville Rotary Club, which has regular meetings every Thursday at the Belmont Inn. John Andrew Bishop of Abbeville is the current president of the club, which also has a scholarship program for outstanding high school students.

Abbeville Rotarians also present every year the Rotary Bowl, which includes a day of youth recreation league football, in which Abbeville teams typically play teams from neighboring communities, and it includes as well the crowning of Rotary Bowl queens and their courts in the various age divisions.

AHS boys to start season later this month

**By Henry E. Green**  
The Abbeville High School boys basketball varsity team will be starting its season with a road game at Crescent High School on Dec. 22, said AHS varsity boys basketball coach Doug Belcher. The girls action will begin at 6 p.m., and the boys action will follow. The boys team delayed the start of its season due to the extension of the football season, with Abbeville poised at press time to play for the state championship

against Marion in football at 6 p.m. on Dec. 18 at Benedict College. “We’ll have two returning players--Kionte Gardiner and Mykel Tinch,” he said. “They are returning players from last year.” Coming up from last week’s JV ranks are Jeremiah Lomax, J. Tinch, and Antonio Harrison. Belcher was asked to assess his team’s strengths, as well as the challenges they will face. “We’ll be young,” he said. Given the work ethic he

sees on his team, he expects good things from the Panthers this year. Belcher expects his troops will be working hard. “We’ll be using our speed,” he said, adding that AHS will be using its transition offense to score points. The Region will include Christ Church, whose team includes two seven footers, and the Cavaliers are a sure contender for the Region crown, and the state title as well, the coach believes.

Harbert in his first year of Dixie boys coach

**By Henry E. Green**  
The Dixie High School basketball season has begun, and the Dixie boys have a new coach. Josh Harbert is in his first year as the Dixie High School varsity head basketball coach. Before becoming head coach, he was the head coach for the boys jayvee team for four years, and he had been assisting with the varsity team for six years. The team to beat in Dixie’s Region might be McCormick or Southside Christian, said Harbert, who believes that his troops will be contending for the third or fourth spot in the Region. The Dixie boys face a challenge. “We’re young in terms of age but also in terms of varsity experience.”

Harbert explained that last year’s team was good, and even hosted a first round playoff game, something which had not happened at Dixie in a number of years. The Hornets bowed to Blackville-Hilda in that first round. Dixie lost from last year’s team a number of seniors, including William Snipes. “He was a VERY good player,” said Harbert. That senior nucleus is gone. “It’s going to be a learning adjustment” for this year’s team, he said. “We’re young this year.” While the team this year might be challenged in terms of a lack of experience, “our strength right now is our shooting,” he said. “We shoot the ball really well.”

Harbert has some “go to” players this year, including senior Keon Bates. “He’s my inside guy,” he said, noting that he counts on the young man’s rebounding skill. Supplementing the role of Bates are juniors Max Peeler and Luke Morales. Peeler handles the ball well. “He’s my point guard,” said the coach. Morales, meanwhile, is also a guard. “He’s been shooting the ball really well,” said Harbert. The Hornets are just getting started for their 20-21 season. “We are two and two,” he said Friday. The losses came to Calhoun Falls Charter and Crescent, and the Hornets beat Greenwood Christian twice, the coach continued.





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3. Persons picking most winners will win, except that in case of ties the "TIE BREAKER" score will be used. If ties still exist, money will be divided. Maximum of three entries per person allowed each week. Persons submitting more than three entries will be disqualified.

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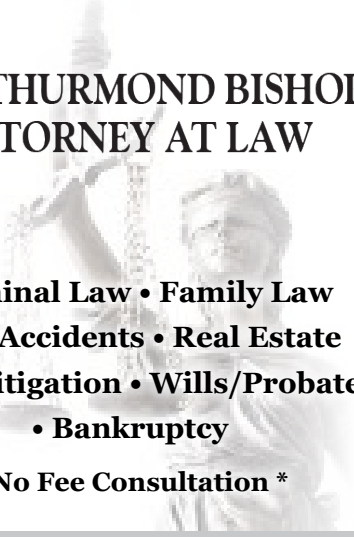
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Paige Childs, vice president of business, finance and facilities management at Piedmont Technical College (PTC), has been named Dean of the Leadership Academy of the Community College Business Officers (CCBO) professional organization. (Photo contributed)

# Childs named CCBO Leadership Academy Dean

Submitted by  
**Kristine Hartvigsen**

Paige Childs, vice president of business, finance and facilities management at Piedmont Technical College (PTC), has been named Dean of the Leadership Academy of the Community

College Business Officers (CCBO) professional organization. The deanship comes with an appointment to the CCBO Board of Directors. These are concurrent roles in conjunction with Childs' present role at PTC. The CCBO Leadership Academy - the only educa-

tion program in the country designed specifically for community college business officers - is a yearlong program led by industry experts.

The announcement was made at the CCBO Annual Conference this fall.

## Dean Ridings, CEO America's Newspapers

If you happened to read the *Albuquerque Journal* recently you would have learned about a family who used their (galloping) goats to gobble up weeds and earn some extra money while keeping the city's weeds and grass trimmed. In the *Orlando Sentinel*, you would have discovered that a man was attacked and bitten by an alligator while hunting near one of the local lakes. Neither of these stories are life-and-death issues, unless you happen to be the hunter, but they provide interesting glimpses into life in their communities. While these headlines easily grabbed your attention, these same newspapers also covered the more important stories, like the actions of the local city council, the school board and state government, and you probably won't see those stories elsewhere. Journalists tell the stories that are fun to read, but even more importantly, the ones we need to know. America needs journalists!

While you can't turn on a TV, radio or even look at Facebook without seeing mentions of COVID-19, there has been as much misinformation disseminated as actual facts. Chances are your newspaper has covered the pandemic and its real impact on your community. Your newspaper is a reliable source that provides information about the number of new cases, hospitalizations and deaths, so you are better equipped to make an informed decision about how best to cope with these new challenges. America needs journalists! And what if you really need to know

the details about which face mask works better and which ones you should avoid? Check your newspaper. It probably has the information, or you could give Google a try. Many of the results will be from newspapers. America needs journalists.



I happen to live in Florida, the state with the most hurricane landfalls. Hurricanes are a big deal here, and if I want to know the path of the storm, there are lots of options. But if I want to know where my local shelters are located, where I can get sand bags, the expected impact on my city, and what I need to do to prepare, there is no better source than the local newspaper. And yes, Florida needs journalists. Whether you live in Iowa and face routine tornadic activity, or live in Montana with its blizzards, newspapers provide insights into dealing with those routine challenges better than any other source.

Newspapers also provide real benefits to those who never read them or even glance at a headline. Last year, the *Anchorage Daily News* did a series of investigative stories that showed how a third of Alaska's villages had no police protection. The series led to the U.S. Attorney General declaring an emergency for public safety in rural Alaska,

and he was able to free up \$10.5 million to support local police efforts and public safety. While many people in the affected villages never saw or even heard of the series in the *Anchorage Daily News*, they all reaped the benefit. America needs journalists.

Newspapers, and journalism in general, is under siege as the disruption of the internet, the rise of Google and Facebook and their use of newspapers' content without payment have all wreaked havoc on the industry. With many restaurants and retailers closing the past few months due to the pandemic, advertising revenue has plummeted even further. While newspapers continue to tell the story, it has gotten more difficult. While America needs journalists, journalists need you. Your paid subscription and support of local journalism matters. Consider taking one additional step in support of your local newspaper: Ask your Congressional representative to support the Local Journalism Sustainability Act. Learn more about this bipartisan legislation at <https://news-papers.org/stories/bipartisan.4156966>.

*Dean Ridings is CEO of America's Newspapers, a national trade association representing more than 1,600 newspapers across the US and Canada. He was previously the President and CEO of the Florida Press Association and it agency Intersect Media Solutions.*

*Ridings received his B.A. from Flagler College and he now lives in New Smyrna Beach with his wife Kellie.*

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# Legals

## NOTICE OF SALE

**NOTICE OF SALE CIVIL ACTION NO. 2020-CP-01-00052 BY VIRTUE** of the decree heretofore granted in the case of: Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for EquiFirst Mortgage Loan Trust 2004-3, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2004-3 vs. Johnnie Ford, the undersigned Master In Equity for Abbeville County, South Carolina, will sell on January 4, 2021 at 2:00PM, at the Abbeville County Courthouse, City of Abbeville, State of South Carolina, to the highest bidder:

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**OTHER IMPROVEMENTS THEREON SITUATE IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, FRONTING APPROXIMATELY 74.9 FEET ON THE NORTHWESTERLY SIDE OF CAMBRIDGE STREET AND EXTENDING BACK THEREFROM BY THE SOUTHWESTERN BOUNDARY LINE NORTH 49 DEGREES 52 MINUTES WEST A DEPTH OF APPROXIMATELY 295 FEET TO LANDS OWNED BY ABBEVILLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 60; AND EXTENDING BACK FROM CAMBRIDGE STREET BY THE NORTHEASTERN BOUNDARY LINE NORTH 44 DEGREES 36**

**MINUTES WEST A DEPTH OF APPROXIMATELY 295 FEET EAST NOW OR FORMERLY BY ESTATE OF SARA B. COLEMAN; SOUTHEAST BY CAMBRIDGE STREET; SOUTHWEST NOW OR FORMERLY BY GERTRUDE S. AND J.L. SPROUSE, JR.; AND NORTHWEST BY ABBEVILLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 60.**

**THIS IS THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO JOHNNIE FORD BY DEED OF RUTH WALDHAUS, DATED SEPTEMBER 9, 2004 AND RECORDED SEPTEMBER 13, 2004 IN BOOK 246 AT PAGE 110 IN THE RECORDS FOR ABBEVILLE COUNTY,**

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

**CURRENT ADDRESS OF PROPERTY:** 107 Cambridge St, Abbeville, SC 29620  
**TMS:** 109-09-05-009

**TERMS OF SALE:** The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master In Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to the purchase price in case of compliance, but in the case of non-compliance to be forfeited and first applied to the costs incurred by the Plaintiff related to the sale and the balance then applied to the Plaintiff's

debt in a manner suitable to the Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail to comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the Master In Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day. No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding shall not remain open after the date of sale and shall be final on that date, and compliance with the bid may be made immediately. Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on the Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the balance of the bid from date of sale to date of compliance

with the bid at the rate of 9.75% per annum. The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions, easements and restrictions of record and any other senior encumbrances.

In the event an agent of Plaintiff does not appear at the time of sale, the within property shall be withdrawn from sale and sold at the next available sales date upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or such terms as may be set forth in a supplemental order.

**JUDGE'S SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW**

12/16, 12/23, 12/30

# 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.

Estate: Danny Thomas Argo, Sr.  
Date of Death: 10/12/2020  
Case Number: 2020ES0100281  
Personal Representative: Brenda Joyce Brown Argo  
Address: 48 Argo Circle, Abbeville, SC 29620  
12/2;3tc

Estate: Nancy Lee Frank  
Date of Death: 08/17/2020  
Case Number: 2020ES0100285  
Personal Representative: Mary E. Fortunato  
Address: 1416 Old Ivy Road, Anderson, SC 29621  
12/2;3tc

Estate: Margaret Carwile Clinkscales  
Date of Death: 11/20/2020  
Case Number: 2020ES0100290  
Personal Representative: John D. Clinkscales  
Address: 527 Old Landfill Rd. Iva, SC 29655  
12/9;3tc

Estate: Lottie Jean Guilford  
Date of Death: 11/27/2020  
Case Number: 2020ES0100296  
Personal Representative: Jill G. Kagle & Jeanne G. Ware  
Address: 105 Windjammer, Greenwood, SC 29649 & 83 Woodhaven Lane, Abbeville, SC 29620  
12/16;3tc

Estate: Edgar Wardlaw, Jr.  
Date of Death: 11/24/2020  
Case Number: 2020ES0100297  
Personal Representative: Faye Wardlaw  
Address: 1876 Old Hodges Road, Abbeville, SC 29620  
12/16;3tc

Estate: James Eugene Copeland  
Date of Death: 11/11/2020  
Case Number: 2020ES0100299  
Personal Representative: Rosemary Copeland  
Address: 217 Noble Drive, Abbeville, SC 29620  
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## PUBLIC NOTICES



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that Brickyard Grille & Tavern, LLC intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and on premises consumption of Beer, Wine & Liquor at 101 Trinity St., Abbeville, SC 29620. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than January 4, 2020. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:

- (1) The name, address, and telephone number of the person filing the protest;
- (2) The specific reasons why the application should be denied;
- (3) That the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);
- (4) That the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and,
- (5) The name of the applicant and the address of the business to be licensed.

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

12/16;3tc

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11/11;6c



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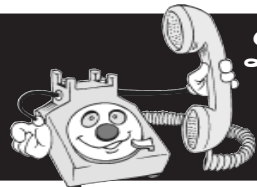
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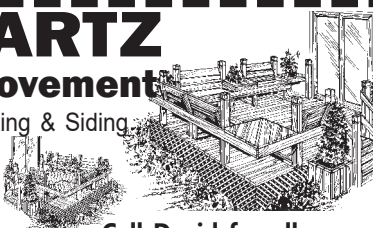
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7/4tfc

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6/6:tfp

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3/23tfc

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8/2tfc



10/24:tfp



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7/2:tfp

For Sale: Very Nice Condo **Share** Located at Ocean Bay Club, North Myrtle Beach **\$40,000**. 4 weeks a year, Ocean Front. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 24 hour Security. This is NOT a Rental property. Contact Nancy DeLoach Hedden if interested: 803-429-7860

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11/25tfc

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### Pet of the Month



Meet Toast! This sweet boy is a 2 y.o. boxer mix about 50 lbs. and is great with other dogs. He loves to go outside and play & does great on a leash. He is ready to meet his new family for the Christmas Season. Come take him home and make him a part of a family.

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

### Pet of the Month



Catcat is one of the sweetest cats in the shelter. A domestic shorthair mix with beautiful brown & white coloring, she is around 1.5 y.o., litter trained & loves to play with toys & does well with other cats. You will fall in love when you meet her. Bring your family much joy for Christmas.

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

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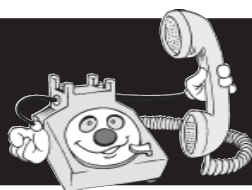
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Abbeville Presbyterian Church in Abbeville is getting into the Christmas spirit with this Nativity scene. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

## Birth Announcement

In the year of Our Lord Jesus Christ two thousand and twenty, Zella Nell Keener was welcomed into the world on December 13 at 4:41 a.m. by parents Cady Nell and David Keener of Summerville, SC.

She weighed 7 pounds and was measured at 19.5 inches tall.

Cady Nell is the daughter of Lamar T. West, Sr. of Abbeville, SC and Sandra G. West of Greenwood, SC.

David is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Byron Keener, Jr. (Cathy) of The Plains, Virginia.

Zella Nell has an older brother, Dru Keener.



*Zella Nell Keener*  
*December 13, 2020 7 lbs. 19.5 in.*

# Poinsettia is rooted in traditions of Christmas

By Henry E. Green

The poinsettia is one of the most familiar symbols of Christmas, with its brilliant red and green hues mirroring what seem to be the colors of this holiest of Christian holidays.

You see it everywhere at Christmas time. You buy them in grocery stores, you give them as gifts, you adorn your living room with them, and churches are filled with them.

This seemingly ubiquitous plant was named after Joel Poinsett, a 19th century South Carolina statesman. During his career, Poinsett was a member of the South Carolina state legislature, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and the first United States Minister to Mexico.

It was while he was serving

as a diplomat to Mexico that he came to know the plant that now bears his name. An amateur botanist, he sent samples of the plant back home to the United States, and the plant, which became known as the “poinsettia,” grew in popularity in America, according to Wikipedia.

Celebratingholidays.com tells us that poinsettias bloom during the Christmas season, and the star-shaped leaves call to mind “the Star of Bethlehem.”

Native to Mexico, the poinsettia was very popular among the Aztecs, and the Aztec emperors had them brought in to the Aztec capital in what is now Mexico City, where they would not grow naturally at that high altitude.

The Aztecs called it “the

star flower,” and hundreds of years later, when Poinsett became familiar with it, the plant was already known as a holiday flower in Mexico, where it was called “the flower of Christmas Eve.”

According to teleflora.com, the flower’s association with Christmas was strengthened with a Mexican legend, which tells the story of a child who gathered weeds from the side of the road to place on the altar of the church at Christmas, because he was too poor to give anything else.

The act of piety produced a holiday miracle, as the weeds were transformed into flowers of brilliant red and green, and thus the poinsettia became a “star” of the Christmas season.

# City applies for grant to strengthen infrastructure

By Henry E. Green

The City of Abbeville is applying for a federal grant, administered through FEMA,, which helps communities be better prepared against the threat of natural disasters.

“The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) supports states, local communities, tribes and territories as they undertake hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards,” said City of Abbeville Community

Development Director Mike Clary.

“The City of Abbeville is applying to the BRIC program for \$600,000 to help fund a potential tie in point to the Duke Electrical System. The tie in point would provide an alternative power delivery point and allow the City to restore electrical service in a much timelier manner in the Lowndesville and Lake Secession areas by giving utility crews the ability to better isolate outages and restore power to non-impacted sections of

the grid.

“Additionally, this tie in point would provide system redundancy for the area of the City served by the Miller Street Substation.”

During its Dec. 8 meeting, Abbeville City Council approved a resolution by which the City adopted Abbeville County’s hazard mitigation plan.

City Manager Blake Stone told Council that the City is adopting the plan in order to apply for the BRIC grant.

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