



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



The United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County (UCMAC) has added pantry in Lowndesville to its food pantry system, and this box of food items was among the boxes destined to be distributed. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Think ‘inside’ the box Food-sharing device may be ‘blessing’ throughout city of Abbeville

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville Mayor Trey Edwards is very pleased indeed over the Blessing Box set up on South Main in the city of Abbeville -- and he's willing to get wet for it!

Edwards recently collaborated with Abbeville High School student Tyla Johnson to set up a Blessing Box on South Main, just south of Abbeville's Court Square.

Broadly speaking, it is a raised box where people can deposit nonperishable items for community use, and those who need them may take some, so that the Blessing Box fills a very real

need in a time of food insecurity generated by the hard times that have gone hand in hand with the pandemic.

During the Abbeville Spring Festival, Edwards will be in a dunking booth, with proceeds going to benefit the Blessing Box.

Other Blessing Boxes may be springing up in other parts of the City, he indicated.

In other matters, at the April 14 City Council meeting, Council passed second reading on an ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the City Code of Ordinances, to adopt the provisions of the

Bailey Bill concerning a special tax assessment for rehabilitated historic property.

Council passed first reading on Ordinance 30-2021, an ordinance that amended Ordinance No. 10-2018 by updating language regarding the economic incentive program.

Council passed first reading on Ordinance 4-2021, an ordinance amending City sewer regulations in order to remain in compliance with state and federal standards.

Spring Festival coming up this week

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Spring Festival, coming up later this week, may just be the biggest single event of the year for the city of Abbeville.

Last year, due to COVID-19, there was no festival, putting a somewhat off-kilter exclamation point on a most decidedly off-kilter year.

The festival has returned for 2021, and some people might see it as a good omen for a year that we all want to see as “normal.”

For the festival, “fun” is normal. Music, crafts, food--they all add up to something positive.

This year the festival begins on the evening of Thursday, April 29, and lasts through Saturday, May 1. As usual, activities will be centered in downtown Abbeville.

A stage will be set up on Court Square to provide a place where live music can work its magic.

That live music will include the Swingin' Medallions, whose roots go back de-

cadés. In the mid-60s, they had a big hit with “Double Shot of My Baby's Love,” and they're still going strong, with a repertoire that includes everything from blues to old-fashioned rock'n'roll.

City of Abbeville special events coordinator Emily Bledsoe released this entertainment schedule for the festival:

Thursday, April 29th
Jeff Edwards Band 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

The Band Silver 8:30 PM - 10:30 PM

Friday, April 30th
Conspiracy Band 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Eloveation 8:30 PM - 10:30 PM

Saturday, May 1st
Eric Weiler 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Weatherman Band 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Matt Buckland 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Swingin' Medallions 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Crafts are also an integral part of the festival, and you

can get everything from the artistic to practical.

And the food? Well, take your pick. Elephant ears, funnel cakes, fried Oreos, corn dogs, sausage dogs--all have been seen at the festival.

And of course, there will be rides. One local reporter has made it something of a hair-raising tradition to take pictures from the top of the Ferris wheel. There will also be merry-go-rounds and similar rides for the kids.

There will, of course, be reminders that the pandemic is still very much with us.

According to City Manager Blake Stone, there will be signs and advertisements encouraging anyone with COVID symptoms to stay home.

In addition, masks were strongly encouraged for attendees and those in attendance, and mobile hand washing stations, hand sanitizer and masks will be available, and disinfectant will be sprayed, according to Stone.

CF awarded USDA grant/loan packages

By Henry E. Green

The Town of Calhoun Falls has been awarded a combination of \$4,626,100.00 in USDA grants and loans to upgrade the Calhoun Falls sewer system and drinking water system, Calhoun Falls Mayor Chris Cowan said Tuesday.

The grant/loan packages will help provide for water line replacements and sewer system upgrades.

Calhoun Falls Town Council, at its meeting Monday, passed Resolution 2021-05 authorizing and approving the acceptance of certain

loan assistance monies and grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The process of implementing the improvements, including the paperwork as well as the actual construction, is expected to take approximately two years.

The grant/loan packages will allow the Town to save money, at least in terms of electricity costs at the wastewater treatment plant.

The USDA grant/loan package will also allow for solar panels at the wastewater treatment plant.

In addition, the lobby of the

Calhoun Falls town hall will open on Monday, May 3. The lobby had been closed due to COVID.

“Most of our employees have received the vaccine,” he said.

Town residents will be free to come in and pay their utility bills in the lobby.

While the lobby had been closed, they had to use a drop box.

Residents still have to wear masks when they enter the lobby.

Council will have a budget workshop on May 12 at noon, Cowan said.



These local veterans have been helping build ramps for those in need. They include (from left) Jeff Smith, Terry Simmons, Raymond Goodwin, Mike Culbreth, Terry Greenfield, and Lewis Jackson. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Good Samaritans Veterans build ramps outside homes of various local residents

By Henry E. Green

A helping hand.

That's what a number of local veterans from American Legion Post 2 provided recently in building ramps for the homes of a number of Abbeville County residents.

Veterans Jeff Smith, Terry Simmons, Raymond Goodwin, Mike Culbreth, Terry Greenfield and Lewis Jackson joined forces to play the role of Good Samaritans recently.

Earlier this year, the veterans got together and built ramps for three Abbeville County residents in need.

They did it entirely free of charge, and it took them on average two or three days to build.

The residents paid for

the materials. “Three of the vets have carpentry skills and backgrounds in construction,” and they are familiar with building code requirements, said Greenfield, the American Legion Post 2 commander.

Local veterans have built six or seven ramps in the past three or four years, Greenfield said.

Ninety two year old Ann Davis, for example, lives on Cedar Springs Road on the outskirts of Abbeville.

“My husband (who passed away in 1994) was a member of the American Legion,” she said. Ann herself is a member of the Legion Post 2 Auxiliary, for which she has served as treasurer.

She can't get up and down

the steps the way she used to, and she contacted to see if the Legion could build her a ramp.

Greenfield answered very much in the affirmative, and the Legion members built her a ramp under the car port back in March, and according to Davis it only took them one day.

“I paid for the material, and they built it,” she recalled. “It's really nice.”

The Legion built for her brother, Tom Link, a life member of the Legion, a deck outside his house with an adjoining ramp at his home on College Avenue, Davis said.

Clary takes new post with City of Abbeville

By Henry E. Green

Mike Clary, the former Community Development Director with the City of Abbeville, has a new post. “My new position is Deputy Administrative Officer,” he said Thursday. “I will be retaining my duties dealing with grant writing and special project management as well as an active role in

economic development for the City. The new duties I will have include City Clerk and other administrative duties as assigned by City Manager and Assistant City Manager.”

The new Community Development Director, Austin Walker, started work last week.

“Austin, the Development

Director, will be taking over the City's event lineup as well as playing a major role in Economic Development,” said Clary.

“Austin will also begin directing the City's social media and tourism generation efforts, which do broadly fall under the economic development umbrella.”

(See related story.)



Rev. David Green is the pastor of First Baptist Church of Abbeville, which is celebrating its 150th birthday this year. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Council takes step toward bond issuance

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County is on its way to borrowing two million dollars to fund a number of capital improvements, according to action taken by Abbeville County Council Monday night.

Abbeville County Council passed second reading of Ordinance 2021-06 providing for the issuance and sale of up to \$2 million in general obligation bonds, with Council member Drew Simpson abstaining.

"I'm not against it," he said following the meeting. "Two million dollars is a lot of money."

"I haven't made up my mind," he went on to say.

One focus of the bond issue will be on purchasing new air packs for County firefighters, according to Abbeville County Director David Garner, who indicated that the hope is to provide at least 140 air packs.

The bond issue is also designed to replace about half of the fleet of vehicles for the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office, and to provide communication upgrades for Abbeville County E-911, Garner continued.

Council heard presentations from Walter Goldsmith of First Tryon, based on Charlotte, and the County's bond counsel C.D. Rhodes. "We serve as the County's financial advisors," said Goldsmith.

Abbeville County's debt limit currently is \$5.4 million, Goldsmith told Council.

Garner told Council that the bond issue will not cause much fluctuation in the tax levy, because it will coincide with the retirement of earlier bond issues.

"It's wrapped around currently existing debt," said the County Director.

The County will essentially be paying off only one bond

at a time.

In addition, taxpayers will be paying approximately eight additional dollars on a \$100,000 home for the two million bond issue.

Council also had a budget workshop for the 21-22 budget. The County with the budget plans to replace the entire emergency radio system used by the County's first responders, such as EMS and firefighters.

The budget plan also includes a 50% reduction in training and travel for County employees due to COVID.

Monday night, Mack Beaty of Abbeville commenting from the audience indicated that he would like to see more discussion among Council members before action like a bond issuance is taken.

"We keep going down the path of rushing things," he said.

Milestone

First Baptist Church of Abbeville celebrates 150 years of service

By Henry E. Green

First Baptist Church of Abbeville will be celebrating its 150th anniversary with a special program on Sunday, May 2.

There will be no Sunday School -- just a special program starting at 9:45 a.m., and featuring Dr. Johnny Hunt, the former senior pastor at First Baptist in Woodstock, GA, and he is also a former Southern Baptist Convention president, according to First Baptist of Abbeville pastor Rev. David Green.

Special guests will include Dr. Gary Hollingsworth, executive director of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

"Other dignitaries will be

in attendance," Green said. That will include a number of former pastors.

There will be a video describing the history of the church, and there will be a photo room, where people can look at old pictures of First Baptist.

The video will be played during the service, and thereafter it will be available for viewing on the church's website and its social media pages.

Hunt is "one of the premier speakers within the Southern Baptist Convention," Green said.

All current and former members of First Baptist are invited to attend.

The church was organized in 1871, and the original

church building was erected in 1873 at the corner of Church and Pinckney.

The current church building was erected in 1911, at the current location on North Main and Ellis.

Green extended a special thanks to the First Baptist staff for all of their hard work in planning the event, and a special thanks as well to Fred Lewis of Abbeville.

"Without him and his special knowledge of the church in Abbeville, we would not have been able to do what we're doing," Green said.

For more information, one may call the church at 366-2597.

Spring Festival will be return to 'normal'

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Spring Festival, slated to run from April 29 through May 1, does not have any brand-new features this year, but that's OK.

"We're just very excited to have it!" said Emily Bledsoe, the special events coordinator for the City of Abbeville, which presents the festival.

"After cancelling last year, it's nice to re-familiarize

ourselves with everything and return to somewhat normalcy.

The Spring Festival, presented by the City of Abbeville, is slated to be held Thursday, April 29, through Saturday, May 1.

"We are currently selling ride tickets in the Opera House until next Thursday at 4:00 PM," said Bledsoe.

"Those can be purchased

in person from 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Monday – Friday. The standard ticket is \$15 and the full weekend pass is \$70. "

The City works with B&K Carnival Company in the provision of rides, according to the special events coordinator.

Bledsoe can be reached at 366-9673.



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All on a rainy day

Organizers pleased with Drug Take Back Day amount collected

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville County participated in South Carolina's Prescription Medication Drug Take Back Day Saturday, and those coordinating the event were pleased with the amount collected, according to Betsy Royal, a prevention specialist with Cornerstone, the area commission on alcohol and drug abuse.

This was an opportunity for members of the community to bring to designated locations unused or expired prescription medications for secure disposal, Royal said.

Abbeville Police Department and Abbeville County Sheriff's Office were set up to collect the medications at the Ingles parking lot, and the Due West Police Department will be doing the same outside the Due West Police Department headquarters.

"Our goal for the county combined was 50 pounds, and we had a grand total of 85 pounds between Abbeville and Due West collection

sites," said Royal. She had not been expecting the turnout to be heavy because of the rainy weather, but she was quite pleased with the amount collected.

Among the items collected were fentanyl patches and hydrocodone, both opioids, Royal said.

Cornerstone staff members were at Ingles to distribute Narcan nasal spray to community members, free of charge.

Narcan is "an opioid overdose reversal medication," said Royal.

Narcan is typically administered right after an overdose, to help the patient until emergency medical services can arrive.

"It should be in everybody's first aid kit, in my opinion," she said.

Many people think Narcan is used only in case of illicit drug abuse, but Royal says this is not the case.

"Overdoses can occur by accidentally mistaking a prescription medication,"

she said. She welcomed people to come to the Cornerstone office on Whitehall Street in Abbeville to pick up Narcan spray cans.

The Drug Take Back event is conducted every April and every October in conjunction with the federal Drug Enforcement Agency throughout the country. DEA disposes of the drugs collected, Royal continued.

Much of the drug abuse in the U.S. starts with misuse of prescription medications, so a drug take-back day makes sense, and can strike at the root of the problem.

Royal added that the Nobody Fights Alone Day which had been scheduled for Saturday was cancelled because of the rain, but will be rescheduled at a later date.

Krissi Raines of Abbeville had been planning the event as a way to promote mental and physical health, according to Royal.



The late "Red Dog" Sutherland, who passed away recently, has been remembered with banners at the Pete Smith Complex and Dixie Youth field. Sutherland was known as an official at many a local sporting event, and contributed much to Abbeville Youth Athletics. (Contributed photo)

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Abbeville County participated in South Carolina's Prescription Medication Drug Take Back Day Saturday, and one of the designated collection points was in front of Ingles, where (from left) Connie Normand, Betsy Royal, and Krissi Raines, as well as Officer Stephen Cogdill of the Abbeville Police Department, helped in the collection effort. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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Questions? Please contact:
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American Legion Post Two is sponsoring two young men, rising high school seniors, to attend Palmetto Boys State at Anderson University June 13-19. They include Russell "Rusty" Chappell (second from right) of Abbeville High School, and William Wieters (second from left) of Dixie High School. Here they are with Post 2 commander Terry Greenfield (far right) and Post 2 Boys State committee chairman Larry Gray. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Young men bound for Palmetto Boys State

By Henry E. Green
American Legion Post Two is sponsoring two young men, rising high school seniors, to attend Palmetto Boys State at Anderson University June 13-19. They include Russell "Rusty" Chappell of Abbeville High School, and William Wieters of Dixie High School. Palmetto Boys State is presented by the American Legion as an exercise in helping young people learn about American government at the state and local levels. During Palmetto Boys State, those in attendance will learn about political parties and the process of running for political office. Students are nominated by their schools, on the basis of

academic success and their involvement in school and community activities, and that includes a letter which they have to write to explain why they want to attend. An interview is scheduled between the student and the Legion. "The Legion interviews the boys one on one with a panel of judges," said Larry Gray, Boys State chairman for the American Legion Post 2. From there, applicants are selected by a point system that the Legion uses. William and Rusty, who will be among 700 young men from throughout South Carolina attending Palmetto Boys State, excel in academics and in extracurricular activities. William plays football, and is a member of the Beta

Club, Future Business Leaders of America, and the National Honor Society. College plans? "I'm hoping to school out of state and major in finance," he said. William would like to attend either Vanderbilt or University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, on his way to becoming an actuary for an insurance company. Rusty, meanwhile, plays first base for the Abbeville High School Panther baseball team. A member of the Beta Club and the AHS academic team, Rusty wants to attend the University of South Carolina on his way to becoming a high school history teacher and baseball coach.

Do you remember? Spring Festival through its four decades has seen various changes

By Henry E. Green
Through the roughly 40 years of its existence, the Abbeville Spring Festival has undergone a number of changes, but its laid-back ambiance seems to have, through it all, remained intact. The rides are now located on Abbeville's Court Square, but at one time they were located behind the Opera House. There was a time also when the music and other forms of entertainment were centered not on a stage but in front of the Abbeville County Courthouse. Bands were set up on the Courthouse "porch," and people danced out where the benches in front of the building are. Eventually a stage came

into use, and today it is typically placed on the north end of Court Square, but there has been at least one year when it was at the south end of the Square. There was also at least one year when a band performed on a stage set up at one end of Trinity Street, where Trinity spills into Church. For years also, there was a Spring Festival parade, and the Festival, in terms of scheduling, has sometimes included Sunday. It is traditionally centered around the first weekend in May. Through it all, Mother Nature has from time to time put her two cents in, so that sometimes the Festival would be abbreviated by precipitation. And today, the festival is

presented by the City of Abbeville, but for a number of years it was produced by a Spring Festival association. The volunteers who helped put it on and hold it together could be recognized by the bright yellow vests they wore for the festival. What was then the Development Board played a major role in the festival's origins. (See related story.) The entertainment has been diverse through the years. A reggae band has performed at the festival, and so have belly dancers. Beach music seems to be an enduring favorite in the abundance of music you hear in this massive gathering in downtown Abbeville, but country, rhythm and blues, and pop can also be heard.

Council passes transit system resolution

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville County Council took a step Monday night toward making a public transportation in Abbeville County a reality. Abbeville County Council passed Resolution 2021-12 authorizing Abbeville County to enter into a contract with McCormick County Senior Center and McCormick Area Transit to participate in the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 of the Safe Accountable Flexible Efficiency Transportation

Equity Act a legacy for users (SAFETA-LU). The resolution pledges Council's support for a grant which McCormick Transit is seeking, a grant which would bring to fruition a pilot project for public transportation here. If the grant is ultimately awarded, the system would at least initially be used for non-emergency hospital visits. Also Monday night, Council passed Resolution 2021-13 authorizing the County Director to enter into a

contractual relationship with Bar E Enterprises, Inc., of Iva in the amount of \$88,560 for construction of the Diamond Hill Volunteer Fire Department Substation in Abbeville County. The Diamond Hill substation will be an auxiliary station of the Antreville Fire Department. Having the substation will enhance fire protection in the Antreville, Lowndesville, Monterey and Edgewood areas of the county, according to the Abbeville County Fire Marshal Tim Williams.

School District updates strategic plan

By Henry E. Green
The Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees met Tuesday and listened to a presentation from Brandi Sears, Director of Instruction and Accountability, on the District Strategic Plan. The District has updated its Strategic Plan, and has addressed goals in various areas including student achievement, school climate, District technology, Gifted and Talented programs, and teacher/administrator quality, Sears said Tues-

day afternoon. "Those are our performance goal areas that we are targeting," she said. "School climate" applies to a school's learning environment, home/school communication, and related matters. The District would also like to increase the number of students in the Gifted and Talented program, and enhance that program's curriculum and resources. The District also wants to increase the graduation rate.

Each goal has a number of action steps to assist in reaching the goal. "School Districts throughout South Carolina are required to submit updates to their strategic plans, which are required by the state," she said. "These plans are to be developed every five years, and updated annually. Once approved (by the Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees), the goals and action steps will be available on our District Website."



Ann Davis, who lives on Cedar Springs Road on the outskirts of Abbeville, stands on a ramp built at her home for her by local veterans. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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Abbeville Rotarians present cornhole event

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Rotary Club presented the Third Annual Tony Simpson Memorial Cornhole Saturday at the Livery Stable in downtown Abbeville.

On a day of heavy rain, the turnout for the tournament was perhaps less than the Rotarians had hoped for. Only six teams participated, said Rotary Club president John Andrew Bishop.

"I still enjoyed having the event and it is a nice thing to do in memory of Tony Simpson," he said.

Simpson was an Abbeville banker and Rotarian and beloved figure in the community as well, before he

lost his battle with cancer a number of years ago.

Saturday's tournament was named in his memory. Saturday's tournament were as follows, according to information Bishop supplied:

First place: Jacob Turner and Joseph Ricketts

Second place: RJ Risner and Keaton Flowers

Third place: Andy Timmerman and Shannon Sears.

The tournament is just one of a number of activities and programs in which the Abbeville Rotary Club is involved.

The club, which meets every Thursday at the Belmont Inn, also presents the

Rotary Bowl at Hite Stadium every year. This is a day of recreation league football in which Abbeville teams typically play teams from other communities.

The Abbeville Rotarians also have a scholarship program for graduates of Abbeville, Dixie and Calhoun Falls Charter.

The club is part of the worldwide network of Rotary clubs, and Rotary the world over is involved in various activities to improve life, from providing clean drinking water for rural communities in Honduras to working to eradicate polio from the face of the earth.



Abbeville Rotary Club president John Andrew Bishop (left) and Abbeville Rotarian Shannon Sears (right) struck the action pose for the camera during the Rotarians' cornhole tournament, held recently at the Livery Stable in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

A Slice of Mike

"Hit Me With Your Best Shot"

By Mike Elis

So yes, the vaccine has been made available to millions to Americans. I have friends who refuse to get vaccinated as it is a form of alien life form related brainwashing and I have some that think that the apocalypse is coming tomorrow and anyone who is not vaccinated by midnight tonight should be grounded with no television or dessert.

Due to my performing on the road including a Royal Caribbean cruise at the end of the year, I am required to do so. The line at CVS pharmacy was very long; you would think I was renewing my tag at the DMV or waiting for a live person to answer the phone at the IRS after lying to me and telling me that my call was very important to them.

Last time I called the IRS, they said hold time was between 28 and 107 minutes. Sixty-two minutes later, I heard someone answer and then "click" and the words "call ended" on my cell phone. Where is that two minute survey every other customer service offers?

The guy sitting a few seats from me in the CVS pharmacy was on his phone and speaking loudly, "This is not what I wanted to do with my day. Tell the boss there that are other things I would rather be doing."

To which I said quietly to the lady next to me, "Yes, we are all here because we enjoy

getting stuck by needles. Excitement of my day." The lady laughed and so did the gal sitting next to her. Unfortunately, due to my deep and carrying voice, I received a look from Mr. Busy Day that was not appreciative of my sense of humor. Well, like Meat Loaf once sang, "Two Out of Three Aint Bad."

It seemed to take forever for them to call me in. I almost wondered if it was CVS's plan so that we would spend time shopping in the overpriced store. I call this the "Cracker Barrel Scam." Have you ever walked into a Cracker Barrel and got seated right away?

Of course not. They tell you it is a twenty minute wait at Cracker Barrel so you have to shop in that store which makes you think four dollars for a large Hershey bar is a good deal. And that's only because it looks so attractive sitting between the \$15 apple butter in the fru fru southern jar and the triangle peg board game, which is a game that will frustrate you faster than the wait in the CVS for a vaccine shot.

I am concerned about the vaccine shot. Not necessarily to debate whether it works or not, but I am concerned because I didn't take a photo of my vaccination card and post it on Facebook. Isn't that step number two towards total immunity because everyone seems to be congratulating

those that show off their badge of anti-Covid honor? Much like posting a photo with the "I Voted" stickers, it isn't official until it's official on Facebook.

Well, if it does work, I think we need to move on to other vaccines. How about a vaccine to keep people from arguing on social media? How about a vaccine that instills in every living American's brain the difference between "you" and "you're?" I'm all for a vaccine that keeps me from gaining weight ever again, even if I choose to devour a dozen Krispy Kreme Glazed in one hour?

Listen, whether I am going to be the victim of an alien takeover, or being microchipped to ensure I will be forever controlled by the government, or just simply trying not to get Covid, let me say that there is one thing for sure...

No one, and I mean not one person, has the right to tell you that you can't have a Krispy Kreme glazed donut.

Don't forget that Mike Elis will be signing copies of his debut comedy CD "My Demons Come Out on Stage" at the Belmont Inn from 5:30pm until 6:30pm with Team Trivia for Charity immediately following at 7pm. Team trivia is \$5 per person (money goes to charity) and you can reserve your table by contacting The Belmont Inn at 864-459-9625.

Tuesdays With Joyce

April 14, 2021

Dear Friend,

A support group is designed to bring comfort and inspiration to the bereaved and to friends and family who care about them.

Harris Funeral Home invites you to register for our six week session to begin on Tuesday, May 11 from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the afternoon. Meetings will be held on the porch at Harris and COVID-19 guidelines will be observed. This group is open to anyone who would benefit from sharing and support. Please call 366-4027 to register. This free service is being offered to assist those who need peace while working through loss. Our desire is to be of consolation to you.



Joyce C. Cooper

Joyce Cameron Cooper

Joyce Cameron Cooper
Aftercare Specialist
Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Inc.

4/28-21c



Bell Toll Ceremony April 2021

Honoring Deceased Veterans

James "Bryant" Hurt	83	SC National Guard
John Irvin Hartley	73	US Army
Rayford Carroll Waters	95	US Navy WWII
Celesten Pierre Champoux	84	US Navy

The Abbeville County Veterans Organizations jointly sponsor a Bell Toll Ceremony on the last Friday of each month. The veteran's names that have passed away in Abbeville County during the month or anyone who was missed in the previous month will have their names read. This includes men and women from Abbeville County who live in other areas. The names will also include any military service member from South Carolina who was killed while on active duty. As each name is read, the Liberty Bell replica, "Big Bob" is struck once as a token of our respect and appreciation for each Veteran who served and for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for this great nation. Please join for this solemn ceremony on the Abbeville square at 1 pm, April 30th. Also, all veterans are welcomed to the American Legion meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Supper is served at 5PM and the meeting is at 6PM.

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Pet of the Month

Kyra loves to play and loves the attention of others. She is a mixed breed, 2-years-old, 45 lbs. She is already spayed and is heartworm negative and is ready to go home with you. Kyra loves people and would be a wonderful addition to your family. Come visit her today and experience her playful nature.

Adoption Fees are only \$25 thru Apr. 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

Meet Ralph! He is a male, 2-yr.-old domestic shorthair mix. Ralph was found as a stray in February of this year and would love to find his forever home. Already litter trained and ready to be your new companion. Come meet him and when you look into his sweet eyes you will want to take him home today.

Adoption Fees are only \$15 thru Apr. 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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*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. †The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor trial of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Bloomfield, Michigan and processed at LMI-Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSUB 103579; DOPH #10783658-5501 License# 7656; License# 50145; License# 47354; License# 99338; License# 128344; License# 218294; WA URH 603 233 977 License# 210212586; License# 210212945; License# 270313155A; License# 124817448222; License# W455912; License# WC29994817; License# HIC License# H01067000; Registration# 176447; Registration# JIC 06-49805; Registration# C122229; Registration# C122230; Registration# 36692018; Registration# PC6475; Registration# H71409; Registration# SVH0953900; Registration# PA069883; Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H; License# 270510945; License# 26206221; License# 25006452; License# 0060990; Registration# H-19114

‘Battle buddies’

Cancer Association of Anderson eases burden for cancer patients

By Henry E. Green

When you are told you have cancer, you tend not to hear anything but the bad news that you have the dreaded news, Angela Stringer will tell you.

“Everything goes into slow motion,” she said.

She is definitely in a position to know.

“I’m a seven year cancer survivor,” Stringer, the director of the Cancer Association of Anderson, told Abbeville Rotarians Thursday.

Stringer thus knows from experience the depths of battling the terrible disease, a disease which she and the Association are doing their best to battle.

The Association, a local cancer charity in Anderson County, seeks “to help reduce the burden on Anderson County residents battling cancer, survivors and their families by providing treatment-related financial assistance, information and referral as well as emotional support.”

The Association, a non-profit organization, thus helps people suffering from

cancer, and the help comes in various ways.

Services include travel to and from treatment, including out of state cancer treatment, assistance with cancer treatment-related prescription medication, and free wigs, hats, breast prostheses and mastectomy bras.

“We have support groups,” she added, noting that these reach out to people such as caregivers.

Stringer’s own personal battle against cancer was tough, and she credits her former boss, Anderson County administrator Rusty Burns, with providing invaluable support as she fought the disease.

“He was very good to me,” she said. “I credit him with my health.”

Stringer has a wealth of stories to tell, including one of a woman who was battling an aggressive form of cancer and who had been given only a short time to live.

Her bucket list included riding in a hot air balloon, and Stringer was able to help her get her wish, by way of a balloon fund-raiser

for the Association.

The battle against cancer had left the woman weak, and Stringer wondered how she would be able to get the woman to climb over the side into the balloon. Once inside, there would be no place to sit--she would have to stand during the ride.

Then, Stringer met a man who just happened to operate a wheelchair-accessible balloon.

Shortly thereafter, the woman passed away, but she had obtained one of the items in her bucket list.

Stringer asked Rotarians to raise their hands if they were cancer survivors, or if they had family members who had suffered from it.

The raised hands were indeed numerous, showing the far-reaching influence of cancer.

“We’re all affected,” she said.

She and her comrades at the Association were “battle buddies” waging war on the illness.

“I’m very passionate about this,” she said.

Angela Stringer, director of the Cancer Association of Anderson, was a recent speaker at the Abbeville Rotary Club. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Hospital sees decrease in vaccine demand

By Henry E. Green

A nationwide lag in demand for the COVID vaccine has not left the Abbeville County community unaffected, said Meg Davis, the Abbeville Area Medical Center marketing director.

“What is happening across the nation is also what is happening at AAMC,” said Davis. “We are seeing a decrease in demand for the vaccine, however part of this decrease is due to the increase in vaccine production as well as locations that can administer it.”

Davis also commented on the “pause” for the use of the J&J vaccine.

“On April 23, 2021, the CDC and FDA, through a joint statement, lifted the pause on the use of the Janssen (J&J) COVID-19

vaccine after determining that the known and potential benefits of the Janssen vaccine outweighed the known and potential risks of the Janssen vaccine,” she said in an e-mail.

“The Healthcare Center has been offering patients coming in for scheduled appointments the opportunity to receive the J&J vaccine. During the pause, patients were offered the Pfizer vaccine, however the practice will resume giving the J&J vaccine in the near future.

“We continue to be confident that the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is very safe,” Davis quoted Dr. Trey Moore, who has led the vaccine response for AAMC, as saying, “complications from this vaccine are extremely rare especially while the

risk of COVID remains high and ever present. The fact that the vaccine was put on pause should give us confidence that reactions are being monitored and that safety policies and procedures have been put in place are being utilized.”

According to DHEC data from Monday, April 26, a total of 2,069 positive cases have been reported in Abbeville County, and 33 coronavirus-related deaths have occurred.

Among Abbeville’s neighboring counties, Anderson had a total of 19,632 cases and 467 deaths, while Greenwood had 7,329 cases and 154 deaths.

Laurens had 6,378 positive cases and 148 deaths, while McCormick had 791 cases and 17 deaths.

Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont is celebrating Hospice Volunteers week

Submitted by Susan Harris
Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont

April 18th-24th is National Volunteer Week, and organizations across the country are celebrating their service, the gifts of time and talent that individuals selflessly give to help others, especially in this time of increased need in our communities. This commitment especially valuable and heartfelt in hospice – and hospice is thriving in this community thanks to its volunteers.

At Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont, over 200-trained volunteers are giving selflessly to help people impacted by a serious or life-threatening illness live as fully as possible. Even now, when our volunteers are limited to visit patients and their families in the home, they are helping meet needs by making masks, bundling personal protective equipment, working in the Hospice House, running

errands, selling and sorting donations, assisting with clerical task, making phone calls, and helping with many other things that support patients and families. Our community is a better, more compassionate place because of their service.

During National Volunteer Week, we honor and celebrate those caring individuals that do so much for so many – particularly those hospice volunteers that accompany people during life’s final journey. Volunteers are a part of this special care that brings compassion and dignity to patients and their families.

Whether a volunteer is serving at the bedside, in the office, educating others, or raising awareness, they are the heart of hospice.

“There is probably no greater gift than to be afforded the opportunity to enter someone’s life at such a critical time as we do as hospice volunteers. Over my 24 years, the patients, along with their

loved ones, leave a lesson, a smile, a memory. The peace that comes from the simple sharing of time, acknowledgment and companionship are the foundation of our service. For this opportunity, I am a grateful and humble hospice volunteer.” ~Hospice Volunteer

You can learn more about hospice by contacting sharris@hospicepiedmont.org at (864) 229-8461 or by visiting www.hospicepiedmont.org. During National Volunteer Week, take time to learn more about volunteering opportunities in your community and ways you can support these faces of caring.

Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont is your community non-profit network of care that provides expert, life-changing health care for those living with advanced illnesses. Serving patients and families in Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda counties since 1981.

Town of Donalds Budget 2021-2022

Revenues:

Property Tax Revenue	5,000.00
Aid to Subdivisions	7,300.00
Duke Energy	12,900.00
CPW	2,500.00
Charter	1,000.00
Accommodations Tax	5,400.00
West Carolina Rebate	2,500.00
Interest on Checking	300.00
Interest on CDs	400.00
Housing Authority	3,200.00
Insurance Revenue	19,420.00
Vehicle Tax	1,300.00
Delinquent Tax	300.00
State Motor Carrier	500.00
Homestead Exemption	1,250.00
License Fees	150.00
Local Option	34,000.00
Total:	\$97,420.00

Expenditures:

Council	3,000.00
Mayor	700.00
Advertising	500.00
Capital Expenditures	3,000.00
Contributions	2,000.00
Contracted Service	13,340.00
Upper Abbeville County Rec	8,500.00
Donalds Fire Dept	5,000.00
Community Support	15,000.00
Dues & Subscriptions	550.00
Election Cost	900.00
General Insurance	7,500.00
Legal & Professional	5,000.00
Library	2,500.00
Office Supplies	1,000.00
Parade Expense	1,000.00
Postage	100.00
Rent	100.00
Repairs & Maintenance	9,000.00
Telephone	1,080.00
Duke Power	15,000.00
Water	1,500.00
Trash Service	400.00
CPW	750.00
Total	\$97,420.00

Millage of .020 for 2020-2021

The Budget hearing will be held on May 3rd at 6:00 Town Hall Building next to Donalds Post Office.

THE GREATER ABBEVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Business of the Month

Swartzentruber's Bakery

Open Thur., Fri., - 7:00 - 6:00, Sat. - 7:00 - 5:00

3 Flavor Pound Cake • Shrimp Dip • Homemade Sour Cream • Amish Country Butter • Sour Dough Bread • Yeast Dinner Rolls • Homemade Pies • Cinnamon Rolls

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Abbeville High School held its prom on the evening of Saturday, April 17. Bailey Summer (left) and Amanda Boyd (right) were among the prom-goers who showed up on the afternoon of Saturday, April 17, on the grounds of the Burt-Stark Mansion for pictures. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

SC Statehouse Reports 2021-The House of Representatives

House week in review

Rep. Craig A. Gagnon, District 11--SC House of Representatives April 15, 2021

After the fast and furious week of meeting the cross-over deadline, last week, the House returned to work. There was not much action on the floor. Much of the work was done in committees and subcommittees. Here are a few highlights from legislation we dealt with.

Back to School

On Wednesday, the House passed a joint resolution (S.704) that requires all school districts in South Carolina to give an option for 5 days a week, in-person learning by April 26th. Providing an in-person option allows parents to decide what learning format is the best fit for their student. Additionally, this bill suspends the earning limitation for retired teachers. This ensures that retired teachers can come back to school and teach without fear of too little compensation during these unique times. I voted in favor of this bill.

Teaching the Constitution

Ensuring that our children are educated about our Constitution, the Federalist Papers, the Declaration of Independence, and other

important American documents is the first step in shaping civically responsible citizens. S. 38 provides that students in public high schools in South Carolina, and in some cases, undergraduate students, to study these constitutional documents as a requirement for graduation. After some lengthy debate with several mis-guided amendments voted down, I voted in favor of this bill.

Revitalizing South Carolina S. 271, "The South Carolina Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act" which qualifies taxpayers who make certain investments into rehabilitating and revitalizing abandoned property in the state to receive tax credits, was passed. This act was set to expire. This bill extends the deadline to December 31, 2025.

Other bills of note in subcommittee:

Law Enforcement

H. 3939 received a favorable vote in a Judiciary Subcommittee meeting on Thursday morning. This bill extends workers compensation for law enforcement officers in deadly-force situations to PTSD, or other injury caused by stress or mental illness.

Protecting SC Seniors H. 3180, also known as

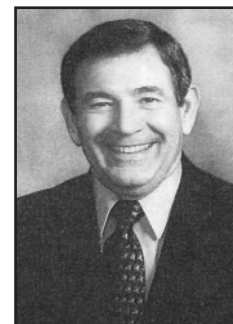
the Vulnerable Adult Maltreatment Registry Act, passed out of a Judiciary Subcommittee on Thursday morning. This act aims to protect our most vulnerable, elderly populations from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. This bill would create a registry for these populations, creating further protections for them in places like nursing homes.

Election Reform

In a Judiciary Subcommittee meeting Thursday morning, Rep. West Cox introduced a bill that ensures that any Special Purpose Tax District Referendums be voted on during General Elections rather than Special Elections. With voter turnout being historically higher for General Elections in comparison to Special Elections (sometimes by 70% or more) this simply increases the amount of voter participation when dealing with these issues.

As always, it is an honor and a privilege to serve you in Columbia. If you need help with any state agency, or have any thoughts or concerns about what we are doing, please do not hesitate to contact me at home at (864) 366-4112 or in Columbia at (803) 212-6934 or by email at craig@gagnon@schouse.gov.

a Word from "THE WORD"



Rev. Dr. John Keith

Foundations

jkeithfbca@gmail.com

Psalm 11:3 "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

Several years ago, a friend of mine was on an international flight. The flight attendant came around and served the dinner meal and my friend noticed that the man in the seat next to him bowed his head in prayer. After the man lifted his head, my friend remarked, "I noticed that you prayed before you ate your meal, you must be a Christian."

The man became indignant and said, "I most certainly am not. I am a Satan worshiper. Everyday I pray for the destruction of pastors, their homes, and their churches." That man was trying to destroy the very foundation of our nation. Don't kid yourself, there are forces of evil at work at this very moment trying to destroy the very fabric of our great nation and they will succeed if Christians do not stand in the gap and be counted for the Lord.

I would like to call attention to three things about the question the Psalmist asks.

First of all it is a question

of priority. A foundation is a priority in any building. The foundation of our nation is a priority, for without it we will not have a nation. In order for any building, any nation, or any home for that matter, a proper foundation is vital. One cannot build without a foundation. In order for a building to remain strong it must have a solid foundation. The founding fathers of our nation laid a firm and solid foundation and now there are forces that are bent on destroying that foundation.

Secondly this is a personal question. What can I personally do if the foundations are destroyed? What can I personally do to ensure the foundations of our nation are not destroyed? I must do my part and you, my friend, must do your part. For my part, I must remain strong in the Lord and His Word. I must remain vigilant and prayerful for the protection of our nation and its values. I must not become complacent and irresponsible about my duties as a Christian first

and as a citizen second.

Third, this is a plural question. Notice that the word "foundations" is plural. There are several foundations in our nation—religious, governmental, educational, moral, etc. Each and every one of our foundations is critical—without them there is anarchy. Every day I see protesters on TV with signs saying, "Abolish the police." Have you ever heard anything so foolish and ridiculous?

Without a restraining force, there would be anarchy and violence and bloodshed would freely flow. We simply cannot have a society without order.

There are voices that are creating chaos and confusion with the desire to destroy and demolish every shred of decency that our nation stands for. As Christians, we simply cannot allow that to happen—if we do, we will be the first to suffer the consequences.



The AAMC Foundation

Benefit Bash

is going VIRTUAL again in 2021!!

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April 30 - May 8, 2021

Live Feed & Live Item Auction • May 8th 7:00-8:00pm

*silent auction closes on 5/8 at 9:00pm

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SECURE online bidding available from any tablet, smartphone or desktop computer. Visit the auction site for information on how to register & bid. It's FUN & EASY with NO registration fee to join!

Gather a few of your closest friends & family to join us for our **Virtual Benefit Bash!!** Bidding for the silent auction items will start on **April 30th** & continue through 8:00pm on **May 8th**. A fun-filled live feed will be held on May 8th from 7:00-8:00pm & will feature some amazing live auction items! Each will only be available for bid for a limited time during the feed so be sure to tune in right on your mobile device, tablet, smart TV or desktop computer!

You also won't want to miss purchasing a chance to win a beautiful piece of jewelry from **The Jeweler's Bench** - the perfect Mother's Day gift if you're the lucky winner!! Chances are \$5.00 each or three for \$10.00 and can be purchased on the auction site.

New auction items will be added daily!

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Contact us at 864.366.3364 or mdavis@AbbevilleAreaMC.com for information.

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Card of Thanks

Perhaps you sang a tender song
Or came to pay a call;
Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or just sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent beautiful flowers,
If so we saw it there.
Perhaps you sent or spoke kind words,
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all,
But just thought of us that day.
Perhaps you prepared some tasty dish
Or maybe furnished a car;
Perhaps you rendered a service unseen,
Near at hand or afar.
Whatever you did to console the heart,
By word or deed or touch;
We thank you, Oh so much!

The Family of the late


Happy Birthday.....	\$26.50
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Card of Thanks.....	\$26.50
In Memory.....	\$26.50
W/Photo.....	\$30.00

Rates based on minimum (1x4) local rate. Photos returned in self-addressed, stamped envelope. Deadline is Friday, 5pm for Wednesday publication.



Pet of the Month Say hello to Radar. He is a 3-year-old mixed breed at 45 lbs. He is neutered and ready to go home with you today. He was found as a stray in January of this year and is ready for his forever home. Radar has a great personality and is dog and people friendly. Come meet him and you will fall in love with his personality.

Adoption Fees are only \$25 thru Apr. 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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Joyce Cooper of Abbeville recently recalled the origins of the Abbeville Spring Festival. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

All those years ago

Joyce Cooper recalls beginning of Abbeville Spring Festival

By Henry E. Green

Four decades—that's how far back the Abbeville Spring Festival goes.

The first Abbeville Spring Festival was held in 1981, said Joyce Cooper of Abbeville, and she credits George Settles of what was then the Abbeville County Development Board with guiding the festival into existence.

"Under George's direction, the festival came to be," said Joyce Cooper of Abbeville, one of the organizers of the early festival.

"Bill Kurtz was the chairman of the first festival," which was presented by what was then the Abbeville County Development Board.

Through Kurtz's friendship with McDonalds, Ronald McDonald, to the delight of the children, visited the first festival.

Held in downtown Abbeville, the gathering lasted several days, and the Square was closed off.

Joyce chaired the second festival, which was held the following year, also in downtown Abbeville.

The second festival featured crafts and various displays depicting life in the Abbeville County community.

"We had an Industrial Day," she said. Industries had

displays around the Square, and there was live music, featuring church choirs and the Brasstown Ball.

Milliken gave away a rug, and other industries contributed good things as well.

"I had a spring festival parade to kick it off," she said. She even persuaded the School District to dismiss school early so that school children could attend the event.

"We had a pageant (held at Erskine), and a Miss Spring Festival was chosen," she said.

There was also a Farm Day, when various farmers from the Abbeville area displayed their farm implements around the Square.

The first festival, she said, was held in April, and later moved to the first weekend in May, partly because the first festival was beset by heavy rain.

"We had home tours (during the second festival)," she said, adding that the churches were also open for tours.

The rides were located off the Square, on West Pickens, not too far from The Press and Banner, during the second festival.

"We had a lot of food vendors," she said.

Local merchants contributed items to be passed out from "hospitality girls" on

Court Square.

"We had a clown, and the clown's name was Daffy Dilly," she said. The first symbol of the Festival was a daffodil, so it fit in nicely.

Abbeville High School band director Sandy Scott even wrote a Spring Festival song for the occasion, at Cooper's request.

"The Abbeville Spring Festival is the place to be," went the first line of the song.

On the Square, there was an open air Festival headquarters, where Wings 101 is now.

The City provided the electricity for the vendors. "They were so cooperative," said Cooper.

The city of Abbeville was imbued with a hometown spirit, which helped ensure the success of the early festivals.

In those days, festivals like the one in Abbeville were comparatively rare.

"People now are accustomed to that, but at that time it was very unique," she said.

Cooper was a merchant at the time.

"I had the Strawberry Patch on the Square," she said.

She recalls those days with fondness. "It was a happy time—just a special time," she said.

Due West Town Council Meeting on April 19, 2021

Submitted by Jeannie Knight, Mayor

Council met in Council Chambers at 6 p.m. for its scheduled meeting for April.

Present were four council members, the Town Clerk, the Town Administrators, the Town Attorney, and three Department Heads. The Mayor led the meeting. Visitors were members of the Boy Scout Pack 54 from the Due West Community. Scout Master James Crisp introduced the Scout members in attendance and invited the Council to attend the Flag Retiring Ceremony on May 31st at the corner of Main Street and Strong Circle at 6:30 pm.

The Boy Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The March Meeting Minutes and the March Financial reports were approved.

The Fifth Supplemental Proclamation of a State

of Emergency due to COVID-19 was approved as signed by the Mayor to last until June 9th. These flyers are posted in town businesses.

The Proclamation to Commemorate Peace Officers' Memorial Day on May 15 was approved as read. Flags will be at half staff to honor those officers who serve and protect our Town and our Country; and to remember those who have gone before, some making the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty in our country.

Ordinance 01-2021 was approved as the second reading which allows Erskine College to use one of the Town wells for irrigation for 20 years. This is a renewal of a lease which has been in place since 2000.

The Mayor's Report included scheduled dates for the Budget Preparations to put in place a Budget proposal

to be voted on in May and June. The fiscal year ends on June 30th and the new one begins on July 1st of 2021.

There were reports from town department heads that included a new grant award for the fire department, the monthly police report, and the start this week of the annual Spring Clean-Up to allow residents to dispose of yard debris

Department heads also gave Council their budget proposals for consideration toward preparing the new budget for 2021-2022.

Town Hall will be closed for Memorial Day on May 31st. Spring Clean-up will end on Thursday April 22nd at noon. There will be a Prescription Medication Take Back on Saturday, April 24th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the parking lot by the Police Department at 103 Main Street.



State Rep. Craig A. Gagnon (right) recently presented James R. Crawford II with a United States flag that has flown over the South Carolina capitol for his promotion to warrant officer with the United States Army Reserves. James, the son of Jimmy and Olivia Crawford of Abbeville, is a 1998 graduate of Abbeville High School and the College of Charleston. He is assigned to a unit from Fort Gordon, Georgia. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Abbeville-Piedmont Tech partnership addresses CDL Driver Shortage

Submitted by Kristine Hartvigsen

In an apprenticeship collaboration launched last year, Piedmont Technical College (PTC) and the City of Abbeville are helping employees who drive any city vehicle to earn their Class B Commercial Driver's Licenses. Full-time firefighter Chandler White is one of them. He believes the additional experience he's receiving will help him grow in his career.

"The CDL program is a good way for us to further our education," he said. "As a firefighter, we take classes and trainings all the time, but CDL is a little different."

Chandler's father, Mike White, is a training coordinator and instructor with

PTC's Continuing Education Division.

"This partnership is for the city's drivers, including firefighters, maintenance workers and police officers," Mike said. "It addresses a shortage of qualified CDL drivers across several departments."

The Class B CDL applies to vehicles weighing 26,001 pounds or more and generally comprises larger vehicles like dump trucks, garbage trucks, delivery trucks and cement mixers.

Chandler already regularly drives the Fire Department's trucks, as federal and state laws do not require firefighters to have a commercial driver's license. However, the Department trained him to drive the truck.

"I feel like the fire truck

and the Class B vehicles are very similar to drive," Chandler noted. "They are comparable in weight, about 50,000 pounds."

Chandler is comfortable behind the wheel of a massive fire truck but operates it with the reverence it warrants. "You have to know the limits of what you can do and what you cannot do," he said. "You could be responding to a call at 3 a.m. You have to be very aware of your surroundings and what you are doing" to ensure everyone's safety.

"When I have time, I will try and go back and get my Class A (big rig) license."

For more information about PTC's CDL training, visit www.ptc.edu/cdl.



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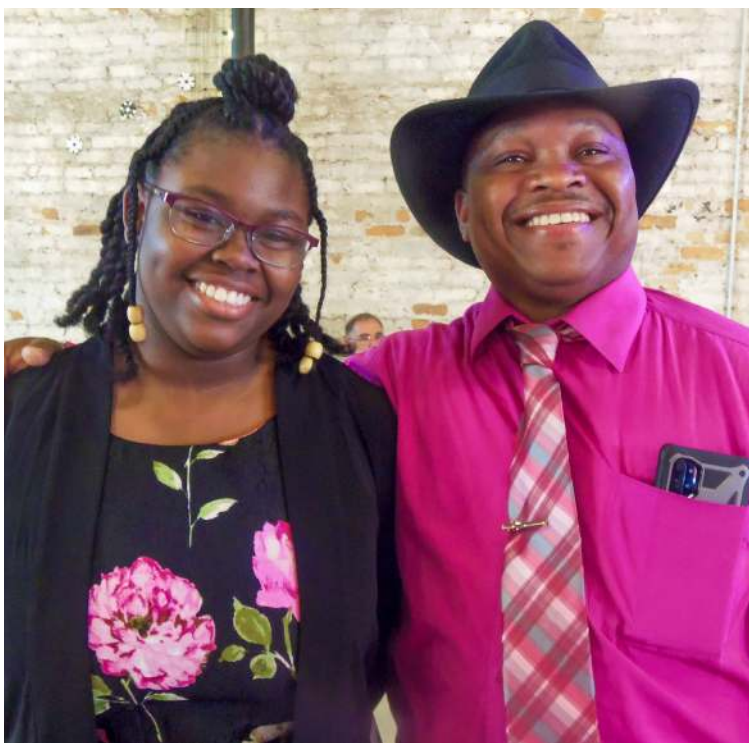
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Chris Crawford and daughter Shreece were among those at the Daddy Daughter Dance presented by the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce at the Livery Stable in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Sugar and spice

Chamber of Commerce presents annual Daddy Daughter Dance

By Henry E. Green

Sugar and spice, and everything nice--that's what little girls are made of.

That was very much in evidence Friday night at the Livery Stable in downtown Abbeville, when the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce presented its annual Daddy Daughter Dance.

It was an opportunity to allowing dads to bond with their elementary and middle school age daughters, and Friday night, 200 people were in attendance, according to interim Chamber executive director Juli Wilson Monday.

Wilson was pleased with the turnout. "I would also like to thank our sponsors," she said.

These included Baughman Enterprises, Abbeville First Bank, West Carolina Tel, Dreamcatcher Properties, Greenwood Realty, Little River Electric, Abbeville Sporting Goods, Swartzen-truber's Bakery, Main Street Coffee, Stoll Industries, Deason's and Ingles.

The gathering was a fundraiser for the Chamber, which uses the money to fund scholarships for graduates of Abbeville High, Dixie, and Calhoun Falls Charter.

The amount of money raised was still being tabulated at press time.

The scholarships, which are \$750 apiece, will be presented in May.

"Due to COVID, we are not going to have a Chamber banquet this year, but we will still award the three Chamber scholarships, the Abbeville County Hall of Fame Award, and the Business of the Year," she said.

More Chamber events will be coming later this year, and they are to be announced, she said.



The Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce presented its annual Daddy Daughter Dance recently, and among those in attendance were David Sorrow and his two-year-old daughter Clare. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Mack Agnew and his six-year-old granddaughter Eh'lania were among those enjoying the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce's Daddy Daughter Dance at the Livery Stable in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Alivia Taylor, 9, of Abbeville, was one of those in the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce's Daddy Daughter Dance, held recently at the Livery Stable in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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Beginning Wednesday, March 31, 2021, all South Carolinians 16 and older qualify for vaccination.

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1

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2

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3

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Learn more at scdhec.gov/vaxfacts.

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Austin Walker is the new Community Development Director for the City of Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Austin Walker joins City of Abbeville staff

By Henry E. Green

Austin Walker is the City of Abbeville's new community development director.

Walker, whose first day in her new post was on Tuesday, April 20, will be helping to guide festival events, as well as happenings at the Abbeville Opera House, and economic development.

"I'm from Ninety Six originally," she said. The Ninety Six High School graduate went on to college at Erskine, where she majored in political science.

She served as an intern at the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, and then worked full-time at the

Chamber.

"I fell in love with the festival (of Flowers)," she said. Eventually she became festival coordinator at the Chamber, where she worked a little over a year.

She then worked at Stockman Oil for about seven months before coming to Abbeville.

And how does she like Abbeville?

"I love it," she said. To Austin, the community has a special hometown feel.

"There's just something so peaceful" about the community, where the hospitality is truly above and beyond.

Walker hopes to continue

to foster what has already been started here in Abbeville--encouraging the growth of small businesses, and the enhancement of the festivals, and the Opera House. She and her husband Jayden, a former Marine, have an 11-month-old son Larry.

She and Jayden have known each other pretty much all their lives. "We went to pre-school together," she said.

Walker is adding her personal touch, with a gnome on her desk. "I love gnomes," she said. "I have a gnome for every season. They have a charm about them."

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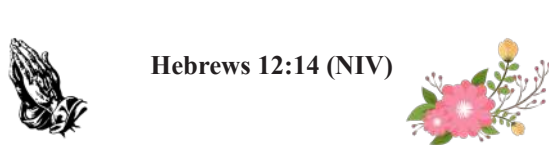
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UCMAC adds Lowndesville pantry

By Henry E. Green
The United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County (UCMAC) has added a pantry in Lowndesville to its food pantry system, and Wednesday, April 21, was the opening day for the Lowndesville pantry in its new format as a UCMAC facility.
The all-volunteer organization, which is based on a network of collaborating churches, already has branches in Calhoun Falls and Abbeville.
"This is actually our third food pantry," said UCMAC executive director Bill

Boone.
The pantry, located beside the Lowndesville Pentecostal Holiness Church, was in private hands before it joined the UCMAC family.
Harold Campbell will be the director for the Lowndesville pantry, which will be open on the third Wednesday of every month from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., and relies on the services of as many as one dozen volunteers.
"This morning we've given out 32 boxes in less than an hour," Campbell said Wednesday morning.

The food that is given out is purchased from local vendors and from the Second Harvest organization, as well as individual and church donations.
The food items are typically nonperishable, and occasionally perishable items are donated.
The food pantry system is just one of three ministries of United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County, with the others including a free medical clinic and an emergency assistance ministry.



United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County recently added the food pantry in Lowndesville to its food pantry system. Lowndesville pantry volunteers include (from left, front row) Bob Todd, Jane Todd, Lena Smith, Jane Hanna, Faye Campbell, Debra Watkins, Vanessa Gombert (front row, from left) Mike Campbell, Ted Smith, Tuck Hanna, Wayne Gens, Brent Watkins, and Harold Campbell. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

'Miracle Cat' devours ski instructor to survive blizzard



Story continued on page 79

The Education Center at John de la Howe Announces Its 2021 Summer Programs

Submitted by
Hayley Belton
Director of Public Relations & Marketing

MCCORMICK, SC – The Education Center at John de la Howe is excited to announce its 2021 Summer Programs. The Education Center, located in the Wilderness area of the SC Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe campus, will offer multiple day camps for all ages and an overnight camp for grades 8th 9th.
During the month of June, day camps will be offered for \$35/person. To reserve a spot for one of the camps

below, please email Kinsley Miller, Director of the Education Center, at Kinsley.Miller@delahowe.sc.gov.
• Equine Camp | June 8, 2021 (Ages 6-10)
• Environmental & Natural Resources Camp | June 10, 2021 (Ages 6-10)
• Environmental & Natural Resources Camp | June 14, 2021 (Ages 11-14)
• Animal Science Camp | June 17, 2021 (Ages 6-10)
• Animal Science Camp | June 22, 2021 (Ages 11-14)
• Equine Camp | June 24, 2021 (Ages 11-14)
The Education Center will also offer an overnight summer camp, "The Aggie Adventure", from July 18-

21, 2021. This summer program is designed for 8th and 9th-grade students who are interested in agriculture. Students will spend 4 days and 3 nights immersed in agricultural education at the South Carolina Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe. The cost to attend is \$200/person. Students interested in attending The Aggie Adventure must apply. The application can be found at <https://delahowe.sc.gov/education-center/2021-summer-programs> and must be submitted by emailing the completed application to Kinsley.Miller@delahowe.sc.gov.

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Obituaries

Prince

Nancy Gambrell Prince, 82, of Donalds, wife of the late Jimmy Herman 'Yogi' Prince, died Friday, April 23, 2021 at the Hospice House in Greenwood. She was born in Honea Path to the late Cheshire and Vera Ashley Gambrell.

Formerly employed with the Oxford Shirt Plant and Walmart, Mrs. Prince retired from Walmart after 25 years of dedicated service where she greeted many people. She loved and was loved by her many friends and family, especially her grandchildren. Mrs. Prince was a member of Austin Road Baptist Church in Honea Path.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a brother, Gene Gambrell.

Mrs. Prince is survived



Nancy Gambrell Prince

by her two sons, Russell L. Prince (Chad) of Greenwood and Jimmy H. Prince, Jr. (Jennifer) of Donalds; a brother, Tommy Gambrell of Hodges; five sisters, Betty Dixon of Calhoun Falls, Jeannette Jennings of Belton, Ann Fleming, Molly Hughes (David) and Polly Knight, all of Donalds; and

five grandchildren, Nolan, Lindy, Leeanna, Kala and Emma Laura.

The family received friends 2:00 PM–3:00 PM, Sunday, April 25, 2021 at Harris Funeral Home, Abbeville Chapel. Funeral services began at 3:30 PM in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Billy Slatten officiating. Burial followed in Winona Baptist Church Cemetery.

The family is at the home. Memorial contributions, in memory of Mrs. Prince, may be sent to the charity of one's choice.

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 Prince family.

Obituaries

Bryant

Ruth Sheppard Bryant, 90, of Abbeville, wife of the late George L. Bryant, died peacefully Friday, April 23, 2021 at her home. She was born in Seneca, SC to the late John Sam Sheppard and Elmina Inez Sherlock Sheppard.

Mrs. Bryant was reared in Walhalla and enjoyed 70 years married to the love of her life. She was a gracious Southern lady; her life exemplified a virtuous woman as described in Proverbs 31. Mrs. Bryant found happiness and contentment working in her yard, writing, journaling, sewing for her children and dancing with her husband. She was known to be an excellent cook. Mrs. Bryant was a dedicated member of Lebanon Presbyterian Church, the Ladies Sunday School Class and the Women's Group.



Ruth Sheppard Bryant

Mrs. Bryant is survived by her two children; Bonnie Boyd (Tommy) and Ricky Bryant all of Abbeville; four grandchildren, Kristy Boyd, Jennifer Fisher (Ben), Josh Bryant (Lacy) and Lauren Hudson (Justin); and ten great-grandchildren, Tyler, Zander, Ari, Jude, Eli, Jamie, Cannon, Rushton, Will and Jada.

Graveside services were

at 1:00 PM Tuesday, April 27, 2021 in Greenwood Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Dr. Dan Smyth, and Rev. John Butler officiating. Those that wish to pay their respects visited with Mrs. Bryant at Harris Funeral Home, Tuesday, April 27 from 10:00 AM until Noon.

The family is at the home of Mrs. Bryant on Old Vienna Road.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Mrs. Bryant, may be sent to Lebanon Presbyterian Church, 698 Mt. Carmel Rd., Abbeville, SC 29620.

A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral.com

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Abbeville is assisting the Bryant family.

CROSSWORD														
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Answers on back page

Aiken

Mrs. Patricia Maxine Wardlaw Aiken, 71, passed on Sunday, April 18, 2021 at Solaris Nursing Home, Plant City, FL. Born in Abbeville County, SC she was the daughter of the late James Wardlaw and Melrose Bowie Gordon. She was reared in the home of Zenobia Pearl Bowie of Virginia and the late J.W. Bowie. Patricia was retired from the U.S. Special Operations Command for the Federal Government. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Conray Aiken and three brothers, Cleveland Bowie, Henry Gordon and Eric Gordon.



Patricia Maxine Wardlaw Aiken

Patricia is survived by her daughter, Contrell (Avery) Jackson of Lakeland, FL; her son, Durril (Jessica) Aiken of Wesley Chapel, FL; two grandchildren; two

brothers, Dennis (Rochelle) Gordon and Tyrone Gordon of Youngstown, OH; one sister, Diane Gordon of Youngstown, OH and other relatives that will miss her dearly.

Graveside services will be 12 noon, Saturday, May 1, 2021 at St. Mary AME Church, Mt. Carmel, SC. Mask wearing and social distancing will be observed during service. Public viewing will be held on Friday from 1-7pm at Richie Funeral Home. Service entrusted to Richie Funeral Home, Inc.

Sparks

Winston Douglas "Doug" Sparks, 79, widower of Essie Blanchett Sparks passed away Friday April 23, 2021 at Self Regional Medical Center in Greenwood, SC.

Born in Abbeville County SC he was a son of the late John Rueben Sparks and Isabelle Davis Sparks.

Doug proudly served his country in the US Navy. He was a retired employee of Pirelli Cable with 20 years of service and Term-a-Flex Industries in shipping and receiving. Doug loved to work and maintain his yard. He was known for planting flowers in his neighbor's yards. He especially loved

spending time with his family and friends. He was a full-fledged Republican.

Survivors include: a daughter Yvonne Simpson (Kevin) of Abbeville, SC and a son Tim Sparks of Abbeville, SC; a sister Melinda Otto (Bruce) of Williamston, SC; four grandchildren A.J. Simpson, Jenna Sparks, Krystal Simpson and Candace Simpson; two great-grandchildren Ja'Kyia Sparks and Jordynn Sparks; a special companion Wilma Uldrick of Abbeville, SC.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday April 27, 2021 at 4:00 PM in the Chapel at Chandler-

Jackson Funeral Home. The burial followed in Warrenton Presbyterian Church Cemetery with Military Honors.

The family received friends Monday evening from 5 until 7:00 PM at the funeral home.

Memorials in memory of Doug may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Online condolences may be made to the Sparks family by visiting www.chandler-jacksonfh.com

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

Baker

Trevor Annette Martin Baker, died on April 26, 2021, at the age of 79, after a long, heart-breaking period of physical and mental decline inflicted on her by Alzheimer's disease.

She was preceded in death by her parents Wm Herbert Martin and Ruth Scott Martin; her siblings Venice Martin Shrimp and Carroll Erskel Martin and her in-laws LeRoy and Minnie Lee Baker.

Originally from Abbeville, South Carolina, Trevor is survived by her faithful husband of 63 years Charles Lindsay Baker; her children Lynn (Frank) Dempsey and Marty (Patty) Baker; her grandchildren Morgan (Chris) Brookhart, Stuart Baker, Sarah (Drew) Landrum, Meredith (Chris) Mayer, Frank Baker Dempsey and Samuel Baker; her great-grandchildren Summit, Finley, Forrest, Luke, Sheppard and those great-grandchildren yet to be born.

She is also survived by her brother Gerald (Patricia) Martin, her brother and sister-in-laws: Jennille, Harold, Miriam, Jimmy, Wesley,

Mary Sue, Rachel, Mary, Darrel, Juanita, Russell, Frankie and Sandy.

Trevor had a generous spirit, a sincere love of family and she touched countless lives with her gift of hospitality...always the first one to cook a meal for someone in need or host a church social at her home.

In her career, Trevor was a business leader and district manager for MetLife Insurance and an auditor for A&P Grocery Stores in the Southeast. She received countless awards and commendations during her years of service.

Trevor was a committed believer in Jesus Christ and in her lifetime, she used her gifts to volunteer at the Abbeville Pentecostal Holiness Church and Rice Memorial Baptist Church in Greenwood, SC.

She loved to travel and enjoy a good meal especially if dessert was included. She enjoyed her retirement years until she was stricken with Alzheimer's in 2007. Her husband, Lindsay, was by her side every day as she fought this dreaded disease.

The family has a deep appreciation for every caregiver at Affinis Hospice and Augusta Gardens Senior Living and Memory Care facility where she lived.

Today, we grieve her passing, but we are comforted by the fact that she has been completely healed and is in the presence of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The funeral service for Trevor Baker will be held at Stevens Creek Church in Augusta, Georgia on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 11:00 AM. Pastor Marty Baker will be leading the funeral service. The family will receive friends an hour before the service. She will be buried at Westover Memorial Park in Augusta, Georgia following the service.

Memorials or Donations in her name can be given to the Augusta Dream Center or the Church of God Home for Children in Simpsonville, SC.

Courtesy of Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: SESAME STREET

ACROSS

- Scarecrow stuffing
- Observe
- Kind of ski lift
- "Fear of Flying" author Jorg
- Madame Tussauds' medium
- Fervent
- Never say this?
- You to are is as thou to ____
- Skylit lobbies
- *It isn't easy "bein' green" for him
- *First bilingual Sesame Street puppet
- Flower precursor
- Rental on the links
- Rowing prop
- Banana remnant
- Besmear
- Poker variety
- Away from wind
- Like helium gas
- Coconut fiber
- Like an iPhone
- Singular of #33 Down
- Per _____, or yearly
- Guesstimate phrase, 2 words
- Raise, as in child
- Bob Marley's music
- TV classic "____ Make a Deal"
- Hi-_____ monitor
- Oscar Wilde's Dorian _____
- *Sesame Street's Meryl Sheep
- *Every starred clue in this puzzle
- *Self-described as lovable, cute and furry
- One born to Japanese immigrants
- Be in the red
- He had no cause?
- Thin mountain ridge
- Local area network
- Unmanned flyer
- Hospital statistics unit, pl.
- NaOH
- Church assembly

DOWN

- D.C. V.I.P.
- "Star _____"
- Either Gauche or Droite in Paris
- Like a lemon
- Beginning of a workout
- Special law enforcement unit, acr.
- Elephant's distinguished feature
- Uncredited actor
- Lake _____caca, South America
- *Ernie's roommate
- Divya's delivery
- Swedish shag rug
- "_____ your seatbelts"
- Think tank output
- Eyeball shape
- "I can see _____ now the rain has gone..."
- *Trash can dweller
- Be sorry for one's wickedness
- Repenting
- *He avoids pronouns and speaks in falsetto
- Gloomy
- More competent
- Arm bones
- *Mama, Papa, Baby and Curly
- Chemical cure
- Gaelic tongue
- Load carrier
- Crow's cousin
- Old English for before
- Arya Stark's Needle and Jedi's Lightsaber, e.g.
- Lagoon wall
- Each and all
- Bog down
- From a second-hand store
- Four-legged friends
- Autry or Wilder
- Jet black
- Nevada city
- Pick up, as in suspect
- Modus operandi
- Light-emitting diode

AHS baseball

Panthers come in second in their Region

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville High School baseball team clinched second place in its Region, after playing Crescent twice last week and losing both games to the Tigers, according to AHS head baseball coach Nick Milford.

The first game was on Tuesday, April 20 at Crescent.

"We lost 8-7," he said. "It was a back and forth game. Tyler Overholt and Ty Price pitched well but the defense often could not find a way to get out of some innings. Crescent took advantage of the extra opportunities and came out on top. Jackson Uldrick led Abbeville hitters

by going 2-3 with two doubles and two RBI's. Tyler Overholt also hit a 2 run homer in the 7th to cut into the lead."

The Panthers hosted the Tigers on Friday, April 23.

"We lost 11-10. The Panthers offense scattered 14 hits and 10 runs but again came up short as the game went into extra innings. Crescent did all of their scoring in two innings. They scored five in the 4th and six in the 8th. The Panthers were down six runs going into the bottom of the eighth and managed to battle back and come up just short in the end.

Leading hitters for the

Panthers were Evan Sellars (3-4), Taylor Scott (3-4), Tyler Overholt (2-4), and Trent Delgado (2-4).

"With Crescent taking two games, they have clinched first place and we will be finishing second," said Milford.

"That will put us on the road in the playoffs," he continued. "With the season being extended due to Covid, we still have three weeks of regular season games before we start the playoffs.

This week, the Panthers were slated to travel to Clinton yesterday, and travel to Liberty on Friday for a 6:30 p.m. game.



In a recent signing ceremony at Dixie, Dixie High School student-athlete Caleb Simpson committed to play baseball at USC-Union. The signing ceremony included (from left, seated) father Corey Simpson, Caleb Simpson, mother Ally Simpson (standing, from left) Dixie athletic director Vic Lollis, Dixie head baseball coach Jimmy Prince, Dixie principal Paul Prescott, sister Amy Simpson and assistant principal Brian Milford. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

AHS softball secures berth in playoffs

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville High School varsity softball team has secured a berth in the playoffs, according to an AHS softball source.

The Lady Panthers defeated Liberty 16-2 Friday at Liberty, picking up an important Region win.

Reghan Steifle pitched for the Lady Panthers, and she was the winning pitcher in

the game.

AHS lost to Ninety Six 9-4 on April 13, and on April 19, AHS lost to Crescent at Crescent 8-2. The Lady Tigers have won the Region.

AHS will play at Batesburg-Leesville tonight--April 28--with junior varsity action beginning at 5 p.m. and varsity at 7 p.m.

The Lady Panthers will

host Pickens Friday night with JV action at 5:30 p.m. and varsity action slated at 7 p.m.

Both games will be non-Region contests. The Lady Panthers, who have completed their Region play, will be an at-large team in the playoffs, with the date of the opening game to be announced.

Two from Dixie have signing ceremonies

By Henry E. Green

Two Dixie High School student-athletes committed Wednesday to playing sports at the college level.

Surrounded by friends, coaches and family, Jesse Ellis and Caleb Simpson had signing ceremonies Wednesday in the Dixie High School media center.

All State and All Region, Caleb is signing to play baseball with the USC-Union Bantams. A first baseman with the Dixie Hornet varsity baseball team, Simpson is a force of

nature at the plate, where he is currently batting .469, with two home runs and 15 RBI, according to Hornet baseball coach Jimmy Prince.

"He's been huge for us for the past four or five years," said Prince. "He works hard. We're going to miss him."

The Hornets at press time were 5-2 in the Region, where they were third in the Region standings.

Caleb likes the small-town ambience of Union. "It's just like here," he said.

Jesse, meanwhile, is committing to play volleyball at

Carolina University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Ellis has played volleyball on the club level, and with the signing he is taking his game to the next level.

His mother Mickie Ellis, a highly successful volleyball coach at Dixie before she retired, has been coaching Jesse, helping him to hone his skills in volleyball.

Dixie High School principal Paul Prescott noted that both young men excel not only in athletics but in academics as well.

Dixie softball team doing well in Region

By Henry E. Green

The Dixie High School varsity softball team appears to be in very good shape in Region play, according to Lady Hornet head coach Ben Snipes.

"We only played one varsity game last week," he said Monday. "We defeated Southside Christian. 26-1 to improve to 8-1 in our region and 12-3 overall."

The game that was sched-

uled for last Thursday against Ware Shoals was postponed until May 10th.

"We are currently in first place in the Region with three Region games remaining," Snipes continued. "We play at Whitmire on Tuesday and a win secures at least a second place region finish."

Snipes sees much to be pleased about in terms of his team's performance so far.

"We have been playing well defensively," he said. "Sophomore Mati Cox and junior Gillian Hughes have both pitched well up to this point. We have been led offensively by Weslyn Benschel, Ashton Crocker, Mati Cox, Makinsie Ware and Alana Mitchell.

Playoffs will begin on Saturday May 15th, said Snipes.



In a recent signing ceremony at Dixie, Dixie High School student-athlete Jesse Ellis committed to play volleyball at Carolina University in North Carolina. The signing ceremony included (seated, from left) mother Mickie Ellis, Jesse Ellis (standing, from left) Dixie athletic director Vic Lollis, principal Paul Prescott, and assistant principal Brian Milford. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Erskine Men's Soccer, Fleet cruise past King 2-0, advance to Conference Carolinas

Submitted by Erskine Athletic Department

DUE WEST, S.C. – The Erskine College men's soccer team (7-0, 6-0 CC) stayed perfect and topped Pool A opponent King University (2-6-1, 2-4-1 CC) by a score of 2-0 to advance to next weekend's Conference Carolinas Tournament semifinals. Dennis Cole gave the Fleet a lead inside the first minute and scored again in the second half to seal an Erskine win on Sunday afternoon.

The Fleet have now won five straight against the Tornado and lead the all-time series, 6-2-1.

After an 18-day layoff without a match, Erskine came flying out of the gates and were immediately rewarded. Just 43 seconds in to the match, Diego Acuna won back possession in the Fleet's attacking third and played in Carlos Portas, who rolled a ball across the frame of the King goal where Dennis Cole was waiting

at the first post for a tap in as the Fleet jumped out to a 1-0 lead inside the first minute. Erskine continued to dominate the match in the first half, tallying 13 shots and 11 corner kicks in the opening period, but were unable to find a second goal as they had to settle for just a 1-0 halftime lead. But, the second half was more of the same for Erskine and Cole eventually doubled the Fleet lead. In the 56th minute, Isaac White played the ball into the feet of Emil Strengegen right on top of the box, who laid it off perfectly into the path of Cole, and the senior forward poked it under the King goalkeeper to extend the Fleet's lead to 2-0. Moments after the goal, the Tornado had their biggest chance of the match, but a solid save from Evan Zizek ensured his sixth clean sheet of the season and a 2-0 win for Erskine as they were the victors of Pool A and sealed a spot in next weekend's Conference Carolinas Tournament semifinals in Florence.

Dennis Cole had a team-high seven shots and scored both of Erskine's goals in their win over King.

The Fleet dominated the Tornado, outshooting eight-seeded King 28 to four, and had 12 shots on target to the Tornado's two. The Fleet also had all 17 corner kicks in the match.

Erskine advances to the Conference Carolinas Tournament Semifinals and will play the winner of Belmont Abbey and North Greenville's pool on Friday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. in Florence, S.C.

The Fleet earned 1-0 home wins over both of the Crusaders in the regular season behind match-winning goals from Isaac White in both games.

MORE ABOUT THE ERSKINE COLLEGE FLYING FLEET

Visit the Official Home of Erskine Athletics at www.erskinesports.com

Follow us on Social Media – Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | YouTube | Photos

JOB OPENINGS

The City of Abbeville is Hiring!

Please visit <https://www.abbevillecitysc.com/153/Human-Resources> for more information and to apply online.

Public Works Director

Opera House & Event Staff

Grounds Maintenance Technician

Facilities Maintenance Technician

Great benefit package including retirement, 401k, health, life, vision, prescription and supplemental insurance with accrual of time-off, up to 13 days in first fiscal year of employment.

Ask about our employee referral incentive!



A prom-going pooch? Why not? Lollipop, seen here on the grounds of the Burt-Stark Mansion in Abbeville on the afternoon of Saturday, April 17, before the AHS prom, was all decked out in finery as she was being watched over, off camera, by Dr. Tiffany Freese. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Community calendar

Guild plans workshop
The Abbeville Artist Guild is sponsoring a Paper Making Workshop on Saturday, May 22, 2021.
Cecily Ferguson will be the instructor for the workshop, which will be held at the Abbeville Civic Center from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.
The cost is \$35.00 for non-AAG members and is \$25.00 for AAG members. Bring your lunch, the guild will not provide snacks due to COVID.
Email the guild to register at abbevilleartistguild@gmail.com or call Jane Agan at 366/5881.

GLEAMNS to hold public meeting
GLEAMNS Human Resources Commission will hold a public meeting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 19, at the Abbeville GLEAMNS Head Start Center at 706 Carolina Circler in Abbeville.
The purpose will be to elect a representative from Abbeville County to serve on the GLEAMNS Board of Commissioners.
The person elected should

be from the low-income population of Abbeville County or a representative of the same.
Measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus will be required during the election process.
These measures include hand sanitizing, temperature checks, face coverings while inside the facility and physical distancing of six feet or more.
For more information one may call Shunna V. Jeter of GLEAMNS at 864-229-8801.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ABBEVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS 6PM -- May 18, 2021 COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX, ABBEVILLE

The Abbeville County Board of Zoning Appeals as authorized by the Zoning Ordinance of Abbeville County, SC will hold a public hearing at 6pm on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, in Council Chambers, 903 W. Greenwood St., on the following appeal:

Request by Eddie Moore, Jr. of 1347 Secession Ave. Ext., Abbeville, SC 29620 for a zoning variance to allow subdivision of his property creating a new lot which is less than the two acres required for new lots in the Forest Agricultural zoning district where the parcel is located. The proposed new parcel would contain the residence located at 1343 Secession Ave. Ext. and is a portion of TMS# 122-00-00-067.

Documents related to the above appeal are available for public inspection in the office of the Planner/Zoning Administrator at the County Administrative Complex, 903 W. Greenwood St., Abbeville, SC 29620.

4/28;11c

Letters

To Whom it may concern:

It was with great chagrin (and not a little schadenfreude) that I read this week's Press and Banner. Despite my repeated exhortations before the city council, despite my pleas to the planning commission, despite my harangues to the zoning board, despite my billboard on 72 (ostensibly to raise awareness of the threat facing our fair County, should the local government fail to do so), the bats have come.
They called me mad when I begged that anti-bat cannons be installed on the rooftops of every public

building. The bean-counting powers that be pooch-pooched the sorry state of our town's paltry air defenses and now it is too late. Reckoning has come to Abbeville on leathery, obnoxious wings. The anemic, stopgap measures taken to shore up our Chamber of Commerce will merely lull us into an apathetic stupor and buy the bats precious time to regroup and refine their tactics.
For a modest 19.2% property tax hike, we could enjoy the security of remote anti-bat countermeasures like those currently protecting the citizenry of Syracuse and Port au Prince.

Do your children deserve any less? When the bats come for them (and come they will) with glistening fangs and bloodlust in their beady eyes, will you turn impotently to your son or daughter and meekly apologize?
"I'm sorry, dear child, for my short-sightedness; I was warned of the winged ones who come in the night, but did nothing."
Bitter words, indeed. Don't let this be you. Vote to fund the anti-bat cannon initiative, won't you?
Yours in Christ,
Hiram Shandy

Legals

Master in Equity's Sale 2020-CP-01-00184

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: U.S. Bank Trust National Association as Trustee of American Homeowner Preservation Trust Series 2015A+ against Estate of Mary M. Hagood, et al, I, the undersigned Master in Equity for Abbeville County, will sell on May 3, 2021 at 2:00 PM, Abbeville County Courthouse, 102 Court Square, Abbeville, SC, 29620, to the highest bidder:

The following described property located in the County of Abbeville, State of South Carolina:

A Lot of land, together with a dwelling house and other improvements thereon, situate in the Town of Calhoun Falls, Abbeville County, South Carolina, fronting approximately 208 feet on the easterly side of Rice Street and extending back therefrom by the southern boundary line a depth of approximately 147 feet; and extending back from Rice Street by the northern boundary line a depth of approximately 191 feet, and having a width in the rear of approximately 207 feet.
Said lot of land is bounded as follows: north by Shirley Street; east by Herman Powell; south by Marion Hewett, Jr., and west by

Rice Street. This being the same property conveyed to Asberry T. Hagood and Mary M. Hagood for and during their joint lives with the right of survivorship by United States of America FHA by deed dated 10/21/1976 and recorded on 10/28/1976 in Book 123, Page 375, Abbeville County records, State of South Carolina.

Property Address: 318 Rice Street, Calhoun Falls, SC 29628
Parcel No. 153-16-04-029

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 purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at the time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at risk of the said highest bidder).

A personal or deficiency

judgment being waived by Plaintiff, the sale shall close on the Sales Day. Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's 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 8.928% per annum. SAVE AND EXCEPT ANY RELEASES, DEEDS OF RELEASE, OR PRIOR CONVEYANCES OF RECORD. SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENTS, 20-45512 COUNTY TAXES, EXISTING EASEMENTS, EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND OTHER SENIORENCUMBRANCES

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.

Roy R. Hemphill
Master in Equity for Abbeville County

Bell Carrington Price & Gregg, LLC
339 Heyward Street, 2nd Floor
Columbia, SC 29201
803-509-5078 / File # 20-45512
Attorney for the Plaintiff
4/14, 4/21, 4/28

NOTICE OF SALE

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: U.S. Bank National Association, as indenture trustee, for the CIM Trust 2016-2, Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2016-2 vs. April Denise McCoppin; Lendmark Financial Services; C/A No. 2019CP0100421, The following property will be sold on May 3, 2021, at 2:00 PM at the Abbeville County Courthouse to the highest bidder (as to deed book 111 at page 27)

All that lot or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Diamond Hill Township, Abbeville County, State of

South Carolina, containing 0.877 acres, more or less, and being bounded on the north by State Road S-1-34; on the east by lands of Frank Campbell; on the southeast by lands of Ellis Martin; and on the northwest by lands of Ellis Martin; being shown in detail on a plat by Hugh J. Martin dated June 14, 1969 which is recorded in plat book 17 at page 68. This land being a portion of the 60 acre tract conveyed to Ellis Martin by the heirs of T. J. Foster as set out in deed book 95 at page 52. Said deed being dated August 27, 1957.

(as to deed book 108 at page 613)

a lot of land, situate in

Diamond Hill Township, former school district no.27, Abbeville County, South Carolina, containing 0.478 acres, more or less, more particularly described as "Part B" on a plat thereof entitled "Lot of Land for J. W. McCoppin", made by Hugh J. Martin, RLS, dated May 1, 1970, recorded in the OCC for Abbeville County, South Carolina, in plat book 17 at page 226.

Said lot of land has a frontage of 104.78 feet along the center line of S. C. State Highway No. S-124 and is bounded as follows: bounded on the north by the center lines, of S. C. State Highway No. S-24; bounded on the east by a 0.877 acre tract of land owned by J. W.

McCoppin; and bounded on the south and west by lands owned by Ellis Martin.

Derivation: Book 342 at Page 430
740 Keowee Road, Iva, SC 29655

039-00-00-071
SUBJECT TO A S S E S S M E N T S , ABBEVILLE COUNTY AD VALOREM TAXES, EASEMENTS AND/OR, RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND OTHER SENIOR ENCUMBRANCES.

TERMS OF SALE: A 5% deposit in certified funds is required. The deposit will be applied towards the purchase price unless the

bidder defaults, in which case the deposit will be forfeited. If the successful bidder fails, or refuses, to make the required deposit, or comply with his bid within 30 days, then the property will be resold at his risk. No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 11.994% per annum. For complete terms of sale, see Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale filed with the Abbeville County Clerk of Court at C/A

#2019CP0100421.

NOTICE: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search prior to the foreclosure sale date.

John J. Hearn
Attorney for Plaintiff
Roy R. Hemphill
P.O. Box 100200
Master in Equity for Abbeville County
Columbia, SC 29202-3200
(803) 744-4444
011847-04624
Website: www.rogerstownsend.com
(see link to Resources/Foreclosure Sales)
4/14, 4/21, 4/28

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: Zonnie Pruitt
Date of Death: 06/16/2020
Case Number: 2021ES0100105
Personal Representative: Randy Pruitt
Address: 201 Julian Beatty Road Anderson, SC 29621
4/21;31c

Estate: John Lanier Crawford
Date of Death: 01/04/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100106
Personal Representative: Belinda S. Crawford
Address: 1294 McDill Road Abbeville, SC 29620
4/21;31c

Estate: Rosita A. Mitchell
Date of Death: 01/31/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100108
Personal Representative: William R. Mitchell
Address: 65 Hanover Ct Abbeville, SC 29620
4/21;31c

Estate: Darlene Margaret Vaughn
Date of Death: 11/26/2020
Case Number: 2021ES0100109
Personal Representative: Benjamin Earl Vaughn
Personal Representative: Kelsey Willey
Address: PO Box 313 Sullivans Island, SC 29482
4/28;31c

Estate: Benny Daniel Campbell, Sr.
Date of Death: 2/14/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100111
Personal Representative: Carolyn Campbell
Address: 104 Livingston St. Abbeville, SC 29620
4/28;31c



NOTICE OF APPLICATION
Notice is hereby given that Erica McCicer-Rayford aka Indigenous Underground 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 117 Trinity St., Abbeville, SC 29620. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than May 7, 2021.
For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) The name, address, and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) The specific reasons why the application should be denied; (3) That the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) That the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and, (5) The name of the applicant and the address of the business to be licensed.
Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL SECTION, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, SC 29214-0907; or faxed to: (803) 896-0110.
4/21;31c

AUCTIONS

VEHICLE AUCTION

One Chevy 1985 Monte Carlo (Titled to Aileen M. Bowers) that has been in storage for several years. This vehicle does not run and will be placed for public auction 30 days from the date of this ad. Contact information: Mr. Hayes at 211 Wilewood Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620
4/14;31p

ADVERTISE YOUR AUCTION in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 2.1 million readers. Call Randall Savely at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.
4/28;sw



Classifieds

JOB VACANCY

City of Abbeville, SC Public Works Director

The City of Abbeville is currently accepting applications for a Public Works Director. Under general supervision, manages, plans and supervises the activities of the Public Works Department including the divisions of streets, sanitation and supply, maintenance and construction. Plans and implements administrative systems and procedures for proficiency and cost efficiency. Competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Reports to the City Manager.

Duties of this position include, but are not limited to:

- Manages and implements administrative systems and procedures necessary in increasing production and reducing operating costs; ensures that the operations of the Public Works Department are conducted in an effective, efficient, and safe manner.
- Directs the activities of the street division, sanitation division, and supply, maintenance and construction division; oversees residential and commercial garbage collection, street, sidewalk and driveway repairs.
- Conducts a variety of personnel related functions including the supervision of departmental personnel including providing guidance and training, scheduling and coordinating work; recommends personnel procedures to the City Manager; maintains a cross training program for personnel assigned in or to the Public Works Department.

Qualifications:

- High school diploma with 8-10 years of construction experience, preferably an associate degree in Civil Engineering or a related discipline with 5-7 years of public works or related experience; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities.
- Must pass a thorough background investigation, pre-employment drug screen and physical examination
- Must possess a valid South Carolina commercial driver's license

How to apply: Submit a City of Abbeville application with references to Human Resources, PO Box 40, Abbeville, SC 29620. Applications are also available online at www.abbevillicitysc.com or at City Hall located in the Opera House.

Deadline to apply: Until position is filled.

The City of Abbeville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

4/21:2tc

GOLD/SILVER

Cash Paid for Gold and Silver - Silver coins 1964 and earlier. We also pay cash for Sterling Silverware. Call 864-378-7420.

7/4tfc

BUSINESS

Business for Sale - Aiken/N. Augusta. High income potential. Recoup investment in 2 years with existing clients. Owner financing available, 615-406-2605.

3/23tfc

HOUSE CLEANING

HOUSE CLEANING!

I will CLEAN your house and happy to pet sit too! Call 864-446-3676 & Leave Message.

6/6:tfp

Taking new clients for private sitting. Light housekeeping, meal preparation, running errands and personal care are available. 8 years of experience. References available. Please call and leave a message 864-378-0392

10/24:tfp

CARE GIVING

YOUR LOVED ONE'S CARE- If you are in need of someone to sit and help care for your loved one in need, please call 864-446-3676. References upon request.

8/2tfc

REAL ESTATE

FOR LEASE

For Lease - Warehouse space, 2200 sq. ft., located in Abbeville - \$400.00 per month. Call 366-2500.

11/25tfc

VACATION RENTALS

ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PROPERTY FOR RENT OR SALE to more than 2.1 million S.C. newspaper readers. Your 25-word classified ad will appear in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Call Randall Savely at the South Carolina Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

4/28:sw

FOR SALE

We Buy Houses and Land. Need to sell fast? Cash paid. 864-378-0308.

7/2:tfc

Land for sale on Lee St. in Calhoun Falls, Abbeville County 9-211 AC \$21,000 Wayman Coleman III (owner, seller) Call 864-379-1138 cell or 864-446-2885.

3/3:10tp



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6/5:52t

JOB VACANCY

REGISTER OF DEEDS ABBEVILLE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Prepare daily log of incoming legal documents, state and county documentary stamps and recording fees.

Mail resume and application to Shandal Boggs, Abbeville County, PO Box 99, Abbeville, S.C. 29620.

A full job description and application is available online at www.abbevillecountysc.com. Resumes/ applications will be accepted until filled.

The County of Abbeville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

4/28:1tc

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Serving Abbeville County & surrounding areas.

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10/16:tfc

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8/16:tfc

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Classifieds



HELP WANTED

DRIVERS

ADVERTISE YOUR DRIVER JOBS in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 2.1 million readers. Call Randall Savely at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

4/21;sw

CWS - Owner Operators CDL Class A. 1 year driving experience. Dedicated round trips paid weekly paid per mile, regular home time. Call 1-800-832-7036 ext 1626

4/21;sw

LOCAL

Need someone to put a clutch in a 1979 Chevy C30 Flatbed. Call 864-437-4105.

4/7;3tp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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4/21;sw

Tuesday, April 27, 2021 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Game: (SC1235) Bonus PayDay

4/21;sw

EDUCATION

TRAINONLINETODOMEDICAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 855-965-0799. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

4/14;sw

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4/21;sw



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4/21;sw

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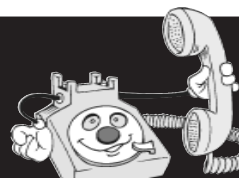
4/21;sw

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED VEHICLE/PUBLIC SALE

The following vehicle is subject to repair and/storage liens, and declared to be Abandoned pursuant to Section 56-5-5810, 56-5-5636 and 29-15-10 SC Code of Laws as Amended, and is in the custody of **Brian Clavette** of Iva, Abbeville County, SC 29655. **Phone: 303-618-5783**
2010 Jeep Cherokee VIN 1J4PR4GK9AC135863
Title Holder: Diana Santos 36 Fifty Acre Rd., Smithtown NY 11787
Lienholder: CCAP; Auto Lease; LTD. P.O. Box 961272 Ft Worth TX 76161

The owner/or lienholder may reclaim this vehicle within (15) fifteen days of this notice by paying to the custodian all charges authorized by law. The failure of the owner/lienholder to exercise their right to reclaim the vehicle within the time provided may be deemed a waiver of all right, title and interest in and to the vehicle and their consent to sale of the vehicle at public auction. Sale will take place at 11:00 AM at 120 Arrowhead Lane Iva, Abbeville County SC on the first Monday of the month following the expiration of thirty (30) days from the date of this notice.

4/28;1tc



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Abbeville County

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LIHEAP

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2/10;1fc

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SCDMV

REAL ID

Purchase before October 1, 2021!

Beginning October 1, 2021, you must have a REAL ID if you plan to board a plane or enter certain federal facilities.*

*You must have a reason to visit a military installation, and, even with a REAL ID, you may be subject to additional visitor control measures once on site.

What you need for a REAL ID:

- Proof of Identity (Birth Certificate or Valid US Passport)
- Social Security Number
- Two Proofs of Current, Physical SC Address
- Proof of all Legal Name Changes

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