



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

Chilling funnel cloud witnessed by many across the County

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County had a tornado scare Wednesday evening, but the County apparently dodged a bullet.

A tornado warning was issued for Abbeville County on Wednesday evening, about 6 p.m., by the National Weather Service, said Will Blackwell, Abbeville County emergency services director, Thursday.

He explained that the Service detected what was apparent wind rotation, something associated with tornadoes.

“Fortunately it did not touch down or cause any damage,” he went on to say. “It was a photogenic storm,” he went on to say.

A number of Abbeville County residents took pictures of what appeared to be a funnel cloud, and some of those photographs made their way to at least one area television station.

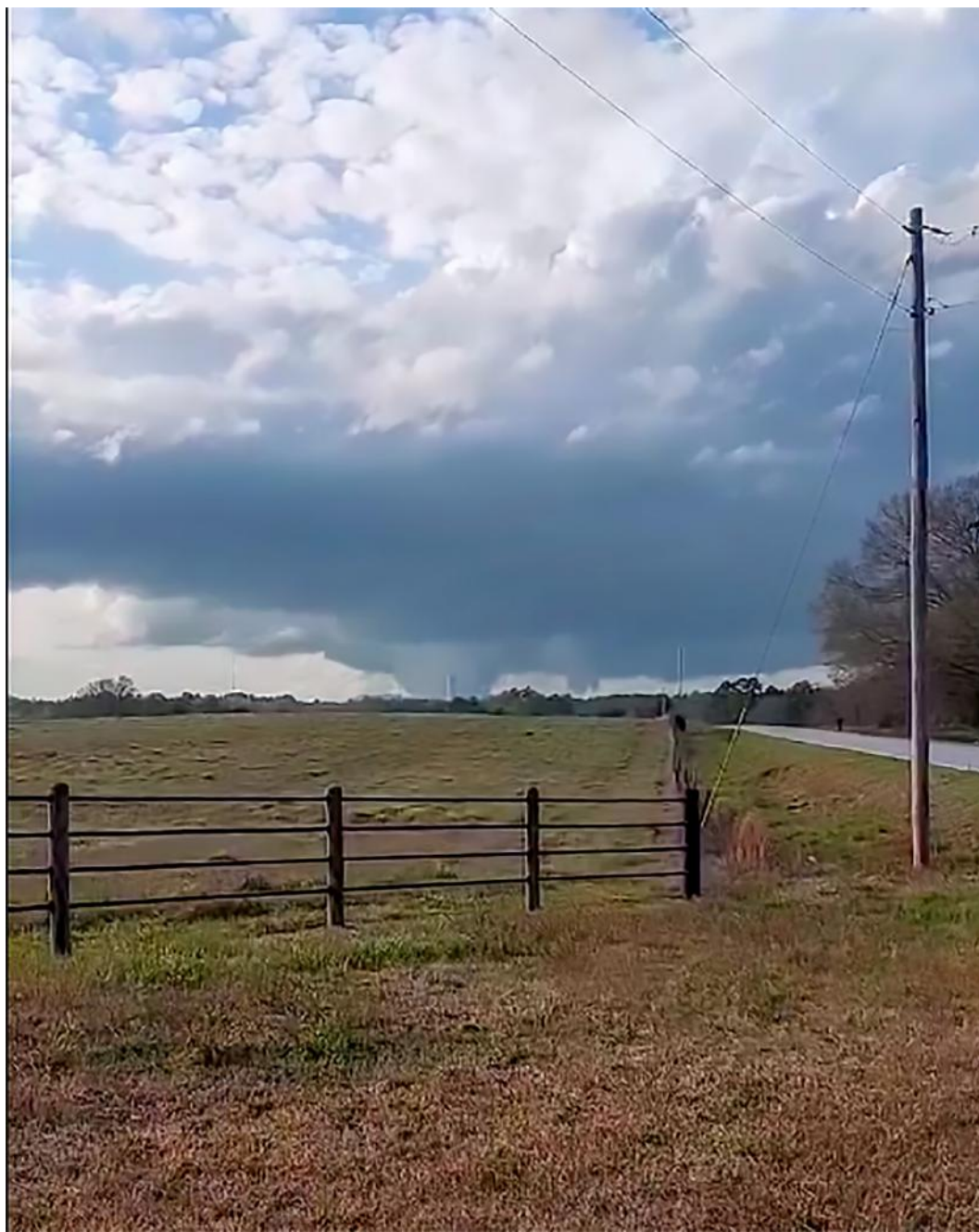
The storm system went from one end of the county to the other, from Calhoun Falls to Donalds, he said.

The warning, meanwhile, was lifted about 6:30 p.m.,

and while some residents before the warning was lifted saw the funnel cloud, others did not. Indeed, for many it continued to be a beautiful sunny day with mild temperatures.

“No injuries, no damage, no Dorothy or Toto,” said Blackwell humorously.

“It actually has to touch the ground for it to be classified as a tornado,” he added, noting that while there was a funnel cloud, it did not progress any further.



Abbeville County was under a tornado warning much of Wednesday evening. This photo of the funnel cloud was taken on Highway 28 south of Abbeville. The Pysmian tower can be seen in the distance. (Contributed photo)



Two Abbeville County Sheriff's Office deputies were recognized with an award from the South Carolina Sheriff's Association. During a brief ceremony at the Abbeville County Law Enforcement Center Monday, Benjamin Dockins (left) and Mark Davis (right) were presented by Abbeville County Sheriff Ray Watson with what Watson said is the Lifesaving Award from the Association. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Sheriff's Office makes arrest in home invasion

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County Sheriff's Office has made an arrest in connection with a home invasion in the Taylor Town neighborhood of Abbeville Wednesday.

Fifty seven year old Andre Charles Bridges of 120 Adams Drive, Abbeville, faces charges of burglary, first degree, criminal sexual conduct, first degree, kidnapping, and possession of weapon during the commission of a violent crime, according to Abbeville County Sheriff's Office Captain Matthew Graham.

Officers responded to a home in the Taylor Town neighborhood Wednesday morning about 8:15 a.m., according to Graham.

There, they spoke to the victim, who said that she had been attacked by a black male wearing a camouflage jacket and a blue bandanna, as part of a home invasion, according to Graham.

The man had broken in, assaulted her and then tied her up, but she was able to get free and call 911, according to Graham.

The deputies canvassed the area while investiga-

tors processed the scene, and the Abbeville County bloodhound tracking team searched the area where it was reported the suspect had fled on foot.

Wright Middle School, located within the vicinity of the house, was placed on lock-down “as a precautionary measure,” according to the Sheriff's Office Captain, who said the lock-down lasted less than an hour.

Bridges was arrested on March 25, and at press time was at the Abbeville County detention center.

AHS to have prom

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville High School will be having its prom Saturday night at the Livery Stable in downtown Abbeville. at 8 p.m., according to AHS athletic director Maggie Jameson, the prom coordinator.

About 200 people, including juniors and seniors and their guests, are expect-

ed to be on hand for the event. Featured will be a disc jockey and lots and lots of dancing. It is being presented by Abbeville High School.

Dixie had its prom this past weekend, and Calhoun Falls Charter will, according to information from the school, have its prom on Saturday, May 7, at a loca-

tion to be announced.

The high school prom, of course, is something of a rite of passage for teenagers.

In Abbeville, many young people bound for the AHS prom first have their pictures taken on Court Square or the grounds of the Burt Stark House before going on to the main event.

Vicious dog attack results in arrest of County resident

By Henry E. Green

A Honea Path man has been arrested in connection with a recent incident in which a woman was mauled by three dogs, an incident which has shocked the community.

Thirty six year Justin Lafayette Minor of Honea Path has been arrested in connection with the incident, according to a press release.

The victim has been identified as Kyleen Waltman, 38, of Honea Path,

Captain Tripp Crosby of the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office provided a press release last week on the incident, which has drawn considerable publicity.

On March 21, about 10:30 am, Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to a residence on Ball Road in Honea Path, within Abbeville County, in reference to a vicious dog attack.

Upon arrival, deputies made contact with the female victim, who was seriously injured about her body. Emergency responders arrived and immediately began giving treatment to the victim, who was ultimately air lifted to a medical facility.

According to witness statements, three dogs were seen mauling the female victim, and a witness was able to scare the dogs away from the victim to prevent further injury. Animal Control took pos-

session of the dogs, and an ongoing investigation of the incident is being conducted by the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office in conjunction with Abbeville County Animal Control.

Abbeville Animal Control immediately took possession of the dogs--two pit bulls and a mix breed--the day of the incident. Animal Control is in process with DHEC per procedures.

Subsequent to the investigation, the owner of the three dogs was identified as Justin L. Minor, and Minor has been arrested and charged with the following;

--Three counts of “Animals/ Penalty for Owner of Dangerous Animal Attacks”

--Animals/ Rabies Control Chapter Violation

--Animals/ Dangerous Animal Not Permitted Beyond Premises Unless Restrained

Incident report

The Press and Banner also obtained a copy of the incident report, in which the deputy responding to the incident said he had been warned, while en route to the incident, by dispatch that the injuries to the victim were severe.

The deputy arrived on the scene to witness the victim lying mucky in a ditch on Ball Road.

“As I exited my vehicle, I observed severe lacerations to the left side of her neck,” the report continued. “She then raised her right

arm and requested help. I then observed her right arm tricep was missing.”

EMS arrived and “immediately requested Life Flight, and the victim was airlifted to Greenville Hospital.”

The deputy spoke with a witness, who told him that he had been driving his tractor and hauling hay, and that he had witnessed three dogs mauling the victim.

The witness said he shouted at the dogs and two of them fled, but the third dog charged and barked at him before running off, and the witness then called 911.

“The owner of the dogs, identified as Justin Minor, then arrived,” the report continued. “He stated he was at work when he received the call about the attack. The incident occurred in the front of his residence. He stated the three dogs belonged to him.”

Upon being told that animal control was en route, “he stated they could take the dogs and put them down.”

The officer said he “did observe the residence to have several dogs roaming freely on the property. The property was open with no fence to secure or keep the dogs from wandering” past the property line.

Animal Control arrived and took possession of the dogs, the report continued.

Waltman has since had both arms amputated, according to reports.

'Scary and amazing' Cody Fields takes funnel-cloud video

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County Emergency Services director Will Blackwell called it a "photogenic" storm.

For Abbeville County resident Cody Fields, the tornado scare of March 23 was exactly that.

"I got some videos of it," said the Antreville-area resident Thursday

Fields remembers it well. "I was at my father-in-law's house," he said.

Fields was on Highway 28 North, looking back toward

Abbeville, near the Bell Road intersection.

He lives on Bell Road, off Highway 28, and his father in law lives in the Antreville-area as well.

Fields was out in the yard at the time, and he recalls how his wife remarked how the sky looked a little suspicious, as a portion of it had assumed a purplish color, while in other areas it was replete with sunshine.

That was when Fields saw the funnel cloud, and he took out his cell phone.

"Android," he said with a laugh. "That's the way to go."

The cloud appeared to be about three and a half to four miles away, and it appeared to be going counterclockwise.

There was no storm to follow. "All we got out of it was just wind," said Fields, who works in Abbeville with SCDOT.

"It was kind of scary and amazing at the same time," he said.



Abbeville County was under a tornado warning for a time on the evening of Wednesday, March 23. Cody Fields sent in this video of a funnel cloud. (Photo courtesy of Cody Fields)

Deputies recognized for recent heroism

By Henry E. Green

Two Abbeville County Sheriff's Office deputies were recognized with an award from the South Carolina Sheriff's Association.

During a brief ceremony at the Abbeville County Law Enforcement Center Monday, Benjamin Dockins and Mark Davis were presented by Abbeville County Sheriff Ray Watson with the Lifesaving Award from the Association. Each received a medal and a certificate.

It was all because an incident several weeks ago in which Dockins and Davis rushed into a burning house in Calhoun Falls and rescued an elderly man.

The two deputies were recognized at a recent Abbeville County Council meeting.

On Monday morning, Abbeville County Sheriff Ray Watson noted that the field of law enforcement in and of itself can be tough.

"You don't get thanked in

this job enough," he said. "We're proud of you."

According to the Sheriff's Office, American Legion Post 2 plans to honor the two law enforcement officers, as the man the officers saved is a veteran.

Post 2, based in Abbeville, plans to have a recognition program on Wednesday, April 20 at 6 p.m. at the Abbeville Veterans Foundation on Long Branch Street, according to Terry Greenfield, Post 2 Commander.



Abbeville Area Medical Center names Rod Boula as new Interim CEO. Rod Boula comes to AAMC with 37 years of senior executive leadership in healthcare and significant experience leading small community hospitals. (Photo contributed)

Abbeville Area Medical Center Names New Interim CEO

Submitted by
Meg Davis

Abbeville Area Medical Center's (AAMC) Board of Trustees has named Rod Boula as the hospital's new Interim Chief Executive Officer.

The announcement comes a month after Interim CEO Cindy Buck notified the Board of her intention to retire no later than May 26th of this year, sooner if a replacement is found. Mr. Boula will assume leadership responsibilities beginning April 4th.

Buck, who began as Interim CEO in July 2020, helped AAMC navigate the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. During her tenure, she was instrumental in making many equipment and facility improvements, strengthening the hospital's financial position and expanding the organization's quality program.

Buck has also implemented new programs including chronic care management as well as pain management and hospice, which will both begin to accept patients in the coming months.

"I have loved my time at

AAMC and believe that over the past 19 months we have accomplished many great things," stated Buck. "It is obvious by the service the staff provides that they care deeply for every patient and family they serve. I am proud to say that I've been a part of the AAMC family, even if for only a short time."

Rod Boula comes to AAMC with 37 years of senior executive leadership in healthcare and significant experience leading small community hospitals. Most recently, Boula spent five years as CEO of Calais Regional Hospital in Calais, Maine, which includes a 25-bed hospital, three primary care health clinics and a home health agency. Previously he spent twelve years as CEO of the 25-bed Elizabethtown Community Hospital in New York.

Both Boula and the hospitals he has led have received many prestigious healthcare awards and recognitions. He also served in the US Army, receiving military honors for leadership and recognition for going above and beyond the call of duty.

"We can't thank Cindy

enough for her dedication and service during these uncertain times and wish her well in her retirement. Her leadership has had a positive impact on our staff and community and has positioned our hospital for a successful future," stated Gene Pruitt, Chairman of AAMC's Board of Trustees. "We look forward to welcoming Mr. Boula to the AAMC family. He is a proven and results-oriented leader in the healthcare industry, and we are confident he will continue to focus on our hospital's success and vision for the future."

"I'm honored and excited to have been selected as the new Interim CEO of Abbeville Area Medical Center. I look forward to working with a strategically focused Board of Directors, talented Medical Staff, strong leadership team, and devoted and caring staff," stated Boula.

"I applaud Cindy for her many accomplishments at AAMC during her short tenure, especially over such a challenging and stressful period of COVID-19."

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Scholarship honors life of Stan Keaton

By Henry E. Green

A scholarship has been established in honor of Stan Keaton, who taught for many years in the Abbeville County School District, and during his 30 year career as an educator he won the respect and admiration of generations of students.

The Stan Keaton Agricultural Scholarship is a scholarship program sponsored by the Abbeville County Forest Landowners Association, the Abbeville Soil and Water Conservation District, and the West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative.

A lifelong resident of Abbeville County, Keaton attended Boys High in Anderson, and graduated from what was then Clemson College with a degree in Agronomy and Agricultural Education, and received a masters degree from Western Carolina University.

He had a 30 year career in the Abbeville County School District, where he taught agriculture, directed the Career Center, and served as Director of Personnel, Maintenance and Facilities.

Throughout his career, he was active in the FFA, leading student teams to

state championships in Parliamentary Procedure, Public Speaking, Livestock Judging, and Agriculture Mechanics.

Keaton was Teacher of the Year at Abbeville High School in 1973, and the yearbook was dedicated to him.

Active in the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Forest Landowners, he also served 19 years as the Antreville area director on the West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative Board of Directors, and when he retired, he was elected to the status of Board Member Emeritus.

"In teaching he went beyond teaching to caring in such a way that his students went from learning as a requirement to learning as a foundation for character, leadership, stewardship, love for the land, and all its aspects and including respect for all persons."

The scholarship is for \$1,000 a year for four years, and the scholarship recipient must have a GPA of at least 2.5, and must be a resident of Abbeville County, McCormick County or the attendance area of District

3 of Anderson County.

Fred Raines is a former student of Stan Keaton, and studied under him from 1967 through 1969.

Raines learned about agriculture from Keaton, in a format that included both classroom work and hands-on projects.

"He even helped me electrically wire a building," Raines said.

"He was always fair," he went on to say. "While he was stern in his nature, he made his class interesting, and he 'liked to have fun from time to time,'" Raines said.

His students looked up to him. "Hardly ever were there any discipline problems," he said. "He was a friend to us as well."

A love for agriculture, a love for young people-- "those things brought him pleasure," said Raines.

The former student became an agriculture teacher himself, and Keaton continued to be a mentor.

"He was the one that told me about a job opening in Calhoun Falls," Raines recalled.



A scholarship has been established in honor of Stan Keaton, who had a long and distinguished career as an educator in the Abbeville County School District. (Contributed photo)

Police make arrest in Abbeville shooting

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Police Department has made an arrest in connection with a recent shooting on Haigler Street, said Dwane Balchin, an investigator with the Abbeville Police Department.

On March 23, 2022 Investigators with the Abbeville City Police Department arrested 35 year old Eugene Anthony Slappy of 600

Haigler Street, Apartment 905 in connection with a shooting incident that occurred at 600 Haigler St on March 18, 2022, according to the Abbeville Police Department.

Slappy was charged with attempted murder and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime, according to the Police Department.

The arrest was made after Police officers responded about 8 a.m. Friday, March 18, to an apartment at 600 Haigler Street,

"Upon arrival, officers found a male who had suffered a gunshot wound to the leg, and the wounded man was flown by helicopter to a nearby medical facility," Balchin has said.

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Melissa Cowart (left), founder of Red Gate Realty in Abbeville, won best table topics speaker several weeks in a row at Greater Greenwood Toastmasters meetings. Here she is posing with club president Len Young of Young's Concrete. (Photo contributed by Anne Flint)

Toast, anyone?

by Amanda Smith

What, pray tell, is a Toastmaster?

Is it someone who has perfected the art of making toast in a toaster?

Or is it a group of people who get together and toast each other with glasses of champagne in the early morning?

Some certainly have strange ideas about Toastmasters and those ideas have permeated our culture, leading to some odd (yet funny) misconceptions about this internationally known group of public speakers and confidence builders.

The Greater Greenwood Toastmasters Group #9475 is the closest Toastmasters club to Abbeville, and it is full of supportive individuals that enjoy speaking, fellowship, and fun.

Billy Baer, current vice president and public relations director of the organization, has been in Toastmasters since 1999.

"I'm in the sales profession, so having the confidence to speak and develop leadership skills are vitally important as a Realtor," Baer said.

Melissa Cowart of Abbeville, SC, is also a Realtor, and she recently joined as a new member. Part of a new membership includes giving an ice-breaker speech in front of the Toastmasters audience. Cowart broke the ice on the morning of Thursday, March 24.

The founder and owner of Red Gate Realty in Abbeville

began her speech with an anecdote about Roger Banister, a medical student who achieved an impossible feat: running a mile in under four minutes. Prior to that, Cowart explained, the medical world thought that was an impossibility. They believed that one's heart would explode.

"On April of 1954, Banister achieved the impossible and ran a mile in three minutes and 59.4 seconds. He flipped a switch for the world. Word spread that the impossible had happened, and within four years, 20 people achieved the under four minute mile."

Cowart drew a comparison to her own life, where she told the audience she had put up personal barriers that she set and believed.

"I have set forward in life a mission of whenever I realize a barrier that I've put in place or somebody else has put in place, I start to look for how to break that," Cowart continued.

"That's one of the reasons I'm here in Toastmasters," she said. "This is very uncomfortable for me. Sharing my story feels impossible but I'm here to achieve that and I want to share with other people that you can too."

You may just have the opportunity.

Greenwood Toastmasters is having an upcoming career development night on March 31 at 6:15 p.m. at the Family Life Center located at the South Main Baptist Church. Attendees will learn about

the need for leaders and speakers, encounter testimonials from past members, be introduced to table topics (impromptu speeches given at every Toastmasters meeting), and be presented with general information about the club.

Baer joined the club in 1999 (six years after the Greenwood club was originally founded by Mike Dorn and another gentleman) and encourages people from all walks of life to attend, especially those who are in leadership positions.

"What Toastmasters will do will be to open up doors," Baer said. "When opportunities in life knock and that door is in front of you, you will walk through that door, because of Toastmasters, with the confidence that you can do that job."

"If you're looking to improve your skills and be more confident in whatever profession you choose, this group is for you. Right now we're in an age of cell phone technology and sometimes it's easier to send a text to someone than to actually speak to them. There will always be a great need for communicators and the people who have those skills are going to be the next generation of leaders," he said.

To learn more about Greater Greenwood Toastmasters, go to www.greenwoodtoastmasters.com or visit the Facebook page www.facebook.com/GreenwoodToastmasters

CROSSWORD

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Abbeville Lions and friends recently had a clean up for the segment of Highway 28 ByPass the Lions have adopted. (Front row, from left to right): Aaron Boyd, Ethel McCier, Catherine Gray, Lion President Sandi Hood (Second row): Lion Rick Pressly, Lion J. J. Jackson, Lewis Tucker, Lion Clayton Swalstad, and Lion Lanny McKay. Absent from the photo are Carolyn Tate, Rodney Lewis and Lion Henry Green. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Local firefighters fight brush fire

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County firefighters fought and contained a brush fire Tuesday afternoon on Long Cane AME Church Road near Gray Rock Estates, according to Abbeville County Fire Marshal Tim Williams.

The call came in around 12:39 p.m., and depart-

ments responding included Long Cane, Sharon, and Cold Spring, Williams said.

About 18 firefighters fought the blaze, bringing it under control in about 30 minutes, Williams continued.

No injuries were reported. Some brush was being burned, "and the wind spread it rapidly," he said.

The weather is very dry, and wind gusts are very strong, and people burning outdoors need to be careful.

They need to be sure to get burn permits from the South Carolina Forestry Commission, he said.

For more information about burning yard debris, one may call 1-800-895-7056.

Voter registration office recruits workers

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County voter registration and elections office is still recruiting poll workers for the May 17 School District referendum, and the primaries slated for June 14, according to Randy Curtis, Abbeville County voter registration and elections director.

Poll workers would be assisting and processing voters at the polls from 7

a.m. to 7 p.m. on the day of the election, Curtis said.

That includes checking the photo ID of a possible voter. "We verify them through a voter registration list, and then direct them to a ballot marking device," he said.

Poll workers attend a training session prior to the election. "They're paid \$60 for training and \$75 for working the election," he said. "And anyone inter-

ested can contact the voter registration office."

To be a poll worker, one must be a registered voter. Anyone 16 or 17 can apply to be a poll worker assistant.

The voter registration office begins training 30 days prior to the election.

Each poll worker receives about two hours of training, Curtis continued.

- STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**
THEME: GARDENING
- ACROSS**
1. Betting probability
 5. Once headed by J. Edgar Hoover
 8. Formally surrender
 12. Gravy holder
 13. Nile dweller, for short
 14. More certain
 15. Tiny bit
 16. a.k.a. Bruce Banner
 17. One who plies one's trade
 18. "Days to _____," on a seed packet
 20. Big-ticket _____
 21. Apartments, e.g.
 22. *Plumerias are often used in this Hawaiian greeting
 23. Scrooge's visitors
 26. Digging into
 30. What Carl Lewis did
 31. Bestow
 34. Month before Nisan
 35. Dress with a flare
 37. Cholera
 38. On a store tag
 39. Central points
 40. Paul Reubens' Herman
 42. Mother lode stuff
 43. African bloodsucking pests
 45. Salty dogs
 47. Current tense of #30 Across
 48. Retches
 50. Bovine cries
 52. *Like an aggressive weed
 55. Frustration, in a comic book
 56. *Holds a plant stem to a support
 57. Type of hot sandwich
 59. One born to Japanese immigrants
 60. Urban legends, e.g.
 61. Check out
 62. Shakespeare's "at another time"
 63. "The _____ Who Loved Me"
 64. *Flower's location after a garden?

- DOWN**
1. Kimono closer
 2. Banish to Hades
 3. Crunched numbers
 4. Facebook's update feature
 5. *Seed plant's harvest
 6. *Goes to seed
 7. Rotten and stinky
 8. *Plant variety
 9. Famous canal
 10. Hold as a conviction
 11. Make a blunder
 13. Church service oil
 14. Salesman's speech, e.g.
 19. Loosen laces
 22. Tennis do-over
 23. *Splice, to a gardener
 24. Nimbi on ikons
 25. In the cooler (2 words)
 26. Former Saint Brees
 27. "Pulling my leg," e.g.
 28. Mother-of-pearl
 29. *Kind of thumb
 32. Pizzeria output, pl.
 33. "_____ you kidding?"
 36. *N in N-P-K
 38. Sneaked glances
 40. Slammer
 41. "The Shawshank Redemption" theme
 44. Served raw
 46. Isaac of science fiction
 48. This Dogg can rap
 49. What Elton John tickles, sing.
 50. Street in Anytown, USA
 51. Guesstimate phrase (two words)
 52. Bodily disorders
 53. Lope de _____, Spanish playwright
 54. Building extensions
 55. Nurses' org.
 58. _____ time in golf

Kaleidoscope

Musicians, wrestlers, future business leaders among Gold Star honorees

By Henry E. Green

The Gold Star Highlights segment at last week's school board meeting provided recognition of a wide variety of achievements among students, staff, and teachers in the Abbeville County School District.

Assistant Superintendent Lori Brewton supplied to The Press and Banner information on those honored, ranging from wrestlers to future business leaders to musicians.

Those recognized included Dixie High School students Isabella Qualls, Weston Reid, and Kate Hannah—all named All State band members. They are all under the direction of Dixie High School band director Tyler Black.

Abbeville High School students were honored as well, for their performances at a Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Competitive Events Tournament/District Leadership Conference. Felicia Adams is the

FBLA sponsor at Abbeville High School.

The students included Audrey McCurry, who received first place in Business Management; Gage Evans, who won first place in Business Management; Emma Horne, who received first place in Introduction to Event Planning, and Ziya Watt, who was awarded first place in Introduction to Event Planning.

An athlete was recognized as well. AHS wrestler Addison Nickles was recognized for having won the 2021-22 state championship in wrestling for Class AA in the 195-pound classification. The AHS wrestling coach is Bill Glace.

The School District's school cafeteria managers were recognized for all having received an A status on the DHEC semi-annual inspections.

They included Cynthia Cutter of Abbeville High School; Donna Gambrell of Cherokee Trail Elementary

School, Jennifer Maxwell of Diamond Hill Elementary, Angie Latimer of Dixie High School, Sherry Auten of John C. Calhoun Elementary, Lori Noblin of Long Cane Primary, Sue White of Westwood Elementary, and Stacy Ashley of Wright Middle.

Cherokee Trail Elementary School teacher Jennifer Hines was selected as a South Carolina finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching,

Wright Middle School teacher Renee McCaslan has been awarded a grant of \$2,500 for "Growing in South Carolina: The future of STEAM is here."

Brewton announced the honorees during Gold Star Highlights segment, and those present were recognized by Brewton, Superintendent Dr. Mason Gary, and board chairman Brad Evans.



During the Gold Star Highlights segment of the March 22 school board meeting, the School District's school cafeteria managers were recognized for all having received an A status on the DHEC semi-annual inspections. They included Cynthia Cutter of Abbeville High School, Donna Gambrell of Cherokee Trail Elementary School, Jennifer Maxwell of Diamond Hill Elementary, Angie Latimer of Dixie High School, Sherry Auten of John C. Calhoun Elementary, Lori Noblin of Long Cane Primary, Sue White of Westwood Elementary, and Stacy Ashley of Wright Middle. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Golden spoon

Abbevillian Kim London wins grand prize in TV cooking contest

By Henry E. Green

"I'm the kind of person who never wins anything," Kim London will tell you.

Things may definitely be changing for the Abbeville resident, though.

She recently appeared on TV in connection with her talents as a cook.

Kim explained that WS-PA-TV, Channel 7, has a morning program called Your Carolina, to which people may submit their original recipes.

The best recipes are chosen for a sort of cook-off, in which four finalists go

on TV and cook the dishes described by their highly regarded recipes.

The grand prize winner is chosen by a drawing, and Kim's name was drawn, making her the overall winner.

As the grand prize winner, she won a brand new LG oven, supplied by Burnett's Appliances, and as a finalist she received \$250, from Ingles.

Her prize-winning dish was one of pasta. "It's a ravioli dish," she said. Seasoned with mushrooms, onions, spinach and chicken, it fea-

tures a homemade alfredo sauce.

Kim has her daughter Erin to thank, as it was Erin who encouraged her to enter the contest.

"I wasn't nervous," Kim said of her time on TV. Indeed, it may have been a natural progression.

"I love to cook," she said. "That's my hobby. I enjoy it."

Kim was scheduled to be on television last week to be recognized as the grand prize winner.


"I'm very happy," she said.



Abbevillian Kim London (second from left) recently won a cooking prize offered on a television show on Channel 7. She was accompanied by her husband Richard (far left). (Contributed photo)

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Third District Congressman Jeff Duncan visited Abbeville Friday, meeting with first responders and law enforcement, in appreciation of the job they do for the community. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Duncan meets with first responders

By Henry E. Green

Third District Congressman Jeff Duncan visited Abbeville Friday, meeting with first responders and law enforcement, in appreciation of the job they do for the community. “Thank you for what you do,” the Congressman told the first responders.

Duncan met with them at the Abbeville County Administrative Complex, where approximately 20 first responders assembled.

The first responders included state troopers, local fire fighters, members of the Abbeville County Sheriff’s Office and Abbeville Police Department, and Abbeville County E-911, just to name a few.

These first responders discussed with the Congressman various needs that they have, and the Congressman

listened.

Fire fighters in rural communities need to be able to compete for grant funding on a level with those of urban areas, Abbeville County Fire Marshal Tim Williams.

The effort to get more in the way of grants is hampered by the lack of a full-time grant writer for Abbeville County fire fighters.

So often large grants go to communities such as Myrtle Beach, according to Williams, who noted that so many of the fire trucks used by Abbeville County fire fighters are aging and need to be replaced.

“We need to figure out a priority for rural areas,” said Duncan, whose Third Congressional District takes in 11 counties, including Abbeville.

The Congressman called on fire fighters to work with state legislators to acquire more

funding, and he noted that rural communities throughout much of the state face the same problem of having to battle for funding..

Ashtan Voyles, a dispatcher with Abbeville County E-911, noted that keeping Abbeville County dispatchers from moving on is a priority, especially since places such as Anderson offer more money. The top pay a dispatcher will receive in Abbeville County will be at the bottom in Anderson, Voyles said.

The visit to Abbeville was part of a larger excursion where Duncan met with first responders and law enforcement from a number of communities in his district.

Duncan, who held a similar meeting in Greenwood, was slated to move on to West Pelzer after leaving Abbeville.

Due West Chamber has ‘outreach’ meeting

By Henry E. Green

The Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce held a community meeting in Due West Monday night at the Due West town hall.

The meeting was part of an outreach effort by the Chamber, which is seeking to reach out and touch Abbeville County communities beyond the city of Abbeville.

The Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce is designed as a county wide chamber, but too many people see it as an organization which serves the city of Abbeville, Chamber executive director Anna LaGrone has said.

The meeting Monday night was part of an effort to change that, and the plan is to hold similar meetings in other parts of the county.

LaGrone spoke to an audience of about 20 people, including Chamber representatives and merchants,

largely from the Due West area but including some from Abbeville as well.

Among those in the audience were Due West mayor Jeannie Knight, and town administrator David Krumwiede, and a number of Due West Town Council members.

Chamber membership can help in networking, which can be a most excellent asset in the business world, it was said.

“We can help you build a better business,” LaGrone told the audience.

What can the Chamber do for Due West? LaGrone asked. “How would you like to see the Chamber serve you better?”

The Chamber could possibly try to recruit more Ambassador volunteers from the Due West area, and provide more publicity, such as ribbon cuttings, for new Due West businesses,

she was told.

A nonprofit organization, the Chamber is based at the Welcome Center on Abbeville’s Court Square. Thus, the Chamber representatives are often the first people visitors see or interact with when they come to Abbeville.

Other findings:

--A new driving range in the Cold Spring community is slated to open in the next several weeks, according to Chamber president Josh Baughman.

--Beth Boyd, wife of Erskine football coach Shap Boyd, encouraged those present to check out Erskine football.

Flying Fleet football was revived several years ago after having been discontinued in the 1950s. The Fleet will be playing home games at the Greenwood High School stadium.



Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce executive director Anna LaGrone led a community meeting in Due West Monday night. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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1 Timothy 2:5-6

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Developments in Due West promising

By Henry E. Green

Good things are happening in Due West. Recently the Due West Robotics board approved a contract for sale and purchase of real estate for Carver School, LLC, which outlined the conditions under which the Carver School, LLC, would purchase four and one half acres of the Carver School property, said Due West Robotics treasurer Lee Logan Tuesday. The tract which they are purchasing would include the former school buildings. This property is located at the corner of Gordon Street and Carver

Street Extension.

The Due West Robotics will attempt to raise funds for the construction of a facility for the Robotics program, he said. The new facility is hoped to be large enough to not only house the daily activities but regional competitions which could bring hundreds of robotics teams from throughout the Southeast to Due West.

The plans that the Carver School, LLC, company have for the renovated school are to house a senior housing complex, by not only renovat-

ing what is on the site but new construction as well.

"The next thing we need to do for Robotics is to enter into the design phase of the structure, including the cost, before begin a capital campaign to raise the funds," Logan said.

Carver School, LLC, is a newly formed South Carolina corporation created for the development of this property, Logan continued.

The plans call for the development of perhaps of many as 70 individual apartments for seniors, along with dining and recreational facilities and other amenities, he continued.



Wright Middle School teacher Renee McCaslan has been awarded a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) grant from the South Carolina Coalition for Mathematics and Science at Clemson University. (Contributed photo)

The Wright stuff WMS science teacher Renee McCaslan awarded '3-D' grant

By Henry E. Green

Wright Middle School teacher Renee McCaslan has been awarded a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) grant from the South Carolina Coalition for Mathematics and Science at Clemson University.

The grant includes \$2,500 for materials, including three 3-D printers, three laptops, three computer programs, and the materials to 3-D print.

There is also \$1,500 for professional development.

"That means we'll have somebody to come and educate us on the use of the 3-D printers," he said.

Industry in America is changing, and to respond to that change, students need to be exposed to a more innovative type of learning.

Bringing 3-D printers into rural industrial areas, such as mine, will help students become more prepared in the world in which they are soon to embark," she said.

The Coalition will schedule a professional development session, in which Wright

Middle teachers will be trained on how use 3-D printers.

The teachers, in turn, will teach the students on how to use them.

Teachers can use 3-D printers to make models of things they would like to represent in their classroom--from planets to earth layer models.

McCaslan teaches eighth grade science at Wright.

She is a veteran teacher.

"This is year 28", she said.

Candidate filing period to close today

By Henry E. Green

Filing continues for a number of County and state offices, and the period closes at noon today--Wednesday, March 30, according to Randy Curtis.

The filings include the following:

Craig Gagnon, Republican--House District 11

Mark Sumner, Republican--Abbeville County Judge of Probate

Jessica Scott, Republican--Abbeville County Auditor

Betty Cowan, Democrat--Abbeville County

Treasurer

Bebe Wesson, Republican--County Council District Two

Christine Long, Democrat--Council Council District Two

Drew Simpson, Republican--County Council District Seven

No one has filed for County Council District One, which is currently held by Republican Jason Bonds.

If no one files for the District One seat, then there will be a write in for District One.

Those wishing to file as candidates need to come to the voter registration office

on the second floor--Room 2500-- of the Abbeville County Administrative Complex in Abbeville, and fill out the proper paperwork and pay their filing fees.

All filing fees are by check or money order, Curtis said.

The filing is for the primary elections slated for June 14.

The primary winners will move on to the general election in November.

For more information, one may call the voter registration office at 366-6690, extension 53.

Your doctor has ordered a Colonoscopy. What questions should you ask?

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A Gastroenterologist is a specialist in gastrointestinal diseases and has received special training in colonoscopy. Gastroenterologists perform more colonoscopies by far than any other specialty. Non-gastroenterologists are five times more likely to miss colorectal cancer during colonoscopy than Gastroenterologists.

What training in colonoscopy did the doctor receive?

They must first complete a three-year Internal Medicine residency and are then eligible for additional specialized training in Gastroenterology. Gastroenterologists receive dedicated training in endoscopy (upper endoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, and colonoscopy) by expert instructors. This fellowship is 3 years long so by the time Gastroenterologists have completed their training, they have had 6 or more years of additional specialized education following medical school.

Can the doctor diagnose and treat any findings on colonoscopy?

Gastroenterologists learn how to properly interpret the findings and biopsy results of these studies in order to make appropriate recommendations to treat conditions and/or prevent cancer. A non-GI physician may not be able to provide on-going treatment for specific and often chronic gastrointestinal conditions.

What makes Gastroenterologists different?

Studies have shown that Gastroenterologists perform higher quality colonoscopy examinations and comprehensive consultative services when compared to other physicians. This translates into more accurate detection of polyps and cancer by colonoscopy when performed by Gastroenterologists. It is this ability to provide more complete, accurate, and thorough care for patients with gastrointestinal conditions, which distinguishes Gastroenterologists from other physicians that provide some similar services.

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Oreo and Charlie are siblings who are 7 months old. Oreo is black and very playful and loves human attention. Charlie is black and white and enjoys some human affection but is a bit more independent and curious. Visit the shelter today and take one or both of these beautiful babies home and experience the love they have to offer.

Adoption Fees are reduced to \$15 for Oreo and \$15 for Charlie, sponsored by Abbeville Humane Society. That includes spay/neuter, vaccines, rabies voucher, dewormer, flea treatment and microchip. Visit Abbeville County Animal Shelter M/W/F 10-5, Sat. 10-3. Call 366-6639.

Pet of the Month

Meet Marvel a 2 yr. old Retriever/mix who is very energetic and loves people. Marvel weighs in at 45 pounds and can be a handful with his energy and size. He loves to run and play in the yard but will need to be an only dog. Visit Marvel at the shelter and let her show you all that love she has to offer.

Adoption Fees are reduced to \$25 for Marvel, sponsored by Abbeville Humane Society. That includes spay/neuter, vaccines, rabies voucher, dewormer, flea treatment and microchip. Visit Abbeville County Animal Shelter M/W/F 10-5, Sat. 10-3. Call 366-6639.

Pet of the Month

Kennedy really needs a forever home. She is a mixed Breed who has a beautiful blue brindle and white coat. Kennedy is 2 yrs. old and is about 56 pounds of love. She can be shy at first but she is very sweet. Food is her biggest motivator. She is very laid back and gets along well with other dogs. You can't go wrong if you choose Kennedy.

Adoption Fees are reduced to \$25 for Kennedy, sponsored by Abbeville Humane Society. That includes spay/neuter, vaccines, rabies voucher, dewormer, flea treatment and microchip. Visit Abbeville County Animal Shelter M/W/F 10-5, Sat. 10-3. Call 366-6639.



Abbeville Community Development Director Austin Walker (right) and Lisa Sanders, with the Greenwood Performing Arts, presented a program to Abbeville Rotarians recently about the Violins of Hope program. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Violins of Hope educational tool

By Henry E. Green

There will be a Violins of Hope educational outreach coming to the Abbeville Opera House on Tuesday, May 10, helping to educate the public about the Holocaust, Austin Walker and Lisa Sanders told Abbeville Rotarians recently.

Walker is the Community Development Director with the City of Abbeville, and Sanders is with the Greenwood Performing Arts.

Violins of Hope is a project based on a private collection of stringed instruments collected since World War II, according to Wikipedia.

It is a project based on a collection of Holocaust related string instruments in Tel Aviv, Israel, a project designed to educate and memorialize the lives of prisoners in concentration camps through concerts,

exhibitions and other projects. The collection belongs to Amnon Weinstein and his son Avshi, according to Wikipedia.

Four violins will be on display in the Abbeville City Council chambers on May 10, according to Walker.

"Each violin has a story associated with it," she said.

There will also be a public Violins of Hope performance in Greenwood at the Greenwood Community Theater on Wednesday, May 11, and a Violins of Hope exhibit at the Museum in Greenwood in May.

This will feature restored violins of Jews who perished in the Holocaust and commemorate the 49,000 Jewish Bulgarians rescued from Nazi internment camps during World War II.

Bulgaria was allied with Nazi Germany during World War II, but many ordinary Bulgarians worked hard to save their Jewish neighbors from deportation to Nazi camps.

There will be a public performance at the Greenwood Community Theater on Wednesday, May 11, and a Violins of Hope exhibit at the Museum in Greenwood in May.

It is all to help educate people about one of the darkest chapters in human history, a stunning example of man's inhumanity to man. Millions of people died in concentration camps, and the Nazis would often make prisoners play violins as people were being marched to the gas chambers, according to a video Walker played for the Rotarians.

There will be a garden party with desserts and tea to follow. The Renaissance is located at 5 Frank Pressly Drive in Due West.

There will be an Easter egg hunt at 11 a.m., and then a garden party at 12:30 p.m. "Over 1,000 Easter eggs will be hidden throughout the campus with special prizes for those who find the Golden Egg," according to

Community calendar

Easter egg hunt planned
The Renaissance in Due West is planning to stage a Community Easter Celebration, including an Easter egg hunt on April 9.

There will be an Easter egg hunt at 11 a.m., and then a garden party at 12:30 p.m. "Over 1,000 Easter eggs will be hidden throughout the campus with special prizes for those who find the Golden Egg," according to

a Renaissance flyer. There will be a garden party with desserts and tea to follow. The Renaissance is located at 5 Frank Pressly Drive in Due West.

Due West Town Council meet

Submitted by Jeannie Knight, Mayor

The meeting began with approvals of Minutes from the February Meeting and the March meetings of the Civic Events Committee and the Planning Commission.

The February monthly financial statements were accepted as information. These will be used with the March and April financials to provide amounts in the funds which help to determine the budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The first and second readings of the Ordinance to accept the new budget will be at the Council meetings in May and June.

The review of the Audit of the fiscal year 2020-2021 was presented by Matt Phillips from the Accounting Firm of McKinley, Cooper & Co. The yearly Audit has many details of the Town's existing funds outlined in line items as well as explanations of State Retirement Plans, Depreciations on assets, and

Insurances. The Mayor's Report included an outline of the next few months of preparations for work on developing the Budget for the fiscal year beginning in July of 2022. Mayor Knight reminded Council of upcoming meetings for late March and April. There will be a Civic Events Committee Meeting on April 5th, a Planning Commission meeting on April 12th, and a "Fleet Serve" community service time on Sunday afternoon, April 24th when the Erskine Athletics offer to help on projects in Town. The Abbeville County Chamber of Commerce will hold an information meeting in Due West on March 28th at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers to hear from the Business Community about their ideas for improving development in the area.

Town Administrator, David Krumwiede, gave a report on the American Rescue Plan funds that have been allocated to Due West. He outlined expenditures to date

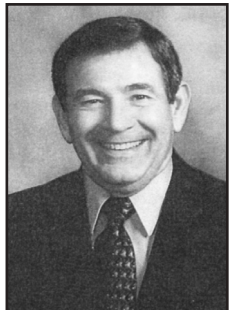
including Employee Premium payments and projects being funded by the Plan allocations. The Town is adding a storage building by the Utility Department building and is increasing space in the Town Hall building to accommodate more storage and working areas.

Police Chief David Maxwell informed Council of the change in the School Resource Officer status with the resignation of Officer Tommy Clamp who has been assigned to Dixie High

a Word from "THE WORD"

Rev. Dr. John Keith

The Lesson



jkeithfca@gmail.com

Matthew 14:15 "When it was evening, His disciples came to Him saying, this is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food. (16) But Jesus said to them, they do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." (17) And they said to Him, we have only five loaves and two fish. He said, bring them to me."

A teenaged boy came home with a horrible report card and subsequently a lengthy lecture from his father. The teenager obviously missed his dad's point when he calmly replied, "You've always told me we learn from our mistakes, so you should be glad that I've learned a lot this semester." In Matthew 14 Jesus teaches His disciples a lesson from their mistake in wanting to send the multitude away hungry. The context of this lesson is the death of John the Baptist and Jesus' retreat to a desert place for some solitary solace. But the solace was not to be because when the people heard that Jesus had departed a great multitude followed Him. He was moved with compassion for them and even though He was personally grieving over the death of His cousin, He ministered to them. Toward evening His disciples wanted to send the people away—remember this was a desert place. Jesus wanted to teach them a lesson in what I call D.O.A.

First of all, He wanted to teach them a lesson in dependence. He told them that they didn't have to send the people away and to give them something to eat. He knew that they didn't have the ability to feed that huge multitude but He wanted them to learn a lesson in dependence on Him. They couldn't feed the multitude with only five loaves and two fishes, but He certainly could. He asked them to bring the loaves and fishes to Him and when they did He multiplied them to the point where over 5,000 people were fed with 12 baskets of left-overs. They could not feed the people but Jesus could. A good lesson for in the future when they would face seemingly impossible situations.

Secondly, He wanted to teach them obedience. They had to obey Him and bring Him the loaves and fishes. He asked them to bring Him what they had and they obeyed his request. When they did He multiplied it and fed the multitude. I am sure that when they looked at the multitude and compared the small resource they had they wondered how in the world Jesus could stretch it to feed them—but they obeyed and He did it. What a valuable lesson for future reference—when faced with a seemingly impossible situation, trust


the Lord and obey what He instructs you to do. Obedience is a requirement if one wishes the Lord to become involved.

Thirdly, Jesus wanted to teach them a lesson in assurance. He wanted them to have the assurance that no problem was too big for Him to handle. The problem the disciples faced was not the large hungry crowd—it was their lack of vision. They believed that due to the lateness of the hour and the largeness of the crowd it was impossible for them to feed them given their small resources. Jesus asked them to bring Him what they had and He multiplied it. What an assurance for future reference when they faced huge obstacles. We need to realize that there are no obstacles too big for the Lord to handle.

We too need to learn the lesson of D.O.A. When faced with a problem too big for us we need to depend on the Lord to handle it. When we bring it to Him we need to obey what He tells us to do about it.

When we depend on the Lord and obey the Lord we have assurance that He will take care of the problem we face.

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The Rene Caisse Story

By Geoff Hult

Disclaimer: This writing is for information and educational purposes. Essiac tea has not been FDA approved as a treatment or cure for any health problem, including cancer.

All of the following is widely available, public information. In 1922, Canadian nurse Rene Caisse (pronounced Reen Case) met an English woman who told her how her breast cancer had been treated by a medicine man of the Ojibwa Indian tribe. A doctor had confirmed to the woman that she had advanced breast cancer and that her breast would need to be removed. The woman opted to be treated instead by the Indian with herbal medicine. The tumor steadily shrank and 30 years later when she met Caisse, she was still cancer free.

Caisse wrote down the names of the plants and herbs just in case she might want to use it on herself if she got cancer. In 1924, her aunt was diagnosed with advanced stomach cancer. She asked her aunt's doctor if they may try the herbal formula on her. The doctor consented and after taking the formula regularly for two months, made into a tea, she recovered and lived another 21 years. She was never diagnosed with recurring cancer. The tea would later be called Essiac tea, which is Caisse spelled backwards, and contains the following four ingredients: burdock root, slippery elm bark, turkey rhubarb root, and sheep sorrel (including the root). Caisse emphasized the importance of the entire sheep sorrel plant, including the root.

After one doctor had witnessed the healing effects of Essiac, word spread and Caisse began administering the treatment at the request of Toronto doctors. She eventually gave up nursing to devote her full time to research and administration of this treatment. She never accepted payment for the treatment and lived by donations, barely keeping out of poverty.

Eventually, Rene moved to Peterborough, Ontario, where she was threatened with arrest from the College of Physicians and Surgeons. She asked for a hearing from the Minister of Health, Dr. J. A. Faulkner. Five doctors arrived on her behalf as well as a number of patients who had been successfully treated with Essiac. Faulkner decided it was acceptable for her to treat patients as long as she didn't charge and that they

had written diagnoses from their doctors.

Rene was then contacted by Dr. Alfred Bastedo in Braceridge, Ontario, where a hotel was made into a cancer clinic for her to practice. It was there that she successfully treated cancer patients from all over Canada from 1934-1942, many of whom the medical establishment had given up on.

Rene's mother then became ill, diagnosed with gallstones. She contacted Dr. Roscoe Graham for another opinion. Dr. Graham examined her mother and diagnosed her with inoperable liver cancer, with only days to live. Rene began administering to her mother Essiac tea and her mother lived another 18 years.

Soon after this, Rene petitioned the Minister of Health in the hopes of legalizing Essiac tea as an officially recognized treatment for cancer and other chronic disease. Her requests were consistently denied despite the support of many physicians and people attesting to the efficacy of the treatment. Her final petition in 1938 was denied despite the attendance of 380 patients having been successfully treated, and ready to testify to this. Only 49 of this 380 were allowed to speak at the hearing and it was recorded that only 49 actually showed up. The authorities also threw out all the x-rays that had been used to diagnose the patients and claimed that all the diagnoses were mistaken or somehow wrong, despite the patients having been diagnosed by multiple doctors.

Rene's efforts to contribute Essiac as a cancer treatment were met every step of the way with resistance from the government and medical establishment. This could have easily been the biggest contributor to the treatment of cancer and disease in Canada's history. The medical establishment then, as now, denies the efficacy of any natural treatment and has consistently treated those like Caisse with great hostility. California chiropractor Gary Glum, author of a book on Caisse entitled "Calling of an Angel," can attest to this as he was nearly financially ruined with bogus IRS claims because of his outspoken support and work promoting Essiac. He was even told by federal marshals who raided his LA office that this was about cancer, not taxes.

In the 1960s, Rene moved to Massachusetts and worked

with Dr. Charles A. Bruschi, MD, of the Bruschi Medical Center in Cambridge, MA. Dr. Bruschi was the personal physician of John F. Kennedy before he was elected to the office of the presidency in 1960. When Dr. Bruschi contracted bowel cancer, he was confident enough in Essiac to use it as his own treatment. In an April, 1990, notarized statement, Dr. Bruschi wrote: "I do know that I have witnessed in my clinic, and know of many other cases, where Essiac was the therapy used. A treatment which brings about restoration through destroying the tumor tissue and improving the mental outlook which reestablishes physiological function. I endorse this therapy even today for I have in fact cured my own cancer, the original site of which was the lower bowel, through Essiac alone." Dr. Bruschi had much more to say about the effectiveness of Essiac on cancer and chronic disease and this information is widely available.

In a 2007 study published in the International Journal of Cancer Research and Treatment, the results showed that Essiac tea had a statistically significant antioxidant effect. Antioxidants are reported as being part of Essiac's effectiveness against cancer, cardiovascular disease, and other chronic diseases.

Rene Caisse died in 1978 at the age of 90. On her 90th birthday, over 600 people convened with her to pay their respects for having been successfully treated for cancer with Essiac.

Essiac products are openly and widely sold on the market. As with anything, it is important to do your own research and due diligence. Some resources on this subject:

1) "The Essiac Report: The True Story of a Canadian Herbal Cancer Remedy and of the Thousands of Lives it Continues To Save." by Richard Thomas

2) "Calling of an Angel" by Dr. Gary Glum, DC

3) "Essiac Testimonials" 44 minute documentary on brighteon.com

4) essiacfacts.com
"YaHuWaH has created medicines out of the earth; and he that is wise will not reject them."
(Sirach 38:4)

Sirach is a book found in the original 1611 King James Bible.

Geoff Hult
nonwo222@gmail.com



SC Statehouse Reports 2022-The Senate--Senator Mike Gambrell

Legislative summary

Senator Mike Gambrell
Legislative Summary
March 25, 2022

We lost an outstanding South Carolinian last week. Former Honea Path Mayor Earl Lollis Meyers has meant so much to Anderson County, and our thoughts are with his family. Mayor Meyers was a mentor to me and so many others. I very much doubt I would have had much success as an elected official without his guidance and support. If every mayor worked as hard and took their job as seriously as he did then the world would be a much better place. He set a superlative

example for others to follow, and I will miss his friendship.

On Monday, I spoke at a luncheon of the Greenwood Republican Women. Later that day I attended the meeting of the Steering Committee for the Broadway Lake area.

In Columbia this week, we had another round of Finance Sub-committee meetings. On the floor of the Senate, we are debating S.935, known as the "Put Parents in Charge Act". This legislation creates Education Scholarship Accounts, and a fund to fulfill those scholarships. The purpose of these scholarships would be to allow a

student to attend a school, private or public, other than the public school to which that child is zoned. The vouchers would be paid directly to the school to which the student is transferring. We will continue with this debate next week.

Please feel free to contact me on any issue. I can be reached at my district address, Post Office Box 194, Honea Path, S. C. 29654, 864-844-3614; or at my legislative office in Columbia, Post Office Box 142, Columbia, S.C. 29202, 803-212-6032, or through my email address: Mike-Gambrell@scsenate.gov.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Jimmy O. Burdette is an enormously talented director. I saw "Carrie, the Musical," "The Birds," "Little House Christmas," "Keep on the Sunnyside," at the Opera House under Jimmy's direction. I've seen many other plays under his direction as well. Theatre is his passion and it shows in his set building, his actors and the quality of productions he directs...

It's unfortunate he is no longer directing. And, Jimmy is a professional, not just someone who loves theatre and wanted to try his hand at directing. He has years of theatre touring experience as actor, director, chief cook, and bottle washer. In

essence, he knows and understands every aspect of how good theatre should come together. He has vision and the ability to bring that vision to fruition.

When there is discord, or one person believes something about an individual, shouldn't it be addressed between the parties so that going forward, there are no assumptions, only understanding?

Theatre should be a cohesive force, binding us together in our humanity. Jimmy's shows did just that every single time. He brought out the humanity in his characters and made them relatable to the audience. That is

more than directing, it's a gift. My hope is everything can be worked out and a talented director can resume his place.

It has become way too easy to "cancel" people because of the opinion of one person, when the voice of the majority is resounding in its clarity that this is simply not right. In a rush to judgement and to save face, it can be tempting to take the easy way out. But is it easy, really?

Is this the kind of Showstopper Abbeville Opera House really wants?

Name withheld upon request

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I was so shocked at the unfair firing of the Abbeville Opera House Director Jimmy Burdette.

How could it be that someone from another state, just causing trouble across the country, could have power over anyone

in Abbeville?

This woman said Mr. Burdette had a Rebel flag on his Facebook page. No questions, no one talked to the director, they just fired him after years of dedicated service. There was major outcry for support of Mr. Burdette. He

was never given a chance to speak for himself. That's tolerance?

This is not the first time a non-resident was given so much power over Abbeville decisions. yet Abbeville residents are largely ignored.

Kristin Capone

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I'd like to thank Banner Corporation president Lamar T. West, Sr. for his commentary on March 16 regarding the upcoming school board referendum and how it will affect prices for the taxpayers in Abbeville County.

Gas prices are skyrocketing, inflation is out of control, the conflict in Russia and Ukraine (or rather, Biden's handling of it) is wreaking havoc on our ability to be energy independent, and food shortages are coming soon (something

President Biden even admitted in a recent gaffe):

"With regard to food shortage, yes, we did talk about food shortages, and it's gonna be real," Biden said during a NATO press conference in Brussels on March 24, 2022.

Additionally, the County is in a year of reassessment. That means people's property taxes are more than likely to go up for most people (by a maximum of 15%, but oh what a difference that 15% can make).

Given all that, do you really think hitting

your remaining small tax base with a \$55,800,000 referendum is a good idea? Are you trying to create a ghost town, because this is how that happens!

People move out of town because they can't afford to live in a place where the few remaining people are squeezed and squeezed beyond measure.

Even if you disagree, as Lamar T. West, Sr. said in his letter, please get out on May 17 and vote and have your voice heard!

Amanda Smith

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Yes, it's me AGAIN!

As of 3-28-2022 there is only the same two (Benji and Matt) on our city

council who are willing to give contact information on the official Abbeville City Website BUT there are beautiful professional photos of the entire city council members.

That speaks A LOT about their true desire to actually have any type of input from their constituents.

Janet Somero Smith

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Hornets hoping to rebound in baseball

By Henry E. Green

The Dixie High School varsity baseball team is hoping to rebound this week.

"We had a tough week last week," said Coach Michael Turner Tuesday.

The Hornets played Southside Christian twice--Monday and Tuesday--and lost both times.

"We went to Southside on Monday, and our place on Tuesday," he said.

The Hornets lost Monday by a score of 5-0, and the losing pitcher was Brandon Hershberger.

"He pitched really well in the loss," said Turner.

Hershberger struck out five and gave up four earned runs, had no walks, and gave up nine hits.

The Hornets, meanwhile, were held to four hits.

Michael Ashley was two for

three for Dixie.

"We've just got to do a better job at the plate in games like this," Turner said.

In Game Two, Michael Ashley pitched. "We were tied 0-0 going into the fifth," the coach said.

"He (Ashley) did a good job of keeping them off balance most of the night," the coach said.

He struck out four, and walked three, and gave up six runs, and nine hits.

The Hornets, who lost 10-1, had six hits. Turner praised Southside for having a solid team.

Dixie went to Emerald on Wednesday and lost 6-3.

"It was 3-2 going into the bottom of the sixth," he said.

Staten Rice was the starting pitcher for Dixie, and pitched five innings, striking out three and giving up four

earned runs.

Levi McAlister finished the game, pitching for one inning.

Going three for four was Brandon Hershberger, and Cody Quarles had an RBI single.

The Hornets were slated to play High Point Academy yesterday, with the jayvees to play McCormick.

Dixie will play a JV/varsity double header today at home against St. Joseph's, with the jayvees starting at 5 p.m. and the varsity to follow at 7 p.m.

"Friday we go to Greenwood Christian for a 5 o'clock start," he said.

The Hornets as of Tuesday were 5-6, and 1-2 in the Region.

"Our goal this week is to get back on track, and try to win the week," he said.



During the Gold Star Highlight segment of the March school board meeting, AHS wrestler Addison Nickles (right) was recognized for having won the 2021-22 state championship in wrestling for Class AA in the 195-pound classification. Nickles posed for a photo opportunity with AHS principal Scott White. (Staff photo by Henry El Green)

AHS baseball team splits with Crescent

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville High School varsity baseball team enjoyed a successful week, winning two of three, according to head coach Daniel Little.

The Panthers defeated Crescent 2-1 on Tuesday in Abbeville, and Ty Price was the winning pitcher, and Jackson Clemmons contributing a two run double.

The Panthers beat Ware Shoals 11-1 in Abbeville on Wednesday.

Thomas Booth was the winning pitcher in the game against Ware Shoals, said Little.

The Panthers then lost to Crescent 10-8 Friday at Crescent.

Hunter Overholt and Chase Fisher pitched for the Panthers in the loss.

Crescent was the Number Three team in 2-A coming into the game.

"Us splitting with them was a pretty big deal," said Little.

The Panthers' record as of Monday was not a bad one.

"We're 7-3 and 1-1 in the Region," he said.

AHS was slated to host Clinton this past Monday in a non-Region game, and scheduled yesterday to travel to Liberty.

Today--Wednesday, March 30--the Panthers will host Powdersville in a non-Region game at 6 p.m., and Friday, they will host Liberty in a Region game at 6 p.m.

Little has been pleased with his team's performance. The Panthers were ranked Number Four in the state last week in 2-A

AHS may be surprising a number of people this year, said Little, who noted that the Panthers lost a number of players from last year's squad.

"We're a young team," he said of this year's edition of the Panther baseball team.

So far, so good

AHS softball team doing very well

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville High School varsity softball team as of Monday morning had a record of 10-3, with a 1-0 record in the Region, Abbeville High School varsity softball coach Tim Collins said Monday.

The Lady Panthers were slated to travel to Crescent yesterday, and on Thursday, AHS will be at home against Emerald for a JV/varsity double header.

The jayvees will begin playing at 5 p.m., and the varsity action will follow.

On Friday, AHS will host Liberty, but the order will be reversed, with the varsity to play at 5:30 p.m., with the junior varsity to follow.

The Lady Panthers' Region win came against Liberty, with Abbeville prevailing 6-1, Collins continued.

Dixie boys soccer team plays in Tennessee

By Henry E. Green

The Dixie High School boys soccer team recently had a Rocky Top experience.

"We are currently 9-2-1," said Dixie boys soccer coach Brian Gamble. "We went to Tennessee a few weeks ago and won two games and tied one in the

Smokey Mountain Cup. The kids really enjoyed the trip and played very well.

"Last week on Monday we defeated High Point Academy 6-0, on Tuesday we defeated Crescent 8-3," he said, adding that on Wednesday the Hornets lost to Laurens High School 6-4.

This week, Dixie will host

Clinton and Palmetto.

"A big game for us will be at home versus Southside Christian this Friday," he said.

The jayvees will play at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity squad will take action at 7 p.m., Gamble went on to say.

Erskine Baseball

Fleet comes up short in series opener against King

Submitted by Erskine Athletics Department

DUE WEST, S.C. – The Erskine College baseball team (14-15, 6-10 CC) lost its series opener against King University (12-10, 9-6 CC) by a score of 5-4 at Grier Field on Friday afternoon.

Erskine has still doubled up the Tornado in wins in the series, 20-10.

After Erskine starter Allan Saathoff worked around a bit of a first-inning jam, the Fleet offense built on the momentum as Kyle Marti led off the bottom half of the inning with a seeing-eye single to right field before stealing second and coming around to score moments later on an Armando Bec-

erra single to give the Fleet an early 1-0 lead. King hit a two-run home run to its first lead in the top of the third inning, making it a 2-1 game.

But the lead was short-lived as Cal Kryska immediately got into scoring position with a leadoff infield single and advanced to second on a throwing error on the play. Marti followed with a sacrifice bunt to move Kryska to third and Becerra drove him in with a sacrifice fly as Erskine used "small ball" to tie the game at 2. But, the Fleet offense was held in check through the middle innings while the Tornado opened up another lead with three runs in the sixth inning to go in front, 5-2. Kane Fisher hit a two-run home run in the eighth inning as

Erskine attempted to start a late rally but it came up short as King took the series opener, 5-4.

Kane Fisher had just one hit, but it was a towering, opposite field home run in the eighth inning to make it a one-run game. Fisher has now homered in each of Erskine's last two games. Erskine and King wrap up their weekend series with a doubleheader tomorrow afternoon, with Game 1 scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. at Grier Field.

MORE ABOUT THE ERSKINE COLLEGE FLYING FLEET

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

Fleet cruise past Lees-McRae

Submitted by Erskine Athletics Department

DUE WEST, S.C. – The Erskine College men's volleyball team (10-14, 4-5 CC) took down Lees-McRae College (7-9, 3-6 CC) in straight sets by a score of

3-0 (25-21, 25-22, 25-20) at Belk Arena on Friday night.

Edgerrin Austin tallied a match-high 15 kills on a .290 hitting percentage while Kacper Rybarczyk added 13 kills on a blistering .500 hitting percentage.

Erskine hit .272 (42 K / 17 E / 92 TA) on the match.

Erskine is back in action at home on Saturday afternoon when they take on conference foe King University (11-10, 6-3 CC) at 2:00 p.m.

The Tornado swept the Fleet in straight sets back in early February in Bristol.



Contact:
Camden Patsel
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Abbeville Area Medical Center to End COVID-19 Testing at Mobile Clinic

**Submitted by
Meg Davis**

Abbeville Area Medical Center will be ending free COVID-19 testing at its weekly Mobile Testing Clinic effective Wednesday, March 30th. The hospital was recently notified that DHEC would no longer partner with community agencies to offer free lab support for testing. The drive through service will continue to provide complimentary COVID-19 home test kits on Wednesdays from 8:00am – 12:00pm. Home test kits are also available at Due West Family Medicine and the Abbeville Area Healthcare Center.

The need for mobile testing has declined since the latest Omicron surge with only five to six people currently utiliz-

ing the clinic on most days. COVID-19 testing continues to be available at the Abbeville Area Healthcare Center by appointment only by calling 366-9681.

“AAMC has had the privilege of serving our community during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing drive thru ‘mobile’ testing clinics,” stated Amanda Morgan, AAMC’s Community Health, Outreach and Wellness Director. “Since 2020 this community service has kept more than 14,000 sick people out of our Emergency Department and our physician clinics which has reduced overall exposures.”

The state did not require hospitals to offer mobile testing, but AAMC and medical staff leadership was committed to doing what was best for the community.

This group realized early on that the hospital and its clinics were not equipped to accommodate the large numbers of people who needed testing and that mobile testing was the only option to keep residents working and children in school. AAMC’s mobile testing clinics remained a constant force since the start of the pandemic in June 2020, seeing record numbers in January 2022 at the height of the Omicron variant.


“The mobile testing staff are among some of the best people I have ever worked with,” stated Morgan.

“I commend the medical staff and hospital leadership for the support they provided to make this happen.”

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Abbeville, SC 29620
rhanna@abbevilcountysc.com
Phone: (864) 446-8473

3/30;3tc

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Contact Wendi at (864) 418-9025 or come in to complete application (on Tuesdays and Thursdays)

2/2;4tc

HELP WANTED

The Abbeville County Library System is accepting applications for a Health Advocate and Special Initiatives Manager. This position provides social service support to community members through outreach, observation, and referral. This is a part-time leadership position that reports to the Executive Director. It pays \$14 per hour and requires an extensive background in social work, health advocacy, or a related field. Full job description is available at www.abbevillecounty.org. Send or drop-off a resume and cover letter to Mary-Elizabeth Land at the Abbeville Library. Position is open until filled.

3/30;3tc

PUBLIC NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE

A Special Election for Abbeville County School Board Bond Referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. Any person wishing to vote in this special election must be registered no later than Sunday, April 17, 2022. Mail-in voter registration forms will be accepted if postmarked by Monday, April 18, 2022.

At 9:00 a.m. on the day of the special election, the County Board of Voter Registration and Elections will begin its examination of the absentee ballot return envelopes at Abbeville County Administrative Building, Room 2500, 903 West Greenwood Street, Abbeville SC 29620.

On Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 11:00 a.m., the County Board of Canvassers will hold a hearing to determine the validity of all provisional ballots cast in the special election. The hearing will be held at The Abbeville County Administrative Building, Room 2500, 903 West Greenwood Street, Abbeville SC 29620.

The following precincts and polling places will be open during the special election from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.:

Precincts	Location	Polling Place
001	Abbeville No. 1	Abbeville Civic Center
002	Abbeville No. 2	Abbeville Court House
003	Abbeville No. 3	Abbeville County Complex
004	Abbeville No. 4	Abbeville County Fire Dept HQ
005	Antreville	Antreville Fire Dept.
006	Broadmouth	Turkey Creek Fire Dept.
007	Calhoun Falls	Calhoun Falls Civic Center
008	Cold Springs	Cold Springs Fire Dept.
009	Donalds	Donalds Fire Dept.
010	Due West	Due West Fire Dept.
011	Hall's Store	Calvary Baptist Church
012	Keowee	Keowee Fire Dept.
013	Lowndesville	Lownds. Community Center
014	Lebanon	Sharon Fire Dept.
015	Smithville	Ebenezer United Methodist Church

ABBEVILLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022 REFERENDUM QUESTION

Question 1

Shall the Board of Trustees of Abbeville County School District, South Carolina (the "School District") be empowered to issue, at one time or from time to time, general obligation bonds of the School District, in a principal amount of not exceeding \$43,800,000, the proceeds of which shall be used for the following:

- Dixie High School
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing a new academic wing;
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing a new kitchen and dining room; and
 - Appropriate demolition
- Abbeville High School
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing a new academic wing; and
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing a new kitchen and dining room; and
 - Appropriate demolition
- Abbeville Career Center
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing additions, improvements and repairs?

Question 2

If and only if Question 1 above is approved, shall the Board of Trustees of Abbeville County School District, South Carolina (the "School District") be empowered to issue, at one time or from time to time, general obligation bonds of the School District, in a principal amount of not exceeding \$11,900,000, the proceeds of which shall be used for the following:

- Dixie High School
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing new locker rooms and gymnasium
- Abbeville High School
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing new track
- Abbeville Career Center
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing new locker rooms and gymnasium
 - Constructing, equipping and furnishing new track?

3/30;3tc

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: James Bruce Wilson
Date of Death: 1/26/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100061
Personal Representative: Gloria Jean Wilson
Address: 80 Red Bird Lane, Abbeville, SC 29620
3/16;3tc

Estate: Walter James Horton, Jr.
Date of Death: 02/14/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100068
Personal Representative: Yvonne Rene Horton
Address: 305 Terrace Place, Highland Lakes, NJ 07422
3/23;3tc

Estate: Nancy Lee Jones
Date of Death: 01/25/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100070
Personal Representative: Brenda Lewis
Address: P.O. Box 35 Calhoun Falls, SC 29628
3/23;3tc

Estate: Muriel Ruth Lawton
Date of Death: 9/27/2021
Case Number: 2022ES0100071
Personal Representative: Keith Lawton & Mark Lawton
Address: 35 Lawton Lane Honea Path, SC 29654 & 670 Elizabeth St. Ext. Honea Path, SC 29654
3/23;3tc

Estate: Robert Allen Briggs
Date of Death: 09/17/2021
Case Number: 2022ES0100072
Personal Representative: Rebecca E. Briggs
Address: 502 Lake Forest Dr. Abbeville, SC 29620
3/23;3tc

Estate: Janice Parnell Ferguson
Date of Death: 03/02/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100077
Personal Representative: Jaime Risner
Address: 113 Morse Ave Abbeville, SC 29620
3/30;3tc

Estate: Calvin Eugene Hill
Date of Death: 06/16/2021
Case Number: 2022ES0100080
Personal Representative: Jessica Redwood
Address: 639 Darrington Court Rock Hill, SC 29732
3/30;3tc

Estate: Leana B. Richardson
Date of Death: 02/03/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100081
Personal Representative: Ethel B. Gray
Address: 4513 Hwy 81 Mt. Carmel, SC 29840
3/30;3tc

Estate: Jack Raymond Smith
Date of Death: 2/1/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100063
Personal Representative: Betty E. Hendrix
Address: 1139 Klugh Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620
3/30;3tc

Estate: Carolyn Bowman Gordon
Date of Death: 2/21/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100083
Personal Representative: Robert E. Gordon
Address: 356 Old Douglas Mill Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620
3/30;3tc

Estate: William Robert Corbin
Date of Death: 3/14/2022
Case Number: 2022ES0100084
Personal Representative: Patricia Ann Corbin
Address: P.O. Box 641 Honea Path, SC 29654
3/30;3tc

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that Saxon's Hotdogs LLC intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and on premises consumption of Beer/Wine at 381 Hwy 72 W Abbeville, SC 29620. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than April 5, 2022. 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 email to ABL@dor.sc.gov

3/16;3tp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that DJK Wings LLC aka Brittany Bice intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and on premises consumption of Beer, Wine & Liquor at 101 S. Main St. Abbeville, SC 29620. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than April 8, 2022. 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 email to ABL@dor.sc.gov

3/16;3tp

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3/30;sw



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3/23;ftc

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Tuesday, April 5, 2022 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Games: (SC1323) CRAZY 8S; (SC1325) XTREME PURPLE MULTIPLIER; (SC1322) LOOSE CHANGE
3/30;sw

A	S	H	E	S	M	A	O	W	I	D	E	
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M	A	F	I	A	O	P	T	V	O	I	L	E
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W	A	R	G	A	L	A	P	T	O	S	I	S
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A	L	E	R	T	E	V	E	N	S	L	U	R
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