



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



It appears Ronald "Doodlebug" Creswell is ready for kickoff! We are in hopes of a great Panther season. High school sports are great for our athletes and community. (Staff photo by Amanda Smith)

By the numbers Abbeville County School District begins yet another school year

By Henry E. Green

Tuesday, August 2, was the first day of school for students in the Abbeville County School District for the 2022-23 school year.

The new year is an adventure for a number of adults as well.

There are 39 certified teachers who are new to the School District, Abbeville County School District Assistant Superintendent Dr. Lori Brownlee-Brewton said.

Does the District have an orientation session for them?

"Yes, individual orientation sessions are held with each employee, with the HR department, which involves information on benefits, insurance, payroll forms, etc. The Technology Director, also held a group orientation pertaining to our device policy, use of district-owned devices and equipment, etc."

The new teachers include a number who are new to the teaching profession, and Brewton said there are a total of 15 teachers who are new to the profession.

Brewton was asked how many students the School District has this year.

"We will not have an official count of students until after the 10th day of enrollment," she replied. "Each principal sends us their daily totals for the first 10 days of school. On the 11th day, we will be able to ascertain how many students officially."

In other District news, Abbeville County School District Superintendent Dr. Mason Gary said last week that the first day of school for students went smoothly.

Calendar

In addition, the 2022-23 School District calendar will include, in addition to its usual holidays, two "intersessions" during which the District Office will remain open, but there will be a holiday for students and teachers, according to a calendar supplied by Dr. Brewton.

The first intersession will be Oct. 3-7, and the second will be Feb. 21-24.

The last day of school for students will be June 1, 2023.

Council opts to re-bid fire truck purchase

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County Council met Monday night, with a number of County fire fighters in attendance to show support for the acquisition of new fire trucks--trucks they said were important for community safety--and Council ultimately decided to rebid the purchase of the trucks.

Council took the action to rebid following an executive session, after which "Vice Chairman James McCord made a motion with respect to Resolution 2022-27 to direct County Director to rebid the purchase of new fire trucks for the county with consultation from the County fire commission and the County finance department," Abbeville County Clerk to Council Lynn Sopolosky said Tuesday.

"Councilman Calhoun seconded the motion, and the motion carried, 6-1, with Councilman Simpson opposed."

Council took the action after tabling, earlier in the meeting, a transaction authorizing the expenditure of funds to purchase the two KME Top Mount Pumper Fire Trucks from Safe Industries for \$975,400.

Council member Rick Campbell suggested that Council table it until after executive session, and Council agreed, but Council members Jason Bonds and Drew Simpson voted in opposition, and Council member Charles Goodwin abstained.

On Tuesday morning, Bonds noted that the Council liked the idea of purchasing the trucks, but at the same time did not want to go so far over budget that it would pose a problem in terms of purchasing new trucks in the future.

He paid tribute to the fire fighters, noting that they do their best to take care of the community, and the feeling should be mutual.

"We wanted to see if we could get a better price" for two fire trucks, said Campbell Tuesday.

"It's going to take 18 months to get the fire trucks after we place the order," he said.

"It's very disappointing that they didn't accept the bids that were turned in," said

Cold Springs fire chief Jay Raber Tuesday.

"We were shocked that they turned us down last night," he said, adding that Council did not seek sufficient input of community

fire fighters.

The fire chiefs had spent hours on the project, and prices keep rising.

"We are in dire need of trucks," he said.



Tuesday, August 2, was the first day of school for students in the Abbeville County School District. Here, teacher Mary Goodenough is reading a story to her 5-K class at Long Cane Primary in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Teen with local ties wins beauty pageant

By Henry E. Green

A young lady with Abbeville connections has won a beauty pageant.

Alden Hope Evans, the daughter of Phillip & Kayren Evans of Mount Pleasant, SC, was crowned Young Miss Teen South Carolina 2022 recently, according to a news release sent to the Press and Banner by her mother.

Alden Evans is the granddaughter of Wayne and Vicki Evans of Abbeville. Vicki is enormously proud of her granddaughter. "She is a beauty," she said Thursday. "She's very smart and very sweet."

A student at Academic Magnet High School, she will receive a \$3,000 savings bond and will travel the state this year representing the pageant and Prisma Health Children's Hospital, according to the news release.

Academic Magnet High School, where Alden is a rising sophomore, "is the Number Two High School in the United States," said her mother by telephone from Mount Pleasant Thursday.

Alden's studies take up much of her time, but in her free time, she likes to read, baby-sit, hang out with her friends, and play with her dog Albert--a standard

poodle.

The young lady has participated in a number of pageants, and she was crowned Little Miss Abbeville County six years ago, according to her mother.

In the Young Miss Teen pageant, she was among 26 contestants in her age group, said Kayren.

Vicki and Wayne, now retired, live on Church Street in Abbeville, and have three children and six grandchildren. Vicki used to work for the City of Abbeville, and Wayne for West Carolina Tel.



Alden Hope Evans, the 15-year-old daughter of Philip & Kayren Evans of Mount Pleasant, SC, was crowned Young Miss Teen South Carolina 2022 recently. (Contributed photo)

Abbeville Lions present scholarships

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville Lions presented scholarships Thursday night to three outstanding Abbeville High School graduates

Scholarship recipients were Melanie Gilchrist, Heidi Pickens and, Bridget Gabriella Skye White. Each received a check for \$500.00 and a Certificate of Appreciation.

All graduated from Abbeville High School earlier this year. Melanie has been accepted at SC State University, Heidi has been accepted at Lander University, and Gabriella has been

accepted at Greenville Tech.

All have volunteered their time to make their community a better place.

Melanie "volunteered her time supporting local community projects," said Abbeville Lions Club secretary-treasurer Rick Pressly. "She outlined ways and needs to improve Abbeville as a whole in her 'We Serve' essay and she was involved in a number of school activities."

Heidi was also involved in a number of school activities. "Her desire is to continue

to serve the community by helping those in need, beautifying the landscape and working with children and their parents," said Pressly.

Gabriella has served as a mentor for middle school students at Abbeville Youth Center, and has volunteered in various community activities, the secretary-treasurer continued.

The club meets on the first Thursday of every month at the Abbeville Veterans Memorial Building on Longbranch Street in Abbeville.

Robert Fossett is the current president of the club.



Melanie Gilchrist (left) has been awarded a scholarship from the Abbeville Lions Club. She was presented with the scholarship at a recent Lions Club meeting by club president Robert Fossett (center) and Lions district governor Randy Culbertson (right). (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Heidi Pickens (left) has been awarded a scholarship from the Abbeville Lions Club. She was presented with the scholarship at a recent Lions Club meeting by club president Robert Fossett (center) and Lions district governor Randy Culbertson (right). (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Gabriella White (left) has been awarded a scholarship from the Abbeville Lions Club. She was presented with the scholarship at a recent Lions Club meeting by club president Robert Fossett (center) and Lions district governor Randy Culbertson (right). (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

JCCE building marks 50th anniversary

By Henry E. Green

John C. Calhoun Elementary in Calhoun Falls is celebrating a 50th anniversary this year.

The building in which the school is housed was completed in 1972, and the school itself moved in during spring break of 1973, said JCCE principal Milton Scott Thursday.

The new building replaced one originally situated next to Northside Baptist Church in Calhoun Falls, a building which has since been torn down.

John C. Calhoun Elementary currently has 152 students in grades PreK through fifth grade, and 22 teachers, Scott said.

Students go on to either Calhoun Falls Charter or Wright Middle School.

Scott has been principal since 2011, and has been working at the school since 1991.

"I taught sixth grade here," he recalled.

Today the school works hard to serve the Calhoun Falls community.

"Our motto is, 'Together we achieve and succeed,'" he said.

And the school has achieved much, according to Scott, who said that JCCE has won a number of honors in the state of South Carolina's Palmetto Gold and Silver program for at least nine consecutive years.

In 2013 it was named the Title I School of Distinction for the state of South Carolina—an honor given for its academic performance in comparison with similar schools, in terms of demographics, in South Carolina, Scott said.

Good things are continuing to happen, in the realm of construction. The front entrance is getting a makeover, the air conditioning system is being replaced, and the school is getting a new lighting system as well.

A 50th anniversary celebration could be held in the spring of next year, Scott said.

Company has Middle Eastern connections

By Henry E. Green

The industry which recently announced plans to establish a facility in Abbeville has a Middle Eastern connection.

"Aerofoam USA, a thermal insulation and acoustic solutions company and brand of international firm Hira Industries, will invest \$11.5 million to establish its United States headquarters and operations in Abbeville, the company announced Aug. 1," according to the Upstate Business Journal.

"The investment is expected to create 50 new jobs as Aerofoam USA works to open its first operations in North America at 43 Commerce Drive. The facility will manufacture nitril buthene

rubber for thermal acoustic products utilized in HVAC-R systems, mechanical applications, transport and packaging, as well as products used by original equipment manufacturers."

Aerofoam USA is based in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and Hira Industries is based in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, according to their websites.

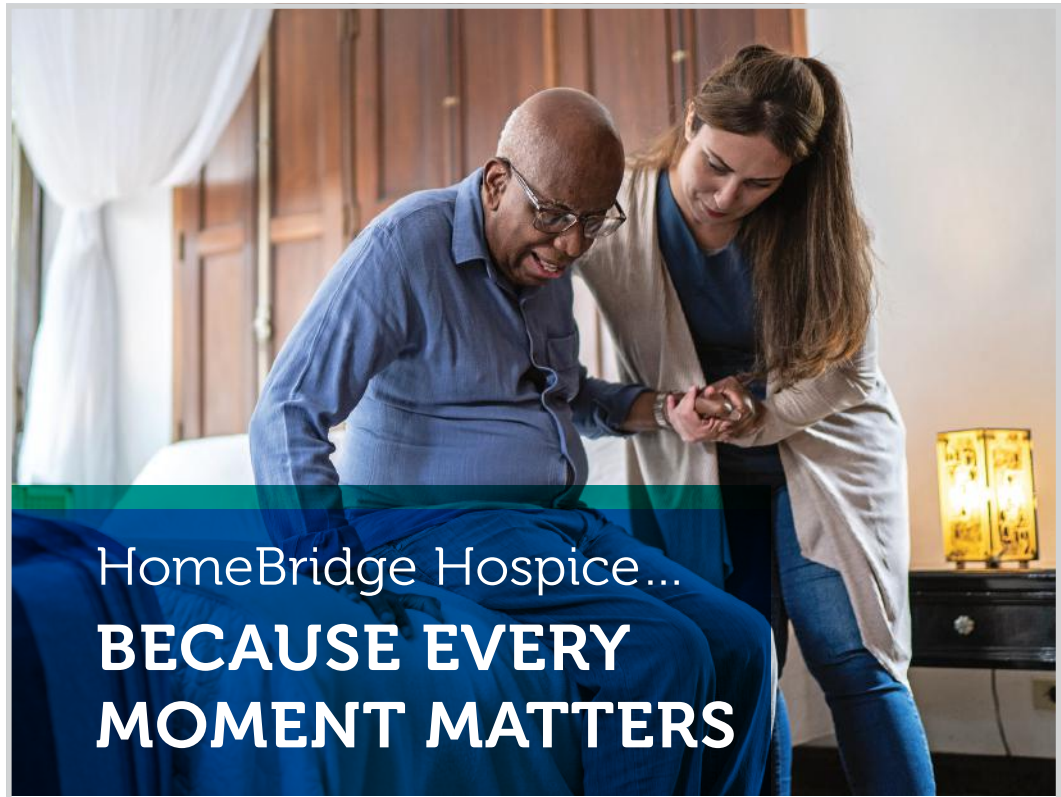
"Witnessing the fast pace of development in the 1980, Mr. Ramesh Hira, HVAC Engineer from India, founded Hira Traders LLC in the UAE, with a strategic objective of distributing HVAC utility products in the Middle East," according to the Hira Industries Website.

Today, the Hira Group is

involved in a variety of projects, including those relating to HVAC and construction, and other areas, and in the past four decades, Hira Group has successfully emerged and expanded its activities in trading and customer base in such places as India, Southeast Asia, Americas, Australia, New Zealand and Africa, the Website indicates.

With more than three million people, Dubai is the most populous city in the United Arab Emirates, according to Wikipedia.

Meanwhile, the new industry in Abbeville will be located in Lakelands Commerce Park, on the eastern outskirts of Abbeville.



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'Kennel crazy'

Will Abbeville County animal shelter have to start euthanizing animals?

By Henry E. Green
 "We want to alarm the public."

So said Greater Abbeville Humane Society president Ann Davis Wednesday, in reference to the situation at the Abbeville County Animal Shelter.

"Overcrowding at the shelter getting so serious that difficult decisions may have to be made," she said. "They have dogs at the shelter that have been there over a year."

"The longer they stay in this kennel situation, locked up, the more behavior problems develop," she continued. "They don't get the amount of time with adults or exercise to get out their energy."

An excess of energy sometimes creates aggression, and dogs are by nature very loving creatures.

They are enormously social animals, needing to have interaction with human beings and with other animals.

Without this interaction, they can develop bad behavior problems.

"They go 'kennel crazy' after a long period of time," she said.

Just imagine staying in solitary confinement for

at least a year, she said. Wouldn't that drive you just a little crazy?"

Dogs are no different, according to Davis.

"This is the equivalent of being in doggie prison," she said.

The Abbeville County animal shelter is a "no kill" shelter, meaning that Shelter personnel typically do not euthanize animals solely because of overcrowded conditions.

However, under "dire circumstances," the Shelter may have to euthanize them.

The community "is just not stepping up to adopt these animals," she said.

Davis is welcoming the community to either adopt the animals or foster them.

You may foster the animals by agreeing to take them home and keep them for a few days, getting them out of the shelter for a short time.

The numbers are simply not good. The shelter currently has 44 dogs, far above a capacity of 23.

"Please get out and help the shelter get the numbers down," she said.

Davis described the adoption process. You pay a \$50 fee to adopt an animal from

the Shelter, with the money going to Abbeville County, which operates the shelter.

The animal you adopt is already either spayed or neutered, and it has been vaccinated for rabies and other conditions, and has been dewormed as well.

All in all, you pay \$50 for about \$300 worth of services.

"Adopting a shelter pet is a real bargain," said Davis.

Pictures of Shelter dogs are on Petango.com, said Davis, noting that you do not necessarily have to adopt an animal immediately.

You can take an animal home for a couple of days to try it out.

"This is called 'foster to adopt,'" she said.

More than 2,000 animal statewide were adopted during the recent Pick Me! event, designed to encourage adoptions. Here in Abbeville County, Davis said, five dogs and four cats were adopted.

While the shelter is enormously overcrowded, Abbeville County is also home to just too many animals on the loose.

"The stray problem in Abbeville County is just atrocious," Davis said.

Agreement supports Transfer to Francis Marion University for Eligible PTC Commercial Art Program Graduates

Submitted by
 Kristine Hartvigsen

Piedmont Technical College (PTC) and Francis Marion University (FMU) recently formalized an agreement designed to expedite the transfer process for eligible PTC Commercial Art AAS graduates. The move establishes a pathway to a bachelor's degree in Visual Arts for Graphic Design or Visual Arts for Photography at FMU.

Both institutions are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges.

"Our commercial art graduates in the concentrations of digital rendering and gaming with a secondary specialty in advertising design or photography, advertising design with a secondary specialty in

photography, or photography with a secondary specialty in advertising are eligible to take advantage of this transfer opportunity," said Dr. Keli Fewox, PTC vice president for academic affairs. "We are confident this agreement will encourage PTC commercial art students to continue their education at an esteemed four-year institution."

"Francis Marion University is proud to partner with Piedmont Technical College in providing more students with opportunities to further their education," said Dr. Peter D. King, FMU Provost. "We look forward to continuing these types of successful partnerships with Piedmont in the future."

"In continuing the pursuit of our goal of creating the best-trained students in the

fields of Commercial Arts and Photography, Francis Marion University has joined the growing list of schools we have partnered with to give our students a strong and clear path to completion of their four-year baccalaureate degree," said Kendall Adams, PTC program director for commercial art. "Piedmont Tech's Commercial Arts program has built a strong reputation for preparing and graduating the best of the best in Commercial Art."

This preparation gives our students an easy transition to FMU. Together Piedmont Tech and FMU make for a great winning combination!"

For more information about PTC's Commercial Art Program, please visit www.ptc.edu/commercialart.

Ware Shoals police charge suspect

In a joint collaboration effort between Abbeville County Sheriff's Office and Ware Shoals Police Department, a burglary suspect caught on video surveillance was identified as Charles Eugene Bryson, 38, of Ware Shoals, according to an Abbeville County Sheriff's Office news release.

A search warrant was executed at Bryson's resi-

dence, where a number of stolen items were located, linking him to several other cases.

Bryson is currently in Greenwood County detention center, where he was charged with property crime by the Ware Shoals police department.

Upon Bryson's release from the detention center, he will be charged by Abbe-

ville County Sheriff's Office with multiple burglaries and larcenies, stemming from a rash of break ins in and around the Honea Path and Ware Shoals area of Abbeville County, the Sheriff's Office continued.

Investigators are still actively working on the cases, and leads are continuing to develop, according to the Sheriff's Office.

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J.P. Mosley is a massage therapist in Abbeville, and he spoke to Abbeville Rotarians about the upcoming Holistic Expo in Abbeville. Mosley (center) is teaming with Kathy Hall (left) and Nicole Quinn (right) to present the Expo. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Holistic Expo to be held in Abbeville

By Henry E. Green
 “The Abbeville Holistic Expo is an idea whose time is come,” J.P. Mosley told Abbeville Rotarians Thursday. Indeed, the Abbeville Holistic Expo is slated for Saturday, August 20, at the Livery Stable in downtown Abbeville from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Mosley told Rotarians. One dozen businesses, as well as a number of speakers, will be on hand, and the state agency Cornerstone, which works with people in recovery, will be represented as well, along with the Abbeville County Library, and Trinity Episcopal Church. People in attendance will be able to find out more about things such as the Labyrinth at Trinity and the Library’s telehealth program for veterans. Mosley said that he is

working with Nicole Quinn and Kathy Hall to put on the Expo. “This has really been a team effort,” Mosley said. **One life’s journey**
 A firm believer in holistic medicine, Mosley has come a long way in his life’s journey, and if anyone needed healing, he did. During the pandemic, Mosley, then living in North Carolina, lost, in his words, “everything.” He had lost his business. He had lost his sense of hope—he had lost his sense of purpose. In a very real sense, J.P. was having an existential crisis—and the situation in the material world wasn’t helping. “I had \$29.11 to my name,” he said. Making a new start, he moved to South Carolina, and he had hope of passing into a promised land.

His dreams began to come true, seemingly, especially when he encountered a community entitled “Promised Land.” When he saw a sign that admonished “Don’t Be Afraid, Joshua,” he could not help but interpret it in a positive way. After all, his name is Joshua Patrick Mosley. His faith was restored. “Everything I lost has come back to me,” he said. Holistic medicine, he says, is a connection between the physical and the spiritual, combining a variety of disciplines, from psychology to nutrition. The Expo will include an opportunity to learn about everything from yoga to herbs, according to Mosley. “Our goal is to make it an annual event,” he said.

Due West Town Council meeting July 18 2022

Submitted by Jeannie Knight, Mayor

All Council Members were present for the July meeting. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation, Council heard from Carlyle Shirley, representing the Engineering Firm of Dunn and Shirley, about several grants that the Town is either eligible to receive or has been allotted in recent weeks. These all pertain to the sewer plant that serves Due West. A grant from the Rural Infrastructure Authority has been awarded and is underway to upgrade filters and other operations in the plant which was last upgraded in the 1970s. The proposed grant from the State Revolving Fund would go into further upgrades and expansions for bringing the sewer into more efficient operations. Another grant from the State Revolving Fund for the amount of \$380,000 is to be used to test the existing sewer

lines for any repairs that are needed. Council approved applying for this new grant. After the slide show from Carlyle, several Council members were interested in having a tour of the Due West Sewer Service operations. The Council Meeting continued with the approval of June’s meeting minutes and the Mayor’s Report from Mayor Jeannie Knight. She thanked the members of the Civic Events Committee for handling the July 4th Town celebration which was held on July 2nd around the Erskine Pool and Pavilion. Committee Members have received many gracious comments from participants on how well the event was managed with pool use, hot dogs from Mark Fulghum’s food truck service, flag-decorated cakes from Mama’s Sweet Shop, a bicycle parade, and fireworks after dark. Mayor Knight reported on the loss of a large part of

the oldest oak tree in the Town Park on Washington Street. One of the large limbs fell on Saturday morning, July 16th, less than two days after the Due West Lion’s Club had used the Park for their July meeting. The remaining tree is barricaded but will be removed as soon as possible to avoid danger for future Park activities. The Town is to apply for eligibility for CTC funds through the County Office run by Lee Garrett to address needs for sidewalk improvements and other new sidewalk projects. Council voted to sponsor a 3’ X 5’ banner designed by the Town for the Dixie High School Athletic Booster Club to use at sporting events. The Meeting Adjourned after announcements that the offices will be closed on Labor Day, September 5th, and the Annual Fall Festival will be held on September 24th.

Filing for school board, City continues

By Henry E. Green
 The filing period for candidates in the Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees and Abbeville City Council elections will close on Monday, August 15 at noon, according to Abbeville County voter registration director Randy Curtis. Those who had filed for the school board as of Tuesday morning included

the following:
 Area One--Tracy Lindler and Tim Rhodes
 Area Three--James Tisdale, Jr.,
 Area Six--Brad Evans and Erin Gambrell
 Area Seven--Charles Angel
 Area Nine--Lisa Alewine
 Those filing for City Council as of Tuesday morning include the following:

Area Three--John Sutherland
 Area Four--Deanna Ashley
 Area Six--Jason Edwards
 Area One--no one has filed
 These elections, which are nonpartisan, will be held during the general election on Nov. 8. For more information, one may call the Abbeville County voter registration office at 366-6690, extension 53.

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Jonah 3:10 (NKJV)

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Trustees probe lawn care management

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees met Tuesday evening in a special meeting, looking for a company to handle lawn maintenance for District facilities.

The current arrangement for lawn care maintenance runs out on August 31, said Abbeville County School District Superintendent Tuesday.

The company which has been handling the maintenance has opted to cease working with the District after that date, Dr. Gary told the trustees.

The trustees on Tuesday discussed finding a replacement.

Dr. Gary asked the trustees how they would like to handle the lawn care responsibilities.

"We currently have one contractor for all 10

campuses," he said, and asked if the board would like to keep that format.

The board also heard input from the District's director of operations Mike Reepe, who said he would prefer to have one company handle all the District's needs, instead of having different companies at different schools.

"My choice would be to have one company," he said.

Dr. Gary noted that this would be his choice as well.

Trustees remembered how some years ago lawn care was handled by different people at different schools, with varying results.

"It was a real hodgepodge," said trustee Keith Dunn.

The board agreed that Reepe would draw up a draft Request for Proposals for the trustees to consider at their next meeting.

That process could take at least a month, and if the District has not found a replacement when August 31 comes, Reepe indicated that he can possibly find a company to provide maintenance on a temporary basis.

The trustees also had been slated to discuss expanding the John C. Calhoun Elementary attendance zone—something trustee Tim Rhodes had suggested—but Rhodes said Tuesday night that he would prefer to move discussion to a workshop setting at a later date.

This workshop is expected to include discussions of attendance zones throughout the District, and trustees are encouraged to send in any questions they might have, concerning attendance zones, to Dr. Gary for workshop discussion.



Westwood Elementary teachers and administrators donated their time recently to help the community in various ways. Helping out at the Abbeville County Library were Brittini Robinson (Music), Jenni Hedden (5th grade), Beth Ellen White (Librarian), Carmen Tolbert (Special Education), Hannah Ballard (4th grade), Caitlyn King (4th grade). (Photo courtesy of Paul Anderson)

Abbeville County man dies in a wreck on Drake Road

Submitted by Dr. Mark Dorn, DNP, Coroner

Abbeville, SC (Friday, August 5, 2022 (9:10 pm EDT), Dr. Mark Dorn, Abbeville County Coroner, was notified this morning that a male victim succumbed to his injuries as a result of a single vehicle

Moped accident. The incident occurred on Drake Road in Donalds, SC around 6:00 pm Thursday night.

The victim is identified as 57-year-old John Holsonback of Donalds, SC.

He was initially transported to Self-Regional Hospital in Greenwood and subse-

quently transferred to Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Trauma Center.

He was pronounced deceased at 08:55 am this morning from traumatic head injuries. According to the SC Highway Patrol, alcohol was a factor contributing to the accident.

Community calendar

Hospital board to meet

The Abbeville Area Med-

ical Center Board of Trustees will meet on Thursday, August 11, at the Abbeville

Area Medical Center. The meeting will begin at approximately 2 p.m.

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Rescued and restored

First Baptist Church of Abbeville hosts event for people in recovery

By Henry E. Green

First Baptist of Abbeville recently hosted a gathering to honor people in the community who are in recovery.

Approximately 200 people gathered in the church's Christian Life Center on Sunday, July 31 for a hot dog supper and devotion.

Residents of Faith Home, Lighthouse and Gateway ministries were all invited to attend, and they enjoyed fellowship with church members.

Those in attendance were treated to a hot dog supper and "finger foods," and listened to speakers.

The First Baptist youth band "did a great job," said Brad Cuttill, a First Baptist deacon who helped coordinate the event along with Rachel Morris, Amy Ricketts, Luke Simmons and Chris Welch. They were all on a "rescue and restore" team that planned the event.

"Amyspearheaded it," said Cuttill Friday.

Speakers included Ricketts, as well as Tony Temple, the pastor of Friendship Worship Center, and Lainey Shaffner, who works at the Alcoves in Greenwood,

Ricketts said.

The theme of the event was to show love to people in community who are in recovery.

Faith Home is a facility for men and women in recovery, with approximately 90 men and women going through an eight-week program, Cuttill said.

Lighthouse is a Greenwood facility for people coming out of recovery and on the cusp of rejoining the community. "They have five houses with seven guys in each one," Cuttill said.

Gateway is a transitional home here in Abbeville that aids in helping the ladies who are coming out of a recovery program who after their time at Gateway will be ready to live a sober life in the Lord is for women, Ricketts said.

Cuttill thanked First Baptist for donating the food at the July 31 dinner.

"Lord willing, we will have a similar event for those in recovery this fall," Ricketts said.

"This ministry team appreciates your prayers." Ricketts explained that the church has a ministry to help people in recovery, and the

goal is to have three of these events a year.

"The Rescued and Restored ministry team would like to thank the youth at Abbeville First Baptist for their tremendous heart in helping with these events. The youth praise band not only led in worship, but they served the meal to 200 people as well," said Ricketts Friday. "The theme of this event was called "Freedom From What?"

"The three speakers focused on the freedom we can have through Jesus Christ," she continued.

The CLC was decorated with chains for the July 31 gathering, according to Ricketts.

"Chains were used to demonstrate the things that bind us in our lives. But we believe people were set free through Christ," she said.

"The groups in attendance were the men and women from the Faith Home, the ladies from Gateway Recovery, and the men from Lighthouse Recovery Ministry in Greenwood, and our church family at First Baptist Church."



Recently, Westwood Elementary teachers and administrators donated their time to work in the community. Helping out at the Abbeville County Museum with the Museum's Jenny Kelly (top, left) were Mary Krimm (3rd grade), Amanda Davis (3rd grade), Austin Wilson (5th grade, top of picture), MalJean Thomas (masked), and Kristen Hughes. (Photo courtesy of Paul Anderson)

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Pat Jordan has made his living as a writer since 1963. He presently lives in a small town in upstate South Carolina with his wife of 42 years, Susan, a writer and former stage actress. They live with two dogs, a house cat, a ménage of feral cats, and a parrot named Florence, after his mother, also a tough old bird. His father, born Pasquale Michele Giordano, was the most profound influence on his life.



PAT JORDAN

*On Saturday, September 10, 2022 at 7 p.m., the Abbeville Press and Banner and The Belmont Inn will host a reading, Question & Answer session, and book signing with local author Pat Jordan on the publication of his new book, the memoir, "My Father's Con," in the Belmont conference room behind the bar.

The literary evening will begin at 7 p.m. with cocktails at a cash bar. At 7:30 p.m., Mr. Jordan will say a few words about his new book, then read selections from it from 8 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. After his reading, Mr. Jordan will answer questions from the audience. After the Q&A, Mr. Jordan will be available to sign his memoir.

The price of each hardcover book is \$30, cash or check only. When the book signing concludes, he will remain to answer any further questions about his book before the evening ends.

Dual Enrolled 'Time Traveler' Jumps to Head of Class

Submitted by
Kristine Hartvigsen

Dixie High School student Amaiya McDowell is pretty smart. Maybe smart enough to create a time machine.

"I graduated from Piedmont Tech before I graduated from Dixie," she said.

How do you complete a college program before earning your high school diploma? Dual Enrollment at Piedmont Technical College may not be a time machine, but it definitely can speed things up while saving money.

Dual Enrollment is an advanced-credit program for high school juniors and seniors. Different classes are available online, at the student's high school, or on the PTC campus. Dual Enrollment comes with a range of options. Some students, like McDowell, are planning for advanced degrees. Others are seeking a credential that will allow them to begin a professional career as soon as they leave high school.

There are four ways to participate in Dual Enrollment at PTC:

- Traditional Dual Enrollment courses are taken at your high school with a high school instructor.

- OnDECK classes are offered on a PTC campus and let students earn high school units and college credit at the same time.

- PTC has partnered with some school districts on a Middle College that allows high school juniors and seniors the chance to earn as much as 48 college credit hours.

- Early admission is also for students looking to earn credit through PTC, but not through their high school.

This spring, McDowell earned a University Studies Certificate, which is designed for PTC students who plan to transfer. It recognizes students who have earned 30 transferable college hours. With that many credits in her pocket when she walked across the high school graduation stage, McDowell can begin full-time college life as a sophomore.

"I plan to go to Lander University and major in biology," she says. "I want to go to medical school and become an anesthesiologist."

As early as eighth grade, McDowell began focusing on her high school graduation requirements. Taking advantage of a block schedule, she quickly found herself getting ahead. The two-sport athlete didn't want to leave high school early, however, and Dual Enrollment presented a new challenge.

"I liked the fact I could get a head start on college," she says, "and the Dual Enrollment classes were free."

Dual Enrollment at PTC is designed to be affordable to all students. South Carolina residents attend tuition-free if they take at least 6 credit hours per semester (generally at least two classes) at their high school, on campus or online.

"It's such an opportunity for students to get ahead," says Lillian Patrick, school counselor at Dixie. "Amaiya has always been in classes that are at an accelerated level. Dual Enrollment has helped her plan for the future."

All the while, McDowell balanced soccer, cheerleading, and high school and college classes.

"It was a challenge," she

says, "but it did make it easier that the college classes were online."

The nearest PTC campus is a bit of a drive from McDowell's home, so she says online classes were a convenient option. She adds that her family helped her stay organized.

"The teachers helped me a lot, too," she says.

So have her high school counselors. Individual Graduation Plan meetings — which involve students, parents, and counselors — can often indicate whether a student's goals can be facilitated by Dual Enrollment.

"We have those conversations every spring, and Dual Enrollment has come up as early as the eighth grade," Patrick says. "Some students want a long-term vision of what they're going for."

McDowell says fellow Dixie students asked her about dual student life and came away thinking it's a great opportunity. After graduating high school, Dual Enrollment students can continue their education at PTC. Or, like McDowell, the credits they've already earned can transfer to a four-year college.

"I would definitely recommend it," she says. "I mean, who doesn't want to get college knocked out early?"

Dual Enrollment is available at high schools throughout the PTC footprint. Students should talk with a high school guidance counselor if they think Dual Enrollment might be right for them. Learn more online at www.ptc.edu/dual or contact PTC's Dual Enrollment Office at (864) 941-8315.



Dixie High School student Amaiya McDowell is pretty smart. Maybe smart enough to create a time machine. (Photo contributed)

County gets 'honorable mention'

By Henry E. Green

Abbeville County shared with Greenwood and McCormick counties Honorable Mention honors in the Barrett Lawrimore competition offered by the South Carolina Association of Counties.

The three counties were honored for their roles in the establishment of a mass transit system.

Abbeville County was recognized during the Association of Counties conference

held in the Charleston area in early August.

Abbeville, Greenwood, and McCormick counties received BL honorable mention awards for creating the McCormick Area Transit (MatTrans) system.

"Abbeville and Greenwood counties partnered with the McCormick Area Transit system (MatTrans) in 2021 to provide much

needed public transportation to residents who were having difficulty getting to

work, school, and medical appointments," according to the Association of Counties.

"MatTrans was already contracting with the McCormick County to provide transportation services for its citizens, many of whom were being transported to Greenwood County for medical appointments.

Since the partnerships were established, ridership has increased significantly, and the transit system continues to expand."

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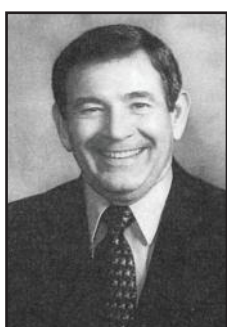
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God's Desire

Deuteronomy 5:29 "Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear me and always keep my commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!"

Pastor Tony Evans offers a different perspective on the word blessed. He notes that the Greek word for blessed, "makarios" was the name of an island off of Greece—the "Makarios Island." It was known as the blessed island because it was self-contained. The residents didn't need to leave the island in order to get their needs met. The island offered everything that they needed. The natural resources of the blessed island were so thick, so rich, so fruitful, and so productive that everything they needed to enjoy their lives was already built in.

The inhabitants of the island were self-contained and self-sustained without having to run to another island to get their needs met. The blessed island provided everything they needed.

Deuteronomy 5:29 describes the desire of God to bless us with everything that we need. When I read this passage I get the feeling that it is a lament on the part of God. His desire is to meet all the needs of His people if they would

just reverence Him and obey Him, but He knows that they will not do it. Let me share three thoughts from this passage.

First of all, we see the desire of God. God's desire is to bless us. His desire is to prosper us and our children forever—but there is a condition—we must reverence Him and obey Him. You see, God cannot and will not bless disobedience. If we do not obey His commandments He cannot bless us. It is as simple as that. My friend, God's desire is to do good things for you, but if you are rebellious and disobedient He cannot do it. God is holy and just, He cannot go against the grain of His nature. He desires to be merciful but if we rebel against His commandments He must exercise judgment.

Second, we see the direction of God's desire—it is towards His people. God desires a people He can bless and prosper. God is not out to hurt us, His desire is to help us. He loves us so much that He sent His only begotten Son to die for us on the cross so that we might

have a relationship with Him. The atonement of the shed blood of Jesus is offered to all but it is not automatic—it must be accepted. God desires for all mankind to accept His gracious gift but He will not make anyone accept it. The offer still stands for anyone who will put their trust in Jesus.

Third, we see the divine promise of God. God promises to bless us forever if we trust Him. God never backtracks on His promise. When He promises eternal life He means just that—eternal. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Everlasting life is one that never ends—God will keep His promise.

God will keep His promise and provide everything we need if we trust Him. In Him we have everything that we need, in Him we are sustained, and blessed beyond measure. In Him we don't need anything else. That is something to rejoice and praise God about.

Code enforcement officers sworn in

By Henry E. Green

Code Enforcement Officers were sworn in by County Council chairman Billy Norris Monday night during the County Council meeting.

The two included Deputy Planner Mark Harouff and County Planner Andy Price.

As code enforcement officers, they can issue summonses and fines for building and property code infractions, said Abbeville County Director David Garner Tuesday.

"It's part of their job," Garner said.

The County litter control officers are also sworn code enforcement officers, the County Director said.

Council passed third reading to amend the county road system, Ordinance 200-5, Index of Roads Maintained by Abbeville County by deletion and removal from the county road system a portion of Country Lane.

"We're removing it from county maintenance," Garner said during Monday night's meeting.

Council member Jason Bonds voted in opposition

Also Monday night, Council had first reading on Ordinance 2022-07 to approve an option to purchase and/or a contract for the sale of 119 plus or minus acres located off S.C.72 in Calhoun Falls in Abbeville County and to authorize the County Direc-

tor to execute such option, contract, a deed of conveyance and other documents necessary to carry out the transaction.

Council also had first reading on an ordinance to approve a contract for the transfer of approximately .42 acres located at 588 Corbin Road in Abbeville County and to authorize the County Director to execute a contract, a deed of conveyance and other documents to carry out the transaction.

Council does not vote on ordinances on first reading—the ordinances are simply read into the record by the County Council chairman.

Also Monday night, Council passed a resolution authorizing the County Director to enter into a contract with Cott Systems, Inc., for the Land Records Management System Software maintenance and support services agreement for Sept. 1, 2022 through Sept. 1, 2027 at a cost not to exceed \$51,450. The new system is intended to provide an upgrade for maintenance of County records.

Council also appointed a "250" committee. Appointed to the committee were Wayne Sears, Susie New, James Gettys, Tom Howie, Andrew Hartsfield, Anna LaGrone, and Jenny Kelly.

This committee is being set up through a state commission which has been created in connection with

a commemoration of the Revolutionary War era.

Similar committees are to be established in other South Carolina counties.

Council also reappointed Jonathan Botts to the Board of Code Appeals.

Council during the public comment section heard from Mack Beaty, who was concerned about plans by the County to levy a fee on parcels in unincorporated parts of the county, including unimproved parcels.

In the past, fees were only levied on improved parcels, Beaty said.

Before Beaty spoke, Council member Drew Simpson spoke about an e-mail Beaty had sent to the County Council members asking about the fees.

Garner noted that it was an ordinance passed last year levying a fee of \$20 per parcel on all parcels in unincorporated areas.

In his County Director's report, Garner said that Aerofoam is going to "up-fit" the "spec" building, with the hope of making it ready for occupancy by May of 2023.

The building is located in the Lakelands Commerce Park on the outskirts of Abbeville.

The firm recently announced plans to establish a facility in Abbeville County, with the creation of 50 jobs, and an investment of \$11.5 million.

'Block party' in CF set for this weekend

Dreams with Open Arms will host its first annual downtown block party, Rock the Block, on August 13, 2022 from 10 am – 6 pm on Cox Avenue in downtown Calhoun Falls, according to LaSean Tutt, a major organizer of the event.

Planned as an all ages invitation to dance, dine, and discover downtown Calhoun Falls, it promises to be a day of music, food,

and tons of fun, according to organizers.

There will be a young people zone, back-2-school zone, and a senior zone. "The 1st Rock the Block party is an opportunity for Dreams with Open Arms, Hanbury Architect Firm, and Clemson University School of Architecture to display our Dream Studio Project, the revitalization of building 104 Cox to a community

center, and other changes that can enhance downtown Calhoun Falls," Tutt said.

This is a free event for attendees and is open to the public.

To accommodate the event. Cox Avenue will be closed on Savannah Street connecting to Cox Avenue and Tugaloo Street connecting to Cox Avenue beginning at 10 am on the day of the event.



Savannah Wojtkowski has won a scholarship from FIRST SC. Joining in the celebration were (from left) Dr. Patricia Hayner, President of FIRST South Carolina; Chris Cortez, FRC Program Delivery Partner, Savannah Wojtkowski, and Charles Angel, President of Due West Robotics. (Photo courtesy of Charles Angel)

Dixie graduate gets robotics scholarship

By Henry E. Green

Due West Robotics stand-out Savannah Wojtkowski has won a scholarship from the organization that coordinates robotics events and opportunities in South Carolina, according to Due West Robotics president Charles Angel.

Eighteen year old Savannah graduated from Dixie High School this past May, and plans to study civil engineering and architecture at Clemson.

"FIRST SC is the state nonprofit organization that provides events and opportunities for students across the state to participate in FIRST robotics competitions for students from Kindergarten through high school," Angel

said.

"All high school seniors that participated in FIRST robotics can apply for these scholarships. A selection committee selects from all the applicants who will receive a scholarship based on their history in FIRST robotics."

The young lady is no stranger to robotics competitions.

She served on a number of Due West Robotics teams, including the Tornado of Ideas, the Narwhal of Ideas, Electron Interference, and the Due Westerners.

It was with the Due Westerners that she went to a robotics world championship event, Angel said.

Due West Robotics is

a nonprofit organization which is based in Due West, and which teaches kids skills related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

It has blossomed from a handful of students to an organization which has captured the attention of scores or even hundreds of young people through the years.

It has gone on to excel in state, national and even international competitions, and Angel has expressed pride that an organization based in a rural community such as Due West can hold their own with robotics teams from larger communities.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

This is to inform the public of the opportunity to attend a public hearing on the proposed *SFY22-23* Section *SMTF* Program Application to be submitted to the South Carolina Department of Transportation no later than *August 9, 2022*.

Those interested in attending a public hearing on this application should contact *Jane Hannah, Abbeville County Economic Development Partnership* in writing on or before *August 31, 2022*. The public hearing will be held on *September 12, 2022* before the *Abbeville County Council*. The contact address is: 903 W. Greenwood Street, Suite 2600, Abbeville, SC 29620

The *SMTF* Program provides assistance for transportation options and services for the communities operating in *Abbeville County, Upper Savannah Region*. These services are currently provided using *ADA Bus*. Services are rendered by *McCormick County Senior Center/MatTran*.

The total estimated amount requested for the period *July 1, '22 through June 30, '23*.

Project	Total Amount	Federal Share	State Share	Local Share
Administration	\$ _____	\$ _____ (80%)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Operations	\$300,000	\$ _____ (50%)	\$150,000	\$150,000
Capital (Non ADA)	\$ _____	\$ _____ (80%)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Capital (ADA & CAA)	\$ _____	\$ _____ (85%)	\$ _____	\$ _____
Planning & Technical Assistance	\$ _____	\$ _____ (80%)	\$ _____	\$ _____
5311 (JARC) Capital	\$ _____	\$ _____ (80%)	\$ _____	\$ _____
5311 (JARC) Ops	\$ _____	\$ _____ (50%)	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$300,000	\$ _____	\$150,000	\$150,000

This application may be inspected at *903 W. Greenwood Street, Suite 2600, Abbeville, SC 29620* from *10am-2pm M-F*. Written comments should be directed to *Jane Hannah* on or before *August 31, 2022*.



FBI: The Loss of Credibility

By Geoff Hult

In a letter from Jim Jordan, US representative from Ohio and ranking member of the House oversight Committee, to FBI director Christopher Wray, dated July 27th, 2022, Jordan informs Wray that FBI whistleblowers from multiple field offices have come forward with information that the top brass within the FBI are pressuring agents and employees to falsify statistics and data regarding domestic violent extremism (DVE). The narrative being promoted by the deep state/shadow government is that white patriotic conservatives, often dubbed "white supremacists" or "white nationalists," are a grave threat to national security and the primary domestic terrorist threat to the country. The FBI's job is to confirm and enforce this prepossession by making it appear to be real, thereby justifying the demonization of the very people who oppose the philosophy of the deep state/shadow government as enemies of the state.

In Jordan's letter, the justification for labeling such Americans as enemies of the state is being done in the following manner: "We have received accusations (from whistleblowers) that FBI agents are bolstering the number of cases of DVEs to satisfy their superiors. For example, one whistleblower explained that because agents are not finding enough DVE cases, they are encouraged and incentivized to reclassify cases as DVE cases even though there is minimal, circumstantial evidence to support their reclassification." And also, that: "...multiple whistleblowers have disclosed how the Biden FBI is conducting a purge of FBI employees holding conservative views." The letter goes on, explaining the above in greater detail, but the simple point is that the FBI is manufacturing data to demonize the political dissidents of the day: conservative Americans who believe in an "America first" philosophy.

Although the FBI could be the world's premiere law enforcement agency, they are instead the enforcers and bullies for the deep state criminal cabal that is rapidly destroying this country. In addition to falsifying data, the FBI has a long history of staging incidents and manufacturing events to justify any given narrative that they have been tasked with to make real. A recent example of this is the alleged plot of white extremists to kidnap Michigan governor Gretchen Whitmer, all of which was an FBI operation.

Senior US Senator from Iowa, Chuck Grassley, also recently addressed Director Wray and Attorney General Merrick Garland regarding

the FBI's protection of real criminals like Hillary Clinton and Hunter Biden, in a letter dated July 25th, 2022. It is evident that many within the FBI are fed up with working for the corrupt organization as Grassley wrote: "If these allegations are true and accurate, the Justice Department and FBI are-and have been-institutionally corrupted to their very core to the point in which the United States Congress and the American people will have no confidence in the equal application of the law. Attorney General Garland and Director Wray, simply put, based on the allegations that I've received from numerous whistleblowers, you have systemic and existential problems within your agencies." It is assumed that the FBI is a crime fighting agency, but they are not. They have the capability to be so, but their role is in intelligence, and the persecution of political dissidents. It matters not how much evidence exists that Hunter Biden is a pedophile; he is a protected entity because of his alliance with the criminal power structure which the FBI protects and serves.

The FBI has recently made it known that they intend to conduct an audit in Missouri counties for people holding concealed carry permits. Missouri state law states that it is not the federal government's business as to who has a concealed carry weapons (CCW) permit. In a letter to Director Christopher Wray dated July 13th, 2022, Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt makes clear that he will not stand for it: "You may wonder why there is such strong suspicion in the Show-Me-State...over the last couple of years, we've seen story after story of incompetence and corruption at the highest levels of the FBI. Our trust in your agency is at an all time low...Missourians have concluded that the FBI leadership in Washington DC has been weaponized for political gain." And finally, to conclude the letter: "I will fight you tooth and nail with all the resources that the people of Missouri have given me as their Attorney General."

As well, multiple Missouri County sheriffs have publicly stated that they will not allow the FBI to infringe on the privacy and rights of the citizens in their respective counties regarding CCW permits. Buchanan County sheriff Bill Puett stated: "Of course, that is prohibited by Missouri law, and the sheriffs are adamant that we're going to protect our citizens' rights because that's what they voted for and that's what we stand for." Scotland County sheriff Bryan Whitney wrote in a July 18th letter that: "I want all my

citizens to know that I will not allow, cooperate or release any CCW information to the FBI, even at the threat of federal arrest." That's the way to do it. Every letter I have cited and quoted from can easily be found online.

Corruption and criminality within the Bureau is nothing new. It has always been there but is being revealed more and more as time goes on. I wrote in March of an FBI agent from 1951-1977 named M. Wesley Swearingen who wrote a book entitled "FBI Secrets: An Agent's Expose," in which he details his involvement, as an FBI agent, with numerous break-ins to homes and businesses to gather intel on political enemies of the state, the FBI's orchestrated assassination of members of the Black Panthers, as well as the FBI's framing of men for murders they didn't commit. On page 104 of that book, Swearingen writes regarding these things: "...the whole security intelligence operation of the FBI was no better than Adolph Hitler's Gestapo. The only difference was that the Gestapo did not pretend to be the good guys in white hats."

Here we have members of the US House of Representatives and the US Senate, a State Attorney General, MO county sheriffs, and current and former FBI agents essentially calling out the FBI as being frauds. The FBI has power and might; but credibility, and the characteristics in their motto of Fidelity, Bravery, and Integrity are lacking. The real bravery and integrity coming from the Bureau are the agents willing to risk their careers, freedom, and lives to blow the whistle and expose the corruption within it. They all know that they are dealing with an entity that can and will frame people for crimes and have people killed. This was all written about by former agent of 26 years Wes Swearingen in his aforementioned book, and what I base this statement on. It's been said that power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

The famous story of the emperor who wears no clothes is a reference to one being found out as a fraud. It is a Biblical concept and something one does not want to be seen as by the Great and Terrible Judge. Yahushua (Jesus), the Messiah Himself, speaks of this in the book of Revelation. In red lettering in the KJV:

"See, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." (Revelation 16:15)

Geoff Hult
nonwo222@gmail.com



Scott, Banking Republicans Criticize Gensler for Stonewalling Congressional Inquiry Into SEC's Proposed Climate Rule

WASHINGTON – This week, Senator Tim Scott (R-S.C.), along with fellow Republicans on the Senate Banking Committee, sent a letter to Securities And Exchange Commission (SEC) Chairman Gary Gensler, criticizing the SEC's lack of transparency and disregard for a congressional oversight request concerning the SEC's 500-page proposed climate disclosure rule—a sweeping new regulation that will harm consumers, workers and the entire U.S. economy at a time when energy prices are skyrocketing.

On June 15th, Banking Republicans sent a letter asking the SEC to submit answers by June 29th to a number of questions. The Senators also requested that the SEC preserve and turn over a number of records related to the proposed rule by June 29th.

On July 12th—nearly two weeks past the deadline—Chairman Gensler responded to the senators' letter with a perfunctory one-page response that included none

of the answers or records requested.

"Your response is wholly inadequate and unacceptable," the senators wrote. "In our letter, we asked only a few simple and straightforward questions, including questions that should result in simple 'yes' or 'no' answers such as: 'Has the SEC considered the impact that the proposed climate disclosure rule would have on energy prices and any other costs associated with the rule?'; and 'Has the SEC coordinated with any other Federal agencies on the policies contained in the proposed climate disclosure rule?'"

As the senators point out, Chairman Gensler's response completely ignored the request for records and did not indicate that the SEC is taking steps to preserve all records related to the proposed climate rule.

"A member of the public who submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request would be entitled to receive more records from

the SEC than what the SEC has given members of the Senate committee overseeing the commission," the senators wrote.

Banking Republicans also pointed out the impact that the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision, *West Virginia v. EPA*, could have on the SEC's proposed climate rule.

"Subsequent to our letter to you, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a major decision that reinforces the importance of congressional oversight of the SEC's climate disclosure rule," the senators wrote. "In *West Virginia v. EPA*, the Supreme Court ruled that the executive branch and its agencies, including financial regulators, cannot use creative, new interpretations of existing law to pretend they have legal authority to support sweeping policy changes that Congress never intended.

Unfortunately, the SEC appears to be trying to act in precisely this way with its climate disclosure rule."



Senator Scott Accepting Applications for Fall 2022 Internships

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-S.C.) is now accepting applications for internships in his Washington, D.C., North Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville offices for the fall of 2022. The internship program offers undergraduate and graduate students the chance to work with public service professionals and gain practical experience in constituent services, government policy, and more.

Washington, D.C. Office: In Washington, interns will research legislation, attend Congressional hearings and briefings, assist with press tasks, and help

manage correspondence on various issues. Responsibilities also include answering phones and other administrative tasks. Interns in this office will gain a stronger understanding of the lawmaking process, while also improving their communications skills.

South Carolina Offices (North Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville): In the state offices, interns will take an active role in the community, working on state-based projects while also answering phones, completing research, and being an integral part of day-to-day office operations. Interns in these of-

fices are able to assist with issues that affect South Carolinians each day.

Internship hours are flexible to accommodate students' course schedules but generally run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Students may also gain course credit for completing the internship program.

Interested students can apply through our website at <https://www.scott.senate.gov/constituent-services/internships>. For additional questions, contact the internship coordinator at internships@scott.senate.gov or (202) 224-6121.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I hope everybody that reads this and the ones who don't are having a Blessed Day.

I'll get right to the point. A while back I saw a lady on T.V. endorsing "Black Lives Matter."

Well, the Jesus in me said All Lives Matter. When Jesus comes back to this earth to judge humankind, He is not going to ask, "What color is your skin?" Or "How much water did you get on your

body at your Baptism?"

I know people are going to say Bless Mike's heart, he's lost his mind!

Anybody that knows Christ personally and has that one on one relationship with Him knows what I am saying.

You do what God tells you to do or say. Jesus said in John 10:27, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." You know if you speak for the Lord, you don't give a rip what

man says.

And I confess like Proverbs says, your tongue can get you in trouble.

I'm going to add this one at the end of this letter: Paul's writing in 2 Thessalonians 3 verse 10, "If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat."

Wonder what Paul would say about all the handouts that are going on nowadays.

Love In Christ,
Mike Allen



The Abbeville Artist Guild has a new exhibit at the Welcome Center in downtown Abbeville. "Paint the Town" will run through the month of August. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

AAMC coordinating food distributions

By Henry E. Green
The Abbeville Area Medical Center and Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina are teaming up to provide food distributions here in Abbeville.

There will be food distributions on August 17, Sept. 7, Sept. 21, Oct. 5, Oct. 19, Nov. 2, Nov. 16, Dec. 7 and Dec. 21.

It will all take place at a drive thru located just off Thomson Circle behind Abbeville Area Healthcare Center.

The format is "first come, first serve", and there is no need to get out of your vehicle. One food box and one produce box per family will be provided.

Amanda Morgan, Director of Community Health,

Wellness and Outreach, explained how it works.

"We have a grant through Second Harvest Food Bank located in Charlotte, NC," she said. They receive their food from Publix Charities. I wrote the grant in March 2022 and we started distributing food in collaboration with Be Well Abbeville, (our community coalition). To date we have given out \$175,000 worth of food. We have a dry food box, a produce box, and if the supply chain allows, we have frozen meat.

"We have distributed over 6,000 worth of food boxes since March 2022."

Abbeville Area Medical Center identified Abbeville County as food insecure in its most recent Community

Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), she went on to say.

"This was also identified in our 2018 CHNA. The federal government requires us to complete the assessment every 3 years. While it is not the goal of the hospital or our Be Well Abbeville coalition to become the food bank, we do want to help our community and patients who are food insecure. It directly impacts their physical, mental, and financial health.

"Last, AAMC is very excited to have corporations partnering with us to help lift and distribute the boxes into vehicles. WCTEL has recently started to lend a hand at the food distributions, and we are grateful for their commitment to the community."

Obituaries

Johnston

Doris Ethel Kelly Johnston, 96, resident of The Renaissance in Due West, widow of Robert Samuel Johnston, passed away peacefully into the loving arms of her Saviour Jesus Monday Aug. 8, 2022 at The Renaissance.

Born in Greenville, SC she was the daughter of the late William Franklin Kelly and Ethel Pickel Kelly and grew up in Six Mile, SC. and attended Liberty (SC) High School.

She was preceded in death by her parents and twin brother Doyle Kelly, and her husband Bob.

Residing for 50 years in Sandy Springs, Georgia, she was a faithful homemaker and was married to her husband Bob for 64 years. After his

death, she moved to The Renaissance in Due West, SC. She was a beloved member of The First Baptist Church of Abbeville.. "Miz Doris" will be missed by her loving family and many friends.

Survivors include: Two sons: Dr. Bruce Johnston (Sandra) of Abbeville, SC and Daniel C. Lewis of Florida; five grandchildren: Mark Samuel Johnston (Andrea), Andrew Michael Johnston (Jennifer), Thomas Benjamin Johnston (Leigh), Cristina Gossage (Jake), and Jeffery Johnston (Morgan).

A Memorial service will be conducted Saturday Aug. 13, 2022 at 2:00 PM in the sanctuary of The First Baptist Church of Abbeville with the

Revs. Chris Guire and Roy Beckham officiating. The inurnment service will be held on Friday Aug. 19, 2022 at 2:00 pm in Dolly Cooper Veterans Cemetery. The family is at the home of her son Dr. & Mrs. Bruce Johnston, 200 Millwood Rd. Abbeville, SC.

Memorials in memory of Doris may be made to The Gideons International (Abbeville Camp), PO Box 1126, Abbeville, SC 29620.

Online condolences may be made to the Johnston family by visiting www.chandlerjacksonfh.com

The Chandler-Jackson Funeral and Cremation services is assisting the Johnston family.

Obituaries

Yeargin

David O'Neal Yeargin, 80, of Lowndesville, husband of Peggy Powell Yeargin, died Friday, August 5, 2022, at his home. He was born in Anderson County to the late Samuel O'Neal and Pauline Boles Yeargin.

Mr. Yeargin retired from Prysmian Cable (former Pirelli Cable) with 28 years of service. He attended Iva Church of God of Prophecy and Lowndesville Pentecostal Holiness Church.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Kimberly Dawn Yeargin, and three sisters, Lucille Todd, Ada Clinkscales and Evaline Goodwin.

Mr. Yeargin is survived by his wife of 60 years, Peggy; two daughters, Sherri Hall (David) of the Nation Commu-



David O'Neal Yeargin

nity and Tami Price (Jerry) of Calhoun Falls; brother, Paul Yeargin (Janet) of Lowndesville; sister, Dorothy Sanders (Charles) of Iva; three grandchildren, Clay Hall (Jennifer), Zachary Price (Vanessa) and Trevor Price (Kayla); and six great-grandchildren, Emrie Hall, Ireland Dunn, Kinley

Price, Waylon Price, Eliza Price, and Wyatt Price.

The family received friends 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM, Sunday, August 7, 2022, in Harris Funeral Home, Abbeville Chapel. Funeral services began at 4:00 PM in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Stanley Campbell and Mr. Carl William Parnell officiating. Burial followed in Smyrna Cemetery.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Mr. Yeargin, may be sent to Kindred Hospice - Anderson, 1704 E. Greenville Street, Ste 1C, Anderson, SC 29621.

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 Yeargin family.

Artist Guild has August exhibit

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Artist Guild has a new exhibit at the Welcome Center in downtown Abbeville.

"Paint the Town," which will run through the month of August, features renderings of such Abbeville locations as Abbeville ARP, Court Square, Trinity Episcopal Church, the Livery Stable, the Welcome Center, the Belmont, and the Rough House.

There is even a glimpse into Abbeville's past. Carolin Ann McLane has painted "C.D. Agan," a tribute to her father, Clarence Agan. "I used coffee to paint that with," she said. The "water color" features her father, as

he appeared in 1947, at the Abbeville Drug Company.

"I was painting that from a picture that Jane had," she said. Jane is Jane Agan, her sister. The Abbeville Drug Company, which no longer exists, was situated on Court Square, on the same side as the Welcome Center. In the picture, her father is standing in front of a display counter. Mr. Agan passed away approximately 21 years ago.

There are rural scenes as well, in addition to one portraying a scene from the "big city."

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the Guild is a nonprofit organization promoting the arts here in

Abbeville County.

The organization just recently staged a photo contest this summer, has workshops at the Abbeville Civic Center from time to time--workshops where artists can hone their skill and learn new techniques.

The Guild also held a kids art camp, taught by Cecily Ferguson, earlier this summer at the Abbeville Civic Center.

Jesse Nance is the president of the organization, whose secretary is Carolin Ann McLane, and whose treasurer is Jane Agan. There is also a board of directors.

CROSSWORD

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- ACROSS**
- *Beginning of a computer class?
 - Mandela's org.
 - Horned birds
 - Silly and insignificant
 - U.S. counterpart to British M15
 - Inuit skin boat
 - Long oar
 - Acronym, abbr.
 - Movie "___ Day Care"
 - *End of a pencil, sometimes
 - **"Back to School" star
 - Asian restaurant frying pan
 - Anne ___ of gothic fiction fame
 - ___ Beesly of "The Office"
 - Cote d'Azur city
 - Opposite of comic
 - Major mountain chain in Russia
 - It launched Columbus, acr.
 - Walk through slush
 - Lindsey Vonn's prop
 - *Geography class prop
 - Bear in the sky
 - Idealized imaged of someone
 - Reflect deeply
 - Stake driver
 - Dismiss (2 words)
 - Not want
 - Albanian money
 - *Cafeteria ware
 - Rare find
 - *Paper holder
 - *Fictional high school in "Grease"
 - Pope's court
 - Barley brew
 - Run-of-the-mill
 - Boat contents
 - Little bit
 - Tale, in France
 - Small island
 - I, to Claudius
 - Terminated

- DOWN**
- Fleur-de-___
 - Sometimes it's enough
 - Wild ox of India
 - On spouse's side
 - Infamous Baby Face
 - A long way off
 - Network at 30 Rock
 - Wispy clouds
 - Yemen's neighbor
 - ___ receiver
 - The Tramp's spaghetti-slurping companion
 - Limit, to some
 - Bovine milk dispensers
 - Increasing
 - Month X
 - Reverberate
 - *Student
 - Scent, usually pleasant
 - Malaysia native
 - "Keep ___ and Carry On"
 - *One at high school reunion
 - Small Asian ungulate
 - September edition, e.g.
 - *Dry-erase marker predecessor
 - Toy construction set
 - Having the know-how
 - Lament for the dead
 - When one is not oneself (2 words)
 - Joker to Batman, e.g.
 - *Do this in Math class
 - *Do this in Speech class
 - Subatomic particle
 - Sable and beaver, e.g.
 - *Type of exam
 - Like SNL
 - *Grader's suggestion
 - City in Sweden
 - "A day ___ and a dollar short"
 - Some special effects, acr.
 - Fall behind
 - Type of Christmas lights

Panthers victorious in WCTel Classic

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville defeated Greenwood 7-0 in the third segment of the WCTEL Classic, held at Abbeville High School's Hite Stadium Thursday night.

AHS won by virtue of a 41 yard touchdown run by Jamal Marshall.

Abbeville will now travel to take on Strom Thurmond in the Greenwood Jamboree on Friday, August 12. The Jamboree begins at 6 p.m. AHS head football coach Jamie Nickles characterized Strom Thurmond, a 2A school, as "big and strong" and a formidable foe.

The Panthers will take on Strom Thurmond in the second segment of the jamboree, he said.

Strom Thurmond victorious

In the first segment Thursday night, Strom Thurmond destroyed Ninety Six, 21-0.

Emerald wins

In the second segment, held immediately following the lightning delay, Emerald defeated McCormick, 7-0 on the strength of an 18 yard touchdown run.

Flashes/Hornets cancelled

The final segment of the WCTEL Classic, a contest between 1-Arivals Calhoun Falls Charter and Dixie, was cancelled.

According to AHS athletic director Maggie Jameson, the cancellation was a decision made by both the CF Charter and the Dixie

coaches.

Mother Nature was the real winner of the event, which featured a lightning delay following the first segment which lasted more than an hour.

The heat, too, was part of the story. The Classic was played on an evening that was both hot and muggy.

Like the Greenwood Jamboree, it is a preseason event.

The AHS Panthers, Calhoun Falls Charter Blue Flashes, and Dixie Hornets will open their regular seasons on August 19, with Abbeville visiting McCormick, Calhoun Falls Charter hosting Northside Christian, and Dixie visiting Pendleton.



Abbeville High School (in dark jerseys) defeated Greenwood High School 7-0 recently in the WCTEL Classic at Hite Stadium in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Fast... very fast Speed will definitely be a factor for the 2022 Calhoun Falls Blue Flashes

By Henry E. Green
Get ready, world!

Here come the Flashes! With a new head football coach, the Calhoun Falls Charter varsity football team might be ready to turn some heads.

386-1452
First year head coach Zak Theus is pleased about the numbers of kids on the team—especially since Calhoun Falls Charter has struggled with numbers at times in the past.

"We're up to about 23 kids right now," he said.

The Flashes are blessed with some key returning players, including quarterback Ty Turman, running back Jamarri Norman, and wide receiver De'quean Lewis.

Jamarri can play wide re-

ceiver as well, and all three play in the secondary on defense.

Linebacker and starting left tackle Devon Burden is also returning from last year, and Theus is expecting him to help make a difference.

This year's team has some definite strengths. "We've got speed everywhere," he said.

"We're growing," he added, noting that this year's edition of the Flashes has more players than last year.

Theus has also been impressed by the work ethic of his troops.

"We work hard," he said. "And I think that's going to show on the football field."

The team also is not without challenges, he said. "It's a new system—getting them to adjust to a new style of

football that we're playing.

"We're going to play fast," he said. "We're going to play 'physical', and we're not going to turn the ball over."

The kids have a positive response, according to Theus. "They're starting to get excited," he said.

And bringing excitement back to Calhoun Falls Charter football is something Theus would like to facilitate.

The Blue Flashes were scheduled to take on Dixie in Thursday's WCTEL Classic in Abbeville, but that part of the event was cancelled.

The Flashes, meanwhile, were set to continue their preseason journey with a trip to Carolina High School on Monday, August 8, at 6 p.m. for a scrimmage, Theus said.



These Abbeville High School cheerleaders rejoiced following Abbeville's victory over Greenwood in the recent WCTEL Classic at Hite Stadium in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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The Abbeville High School Panthers took team pictures on August 5, on the field at Hite Stadium on the AHS campus. The Panthers will face Strom Thurmond in the Greenwood Jamboree. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

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2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.



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Abbeville First makes donation to Youth Center

By Henry E. Green
 The Abbeville Youth Center recently received a donation of \$4,000 from Abbeville First Bank. Abbeville First CEO Andy Timmerman made the check presentation Tuesday, August 2, to Abbeville Youth Center executive director Andy Rousey.

About the Youth Center
 The Youth Center, a non-profit organization, depends on donations from businesses, individuals and churches to operate, Rousey indicated Wednesday.

It is run by an executive director and a board of directors, and the board includes board chair Jerry Blessingame, as well as Jennifer Simmons, Tripp Speer, Lauren South, Doug Stoll, Brad Stoll and Brent Beiler.

The staff includes program manager Shaniqua Hunter and office manager Alysha Tabb, Rousey continued. "We have a ton of volunteers," he said.

Geared toward middle and high school students, the Youth Center offers kids a place to have fun after school in a safe and structured environment, while being instilled with the three Cs--character, citizenship, and Christ.

Thus, the Youth Center offers a variety of activities, ranging from basketball to volleyball to pool, mentoring, and help with homework, Rousey continued.

There is instruction in life skills, with help on items such as financial literacy, and meals are offered as well.

There is also a program on graduation readiness, getting students ready to enter into the next phase of life after high school--whether it is college or the military or the work force.

All of these programs are free to the students, Rousey said.

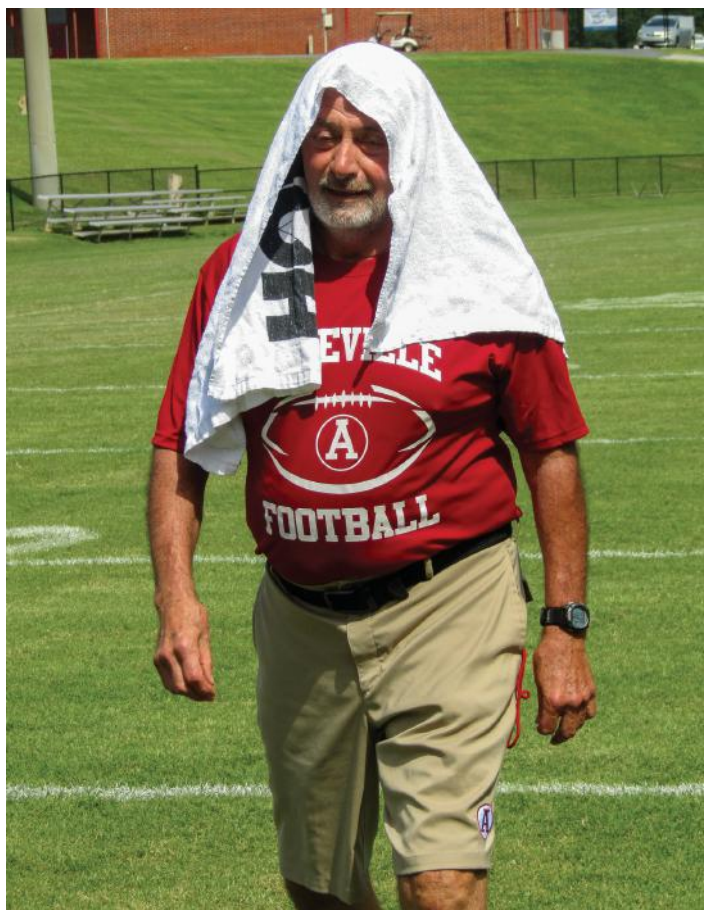
Located at 201 South Main in Abbeville in a building which used to house the Abbeville County Library, the Youth Center is open Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and the Abbeville County School District helps with transportation for students to the Youth Center, sending a bus to drop them off there.

"Last year we served 122 kids, and that's 122 kids who are coming regularly," Rousey said.



The Abbeville Youth Center recently received a donation of \$4,000 from Abbeville First Bank. Abbeville First CEO Andy Timmerman made the check presentation Tuesday, August 2, to Youth Center executive director Andy Rousey and a number of students who use the Youth Center. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Hot enough for you? Members of the Abbeville High School coaching staff had their pictures taken recently on the AHS field under an intense August sun, and Rex Pelfrey was seen sporting a little protection against sunburn as he walked to the end of the field to get his picture taken. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



This cluster of balloons added a bit of color at Long Cane Primary on Wednesday, August 3 -- the day after opening day for the 2022-23 school year. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Pet of the Month

Trixi is a beautiful girl with butterscotch and white fur. She is 8 months old, weighs 26 lbs. and has been spayed. She is full of energy and loves to play games. Her favorite is Tug of War. She is good with other dogs and is ready for her forever home. Come meet Trixi today at the Animal Shelter.

Adoption Fees will be waived for Trixi, 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

Mama Jazz is the sweetest dog you will ever meet. Jazz has sandy and white fur, she is 2 years old, and weighs 60 pounds. She has been spayed and is ready to go to a loving home. She loves going for walks and having her belly rubbed. She always has a smile and is friendly with other dogs. Mama Jazz could be your perfect companion.

Adoption Fees will be waived for Mama Jazz, 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.

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