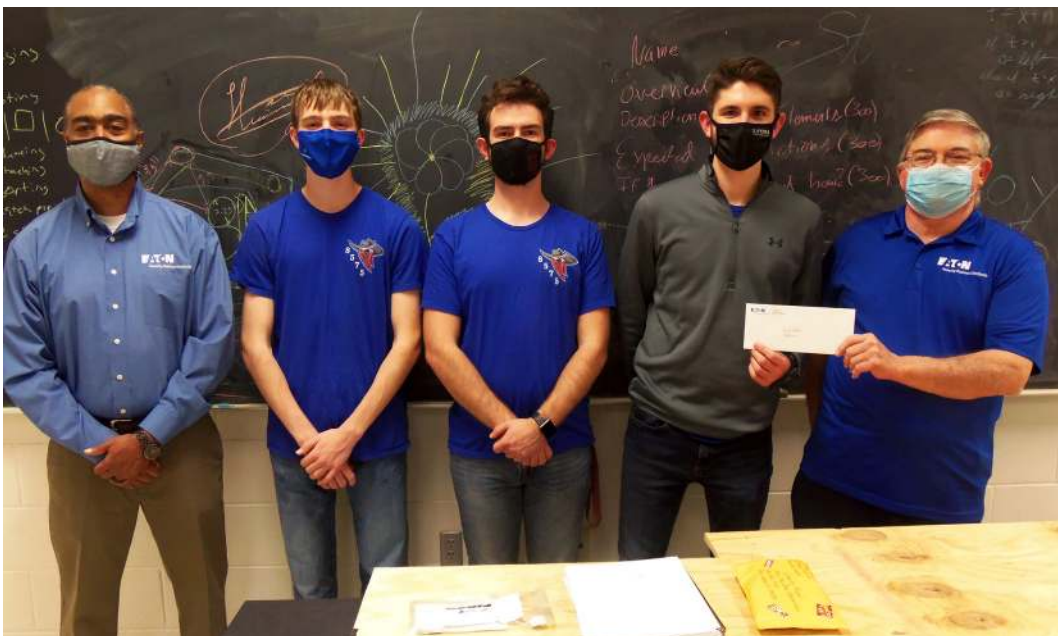




“Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it.”



The Eaton Corporation recently made a donation to Due West Robotics. Taking part in the presentation were (from left) Brent Parris of Eaton, Ethan Angel, John Paul Bell and Matt Weyer of Due West Robots, and Ed Rollings of Eaton. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Eaton presents gift to Due West Robotics

By Henry E. Green

The Eaton Corporation has given Due West Robotics a gift of \$60,000.

Eaton representatives Brent Parris and Ed Rollings presented the gift Thursday night at a Due West Robotics meeting.

Parris and Rollings presented the check to long-time Due West Robotics members Ethan Angel, J.P. Bell, and Matt Weyer.

Due West Robotics is a nonprofit organization which seeks to instill in young people STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) skills.

The organization has participated in many competitions with other robotics organizations over the years,

and has achieved success in those competitions, on the state, national and even international levels.

Due West Robotics, whose president is Charles Angel of Due West, is now seeking a building which it can call its own, a building in which it can center its operations.

Thursday night, State Rep. Craig Gagnon was among the guests at the meeting, where those on hand listened to a presentation on a Robotics project, and even watched a robot in action, and there was pizza as well.

The gift from Eaton will help with equipment for Due West Robotics, and will also provide a contribution toward the establishment of a Due West Robotics

headquarters for the organization.

According to the Due West Robotics Website, there are more than 300 robotics teams in South Carolina.

Due West Robotics currently participates in three competitive programs, including Jr. FLL for young people ages six through nine, FLL for ages nine through 14, and FTC, for ages 13 through 18.

Today, the organization which started out in 2012 with four members now has a framework of activities in which hundreds of young people from Abbeville County and the surrounding region participate, Angel indicated Friday.

Renovations going on at police/fire complex

By Henry E. Green

Renovations are going on at the Abbeville Police/Fire Complex on South Main in Abbeville in the office area on the fire/zoning side of the building, a City source said.

The renovation work began around the end of February, and it includes interior painting and relocation of

offices.

The executive assistant for the City's fire and zoning department will switch office space with the City's fire chief/zoning administrator.

New ceilings, new lighting, and new partitions are also part of the upgrade, which should be finished in about two weeks.

The work, which is being done by the City fire fighters, is designed to provide a more efficient use of space.

The police/fire complex houses the City's police and fire fighting divisions, with one side of the building housing the fire department, and the other housing the police department.

Gagnon introduces bill

By Henry E. Green

State Rep. Craig Gagnon, who represents State House District 11, said Wednesday that he is the principal sponsor of a bill in the South Carolina House of Representatives which would allow the Abbeville County School District to have a referendum on a one cent sales tax for capital improvements and property tax relief.

Gagnon said Wednesday that he and State Rep. Jay West of State House District 7 introduced the bill, H3374, last week at the request of the Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees, and it was assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee for consideration.

If everything goes to plan, the referendum could be held during the general

election of 2022.

Possible projects which could be funded through the referendum include the expansion of the cafeterias at the District's two high schools--Dixie and Abbeville--and replacement of some of the older wings at the two high schools, according to information on the Abbeville County School District Website.

AAMC embraces new vaccine guidelines

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Area Medical Center is embracing the new eligibility guidelines for COVID-19 vaccinations.

South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster and SC DHEC made the announcement last week that South Carolina will move to Phase 1b of the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

Beginning March 8, appointments to get the COVID-19 vaccine can be made by people in the following age groups:

- Anyone aged 55 and up
- People with increased risk for severe COVID disease
- Front line workers with increased occupational risk
- Individuals at increased risk in settings where people are living and working in close contact
- All workers in health care and community health settings who have routine, direct patient contact and were not vaccinated in Phase 1a.

cepting appointment requests for vaccinations.

To be added to the list, one may e-mail aahcvax@AbbevilleAreaMC.com or call 366-1647.

AAMC every week requests vaccine from the state of South Carolina, and then waits for the state to confirm the amount which the hospital will receive, according to AAMC marketing director Meg Davis.

The vaccination clinic, meanwhile, is being moved back this week to the former neurology building behind the Abbeville Area Healthcare Center, she said Wednesday.

It is being moved from the old Abbeville Shopping Center in Abbeville, she indicated. Davis released the following statement: "AAMC is happy that the shift to 1b for COVID-19 vaccination is occurring and we are pleased that we can now offer this important service to even more members

of our community. Having already vaccinated more than 4,000 people and, at times more than 500 people in one day, our processes are working smoothly and we continue to be well prepared for this phase.

"The only change that we will be making is to relocate our vaccination clinic site to its previous location at 901 W. Greenwood Street, Suite 6 which is behind the Healthcare Center and the former location of our Neurology office. Appointment requests can be made by emailing aahcvax@AbbevilleAreaMC.com or by calling 366-1647."

We feel that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine will provide much needed availability to those who need to be vaccinated," she quoted AAMC physician Dr. Trey Moore as saying. "AAMC will, unless distribution practices from the state change, continue to use the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine exclusively."

Three candidates file for CF special election

By Henry E. Green

Filing for the special election in Calhoun Falls in April for Town Council ended on Friday, March 5, at noon and the field of candidates is now complete, according to the Abbeville County voter registration office.

Filing as candidates are Howard Harmon, Courtney Cade, and La Sean M. Tutt, the voter registration office reported.

The special election will be

on Tuesday, April 6, and will be to fill the unexpired term of Wayne Pless, a Town Council member who died on Jan. 8, according to the voter registration office and to published reports.

The filing period for the special election opened on Feb. 24.

Calhoun Falls Town Council elections are nonpartisan.

The winner of the April election will serve until No-

ember of 2023, according to Kim London.

Absentee voting will begin on March 15, and will run until the day before the election, and will be held at the voter registration office.

Voting on the day of the election will be held at the Calhoun Falls Civic Center from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, call the voter registration office at 366-2400, extension 53



Eleanor Logan, Charles Angel, Craig Gagnon and Ed Rollings were among those watching as a Due West Robotics robot performed during a Robotics meeting at Erskine recently. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Man arrested after motor vehicle chase

By Henry E. Green

An Abbeville man led Police on a chase through downtown Abbeville recently, according to an Abbeville Police Department incident report.

Twenty four year old Xavier Quincy Rollinson of Haigler Street, Apartment 622, Abbeville faces charges of Possession with Intent to Distribute Marijuana, more than 28 grams, and Failure

to Stop for a Blue Light and Siren, following an incident in Abbeville on the afternoon of Monday, March 1, according to an Abbeville Police Department incident report.

According to the report, Police were attempting a traffic stop on Court Square when Rollinson, driving an SUV, accelerated the vehicle, driving down Trinity Street with the Police, who had detected the odor of

marijuana inside the SUV, in pursuit.

Rollinson allegedly took a right on Church Street and then a right onto West Pinckney, where his vehicle collided into a porch of a residence on that street.

The Police searched the vehicle and found a quantity of marijuana with an estimated value of \$1,500, according to the report.

John Sutherland wins

By Henry E. Green

John Sutherland was the winner when voters in Abbeville City Council District Three went to the polls yesterday in a special City Council election, and elected to fill the unexpired term Trey Edwards left when he was elected Mayor last year. Three candidates were vying for the seat--Sandi Hood, Dee Henderson and Sutherland.

“John Sutherland was the winner,” said Abbeville County voter registration and elections director Kim London. “He had 37 votes, which is 53.62 percent.” “Sandi Hood had 24 votes, which is 34.78 percent, and Dee Henderson had eight votes, which was 11.59 percent,” she went on to say. There will not be a runoff, since Sutherland had over 50 percent of the vote.

Edwards had two years remaining on his term as a City Council District Three representative. Voters cast their ballots yesterday at the Abbeville County Administrative Complex. Voter turnout was light, said London. The District has 320 eligible voters, and only 69 of them voted, she said.

Council gets ‘historic’

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville City Council, meeting Tuesday night, passed second and final reading on an ordinance which could benefit historic properties. The ordinance amends Chapter 14 of the City Code to adopt the provisions of the state’s Bailey Bill concerning a special tax assessment for rehabilitated historic property. It creates a special tax assessment for rehabilitated historic property. The City may grant a special property tax assessment for real property which may qualify as rehabilitated historic properties. The hope is that it will produce incentive for the rehabilitation of historic properties and add to the City’s economic base. A similar measure has been moving through Abbeville County Council. In other matters, Council took action on a Lake Secession lot. According to the City Manager Blake Stone’s report, the City Manager reached out “to the inquiring party” regarding a lot on Lake Secession. The individual has inquired about purchasing a City lot

off Lake Secession Road. The lot takes in 42.63 acres, and the appraisal of the property has been completed. City Council approved the City’s beginning the closed bid process for the property. The City will put the property, which it is not using, out for bid. The property, appraised at \$149,000, will be sold through the City’s normal public bid process. Mayor Trey Edwards recused himself from voting since a relative had expressed interest in the property. Also Tuesday night, Council approved additional hydroelectric turbine repair costs at Lake Secession. The City should be able to recoup the money from the expense through enhanced efficiency. Council also gave the go ahead to proceed with an Adams Drive sidewalk project. The Adams Drive area has become a focus for sidewalk development due to the park in the area. The project will include the installation of a sidewalk from Meadow Drive to Adams Drive Park, as well as an ADA curb ramp, and the installation of a concrete parking pad,

and the installation of a catch basin and drainage pipes. The total estimated cost is \$62, 900 and Council gave its approval to move forward with the project and to acquire bids. Council was given a mini-park renovation update. The painting of the playground equipment at the mini-parks has been completed. The City is currently waiting for the delivery of new trash receptacles and basketball equipment. Additionally, the City apply mulch and work on the washed-out areas when the rain has subsided for a consistent period of time, Stone said. Council was also provided with a lawn care management analysis. The City created a comparison of the cost of contracting out lawn care management services for its public utilities properties. The addition of one new employee and associated equipment for the role would cost \$60, 549.52 annually. The previous bid for the service was \$69,100. Council members Benji Greeson and Louise Aikens were absent from the meeting.

Designing a Wildlife-Friendly Landscape

By Melinda Myers

We love watching the bunnies hopping across the lawn or ground squirrels scurrying away with a cheek full of seeds. That is, until they dine on our favorite shrub or take just one bite out of each red ripe tomato in the garden. Finding a way to coexist is critical for wildlife struggling to survive and our enjoyment of nature and our landscapes. As gardeners, we know that digging in the soil and tending a garden is good for our mind, body, and spirit. Researchers discovered the same is true when we take time to observe wildlife. Our need for a relationship with nature is also important to our wellbeing. It helps us feel more content and function more effectively. But we love our gardens too. Implementing some design and management strategies can help us support and enjoy wildlife, care for our landscapes, and improve our quality of life. By reducing the amount of edge habitat, where one type of habitat meets another, can allow us to support wildlife while reducing the risk of damage. Create circular or square garden beds that have more interior space and less border space. Long linear beds

with more edges and less interior space allows easier access for animals to dine. Work with neighbors and your community to create large blocks and corridors of habitat. Providing them spaces, other than your gardens, with needed food and shelter can help you and the wildlife to coexist. Protect key gardens and plants. Fencing is an option. Make sure your fence is high enough, tight to the ground, and the gates secure. Repellents are a less obtrusive option. Select a product labeled for the animals and rodents you are trying to manage. For best results, apply repellents before the animals start feeding. Then reapply as recommended on the label. Look for one, like organic, bird- and pollinator-friendly [Plantskydd \(plantskydd.com\)](http://Plantskydd.com), that is rain and snow resistant, requiring fewer repeat applications. Work with nature to maintain a balance in your landscape. Invite hawks, owls, and fox to your backyard. Grow tall grasses and plants that provide cover for foxes. Include trees with good perches or install perch poles to attract and support raptors. And like any landscape endeavor, start with a plan. Make a sketch of

your existing landscape. Identify existing plants and wildlife-friendly habitats. Make note of both the natural habitats and any supplemental food, water, and shelter you provide. Review and note various features in your landscape throughout the year. Now decide what you want to accomplish in your landscape. What wildlife do you want to attract and have the space to support? Perhaps you want to attract more songbirds to your gardens or animals, like toads, that help manage pests in the garden. Make sure your landscape provides the habitat features needed to attract and sustain these welcome residents. You will find lots of helpful resources on National Wildlife Federation, Audubon, Natural Resources Conservation Services, Department of Natural Resources, and University Extension websites. Be patient and wait for a year to evaluate the results of your efforts. Then begin making any needed changes to meet your goals. Developing a landscape for you to enjoy and one that supports wildlife takes time, but as a gardener this is not only part of the process but an exciting adventure.

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The Abbeville Pentecostal Church was recently recognized for its collection of tuna for the United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County food pantry. Joining in at the UCMAC food pantry were (from left) Joanne Smith, Leonard Partain, David Whitten, Pat Argo and Marion Argo. Absent from the photo is the church's pastor Rev. Jerry Catoe. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Fish story!

Abbeville Pentecostal Holiness recognized for UCMAC tuna collection

By Henry E. Green
Call Abbeville Pentecostal Holiness "the tuna church." They won't mind. Everybody does--especially the folks at the United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County, which operates a food pantry system. That food pantry depends to a large extent on the generosity of the churches that make up the UCMAC network. As food pantry director Mike Shirley has noted, each church is assigned a particular commodity, and the members of that particular church collect and contribute to the pantry

items of that commodity. That includes Abbeville Pentecostal Holiness, a church which Shirley praised for its faithfulness in contributing food. "Members, along with Pastor Jerry Catoe, of the Abbeville Pentecostal Holiness Church, collect cans of tuna for the food bank," he said. "On Friday, March 5, 309 cans were donated. Since beginning the program 10, 356 cans have been donated." Some of the 75 members of the church gathered recently in front of the food pantry, located at Main

Street United Methodist Church. Among them was Marion Argo of Abbeville, who helps spearhead the church's collection of tuna. "He's the tuna captain," we were told. Shirley, meanwhile, praised the church for its hard work in collecting food which will go into food boxes which the pantry distributes to people in need. UCMAC, in addition to the food pantry, has a medical clinic, and an emergency assistance ministry. And that's no fish story!

County Council approves landfill study

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville County's landfill operations will be the subject of a study, according to action taken by County Council Monday night. The study could provide guidance on where landfill operations stand now and where they need to go, and how they could be improved, to give the County guidance on the matter. Council took the action after an executive session. Council member Rick Campbell made a motion to authorize the County Director to enter into a contract with Smith Gardiner Engineers to review and evaluate the current solid waste program and landfill operations with a cost not to exceed \$15,000, which shall be paid from the County's infrastructure fund, Clerk to Council Lynn Sopolosky said Tuesday. This was seconded by Council member James McCord, and passed 6-0. Council member Jason Bonds was absent from the meeting. It has been several years since the last landfill study was done, Campbell said, noting that it would be sim-

ilar to an audit for financial matters, and adding that the infrastructure fund will not be hurt by the expense of the study because the fund has a surplus. In other matters Monday night, Council got some good news. Council was informed by County Director David Garner that the state of South Carolina intends to fully fund the local government fund, of which Abbeville County is one of the beneficiaries. The state, said Council member Rick Campbell Tuesday, has not always funded it fully. The amount of money the County would get is not certain at this time, he said. "We hope we get it, but we may be just dreaming," said Campbell. Given the less than full funding in the past, he is skeptical that the state will fully fund it this year. "We will know more later," he said. Council had a public hearing on an ordinance to establish requirements and procedures for property owners to apply for their property to be considered rehabilitated historic prop-

erty and to receive special property tax assessments. Council passed second reading on the ordinance later in the evening. Council passed third reading of Ordinance 2021-04 to change the name of Starlite Ridge Drive to Tranquil Star Ridge Drive in Abbeville County. Council also passed resolution designating April 2021 as Fair Housing Month. Council tabled, upon a motion by Council member Drew Simpson and a second by Council member Charles Goodwin, a resolution authorizing the County Director to enter into a contractual relationship with Mathis Plumbing Heating and Air for the purchase of a Turbo Power Gas Water Heater to be installed in the Detention Center in the amount of up to \$48,480. Council went into executive session to discuss contractual matters with regard to the landfill and public works, and resolution 2021-06. Also to be discussed was an economic development matter with regard to Project Cooler.

Laurens County SAFE Home plans drive-thru

By Henry E. Green
Laurens County SAFE HOME is presenting a Community Care Package Drive-Thru event in Abbeville on Thursday, March 18, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The drive-thru, which will be held behind the Abbeville County School District's administration building on 404 Greenville Street, will feature, while supplies last, a distribution of personal care items and household items. The format will be to distrib-

ute one package per family, with each package containing items such as bathroom tissue, toothpaste, soap, shampoo and conditioner. It is all free. Laurens County SAFE HOME's service area includes Abbeville, and the agency wants to promote awareness of the services it provides, according to Brit-tani Archie, case manager with SAFE HOME. SAFE HOME is a shelter for victims of domestic abuse, serving women and

children. "Within a year we probably serve about 1,200 clients in and out of shelter," she said. SAFE HOME has in shelter and out of shelter services, so that a client does not actually have to come inside the shelter to be provided assistance. SAFE HOME serves Laurens, Abbeville, and Saluda counties. For more information, one may call 864-682-7270.

Just hold on

Health officials warn that we are not out of the COVID woods just yet

By Henry E. Green
The numbers are still up for the coronavirus pandemic here in Abbeville County, but with the vaccines becoming more widely available here in South Carolina, there is cause for optimism. Eligibility in the Palmetto State has now been expanded to people 55 years old and older (see related story.) As of Sunday, March 7, Abbeville County had 1,945 confirmed positive cases of the coronavirus and 29 confirmed coronavirus related deaths, according to data from DHEC. Among Abbeville's neighboring counties, Anderson County had 18,644 cases and 435 deaths, while Greenwood County had 6,796 cases and 143

deaths. Laurens County had 5,861 cases and 141 deaths, while McCormick County had 748 cases and 17 deaths. In the state as a whole, there were 449,977 positive confirmed cases, and 7,744 deaths. The vaccines, of course, have produced considerable optimism. There are now three vaccines in the war on COVID--Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson. According to the New York Times, 58.9 million people nationwide have received at least one dose of a vaccine, and 31 million have been fully vaccinated. People who are fully vaccinated need to be aware that it takes several weeks

for the body to build up immunity to the virus, the Times reported. In addition, people who have been vaccinated still need to practice social distancing and wear masks, the Times reported. In addition, news reports indicate that a number of states, such as Texas and Mississippi, have relaxed measures aimed at curbing the spread of the virus. Health officials have warned that the U.S. is not "out of the woods" yet, and have said that now is not the time to relax restrictions. Reports have pointed to Florida, with its multitudes of young people seeking out the joys of spring break, as a warning that "super-spreader events" are still possible.

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A place to stay

Pathway House serves homeless

By Henry E. Green
Where are you going to sleep tonight? For most of us, it is a question that never comes to mind, because we take the answer for granted.

For the homeless, however, it is a question fraught with uncertainty. Indeed, uncertainty appears to be a major theme of life among the homeless, as Anthony Price indicated to Abbeville Rotarians recently.

Price is the director of Pathway House, a Greenwood-based ministry for the homeless.

Pathway House serves seven counties, including Abbeville, Greenwood, McCormick, Edgefield, Saluda, Laurens and Newberry.

And though we think of homelessness as a problem affecting big cities like Los Angeles, Price is here to tell you that Abbeville--yes, Abbeville--has its share of homeless people.

The number of homeless people in a given area is typically under-counted to a large degree.

Price estimates that Abbeville has 120 homeless adults and 243 homeless children.

And adult homelessness

in the Lakelands has risen as much as 20 percent in the past five years, and the number of homeless children has risen as much as 122 percent.

The causes of homelessness, meanwhile, lie largely in childhood trauma.

That trauma can lead an individual to grow up into a person who may not be able to hold a job, and eventually winds up on the street.

Sometimes entire families wind up homeless, and they may not necessarily be on the street, but may find shelter by way of "couch surfing" in the homes of others, or they may stay in motels.

The effects of homelessness can be devastating on the young. Homeless children tend to fall behind their peers in terms of academic standards, and are less likely to graduate from high school. Homeless children are subject to chronic absenteeism, with kids missing as much as half the school year.

The Greenwood community has as many as 800 homeless children, and South Carolina has an estimated 47,000 young people.

Kids who are homeless tend to grow up into adults

who have job problems, and who are likely to be addicted to drugs and alcohol.

The effect on society of homelessness is also devastating. One homeless person can cost taxpayers as much as \$40,000 per year.

"Homelessness has this ripple effect throughout the community," he said.

Pathway House in Greenwood offers a number of programs to help the homeless--from overnight accommodations to opportunities for them to gain jobs and attain a measure of independence.

It is an organization which has come a long way.

"We started in 2011 at St. Mark's church (in Greenwood)," he said.

Pathway House has three phases of homeless assistance, including a crisis phase, a 90-day stabilization phase, and a resiliency phase, lasting up to a year.

There is art therapy program for the homeless, in which clients can find a "catalyst for healing and therapy."

There is also a thrift store, and there are plans as well for a campus expansion.

"We are right on the verge of launching a Pathway Village," he said.

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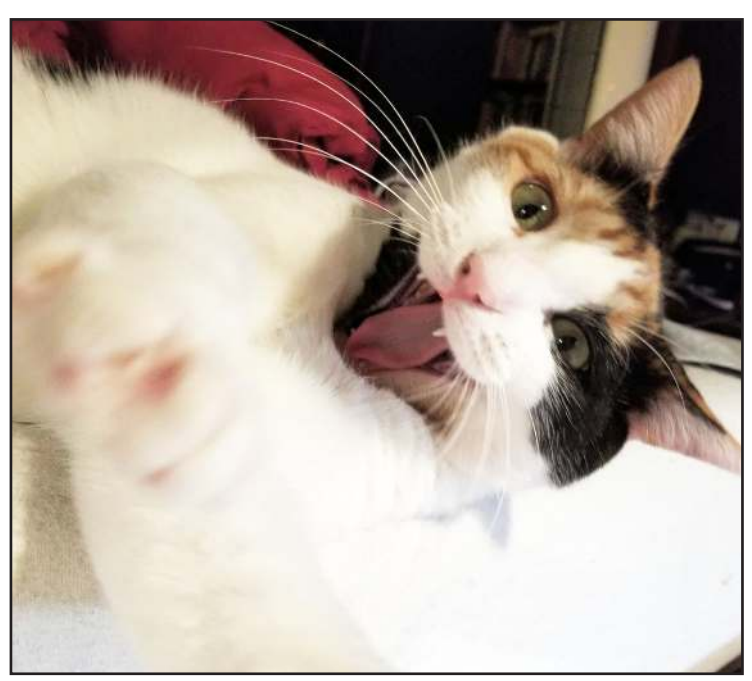


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Investigation reveals 'Hero Cat' who saved family likely set blaze



Story continued on page 87



Anthony Price, director of the Pathway House in Greenwood, was the speaker at a recent Abbeville Rotary Club meeting. Following the meeting, Price (center) posed for a photo with club president John Andrew Bishop (left) and Pathway House board member Sharlene Greene (right). Greene said, "I heard someone say that homelessness is a depressing topic. It is only depressing if you choose to do nothing about it." (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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Community Calendar

UCMAC encouraging people to fill out survey

The United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County is welcoming county residents to fill out a survey on the need for public transportation in Abbeville County.

"An electronic version of the survey is available and we need to get as many responses as possible," said UCMAC executive director Bill Boone.

Boone encouraged people wishing to complete the survey to reach out to the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6ZH9FSL>.

Growers workshop scheduled

There will be a Growers 102 online free workshop on growing plants and vegetables on March 12, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

The event is being sponsored by Clemson Extension, Freshwater Coast Community Foundation, WCTEL and SBDC.

To learn more about FCCF, go to <https://freshwatercoast-foundation.org/>.

Vision committee meeting slated

The Abbeville Area Medical Center Vision Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 17 at 4 p.m.

Faith Home Fish Fry Slated

There will be a Faith Home Fish Fry at 701 South Main Street, Abbeville on Saturday, March 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will feature "Healthy Flounder Fillet" or "Bone in Catfish Plates" for \$10.

The event includes generous portions of fish, fries, cole slaw, and hush puppies with tartar sauce.

Library board to meet

The Board of Trustees of the Abbeville County Library System will have their regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 4 p.m. at the Main Branch of the Library.

4K pre-screening packets are ready

Submitted by **Kathy R. Bernard, Special Services Director, Abbeville Co. School District**

- Long Cane Primary
- John C. Calhoun Elem.
- Cherokee Trail Elem.
- Diamond Hill Elem.

Completed Packets are due back at the school by March 17, 2021.

Based on completed packets and CERDEP Eligibility Criteria, 4K Screening appointments will be made. Someone will call you by the end of March 2021.

Pick up a packet at one of the following schools :

Rotarians purchase seats at Opera House

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville Rotarians are purchasing four seats at the Abbeville Opera House, putting the Rotary brand on the iconic theater which has been part of the Abbeville landscape for more than a century.

The City of Abbeville is in the process of replacing the seats in the Opera House, Abbeville's community theater, and members of the community have the opportunity to purchase new seats.

With the Abbeville Opera House seat installation coming in the next six months, the City will begin preparing to remove the older seats in the venue, according to a City of Abbeville report.

The City, which operates

the Opera House, will sell the intact seats for \$150 apiece, which will include a named engraving on a new seat, according to a report to Abbeville City Council from City Manager Blake Stone, a report discussed during the Feb. 9 City Council meeting.

Individuals interested in having their names engraved on the new seats may do so for \$75.

All money garnered from the sale of seats and name engravings will go toward the Opera House Historic Preservation Fund.

"We are purchasing a row of seats (four)," explained Rotary Club president John Andrew Bishop. "The price is \$75.00 per seat for a total of \$300.00. We will get an engraved plaque on each

seat."

Bishop announced the purchase during the March 4 Abbeville Rotary Club meeting.

The Abbeville Rotary Club is part of the Rotary International service organization, which has more than one million members worldwide.

Locally, the Abbeville Rotary Club has a scholarship program to benefit outstanding graduates of Abbeville, Dixie and Calhoun Falls Charter high schools.

Abbeville Rotarians also present every year the Rotary Bowl, a day of football at Hite Stadium, in which Abbeville recreation teams typically battle teams from other communities.

Coalition planning Lake Russell Hustle

By Henry E. Green

The Lake Russell Hustle 5K Race/Fun Walk will be presented on March 13, by the Lake Russell Recreation and Tourism Coalition at the Blue Hole recreation area in Calhoun Falls.

Late registration will be held March 4 through March 13. Registration is free for kids up to age 17.

On the day of the Lake Russell Hustle, there will be a registration period between 7:30 a.m. and 8 a.m., and the 5K race will

begin at 8:30 a.m.

To obtain a registration form, one may contact Stephen Taylor at staylor@hotmail.com or 378-3872.

The Coalition is a nonprofit organization which seeks to highlight the tourism and recreation potential of Lake Russell.

The Lake Russell Hustle is one of a number of events presented by the Coalition in conjunction with this aim.

These include the Freedom Blast, typically held before the Fourth of July

and featuring live music and fireworks, an autumn jubilee, and Paddlefest.

Paddlefest is an event which highlights the joys of kayaking on Lake Russell.

While a number of the Lake's events were canceled last year because of the pandemic, the Coalition last fall did present a musical event featuring Little Roy and Lizzy.



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Or, call (864) 725-8200 to pre-register for your COVID test.

Tests are first come, first served as long as testing materials last. *Insurance will be billed, but there is no out-of-pocket cost for testing.*

More SRH dates, times and locations to be announced soon. Always check the Self Regional website and Facebook page for latest info. about community testing events.

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Charley Criger is planning to open a restaurant in downtown Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Crigler planning new restaurant in Abbeville

By Henry E. Green

Is there life after the Dutch Oven?

Charlye Crigler of Abbeville is here to tell you that the answer is a resounding "yes."

The old Dutch Oven restaurant was located at 108/110 North Main, and was something of an icon among the many restaurants of Abbeville.

Fried chicken, chicken livers, and other goodies that define country cooking--all helped to make the Dutch Oven a place near and dear to the hearts of Abbeville.

The restaurant closed several years ago, but Crigler bought the building in which it had been located, and now she plans to open another restaurant on the very site where the Dutch Oven had been located.

Crigler is in the process of renovating and restoring the building, and she plans to open the restaurant "in the near future."

Crigler is aiming for the late spring or early summer to open an eatery which she plans to call Crigler, Dee and Denise Family Restaurant.

And out front, she plans to change the lettering on the awning from "Dutch Oven" to "Dutchess", to reflect the new ownership.

"It's going to be a family restaurant," she said, noting that she will be running the restaurant in partnership with her daughters Dee and Denise.

The menu will be similar to that of the old Dutch Oven, with a "meat and three" format. However, it will be exactly the same, as Crigler

wants to open in conjunction with the restaurant a sports bar called Charley's Place, on one side of where the old Dutch Oven restaurant used to be.

The old Dutch Oven used to have an area where various clubs and organizations would meet, and Crigler is planning to retain this area for meetings, receptions, and the like.

The restaurant will have the old Dutch Oven number--366-5513--she says.

Crigler is retired from a career in law enforcement, where she worked for the Abbeville County Sheriff's Office for 18 years.

It has always been her dream to open and operate a restaurant.

Sometimes dreams really do come true.

Tatlain Brown receives scholarship to Culver-Stockton College

Submitted by Culver-Stockton College

Congratulations to Tatlain Brown from Abbeville, SC, on being accepted into Culver-Stockton College's incoming class for the fall 2021 semester.

Brown, a senior at Abbeville High School, also was awarded the President Scholarship, a \$13,000 per

year scholarship for four years. This scholarship is awarded based upon academic credentials and is renewable provided the student remains in good academic standing.

Culver-Stockton College, located in Canton, Mo., is a four-year residential institution in affiliation with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). C-SC is the pre-

mier experiential learning college in the Midwest and is one of only two colleges in the nation to offer the 12+3 semester calendar, where the typical 15-week semester is divided into a 12-week term and a 3-week term.

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Philip Told Me

In John 8, how did the other Jews respond when Jesus said that He could set them free? They said they were absolutely free already and did not need freedom from sin.

He said their response to Jesus indicated they were held in deep bondage to sin and darkness. He said the real litmus test of freedom is we discover the freedom that God gives in and through Jesus Christ. When God is our Father we listen to His Son.

What are the three characteristics of unbelievers, as seen in Jesus's teaching in John 8?

1. In darkness, 2. In spiritual death and 3. In bondage to sin held in it by their father the devil and thus cannot see Christ, don't desire Christ and are unable to get free.

This ought to terrify a person.

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Hebrews 12:14 (NIV)



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"Marty Patterson coaches the Guacamole Wackamoles (4th grade team) who became Due West's youngest team to ever advance all the way to State!" said Due West Robotics president Charles Angel. The Wackamoles joined the Nacho Average Doritos and Squishy Unicorns in advancing to the state championship. The three teams posed for this picture. (Contributed photo)

Three Robotics teams advance to state event

By Henry E. Green

Three Due West Robotics teams are advancing to the state championship, said Due West Robotics president Charles Angel.

Due West Robotics is a nonprofit team which helps instill in young people STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) skills.

The organization does this largely within the framework of competitions between robotics teams, competitions in which Due West Robotics has perennially excelled.

"I'm happy to let you know that all 3 of our FIRST LEGO League (FLL) teams from Due West have advanced to the State Championship tournament! They will compete with the top 36 teams from around the state on March 26th & 27th," Angel said recently.

These three teams include the Nacho Average Doritos, the Guacamole Wackamoles, and the Squishy

Unicorns.

Sara Wojtkowski is the coach of the Nacho Average Doritos, a team which includes all seventh graders.

"It is entirely virtual this year," she said. "We'll be competing virtually. We'll be talking to judges on the computer. It's been an odd experience this year. We've made the best of it."

"We've competed in two scrimmages," she said. One was a scrimmage which Due West Robotics hosted, and the other was a virtual competition hosted by a team from Myrtle Beach.

At first, the virtual competitions took some getting used to, but the coach believes the technical aspects have been obstacles which have been overcome.

She has been a Robotics coach for four years, but this is her first year with the Doritos.

She coached a state championship team last year, but they all moved up to the high

school program.

Lydia Ruiz is the coach of the Squishy Unicorns, a team which includes nine youngsters, including seven boys and two girls--all fifth and sixth graders.

This is her third year of coaching the team. "The things that they learn aren't just robotics," she said.

They learn everything from building with LEGOs to, most importantly, problem solving and public speaking.

They are assigned a theme every year, and this year's theme is to help people become more active. The team designed a special tricycle for individuals who are visually impaired.

They learn how to describe in a five minute time frame the problem and how to solve it, said Ruiz.

Marty Patterson, coach of the Guacamole Wackamoles, was not available for comment at press time.

Double duty Kalan Rogers serves as principal, track coach at Calhoun Falls Charter

By Henry E. Green

Kalan Rogers is not only the principal of Calhoun Falls Charter, but he is the boys and girls track coach as well.

He is in his third year as coach, as well as his third year as principal.

Rogers is carrying on a tradition that he began in high school at Calhoun Falls Charter, which also happens to be his alma mater.

He was a star in the 800 meters event. "My senior year, that was my thing," he said. "I loved it."

"Our program has grown

over the past three years, from when I first got here," he said.

"We're looking to be competitive in our Region. Our Region is pretty tough--we've got McCormick, Southside Christian, Dixie, and the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind (in addition to Calhoun Falls Charter)," he said.

Last year's season ended early because of COVID, but two years ago, the Flashes finished ninth in the state out of 24 teams.

"We look to improve going into the season," he said.

Key returners for this year are Marquice Turman, a junior, and senior Jerami Talbert, sophomore Quade Lindler, and freshman Jamari Norman.

On the girls side, there is one returning from last year-- eighth grader Alexis Sanders.

The Blue Flashes travel to Powdersville on Thursday, March 11 to play Powdersville.

The Flashes will participate in the Region meet on May 5 at McCormick High School.

Historical Society works on Bundy cabin

By Henry E. Green

Few would deny that 2020 was a tough year, but the Abbeville County Historical Society found at least one silver lining.

The Society performed extensive work on a cabin located on the grounds of the McGowan-Barksdale-Bundy House in the spring of last year, according to Historical Society president Andrew Hartsfield.

"It took significant preservation work," he said in a recent Historical Society newsletter.

"We tore the sheet rock ceiling out and went back to the original whitewashed board ceiling, replaced

decayed sills, replaced rafters and exterior clapboard and replaced the windows destroyed by vandals with antique windows and reopened the blocked up fireplace.

"The cement steps were removed and wooden ones added and we replaced the original wooden shutters back," he continued. "As our property that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, we follow the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Best Practices in Historic Preservation."

Located on North Main in Abbeville, the house is the headquarters of the Society. Built in 1888, it was donated

to the organization in 1989.

The house was originally the home of Confederate general Samuel McGowan, and at a later point in its history it was the home of General W.E. Barksdale, who served during World War II, and for this reason has been nicknamed "the Generals House," according to the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce.

The cabin, meanwhile, is one of three cabins on the grounds of the house, according to the Society.

The three cabins housed servants quarters, according to Hartsfield.



Pictured: Haley Bedenbaugh, HUS Club; Dee Carpenter, HUS Club; Stephanie West, HUS Club; Jean McClinton, Hospice & Palliative Care Volunteer; and Susan Harris, Hospice & Palliative Care Director of Volunteers. (Photo contributed)

HUS Club donates to Hospice and Palliative Care

Submitted by
Andrea Scott

The Human Services Club (HUS Club) at Piedmont Technical College recently donated hand sanitizer to Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont.

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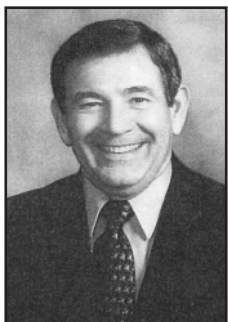
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a Word from "THE WORD"

Rev. Dr. John Keith



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The Promise

Hebrews 13:5 "...For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you."

The late comedian Phil Silvers, who some of us may remember as television's beloved Sergeant Bilko, said that once his small daughter woke him up when he was taking a much needed nap. He scolded her: "Didn't you promise to be a good girl and not make any noise?" She responded, "Yes, father." And he said harshly, "And didn't I promise you a spanking if you weren't a good girl?" "Yes, daddy," his daughter said softly. Then she added, "But since I've broken my promise, you don't have to keep yours."

We may not always keep our promises, but God always keeps His. Whatever God promises, He always delivers on it.

Three thoughts about the promise from Hebrews 13:5. First of all, God's promise to us is precious. What a precious promise—God will never leave us or forsake us. This promise is more precious than gold.

We can count on God's presence with us no matter what our current situation might be.

Psalms 23:6 tells us: "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life..." the twin angels of God's goodness and mercy will follow us everyday of our lives. The darkest day of your life, the twin angels of God's goodness and mercy will be with you. That indeed is a precious promise

Second, this is a precise promise. This promise tells us precisely what God will and will not do. He will not leave us. That means He will always be with us. We do not have to fear that God will abandon us—He promises that He won't do that.

No matter what situation you face, be it a financial crisis, a physical crisis, or a spiritual crisis, God will be with you. You can count on His presence. Even if you don't physically feel it, He is with you. God is never

vague about what He promises. He nails down what He promises to do and He always does precisely what He has promised to do.

Third, this promise promotes confidence. Because we know that God will never leave us, we have confidence to face the stressful situations of life.

When you feel frightened or alone, repeat this wonderful promise from God. You could even put your name in this verse—"God will never leave nor forsake John Keith." When I put my name in that verse it gives me confidence.

When the stresses of life pile up on you and you feel like you just can't take it any more, just remind yourself, "God has promised to never leave me nor forsake me."

Because God is with you, you can face anything and everything life throws at you. With the knowledge of God's presence you can face each day with confidence.

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SC Statehouse Reports 2021-The House of Representatives

House week in review

Rep. Craig A. Gagnon, District 11--SC House of Representatives March 2-4, 2021

This past week at the State House was a busy one. As a member of the Ways and Means Committee, we were working feverishly to finish the House version of the Budget. The budget is a massive bill that often runs 500 pages encompassing all state agencies. The budget should be ready for consideration by the entire House the week of March 22.

The following bills were considered on the floor this past week. I voted in the affirmative for each.

Amended, approved and sent to the Senate H.3443, a bill to establish more General Assembly Oversight of Gubernatorial Emergency Orders. In its amended version, after 30 days of an order's date, the General Assembly could meet at the call of the House Speaker and Senate President. An issued order could be terminated, or consented to, via a concurrent resolution; or altered, or amended, via a Joint Resolution, at this called meeting. The Governor could not re-issue emergency orders that have been so addressed by the General Assembly.

Amended and gave second reading approval to H. 3770, a joint resolution authorizing the expenditure of federal funds disbursed to the state to assist those who are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The legislation creates the South Carolina Emergency Rental Assistance Program administered by the South Carolina State Housing Financing and Development Authority (SC Housing), under the direction of its board of commissioners, and establishes an advisory panel to review and monitor the implementation and evaluation of the program and funding.

Approved and sent to the Senate H. 3166, a bill that enacts the "Rena Nicole Grant Sickle Cell Disease Voluntary Patient Registry Act." The bill directs DHEC to develop and maintain the Sickle Cell Disease Voluntary Patient Registry for individuals who have been diagnosed with sickle cell anemia.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3011. The bill would provide that on any controlled access roadway having two or more lanes allowing movement in the same direction, a driver may not continue to operate a motor vehicle in the furthestmost left-hand lane if the driver knows or reasonably should know that he is being overtaken in that lane from the rear by a motor vehicle traveling at a higher rate of speed.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3505. Currently an infrastructure maintenance fee is assessed against a vehicle (owned or leased) upon its first registration. Among several things, this bill would provide that upon its first registration this fee also

applies to the first "tinting" of a vehicle.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3101. This bill would create Title 40 Disposition of Motor Vehicles by a Salvage Pool Operator Subject to an Insurance Claim or Charity Donation.

Section 2 of this bill would prevent dealers and individuals from removing salvage branding from car titles. The bill creates a series of "brands" that identify the vehicle's history. Among them: "salvage," "salvage rebuilt," "salvage flood," "salvage flood rebuilt," "salvage fire," "salvage fire rebuilt," "junk," and "off-road use only."

Approved H. 3208 and sent it to the Senate. This bill would create an exception to existing law that would allow a school bus to lawfully pass another school bus on a multilane highway.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3805. This legislation would standardize military license plates administered by the Department of Motor Vehicles Article by creating Article 147 Military Special License Plates for consistent treatment. Currently, there are different standards for similarly classified military-related license plates.

Approved and sent to the Senate H. 3179, a bill that creates an exception for surgically implanted drug delivery systems (such as pain pumps) from the thirty-one day supply limitation for Schedule II control drugs. Removing the thirty-one day supply limitation will improve patient's safety by reducing how often the patient must have pain pumps refilled.

Approved and sent to the Senate H. 3325, a bill that removes the exemption for certain individuals from the mandatory electronically filing of death certificates. The bill removes physicians who certify fewer than twelve deaths per year and funeral homes that perform fewer than twelve funerals per year from the mandatory electronically filing exemption list, requiring all physicians and funeral homes to file electronically. As a result, only those who act, without compensation, as a funeral director on behalf of a deceased family member or friend remain covered by the exemption from electronic filing. The provision takes effect July 1, 2021.

Approved and sent to the Senate H. 3193, a bill that modifies the boundaries of the Florence and Williamsburg Counties South Lynches Fire District to include the municipal limits of the Town of Scranton for fire service.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3765, a bill that exempts campgrounds and RV parks from the "Residential Landlord and Tenant Act." The bill gives innkeepers the ability to use law enforcement for ejection of a person for reasons that are in current trespassing law. In addition, the bill provides ten days for

a person ejected to make a valid claim for any property that was allegedly left behind. Once the notice is issued to the innkeeper, the person has ten days to collect the property. An innkeeper may keep or dispose of any property left uncollected after twenty days from an ejection.

The House read S. 242 a third time and enrolled the bill for ratification. This bill would provide that the DMV may issue "Drivers for a Cure" special license plates. Any portion of the thirty-dollar fee in excess of the costs of production and distribution of the license plates must be distributed evenly between the Medical University of South Carolina Hollings Cancer Center and the Duke Cancer Institute.

Approved and sent the Senate H. 3664, a bill providing for more extensive criminal background check requirements for initial licensure by the Real Estate Commission.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3255, a bill revising qualifications and other provisions governing the licensure and regulation of real estate appraisers to bring these state provisions into alignment with federal standards.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3606, a bill providing clarification on what sort of decks can be built by homeowners and what other kinds of improvements to residential property can be undertaken by owners for their homes without becoming subject to requirements for obtaining building permits, inspections, and licensure.

Amended, approved, and sent the Senate H. 3244, a bill enacting the "Employment First Initiative Act" progress reports and identifying barriers to achieving the outcomes and effective strategies and policies that can help realize the employment first initiative.

Approved and sent to the Senate H. 3726, a bill addressing buy down arrangements under the sales and use tax by codifying established practices. The legislation revises the definition of "gross proceeds of sales" under sales and use tax provisions so as to exclude amounts received from a buy down, an agreement between a retailer and a manufacturer or wholesaler in which the retailer receives a payment from the manufacturer or wholesaler that requires the retailer to reduce the sales price of the manufacturer's or wholesaler's product to the retail purchaser.

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



US Senate

Scott Votes to Stop Socialist Polices, Reopen Schools, and Keep States Accountable for Nursing Home Deaths

Senator Tim Scott

U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-S.C.) released the following statements on several amendments slated to be voted on tonight that would affect the American economy, our nation's seniors, and our fight to reopen schools.

Senator Scott will join Senator Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) in filing an amendment to make K-12 funding contingent on schools reopening for in-person learning by the end of April. Sen. Scott is leading the movement to reopen schools and highlighting the devastating impact school closures have on our children. He will also support numerous amendments ensuring that our children and families are put first ahead of labor unions.

Scott on reopening America's schools...

"Labor unions and their bosses are the reason that many of our nation's schools are still shuttered, even though science says in-person education is low-risk. The pandemic has created not only a health crisis, but also an education crisis that I fear may

permanently affect the future of millions of students, especially those who grew up in poverty like I did. For our children's sake, schools must be fully reopened for in-person learning."

As Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, Senator Scott will file an amendment to reduce funding for states that have an active investigation into nursing homes for underreported deaths due to the coronavirus. He offered a similar amendment last month, which was rejected by all 50 Senate Democrats who voted against holding these states accountable for misreporting COVID-19 deaths.

Scott on keeping states accountable for underreported nursing home deaths...

"Far too many COVID-19 deaths have been left unaccounted for due to the negligence of state and local leaders who have put politics ahead of people. We must shine a light on those who have inaccurately reported deaths to hold them accountable for their devastating decisions. Americans deserve to know

the truth, and we will work to ensure justice is being done for the families of those who lost their lives."

Senator Scott will support amendments that combat the Biden-supported, Democrat plan to fundamentally alter the American economy.

He will vote against any amendment designed to increase the minimum wage or expand the size and scope of government.

Scott on the progressive economic amendments Democrats are proposing...

"Democrats have never let a crisis go to waste, and it's clear that they are using their 'COVID relief package' as a vehicle to fundamentally destroy the American economy.

This bill is a Trojan Horse for the radical Left's takeover of the country. Less than 10 percent of this bill goes to COVID health care relief and only one percent goes to vaccines.

The vast majority of the bill is earmarked for liberal special interests' priorities that would tank our economy, limit our freedoms, and slow down our recovery.



US House of Representatives

Duncan introduces legislation to protect US Power Grid

Submitted by Congressman Jeff Duncan

Congressman Jeff Duncan (SC-03) introduced legislation that would codify former President Donald J. Trump's restrictions on foreign adversaries accessing or owning parts of the United States power grid. This bill is part of a larger initiative led by Members of the Republican Study Committee to hold the Chinese Communist Party accountable:

"President Biden is once again working to unravel one of the many gains we made under the Trump Administration. Last year, after finding that foreign adversaries were increas-

ingly creating and exploiting vulnerabilities within our bulk-power system, President Trump issued an Executive Order declaring a national emergency with respect to the threats to our nation's electric grid. The Executive Order included heavy restrictions on foreign adversaries accessing or owning parts of the U.S. power grid, including China, Russia, North Korea, and others. This was a common-sense solution implemented by President Trump.

"President Biden has since issued an Executive Order to suspend the Trump Administration's Executive Order on grid security for 90

days. This 90-day suspension could potentially yield additional threats to our power grid, which would in turn put our national security at risk.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time President Biden has proven his inability to stand firm against our adversaries, especially the Chinese Communist Party.

"My legislation would codify President Trump's restrictions on foreign adversaries accessing or owning parts of the U.S. power grid. I urge House Leadership to bring my legislation to the floor for a vote immediately. We must ensure the security and reliability of our nation's power grid are upheld."

SC Statehouse Reports 2021-The Senate--Senator Mike Gambrell

Legislative summary

Senator Mike Gambrell Legislative Summary March 5, 2021

Before heading to Columbia, Sen. Billy Garrett, Rep. Ann Parks and I presented a Resolution to former Chief Magistrate Bart McGuire who served Greenwood County so very faithfully in that position.

On Friday, Senator Garrett and I participated in a home solar panel meeting in McCormick.

While in Session this week, the South Carolina Senate gave third reading to S.510, a bill relating to definitions for the regulation of motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors and dealers. This legislation deals primarily with responsibilities and practices between manufacturers/distributors and those who own or operate the dealership where the manufactured automobiles are sold, including but not limited to disputes and violations arising from unreasonable restrictions, competition and fair market value of a dealership franchise.

Also given third reading was S.200, providing that a person sentenced to death may elect for electrocution or lethal injection if lethal injection is available at the time of election. In the event that the method to carry out the sentence must be electrocution regardless of the method elected by the person if execution by lethal injection is unavailable or held to be unconstitutional. These bills will be sent to the House for their consideration.

Other bills passed by the Senate this week include funding for both public charter schools and to restore teacher step increases. These funds were previously unfunded due to Covid-19 budget uncertainties. The appropriation for S.3608, charter school per pupil funding, is \$9 million. Fifty million was appropriated for H.3609, teacher step increases. These bills have been returned to the House of Representatives.

I'd like to congratulate some championship high school teams for their excel-

lence. The Crescent High School Wrestling team won the 2021 South Carolina Class AA State Championship. The Belton-Honea Path High School Wrestling Team won the 2021 AAA State Championship. Congratulations to the team members, the coaches and staff for these hard-earned victories!

South Carolina will open up Covid-19 vaccines to Phase 1B effective Monday, March 8th. To continue following developments with the COVID vaccine or to see who is included in Phase 1B, visit the DHEC COVID-19 site, which is updated daily. <https://scdhec.gov/covid19/covid-19-vaccine>.

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: MikeGambrell@scsenate.gov.

Submitted by Congressman Jeff Duncan

Congressman Jeff Duncan (SC-03) released the following statement on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to reverse the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling to vacate the U.S. Forest Service's Atlantic Coast Pipeline permit: "I'm pleased to hear the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately reversed the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling to vacate the U.S. Forest

Service's authority to grant rights-of-way in a 7-2 decision. It was clearly Congress' intent for the U.S. Forest Service to have authority over rights-of-way in the national forests when they bisect the Appalachian Trail.

The Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals' erroneous decision abruptly halted the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, a domestic natural gas pipeline, which hindered our ability to further domestic energy transportation in the United States.

"I've long supported domestic energy production and transportation and filed an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in support of the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline in December 2019. Energy production and transportation are critical to ensuring safe, reliable, and affordable energy to consumers around the country.

I applaud the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling today and look forward to the advancement of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline."



US Senate

Scott Statement on Democrats' Partisan Stimulus Package

Senator Tim Scott

U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-S.C.) released the following statement on his vote against the Democrats' partisan, special-interest filled stimulus package.

"In a made-for-television, twenty-four hour spectacle that left Capitol Hill paralyzed, Democrats rammed through

a deeply partisan package that left more questions than answers. Ninety percent of this pork-filled bill is unrelated to the pandemic, less than ten percent of this bill is for COVID health care relief, and only one percent is designated for vaccines. To make matters worse, it creates slush funds to bail out states that mismanage their finances, has no require-

ments to get children back in the classroom, slows down our already recovering economy, discourages people from re-entering the workforce, and even provides stimulus checks to people in prison today.

Simply put, this is not a 'COVID relief package,' it is a Trojan Horse for the radical Left's progressive wish list."

New PTC president visits Abbeville

By Henry E. Green

Dr. Hope E. Rivers, the new president of Piedmont Technical College, paid a visit to the PTC-Abbeville campus Monday.

Rivers had earlier in the day met with Abbeville County Director David Garner, and discussed ways in which PTC could help Abbeville County with its manufacturing needs.

She is in the process of visiting each of the counties which make up PTC's seven-county service area. That service area, in addition to Abbeville County, includes Greenwood, Mc-

Cormick, Newberry, Laurens, Edgefield, and Saluda. Rivers is proud of the dual enrollment and Promise programs with which PTC is involved.

The Abbeville Promise scholarship program is particularly useful because it frees students of the burden of loans used to finance their education, and takes away some of the financial stress.

PTC, she added, is playing a major role in training emergency medical technicians.

Rivers, meanwhile, started work in her new post as president on January 4, an before PTC she was an

executive vice president for the South Carolina Technical College System, the coordinating body for all of the 16 technical colleges in South Carolina.

"I'm originally from Whitmire, South Carolina," she said.

Whitmire, she noted, is located in Newberry County, which is part of the PTC service area.

Over the past month, she has been busy touching base with all the seven counties making up the service area.

"I've been visiting all of them," she said.



Dr. Hope Rivers is the new president of Piedmont Technical College. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

A Slice of Mike

“Offended by Lady Gaga Oreos”

By Mike Elis

Every day, I scroll through Facebook and it has gotten to the point where I have to prepare myself before reading. “Okay, what is being canceled or done away with today due to cancel culture?”

I try to be understanding of some of the changes. Fine, maybe the Washington Redskins were right in changing their name, maybe it seems a bit much. But then why aren't red-skin potatoes changing their name to Football Team potatoes? I can even remember when the Tampa Bay Devil Rays changed their name to just the Rays because I guess in some people's minds, going to their baseball games was a way of supporting the fiery pitch forked wonder himself.

Now, the “we have way too much time on our hands” population has moved on to complain about Mr. Potato Head. From what I am to understand, Hasbro is keeping the characters Mr. Potato Head and Mrs. Potato Head, but the company name is being changed to Potato Head as they want “Everyone to feel comfortable in the Potato Head world.” Awesome, now I can sleep better at night.

I even read that a toy store in California has now mixed all the toys and dolls marketed to girls with the toys and action figures aimed at boys so that no gender feels discriminated against.

My favorite example was a monogram company that

engraves “The New Mr. and Mrs. toasting goblets” for wedding couples. Someone commented that they are starting a campaign to ban them as it excludes single people who wish to enjoy a celebratory beverage. Uh, it's for a wedding.

So as Mr. Clean, Mrs. Dash, and Swiss Miss sit and bite their fingernails, awaiting their fate, we move on to cartoons.

Today, I was scrolling social media when I thought, “Here we go again.” Now it has been decided that Pepe Le Pew, the French cartoon skunk from old-school Looney Tunes is being banned by Warner Brothers and a role in the new Space Jam movie because they feel his character suggests uninvited romanticism (to say it nicely).

Pepe is a cartoon skunk! And now he joins the ranks of Cat in the Hat, The Muppets, and even Speedy Gonzales who many now want banned from television and Space Jam 2 due to the fact his character and friends stereotype Mexicans in a bad way. However, they are keeping that role in the movie, and he is being played by Gabriel Iglesias, a comedian many know as “Fluffy.”

Heck, I don't think even people from Mexico are offended by the cartoon mouse. Don't most Mexican restaurants have a combo meal called “The Speedy Gonzales?”

I am not one who rants or uses the media for any political agenda, but I do tend to find humor sometimes in those that do. Comedian and film director Mel Brooks a few years back was quoted as saying, “Political correctness will be the death of comedy,” and he seemed to be onto something. His early films will be banned at some point, I am sure.

I mean, if there is something to be offended by, how about the new Lady Gaga Oreo cookies? Of all the superstars, why does she get a sandwich cream cookie named after her when she looks like she has never eaten an Oreo in her life? The Gabriel Iglesias cookie would make more sense as there is a man who, by looking at him, knows a thing or two about cookies. No offense Fluffy, I'm right there with ya.

I am not going to ban Space Jam 2 for pulling the plug on Pepe Le Pew, but I will ban Oreo cookies until they change the Lady Gaga cookies name to just Gaga Cookies and drop the “lady” gender aspect of it. I believe I'm doing this whole offended thing correctly, aren't I?

Want a fun night of comedy that won't break the bank? Come see Carnival Cruise Lines Entertainer of the Year Al Ernst at the Abbeville Opera House on March 27th. Tickets are only \$11 a piece and would make for a great date night or a night out with your friends.



The 2021 Miss FFA Pageant was held at the Abbeville Opera House on Friday, March 5. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Miss FFA pageant held at Opera House

By Henry E. Green

The 2021 Miss FFA pageant was held Friday night at the Abbeville Opera House, and hosted by the S. C. Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe.

Presented by AgSouth Farm Credit and S.C. Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, the pageant featured 40 contestants from throughout the state. A number of students from Abbeville County participated, including Savannah Winn of Abbeville High School, Gracee Dixon of Calhoun Falls Charter, Emalie White of Dixie, and Maddison Smith of Calhoun Falls Charter.

All the contestants played active roles in FFA, a leadership organization for young people, an organization originally called Future Farmers of America.

Not everyone who joins FFA will become a farmer, but even those who do not can learn valuable skills,

such as public speaking, for example.

The South Carolina Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe, meanwhile, is a state-funded, public residential high school focused on providing a unique and challenging education program, according to pageant literature.

“Our school, the first statewide program of its kind in the nation, will allow students to receive hands-on training in the fields of agriculture, agribusiness, forestry, land management, food science and more—all aimed at assessing the needs of modern farms,” that literature stated.

John de la Howe president Tim Keown provided a welcome Friday night.

John de la Howe has been many things through the years, but Keown noted that serving as a school for agriculture is more in line with the intentions of Dr. John de la Howe, the school's founder.

Serving as mistress of ceremonies for the pageant Friday night was Hayden Grace Bennett, Miss FFA 2020.

Bennett, a 2020 graduate of Ashley Ridge High School, now attends Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

The contestants were presented in evening gown competition, and were also judged on applications and interviews they had given prior to Friday night's gathering.

The top 10 semi-finalists answered on stage questions drawn at random.

Allison Holcombe of West Oak High School was crowned 2021 Miss FFA, and other winners included fourth runner up Briar Leonard of Crescent, third runner up Anna Grace Cross of S.C. Governor's School of Agriculture, second runner up Kinlyn Hinson of Camden High School, and first runner up Kalen Ryan of West Oak High School.

Obituaries

Young

Mrs. Lessie Mae Norman Young, 87 of Hearst Cebo Rd., Lincolnton entered into rest on Saturday, March 6, 2021 at Doctors Hospital, Augusta.

Mrs. Young, daughter of the late Lonnie C. and Ella Mae Wellmaker Norman, was born in Lincoln County on December 3, 1933. She retired from Greenwood Mills and was a member of Goshen Baptist Church. Her interests included taking care of her family and friends, cooking, flower gardening and junking.

She is survived by her daughters, Cathy Cawley Ferguson (Ricky) and Vivian Young Bugg; grandchildren, Betsy Strother (Randy), Britt Barnett (Vicki),

Jeremy Barnett (Brandi), Rickey Lee Ferguson, Rebecca Carlisle (Frank), Lee Ferguson, Amanda Hogan (Billy Beck), Joshua Bugg; great-grandchildren, Emory Strother, Eli Strother, Carrington Barnett, Casey Barnett, Bailey Barnett, Ashton Evans, A.J. Evans, Dakota Barnett, Kayleigh Marsh, Makensy Collier, Madison Collier, Sadie Collier, Ian Carlisle, Caleb Carlisle, Brooklyn Ferguson, Kaylee Bugg and Brayden Bugg; brother, Robert E. “Bobby” Norman of Greenwood, SC; sisters, Patricia Martin (Gerald) of Greenwood, SC and Alicia Partridge (Doyle Capps) of Central, SC. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her

husband, Cecil “Cebo” Young; daughter, Earlene Cawley; siblings, Myrtle Dent, Louise Crook, Ruby Walton, Julius Norman, Lawrence Norman, Roy W. Norman and Charlie Norman.

Graveside services will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 6pm at Goshen Baptist Church Cemetery. No formal visitation is planned.

Memorials may be made to Goshen Baptist Church Benevolence Fund, P.O. Box 716, Lincolnton, Ga 30817.

Beggs Funeral Home, 200 May Ave., Lincolnton is honored to serve the family of Mrs. Lessie Mae Young.

Direct Health AAMC Recipe

Pasta Primavera

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 cup noodles, uncooked | 1 tablespoon vegetable oil |
| 2 cups mixed vegetables (chopped) | 1 cup tomatoes (chopped) |
| 1 tablespoon margarine | ¼ teaspoon garlic powder |
| ½ teaspoon black pepper | 3 tablespoons Parmesan cheese |

Cook noodles according to package directions. While noodles are cooking, heat oil in a skillet. Add vegetables and sauté until tender; stir constantly. Add tomato and sauté 2 more minutes. Toss vegetables with noodles and margarine. Add seasonings; sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.



Dr. Nancy Hart Wicker, Medical Director for Hospice & Palliative Care of the Piedmont. (Photo contributed)

Dr. Wicker achieves Board Certification in Hospice and Palliative Medicine

Submitted by
Andrea Scott

Hospice and Palliative Care of the Piedmont (HPCP) is excited to announce that our Medical Director, Nancy Hart Wicker, recently achieved board certification in Hospice and Palliative Medicine from the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

In 2006, the American Board of Medical Specialties created Hospice and Palliative Medicine as a sub-specialty of 10 participating medicine boards.

Since 2014, in order to be eligible for the Hospice and

Palliative Medicine Boards, physicians are required to complete a 12-month Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship. Dr. Wicker completed this fellowship in 2019 at Palmetto Health in Columbia, SC.

Dr. Wicker received her medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2010. She completed her residency at Self Regional Healthcare MCFM and is certified by the American Board of Family Medicine. She is also boarded in Family Medicine and holds a certification as a Hospice Medical Director.

"We would like to congratulate Dr. Wicker on achiev-

ing the board certification in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. This accomplishment highlights her knowledge base and competency in serving hospice patients and their families", says Nancy Corley, HPCP CEO.

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

For more information, please call 227-9393 or visit www.hospicepiedmont.org.

Relationship with local partners key to increasing access to COVID-19 vaccines, defeating disease

by **Kandi Fredere**

As the state's public health agency, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is leading the response to COVID-19, but the agency can't defeat this disease alone.

It relies on much-needed partnerships with local, state and federal agencies, hospitals and other health care facilities, businesses and others. It is equally important to have the support and cooperation of our local communities to help stop this disease and save lives.

If we are going to end COVID-19 in our state, we must vaccinate enough people to stop the spread of the disease. That won't happen if we don't give all South Carolinians a chance to get shots.

That's why it is so important to reach out to people in rural areas, individuals and families with limited-income, seniors and minority populations. These communities consistently have limited access to healthcare resources and/or suffer disproportionately from many health conditions, such as diabetes or high blood pressure.

In the Upstate, and across the state, we have made it a point to reach out to South Carolinians who fall into these groups. The best way to do that is to build relationships with trusted

local organizations, leaders and people of influence who regularly talk with people in these communities.

In the Upstate, DHEC is building great rapport with many social, medical and non-medical community partners. Long-term partnerships are being formed that will guide positive change throughout the region.

One such partnership was formed between DHEC and New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in McCormick, a small, rural church, pastored by Rev. Michael A. Butler.

In spring 2020, Mary Stackhouse, Site Supervisor with our Abbeville and McCormick Health Departments, and her team worked with Self Regional Healthcare to host testing events at the church.

When vaccinations became available, Lummie Young, DHEC's Upstate Region Administrator, again connected with the Rev. Butler to establish vaccination clinics at his church.

"Pastor and Mrs. Butler know the community very well," Mary said. "They have provided my staff and me with names of some of the most vulnerable residents in the community that qualify for the vaccine, and we have scheduled these individuals into a clinic. Many in the community and the county have been very

thankful and appreciative for the clinics held at New Hope."

The first vaccination clinic was held on Jan. 20. As of Feb. 10, five clinics have been held and 563 people have been vaccinated at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

DHEC staff say the church has warmly received them and even provided breakfast, snacks and drinks. Mary said she told the pastor and his wife "I truly felt like a part of their family."

The feeling is mutual.

"The DHEC staff listened to the concerns that we may have had or questions and didn't make us feel ignorant of the facts of how it had to be done or needed to be done," **the Rev. Butler said.** "Everybody was cordial, and that's critical because there is a stigma, especially in the African American community, but not just African Americans, with all people of color, to trust vaccines."

That's the power of relationships: They help break down barriers. In addition to helping defeat COVID-19, they can last far beyond a pandemic and help address other important local and state health issues.

Organizations wishing to assist DHEC in educating their communities about COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccines can email [outreach@dhec.sc.gov](mailto: outreach@dhec.sc.gov).

Taylor authorized to negotiate lease

By **Henry E. Green**

The Abbeville County Economic Development Partnership met Monday, and authorized Economic development director Stephen Taylor to negotiate a lease with a local company called Construction Techniques, which is located in Abbeville County.

The lease will be for one year for 10,000 square feet of industrial space at the incubator building in the county's Lakelands Commerce Park.

Thus, the company will be leasing the space from the

county.

"They are in the erosion control business," he said of Construction Techniques.

The board also authorized Taylor to negotiate a lease in connection with Project Mork.

"They're going to lease 5,000 square feet," in the incubator building as well, he said.

Taylor said he could at this time not release the name of the company involved with Project Mork, but he expects to do so at a later date.

"It's a manufacturing company," he said. "That's all I

can say."

The board also gave Taylor the authorization to have a contractor "grass" the Corbin Road property which is located in northern Abbeville County.

Abbeville County owns the property, which takes about 40 acres of developable property.

The addition of grass is in line with an effort to beautify the property and for erosion control.

The property is not being used at this time, but is being advertised for industrial space, Taylor continued.

AAMC establishes vision committee

By **Henry E. Green**

The Abbeville Area Medical Center has formed a Vision Committee to help in the development of a strategic plan for the hospital.

"The committee consists of the Board of Trustees Chair and three other Board members as well as a physician representative, the CEO and CFO," according to Meg Davis, AAMC marketing director.

"The Committee's purpose is to assist the hospital in developing a vision for the future as it begins to

develop its next three-year strategic plan. It will look at and discuss opportunities to provide services that would be of benefit to our community, strategies to ensure the financial viability of the hospital system as well as other opportunities for growth. QHR's Strategic Planning Group will be assisting AAMC with this process."

The committee members include Gene Pruitt, Chair; Mike Johnson; Chris Oxendine, MD; Chris Ceraldi, MD; Bobby Clarke; Cindy

Buck, CEO, and Lucien St. Onge, CFO.

QHR is the abbreviation for Quorum Health Resources, which is a Tennessee based firm which provides management services for the hospital.

AAMC is a 25-bed facility which serves Abbeville and surrounding counties.

It has a clinic in McCormick County, and a home health agency which serves nine counties, according to Davis.

Pet of the Month Meet **Pluto**. This sweet guy has been at the shelter since Aug. 2020 and really needs a new home. Pluto is very social and loves people and other dogs. He is a 2 y.o. mixed breed, neutered & heartworm neg. The stars will align when you meet Pluto. Come to the shelter and meet him today. You will not be able to resist his loving personality!

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



Pet of the Month Come meet **Possum** with his cute brown ears. This sweet boy is a mixed breed, around 6 yrs. old and is neutered. He has the sweetest demeanor and loves the outdoors. He is good on a leash and is dog and people friendly. He has been at the shelter since Sept. 2020. Come meet Possum and take him home with you today!

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

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Sports

Baseball

AHS to play Fox Creek in tournament

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville High School Panther varsity baseball team will play Fox Creek today--March 10-- at 5 p.m. in Game Three of the Peach Ridge Invitational Preseason Tournament at Strom Thurmond High School, AHS coach Nick Milford said.

The Panthers have done well in the tournament so far, Milford said.

AHS defeated Strom Thurmond 3-1 on Friday and North Augusta 10-7

on Saturday, according to Milford.

"The game against Strom Thurmond was a game of pitching a defense," he said. "Hits were scarce for both teams. The Panthers scored three runs on two hits with no errors. ST had one run on three hits with three errors. Tyler Overholt went five innings and recorded the win as TyPrice came in to pitch the last two scoreless innings.

"There was a lot more offense on Saturday as we

took on North Augusta," the coach said.

The Panthers scored 10 runs on 12 hits, and North Augusta scored seven runs on eight hits. Rusty Chappell recorded the win on the mound after coming in relief for Hunter Overholt. Trent Delgado led the way offensively with three hits. Tyler Overholt recorded two hits with a two run homerun, and Evan Sellars and Thomas Beaford also had a pair of hits on the day, the coach continued.

Flying Fleet set for football home opener

By Henry E. Green

Erskine will play, this coming Saturday, its football home opener--against Shorter University at 4 p.m.--at the Greenwood High School stadium.

This will be the home opener in a season which represents a resurgence of a football program after an absence of approximately 70 years.

Erskine in its season opener defeated Barton College in Wilson, N.C., 30-28, before the Fleet fell to Edward Waters, 21-20, in a game played at Jacksonville, FL.

The Fleet, under the guidance of head coach Shap Boyd, will be playing on Saturday a school described as a private Baptist university in Rome, GA.

A number of local residents will play prominent roles at the game.

Benji Greeson, an Abbeville radio personality, is the Voice of the Flying Fleet, and Erskine graduate Patrick Davenport the public address announcer

An Erskine alumnus expressed enthusiasm for the school's resurrected football program.

Bill Lesesne was the athletic director at Erskine for a number of years.

Lesesne was also a star running back at Dixie High School, for the Hornet football team, and he graduated from Erskine in 1961.

"I'm looking forward to seeing them play," he said of the Erskine football team.

He wishes the Flying Fleet well. "I know the coach and think a lot of him. I think he's a high quality young man. If anybody can bring success to a new team, I think he can."

Erskine Women's volleyball Bartlett's Triple Double leads Fleet past Southern Wesleyan in Five-Set Thriller

Submitted by Erskine Athletics Department

The Erskine College women's volleyball team (1-3, 1-2 CC) earned their first win of the season by defeating Southern Wesleyan University (0-2, 0-2 CC) in five sets; 25-21, 19-25, 25-22, 23-25, 15-13 in Tysinger Gymnasium on Friday evening.

Senior Reilly Bartlett led the way for the Fleet with a triple-double (38 assists, 13 kills, 12 digs).

Erskine now leads the all-time series 11-3 and have won four of the last five meetings between the teams.

Southern Wesleyan began the match winning nine of the first eleven points and led 15-6 before Erskine came roaring back. Behind a pair of kills from Makenzie Kinne and Reilly Bartlett, the Fleet won seven consecutive points to get back into the first set. The Warriors won the next point, but Erskine followed with a 9-1 scoring run which included kills from four different Erskine players to take a 21-17 lead. Maddie Wilson and Kaile Tuisamatatele each tallied kills at the end of the set and a Warriors service error sealed a 25-21 comeback win for Erskine in Set 1.

The Fleet won the first three points from a Kinne kill and consecutive Bartlett aces. Later in the set, Bartlett tallied kills on consecutive points to give Erskine an 11-7 lead. But, Southern Wesleyan re-

sponded with a 8-1 scoring run as they took their first lead at 19-15. Bartlett and Katy Torgerson had kills in the closing stages of the set, but the Warriors pulled away late to win Set 2 by a score of 25-19.

Torgerson picked up three kills in the first nine points of the third set and Erskine jumped out to a 7-4 lead. The Warriors won four straight points to take their first lead at 10-9, but the Fleet quickly answered back as two kills from Wilson put Erskine back up 13-11. Southern Wesleyan took the lead back moments later in what was a closely fought set, but Erskine responded with another 8-1 scoring run for the second consecutive set as they led 22-18 behind a pair of kills from Torgerson and an ace from Rebecca Massengill. Tuisamatatele finished of a Set 3 victory with kills on two of the final three points as Erskine won it 25-22 and took a 2-1 lead in the match.

The Fleet led 4-3 in the early stages of the fourth set behind two kills and an ace from Torgerson, but the Warriors went on a mini 3-0 scoring run and held the lead for most of the set. Erskine hung around and finally got back in front on a Jauhna Smith kill to take a 20-19 lead. An ace from Wilson moments later extended Erskine's lead to two points, and Bartlett tallied consecutive kills as the Fleet were just two points away from finishing the match in Set 4,

leading 23-21. But Southern Wesleyan won the final four points of the set to win it 25-23 and force a fifth set.

The Warriors built on that momentum and took an early 5-3 lead in Set 5. But, fueled by three kills from Smith, the Fleet won 10 of the next 13 points to take a 13-8 lead. Tuisamatatele tallied a kill which stopped a brief Warriors run and set up a match point for the Fleet. Bartlett's 38th assist off the night found Torgerson who finished a five-set victory with her 15th kill.

Reilly Bartlett picked up her first career triple-double with a team-high 38 assists as well 13 kills and 12 digs in the Fleet victory. Bartlett becomes the first Conference Carolinas player to tally a triple-double this season and just the ninth player in all of Division II to achieve that feat in 2021.

Erskine hit a season high .223 (65 K / 23 E / 188 TA) and tallied eight aces and nine blocks in the five-set win.

The Fleet are back home tomorrow as they host Converse College (0-2, 0-2 CC) at 2:00 p.m. at Belk Arena. Erskine has dominated the all-time series, leading 18-3, including a five-set victory in the last meeting between the teams back in 2019.

MORE ABOUT THE ERSKINE COLLEGE FLYING FLEET

Visit Official Home of Erskine Athletics at www.erskine-sports.com

CROSSWORD														
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Answers on back page

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD THEME: BASEBALL

ACROSS

- Turkey trot, e.g.
- Dadaist Jean
- * ____ crew, Milwaukee Brewers fan base
- Poppy seed derivative
- Afghan monetary unit
- Hotel room option
- Category of artistic composition
- Between northeast and east
- Relating to pond scum
- *Babe Ruth's first major league team
- * ____-and-____ sport
- Dog command
- Bald eagle's home
- Witchy woman
- Back wound?
- Siskel or Ebert
- Smoothing appliance
- Distinctive flair
- Stomata, sing.
- Burlap fiber
- Archeologist's find
- Estimated arrivals
- Discompose
- Cobbler's concern
- Merlin or Gandalf
- *B in RBI
- Close by
- Spade for stony ground
- Karl of politics
- Between ready and go
- *Left, center or right one
- *Yankees' only #4
- Blast from the past
- Crew tool
- Helped
- ____ one's time, past tense
- Schiller's poem
- Express contempt
- What Simon does
- Cut grass
- Intoxicating

DOWN

- *Eat a hot one at the game
- Copycat
- *Number of standard baseball positions
- Miss Muffet's meal
- Vomiting
- Highest point
- *Scoring unit
- Annapolis frosh
- Tulip's early stage
- Capital of Latvia
- Et alibi (2 words)
- Water source
- Bacchus' attendants
- Weasel's aquatic cousin
- *Baseball trajectory
- Diver's edible reward
- Muslim woman's headscarf
- Caribbean island destination
- Gained access to (2 words)
- Hoppy beers
- Individual unit
- Bottom line
- Idealized image
- *Katie ____ or " ____ at the Bat"
- Empty when kids leave
- World's longest river
- Cut it out
- Moved a flock of sheep
- Certain John's or Jane's last name
- Re-use old ideas
- Car sound, to a toddler
- Trinity
- Small door-opening devices
- One of the hipbones, pl.
- Whirlpool
- "Big Little ____"
- What Jack's beanstalk did
- It comes to mind
- Turned to the right, like a horse
- Commotion or fuss
- Wine quality

Erskine Women's Tennis, Fleet Open Conference Carolinas Play with 6-1 Win over Southern Wesleyan

Submitted by Erskine Athletic Department

The Erskine College women's tennis team earned its first Conference Carolinas match win of the season, 6-1, over Southern Wesleyan College on Saturday afternoon.

Score: Erskine 6, Southern Wesleyan 1

Records: Erskine (3-2, 1-0 CC), Southern Wesleyan (2-4, 0-1)

Location: Leroy C. Tennis Complex

Singles

Emma Bentz def. Aimee Bath 6-0, 6-0

Marie Guillaume def. Maria

Kotsiou 6-0, 6-3

Luize Valtere def. Anya King 6-3, 6-3

Noemi Aguirre def. Faith Wright 7-5, 6-2

Czarina Aguirre def. Natalie White 6-4, 6-4

Lana Vukovic def. Camille Cunningham 6-1, 6-0

Doubles

Bentz/Guillaume def. Bath/King 6-4

Valtere/Wright def. White/Kotsiou 6-2

Aguirre/Vukovic def. Aguirre/Cunningham 6-1

NOTES

The Fleet dropped a combined seven games in the doubles.

Emma Bentz and Luize Val-

tere are both now on three match winning streaks.

Bentz now has won three sets, 6-0 on the season, including two today.

Erskine picked up its sixth all-time win over Southern Wesleyan.

The Fleet remain on the road to begin next week as they travel to Spartanburg, S.C. to challenge Converse College (2-0, 0-0 CC) on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

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

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

Erskine Men's Volleyball Fleet swept by LMU to Open Road Trip

Submitted by Erskine Athletic Department

The Erskine College men's volleyball team (6-7, 3-3 CC) was swept by Lincoln Memorial University (4-7) 25-20, 25-16, 26-24 in Mary Mars Gymnasium on Thursday night.

The Railsplitters lead the all-time series 3-1, having now won the previous three matches after the Fleet opened with a five set win in 2018.

Erskine took the matches first two points and led 5-2 early, but the Railsplitters managed to tie it at 5-5 with the first of their four 3-0 runs. The Flying Fleet could not piece together more than two consecutive points the entire opening set and fell 25-20.

The Fleet once again secured the opening point, but in set two they quickly faced

a 6-3 deficit. The middle of this game heavily favored LMU as an 11-2 run was only interrupted by a service error and a Kacper Rybarczyk kill before the Railsplitters were up 17-7 and in control. The Fleet managed nine more points but fell 25-16.

For the first time all evening the Railsplitters scored first to open a set and although they trailed 2-1, they would go on to lead the rest of the way. The Fleet made the final set interesting late by rattling off four straight points to tie the set at 23-23, but the Railsplitters went on to take three of the next four points to secure the set and match victory, 26-24.

Kacper Rybarczyk led the Fleet by hitting .400 (11K / 3A / 20TA) in the match and producing a team-most eight digs.

Erskine hit just .100 (29K / 21E / 80TA) for the match,

while the Railsplitters nearly doubled their efforts by collecting a .296 (38 K / 14 E / 81 TA) hitting percentage. LMU amassed two more digs than the Fleet while also picking up an additional block and an ace than their counterparts.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Fleet conclude their three-match non-conference road trip with a double-header tomorrow evening in Greeneville, Tennessee.

First they challenge Bluefield College from Virginia (4-7, 1-4 MSC) at 4:30 p.m. before taking on hosts Tusculum University (0-6, 0-3) at 7:00 p.m.

MORE ABOUT THE ERSKINE COLLEGE FLYING FLEET

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

Erskine Men's Volleyball Fleet swept by conference leaders Mount Olive

Submitted by Erskine Athletic Department

DUE WEST, S.C. – The Erskine College men's volleyball team (6-6, 3-3 CC) was swept by Conference Carolinas leaders Mount Olive (8-1, 7-1 CC) in three sets, 19-25, 15-25, 14-25 at Belk Arena on Monday afternoon.

The Trojans extend their lead in the all-time series to 9-5 and have now won four straight as well as seven of the last eight meetings between the teams.

Set 1: Mount Olive won the first two points of the match before a Kacper Rybarczyk kill got the Fleet on the board, trailing 2-1. The Trojans maintained their lead, extending it out to 19-13, but kills by Edgerrin Austin and Jacob Whyte started a 4-0 scoring run for Erskine

to get them back within two points. However, the Trojans won each of the final four points as they pulled away late and took the opening set 25-19.

Set 2: Mount Olive was in command of Set 2 from the beginning, as they led by as many as ten at one point in the set. Erskine won the next three points behind a Whyte kill and a Rybarczyk ace, but the early deficit proved to be too much as the Trojans won the second set by a score of 25-15.

Set 3: The Trojans won the first three points of Set 3 and, moments later, exploded on a 8-0 scoring run to go up 13-3 as they cruised to a 25-14 win in the third set to wrap up a three-set sweep of the Fleet. Erskine was paced by three kills from Whyte and two from Cole Vigo in the set.

Jacob Whyte hit .267 (12 K / 4 E / 30 TA) in the match, also tallying a pair of blocks and six digs for the Fleet in the loss.

Erskine hit just .089 (26 K / 18 E / 90 TA) in the match, while Mount Olive hit .432 (44 K / 9 E / 81 TA). The Trojans totaled two more aces than the Fleet, and had 43 digs compared to Erskine's 27 as a team.

The Fleet head to Tennessee for a three-match non-conference road trip, starting Thursday against Lincoln Memorial University (3-7) at 7:00 p.m. The Railsplitters lead the all-time series 2-1, having won each of the previous two meetings back in 2019.

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

2021 Calhoun Falls Charter School Track Schedule

Day	Date	Team	Site	Time
Thursday	March 11	Powdersville	Powdersville High	5:00
Saturday	March 13	Bulldog Invitational	Camden High	9:00
Wednesday	March 17	McCormick	McCormick High	5:00
Thursday	March 18	Crescent	Crescent High	5:00
Saturday	March 20	Pelion High Invitational	Pelion High	10:00
Wednesday	March 24	Laurens	Laurens High	5:00
Saturday	March 27	Coaches Classic (Boys only)	Hillcrest High	8:30
Thursday	April 1	Christ Church	Christ Church	5:00
Saturday	April 3	Chieftain Invitational	McCormick High	10:00
Thursday	April 15	Crescent	Crescent High	5:00
Wednesday	April 21	Ninety Six	Ninety Six	5:00
Saturday	April 24	Elite Coaches Classic	Keenan	5:00
Wednesday	April 28	Lakelands Invitational	Ninety Six	5:00
Wednesday	May 5	Class A Region I Meet	McCormick High	4:00
Friday	May 14	Class A Upper-State Meet	Keenan High	TBA
Saturday	May 22	Class A State Meet	TBA	9:00

Head Track Coach: Kalan S. Rogers
Assistant Track Coaches: Teresa Goff, Terrico Holland
Athletic Director: David Campbell
Principal: Kalan S. Rogers

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The following vehicle is subject to repair and/or storage liens, and declared to be Abandoned pursuant to Section 56-5-5810, 56-5-5636, and 29-15-10 SC Code of Laws as Amended, and is in the custody of **Price's Full Service**, 2458 Hwy 72 East, Abbeville, SC 29620
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Lien Holder: Carmax Business Services, LLC
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Classifieds & Legals

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 All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371C 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: Malena Gay Gilstrap
 Date of Death: 11/07/2020
 Case Number: 2021ES0100052
 Personal Representative: Ruby Marie Patterson
 Address: 6 Smith St. Ware Shoals, SC 29692
 2/24;3tc

Estate: William Calvin Haynes
 Date of Death: 01/28/2021
 Case Number: 2021ES0100055
 Personal Representative: Linda Charlene Hayes
 Address: 95 Central Shiloh Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620
 2/24;3tc

Estate: John Anderson Freely
 Date of Death: 01/17/2021
 Case Number: 2021ES0100054
 Personal Representative: Annie Freely
 Address: 473 Freely Rd. Donalds, SC 29638
 2/24;3tc

Estate: Johnny Eugene Chiles
 Date of Death: 01/08/2021
 Case Number: 2021ES0100058
 Personal Representative: Deborah Chiles
 Address: 112 Hamby Court, Abbeville, SC 29620
 3/3;3tc

Estate: Thomas Nickles Stone
 Date of Death: 11/18/2020
 Case Number: 2021ES0100059
 Personal Representative: Cathy S. Elledge
 Address: 201 Rucker Rd. Chapin, SC 29036
 3/3;3tc

Estate: Lowry Price Ware
 Date of Death: 02/08/2021
 Case Number: 2021ES0100075
 Personal Representative: Gene R. Ware
 Address: PO Box 488 Due West, SC 29639
 3/10;3tc

Estate: Sylvester Woods
 Date of Death: 02/05/2021
 Case Number: 2021ES0100068
 Personal Representative: Thelma Woods
 Address: 1225 Watts Rd. Abbeville, SC 29620
 3/10;3tc

Estate: Lowry Price Ware
 Date of Death: 02/08/2021
 Case Number: 2021ES0100075
 Personal Representative: Gene R. Ware
 Address: PO Box 488 Due West, SC 29639
 3/10;3tc

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3/3;3tp

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Large Yard Sale with lots of goodies at 200 Hillcrest Dr. Abbeville. Thursday March 11th and Friday, March 12th from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days. Saturday, March 13th from 8 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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2/10;7fc

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REAL ID

Purchase before October 1, 2021!

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

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

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7/4tfc

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6/6:tfp

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10/24:tfp

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8/2tfc

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11/25tfc

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7/2:tfc

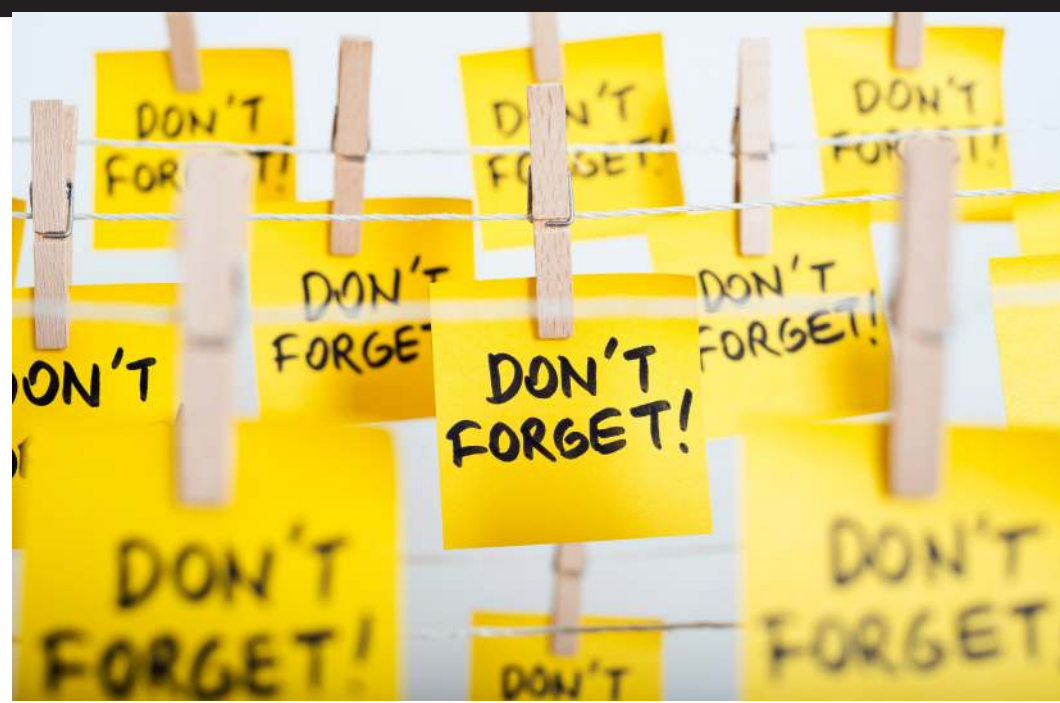
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3/3:10tp

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