



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



Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees chairman Brad Evans spoke recently to Abbeville Rotarians about District finances and its capital improvement plan. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

School board

Second reading on budget delayed

By Henry E. Green

The Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees met last week, but second reading on a proposed budget for the 2021-22 school year has been postponed to the July meeting, as has a public hearing on the budget, School District finance director Roni Scott said.

The vote is being postponed following an oversight on the public notice of the budget.

It is by law supposed to be posted 15 days before the public hearing.

It was not posted in the local paper, The Press and Banner, due to the oversight -- hence the need for the postponement, she said.

The budget plan is for the new fiscal year which begins on July 1.

The district can continue with its 20-21 budget plan until a new budget is passed, she said.

The School District did send to The Press and Banner a public notice for the June 30 issue of the newspaper.

According to the notice, the school board will conduct a public hearing on the 2021-2022 budget at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27, at the School District office building at 400 Greenville Street in Abbeville.

The total budgeted revenue and expenditures for 2020-2021 came to \$27,069,715.

Meanwhile, the total budgeted revenue and expenditures for 21-22 amount to \$27,933,616.

The budget for FY 2021-22 is three percent more than the 2020-21 operating budget, primarily due to state mandated teacher salary increases.

A total of 193.4 mills were levied for school operations for FY 20-21. The estimated amount of local tax collections is \$7,429,320.

The board, with school board trustee David Brooks opposing, approved having a continuing resolution to continue with current District plans until a new budget can be passed.

At the close of the June 29 meeting, Brooks indicated that he was embarrassed that the school board had not passed the budget on schedule.

He also called on school board chairman Brad Evans to issue a statement -- an apology on behalf of the board -- and Evans said that he would do that.

C.I.P.

Abbeville County School District's Capital Improvement Plan alive, well

By Henry E. Green

Welcome to the Capital Improvement Plan, the Abbeville County School District's list of projects designed to upgrade District facilities.

Some are complete, and some are still in the planning stages. It's all been divided into three phases, as Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees chairman Brad Evans told Abbeville Rotarians Thursday.

Among the projects which have already been completed:

--Playground at John C. Calhoun Elementary

--Energy capture areas installed at Cherokee Trail Elementary, Diamond Hill Elementary, Long Cane Primary, Wright Middle, and Abbeville High

--Painting of the interior of the athletic field house at Abbeville High

--Flooring, ceiling tiles, lights, lockers at AHS Field House

--Roof at Westwood

--HVAC at Wright Middle

--Playground at Cherokee Trail Elementary

Still under construction are new press boxes, concessions, restrooms, and ticket booths at Abbeville and Dixie high schools.

Still in the design phase are weight/locker rooms at Dixie and offices at Westwood and John C.

Calhoun.

Abbeville High School will also get a new scoreboard, and new goal posts--both projects were privately-funded.

It was all part of a verbal snapshot which Evans provided of the District and its finances.

Evans touched on current tidbits of news, including the oversight in posting the proposed District budget for 2021-2022.

The District did not post the proposed budget in the local paper, The Press and Banner, according to schedule, and because of that the public hearing and second reading on the proposed budget plan will have to be delayed until the regular school board meeting for the month of July.

Dr. Mason Gary, the School District superintendent, took responsibility for the oversight.

"It's a human mistake," Evans said.

Evans, taking pains to address some of the things that have been discussed in print and on Facebook, noted that yes, the District has received approximately \$15 million from the federal government in ESSR funds, funding provided in connection with COVID-related expenses.

However, the funds may only be spent in certain

ways, so it is not exactly a "windfall" in the simplest sense.

Indeed, the School District receives funds from state, local and federal sources, but that money often has strictly designated purposes.

The budget proposed for 2021-2022 takes in approximately \$28 million.

With the state calling for teacher increases, the District is proposing a 5.88 mill tax increase--translating into \$10 in additional tax money on a \$25,000 motor vehicle.

The budget process has come a long way. In years past, the School District would have to approve tax anticipation notes to make it through the fiscal year.

Now, the District has a healthy cushion. "Our fund balance is over \$1 million," he said.

The payroll for the District for one month is about \$2 million, and the School District wants to maintain a financial cushion to meet unexpected situations--sometimes tax money does not come in the amounts projected, he said.

Evans sounded a note of optimism for the School District.

"Abbeville is doing great athletically, and academically," he said.

Attorney could help board plan direction

By Henry E. Green

Attorney Frannie Heizer could be at the school board meeting next month to discuss matters related to a referendum which the board is considering having.

Heizer is a Columbia attorney with whom the school board has worked in the past, when the trustees prepared for a referendum that had been scheduled in 2020, before the pandemic, but then was cancelled.

Abbeville County School District Superintendent Dr. Mason Gary asked the board at its June 29 meeting if the trustees wanted him to invite Heizer to the next meeting, and the trustees

concurred.

Trustee James B. Tisdale, Jr., in a telephone interview Friday indicated that the big question is what the people of Abbeville County want in terms of facilities.

Do they want a consolidated high school? Do they want to stick with two high schools but with new wings to replace aging portions?

Tisdale indicated that Heizer could possibly help the trustees find out what the people want--and determine what options they have in trying to find out their desires.

The trustee said that this past spring Dixie and Abbeville together had fewer

than 200 graduates.

"We are spending taxpayers money and not spending it efficiently," Tisdale said.

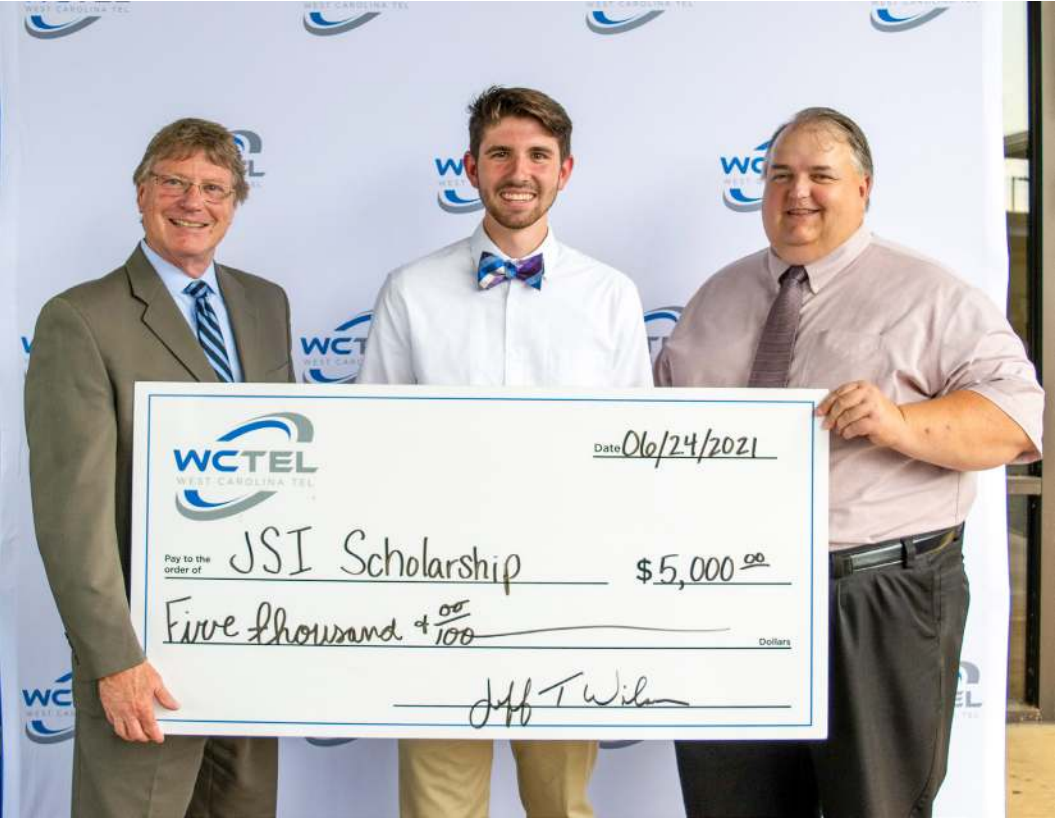
Eventually, a referendum might be needed, but the fall of this year might be too soon, as Abbeville County is still in a pandemic.

If a referendum is held, it should be held in the spring, because during the summer people tend to go out on vacation.

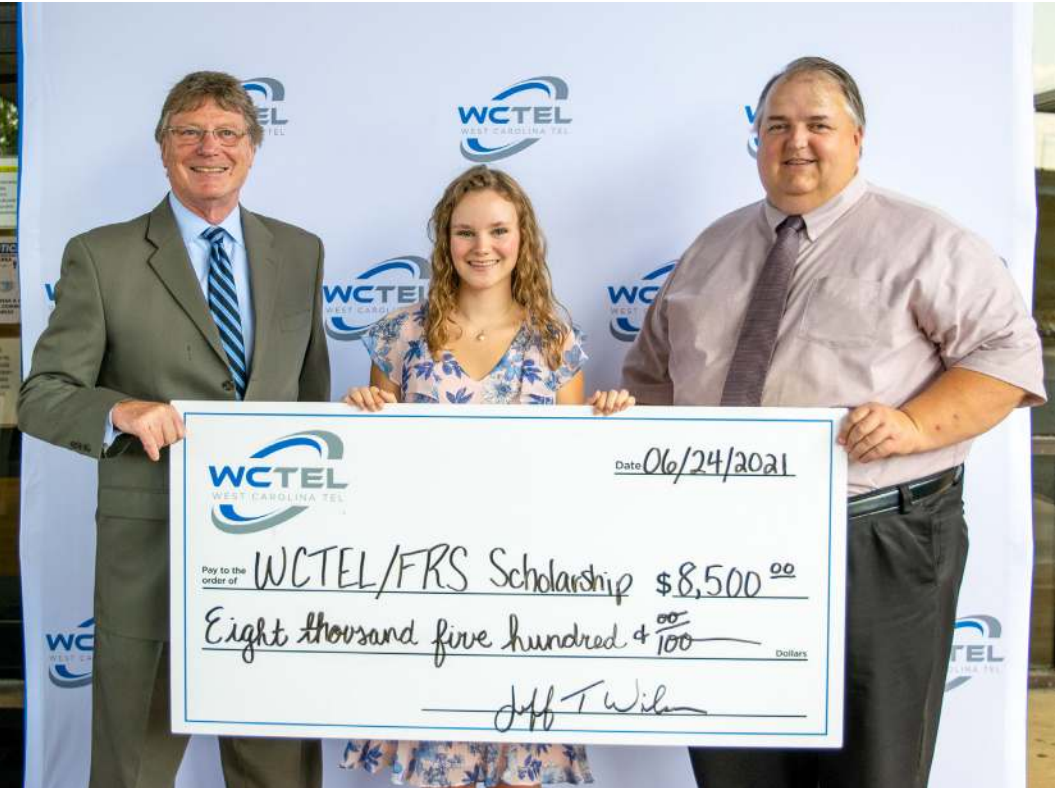
On the other hand, a referendum on any new construction should probably be held sooner rather than later, because of the impact of inflation on that construction, Tisdale said.



This 1895 Coca Cola syrup dispenser is part of the collection of Coca Cola memorabilia at the Welcome Center in Abbeville. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)



Pictured (l-r): Jeff Wilson, WCTEL CEO; Matt Weyer, JSI Scholarship Winner; and Wes McAllister, WCTEL Board President (Photo contributed)



Pictured (l-r): Jeff Wilson, WCTEL CEO; Caroline Scott, WCTEL Scholarship & Roger Alan Cox Scholarship Winner; and Wes McAllister, WCTEL Board President (Photo contributed).

WCTEL Awards \$13,500 in College Scholarships

**Submitted by
Virginia Smith, MBA
Marketing
Representative**

West Carolina Tel (WCTEL) recently awarded the recipients of the WCTEL & Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) 2021 college scholarships, totaling \$13,500 in funds to help local youth pursue further learning. All scholarship applications are mailed to FRS and independently judged in Washington, DC, by a panel of judges selected by FRS. The WCTEL scholarship

for \$8,000, issued annually for four years in the amount of \$2,000 per year was awarded to Caroline Scott from Abbeville High School. Caroline plans to attend Clemson University in the fall to pursue a degree in Electrical Engineering. Caroline also received the \$500 Rodger Cox scholarship from FRS. The Staurulakis Family (JSI) scholarship, valued at \$5,000, was awarded to Matt Weyer who was homeschooled in Greenwood. Matt plans to attend Lander University to pursue

a degree in Business Management/Marketing.

“The board and employees of West Carolina Tel are delighted to help area youth pursue their college dreams,” said Jeff Wilson, CEO of West Carolina Tel.

“We hope that these students flourish and one day return to our area to raise their families and pursue their career dreams. Our area offers a wealth of opportunities and we welcome these students with open arms.”

Business incubators useful development tool

Business Incubators have become a trendy and useful component of economic developers across the county and South Carolina is no exception to that rule, according to the City’s community development director, Austin Walker. “Thriving communities such as Charleston, Greenville, Spartanburg, Greer, Greenwood, etc. have business incubators which range from industrial focused facilities to co-working spaces designed to further entrepreneurial development,” Walker said. “In fact, Abbeville County has successfully operated an industrial business incubator for the past decade which has brought dozens of jobs and millions of dollars to Abbeville. However, the incubator the City has developed is geared toward small business creation. Small businesses which will hopefully help fill some of the vacant commercial

buildings in Downtown and other areas of the City after their time at the incubation facility is up.” By having a Small Business Incubator, the City is helping to ensure that local entrepreneurs are being provided with the necessary tools to start their business journey right here in Abbeville, she said. “This tactic has two primary benefits; one, the real economic impact of the jobs and businesses that will be created in Abbeville; and two, the long term positive societal and community impact of helping to keep more of Abbeville’s homegrown talent in Abbeville,” she said. The City opened applications for the incubator on Thursday, July 1st and will continue accepting applications through Saturday July 31st. Applications can be mailed to Attn: Community Development Dept. 100 Court Square or emailed to Awalker@AbbevilleCitySC.

com. The application and other requirements can be found on our website www.abbevillecitysc.com/small-businessincubator. “Our incubator can house a tenant for up to two years,” she said. “Tenants get a below market rental rate that allows time to grow their business base and gain solid financial footing. The Upstairs of the Welcome Center building was renovated in 2019. “Soon after our first incubator business, Red Gate Reality, began utilizing the space,” Walker continued. “Red Gate only needed the space for about a year and a half. Red Gate just recently purchased 103 Court Square and we could not be more excited to keep them as a business on the square! They are looking to rent out the left side of the building to another small business, so contact Melissa Cowart at 844-221-6935 if interested.”

Pruitt discusses County First Steps

By Henry E. Green
Abbeville County First Steps moved its offices to Greenwood and began collaborating with Greenwood County First Steps approximately 10 years ago in an effort to save money in the face of administrative costs, said Abbeville County First Steps executive director Angela Pruitt.

Abbeville County First Steps is expected in the coming months to be moving back to Abbeville County. It currently shares office space with Greenwood County First Steps--the two offices, according to published reports, merged in 2011. The Abbeville County program is a by-product of an early childhood education initiative launched by the state under the administration of Governor Jim Hodges in the late 1990s. The rationale was simple. Children who fall behind early in school may find it exceedingly difficult to catch up, and are at risk for a variety of problems. Thus, the thrust of the program is to ensure that children are ready to enter the first grade. To ensure that “readiness,” First Steps has programs that center largely around the philosophy that the parent should be the child’s first teacher.

Consequently, Abbeville County First Steps encourages parents to read with their young children, for example. Earlier this year, a letter was sent from the Greenwood County Legislative Delegation to the Greenwood County First Steps Board of Directors, asking the board to address concerns raised in an audit by the state, according to published reports. One of those concerns was a perceived conflict of interest involving a non-profit organization based in Greenwood that collaborated with Abbeville County First Steps. Abbeville County First has since ended its relationship with that nonprofit. Above all, Pruitt wants to make sure that the families served by Abbeville County First Steps continue to receive the same level of care as before. Meanwhile, she and the Abbeville County First Steps board will be looking for a new home in Abbeville County in which to locate their offices. Pruitt has been executive director since 2001. She works with a board of 21 people, whose members volunteer their time, and with a staff of three. Currently, about 65 families are served through the

program’s services. These services are provided through three component programs approved by the board--the Nurturing Parent Home Visitation, the Nurturing Fathers program, and childcare trainings. Due to the impact of COVID, all the Fatherhood and parenting groups are offered through zoom, and the home visitations are provided through “drop offs” and zoom, to all the families, and the childcare trainings are also offered largely through zoom. The home visitations include lesson plans and books for the children. “We’re continuing to give out books,” she said. “We always give out books once a month.” She praised Greenwood County First Steps executive director Michael Gaskin for “the work he’s done with the children and families in Abbeville County” through the Abbeville County First Steps Nurturing Fathers groups and parenting groups. Abbeville County First Steps is one of 46 First Steps programs throughout South Carolina. “The programs and services (of Abbeville County First Steps) have made a difference in Abbeville County,” she said.

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“Donald Trump” made an appearance at Lake Greenwood on Sunday, July 4th to celebrate Independence Day. Pictured with “The Donald” are some Press and Banner employees (Lamar West, right) and Amanda Smith (middle) aboard a pontoon at the Four Seasons Lake Resort & Marina. (Photo by Brian Smith)

Morgan looks at chronic care management

By Henry E. Green

Chronic care management is any care provided by medical professionals to patients who have chronic diseases and conditions, Amanda Morgan told the AAMC board of trustees recently.

Morgan is the Director of Community Health, Wellness and Outreach with AAMC.

A disease or condition is chronic when it lasts a year or more, requires ongoing medical attention or limits the activities of daily life, she said.

Examples include diabetes, asthma and hypertension, cancer and depression.

In the United States, approximately one in four adults, one in 15 children, and three of four seniors have multiple chronic conditions.

The goal of a chronic care management program is to help patients achieve a better quality of life through the management of their conditions, Morgan said.

A comprehensive care plan would include a record of the patient's chronic conditions, personal information and insurance, care plan goals, medications, the chronic care nurse's name, and provider's name.

Monthly calls with the

patient would include discussions of top concerns and barriers, symptom management, resources, medication, allergies, treatment goals, and a summary of the things the patient needs to do.

Chronic care management provides services that are outside of face-to-face patient visits. One of the most important aspects of chronic care is documentation and an extensive electronic health record.

Many patients who have chronic conditions see multiple care providers, and a detailed electronic record is essential to facilitate optimum care, she continued.

Bring on the candles! The Press and Banner is still going strong, and celebrates a birthday

By Henry E. Green

Happy Birthday to The Press and Banner!

Abbeville County's weekly newspaper has roots that go back to 1844, and if the P and B had a birthday cake with the appropriate number of candles it might draw the attention of the fire marshal.

Heaven forbid that we should be accused of starting a California-style wildfire. Let's just say that today's Press and Banner is a family-owned business, in the capable hands of Lamar and John Riley West.

It has been in the hands of the West family for roughly 100 years. Fred D. West, Sr., bought the newspaper, and his son, Fred D. West, Jr., was editor and publisher for years before his death in 1999 after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

They all have presided over a paper that has been a sounding board for the community's pulse.

That pulse is multifaceted, and one integral part is the personals column which for years was one of the most cherished parts of the paper.

The ladies who contributed the "personals" were interesting stories in and of themselves.

The late Lib Besinger, for example, contributed "Lib's Locals" for years. If you wanted to know who visited with whom, you did well to consult the "Locals."

Lib was a bundle of energy, tapping out news on her typewriter about things of delightful interest in a small town.

Carrying on Lib's legacy was Susie New, who wrote the cleverly-titled "Susie's News" for years.

Tapping into the community's pulse in a different way were people like Fred D. West, Jr., whose editorials provided words of wisdom that served as community guideposts.

His son, Lamar T. West, has also attained a large

following with his editorials and commentaries.

Lamar's brother John R. West, with a degree in journalism from the University of South Carolina, has helped guide the newspaper with accuracy and integrity.

Then there were people such as the late Jim Irwin, who attended just about every County Council meeting, or so it seemed, and who wrote numerous letters about local government to the editor of The Press and Banner.

(As for this reporter, The Press and Banner is a source of deep and abiding satisfaction—a place of business populated with people we love very much.)

They say that it takes a village to raise a child, but it takes a wealth of personalities and a singular abundance of energy to produce a newspaper like the P and B.

And we plan to "keep on keeping on."

City accepting ‘incubator’ applications

By Henry E. Green

The City of Abbeville is now accepting applications for its Business Incubator program, according to Deputy Administrative Officer Mike Clary.

This program helps nurture new businesses, helping them get off to a good start, and the City will be accepting applications through the month of July.

The Business Incubator is located on the second floor of the building that houses the Welcome Center on Abbeville's Court Square.

Since February of 2020, Red Gate Realty had been occupying the Business Incubator space, and the firm recently moved out to a space at 103 Court Square in Abbeville, Clary continued.

The City is welcoming applications through the month of July for a business to occupy the space. The prospective business must be new, or new to Abbeville County.

The chosen business would sign a one-year lease with the City, and could stay

in the incubator space up to two years.

Business incubator programs are used by communities throughout the state, and indeed throughout the nation.

Abbeville County government maintains an "incubator" at the Lakelands Commerce Center on the outskirts of Abbeville.

For more information, one may contact Austin Walker, the City of Abbeville's community development director at 366-5017.

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENT



Little River Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Job Title:	Groundsman (Apprentice Lineman)	Job Category:	Non-Exempt
Department/Group	Operations	Job Code:	55-6621
Location:	Abbeville, SC	Travel Required:	Occasional
Level/Salary Range:	\$16.00 - \$20.00	Position Type:	Full Time
HR Contact:	Jo S. Elliott	Date Posted:	June 25, 2021
Posting URL and our Employment Application	http://www.lreci.coop (Look under Employment)	Posting Expires:	July 16, 2021

To be considered, submit all **3 documents:**

- 1) Little River Electric Cooperative Employment Application
- 2) Resume and
- 3) Cover Letter / Letter of Interest

Documents accepted by EMAIL: JElliott@lreci.coop **Subject Line: Groundsman (Apprentice Lineman)**

Job Description (See full Job Description and requirements on Little River Electric Cooperative website)

This is a career job. Groundsman is an entry level position in the line of progression for Lineman with progressive pay and an outstanding benefit package.

QUALIFICATIONS

Successful candidate should have a stable, verifiable work history, must have/maintain a current S.C. Driver's License, and have a high school diploma. A pre-employment physical and drug screen is required. Must live in service area and/or be able to meet the response time requirement (approximately 15 minutes) to service area and provide "on-call" rotation to assist lineman during storms and outages occurring outside normal working hours.

The successful applicant must:

- Be able to work successfully with co-workers and consumer-members in a courteous and professional manner and be able to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors
- Be able to obtain CDL within 6 months of hire.
- Be willing and able to respond to outages any hour of the day, night, weekends, and holidays.
- Have the physical strength and stamina to perform duties required, which include learning to climb poles, lift heavy objects (in excess of 50 lbs. and up to 100 lbs.) and work in dangerous conditions/precious places to include heights, high voltage electrical currents and extreme heat/cold/humidity/wetlands/dust.
- Be able to operate assigned equipment including buckets, forklift, backhoe, trencher, winches, chainsaw, drills, high compression tools, shovel, hammer, pliers, tamp, and other basic hand tools.
- Be willing to work in potentially hazardous conditions caused by pets and wildlife in or near the work site with possible exposure to poison oak, poison ivy, and insect stings.
- Work under degree of stress related to accuracy and deadlines.
- Be able to learn and apply information from technical manuals in the completion of duties.

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Groundsman performs various manual labor tasks at the work site to assist crew members such as loading and unloading supplies and materials, cutting brush, digging ditches and assisting in preparing materials for the Linemen to install. Assists line crews in the construction, maintenance, and operation of overhead and underground distribution lines, structures, and/or equipment. Operates vehicles, performs groundwork, and keeps updated and complies with all safety policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.

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a Word from “THE WORD”

Rev. Dr. John Keith

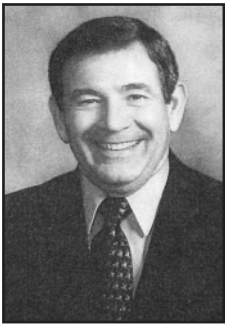
Remember

Psalm 137:5 “If I forget you O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill! (6) If I do not remember you, let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth—if I do not exalt Jerusalem above my chief joy.”

Psalm 137 is a historical Psalm, which is unusual. The historical books of the Old Testament do not record the history of Israel's Babylonian captivity. It is true that Jeremiah prophesied about it, but there is no record of that captivity. This Psalm reveals the longing and the desire of the Israelites to be back in their homeland. The Psalmist does not want to forget his homeland. I fear that our nation is on the brink of forgetting who we are and how much God has blessed us. Several years ago “The New York Times” carried the thought-provoking essay from a woman who had immigrated from Poland to the United States. Janina Atkins had arrived in the U. S. with few meager possessions and \$2.60 in her pocket. Over the next few years, she and her husband had created a stable life for themselves. In her essay, Janina sings the praises of her new country. She writes: “I love this country because when I want to move from one place to another I do not have to ask permission... I love it because, even with inflation, I do not have to pay a day's earnings for

a small chicken... I love America because America trusts me... I love it because my mail is not censored. My phone is not tapped. My conversation with friends is not reported to the secret police.” That woman was appreciative of the freedoms we have in our country. We are in danger of forgetting how great our nation really is. We are in danger of forgetting why our nation was founded and who made us great. Our nation was founded by people seeking religious freedom. The Pilgrims on the Mayflower wrote a declaration that stated they came to America because they felt led of God to come and further the gospel and God's kingdom. After their first year here, many of the Pilgrims had died. The Mayflower offered and even begged the surviving ones to return to England but they refused because they felt led of God to come and establish a new nation. We are in danger of forgetting and losing that tenacity that characterized our founding fathers. There is a modern heresy called the 1619 Project. What this project attempts to do is reframe history

and rewrite history to say that America was founded on slavery. That simply is not true. We are in danger of forgetting who we are and where we came from. Slavery was indeed a dark period in our nation's history, and we are still facing the consequences of it to this very day, but rewriting history is not the answer to our racial problems. The proponents of the 1619 Project want to paint our nation as evil and greedy. We must not forget our heritage, we must not forget our history. There is no denying that our nation faces some grave problems. But let us not lose sight of the fact that our nation is still one of the greatest nations on earth. One does not see long lines of people desperately trying to get into Communist China. One does not see long lines of people desperately trying to get into Communist Russia, or Communist Cuba. Why do you think that is so? The reason is that Communism and Socialism have nothing to offer. Let us remember who we are—we are Americans, God has shed His grace on us. Let us rejoice and be grateful for our nation.



jkeithfbca@gmail.com

District face mask rules relaxed for coming year

By Henry E. Green
Face mask regulations are being relaxed for the coming school year in the Abbeville County School District, according to a message on the Abbeville County School District Website. For the 2020-21 school year, students and staff had to wear masks while in transit in classes, hallways, school buses, or other areas at school. However, for the 2021-22 school year, face masks are no longer required due to the Governor and Superintendent's edicts lifting this requirement. The District will allow students or staff members to continue wearing masks if they or their parents so choose without having to complete a form. In other District matters, Dixie High School's varsity softball team, as well as outstanding Hornet track

athletes, and Hornet FFA members, as well as The Abbeville County School District's media specialists, were recognized during the Gold Star Highlights segment of the June 29 school board meeting. The District's technology director, Matt Kimsey, acknowledged that the school year that just ended has been a challenging one. “They're on the front lines every day,” he said. “I'm proud to call them my friends.” The Dixie varsity softball team won the Upper State championship, before losing to Lake View in the state finals. Also recognized were outstanding student-athletes who had distinguished themselves in track and field. The trustees provided some major compliments for the students who had shown

such high achievement. “Dixie's on fire,” said trustee Joe Bryson. Trustee Tim Rhodes recalled his own experience with creed speaking during his own involvement with FFA in high school. “I hated creed speaking,” he recalled humorously. “Keep up the good work,” said trustee James Tisdale. The Gold Star Highlights segment of the school board meeting is a time to recognize achievements made by Abbeville County School District students and educators. In other District matters: --August 17 will be the first day of school for students for the 2021-22 school year. --Eighty nine percent of the District's budget is taken up with salaries and fringe benefits, District finance director Roni Scott told the board at the June 29 meeting.

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Transit grant review process hits bump

By Henry E. Green
The review process for the application for a grant to fund a transportation system for Abbeville County has produced a postponement. United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County executive director Bill Boone shared an update he received from National RTAP Community Rides. The message was directed to Community Rides grant program applicants. “We were hoping to announce our selections between June 18-25, to enable most projects to start July 1, but unfortunately this will have to be pushed back. FTA needs more time than anticipated to review our selections, and they may not be able to approve them until July 23. With this updated timeline, projects are likely to start by August 1, 2021.” UCMAC has been seeking a grant to fund a pilot project whereby a public

transportation system would be provided for Abbeville County. The need for a transportation system has been identified by various groups, including Abbeville Area Medical Center, which identified the need in a survey. United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County has also identified transportation as a need, and coordinated a survey earlier this year to determine Abbeville County residents’ transportation needs. Boone went before County Council in April to present information from the recent survey and to seek their commitment to the project. “The National RTAP Community Rides Grant Program offers current recipients and sub-recipients of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA)’s Formula Grants for Rural Areas (Section 5311) program the opportunity to apply for grant awards of up to \$100,000 for projects that

develop or strengthen transportation partnerships that improve social determinants of health in rural and tribal communities,” according to information Boone supplied. There is no minimum grant award, and a local match is not required. The project duration is fifteen (15) months. Boone confirmed later in the year that “the federal grant to try to acquire funding for a pilot study for public transportation in Abbeville County has been submitted and received.” The transportation system that Boone envisions is a public system which would serve people trying to get to their hospital and physician appointments, or appointments to the UCMAC free medical clinic. These would all be non emergency transports. The system would rely on vehicles from a McCormick based transit system, Boone continued.



At a recent Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce awards dinner, the Chamber recognized Randy Connor of Sage and Paul Bell of Erskine, both of whom are finishing up their terms on the Chamber board. Bell was unable to attend the dinner, but Connor (right) posed for a picture with Juli Wilson, interim executive director of the Chamber. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Legislative summary

**Senator Mike Gambrell
Legislative Summary
July 2, 2021**
The South Carolina Senate met on June 22nd and June 29th to address the last issues covered in the Sine Die Resolution. Having passed a budget on June 22nd, we returned on June 29th to join the House of Representatives and address Governor McMaster’s vetoes. His vetoes totaled \$153 million, and the Legislature overrode all but a very small fraction of that. The General Assembly confirmed a new leader for Santee Cooper, Peter McCoy. This new appointee is

well known to the members as he served in the House of Representatives before being appointed U.S. Attorney for South Carolina. We are confident that Mr. McCoy will be invaluable in the reform of Santee Cooper. South Carolina also has a new Secretary of Commerce. Harry Lightsey, Jr. was confirmed by the Senate to lead the Department of Commerce going forward. As a former president of BellSouth Telecommunications for South Carolina, and an Executive at the General Motors Corporation, Secretary Lightsey brings a wealth of knowledge to our economic

development agency. The Senate will begin work on redistricting in the late summer or early fall, as soon as the 2020 Census numbers are finalized. There will be a series of public hearings as this process begins, and citizens are encouraged to participate. 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.

Projects safe from Governor’s vetoes

By Henry E. Green
The State House of Representatives and the Senate overrode last week Governor Henry McMaster’s vetoes of budgetary allocations for the McGowan Barksdale Bundy House upgrade and the Calhoun Falls marina at Calhoun Falls State Park, according to State Rep. Craig Gagnon. An allocation of \$150,000 had been placed in the proposed 2021-2022 budget for the House, which is located in Abbeville, dates from 1888 and which is the headquarters of the Abbeville County Historical

Society. The money will provide a climate control upgrade for the house, according to Gagnon. Also left in place was a \$1 million allocation to help upgrade the marina at the Calhoun Falls State Park. The McGowan Barksdale Bundy House, located on North Main in Abbeville, dates from 1888, and is the headquarters for the Abbeville County Historical Society. It is also called the Generals’ House, because it was at one time the home of General Samuel McGowan,

as well as General William Barksdale. On the grounds there is a caboose, which highlights the Franklin Pursley Railroad Park, and the grounds are also home to gardens. The two projects were among a number of plans which McMaster vetoed, but which the General Assembly countered. Among the other projects the Governor had vetoed—a camp for children with cancer, and repairing a dam in York County, according to published reports.

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A graduation program was held June 25 at the Abbeville Opera House for a firefighter's training course drawing individuals from Abbeville and surrounding counties. The "colors" were posted as part of the program. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Harbison cemetery clean-up planned

By Henry E. Green
There will be a clean up of Harbison cemetery on the outskirts of Abbeville on Saturday, July 17 from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., according to Richard London of Abbeville, who is coordinating the clean up effort. The rain date for the clean up will be July 24, said London. The cemetery, located on the outskirts of Abbeville, was also the subject of a clean-up in early June, a clean-up featuring Abbeville mayor Trey Edwards. Parts of the cemetery have

been overgrown with vegetation, and London has been working to get the resting place cleaned up. People who want to participate in the clean up may call London at 378-6596, or simply show up. Gloves are recommended. Trash bags will be provided. "We're just going to do a big trash removal," he said. The cemetery has been littered with soda cans, beer bottles, old flowers, and the like. Another group will be coming in at a later date to remove excess vegetation

The cemetery is located on land that used to belong to Harbison College, a college which used to be located in Abbeville. The college was situated on a large tract of land, and served Abbeville until it moved to Irmo in the early 20th century. The cemetery includes the graves of a number of veterans from World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. "There are about 20 veterans graves," he said. London has been working to get the resting place recognized as a historic site.

Due West Council Meeting was held on June 23, 2021

Submitted by **Jeannie Knight**
There was a Public Hearing before the scheduled Council Meeting to allow comments from citizens regarding the proposed budget for the new fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2021. There were no visitors at the meeting to comment so the Council Meeting was convened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation. Approval was given for the Minutes of the May Meeting and the Minutes of the Civic Events Committee Meeting of June 14. The Financial Reports of April and May were accepted as information. The Second Reading of the Ordinance No. 03-2021 to adopt the Fiscal Year Bud-

get beginning July 1, 2021, was held. The Town has two funds, the General fund and the Enterprise Fund, to provide for the receipt and expenditures of funds and other matters of the Town. The vote passed. The Mayor's Report included details regarding an event around the Erskine pool on July 3rd for the Community. The Civic Events Committee will have the pool open from 6 to 8 p.m. with hot dogs served around 7 p.m. The Town is researching using a card reader for the collection of funds. The Court System in Town is working with the Case Management System to use improved software for its operation. There will be decals on Court doors and in Town Hall to indicate that no

firearms and weapons will be allowed in these areas, and there will be a sign in the Washington Street Park with the same instruction. There were activity reports by the Fire Department and Police Department and a monthly status report from the Public Works Department. Under Old Business, a permission form was approved when applying to have certain poultry on residential property in Town. This will require permission from neighbors and approval by our Zoning Administrator. There will be a fee of \$25 collected with this approved application. And final approval will be given by Town Council. Town Hall was closed on July 5th.

Guild in midst of photography contest

By Henry E. Green
The Abbeville Artist Guild is in the midst of a photo contest, entitled "My Best Photograph Ever." "We've got three categories," said Jane Agan, Artist Guild treasurer, Thursday. These include nature, vacation, and pets. "People can enter one photo per category," she said. The contest started on June 1, and the last entries will be accepted on July 15. Artist Buddy Wilson is coordinating the contest for the Guild, which is accepting entries via e-mail, Agan continued. "Digital pictures only" will be accepted. Entries may be sent to the des-

ignated email address aag2021photo@gmail.com. "There are three local photographers who will be judging," she said. Family-friendly photos only will be accepted, and entries will be limited to Abbeville County residents only. "The Best in Show will win \$150 (and a trophy). First place in each of the three categories will carry a \$100 prize, and second place will be \$75, and third place \$50, and honorable mention \$25. Every picture will be displayed at the Welcome Center on a monitor, and the prize-winning photos will be printed out and displayed on the wall. "We'll have a reception some time in August (to

recognize the winners)," she said. This is not the first photo contest the Guild has had, but it is the first digital picture contest. About five years ago, the Guild presented "Picture This: A Day in Abbeville County," with disposal cameras distributed to people who would be asked to take pictures on a designated day. The Guild is a nonprofit organization which promotes the arts in Abbeville County. In addition to Agan, officers include president Jesse Nance and secretary Carolin Ann McLane, and currently has about 30 members, according to Agan.

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The Abbeville Lions have adopted a portion of Highway 28 Bypass in Abbeville. Showing up for the June 26 clean-up were (from left) Lions Rick Pressly, Mike Allen, Charles Crowther, Clayton Swalstad, Lanny McKay, J.J. Jackson, Robert Fossett, Sandi Hood, and Charles Williams. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

From Cowboys to Romance: Yesteryear Memories of The Abbeville Opera House

by Franklin Blum,
Abbeville High School
Class of 1955

We were born before the start of World War II and the Opera House was a big thing. In fact, it rose and fell with our high school class. In Hollywood, they say there are only two stories, Stranger Comes to Town or Boy Meets Girl. Around 1937, Spencer Phillips came to town and took over management of the Opera House. It may have been the same year his daughter, Judy, was born. For the Abbeville High School class of 1955, of which Judy was a member, the Opera House played a big role in our lives, providing entertainment and shaping our views of the wider world. As we came up through the years, we would move to different positions within the opera house seats. In the early days, we would sit in the middle and towards the front. When we were really young, on Saturdays, the Opera House played movies. It was nine cents to get in and you could earn it by collecting bottles. We sold bottles for a penny each, but it was hard to find them lying around because everyone was doing it. Everything came in glass bottles, but we never had trash. At the Opera House, there was a ticket stand to the right just before you went down the steps. After you gave your ticket to the usher, you could buy popcorn and candy. Milk Duds and Neccos were two of the most popular choices as the Opera House was the only place in town where they could be purchased. It was also easy to share those candies with friends when someone was short on funds, as we often were. Before the movie, we would get to see a cartoon and after

the movie, a short, serialized story would conclude the day with a cliffhanger. The serials starred people like The Three Stooges and Lash LaRue. Lash LaRue wore black and had a whip. The serials were designed to get you to come back because Lash LaRue would be in trouble, and you had to come back to see how he'd get himself out of the fix. Sometimes people like Johnny Mack Brown, Roy Rogers, and Tarzan came to town and appeared at the Opera House. They probably did not make too much money back then and had to tour around talking to groups of kids to make up for the small amount they got for starring in serials. They could not have made too much with us paying less than a dime for the whole show. As we got a little older and started high school, we moved down to the front left side of the theater. This was a status move, or so we thought when we reached the advanced age of sixteen or so. Eventually, the story became Boy Meets Girl and then we would move up into the balcony where we were blessedly out of sight for a couple hours and could spend less time enjoying the feature and more time enjoying the person we brought to the balcony. The Class of 1955 was small. There were somewhere around forty-seven classmates and people rarely moved. There was not a big turnover until high school ended. Watching war movies inspired heroism and many men and women who grew up in Abbeville served in the military. Some of us went directly into the military after high school. Other things started changing around the time we graduated as well. People were starting to get televisions in

their homes and were not going to movies as much as they had between 1937 and 1955. The role of the Abbeville Opera House in our lives cannot be overstated. It was the only place we could see moving pictures so it was where we learned about storytelling, courage, and romance. Before the feature started, there were newsreels about current events. World War II and later the Korean War were never far from our young minds as vivid images of various battles and bombings filled the screen and gave us a dose of reality. It seems the world was a different place back then and there were very bleak years mixed in with the golden ones. Some of our classmates lost close relatives and no one was unaffected. For those of us who grew up during this time, the Opera House was the focal point of our social lives and imagination during our formative years. Some of our class members have recently been able to attend events at the Opera House and are pleased to know the legacy of this building will continue. The Abbeville High School Class of 1955 supports the revitalization efforts of the Abbeville Opera House through the Seat Sponsorship Program and encourages everyone who shares memories of good times to get involved. For us, the Opera House was our Twitter, Facebook and email. We had other activities, but for most of our lives, the Opera House was a constant. The opportunity to have a new seat engraved with our names is a wonderful way to commemorate these memories and to be part of the future of this special place in a new century.



Members of the Calhoun Falls Charter FFA sold food at the Freedom Blast presented recently by the Lake Russell Recreation and Tourism Coalition. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

Work at Dixie, AHS stadiums continues

By Henry E. Green
Work on the press boxes at the Abbeville and Dixie high school stadiums, as well as concessions facilities and restrooms is expected to be finished by August 5, Justin Martin of Cely Construction told the Abbeville County School District Board of Trustees last week during the June 29 school board meeting. The firm has been working to replace the press boxes and work on other facilities at the Dixie and AHS stadiums. "Nothing unexpected weather-wise" has faced the construction process. The work, overall, has gone smoothly-- "no major issues at this point," he said.

The hope is that the work can be finished before the 2020 football season. Also at the June 29 meeting, the school board voted to transfer \$150,000 from the district's four year old kindergarten program to a "students at risk" program--students at risk for failure for a variety of reasons, from subpar test scores to discipline concerns. This money is from state funding, and it needs the board's approval before it can be moved from its initial purpose. "We have greater flexibility in how we can spend it," said Scott. The district current has a surplus in funding in the 4-K

program. "Our 4K program is supplemented by Title I funds," said Scott. Trustee James Tisdale made the motion to make the transfer, and trustee Marvin Peoples provided the second, and the motion passed unanimously. The transfer of money is intended to provide for reduced class size--to reduce the student teacher ratio in K-5th grade. In addition, the board approved three continuing contracts, three induction contracts, and two contract releases, following the School District administration's recommendation. Tisdale abstained.



The Abbeville Lions gathered at the home of Lion Mike Allen on Old Douglas Mill Road on the evening of June 26 for a cookout. Posing for a photo were Lions and prospective Lions (from left, front row) Barbara Vieth, Judy Hinton, Debra Nina, Bess Taylor, Robert Fossett, Lanny McKay, Mike Allen (back row, from left) Fred Malone, Charles Crowther, Charles Williams and J.J. Jackson. (Staff photo by Henry E. Green)

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Obituaries

Mundy

Andrew “Drew” Mott Mundy, Sr., 67, husband of Kim Prince Mundy passed away Wednesday June 30, 2021 at his home.

Born May 26, 1954 he was a son of the late Robert Gordon Mundy and Jenny Gilliam Dyar.

Drew graduated from Abbeville High School in 1972 and was a member of the 1971 AHS Football State Championship Team. He attended Clemson University and was an avid Clemson fan. He was a member of Main St. United Methodist Church, where he volunteered at UCMAC Food Bank. On Sunday mornings, you would find him brewing coffee for the Outreach Class. In 2017, he was awarded The Methodist Man of the Year. He also served on the board of Seaboard Credit Union. Drew was a hardworking man that felt like his job as a husband

and father was to provide for his family. In 2014, Drew retired from the CSX Railroad with 40 years of service.

If you know Drew you know he never sat still. He had many hobbies that keep him busy. He loved hunting, fishing, playing scrabble, gardening, working out, and playing tennis. In 2008, his tennis team, “The Bulls”, were finalists in the USTA League National Championship. On the weekdays, you could always find him eating at a local restaurant for lunch and visiting friends and family. On Sunday afternoons, he spent time with his family playing horseshoes and swimming in the pool.

Survivors include: His beloved wife of 45 years Kim Prince Mundy of the home; two sons Andrew M. Mundy, Jr., (Allison) of Greenwood, SC and Matthew Mundy (Casey) of Belton, SC; a daughter Marilawren Phillips (Al) of Powdersville,

SC; a sister Roseann Hill (Gabe) of Greenwood, SC; six grandchildren Madison Mundy, Fenway Mundy, Campbell Grace Mundy, Asa Mundy, Harrison Phillips, Hannah Grace Phillips.

Funeral services were conducted Monday July 5, 2021 at Main St. United Methodist Church at 2:00 PM with the Revs. Brandon Fulmer and Randy Taylor officiating. The burial was private family only.

The family received friends Monday afternoon from 12:30 until 2:00 PM at the church prior to services.

Memorials in memory of Drew may be made to Main St. United Methodist Church, PO Box 656, Abbeville, SC 29620.

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

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

Obituaries

Cutter

Rodney Lyn Cutter, 47, of Greenwood, SC, husband of Jamie Terry Cutter, died Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at his residence. He was born in Abbeville, SC to Ronald 'Ronnie' and Cynthia Campbell Cutter.

A 1992 graduate of Calhoun Falls High School, Rodney received a degree from Piedmont Technical College. He honorably served his country in the United States Army. Rodney was formerly employed with the Abbeville Police Department and Abbeville Sheriff's Department. He retired from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) serving the McCormick and Greenwood counties. Rodney was currently employed with Richloom in Clinton, SC. An outdoors-



Rodney L. Cutter

man, he especially enjoyed hunting and fishing. Rodney was a Mason and a Shriner.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Jamie; son, Lance Cutter of Greenwood, SC; daughter, Lauren White (Justin) of Easley, SC; his parents, Ronnie and Cynthia Cutter of Abbeville, SC; two brothers, Tronnie Cutter

(Shawn) of Elberton, GA and Blake Cutter of Abbeville, SC; and a grandson, Owen White.

A service to celebrate Rodney's life was at 11:30AM, Friday, July 2, 2021 in Harris Funeral Home, Abbeville Chapel with military honors.

The family will be at the home of Ronnie and Cynthia Cutter in Abbeville, SC.

Memorial contributions, in memory of Rodney, may be sent to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

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

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Cutter family.

Obituaries

Brewer

Herschel Robert “Bob” Brewer, 79, husband of Cletta Whitley Brewer, passed away Monday, June 28, 2021, at Self Regional Healthcare.

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, he was a son of the late Herschel Conrad Brewer and Lillie Camp Brewer. The Brewer's moved to Abbeville in 1975 to work for Seaboard Coastline Railroad. Bob's hobbies included working in the garden, fishing, going to auctions at Nail's Creek, wood working, watching Clemson football, fish fry's and he loved to grill steaks and BBQ ribs, which were his specialty. Sundays were special to him as the family and grandchildren

gathered for lunch. Bob was a member of South Side Baptist Church in Abbeville and was a 50 year Master Mason.

Survivors include: his beloved wife of 57 years of the home; a son, Brian Herschel Brewer (Nita) of Greenwood; a daughter, Cynthia Brewer Evans (Scott) of Greenwood; a sister, Mildred Kizzire of Mt. Olive, Alabama; a brother, Nathan Brewer of Florence, Alabama; four grandchildren, Sawyer Evans, Samantha Fischer (Jake), Matthew Brewer and Grace Brewer; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 11 am on Friday July 2, 2021 in the Chandler Chapel at Chan-

dlar-Jackson Funeral Home with Mr. Billy Ray Price officiating. Burial followed in Long Cane Cemetery.

The family received friends Thursday evening from 6-8 pm at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers memorials in memory of Bob may be made to The Grace Brewer Fund for Special Education, Greenwood School District 50, c/o South State Bank, 109 Montague Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29649.

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

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

Boyd

Margaret Betty Stone Boyd, 96, of Abbeville, wife of the late John R. 'Pete' Boyd, Jr., died Monday, July 05, 2021 at the Abbeville Nursing Home. She was one of eleven children born in Abbeville County to the late James Elbert and Eva Strawhorn Stone.

A 1941 graduate of Abbeville High School, Mrs. Boyd enjoyed being a homemaker and lovingly cared for her family. A member of Little Mountain Presbyterian Church and the adult Sunday School Class, she was a former Sunday School Teacher and sang in the choir,

In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by five brothers, James, Howard, Marion, Lowry and George Stone and four sisters, Joann S. Nabors, Louise Farmer, Inez Thomas and Doris Hodges.

Mrs. Boyd is survived by



Margaret Betty Boyd

her two sons, Tommy Boyd (Bonnie) and Jimmy Boyd (Pat), all of Abbeville; a brother Bill Stone (Joannah) of Abbeville; five grandchildren, Kristy Boyd, John Boyd (Stephanie), Renee B. Lumpkin (Stacy), Jennifer Fisher (Ben), Diana Green (Johnny); eleven great-grandchildren, Sara, Drake, Amanda, Tyler, Dustin, Zander, Ryan, Ari, Aubrey, Jude and Eli; and one great-great-grand-

daughter, Riley.

The family will receive friends 12:30PM – 1:30PM, Thursday, July 8, 2021 in Little Mountain Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. Funeral services will be 2:00PM in the church sanctuary with Rev. Darrell Fetzer and Dr. David Torrey officiating. Burial will follow in Little Mountain Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

The family is at the home of her son, Jimmy and Pat Boyd, 60 Magnolia Drive, Abbeville, SC 29620

Memorial contributions, in memory of Mrs. Boyd, may be sent to Little Mountain Presbyterian Church Building Fund, 3836 Highway 28N, Abbeville, SC 29620.

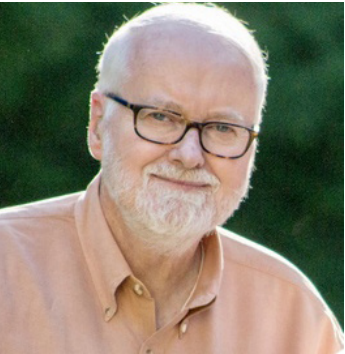
A message of condolence may be sent to the family by visiting www.harrisfuneral.com.

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Boyd family.

Shaw

Lee Danny Shaw, 72, husband of Laura Major Brown, died Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at their home in Columbia, South Carolina. Mr. Shaw was born March 2, 1949, in Abbeville, South Carolina to the late Charlie B. and Bertha McMahan Shaw. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Charlie B. Shaw, Jr. He was a member of Kathwood Baptist Church.

A graduate of Calhoun Falls High School and the University of Georgia, Mr. Shaw enjoyed 31 years of service to children through his work in public schools as a classroom teacher, in school administration, and by mentoring and coaching teachers. He was recognized as a National Distinguished Principal and Outstanding Principal in the state of South Carolina and chosen by his peers as a former President of the State Elementary and Middle School Principals professional organization. Mr. Shaw's schools have been National Schools of Excellence and recognized as award-winning institutions. After retiring from the South Carolina public school system, Mr. Shaw continued to encourage excellence in the classroom throughout the United States by working for DataWORKS Education Research and as a partner in EMC2 Educational Management Consultants. He authored a number of articles



Lee Danny Shaw

for scholarly publications and was admired by all who benefited from his experience and knowledge. His professional motto was “Children are Bundles of Possibilities” and never failed to personify that in his personal life as well.

Mr. Shaw delighted in conversations with people from all walks of life so that he could learn from their diverse interests and ideas. Always ready with an encouraging word, he believed in Christ's teaching that we should love one another, uplift the downhearted, celebrate each other's victories, and always nurture the next generation. He advocated these ideals through his lifelong association with the Democratic Party in South Carolina, actively participating in state and local organizations. Mr. Shaw loved people, loved life, and was immensely happy when the two converged, which fueled his enthusiasm for travel, especially to New York, New Orleans, and the SC coast with his family. He was a die-hard Georgia Bull-

dog fan and, until his health no longer allowed it, attended every home football game and many away games.

In addition to Laura, Mr. Shaw is survived by his stepson and daughter-in-law William and Mindy Brown; grandchildren Grady Maddox and Layla Grace Brown; mother-in-law Sarah P. Major; the extended Major family; and dear friends Jo Wilson, Scott Chappell, Chuck Leopold, and Frank Sarratt. His loved ones will deeply miss Mr. Shaw's witticisms and wisdom.

A private service was held in Abbeville, South Carolina with Mr. Jim Petty and Ms. Elizabeth Mullins officiating. Mr. Shaw's granddaughter, Layla Grace, sang “Our Only Hope” and the meditation was “O Rest in the Lord” from Mendelssohn's Elijah. Harris Funeral Home assisted the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that Mr. Shaw's legacy be remembered through contributions to the South Carolina Democratic Party Fowler Center Fund, 1929 Gadsden Street, Columbia, SC 29201 or South Carolina Association for School Administrators Foundation for Educational Leadership, 1 Fernandina Court, Columbia, SC 29212.

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

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services is assisting the Shaw family.

Koerber

Marvin Alfred Koerber Jr., 86, of Abbeville, widower of Ann Marie Koerber, died Saturday July 3rd at the Abbeville Nursing Home. He was born in Hoisington, KS, October 27, 1934 and was the son of the late Marvin, Sr. and Myrtle Allen Koerber.

Mr. Koerber was of Presbyterian faith. He always stayed active enjoying the simpler things in life to include family, music, dancing, old movies, collecting, planting, and spending time outdoors.

He graduated Amarillo High School in 1952 and was involved in leadership roles with the ROTC and practicing professional music. He attended Arizona State University and later earned a BS in Chemistry from Erskine College in Abbeville in 1970.

Mr. Koerber spent most of his professional career advancing the design, development, and application of flexible ducting and duct systems used in residential, commercial, mobile home, and industrial HVAC applications.

He was a Developing Chemist for Uniroyal in Nauvaukuck, CT from 1960 to 1968. He worked with the Research and Development Engineering for Automation Industries, Flexible Tubing Division in Abbeville, SC from 1968 to 1980. Corporate Engineering and Management at CleCon Incorporated in Cleveland, OH and Atlanta,



Marvin Alfred Koerber Jr.

GA from 1980 to 1982. And finished as Vice President, Technical Services at ATCO Rubber Products, Inc in Fort Worth, TX from 1982 until retirement in 2004.

He was active for many years in the HVAC industry, standards, and building code associations such as American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers, Underwriters Laboratories Industry Advisory Councils, American Chemical Society, Society of Plastics Engineers, National Fire Protection Association, Canadian Standards Association, International Congress of Building Officials, Southern Building Code Congress, International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, and the Air Diffusion Council.

In addition to his parents and his loving wife, he was preceded in death by three sisters.

Surviving Mr. Koerber are his nine children; a daughter,

Marva Ann Koerber of Black Mountain, NC; eight sons, Marvin A. Koerber, III (Dee) of Abbeville, Ralph A. Koerber (Kathy) of Keller, TX, Alan W. Koerber (Pat) of Anderson, SC, Karl D. Koerber (Gail) of Greenwood, SC, Larry R. Koerber (Lisa) of Abbeville, Arthur E. Koerber of North Richland Hills, TX, Vernon S. Koerber (Dee) of Roanoke, TX and Freddy M. Koerber (Bridget) of Marlinton, WVA; a sister, Donna J. Carmack of Peoria, AZ; twenty-four grandchildren, twenty-nine great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at Warrenton Presbyterian Church.

The families are gathering at the home of Larry & Lisa Koerber, of Abbeville.

The Koerber family extends sincere appreciation to the staffs of the Renaissance Memory Care and the Abbeville Nursing Home for all the love, care and support they have received in these last years.

Memorial contributions in memory of Mr. Koerber may be sent to the Warrenton Presbyterian Youth Fund, 191 Watts Road, Abbeville, S.C. 29620

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

Harris Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Abbeville is assisting the Koerber family.

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The Parking Lot of the Dead

by Tom Poland

Even in death they cling to dignity. Left to rust, they bless the rare visitor with awe and mystery. Just how did old trucks and cars end up in a cemetery of sorts, “the graveyard of the rusted automobiles,” as Steve Goodman put it in “The City of New Orleans?” “The parking lot of the dead” as James Dickey wrote in “Cherrylog Road.” We’re not talking junkyards though. We’re talking tree-concealed, vine-covered, limb-fallen abandonment.

Each time I discover a gathering of forsaken cars and trucks it strikes me. How did this potter’s field come to pass? It sets me to thinking. First coming to me is a sense of déjà vu. “I’ve been here before,” I think, and I have. A walk through my granddad’s pasture was a stroll through a minor junkyard. Was it the easy way out? To heck with selling them. Just drag them into the pasture and let mice, wasps, and snakes take up residence. Or did he wrest a water pump, a door, or handful of spark plugs from some?

I’m sure the older generations kept some for parts but I sense something else, and this is where it gets complicated. Could they not part with them? Was some sort of love affair or relationship at work here? After all, it had not been that many years since the cars replaced

horses and buggies as some of the ghostly “gone to their maker” owners of the vehicles knew all so well. I have



no doubt they loved their miraculous, noisy, fast conveyances. They and their ancestors didn’t put their mules and horses out to pasture. Well, of course they did, but they

continued to look after them. Maybe that’s it. The sense of affectionate husbandry they felt for farm animals transferred over to cars and trucks. And we can’t overlook nostalgia. “That ol’ truck? Took me and my wife to the hospital for our first born.” “That rusty Chevy? Your granddad died of a heart attack in it.” (It’s true. He did.) “That back seat? My first. Fell in love there. Yes sir, I did.”



Memories... good and sad. All these many years later? We take cars and trucks for granted. They’re part and parcel of our lives, giving some

needy souls a status symbol, a look at me thing. Things are changing, however, as they always do. Now and then I meet a young person who has no car or truck. “A car? I don’t need one. I Uber.” That’s the new cool taxi-like way to get from A to B.

Some of us would never Uber. We drive and drive. Then, “Well, the miles are high now. Time for a new ride.” We won’t park the old trucks or cars in some bare spot and wait for a forest to overtake them. We trade up for newfangled technology—hybrids, G P S , satellite radio, Blue-tooth cell phones, all sorts of safety features, and some of you—not me—can’t wait to have a car that drives itself. Good luck with that.

No, people don’t hang onto ’em like they once did. They trade ’em, hand ’em down to relatives, and such. It pleases me that the also-dead owner-drivers of yesteryear kept their old rides and workhorses. Their parking lots of the dead, their graveyards of the rusted automobiles, left us museums of sorts. Still, so few of us visit them. Every time I come across one awe and mystery well up within me. It’s as if some rusting metal spirit missing an eye of a headlight speaks with a gas-burnt grasp through chrome grills that gleam still.

“Thank you for visiting us. It’s been many years since we’ve had company with one of y’all, a long time since a human touched us. If you come again, I promise you we’ll be here. As you can see our days of drinking gas and rolling and feeling the wind on windshields are long gone, gone with the wind. We sit and sit and sit. Parked forever you could say.”

Something soft

City replacing seats in Opera House

By Henry E. Green
Out with the old. And in with the new.

The City of Abbeville is in the process of replacing the seats in the Opera House.

The replacement is necessary because of the age and condition of the seats, according to Mike Clary, Deputy Administrative Officer with the City.

“We don’t have an exact age,” he said. “We think they’re about 60 years old.”

Clary explained that they came from a theater in Charleston in the 1980s, and they were about 20 to 30 years old at that time.

A total of 284 seats are being replaced, and the carpet is being replaced as well.

The Deputy Administrative Office and Austin Walker,

the City’s Community Development Director, led a reporter into the Opera House theater, where the bare wooden floor was visible.

Next on the agenda is the installation of new carpet, and on July 12 the installation of new seats will begin.

The color of the new seats will be the same as the old ones, but the arm rests will be wood grain.

The City is trying to stay as close to the current Opera House aesthetic as possible. The seats are costing the City approximately \$68,000, and are coming from Irwin Seating Company.

The new seats are being paid for through a hospital-ity revenue bond the City

approved last year.

One third of the Opera House renovation are being paid for through grant funds.

The installation of the new seats is slated to take up to two weeks, and the theater is expected to reopen for shows on July 31.

Anyone who wants to sponsor a new Opera House chair is welcome to call Walker at 366-5017. The money will go into an Opera House Historic Preservation Fund, operated by the City.

About 45 seats have been sponsored so far, said Walker, who said that a sponsorship costs \$75, and may be made by either an individual or an organization, and in honor or in memory of someone.

Catheterization Simulator Aiding Cardiovascular Technology

Submitted by
Kristine Hartvigsen

The students have named him “Keanu,” which seems somehow appropriate for the brand-new catheterization simulator that has been used to train its first cohort this spring semester at Piedmont Technical College (PTC). Contained in the body of a high-tech mannequin, the simulator enables students to conduct procedures as closely as can be approximated to the real clinical setting as possible. It’s a scenario right out of *The Matrix*.

“I like for each class to name the mannequin,” Cardiovascular Technology (CVT) Invasive Program Instructor Lena Scott said. “This semester, it was ‘Keanu.’ We also have another, ordinary lab mannequin, an older lady we call ‘Geri.’”

Scott says Keanu looks very much like an actual patient in front of the operator, and images of the procedure in progress — such as a coronary intravascular ultrasound or the implantation of a stent — appear on a computer screen.

“Each student has their own profile on the simulator,” Scott explained, “and I can track what they are doing. They log in and complete cases each day when they are here.”

“The simulator is great. It gives you an idea of what to expect and the process to expect,” PTC student Jacob Childress said. “It also gives you the foundation of what to expect for the angiograms. It will show different angulations and what to expect when it is done in the Cath Lab. Previously this would not have been possible; it would have just been pictures. This has been a great help identifying lesions during procedures at the hospital.”

As a former clinician herself with many years of experience in practice, Scott says the simulator is as authentic as it can be.

“I think it’s a great simulation of what to expect when you actually get in the clinical setting,” she said. “I think to have the patient in front of you is the biggest factor in that.”

Scott says her students love the simulator and would

much rather be working on the simulator than sitting in a lecture.

“They are grateful for the opportunity to do interventions before they go out into the clinical setting,” she said. “In addition, the simulator communicates radiation levels. That’s important because we can’t ‘see’ radiation. It helps us teach about radiation safety.”

“The Cath simulator has been a great tool to learn about the projections, the coronaries under fluoroscopy and the process to expect in the Cath Lab,” Childress added.

For more information about PTC’s Cardiovascular Technology Program, go to www.ptc.edu/cardio.

The full-term fall semester runs from August 23 to Dec. 10, 2021. Students are invited to apply online at www.ptc.edu/apply, or they can contact admissions at 855-682-7094 to set up an appointment. Those who register by July 15 can waive the standard \$25 registration fee and receive a voucher worth \$300 for textbooks and related materials.

CONTRACTORS FOR WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM

GLEAMNS Human Resources Commission, Inc. is accepting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to provide Weatherization assistance/services to low-income homeowners/renters in 12 counties of SC. For more information, download RFP, NEAT/MHEA price sheet, and draft agreement under Solicitation No. P02-10-21 from www.gleamns-hrc.com, click on ‘Bid Information’. This advertisement is subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the Request for Sealed Proposals.

6/30;11c

JOB OPENING

ABBEVILLE COUNTY
Detention Center Officer

Maintain order and safety within the Detention Center for inmates and employees

Please submit applications to: Abbeville County Detention Center, Attn: Capt. Williams, 21 Old Calhoun Falls Road, Abbeville, South Carolina 29620.

Applications are available online at: www.abbevilcountysc.com

Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

Equal Opportunity Employer.

7/7;21c

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Donalds Town Council
Town of Donalds, SC
Notice of Public Hearing

Where: Donalds Town Hall

When: Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm EST

Agenda:

- Town adoption of Abbeville County Ordinance on 2018 International Property Code
- Final reading Donalds Town Ordinance on Property Maintenance
- Final reading Donalds Town Ordinance on Recreational Vehicles (RV)

6/16;11c

NOTICE OF ELECTION

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ABBEVILLE

Notice is hereby given that a non-partisan Municipal Special Election for the town of Donalds will be held at Precincts fixed by law on Tuesday, August 31, 2021. The seat to be voted on is (1) Town Council Seat.

Any person wishing to register to vote in this election must do so no later than Friday, July 30th, 2021 in person, Sunday, August 1st, 2021 online, and Monday, August 2, 2021 by date stamped mail.

Filing is by petition. Blank petitions are available at the Abbeville County Registration & Elections office.

Filing will begin at Noon on, Wednesday, July 14th. 2021 Deadline for filing petitions is NOON, Friday, July 23rd 2021.

The polls shall be open from 7:00am until 7:00pm at the polling places designated below.

Voters who are blind, handicapped or unable to read or write are entitled to assistance in casting their ballots. The voter must notify the poll manager if assistance is needed.

Registered electors who cannot vote in person on Election Day may be eligible to vote by absentee ballot. For additional information concerning absentee voting call (864) 366-2400 ext. 53. The Abbeville County Board of Registration and Elections or visit scvotes.gov.

At 5:00 pm on Election Day the County Election Commission may begin processing the absentee ballot precinct in the office at the Abbeville County Complex at 903 West Greenwood Street, Suite 2500, Abbeville SC, 29620.

On Friday, September 3, 2021 at 11:00 am, the Abbeville County Board of Canvassers will hold a hearing to determine the validity of provisional ballots from the August 3rd election. This hearing will be held at the Abbeville County Complex at 903 West Greenwood Street, Suite 2500, Abbeville SC, 29620.

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

Precincts	Polling Place Location
009 Donalds	Donalds Fire Department 445 W Main St. Donalds, SC 29638

6/30;21c

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

A Slice of Mike

“The Belmont Steaks”

By Mike Elis

Being on the road a minimum of ten days a month can be tough. The entertainment business wears on me mentally, physically, and emotionally. Sometimes I need to be reminded of what day of the week it is to remember what city I'm in and not to say the wrong city when I'm on stage.

That has happened once. Sorry Greer, South Carolina, I still love you.

About half of the shows I produce and promote are in Abbeville, South Carolina. Going from hotel to hotel is never as fun and glorious as it sounds (oh, there have been some nightmares), but my second home at The Belmont Inn is always a stop I look forward to.

The people, the food, the beverages, but most of all... the smiles.

I rarely order a steak, but I did on June 4th and it was delicious. You may ask why I mention the date. Well, the next evening was the final leg of the Triple Crown in horse racing and I realized that I was eating a Belmont Steak exactly 24 hours from the running of the Belmont Stakes. The odds of that happening in Abbeville are 428-1 and I decided to make it a trifecta with french fries and a house salad with lime cilantro dressing.

I hope to someday with enough training and laps around the track attempt the three pound Tomahawk steak, but the odds on me finishing it are about 118-1.

Last Wednesday, I hosted our monthly team trivia contest for charity. It was on that night I took it all in. The place was packed with not one empty seat for

team trivia and as I looked around, I saw nothing but smiles. The bartenders and wait staff were hustling like they always do, while their team, team “Tip the Wait Staff” won the trivia contest and raised a bunch of money for Beyond Abuse in Greenwood, SC and as always, with a smile. The capacity crowd were laughing, smiling, and having a great time. I even looked over at my co-host for trivia Heather, smiled, and said, “Man, what a night this is.”

But there is one thing that makes The Belmont Inn as great as it is.

My dad taught me at a young age that the greatness of any establishment is in direct relation to the owners and their involvement in customer satisfaction. Jim and Susan are always in the restaurant shaking hands, hugging friends and family, and making sure that everyone is enjoying themselves. And they always ask for feedback as to how they can improve which is unheard of because they have enough on their plate with running an Inn. Jim and Susan are as nice as the ghost (Abraham) that lives there. In almost three years of staying there, I supposedly have had two encounters with Abraham, the last being his misplacing my keys in the room. I found them and chalked it up to his not wanting me to leave. I told him I would be back soon and not to hide my keys from now on.

The elevator doesn't want you to leave sometimes either. The elevator door takes a while and the other day, it was on coffee break for a few minutes before

thanking me for my patience and then proceeding to take me to my floor.

Even once when I was on the elevator, there were people that were from out of town. The elevator was taking it's time, when a voice said to the impatient guests, “Stop pounding my buttons. I will go when I am ready, do you understand?” Then the elevator sighed and said “City folk.”

Also, keep in mind something very important when you stay there. The second floor is actually the first floor and the third floor is actually the second floor. Don't ask; just nod that you understand.

I know that my column is usually full of humor and wordplay, but instead I decided to take a moment to give major props to a local establishment that deserves the praise. No matter whether you are local or not in the immediate area, spend a night enjoying a show at the Abbeville Opera House and enjoy dinner and an evening stay at The Belmont. You will be glad you did.

And so will Abraham. The elevator? Debatable.

Join Mike and Heather for the next trivia night, Trivia Against Humanity, on July 28th at 7pm inside JP's located inside the Belmont. Recommended ages 18+ due to some adult humor.

Team maximum of 5 people and you can reserve your table by calling The Belmont Inn at 864-214-7453.

Cost is \$5 per person to play and half the money goes to the winning team and the other half goes to the winning team's charity of choice.



US Senate

Ranking Member Scott Urges CDC to Protect Aging Community From Upcoming Flu Season

Submitted by
Senator Tim Scott

Ranking Member Tim Scott (R-S.C.) sent a letter to the Biden administration, urging the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to focus on protecting older Americans in light of the upcoming influenza season.

The letter, sent to the CDC Director Rochelle Walensky, comes as the 2020-21 flu season was the mildest on record, leading to concern among some experts

that the upcoming flu season could be more severe, due to less data about the prevalent flu strains as well as reduced flu immunity in patients. The CDC must also take steps to educate healthcare providers and patients about the flu, and find ways to protect older Americans in the community and across settings of care.

In the letter, RM Scott reemphasizes that “Improving the health and welfare of older Americans is one of the top priorities of the Sen-

ate Special Committee on Aging and that we need to ensure that the agency is taking every possible precaution to protect seniors during the upcoming flu season.”

By providing the information requested, the CDC will help us understand how the CDC is working to mitigate the flu's impact on the senior population and ensure that those who endured the largest burden of the COVID-19 pandemic will be protected during the upcoming flu seasons.

NOTICE OF HEARING

The City of Abbeville Historic Properties Protection Commission (HPPC) will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 22, 2021, in the City Council Chambers at the Opera House in Abbeville, S.C. The following item is on the agenda:

- Request from Joseph H. Johns for approval of a Bailey Bill application for property located at 111 Court Square.

H. Neal Dickenson
Zoning Administrator

7/7;1c

JOB OPENING

Abbeville County Public Works Department is seeking qualified individuals to fill a part-time position of Recycling & Household Waste Collection site attendant. Attendants are required to promote recycling and to direct Abbeville County residents as to the placement of their recyclables and household waste. Must have own transportation and be available to work at any of our sites when needed. Job requires being in the elements of weather, standing on your feet for periods of time, and being able to lift up to 50 pounds. Recycling & Household Waste Collection sites are open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Applications are available at Abbeville County Public Works Department, 1094 Gassoway Farm Rd or Abbeville County Administrative Complex, 903 West Greenwood Street. Applications can also be found at abbevillecountysc.com.

Submit completed employment application by Friday July 30, 2021 to:



Recycling Coordinator
Robbie Hanna
1094 Gassoway Farm Road
Abbeville, SC 29620

Equal Opportunity Employer
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7/7;2c

THE GREATER ABBEVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Business of the Month



GREENWOOD MUNICIPAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Greenwood Municipal Federal Credit Union was founded by the County and City of Greenwood, South Carolina in 1974. We are a Non-Profit Institution, which means we are member owned.

Monday:	8:30 a.m.	-	5:00 p.m.
Tuesday:	8:30 a.m.	-	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	8:30 a.m.	-	5:00 p.m.
Thursday:	8:30 a.m.	-	5:30 p.m.
Friday:	8:30 a.m.	-	5:30 p.m.
Saturday:	CLOSED		
Sunday:	CLOSED		



www.gm-fcu.org • (864) 229-6177 • gmfcu@gm-fcu.org
Give us a like on Facebook! [facebook.com/GreenwoodMunicipalFCU/](https://www.facebook.com/GreenwoodMunicipalFCU/)

Classifieds & Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371PC with the Probate Court of ABBEVILLE COUNTY, the address of which is 903 WEST GREENWOOD ST., SUITE 2300 ABBEVILLE, SC 29620, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371PC) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Shannon Malone Sutherland
Date of Death: 5/15/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100154
Personal Representative: Shana Jane Hall and Sydney J. Harrison
Address: 288 Adger Lane, Abbeville, SC 29620 and 105 Andrews Ave. N. Greenwood, SC 29646
6/23;3tc

Estate: Georgia Anna Wiles Ware
Date of Death: 4/26/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100155
Personal Representative: Susan A. Ware - Snow
Address: 531 Orr Road, Easley, SC 29642
6/23;3tc

Estate: Nina Louise Winger
Date of Death: 5/21/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100159
Personal Representative: William Stephen Winger
Address: 73 Bramblewood Cove Abbeville, SC 29620
6/23;3tc

Estate: Raymond Pearson Brewington
Date of Death: 4/26/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100160
Personal Representative: Kathy Brewington Turner
Address: 248 Golden Acres Dr. Honea Path, SC 29654
6/23;3tc

Estate: Joe G. Charring
Date of Death: 06/04/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100162
Personal Representative: Steven Charring
Address: 64 Whip-o-will Road Abbeville, SC 29620
6/30;3tc

Estate: Loretta Young Charring
Date of Death: 09/06/2020
Case Number: 2021ES0100163
Personal Representative: Shelby Dixon
Address: 64 Peach Orchard Road Calhoun Falls, SC 29628
6/30;3tc

Estate: James W. Scoggins
Date of Death: 05/20/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100164
Personal Representative: Jimmy Scoggins
Address: P.O. Box 53 Lowndesville, SC 29649
6/30;3tc

Estate: Shirley Mae Wilson
Date of Death: 06/06/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100165
Personal Representative: Richard Lee Canter
Address: 2335 Cardinal Way, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
6/30;3tc

Estate: Donald Alan Ruff
Date of Death: 03/25/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100169
Personal Representative: Theresa Raye Ruff
Address: 1413 Old Douglas Mill Rd Abbeville, SC 29260
7/7;3tc

Estate: Robert Edward Jones
Date of Death: 6/18/2021
Case Number: 2021ES0100170
Personal Representative: Grace K. Jones
Address: 1244 Latimer Rd. Calhoun Falls, SC 29628
7/7;3tc

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

7/7;sw



LEGAL NOTICES

Classifieds & Legals

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7/4tfc

BUSINESS

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3/23tfc

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HOUSE CLEANING!

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6/6:tfp

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

10/24:tfp

CARE GIVING

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8/2tfc

REAL ESTATE

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11/25tfc

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7/7:sw

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6/16:3tc

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7/7:sw

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7/7:3p

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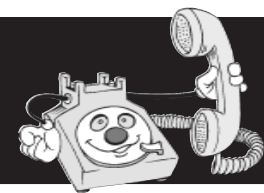
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6/30;3tc

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Apply in person at the Center St. Cafe (senior center) at 201 Center Drive, Abbeville from 9-12 pm. For inquiries, please call Becky Wilson at 864-223-0164, ext. 8. EOE

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