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& Surrounding Communities

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Piedmont Fire Ladder Truck now in service

By Stan Welch

The Piedmont Fire Department is proud owner of a seventy foot ladder truck. The 1998 Sutphen Quint unit was obtained from the City of Greenville Fire Department, which removed it from service in keeping with their policy of replacing all equipment after twenty years, regardless of its condition.

The truck was obtained for ten thousand dollars and has had an additional forty thousand dollars in reconditioning and repairs done to it since. The costs were covered by the Department's reserve fund, established for just such a use.

"We tested the pump and the aerial platform before taking possession, and every thing was fine," said Chief Tracy Wallace. "Most of the work was cosmetic. We had it stripped down and painted, put new rims and tires on it, and our guys re-upholstered the cab. We changed out all the lights for LED lights."

A Quint unit includes five standard elements: a fire pump, a tank, hose, and aerial device and ground ladders. Williamston Fire Department's recently obtained ladder unit is also a Quint unit.

Wallace said the unit, which offers both extended vertical and lateral capacities, will automatically be dispatched to all commercial structure fires, as well as to some of the larger residences that are becoming more common in the department's response area. "As this area continues to grow, this truck will be more and more valuable as a tool to fight fires and respond to other situations as well," said Wallace.

The area's growth is reflected in the Department's number of calls, with last Month bringing the total calls for the year so far to one hundred thirty, or the second highest total in the last five years. Last year at this time, they had responded to one hundred forty calls. Medical calls continue to comprise the great majority of responses.

All of the squad's paid fire fighters have already obtained their state certifications for operating the ladder truck. The Powdersville Department will begin training on the new unit this week.

Envision Williamston announces new programs

Envision Williamston Executive Director Sonya Crandall announced recently that the program is launching two new projects to encourage beautification, growth and economic development in the town.

Envision Williamston is accepting proposals for a research project called the "Mustang Alley Feasibility Study."

A pre-release of the Request for Proposals was launched in February, but is being released again with an expanded scope and revised timeline. Landscape Architects and Structural Planning Engineers are invited to apply.

The research will explore the creation of a "pocket park" or alleyway, and an outdoor pavilion for small town gatherings and events.

MASC's Hometown Economic Development Grant program and the South Carolina Heritage Corridor are the cosponsors of the study.

For more information, go to www.envisionwilliamston.com/programs and click on Projects-RFPs.

The second major initiative is the Main Street Challenge Program. This program is an entrepreneurial start-up competition for the purpose of generating additional retail occupancy in Williamston.

The Main Street Challenge offers an incentive package in excess of \$10,000 to each of the winning entrepreneurs. The Small Business Development Center based at Clemson University is providing hands on assistance to all semi-finalists. Come and let your entrepreneurial spirit grow! For more information, go to www.envisionwilliamston.com/programs and click on the Main Street Challenge.

For more information contact Sonya Crandall, Executive Director, Envision Williamston at sonyacew@gmail.com; or call 864-847-7473 or go to the Envision Williamston website at www.envisionwilliamston.com.

Pelzer considering moving clerk's office to West Pelzer

By David Meade

Members of Pelzer Town Council and West Pelzer Town Council held a joint special called meeting Monday at the Pelzer Community Building to discuss and vote on a resolution to consolidate municipal clerks offices of the two towns.

They also addressed security for council meetings.

Both moves are a continuing effort of cooperation between the two towns and looking into ways to save money and better serve residents and businesses.

Combining the offices into one facility will eliminate duplicating costs on power, copiers, phone and internet, and will save both money.

Under the current proposal, Pelzer Town Clerk Heather Holcombe will continue in her position with the Town of Pelzer. However, she will have an office in the new West Pelzer Municipal Center facility that is expected to be finished by July.

The Pelzer Town office will be closed and only used occasionally as needed.

Pelzer water/sewer payments will be taken in person at the Pelzer office in West Pelzer.

Payments will be able to be made online or by phone as they have in the past. A drop box will also be available at the Pelzer office for payments.

Both mayors and council members agreed that their residents need to be informed and there was considerable discussion about how to do that.

Suggestions ranged from providing a town newsletter to holding public meetings to explain the situation and answer questions.

Pelzer Mayor Steve McGregor began stating that the purpose of meeting was "sharing services and working together."

He gave examples of several projects the towns are already working together on including the REWA feasibility study, Hwy. 8 Master Plan, and recent combining of the town's public works department.

McGregor stated with Brad West leaving recently and consultant Skip Watkins only working occasionally, the Town of Pelzer office was down to one person.

He said that West Pelzer Mayor Blake Sanders had offered to have Pelzer's clerk move to the new West Pelzer Town offices when they are completed, which "would save money for both towns."

Mayor Sanders stated that he and the Town of West Pelzer were fostering a relationship that the towns had not had since 1913, and that the discussion and offer was a continued effort "to combine services to save money."

Sanders then read the resolution.

Mayor Sanders said that the offer came out of recent discussions of the town's joint sewer committee, which was formed to look into ways the two towns could work together on their sewer collection systems and to explore options with REWA, to which everything flows for treatment.

Mayors McGregor and Sanders along with Pelzer Councilman Roger Scott and West Pelzer Councilman Jimmy Jeanes serve on the committee.

Sanders said West Pelzer will be moving into the new 3598 square foot offices in July. The facility will be housed in the former NAPA auto parts store which is

being renovated to serve as their new town hall.

Sanders presented information about the layout of the facility and a breakdown of costs for each town.

The facility includes space for the Public Works Department, the West Pelzer Police Department and Council Chambers/Court Room area.

Both Town Clerks will have their own office space and a shared waiting room. The mayors will share an office.

According to Sanders, 600 sq. ft. of space in the facility will be dedicated to Pelzer. Based on information presented by Sanders, Pelzer's current monthly expenditures of \$1119.25 will drop to \$965.30. West Pelzer's current monthly expenditure of \$778 will drop to \$596.

Mayor Sanders said Pelzer will save approximately \$150 each month, while West Pelzer will save approximately \$200.

In addition to saving on monthly expenditures of having an office, consolidating into one office has other advantages.

The move will allow the Town of Pelzer to have a backup for their clerk, which they currently do not have.

Also Holcombe is familiar with the West Pelzer billing software, having used

the same software for eight years before Pelzer went to the QSI software.

West Pelzer Clerk Paula Payton and Court Clerk/Billing Clerk Shane Black can also accept payments for Pelzer if Holcombe has to be off.

The two towns will continue to use their current accounting and billing systems which will remain separate.

The current Pelzer town phone number will also continue to reach the Pelzer clerk at the new office space.

During the discussion, Pelzer Council member Kim Wilson asked the mayors what the overall benefit to Pelzer would be.

Mayor Sanders said West Pelzer will benefit by savings of \$1500 to \$2000 a year, which he said he wants to give back to residents.

If the proposal does get approved, Pelzer will have the biggest savings.

In addition to the savings on monthly expenditures, Mayor McGregor said that by combining the two offices, Pelzer will not have to hire another part-time person, saving the town \$10,000 to \$20,000 minimum.

The discussion also led to the possibility that the West Pelzer Clerk of Court could be available to Pelzer, filling a

(Continued on Page 3)

To ticketed event

PBA to expand Party in the Park

During their meeting Tuesday, members of the Palmetto Business Association discussed plans for several upcoming events and gave their consent for the organization to move forward on a proposal to expand their Party in the Park event.

The organization is partnering with a professional event promoter to expand to be a ticketed event featuring a mid-stream name entertainer, according to PBA President Blake Sanders.

Sanders said that to encourage growing the town they wanted to put on a larger event.

The partnership with TRZ Event Management in Anderson will be for an event with a budget of approximately \$30,000, with TRZ fronting \$15,000, and the balance coming from the town, \$10,000 and PBA, \$5,000.

PBA business members and vendors will be able to participate at no cost as they have at previous events, Sanders said.

Sponsors could also be solicited to recoup expenses, according to Sanders.

TRZ will manage and market the event which will be staged on the ball fields located behind town hall in Williamston.

The event will be family oriented and will include food vendors, alcohol sales and a separate kids area. It will be scheduled for late July or early August. Proceeds from the event, if any, will be divided among the town, PBA and TRZ.

Williamston Mayor Mack Durham

said his vision is to expand downtown with entertainment and family events to bring people in.

He said the town has experience with local events and is looking to provide more adult oriented events for families with kids.

"It is an important step for the community and the Palmetto Business Association," he said. "Williamston has been at the forefront of activities that spill over into the neighboring communities and we want to continue with that partnership."

Sanders said that the PBA organization is not an event programmer, but his focus is making it a business organization with after hours events and networking opportunities. "We sponsor events, but don't manage them," he said.

The first year the organization sponsored three Party in the Park events and last year went to one.

PBA members heard from Jerry Adkins about the Mike Muth Basketball Scholarship Fund.

The fund has awarded 32 scholarships to local students at Palmetto High to help with their pursuit of a college degree.

Information about the fund or tax deductible donations may be made by contacting Dale Bell at dalebelle2010@hotmail.com

Also discussed were upcoming events including the PBA Easter Egg Hunt on April 8, a Business After Hours on April 18 and a Sporting Clay Tournament on April 21.

Williamston projects to include sidewalks

By Stan Welch

Mayor Mack Durham will meet with town officials and representatives of the South Carolina Department of Transportation at the end of the month. The meeting is a pre-construction conference concerning the sidewalk project for Minor Street.

Durham is hopeful that DOT's portion of the project can be completed in time to allow the town to apply for grant funds for the proposed sidewalk project for Greenville Drive. Durham is also expecting an update on the planned interchange construction at the juncture of Highway 29 North and Cherokee Road.

"I am hoping for an update on where that project is right now, and when the start date will be," Durham said.

He was mildly disappointed to hear that, according to a report given to the Anderson County Council two weeks ago by ACOG director Steve Pellisier, DOT officials are still acquiring the necessary rights of way and construction is slated for 2019.

"I'm not too surprised to hear that, since these kinds of projects are likely to be moved around on DOT's calendar. And now, they have to replace the bridge over 29 that the truck damaged a few weeks ago."

The interchange is a key element in a project that will eventually extend Cherokee Road all the way to Main Street. "We have purchased the land necessary to bring Cherokee to Main, thereby creating a four way intersection that can be developed commercially. Hopefully, the rural part of Cherokee Road will develop residentially once it is extended and the interchange is installed."

Durham acknowledges that such development would be more likely if Cherokee Road was significantly improved, but he adds that no encouragement has been forthcoming from the county on such a possibility. "Actually, we don't get much encouragement from the county about anything like that."

Durham repeated a frequently heard complaint that the citizens of the towns in the county are paying double for their services. "Our residents pay county taxes as well as municipal taxes, but we don't get the same level of services. I understand that the General Assembly has been holding back on the aid to subdivisions, or the share of taxes that are returned to the counties, and eventually to the municipalities. But the county has more than one revenue stream to access, while the towns don't."

Other mayors, such as Honea Path's Lollis Meyers have long argued that their citizens get short shrift when it comes to county services. Durham acknowledges Lollis's leadership in the matter of double taxes, but suggests that getting all or several of the county's mayors together to make the point might be more effective.

Durham would also like to see a system put in place where different towns could be rewarded for good fiscal performance, as well as based on population. "It is an idea that at least deserves to be studied as a possible approach," said the mayor.

Hwy. 29 improvements scheduled next two years

By Stan Welch

The future of Highway 29 North was made clear to the Anderson County Council Tuesday night, as several SC-DOT representatives provided an update on various aspects of the plans for the highway.

Chris Jordan explained that there are four sites of interest along the highway, which skirts the Williamston area. The most recent in a continuing series of collisions with the SC Highway 20 overpass made that site ground zero for emergency repairs that have also provided some temporary relief for the low overpass which led to so many accidents.

For the bargain price of \$67,000, as well as the inconvenience of the bridge being closed for twenty two days, the bridge was narrowed and a low beam removed. This actually resulted in an eight inch increase in clearance.

The bridge re-opened last Thursday. The additional damage is also likely to be repaired. Prior to the latest accident, that was not the case.

The Cherokee Road (state road 75) bridge is scheduled to be replaced as part of a project to improve the interchanges onto and off of Hwy. 29 at Joe Black Road and Lufkin Drive.

That project is currently in the design stage.

In 2018, SCDOT will be involved in acquiring the necessary rights of way.

Construction on the \$15.1 million project is slated to begin in 2019. The federal government will provide eighty per cent of the funding, or \$12,080,000, while the state will match that with \$3.2 million.

Another major project will involve cleaning up the awkward and dangerous intersection of Hwy. 29 and Old Williamston Road (S-331) at the Jockey Lot. A realignment of roads and an improvement in traffic control will be undertaken, at a cost of \$2.15 million. Of that amount, \$1.72 million will come through the Appalachian Council of Government via the Federal Guidesshare program. The project is in the preliminary stages. Bids will be sought in 2019.

The final site of interest is the Beaverdam Road (S 1178) bridge over Hwy. 29. Actually, a site of no interest would be more accurate, as there are no current plans for replacement or repair.

In other business, the Council, following an update by Councilwoman Cindy Wilson and Councilman Ray Graham on the Kinder Morgan efforts to clean up a fuel spill that occurred in 2014, entered into executive session to discuss legal matters related to the spill. The Council subsequently voted unanimously to file a friend of the court brief, associating the county with legal actions being taken by the Southern Environmental Law Center in the case.

Councilwoman Wilson said that

(Continued on Page 3)

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Opinion

Seems to Me . . .

The Storm

By Stan Welch

There has never been a more political time in the history of the human species. The swirling tug of war and the chaos of self interest that makes up global politics has never been more cantankerous and fast changing as it is today. The advance of Islam across The Middle East and Europe only makes things worse, while at home, border issues and disputes between the major political parties keep America divided and confused, offering anything but a united front to either our allies, who seem to be dwindling, or to our enemies, who seem to be increasing daily.

Democrats are determined to contest every cabinet appointment proposed by President Trump, despite the tradition of granting a new president the courtesy and confidence of establishing his administration. When that proposed nominee is intended to take a seat on the Supreme Court, the level of opposition skyrockets; with nothing beyond the pale when it comes to efforts to defeat them.

The news every evening is filled with contention and acrimony, as both sides, as well as numerous factions, struggle for power. So it is almost a welcome relief when, as it did on Tuesday night, real power sweeps across the country and distracts us from what is so often just petty squabbling.

Mother Nature visited the Southeast and the Upstate Tuesday night, and she didn't knock on the door and wait to be invited in. She stormed the homes and porches and made her presence known. For hours, thunder roared and lightning flashed. Rain poured down in welcome sheets, and some areas got over a foot of hail.

Dogs hid under tables and beds, or crawled into their owners laps; no matter how large the dog, or how small the lap. Truth be told, there was a time or two at my house when I was considering joining Waylon the Wonder Dog under the desk. But Wednesday morning, as is always the case after such a mighty storm, the skies were clear and the air was empty of all that humidity and electrical charge.

I have always been fascinated by extreme weather, be it mighty thunderstorms, the slower, more deliberate passage of a hurricane, or the frightening abruptness of a tornado. I have seen them all, along with the glistening danger of an ice storm, as it destroyed trees and disrupted normal life for days at a time.

But as awesome and intriguing as the actual events are, it is the aftermath that always tells the tale. While debris and destruction often remain in the wake of such power, there is also a real sense of new beginnings, of starting anew, from a different place. There can be a powerful premonition of accomplishing something different, of creating something better from the rubble of what was there before.

As I watch, often crestfallen, as the political left and the political right tear at each other, with no thought of the rubble they are creating, I wonder what kind of storm it will take to sweep such a mess away and leave a clean foundation, for a fresh start. And I wonder if we can survive a storm of such magnitude.

HISTORICAL MUSINGS

by Elaine Hunt

I have been spending time researching family members and thought I would share some of family news from another era. While these are not my family members they were part of the Pelzer Williamston Communities. Hope you enjoy the memories and information.

Mrs. Margaret Hanna wife of Robert Hanna died at Pelzer on Monday 19th of pneumonia aged 67 years. Member of Shady Grove Church and she was interred there. Rev M. McGee officiated. Will and Jack Kernels sons of Jack Kernels were on their way to Pelzer. Departed this life on the 18th of December 1890, Jas. D. Bouchillon of Pelzer, SC. He was buried on Willington Cemetery. The Abbeville Press And Banner., February 18, 1891

William Tice, a young man was committed to jail last Tuesday by Justice Field of Pelzer in default of a \$500 bond. He is charged with burglary, house breaking in the night time and larceny. Mr. J. M. Evans and family of Pelzer moved to Anderson and accepted positions in the Anderson Cotton Mills. The Anderson Intelligencer., April 09, 1891

The Pickens Sentinel., May 07, 1891, Mr. Crew Carver died at Pelzer on the 28th of dropsy of the heart. His remains were brought to Enon for interment. He was only 23 years old and highly respected by those who knew him.

The Laurens Advertiser., May 12, 1891, Mr. Jackson Roberts

of Pelzer was recently buried at Cedar Grove.

The Anderson Intelligencer, May 28, 1891, Mrs. Dora Welborn wife of F. M. Welborn of Pelzer died in Pendleton last Friday after a brief illness. She was 45 years old. Her remains were carried to Pelzer for interment.

The Anderson Intelligencer., June 25, 1891, A young man named Westmoreland accidentally shot himself near Pelzer last Saturday. He was out hunting and his gun was accidentally discharged, the load penetrating his stomach. The wound, it is thought, will prove fatal.

The Anderson Intelligencer., September 10, 1891, Married at Pelzer by w. G. Filed trial Justice Mr. Fields Alewine and Miss Vilanta McCarty all of Pelzer.

The Anderson Intelligencer., September 24, 1891, Married on Saturday September 5th 1891 by Rev E. A. Durham Mr W L Smith and Miss M. M. Merk both of Pickens County. Also Mr. G. M. Knox of Union county and Miss E. L. Durham of Greenville SC

The Anderson Intelligencer., November 05, 1891, Married on Thursday Oct 29th 1891 by John F Clardy notary public at his residence Mr. Bud Stone of Piedmont and Miss Rebecca Ross of Pelzer.

The Anderson Intelligencer., March 03, 1892, Married by Rev C L Stewart Mr. TM Jenkins and Miss Mamie McGee all of Pelzer.

Senator Mike Gambrell Legislative Update

March 17

While the House of Representatives wrapped up their debate on the budget in the early morning hours of Thursday, the South Carolina Senate is trying to make it through the many bills that are on our calendar before we begin our work on the budget in just a few weeks. There was considerable interest and debate on a couple of bills dealing with the sale of alcoholic beverages this week. One of those, S.115, establishes a mandatory training and certification program for servers in establishments that sell alcoholic beverages. We know all too well that the consumption of alcohol in an irresponsible manner has a significant adverse impact on highway safety, personal health and individual welfare. Responsible alcohol training programs have proven to be an effective means of positively addressing the inappropriate service of alcoholic beverages by licensed establishments. This training would assist servers in developing techniques to better recognize and deal with problem drinkers, intoxication, and illegal identification.

On March 11th, I visited with members of the Greenwood Rotary Club at their Oyster Roast. At the State House, I met with Leadership Pendleton, and with Mike Adams, Vice President of Business Development and Government Relations with the Goodwill Industries of the Upstate. Thursday, Janice Wood of Anderson was at the State House as part of the Women of Farm Bureau group.

On Friday, I will be participating along with the other members of the Greenwood Legislative Delegation on a panel sponsored by the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce. This weekend, my wife and I will participate in the annual Walk with the Docs at Honea Path Middle School. This fundraiser benefits the Honea Path Free Medical Clinic. We are also looking forward to attending the Candlelight Tour at the Connie Maxwell Children's Home.

Please feel free to contact me on any issue. I can be reached at my district address, 400 Filter Plant Road, Honea Path, S.C. 29654, 864-844-3614, or at my legislative office in Columbia, Post Office Box 142, Columbia, S. C. 29202, 803-212-6040, or through my email address: MikeGambrell@scsenate.gov.

www.thejournalonline.com

STATE HOUSE REPORT FROM REP. ANNE J. THAYER House District 9

Dear Friends,

It was budget week at the State House. This year's proposed state budget is nearly \$27 billion. Seventy percent of the money comes from specific federal government programs and through the state's 'Other Funds' which consists of tuition, fees and fines. The portion of the budget we debate is called the General Fund. Of the \$27 billion, \$7.9 billion makes up the General Fund this year. The budget is now on its way to the Senate. These are the key funding items the House proposed:



- \$22 million to fully fund SC's 'Rainy Day' Reserve Fund (totals \$503 million)
- \$584 million in direct tax relief for South Carolinians
- \$100 million on upgrading K-12 schools with a high poverty index
- \$38 million in additional K-12 per-student funding
- \$19 million to cover the growth of public charter schools
- \$10 million to purchase new school buses

• \$82 million to help counties and communities damaged by Hurricane Matthew

- \$1.25 million to aid for Pinnacle Mountain fire
- \$150 million to fund Year 1 of the massive multi-billion dollar pension liability
- \$25.4 million to cover 100% of the state employee health insurance increase
- \$45 million to bolster Medicaid's expanded maintenance of effort costs
- \$16 million to fully fund the dam safety program
- \$4 million to hire and retain correction officers at our prisons
- \$25 million toward completing a federally required computer system for tracking deadbeat dads.

This year the House used the budget to express its displeasure with several of the agencies we fund. Unfortunately, the Senate will likely return the money to the areas we struck from the budget. This is your money and these are areas you need to be concerned about as taxpayers:

By a vote of 76-20 we passed an amendment to eliminate the director of Public Safety, Leroy Smith's, position and pay. While only the governor can fire a Cabinet official, the House can refuse to authorize or fund the position. Trooper morale is low and the agency continues to have trouble hiring and keeping troopers due to his leadership. Over the last few years, there has been an outcry to Gov. Haley by the troopers to remove Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith was her appointment and she refused to do so. Hopefully Gov. McMaster will finally do what is right.

An amendment was also passed to strip the salaries of the five Commissioners of the SC Retirement System who have done a lousy job of investing pension dollars. By some estimates their decisions have cost the pension system \$6 billion (that's with a B!). Their collective failure is costly to EVERY taxpayer as we have to make up the shortfall.

Lastly, the House budget calls for the elimination of John de la Howe in McCormick County. This is a state-run school for at-risk youth. Several years ago the school lost its accreditation and should have been totally revamped at that time. It is amazing to me but somehow a hand-full of elected officials continue to keep this school open and fully-funded. The school currently has about 30 students and a staff of more than 50 costing you the taxpayer about \$5 million a year. Budget language closes the school and transfers the 1200 acres to Clemson University. It will be up to Clemson to decide how best to reopen John de la Howe in keeping with its original mission, spelled out in John de la Howe's will, as a place for orphans or troubled youth to learn agricultural skills.

As always, I appreciate the opportunity of serving you.
Rep. Anne Thayer



Langston's Laughs

By Charles Langston



One day a man went to an auction. While there, he bid on a parrot. He really wanted this bird, so he got caught up in the bidding. He kept on bidding, but kept getting out bid, so he bid higher and higher and higher. Finally, after he bid way more than he intended, he won the bid-- the parrot was his at last! As he was paying for the parrot, he said to the auctioneer, "I sure hope this parrot can talk. I would hate to have paid this much for it, only to find out that he can't talk!" "Don't worry," said the auctioneer, "He can talk. Who do you think kept bidding against you?"

Congressman Jeff Duncan Third District

REP. JEFF DUNCAN REACTS TO PRESIDENTIAL BUDGET BLUEPRINT

Washington, DC—Upon the unveiling of the President's Budget Blueprint, Congressman Jeff Duncan (R-SC) released the following statement:

I want to congratulate my friend Mick Mulvaney, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, on the release of the America First Budget Blueprint. The Budget that OMB has proposed takes responsible steps towards ensuring that Americans priorities are addressed first.

As Mick said yesterday, "This is not a soft power budget, this is a hard power budget." I couldn't agree more. It is long past time to shore up the nation's defenses with the spending needed to modernize our military and improve readiness. Defending our country must always be the nation's top priority, and this budget takes important steps in that direction.

I have long said that our national debt is one of our greatest national security threats of our generation. During Barack Obama's Presidency, budgets were used merely as propaganda documents to gather votes. I am encouraged that for the first time since I have been in Congress, I am seeing a budget from our President that sets priorities and makes tough decisions. I completely agree with the decision to cut foreign aid as the way to pay for increased military spending. America cannot be the world's policeman, the world's banker, or the world's welfare program. America's citizens have enough problems at home—we don't need to look halfway around the globe to find people to spend money on. I'm also encouraged that the President recommended an increase to Veterans funding, because without our veterans we would not have our freedoms.

I'm glad that the President is looking towards the Constitution when determining what to fund and what to cut. Our federal government has specific and enumerated powers granted to it by the Constitution. Only by restricting funding to those key functions of government will we begin to claw out of our \$20 trillion debt.

I look forward to working with the Administration to push these priorities through Congress, ensuring that the American people get the most out of every tax dollar taken from them.



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Letter policy defined

The Journal welcomes input from its readers in the form of letters to the editor concerning issues of local interest or candidates for county, regional, and national elective office.

The policy requires that letters submitted for publication be original with the writer, not more than 650 words in length, and be signed. An address and phone number should be included for verification purposes.

Letters will be accepted from writers living in Anderson, Greenville, Pickens, Abbeville, Oconee and Laurens counties. No more than one letter per month will be published from any one writer.

The Journal reserves the right to halt debate on a particular issue if, in our estimation, the subject has been thoroughly discussed. The Journal will not print letters concerning individual candidates or issues to be voted on the week before an election.

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email us at: editor@thejournalonline.com

Staff Members: Tina Garrard, Michael Lollis,
Vickie Creamer, Angela Harrington

David Meade Managing Editor, Adv. Manager
Richard Meade Production/Sales Manager
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Stan Welch News

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Colon Cancer

The Importance of Early Detection

By Gloria Dahl

(In the year 2000, then President Bill Clinton designated the month of March as Colon Cancer Awareness Month.)

Colon Cancer: It has been called the "silent disease." Without early detection it can creep up on you. If left undiagnosed and untreated, it can kill you.

When should you be screened?

The age of 50 brings with it a risk of developing colon cancer for both women and men. This is also the age suggested for routine screenings, one of which is a colonoscopy.

The earlier colon cancer is detected, the easier it is to treat.

Signs of colon cancer can include but are not limited to:

Abdominal Pain
A change in bowel habits
Bloody stools
Rectal bleeding
A change in weight
Fatigue
Anemia

If any of the above symptoms occur, make an appointment with your doctor, who will order specific tests

Routine screenings— colonoscopy and other testing— help by showing any abnormalities in the colon, such as polyps or other abnormalities.

When a polyp is discovered it is usually removed for further study. And, if cancer is found, treatment begins.

Some patients will undergo surgery; others may go ahead and begin Chemotherapy.

[New cancer cases and deaths] per men and women, in the year 2017, is estimated to be 95,520. The number in South Carolina stands at 2,270.] Copyright American Cancer Society Facts & Figures publication. World Wild Web]

According to statistics from the American Cancer Society, [50,310 people] will succumb to colon cancer this year.

On the positive side, there are over a million survivors.

I AM A SURVIVOR

In February of 2014, during a routine visit with my cardiologist, he explained that my liver enzyme readings were elevated. I was referred to a surgeon for possible gallbladder surgery.

Little did my cardiologist know that his order to see the surgeon, made him the first of many medical professionals who would save my life.

On my initial visit to the surgeon's office, he began to discuss the possibility of gallbladder removal. I realized then that I had to tell him of troublesome symptoms I'd had for the past 8 months.

He was attentive and concerned, and arrangements were made immediately for me to undergo a colonoscopy.

A few days after the screening, I was standing by the gas pumps in front of a convenience store. A heavy rain had begun soon after I'd finished pumping gas into my van.

As I slid back into the drivers' seat, my cell phone rang. I answered and heard the voice of my surgeon, Dr. Johnny Cox. "I have some bad news," he said.

My heart went cold upon hearing what he'd called to tell me. The screening was positive; I had Cancer. Stage 3 colon cancer.

(Dr. Cox promised to take care of me. He did, and he continues to do so).

Not long after the phone call, I underwent surgery. A length of intestine was removed and a colon resection was performed. The cancer had spread, and was found in 4 out of 5 lymph nodes removed for study.

I would undergo several months of Chemotherapy.

At present I must make regular visits to both the Oncology Specialist and to the office of my surgeon. These medical appointments are imperative for my well being. And they will be, for years to come.

I am now in remission.

If you are 50 or above, and have not been screened for colon cancer, make an appointment to see your doctor.

There is nothing to fear about a colonoscopy. There is something to fear if you do not have one.

...

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Statistical information: The American Cancer Society Cancer Treatment & Survivorship Facts & figures.

For further information regarding colon cancer or other cancers, please visit:

The American Cancer Society

www.cancer.org and Colon Cancer Alliance www.ccalliance.org

County residents face federal gun, drug charges

Anderson Group Indicted on Federal Gun and Drug Charges. Shemika Alfrida Parson Williams, age 35, Kevin Lynn Hargraves, age 32, and Johnny Lee Smith, age 26, all of Anderson, South Carolina, were charged in a four-count indictment with possession of firearms by prohibited persons, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1); conspiracy possession with the intent to distribute and distribution of methamphetamine, a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846; and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A). The maximum penalty they could face is a fine of \$10,000,000.00 and/or a minimum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a maximum term of life.

The case was investigated by the Anderson Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joe Brewer of the Greenville office.

Piedmont Man Indicted on Federal Gun Charge

Tarrance Dieon Albert, age 42, of Piedmont, South Carolina, is charged in a one-count indictment with felon in possession of a firearm, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1). The maximum possible penalty Albert could receive is a fine of \$250,000.00 and/or imprisonment of 10 years.

The case was investigated by agents of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeanne Howard of the Greenville office.

Honea Path Man Indicted on Federal Gun Charge

Edisto Hulon Patton, age 36, of Honea Path, South Carolina, is charged in a one-count indictment with felon in possession of firearms and ammunition, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1). The maximum possible penalty Patton could receive is a fine of \$250,000.00 and/or imprisonment of 10 years.

The case was investigated by agents of the Anderson Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jeanne Howard of the Greenville office.

Hwy. 29 . . . Shiloh Church Road to close for bridge work

(Continued from Page 1)

hundreds of thousands of gallons of fuel remain, causing serious contamination of the tributaries and streams in the area. She and Graham have spearheaded the county's efforts to return those waters to the condition they were in prior to the spill.

The council also recognized the recent opening of the county's second ADA compliant kayak launch on the Saluda River. The site is in Pelzer.

County Recreation Director Matt Schell lauded the Council for its commitment to the Saluda River blueway, which covers forty eight miles of the river's course, including the entire run of the river through Anderson County.

Pelzer . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

need for a court system to handle cases, which would open the possibility of enforcing some laws.

Pelzer Attorney Jimmy King said the town could look into whether the sheriffs office can enforce laws if the town had a magistrate court.

King also said he didn't have a problem with the office being in a different location and that both towns would benefit by having somebody to cover for the other if somebody was out.

Before voting on the resolution, West Pelzer Councilman Jimmy Jeanes raised the question that if the resolution is approved, could either town go back "if it doesn't work out."

"This is something that has never been done that I know of," he said.

Jeanes also recommended that people of Pelzer and West Pelzer be informed and have the opportunity to take into consideration "if they want this."

Mayor Sanders explained that the resolution is intended to give the mayors authority to "start contractual discussions" and "put together a contract to be brought back to council for a public hearing and a vote."

Sanders said, "It is no one's intention to take over Pelzer."

He said he doesn't want anyone to feel like West Pelzer is trying to be a big brother or sister. "Whether or not Pelzer is in, we are moving forward with our town offices," Sanders said.

King again repeated something he has said in Pelzer council meetings. "The town needs to save money and it needs to be put into a fund for road improvements to take care of roads in the future."

Mayor McGregor said that with the Main Street Master Plan there was an opportunity for "both towns to get together and work together" and for both towns to go forward.

"The mill company is gone," he said. "We have to look forward to how we can use the resources that are available."

"I see this as an opportunity to work together and not add on another person," McGregor said, adding that the savings could be put into contingency funds.

West Pelzer Council member Donnie Jeanes said, "We need to get our town people to join in. We are having to explain ourselves too much."

He suggested sending a newsletter to residents explaining the proposal and "get citizens on board."

Mayor Sanders said, "Everything we are doing we try to be bigger than any one person." He said that with one election, "this could all be undone" and that he wants "one hundred percent unity."

Councilman Jimmy Jeanes said, "It is a good idea as long as it works, as long as it doesn't cause a problem." He said to make it simple and that citizens will have to be notified.

Following a motion by Mayor Sanders for West Pelzer and Mayor McGregor for Pelzer, both councils unanimously approved the resolution to consolidate their clerks offices.

Pelzer also approved a proposal to have an off duty West Pelzer police officer provide security at Pelzer Council meetings.

Pelzer has had an Anderson County Sheriff's Deputy at their meeting at a cost of \$105 per month.

The West Pelzer officer will be uniformed and paid \$15 per hour, for a minimum of two hours by the Town of Pelzer.

Shiloh Church Road to close for bridge work

The County's Roads and Bridges Department will close a portion of Shiloh Church Road near Highway 17 in the Wren community on Tuesday, April 4, to replace the west bridge near Shiloh Creek Subdivision.

The roadway will be closed between Highway 17 and Cane Hill Drive C-01-0307 for approximately one year. The new bridge is scheduled to be open to traffic by April 4, 2018.

The existing road and bridge near Highway 17 is too narrow for the volume of trucks using the road. The new bridge will be a 30 feet long precast concrete hollow-cored slab, 33-feet wide with concrete parapets on each side. Approximately 1,000 feet of roadway near intersection of Highway 17 will be reconstructed. Estimated construction cost of \$240,000 funded through the County's general fund with Roads and Bridges providing labor and equipment.

The posted detour will follow Highway 17 north to Hurricane Creek Road

Senate 3 primary

Absentee voting open

In-person absentee voting is now underway in Anderson County for the Senate District 3 Republican Primary.

Registered voters, who qualify, and need to cast an absentee ballot can weekdays during the hours of 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

"In-person absentee voting is opening earlier to allow voters more available days to choose from to cast an absentee ballot if needed," said Katy Smith, Director. "We do not anticipate long lines and voters should be in and out fairly quick."

People are encouraged to visit www.scvotes.org to learn more about Absentee Voting and the Voting Process. The Board of Voter Registration and Elections Office is located at 301 North Main Street.

April 22

PBA to hold Sporting Clay Tournament

The Palmetto Business Association will hold their 3rd annual sporting Clay tournament on Friday, April 22 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Belton Gun Club.

Entry fee is \$80 per person or \$320 for a four person team.

Entry fee includes clay targets, breakfast and lunch. Drinks and snacks will also be provided.

Participants should bring an unloaded 12 ga. or 20 ga. shotgun.

Membership sponsorships are available. Registration and breakfast begins at 8 a.m. with stations open at 9 a.m.

The Belton Gun Club is located at 153 Range Rd, in Belton.

For more information email president@palmettobusiness.org

Obituary

HELEN HENDERSON TRAYNHAM

Helen Henderson Traynham, 92, of Greenville, widow of Ashton W. Traynham, died Monday, March 20, 2017.

Born in Greenville, she was the daughter of the late Archie League and Cora Julian Henderson.

She was a homemaker and a member of Triune United Methodist Church.

Surviving are children, Rick Traynham of Greer and Jan White of Powdersville; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and sister, Rachel Christy.

Visitation will be Thursday, March 23 at Thomas McAfee Funeral Home, Downtown. Funeral service will follow at 3 p.m. in the Downtown Chapel. Burial will follow in Woodlawn Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Triune Mercy Center, 222 Rutherford Street, Greenville, SC 29609.

Palmetto Business Association Easter Egg Hunt April 8

The Palmetto Business Association (PBA) will sponsor their annual Easter Egg Hunt for ages 10 and under Saturday, April 8 in Williamston's Mineral Spring Park. Rain date for the event will be the following Saturday, Apr. 15. Ages and time schedules are as follows: under three 9:30 a.m., ages four and five 10 a.m., ages six and seven 10:30 a.m., and ages eight to ten 11 a.m.

Drawings for prizes and grand prizes will be held for each age group prior to their scramble for candy, which this year will be enclosed in colorful plastic eggs. There will be drawings for cookie baskets prepared by students at the Career and Technology Center. At the conclusion of the last hunt, a drawing will be held for a grand prize.

Bobby Winburn of Restoration Chapel is heading the project for the PBA. Winburn said that the free event is held each year for area children and is sponsored by area businesses. The event includes other activities and parents are invited to take pictures of their children with the Easter Bunny. The event is sponsored by area business members of the Palmetto Business Association.

Williamston Police Report

Williamston Police Officers investigated the following incidents:

March 14 Officers issued a trespass notice for the Dollar General Store at 526 West Main St. to Frederick Mason Jenkins Jr. Jenkins was at the store harassing a female employee he had once dated. Officer Stephen Kay handled the call.

Officer Zackary Parks investigated a report of assault and battery at 203 Williams St. Ext. Nathan Brooks, WM, 17 stated that Phillip Hughey, WM, 29 had come to the location and assaulted him. He also threatened to kill him. Officer Parks was unable to contact Hughey but is seeking a warrant.

March 16 Officer Zackary Parks investigated the theft of a phone valued at \$200 from Joyce Lane.

Patrolman Brantley Creel investigated a report of shots fired in the area of Black Street. Upon contacting Clifton Richardson, WM, 38, Creel learned that the subject had fired a shot in the air, ostensibly to frighten a dog that attacked him in his yard. He could not confirm the owner of the dog, and was instructed as to the folly of firing a shot into the air.

March 17 Officer Eric Bonnett and Ptrl. Stephen Kay responded to 203 Williams St. Ext, where they contacted Kenneth Phillips, WM, 30 and Phillip Hughey. Both claimed that the other had threatened them, Phillips with a knife and Hughey with a chainsaw. According to reports, both had previously or were currently dating the owner of the residence, identified only as April. No evidence of an assault was found, but warrants were being sought.

Officer Eric Bonnett and Ptrl. Stephen Kay responded to 17 Virginia Drive where they found Aaron Whitmore, WM, 24 and Fa-

bien Clerc, WM, 39 both showing signs of a fight. Both were treated for minor injuries. Subsequent investigation revealed the incident to be one of mutual combat. Both men declined to file charges.

March 18 Officer Bonnett and Ptrl. Stephen Kay responded to 2 West Fourth St., in reference to a domestic situation. According to reports they arrested Phillip Hughey, WM, 29 on charges of assault and battery, 3rd degree; possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia, resisting arrest and unlawful use of 911.

March 19 Officer Eric Bonnett and Ptrl. Kay Stephen investigated a complaint of larceny from Phillip Hughey, who reported that Denardis Kilgo, BM, 36 had stolen items from his apartment while he, Hughey, was incarcerated in the Anderson county Detention Center. The losses were estimated at \$5880.

Officer Eric Bonnett and Officer Zackary Parks investigated a complaint of assault and battery, third degree at 12 Poinsett St. Wendy Underwood, WF, 39, stated that Dendy Ross, WF, 56 had shoved her way into the residence and punched both Underwood and her son in the face.

March 20 Sgt. L.E. Mulz responded to Deals Galore supermarket at 28 Beaverdam Road to a report of shoplifting by an unknown customer. CCTV footage showed the man putting two packages of meat into his coveralls and leaving. When an identity is determined from the footage, a warrant will be sought.

Sgt. L.E. Mulz responded to 12 Greenville Dr. where Jasmine Garrett, WF, 22, reported the theft of all her clothes from the washing machines. The loss was estimated at \$330.

Around the County . . .

Anderson County Public Works Department reported the following projects underway around Anderson County:

Building and Codes

Phase II of our Substandard Housing Demolition Plan has been awarded to Wilma's Pump & Tank Company. This includes 4 Substandard Structures located at: 1) 103 Cassandra Turn, 2) 124 Oakdale Road, 3) 2926 Chambers Road 4) 3018 South Main Street. We continue to make progress in cleaning up these dilapidated structures thanks to County Council

Met with Development Standards to review plans submitted for permitting that's part of a PD (Panned Development). Plans were approved as submitted 19 New Single-Family Dwelling Permits Issued and 4 Addition-Renovation Permit

PERMITS SUBMITTED: 8 Detached Garage/Accessory Building; 2 Swimming Pools; 1 Replacement; 3 Demolition; 150 issued for Electrical and HVAC Upgrades; 4 Commercial Including: ALDI Expansion, Sign for Stop-A-Minit, Shingle Roof Replacement at Jockey Lot, Re-Roof of Timms Harley Davidson; 16 Mobile Home including: New Homes, Change of Ownership, moves from other counties, change of location, etc.

Development Standards

SITE PLAN REVIEW:
\$ New Ingles Supermarket, 71,000 square feet and six(6) new retail shops

\$ Autozone located on Highway 153 Powdersville (2nd Resubmittal)
\$ Dominion Assisted Living located at Highway 81 Anderson
\$ Slabtown Cabinets located on Old Greenville Highway.
\$ Billboard sign permit denied-located within the Gateway to Anderson Overlay District-Protected

? LAND USE PERMITS APPROVED:
\$ Anderson Career Conference Center/District I & District II located at 702 Belton Highway, Williamston

\$ Patrick B. Harris Hospital Addition located at 130 Highway 252, Anderson
\$ Midway Ridge, a Planned Development, Lots 27, 28, 29 Final approval

GRADING PERMITS APPROVED:
\$ Anderson Career Conference Center/District I & District II located at 702 Belton Highway, Williamston

SUBDIVISIONS:

\$ Northville Residential consisting of 11 lots located NE of the intersection of Highway 81 & Instate 85
\$ Barrington Creek-consisting of 111 lots located on Shiloh Road off of Highway 29.

\$ These two applications will be heard by the Planning Commission at their April 2017 Meeting.

\$ Shirley Estates-consisting of seven (7) lots located on Rice Cemetery Road.

\$ James Lake Subdivision-Watershed Review-Bond review \$81,000

\$ Hembree Station
\$ Sullivan Hills, Phase II
\$ Rivermill Subdivision

BUFFERYARDS:
\$ Orian Rugs located on Highway 81N Anderson. Final Landscaping approved.

PAWS SHELTER

Have 3 full time animal caretaker positions open, 3 part time animal caretaker positions open and a part time maintenance position open.

Took in 116 animals this week: 49 stray surrender, 4 return adoptions, 49 from animal control and 14 strays from the public.

Adopted out 54 animals, 3 died, 8 were euthanized (1 owner requested due to illness), 12 animals were returned to their owners and 30 were transferred to rescue groups! 83 spay/neuter surgeries.

Deadline for news items is Monday at 5 p.m.

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When you want the best source of the local news, turn to The Journal. You'll get the complete story with all the details on news and sports, plus all the people news--wedding, anniversary, birth and engagement announcements.

- Weddings
- Engagements
- Announcements

Happenings

- Birthdays
- Reunions



Receives awards

Journal Photographer Michael Lollis received first place and third place awards for sports action photo in the weekly newspapers under 4,500 circulation division at the South Carolina Press Association's Awards Banquet held on Saturday in Columbia. Ellen Clohosey Priest, President of the South Carolina Press Association, presents the awards.

Whitefield Baptist Easter celebration April 1

Whitefield Baptist Church will have an Easter celebration on Saturday, April 1 from 10 a.m. - noon.

There will be an Easter Egg hunt, bouncy house, miniature train rides, and snacks. Everyone is invited to bring their children.

The church is located at 207 Mitchell Road in Belton.

Williamston COG Painting class held Tuesdays

The Williamston Church of God, Gossett Street, Williamston will offer painting classes every Tuesday evening from 5:30 - until. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy painting ceramics.

Attitudes are contagious. Are yours worth catching?
-Dennis and Wendy Mannering

Garden Club meets March 14

The Yellow Jessamine Garden Club met March 14, 2017 at the CLC First Baptist Church, Williamston. Patty Bell presided and opened the meeting with prayer.

Mary Anne Buntton gave the devotional on "A Spring Storm." A spring storm gives vital water, and is God's way of pruning. In our own life, God uses our losses to create new growth.

The president read the obituary of long-time dedicated club member, Cornelia Bowen who passed away March 7, 2017 at the age of 97. Members then shared stories about her.

Debbie Chapman, Community Liaison for the Town of Williamston, requested that the garden club be involved in beautifying the town. The club agreed to plant 12 flower pots with the understanding that the town would keep the plants watered. The town would provide the pots, dirt and plants. Suggested plants included lantana, monkey grass, vinca and other plants that are drought tolerant.

A large variety of blossoms

were submitted for horticulture judging. Winners in individual categories were Dee Ross with an azalea and Darlene Ridgeway, a daffodil. There was a four-way tie in the Small category: Cissy Martin, Dee Ross, Sherry Griffin and Rita Brown. Patty Bell's two entries in the Medium category tied in the voting. There were no entries in the Large category.

Patty Bell gave a video program on a garden in England called the Hidcote Manor. The large garden contained antique roses, hedges, peonies, foxglove, water lilies and statues. Some hedges were trimmed to look like mushroom rooms. The garden is divided into sections featuring different designs including one which was a paradise for butterflies.

Lana Pack, hostess, provided the arrangement of the month using pink camellias and yellow snapdragons.

During the social hour, she served two kinds of cheesecake, chips, crackers, dip, cheese squares, cookies and strawberries.

Easter musical April 2 at First Baptist

On Sunday, April 2 Williamston First Baptist Praise and Worship Choir will present the Easter musical *The Tomb is Empty Now* at the 11 a.m. service. Written by songwriter Joel Lindsey and arranger Cliff Duran, *The Tomb is Empty Now* portrays the passion of the Christ through a glorious selection of songs, which combines old favorites with newer songs.

Choir selections, solos and narration will be used to proclaim the joy of Easter. The love Jesus demonstrated on the cross and the death He died there is not the end of the story. He became the Lord of an Empty Tomb! And today we can live because He Lives! Come and join us as we sing praises to our living, risen Lord!, Lana Pack, director, said.

Thursday services

Presbyterian churches; observe Lenten Services

Faith Presbyterian Church of Williamston is among four area churches celebrating the Lenten Season with special noon services on Thursday.

Each service includes singing and a short message by the host pastor, followed by a light lunch.

This week's service will be held March 23 at Midway

Presbyterian Church on Midway Road in Anderson.

Faith, which is located directly across from the Williamston Post Office, will be the host church on March 30, and the final service will be held on April 6 at Lickville Presbyterian Church on Highway 25 in Pelzer.

Everyone is invited to attend each and every service.

Men's Club aids community barbecue planned April 29

The Men's Club of Augusta Road United Methodist Church has been meeting for a long time, continually moving forward always wanting to be able to invite others to participate.

The group meets at the church every second Sunday at 8:15 for breakfast, and although there are a number of rotating cooks, not one stomach has had to be pumped in recent history.

The food and fellowship are excellent.

At their last meeting, Nick Elliott, who is with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Woodmont High, was the guest speaker and explained at length how the FFA has used the monies given by the Men's Club both for community projects and for improvements in the school's athletic facilities.

Recent meetings by the club have resulted in a greater fellowship and a barbecue dinner has been scheduled to

be held in conjunction with the church's Salkehatchee team, where church volunteers go to the coast and spend a week working on homes of the poor.

One spokesman, was talking about the barbecue plans and said, "We are certain, practically 100 percent, that we will be holding the barbecue. The hog is already looking good, but seems to be feeling bad, which makes for a perfect dining experience."

Barbecue will be sold as take-out on Friday, April 29, from 4-8 p.m., and meals will be sold at the church on Saturday in conjunction with a giant yard sale. All proceeds will go to the Salkehatchee projects.

Anyone or any group that wants to come and participate in the yard sale are welcome and only a small donation to the fundraising project would be requested.

Deadline for all copy and ads is Monday at 5 p.m.

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Multi-Fashion Retailer
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Cody Lewis
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Christine Phillips

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Community Prayer Gathering
The doors of the Cedar Grove Sanctuary will open every Tuesday from 12:00 noon- 12:30 for Prayer beginning April 4th.
The primary focus will be to pray for our country, our state, our county, local churches, revival among God's people and a spiritual awakening of repentance and faith in Christ across our land. Please join us.
Cedar Grove Baptist Church
13024 Highway 20, Belton (Cheddar)
Church office: 864-847-4434
www.cgbcbelton.org

if my people...
2 Chronicles 7:14

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMING EVENTS

March 25 - Piedmont Mothers Club Annual Spring Tea, 2 p.m., in the Piedmont Community Building. For more info call Donna Hopkins at 859-0189 or 915-5872.

April 1 - Whitefield Easter Celebration, 10 a.m. - noon, Whitefield Baptist Church, 207 Mitchell Road, Belton. Easter Egg hunt, bouncy house, miniature train rides, and snacks. Everyone is invited.

April 2 - Williamston First Baptist Church, 11 a.m., Praise and Worship Choir presents "The Tomb is Empty Now" musical portraying the passion of the Christ through song.

MEETINGS

Williamston Church of God, Gosset Street, Williamston is offering painting classes every Tuesday night from 5:30 - until. Come and enjoy painting ceramics.

Williamston Senior Citizens meet every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Caroline Center. Bring a covered dish to share. Everyone age 50 and above are welcome.

Pelzer Seniors meet the last Saturday of each month at the Pelzer Community Building behind Bi-Lo, 5 pm. Everyone is welcome, all seniors in and around Pelzer, single or married, bring a covered dish and one dollar.

Cub Scout Pack 356 - meets every Monday from 6-7 p.m. at the Grace United Methodist Church Activity Center. Cub Scouts is open to all boys in grades first through fifth. For more info email cubscoutspack356@gmail.com.

The Palmetto Business Association (former GWBA) meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at different member locations.

The American Legion meets every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. The Auxiliary meets every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m. The Sons of American Legion (SAL) meets every 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:15 p.m. Welcome anyone interested in joining the Legion or Auxiliary. For those who are interested in attending a meeting call 864-847-4242.

Caroline Center Senior Activities: Zumba classes, at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and again at 6:30 p.m. Regular exercise on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. Over Easy Exercise on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m.

Oxycise classes, Piedmont Wesleyan Church, Wednesdays through June at 7 p.m. at the Family Life Center, 504 Anderson Street, Piedmont. For more info call 777-0792.

Williamston AA Group open meeting every Tuesday and Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the back at Grace United Methodist Church across from McDonald's. There are no more meetings in Belton and there are no other meetings in Williamston. For more info call 864-958-5181.

Williamston Area Historic Commission regular monthly meeting date third Tuesday at 5 p.m. at Williamston Municipal Center.

COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Food Pantry is open Mondays from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. and Tuesdays from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. at 308 Williams Street in Williamston. Also open from 9 - 11 a.m. the third Saturday each month.

God's Food Pantry, South Greenville/Greenville. For info and/or locations call (864) 963-4441.

Call Narconon for a free brochure on the signs of addiction for all types of drugs. Narconon also offers free assessments and referrals. 800-431-1754 or DrugAbuseSolution.com.



Awarded grant for locker improvements

Timken, Marty Hallman and Kendrick Meekins awarded Palmetto High School a \$25,000 grant to provide a locker room to Palmetto High School. From left are: Doug Shaw, Palmetto High Athletic Director; Derrick Galloway, Boys JV Head Coach; Robbie Roach, Palmetto High Principal; Will Clarke, Boys Varsity Head Coach; Marty Hallman, Timken Honea Path Plant Manager; Kendrick Meekins, Timken Honea Path HR Manager; David Havird, Superintendent Anderson School District One; Gathered around the boys' JV and Varsity Basketball teams at Palmetto High School. (Photo by Mike Gowan)

Palmetto high

Awarded grant for locker room improvements

Friday, March 17 on behalf of Timken, Marty Hallman and Kendrick Meekins awarded Palmetto High School a \$25,000 grant to provide a locker room to Palmetto High School. Will Clarke, Head Boys Basketball Coach accepted the grant.

The grant will provide a new state of the art locker room for the boys' basketball team, a place for athletes to study, and a central location to watch film and prepare for individual sports. This is an amazing partnership that will provide many student athletes a place to call home where they can stay after school and study

together, grow together as teammates and prepare to be the best they can be on and off the court. Palmetto High truly wants to thank Timken for their gracious generosity. This could not happen without the willingness of a great local company investing in their local youth.

Anderson County

Friends of Library Annual meeting April 2

The Friends of the Anderson County Library will be celebrating the group's accomplishments for the year and welcome potential new members at their Annual Meeting on April 2, at 3:00 pm at the Main Anderson County Library, 300 No. McDuffie Street.

The afternoon will feature Dick Wall, widower of memoirist Carol Wall, the author of Mister Owita's Guide to Gardening. The book was named one of the top ten books of 2014 by USA Today and one of the best books of 2014 by AARP. Carol was too ill to go on tour when her book was published and died a few months later. Dick continues her journey.

In her narrative, Carol Wall is a woman both resentful of her disease and constantly worried about her health before meeting Giles Owita who becomes her gardener and her "friend of virtue." Aristotle's phrase for the highest order of friendship, in which the only design is devotion. She was diagnosed with breast cancer before she met Mr. Owita and is diagnosed again during their friendship. Over the months which turn into years, Mr. Owita's calm resolve quenches

Carol's panic. He teaches her not to let illness define her, and she receives a new concept of freedom. Carol Wall's book will be for available for purchase.

The program will include refreshments and opportunities to talk with current Friends members to learn about how they support the Anderson County Library. The meeting and program are open to all adults interested in hearing Mr. Wall and learning about the Friends group; and current Friends members.

The program is free and open to the public, however, registration is required. To let us know you are coming, please contact Kelly Hargrave, Community Relations Coordinator, at khargrave@andersonlibrary.org or 864-260-4500 x131.

The Friends of the Anderson County Library raise funds and awareness so the library may better serve the county residents. They volunteer at events, operate a bookstore and café, and act as advocates for the library in the community. Membership is as low as \$5 for students, \$10 for other adults.

The Anderson County Library System serves more than



190,000 county residents of all ages and includes the main library in the city of Anderson, eight branches located throughout the county, and a bookmobile. The System's staff and board are committed to freedom of access for all, offering a forum for ideas. For more information, visit AndersonLibrary.org.



Truck strikes guard rail

An Anderson County deputy along with a state trooper work at the scene of an accident on Highway 143 Tuesday night. A pickup truck struck a guard rail near the intersection of I-85. Pelzer EMS along with Powdersville firefighters responded to the scene. (Photo by David Rogers)

LEGALS

SUMMONS CASE NUMBER: 2017-DR-04-248
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ANDERSON
IN THE FAMILY COURT
TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
HOMER LOWRY WINING, IV and KRISTINA GRAHAM VINING, PLAINTIFF(S),
-vs- JOSEPH DAVID MARCUS, DEFENDANT(S).
TO THE DEFENDANT ABOVE NAMED: JOSEPH DAVID MARCUS YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to

answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer to said Complaint on the subscribers at their office, 514 S. McDuffie Street, Post Office Box 1965, Anderson, South Carolina 29622, within thirty days after the service hereof; exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff(s) will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Complaint. IN THE EVENT THAT YOU ARE AN INFANT OR FOURTEEN YEARS OF

AGE OR AN IMPRISONED PERSON, you are further summoned and notified to apply for the appointment of a Guardian ad Litem to represent said infant(s) under the age of fourteen years of age, or said incompetent or insane person, within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein. DUNAWAY LAW FIRM Tom W. Dunaway, III Attorney for Plaintiffs Post Office Box 1965 Anderson, South Carolina 29622 (864) 224-1144 Anderson, South Carolina Dated: March 11, 2017 March 22, 29, April 5, 2017

NOTICE OF SALE C/A No.: 2017-CP-04-00039
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF ANDERSON
PURSUANT to the terms of a Decree of Foreclosure and Sale by the undersigned Steven C. Kirven, Master in Equity for Anderson County, South Carolina, dated March 14, 2017, in the case of The Peoples Bank, Plaintiff -vs- Thomas Randall Stuart, Defendant, I will sell at public outcry in Courtroom Number Two on the Third Floor of the Courthouse for Anderson County, South Carolina, on April 4, 2017, during the usual hours of public sale to the highest bidder for cash the following-described real estate:
All that certain piece, parcel, or lot of land situate, lying and being in the State of South Carolina, County of Anderson, being shown and designated as Lot Number Eighty-Four (84) on a plat entitled Final Plat of Lake Front, prepared by Carolina Engineering & Surveying Co., dated April, 1964, of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Anderson County, South Carolina, in Plat Slide 1754 at Pages 9 & 10. Said lot being bounded on the

Northeast by Lot Number Eighty-Three (83), on the Southeast by Hartwell Lake, on the Southwest by Lot Number Eighty-Five (85), and on the Northwest by Black Bass Lane. This being a portion of the same property conveyed unto Thomas Randall Stuart by deed of Jayne Porter dated October 10, 1985, recorded October 15, 1985, in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Anderson County, South Carolina, in Deed Book 20-P at Page 909. TMS # 049-03-01-070 Lot 84 Black Bass Road, Anderson, South Carolina 29626 ALSO: All that certain piece, parcel, or lot of land situate, lying, and being in the State of South Carolina, County of Anderson, Township of Centerville, in School District Number Five (5), containing 5.0 acres, more or less, designated as Tract B-1 on that certain plat prepared by R. D. Garrison, R.L.S. #3972, DATED July 23, 1982, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Anderson County, South Carolina, in Plat Book 93 at Page 465, and being bounded on the West, North, and East by Tract B as appears upon said plat and on the South by that certain road as ap-

pears upon said plat; said lot having metes, bounds, courses, and distances as appear upon said plat which are incorporated herein by this reference and made a part hereof. This being the same property conveyed unto Thomas Randall Stuart by deed of Dorothy M. Stuart dated June 18, 1985, recorded June 18, 1985 in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Anderson County, South Carolina in Deed Book 20-N at Page 528. TMS # 148-15-01-046 2110 Snow Rd., Anderson, South Carolina 29621 The above-mentioned properties shall be sold for cash to the highest bidder. Each of the above-described properties shall be sold separately and bids shall be accepted on each property. The highest bidder, other than the Plaintiff, shall be required, at the conclusion of the bidding, to deposit five (5%) per cent of the bid with the Master-in-Equity in cash or equivalent as evidence of good faith; said deposit to be applied to the purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. If the highest bidder fails or refuses to make the re-

quired deposit at the time or the bid or to comply with the other terms of the sale within twenty (20) days from the date of sale, then the Master-in-Equity shall resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting bidder upon the same terms as above set out. Purchaser shall pay extra for the preparation of the Master's Deed, for documentary stamps on the deed, recording of the deed and interest on the amount of the bid from the date of sale to the date of compliance with the bid at the rate of eight and one quarter percent (8.25%), as designated in the Decree. The sale shall be subject to Assessments, Taxes due on the day of sale, Existing Easements, Easements and Restrictions of Record and other senior encumbrances. Since personal or deficiency judgment being waived, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. /s/ Steven C. Kirven Steven C. Kirven Master in Equity for Anderson County March 14, 2017 M. P. Sherard, Jr. Attorney at Law 864-225-0001 March 15, 22, 29, 2017

North Greenville University

Local students receive scholarships

Faith Yeargin, a senior at Greenville Tech Charter High School, has been awarded the Foothills Scholarship by North Greenville University. She was chosen to receive the scholarship on the basis of her academic achievement, school, church, and community involvement.

She interviewed and competed for the scholarship during Scholarship Interview Day at North Greenville University on February 24. With satisfactory academic progress, this scholarship will guarantee \$48,000 over the course of four years of attendance at North Greenville University.

Yeargin has been accepted into the Class of 2021 and plans to enroll in August.

She is the daughter of Beth Yeargin of Piedmont.

Lydia Ritter, a senior at Fountain Inn Christian, has been awarded the Foothills Scholarship by North Greenville University. She was chosen to receive the scholarship on the basis of her academic achievement, school, church, and community involvement.

She interviewed and competed for the scholarship



YEARGIN

during Scholarship Interview Day at North Greenville University on February 24. With satisfactory academic progress, this scholarship will guarantee \$48,000 over the course of four years of atten-



RITTER

dance at North Greenville University.

Ritter has been accepted into the Class of 2021 and plans to enroll in August.

She is the daughter of Scott and Chin Ritter of Piedmont.

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Truck overturns

One person was injured in a rollover accident Monday night. A pickup truck driver was driving north on Six and Twenty Road when the truck left the roadway and overturned. The driver was transported to AnMed Health by EMS. Walker McElmoyle firefighters assisted EMS with patient care. (Photo by David Rogers)



Three injured in collision

EMS and Friendship firefighters work at the scene of a two vehicle accident Friday night. A pickup truck and a car collided at the intersection of Murphy Road and Highway 247. Three people were transported to the hospital from the wreck. (Photo by David Rogers)

Mt. Pleasant News

“When God Gets Us Back” is sermon topic

by Aletha Simpson
MPBC Month of MARCH
THEME: “The Holy Spirit”
SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:1-14.
CHURCH OF THE MONTH: Duncan Creek Baptist Church, Rev. Derrick Barksdale, Laurens.

Join someone's Sunday school this year and we invite you to MPBC Sunday School every Sunday at 10am. The lesson is “Jesus Comforts Saul” Acts 9:26-31.

Pastor Mattison's topic was “When God Gets Us Back” Ephesians 1:11-14. What God do with us when He gets us back? He Refurbishes us, Refills us, and Remarkets us for His service.

MPBC Bible study Wednesdays at 6pm. Join us each week for a spirit-filled bible based Christian educational experience.

If you want up-to-date news on church events and what is going on in the community, go to the MPBC website and sign up! Website: Mtplesantwilliamston.com.

School of Methods will be March 19-24 at Welfare B.C., 2106 Bolt Drive, Belton. The classes will be from 6:15-8:15 pm.

Remember them in prayer our sick and shut-in mem-



March 18, 2017, would have been Walter and Dorothy Smith, my parents, 56th wedding anniversary and since my dad passed on 4/5/16 we celebrated with the whole family at his local spot the Clock of Williamston in his honor! Surprised my mom with songs of praise from a local entertainer Catlin Tierce that my parents love. All 4 children and family, 7 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, son-in law, grandson in law, and mommy all came together for this wonderful fellowship.

bers, Friends, and those in Bereavement: Rose Owens, Ansell Smith, Quetta Sitton, Lois Slade, Janie Brownlee, Mary Lou Reid, Marcus Reid, Mary Tate, Annie Westfield, and everyone else near and far. You shall serve the Lord your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. Exodus 23:25.

Happy Birthday to the Celebrants!!! MARCH BIRTH-

DAYS: Steve Foster 3, Lymarion Acker 5, Tanya Dawson 5, Bernard Smith 8, Aiyana Smith 13, Mariyah Gaines 14, Edith Jones 15, Phyllis Serrano 15, Crystal Smith 15, Avery Butler 29, Aletha Simpson 31, Malik Tate 31, Morris Tate 31.

ANNIVERSARIES: Walter and Dorothy Smith, Sr. 18.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: We cannot give our hearts to God and keep our bodies to ourselves.

New Hopewell News

Deacon and Deaconess program set Sunday

By Willie J. Wright
Rev. Donald R. Owens, Pastor of New Hopewell Baptist Church in Belton, delivered the morning worship service message on March 19th. He took his text from the Scripture in the Bible, Ephesians 1:1-14, and sermonized on

the topic - “Standing In The Favor of God,” Part 3. God allowed His Son to die for us and arise from the grave. We think about peace without conflict. Peace in the Scripture is that inner peace. God has blessed us with all spiritual blessings. If He has blessed you, then you are standing in favor of God. He knew us before we were born. He watches our every move. We should be holy and without blame before Him in love. By standing in favor of God, you have authority in His name.

You are accepted by faith and grace of God. Are you

standing in favor of God? He can call you day or night and He has chosen you to be redeemed. We cannot sit and wait patiently to be redeemed. God's redemptive plan for mankind from the beginning involved sending His Son to die for our sins.

RRBA Anderson County Congress of Christian Education School of Methods is being held at Welfare Baptist Church, Monday-Friday, March 20-25 from 6-8:15 p.m. daily.

New Hopewell “Deacon and Deaconess” program will be held Sunday, March 26th beginning at 4 p.m.

Remember to pray for all the sick and shut-in and visit them whenever possible. Our prayers and sympathies are extended to all bereaved families who have lost their loved ones.

“God's Merciful Love” will be the main topic for discussion March 26th during Sunday School. The scripture lesson can be found by reading Joel 2:1-32 in the Bible. The prophet Joel about 590 B.C. pointed out

the conditions in the land of Judah where crops would be destroyed and the people would face the prospect of starvation. Joel called on the priests to proclaim a fast and to gather the people to God's house for prayer and repentance.

Joel reminded the people of Judah to repent and forsake their sinful ways and turn to the Lord. In response, God would withhold His judgment and give them many blessings. God would send more spiritual blessings to them if they would remain faithful to Him.

“Happy Birthday” to all birthday celebrants during the month of March. Wish you many more by trusting and abiding in the Lord.

Prayer requested for the following: Birdie Chapman, Grace Dean, Henry Cherry, Annie Mae Telford, Glenda Chapman Oliver, Martha Arnold, Sylvester Sanders, Mae Carrie Mattester.

Thought for the week: “Turn unto the Lord your God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness and repenteth Him of the evil.” - Joel 2:13

Obituaries



KATIE COWART VAUGHN

FOUNTAIN INN – Katie Jean Cowart Vaughn, 79, wife of the late Thomas C. “T.C.” Vaughn, passed away Sunday, March 19, 2017.

Born in Piedmont, she was a daughter of the late Edgar Lewis “Edd” Cowart, Sr. and Mary Ethel King Cowart. A graduate of Piedmont High School, she retired as assistant to the director from Holmesview Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Center and was a member of Pelzer Church of God.

Katie enjoyed life to the fullest. She was a modern-day superhero who didn't let two serious strokes many years ago stop her from traveling, shopping and spending time with the people she loved. Katie was a dedicated and loving wife, mother and grandmother. She sacrificed greatly to make sure her family had the best. To her daughter, she was her best friend and biggest fan, her son-in-law was her son, her granddaughters declared her the “Super Granny” of all times.

This past year she fought a brave battle with liver cancer. Yet, she still traveled one last time to her favorite places: Pigeon Forge, TN, Myrtle Beach, Walt Disney World, Universal Studios and of course enjoyed lots of shopping. Jesus Christ and her family were the center of her heart. To honor Katie's life, remember her with a smile, hug the people you love and enjoy a short Coke in a bottle and your favorite Little Debbie cake.

She is survived by daughter, Nanci Cowart Weeks (Larry) of Fountain Inn; sister, Evelyn Cowart Roper (Donald) of Piedmont; brothers, Edgar “Brudge” Lewis Cowart Jr. (Shirley) and Douglas “Doug” Wesley Cowart (Pat), all of Piedmont; granddaughters, Katie-Laken Weeks and Kylie Jade Weeks of the home; nieces, Donna Kaye Roper, Sheryl Cowart Moss (Eric), Robin Cowart Jones, Lisa Cowart Cason (Andy) and Mistie Renee Cowart; great-niece, Breanne Babb Anderson (Blake); great-nephews, Brodie Babb (Vanessa) and Blaine Babb (Cara); ten great-great-nieces and nephews; special best friends, Nancy Jean Teague, Anne “Lib” Pack and Linda Thompson.

Visitation will be from 7:00 to 8:30 pm Thursday, March 23, at Gray Mortuary, Pelzer.

The funeral service will be held at 11:00 am on Friday, March 24, at Pelzer Church of God conducted by Rev. Jonathan Hodges and Dr. Thomas DeVenny. Burial will be at Greenville Memorial Gardens.

Serving as pallbearers, Larry Weeks, Troy Bennett, David Bailey, Eric Moss, Dakota Reeves, Drew Martin, Micky Lockaby and Jeremy Lockaby.

Memorials may be made to Pelzer Church of God, Building Fund, P.O. Box 276, Pelzer, SC 29669 or American Stroke Association, 6405 Metcalf Ave., Ste. 214, Overland Park, KS 66202 or Cancer Society of Greenville, 113 Mills Ave., Greenville, SC 29605. “It is not goodbye, but see you later, my sweet mama.”

Condolences:
www.graymortuary.com

M.J. ‘BUCK’ HOOPER

Marlor John “Buck” Hooper, 76, of Anderson, died Monday, March 13, 2017 at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Born in Banks County, GA, he was the son of the late Thomas Edwin Hooper and the late Maggie Wood Hooper. He was the husband of Shearer “Jimmie” Williams Hooper, of the home.

He retired as a South Carolina State Trooper. He was a member of Temple Baptist Church in Anderson.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Mark Thomas Hooper of Rosendale, NY; two daughters, Terri Hooper Harbin of Anderson and Joy Hooper Sargent of Williamston; six grandchildren; and one brother, Don Hooper of Anderson.

Funeral service was held Saturday, March 18 at the Temple Baptist Church. Interment followed at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Charleston Hope Lodge, 269 Calhoun Street, Charleston, SC 29401.

BRENDA PENDERGAST

Brenda Marie Clark Pendergast, 55, of Williamston, died Friday, March 17, 2017.

Born in Olean, NY, she was a daughter of Ralph Carlton and Dorothy Jane Fichtner Clark. She was a U.S. Army veteran.

In addition to her parents of New York, she is survived by daughters, Megan Reveal of Williamston and Hillary Schurm of Columbia; one granddaughter; brothers, Cory Clark of Seattle WA and Craig Clark of Port Mill, NY.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, March 23, at Calvary Baptist Church.

RUBY PAYNE LAWRENCE

Ruby Payne Lawrence, 92, of Calhoun Falls, wife of the late Harold A. Lawrence, Sr., died Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at Self Regional Healthcare in Greenwood.

Born in Piedmont, she was daughter of the late John C. and Pauline Huff Payne.

She retired from First Citizens Bank and was a member of Calhoun Falls United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her five children; Rev. Harold A. Lawrence, Jr. of Milledgeville, GA, Donald E. Lawrence of Abbeville, John L. Lawrence of Iva, Teresa Thornton of Savannah, GA, and Cynthia L. Chihasz of Abbeville; 17 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Friday in the sanctuary of Calhoun Falls United Methodist Church. Burial followed in Salem/Latimer Cemetery in Calhoun Falls.

Memorials may be made to Calhoun Falls United Methodist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 603, Calhoun Falls, SC 29628.

YOLANDA ‘YOYO’ WILSON

Yolanda “Yoyo” Mitchell Wilson, 52, of Pelzer, died Monday, March 20, 2017 at her home.

Born in Atlanta, GA, she was a daughter of Robert Mitchell and the late Frances JoAnn Blackwell Hudgins.

In addition to her father of Rome, GA, she is survived by sons, Jeremy Mitchell of Pelzer and Joseph Wilson of Anderson; companion, Mike Roberts of the home; sister, Sonia Sharp of Rome, GA; and two grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 23 at Gray Mortuary, Pelzer.

Funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. in the mortuary chapel. Burial will follow at Greenville Memorial Gardens.

The family is at the home.

RUBY CARTER

Ruby Dean Carter, 98, of Williamston, wife of Buford Ernest Carter, died Thursday, March 16, 2017.

She was the mother to sons, Jimmy L. Carter and Doug Carter, both of Williamston; daughters, Nettie Lou White of GA and Brenda Ferguson of Williamston.

She is also survived by nine grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was held Sunday, March 19, in the Chapel of Gray Mortuary, Pelzer.

Burial followed at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Anderson.

WILLIE BROWN PELZER—Willie Edwin Brown, 87, husband of the late Cinderella Dean Brown, passed away Friday, March 17, 2017 at his home.

Born in Laurens County, he was the son of the late Doctor Anthony and Mattie Bell Crook Brown. He was a U.S. Army Korean War Veteran and was retired from JP Stevens.

He is survived by daughter, Tammy Pridmore of Pelzer; granddaughter, Dawn Page; nephew, John Carl Thompson.

He was predeceased by siblings, Sis B. Bishop, Leon, Charlie, and June Brown.

A memorial service is planned for a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of the Upstate, 1835 Rogers Rd., Anderson, SC 29621.

Gray Mortuary, Pelzer
Condolences:
www.graymortuary.com

CHRISTINE MURRELL

Christine Mason Murrell, 80, of Pelzer, wife of Willard H. Murrell, died Friday, March 17, 2017.

Born in Greenville County, she was a daughter of the late John Henson and Marie Howard Mason.

She was a homemaker and attended Washington Baptist Church.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, Kelly Murrell; two daughters, Becky Thomason and Jeanie Sims; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a sister, Bertha Tinsley; and a brother, Buddy Mason.

Funeral service was held Monday, March 20 in the chapel of Thomas McAfee Funeral Home, Southeast. Burial followed in Greenville Memorial Gardens.

Memorials may be made to Open Arms Hospice, 1836 West Georgia Road, Simpsonville, SC 29680.

JAMES R. PONDER

James Robert Ponder, 86, widower of Ann Taylor Ponder, died March 18, 2017.

Born in Greenville County, son of the late Fred and Pearl Campbell Ponder, he was a retired supervisor of Springs Industries, Lyman, and a member of Fairview Baptist Church.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean War.

Surviving are two daughters, Carol Abercrombie Strom of Piedmont and Rachel Elaine Field of Greer; one son, Jay Ponder of Campobello; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Graveside service was held Wednesday, March 22 at Fairview Baptist Church cemetery with military honors.

Memorials may be made to Greer Community Ministries, P.O. Box 1373, Greer, SC 29652.

LOUIS EDWIN MARTIN

Louis Edwin Martin, 86, widower of Shirley P. Martin of Piedmont, died Tuesday, March 14, 2017.

Born in Jackson County, GA, he was the son of the late Beauford and Lucile Hardy Martin.

He served in the U.S. Army and Air Force and was a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church.

He is survived by one son, Bennie Martin; and five grandchildren.

Funeral service was held Monday, March 20 in the chapel of Thomas McAfee Funeral Home, Northwest. Burial followed in Graceland Cemetery, West.

Notice of Public Hearing Concerning Application

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 3, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Town Hall, the Town of Williamston will hold a public hearing concerning an application to be submitted to South Carolina Department of Commerce, Grants Administration on or about April 14, 2017, for a Community Development Block Grant. The Town of Williamston is requesting \$665,780 to carry out the following activities.

The scope of this project includes the replacement of approximately 2,600 feet of 8-inch gravity sewer line that serves over 70 homes on a daily basis. The purpose of the project is to replace a sewer line which has long exceeded its useful life and has been a maintenance problem for the town for years. The funds will be used for the actual construction costs of the new lines, as well as for reconnecting existing customers directly served from the lines being replaced. This project is located within the municipal limits of the Town of Williamston. The new line will begin near Ellis Avenue, just south of Anderson Drive, crossing Belton Drive, then traveling in southeasterly direction and terminating in manhole on Circle Drive off Academy Street.

This public hearing and the matters to be discussed are subject to the provisions of the Town of Williamston's Citizen Participation Plan, developed in anticipation of participation in the State of South Carolina's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, providing for the participation of the citizens of the Town of Williamston in the planning and implementation of community and economic development projects which will involve CDBG funds. The Citizen Participation Plan is available for review at Town Hall, 12 West Main Street, Williamston SC 29697, M-F 9 am to 5 pm. The Citizen Participation Plan and the application are available for review at Town Hall, 12 West Main Street, Williamston SC 29697, M-F 9 am to 5 pm. Persons with questions or comments concerning the public hearing or the Citizen Participation Plan may contact Arlene Young, Grants Director, Appalachian Council of Governments, PO Box 6668, Greenville SC 29606, 864-242-9733.

The Town of Williamston does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or disability in the assisted programs or activities. Michelle Starnes, Clerk/Treasurer, 12 West Main Street, Williamston SC 29697, 864-847-7473 and TDD 800-735-290 has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's regulations.

News from the Grove

Women enjoy Retreat in Flat Rock

by Bobby Partain
Thirty-five women had a great time at the Carolina Women's Retreat in Flat Rock, NC. Called Lavender Springs Spa, it was based on Renewal through Psalms. The weekend was built around different Psalms and how they talk to us today. "For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and His faithfulness continues to each generation." Psalm 100:5 Through classes, crafts and fellowship together, we were able to rest in God's love for us.

Pastor Mike spoke about 3 truths from the Bible: - Jesus died, he was 100% dead. His death is the heart of the gospel. Just like all of the other Biblical heroes of the Bible, Jesus died and was buried. - Jesus is alive. Jesus is the first to be raised to never die again. 1 Corinthians 15:20 says: "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." The Resurrection is proof that Jesus was who he said he was. - Jesus holds the keys to death. Keys are symbolic of authority or power. All authority and power has been given to Jesus. The second death has no power over believers. We all fall asleep in death and are buried, and wait for the return of Jesus to be raised from the grave. In John 17:2 it says "As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should

give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

Next Sunday we will be having a baby shower for Jared and Nichole Partain. It will be from 2-4pm in the Social Hall. They are anxiously awaiting their little girl, due in May.

We are having a family jump night at Gravitopia in Greenville for all youth and their parents on March 31st. This is always a fun time for everyone attending.

You need to sign up now for Christian Workers Seminar in Pigeon Forge, TN, April 23-27. This is a great time of fellowship for all who attend with our brothers and sisters all across the US.

Happy Birthday to: Emma Smith, J.T. Currens, Levi Walters, Runette Childers, Hannah Naumoff, Tim Jones, Jacob Alcumbrack, Calle Walters, Jim Monroe, Lisa Pack, Michael McKee, Sam Ballard, Taylor Collins, and Tonya Currens. Congratulations, this is a busy week!!

Our favorite verse this week is a passage from Romans 8:35-39 and is chosen by Luke Elwell. Luke is the son of Greg and Telva Elwell, he is a senior at Anderson University, where he is studying kinesiology. He is a lifelong member of Guthrie Grove and a member of the praise team. Verses 38 & 39 "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,

nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." He said these verses reassure us that if we accept Christ as our Savior and are grounded in him, nothing is too big to overcome, and nothing can separate us from the love of God. Jesus is now sitting at the right hand of God interceding for those who accept and believe in him."

A little humor: "A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin aged 5, and Ryan, aged 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake. I can wait." Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

Please contact us if you are searching for a church or you are interested in what we mean when we talk about the Kingdom of God, Oneness of God, or the sleep of the dead. We would like to invite you to visit us Guthrie Grove Church of God of the Abrahamic Faith: 403 Guthrie Grove Church Rd, Pelzer. Phone 947-9717, web page: www.guthriegrove.org or Guthrie Grove Church on Facebook.



Propane leak

A West Pelzer firefighter checks a propane leak Thursday night at Beaverdam Baptist Church near Williamston. A nearby resident reported the smell of propane. When firefighters arrived propane was coming out in liquid and gas form. The gas supplier was notified to respond. Gas had to be removed from inside the church by firefighters. (Photo by David Rogers)



Pedestrian struck by vehicle

Piedmont firefighters along with Greenville County EMS work at the scene after a pedestrian was struck by a vehicle Wednesday evening. It happened on Rehoboth School Road near South Piedmont Highway. The woman pedestrian was transported to Greenville Memorial Hospital by EMS. (Photo by David Rogers)



Big Creek Soul Winning graduates

Pictured here are the recent graduates in the Soul Search School of SoulWinning at Big Creek Baptist Church. This course taught by the pastor, Dr. Ron Fousek trains Christians to share their faith in Jesus Christ. Their mission is to embrace the community and area with the Gospel message.

Big Creek News

School of Soul Winning has graduation ceremony

By Gail Scott
The goal for our Annie Armstrong offering is \$1,500. We have received \$1,249 so far. Telling others about Jesus is very important. The only way to Heaven is through Jesus.

Pray for Phyllis Lowe, Randy Newton, Charles Black, Joe Bargiol, Betty Knight, Barbara Gregory, Lou McKee, Trish Watson, Sara Cooley, Anne Taylor Earnest, Marshal Gambrell, Gerald Gambrell, V.R. Rhodes, Dan Caldwell, Jimmy Ellison, Lois Westbrook, Randy Woodson, Barrett Gambrell, Wilma Davenport, the lost, and pray for America.

Sunday morning Martha Rice was the shut-in of the week. The children learned what an altar is for in Pastor's Pals. They learned that an altar is where they can meet with God. 1 Peter 5:7 tells that we are to cast all our cares on the Lord. Each child was given a care to cast on the altar.

Pastor Ron continued his series about the gospel in stained glass. The window number four shows when Peter walked on water. The message was "Faith to stay Afloat" We all have storms in our lives. God is always with us during the storms. The scripture came from Matthew 14:22-23.

Graduation was held for those who had attended the

School of Soul Winning taught by Pastor Ron. It was great to have Anne Taylor Earnest there. She was determined and God allowed her to be at the graduation and commitment service. Thirty-eight people attended the school.

My favorite song was "When we all get to Heaven" 1 Thessalonians 4:17. I sincerely hope each person reading this is on their way to Heaven. Salvation is free. Accept Jesus and you can sing about the victory when you get to Heaven.

Sunday evening Pastor Ron continued his series on "The Days of Elijah" 1 Kings 18 was the scripture. His message was "Time to show up." After the ending prayer he discovered he had popped a button from his coat. I just think he preached so hard his button came off.

Birthdays for this week are Barry Roe, Lib Partian, Mary

Lee Scott, Jimmy Brown, Lee Roy Redus, and Robert Couch. May they have many more.

Mallory McAbee went to see a play at Mauldin High School. Schroeder Campbell went to the home school conference.

Not much happened in our Shih Tzu's life last week. She went to her favorite pet store. She and I walked in the Williamston park. Abbey visited Mallory on Friday. She rode with her family to go shopping in Greenville.

Big Creek church is a great place to be. We are always glad to have visitors. Come and hear the word of God preached.

Recipe for the week: Pepsi Cola Chicken. 6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, 1 cup catchup, 1 cup Pepsi. Put in covered skillet and cook one hour on medium heat. Uncover and turn chicken pieces. Cook uncovered until sauce thickens.

Envision Williamston - Mustang Alley Feasibility Study Request for Proposals Deadline is April 28, 2017

The Town of Williamston is soliciting proposals from planning and landscape architecture design consultants to help guide the development of a feasibility study for a pocket park and outdoor pavilion in the Town of Williamston. Respondents should have broad experience in citizen involvement, commercial growth, redevelopment, and market analysis. The project is cosponsored by the Municipal Association of South Carolina, the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor, and Envision Williamston.

To apply, visit: www.envisionwilliamston.com/programs-2/projects or contact Sonya Crandall, Envision Williamston Executive Director at sonyacew@gmail.com

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Beaverdam News

Committees make plans for Easter

By Catherine Weaver
Happy official spring time to everyone. We enjoyed spring like weather in January and February, and now we have enjoyed a little winter right before spring officially arrived. Maybe now spring is finally here for real. Sunday was a fine day to be in church. Our Annie Armstrong offering began Sunday, and it was just a joy to worship with all of our Beaverdam family. Preacher Chris Huff began his sermon taken from Jeremiah 32: 1-15. I entitled his sermon "Who Has the Right of Redemption?" There is a right of redemption here for the nearest kin. (We are Christ's next of kin, and we carry the message of redemption to the world.) This was a beautiful message to have on the day of the Annie Armstrong offering. The redemption is kept safe and secure for the future. We have the promise that Jesus Christ is going to possess His creation again. As our missionaries serve on our North American mission field, we can take part in the kingdom promise by helping with our gifts of money and our prayers. As we witness in our own neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, and community we can continue to witness, to study, to grow, and to pray. Sunday was also our make-day for pictures for our directory. We certainly don't want to miss the opportunity to get everyone's picture in our directory. Bill and I finally

found our pictures. They were delivered on our front porch sometime, probably a week or so ago. The envelope was slightly wet from the rain. But sadly, the pictures still looked just like us and the pictures were not hurt. We looked at the pictures, had a little laugh, and returned them to the envelope. There is something about looking at a picture of oneself. It is kind of unsatisfactory and a little funny. My outside might not be as pretty as I would like, but I hope that my heart is smiling, kind, and works well with others. I am prouder on the inside. Our audio committee is having an audio workshop next Sunday March 26, at 5 PM. Our audio is an important part of our Easter production. I will be in prayer for them. We also need individually wrapped candy for our Easter egg hunt. We will be collecting it on the mission tables at the front of our sanctuary. Egg hunts are so traditional everywhere. Watching children run, hunt eggs, laugh, and play just never gets old. Beaverdam's Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday April 15, from 1 to 3 PM. I am looking forward to this! My children are grown and my grandchildren think that they are grown, but I am not too old to enjoy a good old egg hunt. We have baby smiles and giggles galore for Katlyn and Eric Sanders and big sister Macie. They are expecting a little sister for Macie. There

will be a "diapers and wipes" shower for them just to show that Beaverdam loves them and that we care. The "drop-off" shower will be on Sunday, April 2, in the Lowery Building between 8:30 AM and 12:30 PM. Our prayers will be with this young mom, new baby, dad, Macie, and family. Our kids enjoyed celebrating "Super Hero Day." They met wonder woman, Spider Woman, Batman, and Super Girl. Cody Childs was my on the spot reporter. Cody said, "Spider Man was my favorite super hero. All of our children enjoyed the event. Our church enjoyed the concert on Sunday night from the Pathfinders. The group is from Mt. Holly, NC. They noted that they are not a traditional Southern Gospel group. They are more a blend of Southern gospel and Blue grass. Everyone enjoyed the concert. Leland Hollingsworth sang "Lord, Take Me Home." There was a small feast in the fellowship hall after the concert. There was ham, mac and cheese, green beans, corn, rolls and sweets. Thanks to our food committee and Larry Nix for preparing our feast. Are you looking for a church to work with and to meet your family's spiritual needs? Come visit Beaverdam Baptist Church soon. We are the local church where members become missionaries. We would love to have the opportunity to meet you.



Celebrate reading

To celebrate Read Across America week, older students at West Pelzer Elementary read Dr. Seuss books with younger classes during library time. Pictured are Mollie Holcombe, Harley Darnell, and Alberto Jimenez



"The Cat in the Hat"

Logan Butler reads to Addy Elgin to celebrate Read Across America Week at West Pelzer Elementary. Older students read Dr. Seuss books to younger classes during library time.

Open Door Community News

Events planned during April

By Vicki Simpson
Verse of the Week: To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. So, Monday was the first day of Spring and I know lots of people who welcome this time of the season. It is the time to begin planting our gardens with hopes of a wonderful harvest, especially for those who still can vegetables like I do. Now, changing the subject, I encourage everyone to see the movie, "The Shack," but ladies, take tissue. It has sad parts, but the examples of how God can appear to us in different ways and talks to us was explained so well. This movie has brought about much controversy, but if you understand what the writer is trying to reveal, then you should have no problem with this movie. I left the theater with a peace and clearer understanding of things that I have caught myself questioning about God. I also left with red eyes and runny mascara. I thought it was an eye opener for a lot of people. Sunday's worship was blessed by a duet from Eric Cantrell and Jessica Creamer who sang When I Get Where I'm Going. I never knew what a beautiful voice Jessica Creamer has. She needs to sing some solos. Hint, hint, Jessica. Eric has a country music singer voice. Pastor Lloyd entitled his

message, "Tell Someone," and it came from Acts 26-12-18. Paul was telling King Agrippa about what Jesus had done for him and he did it by giving Jesus all the glory. Ways you don't want to tell your story or testimony: Don't glorify your story. Don't boast about what you gave up (Jesus gave up much more). Don't forget it's not about you, it's about Jesus. He added: Don't build walls, build bridges to get to the lost world. I changed the statement that John F. Kennedy once made: Ask not what Jesus can do for you; ask what you can do for Jesus." What can you do for Jesus? Special Days: 3/20-First day of Spring; 3/21-World Poetry Day; 3/22-National Goof Off Day; 3/23-National Chip and Dip Day. Couples Retreat is March 24-26. Everyone going will meet at Cracker Barrel, Exit 40 on 153 in Powdersville Friday morning at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast. I know it will be fun for all. During our Pastor's absence, one of the Pastors, Jamie Crawford, from Tabernacle Baptist Church in Pelzer will fill in for him. We look forward to welcoming Pastor Crawford and hearing the message God gives him. Upcoming Events: Easter Picnic Lunch, 4/2/17 following morning service. Everyone is asked to bring sandwiches, salads, chips, and drinks. Easter Egg Hunt to follow. No evening service. Easter "Sonrise" Service is 4/16 at 7a.m. Morning Worship at 10a.m. No evening service.

More events are planned in the coming months and I will add as they get closer. Birthdays of the Week: Cute, little Klaire Cantrell (3/23). I'd like to wish a late Happy Birthday to Michael Millwood (3/21). Hope your day was blessed. Kids Joke of the Week: Q) What do you call a dumb bunny? A) A Hare Brain! and Q) Where do Easter Bunnies go for new tails? A) To the retail store! Quote of the Week: "We are not saved to be silent. Spread the good news of Jesus Christ. - unknown author. If you don't have a church of your own, please visit ours. ODCC is a family church, a mission dedicated family, preparing people to meet Jesus through Love. Have a blessed week and tune in next time for Open Door and more with Miss Vicki.



Encourage students to read

Two former NFL football players Langston Moore and Preston Thorne, who've written the book *Just a Chicken* spoke at West Pelzer Elementary. They inspired students to read more in order to learn new information and ideas. They encouraged students to understand that going through the writing process helps them better share their new ideas.

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