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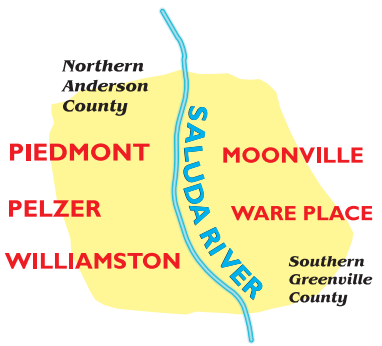
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For the two towns

Pelzer, West Pelzer residents discuss vision

By Stan Welch

A crowd of approximately thirty five residents, split pretty evenly, between Pelzer and West Pelzer, met Tuesday night to discuss their vision of the future of the two towns. The focus of the event centered on the potential appearance of the intersection of Main Street and Lebbey Street, and the adjacent areas.

Consultants for the Main Street program, Arnett Muldrow, conducted the meeting and guided the citizens through a series of questions designed to elicit public input. The history of the towns and their mill heritage was often mentioned in terms of what the crowd liked about the towns, while a lack of a sense of direction was listed as a problem in forging the towns' futures.

Development of the mill properties and a return to the area's traditional source of recreation opportunities was also frequently mentioned. West Pelzer Mayor Blake Sanders said that there was a very positive tone to the meeting, but that a general frustration was also evident. "I personally take that as a positive thing, because when people are complacent, they don't get frustrated. So that tells me that these folks are ready to see some progress and are ready to help make it happen."

Sanders said that establishing an identity for the area that both acknowledges the history while moving beyond it is one of the big challenges facing the two towns. Sanders said that he and Mayor McGregor of Pelzer and Mayor Durham of Williamston talk at least monthly, looking for ways to align the interests of the towns, in order to streamline operations whenever possible.

In other matters, the two towns now have one water and sewer department between them, having merged the two under the West Pelzer public works department. Sanders described the merger as a seamless transition. Both towns are expected to save about forty thousand dollars each from the consolidation. West Pelzer is continuing its search for an additional certified technician to fill out the staff.

Work has also begun on the renovations to the recently purchased building on Main Street that will become the West Pelzer municipal center later this summer.

For Roads and Bridges Department

County Council hears report recommendations

By Stan Welch

The Anderson County Council received information from several entities Tuesday night, including the Appalachian Council of Government (ACOG), and the Anderson Free Clinic. Perhaps the most important report they received was from Robin Haley, who represented the Matrix Consulting Firm, who recently completed a review of the County's Roads and Bridges Department and its operations.

Haley began by informing the Council that his company, by the nature of its work, stressed opportunities for improvement, which sometimes translated to a emphasis on what should be done differently. "Let me say that the Anderson County roads and bridges division is doing many things well. Of course there are adjustments to be made, but this division is on the verge of doing some great things."

Nonetheless, the county faces some formidable challenges, both in improving its performance and in finding ways to fund those improvements. Haley

pointed out that the county currently resurfaces approximately twenty miles of roads annually. That number is a fraction of the fifteen hundred and forty miles of roads in the county.

He added that the division does a very good job of maintaining the roads that see the heaviest traffic. The down side of that is that lesser used roads go for long periods of time without attention. This could lead to eventually having to do much more extensive and expensive repairs at a later time. In worst case scenarios, some roads might even be allowed to return to gravel.

The current combination of the use of C funds (generated by the gasoline tax) and funds from the general fund provides approximately three million dollars annually for roads and bridges. That figure is less than forty per cent of the amount the division projects each year. The firm recommended that the county impose a wheel tax, or a transit occupancy tax that would be added to visitors' hotel bills to finance more road maintenance.

Haley also reported that the fleet maintenance services, while adequate, also have some areas for improvement. The county fleet, for example, is maintained separately than the sheriff's fleet of vehicles, which is actually larger. Together, the two fleets comprise nine hundred and fifty four vehicles.

While the county fleet is maintained by certified mechanics, three inmates with various levels of automotive expertise maintain the sheriff's vehicle. Haley explained that two administrative costs are duplicated by having the fleets separated.

The physical plant for the maintenance operations are also a problem. Some of the work bays are not large enough to accept the larger pieces of equipment, forcing repairs to be done in the open weather, which seriously hampers production. Haley said that a long term recommendation would be to at a minimum add some larger bays, although eventually building a new facility altogether would be preferable.

The study also recommended a doubling of the hourly labor rates charged to the departments served. Two current vacancies in the ditches and pipes department were recommended not to be filled. The county is currently doing an inventory of the approximately one hundred miles of ditches and pipes that it maintains.

Steve Pellisier, of ACOG, again reminded the Council of the strong return on investment (ROI) that it receives from its financial support of the ombudsman organization. The county annually invests just over eighty one thousand dollars a year, and last year, received almost \$2.9 million in funding and services, for a return of thirty five to one.

The nature of that ROI is varied and eclectic. For example, the ACOG obtained \$450,000 for the Powdersville Water Districts water line project along I-85. They also helped secure \$13.6 million to replace the Cherokee Road bridge over Highway 29, a project that is in the phase of acquiring the rights of way



Hurricanes fans support team

Wren Hurricane basketball fans express their disappointment with a call during the 4A State Championship game held Saturday in Columbia. A large number of fans traveled to support their team however, the Hurricanes came up short with a 42-51 loss to Lower Richland. (See coverage inside page 1B)

Firetruck, incentives program prepare town for future growth

By David Meade

During their meeting Monday, Williamston Town Council approved first reading amending ordinances on fees and use of the Municipal Center, alcoholic beverage regulations to conform with state code and town purchasing policies.

Council also held first reading on an ordinance establishing an economic development incentive program and gave approval to a proposal by the Williamston Fire Department to purchase a used aerial ladder truck.

The 2001 truck has only 16,000 miles on it and is almost new condition, according to Williamston Fire Chief Steve Ellison. "It only has 183 hours on it and is a super buy," Ellison said.

The truck will replace a 1998 truck purchased new by the department for \$208,000. Chief Ellison said to replace the truck new would now cost \$400,000.

Ellison said the asking price for the aerial truck is \$235,000, which will be financed for six years at 2.3 percent through BB&T bank. The yearly payment amounts to \$30,988. The truck new would cost approximately \$725,000, he said.

The department will sell Engine 3 and apply \$40,000 toward the principal of the aerial truck.

Ellison also asked town council to allow payoff of the last payment of \$25,000 on Engine 3.

Ellison said the department has been budgeted \$30,000 yearly since 1991 for equipment upgrades and that the amount, along with the proceeds from selling the older truck and eliminating repairs on it, will cover the cost of the ladder truck.

"We will save money on repairs on the high mileage truck to offset the difference," Ellison said. "It seems like all the stars lined up for this one," Ellison told Council. "We found this truck. It is all new, does not have the new emissions. It is like a new truck."

Ellison said the truck will help the town keep the Class 3 insurance rating and possible move to a Class 2.

During the presentation, Captain Dave Bryant gave details about the truck and showed photos. Bryant said the truck is needed for large buildings and churches in the town that do not have sprinkler systems, including town hall.

"Williamston has big buildings everywhere" Bryant said including Cushman, Phoenix (old Mount Vernon/Williamston mill) 24 churches, town hall, schools, apartments and several strip malls.

The aerial truck will help fight fires with additional height and water support he said.

Bryant said the truck will also allow better customer service, eliminate dependency on other departments and is a resource for future growth and better mutual aid.

The request was approved 4-0 with councilman David Harvell (who serves on the fire department) abstaining.

Council amended the fee schedule for use of town hall facilities to allow

the rental fee to include up to ten tables and eight chairs. An additional table and chairs are available at \$20 each. The change also allows for a 25 percent discount for town residents.

The ordinance on use of the Municipal Center allows the mayor to waive fees for non profit organizations, town employees or elected officials who request a waiver.

Mayor Mack Durham said the change gives the town latitude for requests from churches or others with special fundraising situations.

Councilman Rockey Burgess made a motion to amend the ordinance to allow town employees a one time per year use of the facilities as part of their incentive package.

The change with Burgess' amendment was approved unanimously.

Council approved an amended ordinance addressing alcohol.

Town Attorney Lee Cole said the changes bring the town's ordinance into compliance with state law and eliminates duplicating sections of the ordinance.

The town ordinances previously banned possession of alcohol on any town property and was preempted by state law, Cole said.

The ordinance was approved 4-1 with Harvell opposed.

The town purchasing policy was amended removing references to an administrator and to allow department heads more leeway on smaller purchases.

The policy states bid procedures for various levels of purchases.

On items under \$500 employees are encouraged to secure competitive pricing and three phone bids but are not required

to get bids, The department head may approve or deny these requests.

On purchases of \$500 to \$3500, informal bids from at least three sources are required. These requests are approved or denied by the mayor.

Purchases of \$3500 to \$9999 require informal written bids/quotes from at least three sources. Requests in this amount can be approved or denied by the mayor and the mayor is required to notify all members of town council of the purchase.

Anything over \$10,000 must go through a formal bid process with advertisement in a local newspaper and must be approved by council in a public meeting.

The amendment also changes the number of required signatures, providing weekly detailed check ledger to council and encouraging purchases from small business, women and minority owned and local businesses.

There is also a revised vendor list which is paid frequently and no required bid.

The amended purchasing policy was approved unanimously.

Council approved an ordinance establishing an Economic Development Incentive Program to encourage business or development consistent with the Town's adopted Master Plan.

Mayor Durham said it provides a tool for economic development purposes.

Town Attorney Lee Cole said the provision will allow the town to give grants to potential economic development projects and to private parties if

(Continued on Page 3)

ACPU report reflects growth in Powdersville

By Stan Welch

As reported in a recent issue of The Journal, Anderson County has undertaken a project that will allow a more frequent and timely update on the county's population growth, both in terms of sheer numbers, and in terms of demographics.

The Anderson County Population Update (ACPU) is designed to provide more topical information to be used in planning efforts. U.S. Census information is gathered only every ten years and usually takes more than a year to be compiled and subsequently released to the public. The county's comprehensive plan also operates on a ten year cycle, with casual updates, for lack of a better word, every five years. The ACPU uses nine Census County divisions, or CCDs, to identify various areas.

Surprising no one, the initial ACPU reflects an extraordinary rate of growth in northern Anderson County, or the Powdersville/Piedmont CCD. Anderson County, for example, is currently growing at a rate several percentage points higher than the national average, with the northern end of the county (Powdersville) exploding at better than three times the

national rate.

The Pendleton, Williamston, and Anderson census districts are all growing at almost 13%: by comparison, Powdersville is at 34%. According to figures provided by the Anderson Planning Dept., the Powdersville/Piedmont CCD will have a population of just under thirty five thousand people by the 2020 census, and will add an additional ten thousand residents by the following census.

Since 1990, the percentage of whites in the county has dropped almost three per cent, with almost all of that decrease reflected in a parallel increase in the Hispanic population. The African American population has remained between sixteen and seventeen per cent, while the percentage of Asians and mixed races (2 or more races) have both doubled, although both categories are still miniscule.

The Piedmont/Powdersville CCD is becoming remarkably cosmopolitan, as both Greenville and Anderson counties continue to attract foreign investment, as well as relocating industries from other parts of the country. More than sixty one per cent of those moving into northern

(Continued on Page 3)

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(Continued on Page 3)

Opinion

Seems to Me . . .

By Stan Welch

In a continuation of easily the craziest election season in American politics in a quarter century, perhaps more, the first six weeks of the Trump administration have also bordered on the insane at times.

Allegations of Russian efforts to tamper with the election have been shouted by most news outlets and denied by a few others. For their part, the Democrats are doing all they can to disrupt and delay the establishment of the Trump administration; again, in my opinion, with the collusion of several of the leftist news outlets.

Trump, for his part, retaliated by claiming that the Obama administration, which has been exposed for wire-tapping foreign dignitaries, including some of our allies, had also tapped his phones during the campaign. The media lefties immediately hooted and laughed the notion off, but it is not going away. In the meantime, the flames grow higher.

And off in a dark, shadowy corner sits Julian Assange, founder of wikileaks, who continues to scare the he77 out of every politician who has ever sent an e-mail, and every news agency that has ever shirked its duty. Add to that every self important, self righteous celebrity who lives, rushing to every microphone they can find to offer their august opinions. For the life of me, I see absolutely no reason to listen to someone who plays make believe for a living explain the American reality to me.

I see no reason to listen to one single word about the oppression of black people from the mouth of a black man who makes five million dollars a year for playing with a ball, or from a black performer who is more famous for exposing as much of her body as she can than she is for her talent, whatever that may be. I'm sorry, but enormous wealth really reduces the risk of oppression by the man. That they expect me to thank them for their hatefulness is baffling.

I see no reason to listen to people from other nations who have fled to America to enjoy her freedoms and her bounty when they stand, bullhorn to their mouth, and curse the very nation that shelters them. Hispanic activists who scream at the injustice of having to climb an evil wall in order to get here so they can scream at us, amuse me; although they are getting to be rather tiresome. Feminists who dress as female genitalia and demand respect leave me speechless.

All in all, it has been quite the circus. And it's only been six weeks.

Still, Americans invite much of this angst and turmoil by their own ignorance of how our system works. There have been cries upon cries for a special prosecutor to look into the claims of Russian election tampering, or of some totally unsupported secret relationship that President Trump has with the Russians. These calls are based on less evidence than that presented concerning Hillary Clinton's use of an unsecured server to disseminate classified information. As Trey Gowdy stated clearly, there is absolutely no reason, no justification for such a demand.

Some comments by Supreme Court Justice Ruth Ginsberg have the right calling for President Trump to replace her. The only problem with that, of course, is that federal judges can only be replaced if they are impeached, if they die, or if they retire. The Constitution simply, and wisely, denies such capricious control of the courts by either the legislative or executive branch of government.

A huge hue and cry went up when Kentucky Senator Rand Paul was denied access to the proposed replacement for Obamacare. He wanted to see it and he was told no. Oh, heavens! what a usurping of power! What betrayal! What was Rand Paul thinking? He surely knows that the House of Representatives is the originating source of all appropriations bills that are considered by the Congress.

The House writes such bills, which is exactly what both the Affordable Care Act and whatever is proposed to replace it are appropriations bills and reviews them. If they pass them, then the Senate gets to see them, and offer their thoughts and amendments. The two bodies have committees which work with each other to hammer out a compromise. If the House doesn't pass the bill, it is dead. It is done. So there was no chicanery, no skullduggery afoot. The process was simply being followed. Apparently that fact was news.

No, we bring this sturm und drung, this constant tension and craziness on ourselves. We do it by demanding a microwave response to every single rumor, to every single tweet that is released into the atmosphere. News agencies no longer confirm or debunk anything. It is much more important to turn the story loose than to get it right. Accuracy no longer tops innuendo in the world of twenty four news.

Knowledge of the system and how it works is no longer taught in the public schools, so that even those tasked with making the system function either don't know or don't care that they are helping run the train off the rails. And we sit, glued and glazed and ignorant, and see wrongdoing in every act. We demand justice where injustice has not been. We demand recompense where there is no offense.

And that is the path to even greater insanity. Breathe America! Trust yourselves and your neighbors and your nation.

Senator Mike Gambrell
Legislative Update

March 3

This week at the State House was a busy one. The Senate continued our deliberations of S.394, the bill introduced to remedy the State's pension issues. After many hours of debate, we gave third reading to the bill and sent it to the House for their consideration. Having worked on the Joint Committee charged with shoring up this invaluable resource, I can tell you firsthand that it was a daunting task, but I do believe we can go forward with assurances for the current participants in this system.

A bill was introduced in the Senate that would ensure that officers and employees of the State of South Carolina, or any political subdivisions or departments of the State of South Carolina, who are commissioned or enlisted for service in the S. C. State Guard be entitled to military leave without loss of pay or seniority when attending State Guard encampment or schools for training, and on all other occasions when ordered to active duty in the service of the State of South Carolina.

On Tuesday, we were honored to have Coach Dabo Swinney speak to the General Assembly. Coach Swinney and a few of his Clemson University Football Team members were here to be officially recognized for their Championship. As a proud Clemson graduate, it was very inspirational to hear from him.

We also were visited by members of the Forestry Association and the Tree Farmers Association. Jimmy Cox of Troy and Hamp Warner of Greenwood are Tree Farmers, and Jimmy Sanders of Greenwood serves as the Treasurer of the Forestry Association Board. We recognized the Dixie High School Cross Country Team, winners of the State Championship in 2016, and the Belton-Honea Path Baseball Team, also 2016 State Champions. We are very proud of these young people.

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, 803-212-6024, or through my email address: MikeGambrell@scsenate.gov.

Congressman Jeff Duncan
Third District

CONGRESSMAN JEFF DUNCAN RESPONDS
TO TRUMP TERRORISM EXECUTIVE ORDER

Washington, DC – In response to the updated Executive Order from President Trump, Congressman Jeff Duncan released the following statement:

"I support President Trump's updated Executive Order on national security, just as I supported the previous version. U.S. Law specifically grants the President this authority:

"Whenever the President finds that the entry of any aliens or of any class of aliens into the United States would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, he may by proclamation, and for such period as he shall deem necessary, suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens as immigrants or nonimmigrants, or impose on the entry of aliens any restrictions he may deem to be appropriate." (8 US Code 1182-f)

"I am grateful that President Trump takes his responsibility seriously. I am pleased that he is once again putting the interests of the American people first – especially when it comes to safety. Many in the media and on the left seem to have forgotten we are at war with a determined enemy – radical Islamist terrorism. Until that foe is vanquished, we do well to temporarily halt bringing people into the country who can't be proven not to want to do our people harm, until better vetting procedures can be put into place."



Langston's Laughs
By Charles Langston



There was an elderly couple who in their old age noticed that they were getting a lot more forgetful, so they decided to go to the doctor. The doctor told them that they should start writing things down so they don't forget.

They went home and the old lady told her husband to get her a bowl of ice cream. "You might want to write it down," she said. The husband said, "No, I can remember that you want a bowl of ice cream." She then told her husband she wanted a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream. "Write it down," she told him, and again he said, "No, no, I can remember: you

want a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream." Then the old lady said she wants a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top. "Write it down," she told her husband and again he said, "No, I got it. You want a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top."

So he goes to get the ice cream and spends an unusually long time in the kitchen, over 30 minutes. He comes out to his wife and hands her a plate of eggs and bacon. The old wife stares at the plate for a moment, then looks at her husband and asks, "Where's the toast?"



LETTER TO
THE EDITOR

Urges attendance
at Council meetings

I'm 59 years old, and have lived in Pelzer most of my life.

Since I was a child, I have been hearing people's various opinions on what needs to be done to help improve our little town.

We are now a real town, with a right to speak up at Town Council meetings, but very few people bother to come.

I don't know many people who can't spare an hour or two one night a month to come to the meeting, but they always

have an excuse for not coming. Well folks. it's time to SPEAK UP OR SHUT UP!

Don't keep telling everyone else what you should be telling our elected officials.

Pelzer Town Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 in The Community Building behind BI-LO.

The next meeting is this Tuesday, March 14.

I hope to see all of you there !!

Mike Matthews

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

Dear Friends,

The three main bills which were the focus of the House this year, other than the budget, all passed this week. Let's start with the roads. Fixing our roads is not debatable, however, how we fix the roads is debatable. My colleagues worked hard to craft legislation that would garner support (which it did) and I applaud their efforts.

Although I like the concept of a road user fee versus partially paying for our roads out of the General Fund, I did not support the gas tax. I represent a large rural House district populated mostly with hard-working folks. Many of my constituents live on fixed or limited incomes. Some rely solely on Social Security and minimal savings. For them, the legislation the House just passed represents a HUGE tax increase they cannot afford. It may only sound like pennies, but pennies turn into dollars and squeeze family budgets. While many drive older vehicles that aren't fuel efficient, others drive long distances to get to town or get their kids to school. That's costly.

In addition, the increase on the sales tax cap from \$300 to \$500 is a regressive tax that hurts those that fall into the lower to medium income brackets. When you purchase a car, the sales tax is 5% and will now be capped at \$500. So a person purchasing a \$10,000 car will pay the same sales tax as someone purchasing a \$100,000 car, a \$1 million yacht, or an airplane.

When it comes to fixing roads, for many citizens, reforming DOT is their #1 issue. They want the legislature to be bold in reforming DOT to make it transparent and accountable. They want to be able to trust the tax money is being spent wisely to improve our roads. This bill doesn't fully solve that challenge. However to the credit of DOT Secretary, Christy Hall, much progress is being made in this area. I have a great deal more confidence in DOT than I once did because of her leadership.

At the end of the day, I feel like Governor McMaster who says "no new taxes" and raising the gas tax is a "last resort". The vote in the House to raise taxes is just a starting point and far from the ending point. Stay tuned.

Our roads are crumbling and apparently our retirement system it too. A bill was passed to adjust the rate paid into the system by both employer and employee. This will inject sufficient funding into the current system to bring solvency to the struggling benefit plan. The market crash and recession of 2008 along with poor management contributed to the deficiencies we face today. It's important to ensure our teachers, first responders, and public employees have a sound foundation for retirement. This was the first step recommended by the Pension Study Committee. The Committee will continue to meet and make recommendations to the General Assembly.

Finally, the House gave bipartisan support to a piece of legislation that would bring our state-issued ID cards (such as a driver's license) into compliance with federally mandated security standards. You may have seen signs posted in the airport warning that later this year the TSA will no longer accept South Carolina driver's license as an acceptable form of identification for boarding an airplane. This bill remedies the issue. The bill also includes an opt-out clause. For those not comfortable turning over their information to the federal government or for those not wishing to fly or enter a military base, they can do so without any penalty and without conforming to the REAL ID federal standards.

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

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Greenville County Deputies featured on Live PD show

Beginning this week Deputies with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office will be featured on A&E's new "Live PD" television show. The show airs every Friday from 9pm-12am. A&E offers viewers an unscreened and unfiltered look inside the country's busiest police forces and this spring the Greenville County Sheriff's Office will be one of the featured agencies.

Each Friday, the new documentary series, Live PD, will use dash cams along with a variety of video technology to capture the work and duties performed by the men and women of Greenville's finest. In addition to the live coverage, studio host, ABC's Dan Abrams, alongside Dallas Police Department

Detectives Rich Emberlin and Kevin Jackson, will guide viewers through their viewing experience by providing insight to what the audiences are watching.

Sheriff Will Lewis is thrilled about the series feature and sees it as a groundbreaking opportunity for the public to see what really goes on in the eyes of law enforcement and what our deputies encounter during their day to day operations. As Sheriff Lewis suggests, "This is an opportunity for the Greenville County Sheriff's Office to fulfill our obligation of transparency." The Sheriff's Office is thankful to A&E and hopes the public will use this resource to grasp a better understanding of what the men and women in law enforcement face each day.

Sen. Scott accepting intern applications

U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) has announced he is accepting congressional internship applications for available positions in his North Charleston, Columbia and Greenville offices for the summer of 2017. The internship program offers undergraduate and graduate students practical experience in constituent services and government policy. The internship provides students with the ability to work with and learn from public service professionals. All internships are unpaid, but students will learn valuable work experience and skills throughout their internship that will help them gain a better understanding of how their government functions.

In the South Carolina Offices, interns will take an active role in the community, working on state-based projects of importance, while also answering phones, completing research and other projects, and being an integral part of day-to-day office operations. State office interns have the ability to assist with issues that are personally affecting our citizens.

Internship hours are flexible to accommodate students' course schedules, but can generally run 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Interested South Carolina students should contact the internship coordinator at internships@scott.senate.gov.

Williamston Police Report

Williamston Police Officers investigated the following incidents:

Feb. 28 - Palmetto High School reported a vandalism incident in which an anonymous person spray painted various sayings in multiple locations using blue spray paint. Damage was estimated at \$1500. J. Sargent, Sgt. L. E. Mulz investigated.

Feb. 28 - Stop and Go, 103 Greenville Dr., Williamston reported a vandalism incident in which the following was written on the wall: 'with god went the ghost. Now all we have to haunt us is the truth'. There was a heart at the end of the statments with the letter (qua) signed at the end. The individual used blue spray paint. Damage was estimated at \$100. Sgt. L. E. Mulz investigated.

Feb. 28 - 2 N., Hamilton reported a vandalism incident in which the following was written on the wall in blue spray paint: "all presidents murder". Sgt. L. E. Mulz investigated.

Feb. 28 - Unity Mortuary, 110 N. Hamilton St., Williamston reported a vandalism incident in which three statements were spray painted on the wall in blue paint including: "Death is Life . . . Being means not being . . ." On the opposite side of the building: "gods gone. Love the truth . . . qua" and "with god went the ghosts. Now all we have to fear is the truth" Sgt. L. E. Mulz investigated.

Mar. 2 - Stephen Michael Dodaro, 24, 1010 Jessamine Rd, #4, Lexington , SC was issued a trespass notice for the Career & Technology Center, 702 Belton Highway after officers were dispatched to the location in reference to a possibly intoxicated male at the front door. Medshore EMS was on the scene speaking with Dodaro, who stated he and his girlfriend got into an argument and he left walking and slept there that night. Dodaro stated his back hurt and that he wished to go to the hospital. Sgt. L. E. Mulz investigated.

Mar. 30 - Kenneth Rogers, 619 Greenville Dr., Williamston reported a trailer valued at \$2500 that was parked at New Prospect Baptist Church was stolen. The enclosed black trailer was valued at \$5500. T. L. Eichelberger investigated.

Mar. 2 - Christopher Robert Kranz, 32, 23 Main St., Pelzer reported a 2000 Nissan Altima left at a location on S. Academy St., was being driven without his knowledge. According to

reports Kranz did not know the vehicle was being driven until he received a bill from the Southern Connector for \$151.25 in fees. The keys had been left in the vehicle which was valued at \$2200.

Mar. 1 - Jacob Benjamin Crocker, 29, 1822 White St., Anderson was arrested for outstanding bench warrant after WPD was notified that he was incarcerated at the ACDC. M. Eddleman investigated.

Mar. 1 - John Terry Carlton, 43, 5 Reed St., Pelzer was served an outstanding bench warrant after WPD was notified that he was incarcerated at the ACDC. M. Eddleman investigated.

Mar. 3 - Joshua Allen Mitchell, 30, 285 Roosevelt Dr., Piedmont was arrested and facing charges of receiving stolen goods after officers were dispatched to Save Way, 310 E. Main St. Williamston in reference to a suspicious person. According to reports he was acting suspicious and had a white substance around his mouth. He drove across the roadway and was sitting in a white SUV next to a red Mustang in the China 1 parking lot. Officers pulled into the parking lot and approached the vehicle, finding a machette wedged between the instument panel of he vehicle and the door. Upon investigation it was found that the vehicle was stolen out of Anderson County. Mitchell was taken into custody and transported to ACDC where he was placed on hold pending an arrest warrant. A warrant was obtained in Williamston for receiving stolen goods, value more than \$2000 but less than \$10,000. The warrant was served at the ACDC. Sgt. L. E. Mulz investigated.

Feb. 4 - John Christian Farmer, Sr., reported unauthorized used of an ATM card in which \$320 in food was purchased at the Clock, 307 E. Main St. The incident remains under investigation. E. Bonnett investigated.

Mar. 6 - Robert Dillon Riley, 22, 417 Glenwood St., Belton was arrested for simple possession , possession of drug paraphernalia and diregarding a traffic control device after a black SUV was observed on Mattison St., which is a closed road. According to reports, Riley gave officers a white baggy with a leaf like substance and a multi colored glass stem. During inventory of the vehicle, a metal grinder that contained a green leafy substance field tested positive as marijuana was found. Riley was cited uniform tickets and ransported to ACDC without incident. B. K. Creel investigated.

Anderson District One

School Board approves personnel

The Anderson School District One Board of Trustees approved the following personnel recommendations during their recent meeting at Powdersville High School:

Administrative - Robbie Binnicker, Assistant Superintendent for Administration; Jane Harrison, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum; Becky Brady, Director of Personnel; Deborah Joye, Director of Nutrition Services; Travis Thomas, Director of Finance; Dr. Brian Keith, Director of Special Services; Lisa Cassidy, Director of Planning and Development; Christie Shealy, Director of Testing; Andria Hancock, Director of Technology; Chris Lesley, Director of Maintenance.

Leave - Lindsay Nix, Art Teacher, Powdersville Elementary.

Recommendations - Randee Dorontich, Spanish, Wren High; Anthony Frate, Science, Wren High; Diana Garcia, Resource, West Pelzer Elementary; Maggie Garland, SC OI/DD, Palmetto Elementary; Sarah Harbaugh, Resource, Palmetto Elementary; Ryan Norton, SC LD, Powdersville High; Lindsey Owen, Resource; Palmetto Elementary; Kristan Penland, Art, Wren Middle; Krystin Vargo, Palmetto Elementary.

Resignation - Carla Nash, Media Specialist, West Pelzer Elementary; Corey Davis,

Grade 7 Math, Palmetto Middle.

Retirement - Sharon South-erlin, Speech Pathologist, Spearman Elementary.

Transfers - Lisa Brown, Fifth Grade, Palmetto Elementary to Sixth Grade Teacher, Palmetto Middle. Tamara Cox, Instructional Technologist, will transfer to Media Specialist at Wren High. Nadia Granger, LD Resource, Palmetto Elementary School to Classroom, Palmetto Elementary. Katie Howard, 5 ESOL, Cedar Grove Elementary, 5 LAUNCH, West Pelzer Elementary will transfer to 1.0 teacher at West Pelzer Elementary. Amy Lanford, Sixth Grade, Wren Middle to Fifth Grade Teacher, Hunt Meadows Elementary.

Also Shannon McCombs, Fourth Grade, Spearman Elementary to Sixth Grade Teacher at Powdersville Elementary. Tracy Payne, Fifth Grade, Hunt Meadows Elementary, will transfer to Media Specialist at Palmetto Elementary. Joanna Watkins, Social Studies, Palmetto High, will transfer to Media Specialist at Palmetto High. Kristi White, Speech Pathologist at Concrete Primary and Powdersville Middle to Speech Pathologist, Spearman Elementary School. Ashley Williams, Sixth Grade, Palmetto Middle to Fourth Grade Powdersville Elementary.

Growth . . . Town . . .

(Continued from Page 1)
Anderson County since 2015 are from other states, while more than twenty five per cent are from overseas.

Sixty per cent of the population is between eighteen and sixty four years of age, while thirteen per cent are sixty five or older. The remaining twenty seven per cent are seventeen years old or younger. For the most part, the county's population is also aging at a significant rate, with the median age rising by almost five years between census reports.

PBA to meet Mar. 21

The Palmetto Business Association will meet March 21 at 12 noon at Fiesta Mexican Restaurant in Williamston.

The meeting is expected to be about one hour.

Agenda items include Clay Shoot (April 21), Easter Egg Hunt (April 7), and Party in the Park. The guest speaker for the April After-Hours Event will also be announced.

For more information contact Blake Sanders President, Palmetto Business Association, PO Box 503 Williamston, 29697 or email president@palmettobusiness.org

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



Graduates MASC Institute

Mayor Bill Young, Municipal Association of South Carolina president, congratulates Pelzer Councilmember Kimberly Wilson on her graduation of the Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government.

Pelzer Councilmember

Wilson graduates Elected Officials Institute

Councilmember Kimberly Wilson from the Town of Pelzer has graduated from the Municipal Associaton of South Carolina (MASC) Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government. Graduates received their certificates during the Municipal Association of South Carolina's Hometown Legislative Action Day.

Established in 1986, the Institute is a program of the Municipal Association of South Carolina that gives municipal officials a strong foundation in the operation of local government. Participants learn about the role of elected officials and administrative staff and the relationships municipal officials have with other local governments, the state and federal government. The Institute includes two daylong sessions and three evening sessions.

"For more than 30 years, the Association has encouraged local elected officials to participate in the Institute, whether they are newly elected or have served for a while," said Miriam Hair, executive director of the Municipal Association. "This Institute gives elected leaders with diverse personal and professional backgrounds an understanding and overview of the details of running a local government."

Officials participate in more than 25 hours of classroom work in order to graduate from the Institute. Highlights of topics covered during the sessions include the Freedom of Information Act, ethics and accountability, budgeting, planning and zoning, human resources and economic development.

The Institute draws its faculty from recognized local government leaders in South Carolina and other states, state officials, faculty and staff of the state's colleges and universities, and other guest lecturers.

In 2013, the Association began offering credited, on-demand course as part of the Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government.

The Advanced Institute, begun in 2014, provides elected officials who have graduated from the MEO Institute with an option for continuing education through classroom instruction, interaction with experienced peers and case studies.

Through Envision Williamston

Facade Improvement Grants now available

The Town of Williamston through the Envision Williamston economic development program is now taking applications for Facade Improvement Grants.

Funding for the program is provided through the Palmetto Business Association in partnership with The Municipal Association of South Carolina and Envision Williamston (EW).

The Facade Improvement Grant Program (FIGP) will provides financial assistance to commercial property owners and business owners within the town limits.

According to Envision Williamston Executive Director Sonya Crandall, the purpose of the FIGP is to support the revitalization of the Town's commercial corridors by stimulating private investment in high-quality improvements that enhance the appearance of buildings and properties and eliminate blight and non-conforming design standards.

The program provides for a one-time reimbursement grant with the amount not to exceed \$2,000 with the business owner providing a match of 50%.

Improvements eligible for a grant include exterior cosmetic and/or structural building improvements, painting, signage, windows, and awnings which are visible from the street.

Applications for the Facade Improvement Grant Program will be accepted through April 28, 2017, Crandall said.

Owners of commercial buildings in the Town of Williamston are eligible. Business owners/managers who are leasing a building for which improvements are proposed can also apply but must submit a letter from the property owner giving consent and approval of proposed project plans.

For more information: www.envisionwilliamston.com or contact Sonya at sonyacew@gmail.com

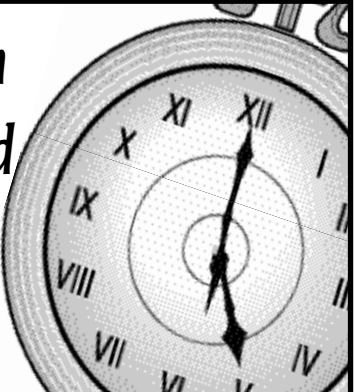
Boys Soccer

Palmetto 0-2 on the week

The Palmetto Varsity Boys Soccer Team traveled to Emerald on Thursday, March 2 and lost 1-4.

On Monday, March 6, the Mustangs hosted conference rival Powdersville. Chase Froedge had a season high 21 saves in their 0-1 loss.

Don't forget to turn
your clocks ahead
1 hour this Sat.
night, March 11



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TOO LATE

TO CLASSIFY

YARD SALE, SATURDAY, March 11, 2017, 206 Maple Park Drive, Williamston, 8 am - until - Cherry finish computer desk \$30, wood and metal desk with 2 drawer file cabinet \$30, High Point leather chair \$300, [A name-brand] Real Cherry-wood round dining table and 4 chairs \$400, sturdy glass TV table \$50, exercise body-lifter \$30, miscellaneous household items, young lady clothing \$1 per item, young men clothing \$1 per item, air purifiers \$5 each, much more!!!! - No early birds, cancel if rain.

- Weddings
- Engagements
- Announcements

- Birthdays
- Reunions

Happenings

Williamston Church of Christ Spring Gospel meeting March 19-21

The Williamston Church of Christ, located at 408 Mauldin Street, will hold their Spring Gospel Meeting March 19-21. Sunday Bible study begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by morning worship at 10:30 a.m. The sermon toic is “God’s Plan for Spiritual Health.” A fellowship meal will follow the morning service. Sunday evening service will be at 6 p.m. entitled “Growing A Holy Church.” Monday evening service will be at 7 p.m. with the topic of “You Can Understand The Bible.” Luke 4:1-4. Tuesday evening service will be at 7 p.m. with the topic “We Need The Church.” Acts 20:32. Serving the Williamston Church of Christ are Brother Don Votaw and his wife Dee, originally from Kentucky, they now live in Anderson. He has a BA degree in Business and many hours of designed study of the Bible including All Nations Bible Study Center. He

retired from the tire industry and held a number of senior management positions. He has served as an elder in the church and served several small congregations preaching the gospel. His wife Deanna Hollar Votow is a supporter and has assisted in many endeavors of the work in the church. They have one daughter, Gina Pierce and three grandsons. Brother Keaton Pearce is from Lexington, KY. He and his wife Kyla live in Anderson. He attended the University of Kentucky and transferred to Clemson University. He has been preaching at various congregations during the past four years along with missionary work in Honduras and Eastern Kentucky. He is self-employed and is now serving the Williamston Church of Christ full time. He has also been on staff of the Rolling Hills Bible Camp as well as the Palmetto Bible Camp for over a decade.

Mill Town Players receive Regional Recognition

This past weekend, the cast and crew of the award-winning Mill Town Players production of Of Mice and Men traveled to Lexington, KY, to represent South Carolina in the Southeastern Theatre Conference Community Theatre Festival. They compete against 14 productions from nine other states. The show was performed to a full house at the Downtown Arts Center in Lexington and received positive feedback from the three adjudicators. The team won 3rd place overall and was named as the alternate production. The top two plays will advance to nationals this summer. Of Mice and Men was also recognized in several categories including Outstanding Achievement in Ensemble Acting, Directing (Christopher Rose), Acting (Brock Koonce), Set Design (Will Ragland), Lighting Design (Ashley Pit-

man), and Costumes (Sissy Beck). While attending the festival, MTP stage manager Libby Crews was elected Vice Chair of the Community Theatre Festival and will assist next year at SETC in Mobile, AL. Mill Town Players Executive Artistic Director Will Ragland is this year’s Chair of the Community Theatre Division of the Theatre Association and will run the 2017 SCTA Community Theatre Festival in Aiken, SC, this November. Mill Town Players will reveal its Season 4 this Saturday, March 11, at 7:30pm at a ticketed event including light refreshments, music, and sneak peeks at the six productions planned for the 2017-18 season at the Pelzer Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at www.milltownplayers.org or by calling 947-8000 and leaving a message.

Remembering Bob Sloan

by Mike Matthews Most of us knew Bob Sloan as a gifted singer, a devoted Christian, a loving family man, or a caring and selfless friend to many. I personally knew him as all of those. Bob had a voice and a talent for singing, and he blessed many people with them throughout his life. He sang in many churches and communities, and was perhaps best known for his numerous and popular appearances on WGS-TV 16, a Christian television station in Greenville. Whether it was as a guest on the station’s ‘Nightline’ program, which he often hosted or co-hosted with his wife Townie, or in a similar role on another Channel 16 production, ‘Down Home Gospel’, he blessed thousands with his singing and testimony. Bob was always sharing his testimony, on television, in church, in small groups, or in one-on-one conversations. He wanted everyone he came in contact with to know about his Lord and Savior. His second love in life, was his family. He loved and cherished his sweet wife Townie, his children and grandchildren, his siblings, and all of his many other relatives. Bob was always reaching out to others and wanting to help them any way he could. He was always putting others and their needs before himself and his own needs. Even as his health steadily declined, and he wasn’t able to be ‘out and about’ like he would have liked, Bob still witnessed through his courage and faith. He had complete trust in God’s will for him. Bob Sloan is now with his Lord, and will be missed by all of us. But his testimony will live on forever.

Anderson Co. Library

How-To Fair

March 25

The Anderson County Library will host its Third Annual How-To Fair on March 25.

Dog training, chain maille jewelry, becoming a Foster Parent, and backpacking are just a few of the topics visitors can learn about.

Community members will offer brief demonstrations of hobbies and crafts, while county organizations and businesses will be on hand with information about accomplishing personal goals and ambitions.

The fair will be held from 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at the Main Library, 300 N. McDuffie St.

Grace UMC

Potato

supper

March 10

Grace United Methodist Church will have a Loaded Baked Potato and salad supper on Friday, March 10 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Drinks and dessert are included.

When a man does not know what harbor he is making for, no wind is the right wind. - Seneca



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GOSPEL MEETING

The Williamston Church of Christ invites everyone to attend the Spring Gospel Meeting

MARCH 19-21, 2017

- † At this time we wish to introduce and welcome Don Votaw and Keaton Pearce as they began serving the Williamston congregation December 1, 2016.
- † Sunday Bible Study begins at 9:30A.M.
- † Sunday A.M. worship at 10:30A.M. Sermon Title: “God’s Plan For Spiritual Health.” (A fellowship Meal is planned following the A.M. worship.)
- † Sunday 6:00P.M. Sermon Title: “Growing A Holy Church.”
- † Monday 7:00P.M. Sermon Title: “You Can Understand The Bible.” (Luke 4:1-4)
- † Tuesday 7:00P.M. Sermon Title: “We Need The Church.” (Acts 20:32)

408 Mauldin Street - Williamston



Follow Us

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Belton Depot

Community craft and rummage sale Mar. 18

Join us Saturday, March 18, on the Belton Depot grounds from 8 am – 1 pm for the fifth annual BAMA Community Craft and Rummage Sale. “There are already 12 spots reserved by vendors,” stated organizer Alison Darby, “and we’re looking forward to having even more people to join us before the deadline of March 15.” On the rummage side of things, there are people selling costume jewelry, designer clothing, baby goods, tools, gently used furniture, sporting goods, electronics and games, and household décor. Crafters already signed up include representatives selling LuLaRoe clothing, Young Living essential oils, glass items, bows and wreaths, tile products, woodcrafts and swings, hand painted furniture, Scent-

sy products, and garden flags. There are still spots available for rent, \$10 per 10 x 10 space. Go by Wendell’s Country Store, the News Chronicle Office, or the Belton Depot in Belton or McCall’s Produce in Honea Path to pick up an application, or visit our Facebook page at Belton Area Museum Association. All booth fees benefit the Belton Area Museum Association’s educational outreach programs. Vendors keep all profits. For more information, please call Alison Darby at 864-958-5264 or Abigail Burden, BAMA Executive Director, at 864-338-7400. “We’re eager to have people come shop for handcrafted Easter and Mother’s Day gifts and great yard sale treasures,” Darby added.

SPRING 2017 GRIEF SUPPORT CLASS

Are you struggling with loss of your cherished loved one? Are you having difficulty finding companions who really understand? Are you looking for practical tools to help you cope? Join us for 10 Weekly sessions to help you cope and adjust with the painful reality of deep loss in the presence of those who are or have been where you are. We focus on basic principles and tools using Alan Wolfelt’s 5-star book, Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing. EASLEY Weekly, April 6 - June 8, Thursdays, 11 am – 12:30 Downtown: “Williams” House between Robinson Funeral Home and Easley Presbyterian Church; 108 South 1st Street GREENVILLE Weekly, April 4 - June 6, Tuesdays, 5:30 to 7 pm 5 Century Dr.; Suite 220; Office Building: “Century at Keith Office Park”; Door Sign: “Service Corp International” Corner of Keith Drive and Century Drive (Off I-385, by way of Exit 40) SPARTANBURG Weekly, April 5 - June 7, Wednesdays, 1:00– 2:30 pm “The Juice Bar” at St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church, 400 Dupre Drive Sign-up Online or by phone or email: www.hospicegriefsupport.com Contact Tonya Taylor @864-627-7049 or Tonya.Taylor@interimcares.com

Spring translates earth’s happiness into colorful flowers. - Terri Guillemets

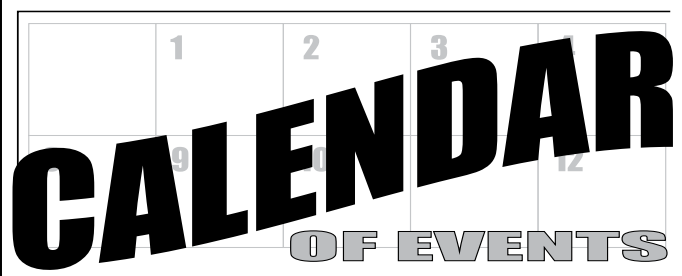
Caroline Community Center available as local venue

The Caroline Community Center at 1 School Street in Williamston serves and accommodates local and nearby citizens. It provides a site for weddings, receptions, reunions, gospel concerts, birthday celebrations, anniversaries, group meetings and other appropriate occasions. The building has an auditorium that will seat a capacity of 200, a dining room seating a capacity of 84 persons. To reserve your calendar date for the center and receive additional information, call (864) 245-2517. “Remember we are here to serve and accommodate all of our citizens.”

Get your business cards, flyers, menus or invitations printed at

The Journal 847-7361

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COMING EVENTS

March 1 - June - Oxycise classes, Piedmont Wesleyan Church, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Family Life Center, 504 Anderson Street, Piedmont. For more info call 777-0792.
March 8 - Third Annual How-To Fair, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Anderson County Library, 300 N. McDuffie St. Dog training, chain maille jewelry, becoming a Foster Parent, and backpacking are just a few of the topics visitors can learn about. Community members will offer brief demonstrations of hobbies and crafts, while county organizations and businesses will have information about accomplishing personal goals and ambitions.
March 10 - Loaded Baked Potato and salad supper, Grace United Methodist Church, 5:30 p.m. Drinks and dessert included.
March 18 - Boy Scout Troop 356 fundraiser yard sale, 7 a.m., Grace United Methodist Church. Hot dog and camp cards will also be sold.
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.

MEETINGS

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.

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.



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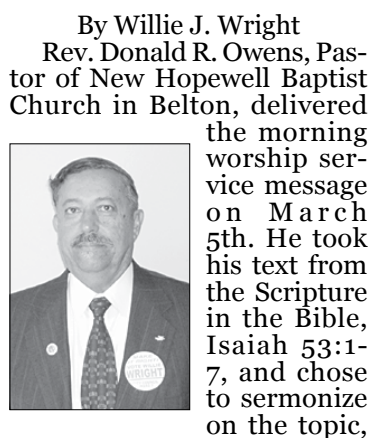


Tasting spring water

The 33 class of Leadership Anderson was given an overview of the town's history and of how it was founded around the spring which is thought to have medicinal purposes. Mayor Mack Durham served water from an old ladle to the participants. Most commented on the taste, comparing it to like "licking a penny" due to the high iron and mineral content.

New Hopewell News

Women's Ministry meets Saturday



By Willie J. Wright
Rev. Donald R. Owens, Pastor of New Hopewell Baptist Church in Belton, delivered the morning worship service message on March 5th. He took his text from the Scripture in the Bible, Isaiah 53:1-7, and chose to sermonize on the topic, "Standing in the Favor of God."

God said if you do what He tells you, then you will be blessed. On the other hand if you don't obey Him you will be cursed. If you have breath in your lungs, then God has blessed you. You have freedom to do wrong, but if you have been born again you will know what is right. The prophet told what would happen a long time before Jesus was born. God's calendar is not like ours. God knows what you have and what you are going through. God allowed His Son to die for

us. We walk, talk and breathe in favor of the Lord every day. This chapter in the Bible portrayed Jesus as the "Suffering Servant" who gave His life to secure redemption for others. We are standing in the favor of God.

The sanctuary choir of the church visited the Residential home on last Monday evening.

The Women's Ministry meeting will be held on Saturday, March 11th at the church, 10:30 a.m.

Dorothy Mattison, during children's church on last Sunday morning, emphasized to attendants a Scripture in the Bible, Ezekiel 36:26.

"God's Overflowing Love" will be the main topic for discussion on March 12th, during Sunday School. The scripture lesson can be found by reading Ephesians 2:1-10 in the Bible.

Ephesians was written by apostle Paul while he was in prison. He reminded Ephesian believers of the wonder of their salvation in Christ. They were dead in their trespasses and sins, but God redeemed them and filled their lives with

joy. This came about solely through God's grace, not because of any goodness or good works on their part.

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.

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

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

Thought for the week: "Even when we were dead in sins, God hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved)" - Ephesians 2:5

Note: Don't forget to set your clock one hour ahead on Saturday night because Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 12.

Mt. Pleasant News

Women's Day is March 12th

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.

Pastor Mattison's topic was "God Wants You Back!" Ephesians 4:11-14. God wants us back because He is the primary owner and He created us, He paid an offering for us, and He planned to make us brand new!

The Exchanged Life Sundays at 3:30 p.m. WGGSTV16 Host: Rev. Tony Taylor Co-Host: Rev. S. Andrew Mattison.

MPBC Bible study Wednesday's 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!

MPBC Women's Day will be held the 2nd Sunday in March (12). We ask all women to wear white. The speaker will be Rev. Doris Gray of Anderson. We are asking for \$75 Assessment.

School of Methods will be March 19-24 at Welfare B.C., 2106 Bolt Drive, Belton. March 19th is the opening night and praise and worship will begin at 4pm. The other nights class will be from 6:15-8:15 pm.

Remember them in prayer our sick and shut-in members, 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 BIRTHDAYS: 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: Never put a question mark, where God has placed a period.

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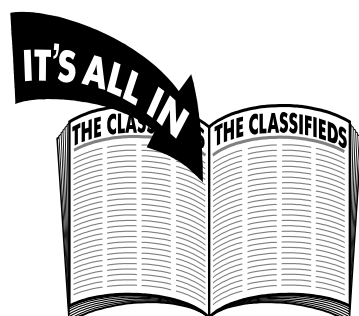
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Obituaries

PATRICIA HUGHES LOCKABY

Patricia Ann Hughes Lockaby, 82, of Easley, and wife of James E. Lockaby, died Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

Born in Liberty, she was a daughter of the late Connie Hughes and Blanche Hughes. She was a member of United Wesleyan Church.

Surviving in addition to her husband; are two daughters, Gloria Parker of Easley and Nancy Evatt of Greenville; sister, Nancy Lois Shulik of Pickens; and two brothers, Leroy Hughes of Easley and Samuel Hughes of Piedmont.

Funeral services were held Friday, March 3 in the chapel of Robinson Funeral Home-Downtown. Burial followed in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to the building fund of United Wesleyan Church, 738 Rice Road, Easley, SC 29640.



SHANE M. GOODWIN

Shane M. Goodwin was born January 3, 1970 and died February 25, 2017. He was 47 years old.

He is survived by his mother Edith August and Step-Father Dennis August Sr. of Belton, SC. He is also survived by his father, James Goodwin, Sr. and step-mother, Mary Jo Goodwin of Chucky, TN.

Also, Shane has one brother, James Goodwin, Jr. and one step-brother, Dennis August, Jr.; one sister, Danelle Goodwin; one step-sister, Tracy August; two daughters, Katelynn Goodwin and Alyssa Goodwin; and one son, Jordan Mastri; daughter-in-law, Electa Maestri; one granddaughter, Baylee Maestri; three grandsons, Kayen Goodwin, Logan and Joey Maestri; and several aunts, cousins, neices, and nephews.

**PEGGY EATON
FLORENCE C. GILLIAM
SHANE M. GOODWIN
BETTY HOLCOMBE
BETHEL HOWARD
KELLEY
LINDA KELLEY
PATRICIA HUGHES
LOCKABY**

PEGGY EATON

Peggy Conwell Eaton, 65, of Belton, died Sunday, March 5, 2017.

Born in Anderson, she was a daughter of Dorothy Threlkeld Nimmons of Belton and the late Thomas Ansel Conwell. A homemaker, she was a member of Faith Baptist Church in Honea Path.

In addition to her mother, she is survived by her children, Stephanie, Cindy, and Jo Don; sisters, Judy Diane Dooley, and Deborah Browning.

Funeral service was held Tuesday, March 7, at Faith Baptist Church, Honea Path. Burial followed at Graceland Cemetery West, Greenville.

LINDA KELLEY

Linda Gail Smith Kelley, of Williamston, wife of Mike Kelley, died Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Born in Belton, she was a daughter of the late Guy William and Ella Page Smith. She was retired from Michelin and was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

In addition to her husband, survivors include sons, Tracy Watkins and Chris Watkins, both of Williamston; step-daughter, Shanna Kelley of Simpsonville; sister, Gatha Rainey of Williamston; special niece, Denise Lollis; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was held Monday, March 6, in the Chapel of Gray Mortuary.

BETHEL HOWARD KELLEY

Bethel Ellen Howard Kelley, of Pickens County, widow of Namon Kelley, died Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at her home.

Born in Pickens County, she was a daughter of the late Rufus and Mattie Boren Howard.

She was a member of Mountain View Baptist Church.

Surviving are daughters, Jayne Ellicott of Mt. Pleasant, Carolyn Hughes of Powdersville, and Beth Kohout of Easley; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial service was held Sunday, March 5 at Mountain View Baptist Church. A private burial followed.

Memorials may be made to the Mountain View Baptist Church, 336 Mountain View Church Road, Six Mile, SC 29682.

FLORENCE C. GILLIAM

Florence Elizabeth Campbell Gilliam, of Piedmont, wife of the late Louis Gilliam, died March 2, 2017 at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

Born in Travelers Rest, she was the daughter of the late Colenzo Kerr Campbell and Adell Payne Campbell.

She was employed at East Gantt Elementary School and was a member of West Gantt First Baptist Church.

She is survived by daughter, Marlene Smith of Simpsonville; son, Wayne Gilliam of Louisville, KY; and daughter, Dana Rhinehart of Easley; eight grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren;

Funeral services were held Sunday, March 5 at West Gantt First Baptist Church. Interment followed at Greenville Memorial Gardens.

Memorials may be made to West Gantt First Baptist Church, 1452 White Horse Road, Greenville, SC 29605.



Vehicle overturns

A vehicle overturned on Cooley Bridge Road last Wednesday evening near Kelly Road. The vehicle struck a fire hydrant, breaking it off. Greenville County EMS treated the occupant at the scene. Traffic was able to pass with one lane open. (Photo by David Rogers)



Hwy. 29 collision

Whitefield firefighters await state troopers to finish their investigation into a near head on collision on Highway 29 near Breazeale Road Thursday night. The two vehicles collided sending one of them off the roadway. The southbound lane of Highway 29 was closed for nearly an hour until the wreckage was cleared. (Photo by David Rogers)

Beaverdam News

Men build walk way ramps for handicapped

By Catherine Weaver

March 5 was chilly and windy, typical March weather. It was nice to walk across from the parking lot and get into the warm, welcoming church. I was running a little late for choir, but I went to join the choir anyway. We were a little small in number, but we put our hearts into the music. There was not a special this morning. However, Jenni Dorriety our pianist made up for the no special with the most ethereal, beautiful offertory. Even Preacher Chris Huff commented on the beauty of the sounds of that song when he stood up to preach. Jenni can play that offertory every Sunday. I just closed my eyes and listened.

Preacher Huff thanked our men for working three afternoons to build a handicapped walk way into his grandmother's house. Our men have been faithful to many in the community who have need of handicapped walkways. I was proud that our men were able to help Preacher Chris build one for his grandmother. As our community ages, there are more needs for handicapped

ramps. This is one way that our church has helped when there was a need in the community. This was Beaverdam's mission in action this week. Thanks, Beaverdam men.

Our worship service message came from Jude 1: 16–19. Preacher Chris entitled the message “The Traps of False Christianity.” When we make an assessment of teachers, preachers, and leaders, there are several screening questions we can ask ourselves. What characteristics do they embody? What is their motivation? How can we guard ourselves? By assessing those around us, we can eliminate threats to our Christianity. On Sunday night Preacher Chris spoke on, “What Is Our Christian Duty?” He used Matthew 28: 18–20.

In my Sunday school class JOY, we remembered to mention Preacher Josh Taylor. This was Josh's first Sunday in his new church. I pray that his ministry will be successful, his sermons will be enlightening, and his family will integrate into the church and community seamlessly. Our class was in 1 John for our lesson. We reviewed the doctrine of John 3: 16, defined love according to Corinthians: 13 and the power of love in our day to day walk. With Christ at the center of our lives, we are mandated to love one another remembering that God is Love. This is a powerful lesson to remember as we live our daily lives. Amy Weaver visited our class to bring some “friendship” bracelets that her GA's are finger weaving to make money for Annie Armstrong offering. The GA's are reminding us that our special offering is right around the calendar corner. Get prepared

to love others through our home missionaries. We can buy these bracelets from the GA's at 25 cents each. This is mission in action GA style.

We enjoyed hamburger plates with baked beans and chips after church. This was a fundraiser for Outdoors Ministry Banquet. Everything was delicious!

Sunday afternoon we met for choir practice. We are working on Victorious: A Multigenerational Easter Celebration. Two of our children joined us to sing their solo parts, and Brandee Lewis sang her solo part. Next week we meet with the whole children's choir and put the whole musical together. I just wish that we could practice music for each Sunday, and we could have good Sunday specials again. This Easter celebration will be presented on Easter Sunday. The time and whether we will have Sunday school on Easter Sunday will be announced later. The production will be big and musically loud. We have adult choir, children's choir, piano, organ, and canned music. This should present a production to remember. Make plans to join us on Easter for this production. Preacher Chris Huff will speak after the choirs present VICTORIOUS led by James Arcuri. James has worked very hard on this and I am praying that it will be all that James hopes it will be.

Tuesday night our ministry wMu meets in the Lowery Building at 6 PM. Darlene Reid is our host. Daylight Savings Time begins March 12...spring forward. Visit Beaverdam soon where members become missionaries. See you soon.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILING AND ELECTION

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF ANDERSON

Candidate Filing Period:

The candidate filing period for State Senate District 3 Special Election for Anderson County will open at noon on February 10, 2017, and close at noon on February 21, 2017. Any candidate seeking a political party's nomination for this office must file with the county board of voter registration and elections in the candidate's county of residence during this period.

Filing Location:

Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Anderson County, 301 N. Main Street, Anderson, SC 29621

Filing Hours:

Weekdays: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
Weekends: None

Filing Form: The Statement of Intention of Candidacy & Party Pledge (SICPP) form required for filing is available in the "Candidate Information" section of scVOTES.org and at the county voter registration and elections office.

Filing Fee:

The filing fee for this office is \$364.00. Filing fees are paid at the time of filing by candidates seeking the nomination of a party nominating by primary. Filing fee checks should be made payable to the appropriate state political party. A candidate seeking the nomination of a party nominating by convention does not pay a filing fee.

State Ethics Filings: Candidates are required to file a Statement of Economic Interests and a Campaign Disclosure online with the State Ethics Commission at <http://ethics.sc.gov>. Failure to file these documents may result in a candidate fine but will not disqualify a candidate from the election. Contact the State Ethics Commission for more information.

Notice of Primary:

If at the close of filing a party primary is necessary to determine the party nominee (multiple candidates file for a party nomination), a primary will be held on April 11, 2017. Any necessary runoffs will be held on April 25, 2017. Any person wishing to vote in these primaries and runoffs must be registered no later than Sunday, March 12, 2017. The Special Election will be held on May 30, 2017.

At 9:00 a.m. on the day of the primary and the day of the runoff, the County Board of Voter Registration and Elections will begin its examination of the absentee ballot return envelopes at Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Anderson County, 301 N. Main Street, Anderson, SC 29621

On Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. the County Board of Canvassers will hold a hearing to determine the validity of all provisional ballots cast in the primary. On Thursday, April 27, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. the County Board of Canvassers will hold a hearing to determine the validity of all provisional ballots cast in the runoff. These hearings will be held at Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Anderson County, 301 N. Main Street, Anderson, SC 29621

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

Precincts	Polling Place
Appleton-Equinox	Taylor Memorial Church Gymnasium 711 Glenn St, Anderson SC 29625
Bishop's Branch	Refuge Baptist Church 219 Refuge Church Rd, Central SC 29630
Bowling Green	Whitefield Fire Station 4000 Hwy 29 N, Belton SC 29627
Brushy Creek	Wren Middle School 1010 Wren School Rd, Piedmont SC 29673
Centerville Station A	Centerville Elementary School 1529 Whitehall Rd, Anderson SC 29625
Concrete	Concrete Primary School 535 Powdersville Main, Easley SC 29642
Denver-Sandy Springs	Sandy Springs Fire Station 740 Blackman Rd, Pendleton SC 29670
Edgewood Station A	The Carpenter's Church 1610 Pearman Dairy Rd, Anderson SC 29625
Five Forks	Lebanon Baptist Ch Activity Building 5150 Gentry Rd, Anderson SC 29621
Fork No. 1	Oakdale Baptist Church 6724 Hwy 24, Townville SC 29689
Fork No. 2	Double Springs Fire Station 2601 Old Dobbins Bridge Rd, Townville SC 29689
Green Pond Station A	New Prospect Bpt. Ch. Fellowship Hall 2503 Whitehall Rd, Anderson SC 29625
Hammond School	Midway Elementary School 1221 Harriett Cir, Anderson SC 29621
Hopewell	T. L. Hanna High School 2600 Hwy 81 N, Anderson SC 29621
LaFrance	LaFrance Elementary School 550 Williams St, Pendleton SC 29670
Melton	Mount Able Baptist Church 130 Mt. Able Church Rd, Pendleton SC 29670
Mount Tabor	Zion United Methodist Church 5708 Hwy 187, Anderson SC 29625
North Pointe	North Pointe Elementary School 3325 Highway 81 N, Anderson SC 29621
Pendleton	Pendleton Elementary School 902 E. Queen St, Pendleton SC 29670
Piercetown	Piercetown Fire Station 5150 Hwy 81 N, Williamston SC 29697
Rock Mill	Williford Fire Station 3738 Hwy 187 S, Anderson SC 29626
Three & Twenty	Three & Twenty Fire Station 1301 Three & Twenty Rd, Easley SC 29642
Townville	Townville Baptist Church 8816 Hwy 24, Townville SC 29689
Town Creek	Montessori School of Anderson 280 Sam McGee Rd, Anderson SC 29621

White Plains	White Plains Community Center 7431 Midway Rd, Pelzer SC 29669
Anderson 1/1	Whitehall Elementary School 702 Whitehall Rd, Anderson SC 29625
Anderson 1/2	Concord Elementary School 2701 Calrossie Rd, Anderson SC 29621
Anderson 2/1	Central Presbyterian Church 1404 North Boulevard, Anderson SC 29621
Anderson 2/2	McCants Middle School 2123 Marchbanks Ave, Anderson SC 29621
Anderson 6/1	Trinity United Methodist Church 1809 N Main St, Anderson SC 29621
Centerville Station B	Centerville Elementary School 1529 Whitehall Rd, Anderson SC 29625
Edgewood Station B	Anderson Christian Sch / Hope Fellowship 213 Brown Rd, Anderson SC 29621
Cox's Creek	Abiding Savior Lutheran Church 1905 E. Greenville St., Anderson SC 29621
Mt. Airy	Mt. Airy Baptist Church 210 Mt. Airy Church Rd, Easley SC 29642
Powdersville	Powdersville Middle School 135 Hood Rd, Greenville SC 29611
Glenview	Glenview Middle School 2575 Old Williamston Rd, Anderson SC 29621
Hammond Annex	Anderson Area YMCA 201 East Reed Rd, Anderson SC 29621
Center Rock	McLees Academy of Leadership 4900 Dobbins Bridge Rd, Anderson SC 29626
Hunt Meadows	Hunt Meadows Elementary School 420 Hunt Rd., Easley SC 29642
Absentee Voting	Registration and Elections 301 North Main St, Anderson SC 29621



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News from the Grove

Marching for Missions aids school in Kenya

by Bobby Partain
We hope you are enjoying this wonderful week that God has blessed us with. It's been warm enough to get outside during the day and yet cool enough to have a little fire at night. I have heard about lots of fire pits being used these last couple of weeks, enjoying the time outside and s'mores. What could be better?

We really enjoyed participating in the "Feed My Starving Children" event on Saturday. We had a group of 21 go to the packing day. We worked for 2 hours with other groups from area churches in Pelzer, and packed 78 boxes. This will feed 46 children for a year. Not a bad days work. It shows how big of an impact you can have in a short amount of time. The youth that went skipped some cartoons and were able to help out in a big way.

We had "First Sunday" this past week and enjoyed an energetic group of children. We learned about trusting in God to protect us. Pastor Mike spoke about grace this week. Grace is a Greek word and is something you extend to your friends, not your enemies. But we were given Grace while yet sinners, and are able to be reconciled to God. As it says in Romans 5:1-2 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God." God gave us His grace, it was free to us but costly to God, because he gave His Son, as a sacrifice. We no

longer live under the law when we have accepted Christ but we live in Grace. James 4:6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud, but shows favor to the humble." Our hope is to live a life that is filled with grace that will attract others to God.

During this month we support "Marching for Missions." We give all monies raised in our Sunday School classes this month to help out our missions in the General Conference. This month we will be helping with TWIGA, our new school in Kenya.

We are looking forward to the Carolina Conference Women's Retreat, March 17-19, at Bonclarken Conference Center in Flat Rock, NC. Guthrie Grove is in charge of the Retreat this year, and our theme is "Lavender Springs: Where Women Rest in God's Faithfulness. If you are interested in attending please contact Nikki Farr and fill out a registration form. This is an inspiring and fun-filled event that is enjoyed by all who attend.

Happy Birthday to: Ansley Fricks, Reagan Smith, Nancy Clemones, Dean Durham, Karsen Hood, Matt Hooper, Olivia Martin, Kaitlin Stansell, Kaylee Mayberry, Lindsey Martin, Wesley McMinn, and Will Spearman. Congrats to Drs. Robbie and Krista Timmerman on the birth of Caroline Ellis, on March 1st. Big sister Olivia welcomed her home. Joyce Davenport is the proud Grandmother, and also shares a birthday with Caroline.

Please continue to pray for

all of our sick or shut-in and also continue to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, as it says in Psalm 122:6 "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee."

Our verse of the week is one of our former Associate Pastor Jim Shaull's favorite verses. Jim was born and raised in Oklahoma, he is married to Cory Shaull and father of Jennifer (Aaron) Winner and Jamie Shaull, who is attending Atlanta Bible College. 1John 2:25 "And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life." This is an exciting verse because we have been promised eternal life. We look forward to receiving it when we are raised from the dead at the return of Jesus and will live forever in the Kingdom of God on the earth.

A little humor for the week: A man walked into a lawyer's office and asked about the fee. The lawyer responded" it's \$50 for 3 questions," "isn't that a lot asked the man" " yes" responded the lawyer....."and what's your third question?"

We hope you have a great week and we look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

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. 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.



Suspect wrecks stolen car

A suspect is taken into custody after a reported stolen car was spotted by police. The car was apparently stolen in West Pelzer Monday morning. The vehicle was seen Monday night and officers attempted to stop it. The driver did not stop before wrecking on Orr Street in Pelzer. He was taken into custody and was checked out by Pelzer EMS. (Photo by David Rogers)



Motorcyclist injured

SC State Trooper Westmoreland inspects a motorcycle after it collided with a vehicle Sunday night. The accident happened at the intersection of SC 86 and SC 81. Wren firefighters responded and assisted with patient care and traffic control. Pelzer EMS transported the motorcyclist to an area hospital. (Photo by David Rogers)



Driver escapes serious injury

The driver of a car escaped serious injury after the car he was driving overturned on Cheddar Road Thursday night. The accident happened near Lollis Tabernacle Road. One lane of Cheddar Road was closed until the wreckage was cleared. Cheddar firefighters assisted with traffic control. Medshore Ambulance Service also responded to the call. (Photo by David Rogers)

Open Door Community News

Ladies Open Hearts give party for Ellenburg residents

By Vicki Simpson
Verse of the Week: "Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead." John 11:13-14.

It was another glorious Sunday to be in the Lord's House. A lot of our sick folks who had been out were back and looking so much better and well. Please pray for those who are still feeling poorly and haven't quite gotten their strength back 100%. One of our young people actually got sick in church last Sunday and we pray she will be better soon.

Our Pastor was back and his mother got through a serious infection and is now trying to recover. We pray for her and her husband plus all the family members who are taking care of them.

After our praise and worship music, Eric Cantrell and I did a short skit to introduce a new song called, "You're Never Too Broken to Belong," sung by Faye Chapman. The skit and the song brought a message that no matter how much or how badly you have sinned, you are never too broken to not be a child of God. He forgives our sins, big or small. Always remember that.

Sunday's message came from John 11:1-14 which is the story of Lazarus' sickness

and death. Pastor Lloyd asked what are some of the things that the dead are not able to do and then compared it to the living Christians. In this scripture, Lazarus was not able to eat, but the children of God who are alive – do they hunger for the things of God or of this world? The dead are not active but are the living Christian people actively seeking God's Word and working for Him? Or, have we become spectators in the church and in the world. The dead have a lack of direction but do the living seek God's Plan for our lives? The dead have no love but we have a gift of expressing our love to others. Do we love God and others? So, I ask you. Are you dead in Christ or are you alive and answering God's call to be alive Spiritually and follow HIM?

The Ladies Open Hearts Group gave a party for the residents at Ellenburg Nursing Center who have birthdays in March. Only two had birthdays: Jean Sorrells on 3/14 and Sara McAdams on 3/4. Emma and Sara Gambrell sang a song and we all sang Happy Birthday to these two sweet ladies. Scripture was read and cake and ice cream were served. All in all, the residents and our ladies had a wonderful party. It was so special to visit these elderly people and

see their faces light up during this celebration. We were truly blessed when we left the nursing facility.

Donations for the children's playground is ongoing if you would like to give. Future fundraisers will be planned.

This week is the last week to sign-up and pay for the Couples Retreat in Gatlinburg, TN on 3/24 – 3/26. Everyone always has fun on these retreats. Thanks to our Pastor for putting together these yearly trips. So much fun. If you haven't been, you need to go at least one time. You will probably be hooked each year from then on.

Birthdays of the Week: Sara Gambrell (3/6), Donnie Epps (3/12)

Kids Joke of the Week: Q How do baseball players keep in touch? A) They touch base every once in a while.

Quote of the Week: Spiritual maturity isn't measured by how high you jump in praise but how straight you walk in obedience. – Author Unknown.

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.

Big Creek News

Church takes Annie Armstrong offering on March 12

By Gail Scott
Have you ever opened your Bible and wondered what a specific passage means? Have you ever wondered how a specific passage applies to your life? The Bible tells us how to handle the pressures of daily living.

Sunday Mrs. Pat Blackston was the shut-in of the week. Thanks to Mrs. Jewel Fousek for the beautiful spring flower arrangements.

In Pastor's Pals Pastor Ron took the children on a tour of the windows in the church. His sermon came from the second window; "Jesus and the sermon on the mount." Matthew 7:24-29. The window was given in memory of Mrs. Myrtle Campbell.

A big thank you goes out to Mandy Wilmont for taking

notes while I had children's church.

Once you have been saved, you are a member of the family of God. Well-grounded living starts with being born-again. Saved by the blood of Jesus. Jesus is the Rock. Everything should be based on Him. Your house, your family, should live for Jesus. Be founded on the Rock.

Be grounded in Jesus. The world will beat you up and try to pull you away from God.

Sunday evening Pastor Ron continued his study in the gospel in Genesis. Genesis 2:18-24. God wanted Adam to have a helpmate. God gave Adam a woman to be his wife.

Don't forget to turn your clocks up an hour next Saturday night. Spring forward.

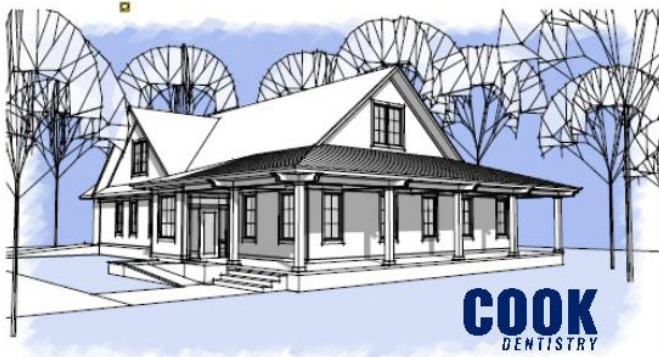
Next Sunday the offering will be taken up for Annie Armstrong. Our goal is \$1,500. Give to support missions.

Pray for Martha Timms in the death of her husband. Pray for Anne Taylor Earnest, Charles Black, Sara Cooley, Betty Knight, Dan Caldwell, Trish Watson, our shut-ins, our missionaries, our country, our towns, and those who do not know Jesus.

Come visit Big Creek. Watch us on YouTube. Pray for us.

Living with our Shih-Tzu is an adventure. She loves to go for rides. She will sit up in the car with her front paws up looking out. She enjoyed going to the inside yard sale at Shiloh Church in Piedmont. The ladies there know her and she enjoys the attention she gets.

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