



# News & Press

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## Public hearing shows support for new recreation complex plans

By Melissa Rollins  
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It is time for Darlington to put its differences aside and become a united community. That is the message that Darlington County Recreation and Tourism Director Lee Andrews told the audience at a public hearing Tuesday, April 25, regarding the latest plans for a recreation complex.

Andrews said that he has been working to get a complex the entire time he has worked in Darlington.

"This has been ongoing for four years; I can say that because I've been here for four years," Andrews said. "We have looked at different places around the city to find a tract big enough to put in everything that we could possibly want in one place. As we've searched, we had some good leads and some not so good leads; we had some opportunities and some missed opportunities. That has led us to where we are right now."

Andrews said that after attempts to find a site large

enough for all planned sports didn't pan out, he had to begin looking at other options.

"Four to six months ago, council charged me with thinking outside of the box in some of the locations that we were already using; this is what we have come up with," Andrews said. "Phase One would be the Virgil Wells Complex; Phase Two would be the Blue Street Complex. The plan is to play all baseball at the Virgil Wells Complex; all baseball. There will be no more two leagues; there will be one league in the

City of Darlington. All softball will be played at the Blue Street Complex."

After saying that there would be two complexes, one for baseball and one for softball, Andrew further explained his statement about having one baseball league.

"This is just Lee Andrews' opinion; this is coming from no one on council, this is coming from nobody with the city administration," Andrews said. "We have drug our feet long enough and we have had two recreation departments long

enough. Every time I get a complaint, it is 'What are you doing in my neighborhood' and 'What are you doing in my area.' It doesn't take someone to say that this town is divided; we have been divided for some time. It is time for us to not be divided anymore. This is a step in that direction."

After citizens had the opportunity to ask questions and voice their concerns, several council members spoke about the need for the complex.

Councilwoman Elaine Reed, who represents Ward 2,

HEARING ON 3A

"The idea for a recreational complex was perfect for me... because I knew that regardless of where it was, it would be beneficial to the citizens as well as the youth of Ward 2," Reed said. "My son was here from the time that he could sign up at the city recreation department. We have always had to travel; it wasn't even an issue. Wherever this park was going to be, I was all for it, whether we had to travel or not because that is what I have had to do."



Darlington Mayor Gloria C. Hines (seated) with (left to right) Leon Stokes Epworth of United Methodist Church, Steve Young of Freedom Methodist Church, Kevin Cauley of Darlington Presbyterian Church, Hunter Jordan of St. Matthews Church, Tim Coker of Central Baptist Church, and Rennie Johnson of First Baptist Church.

## Mayor Hines signs National Day of Prayer Proclamation

On April 25, Darlington Mayor Gloria C. Hines was joined by Leon Stokes Epworth of United Methodist Church, Steve Young of Freedom Methodist Church, Kevin Cauley of Darlington Presbyterian Church, Hunter Jordan of St. Matthews Church, Tim Coker of Central Baptist Church, and Rennie Johnson of First Baptist Church to officially proclaim Thursday, May 4, 2017 as National Day of Prayer in the City of Darlington.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

In Darlington, the event has been staged every year since 1988, with many of those ceremonies taking place on the Public Square. This year's National Day of Prayer ceremony will be held at noon on May

4 at Darlington Presbyterian Church, and will feature live music and patriotic observances. The event offers a chance for citizens and clergy to join together in prayer for the strength and prosperity of governments, schools, churches, and everyone in need of spiritual uplift.

All present at the proclamation signing hailed the dedication and hard work of former National Day of Prayer event organizer Marilyn Blackmon, now age 93, who has stepped

down from her duties after nearly thirty years.

The theme for this year's Day of Prayer is "For Your Great Name's Sake! Hear Us...Forgive Us...Heal Us!" and is inspired by the Bible passage Daniel 9:19.

Darlington Presbyterian Church is located at 311 Pearl Street. For more information on Darlington's National Day of Prayer ceremony, call (843) 393-4851. To learn more about the event, visit [www.NationalDayOfPrayer.org](http://www.NationalDayOfPrayer.org)

## Event offers a 'Taste' of local food, Pee Dee history

By Melissa Rollins  
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On May 13, the community is invited to the Taste of Society Hill for an evening of great food and a look at the history of the town.

Taste of Society Hill Committee Chairperson Melissa Burch said that the night is three events in one.

"This will be an open house for the Depot after all of the renovation work, we will have an awesome display of items about Society Hill and we get to eat," Burch said. "We knew that the Depot needed an opportunity to be shown off and that everyone had loved the Taste (when it was held before) so we just thought why not bring one back while we spotlight another."

A special part of the event came about through a partnership with the Darlington County Historical Commission. Director Brian Gandy has been working on compiling information about Society Hill and the people that brought it into existence.

"We are really excited," Gandy said. "We have already started doing an install. We are going to start with the earliest history of Society Hill, Long Bluff, Greenville (the precursor to Society Hill) and then of course we'll go into Society Hill Depot, ultimately ending up with information related to the incorporation of Society Hill."

Gandy said that some of the items that will be displayed by the commission would be returning to the community after a long absence.

"This will be the first time since about 1830 that the Morgan James Bible has been in Society Hill," Gandy said. "That is the oldest known document in existence in the Pee Dee."

With the proceeds from the Taste going toward historic preservation and the purchase of historical marker signs for two local churches, it seemed appropriate to create a historical display.

"It is going to work out to be almost 2,000 square feet of exhibit space," Gandy said. "It is going to be a massive exhibit and I am excited about it."

Having put so much time and energy into creating the exhibit, Gandy said that he wants to get more than one night of display out of it.

TASTE ON 3A

## DPD gives bikes as anti-bullying prizes

By Samantha Lyles  
Staff Writer  
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As part of a recent essay contest, young residents of the Brockington Heights Apartments in Darlington got the chance to explore their feelings about bullying and potentially go home with one of three free bicycles given away by the Darlington Police Department.

DPD Chief Danny Watson and Community Relations Officer Sgt. Dominick Robinson joined Brockington Heights manager Kiarra Stephenson last week to select essay contest winners and present those kids with their bikes. The three grand prize winners were Anastasia McFarland, Calvin Jamel Cooks, and Tyjeon McFarland.

Stephenson said the essay contest was one of several engagement projects underway to promote a good atmosphere at Brockington.

"We're working closely with Sgt. Robinson on different activities that we can have for the children," said Stephenson, noting that a coloring contest with gift card prizes and a pizza party grand prize drew complex-wide participation. Other projects – like arts and crafts gifts for Mother's Day, a Christmas door decorating contest, and the annual July cookout – also



Pictured (front row, left to right) are DPD Chief Danny Watson, Brockington Heights Apartments manager Kiarra Stephenson, essay contest entrants Anastasia McFarland, Calvin Jamel Cooks, Tyjeon McFarland, Javante Hudson, and DPD Community Relations Officer Sgt. Dominick

help to promote a sense of community among residents.

Stephenson said she chose anti-bullying as an essay contest topic because some of the children at Brockington have disagreements and issues among themselves, and she thought it would benefit them together and make five okay bikes into three really good bikes," said Watson.

Chief Watson said the DPD was happy to provide bicycles as prizes for the anti-bullying essay contest, since it provides

a great incentive for the kids and allows DPD to repurpose bicycles from its store of unclaimed property.

"From time to time, we find ourselves in possession of quite a few old bicycles, and we're able to cobble them together and make five okay bikes into three really good bikes," said Watson.

He praised the idea of getting kids to spend time thinking about bullying and understanding its negative impacts

on them and other children.

"We've got about a hundred kids out here at Brockington Heights. What better place to go to to find folks where you can have an impact and make an immediate change in their lives? Hopefully, teaching them life lessons about work ethic, working toward something, and how to get along with one another will stick with them for life," said Watson. "It's an incremental positive change."



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## QUOTE

*All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.*

EDMUND BURKE

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The Pee Dee's Oldest  
Independently  
Owned Newspaper

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SACK

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O P - E D

## About Gardening

By Bill Shepard

The calendar has already announced that spring is here and that means it is time to think about gardening. Here in the upstate of South Carolina, planting time is a little slower in coming than when I was a boy and living in Darlington. There, we planted on Good Friday every year. It seems that folks on the village where I grew up had some kind of religious superstition that seed planted on Good Friday would germinate and come up quicker than at other times. I held on to that tradition that I had inherited from my dad for a long time. When I came to the upstate an old farmer approached me with some sound advice. He said he had seen me planting my garden on Good Friday even though the weather was still cold. Said the old farmer, "You can't plant as early in the upstate as you did in Darlington." Then he added, "You watch me and when you see me planting cotton then you plant your garden and it will grow better." Though I moved from that location long ago, and there are no cotton farmers where I live now, I follow the old farmer's advice. I wait for the nights to get warm and then my plants will grow off better.

I love gardening! My dad was a farmer before moving to Darlington to work in the cotton mill. Mill work was hard and the hours spent at the mill were long, but I cannot remember a year that dad did not plant a garden. There is a saying that "you can take a man out of the country but you can't take the country out of the man." That was true with my dad. Farming was in his DNA and I inherited it from him. Even as a little boy I would help dad plant his garden and when we finished, dad would give me the leftover seed. I would dig a place in the yard and plant my own little garden.

There haven't been many years of my adult life that I did not plant a garden! The size of my gardens have varied depending on the space I had. Here in Piedmont I have a large garden space and I will plant my seventeenth garden this season. My neighbor often said that I was the only person her had ever seen who worked his garden with a hoe in one hand and a walking stick on the other! I laugh and tell folk that I am trying this year to attach a plow to my "walker" so that I can push it along a straight row.

When I was active in the Pastoral Ministry, I often meditated on the sermons I would preach on Sundays while working in my garden. Once I did an entire series of sermons and titled the series "Sermons from the Garden."

One morning, I arose early and went to my garden to begin work. My neighbor called to me, "Mr. Shepard, there is a snake in your garden!" Sure enough, I found the snake and chased it out of my garden. That next Sunday I went to my pulpit and announced my person title...you guessed it, "There's a Snake in Your Garden, Chase it Out!" If there are any preachers reading this I bet you know the direction I followed with that title!

I think I had better hurry along before I start preaching on paper, so here is one of my garden poems. I wrote it one night after spending the day in my garden. Standing at the end of a row, tired from a day's work, leaning against my hoe handle, the words began to flow. That night I wrote them on paper before going to bed. I call it my garden poem.

### End Of The Row

When you come to the end of the row and the sun is going down,

You know it is time for quitting but you want to make one more round.

Just one more round you say, my work will then be done,  
One more round and then I'll quit, t'will be the setting of the sun.

You wipe the sweat from your face, pick up your plow and start,

You know you'll have to hurry it is already getting dark.

When you come to the end of life's row and the sun is in the west,

Can you look back at where you've been and feel you've done your best?

Would you like to start all over, perhaps plant another row,  
Make some changes here and there and a better garden grow?

It matter little what we'd rather, the Master Gardener calls at will,

The sun will soon be going down and all will then be still...so still!

*Mr. Shepard is a native of Darlington, S.C., and a current resident of Piedmont, S.C. He is the author of "Mill Town Boy" and "Bruised". He has been sharing his tales of growing up in Darlington for decades, and we are delighted to share them each week.*

*His mailing address for cards and letters is: Bill Shepard 324 Sunny Lane, Piedmont, S.C., 29673*



O P - E D

## Plastic Bags, SC's Home Rule and Dying Oceans

By Phil Noble

Over the 40 years that I have known her, I have come to have great respect for my wife's political antenna. When she says something about a politician or an issue, I have learned that it's best to pay attention.

My wife is not a political junkie in the traditional sense. And, just living with me all these years has forced her to hear a lot more about a lot of people and a lot of issues than any sane and reasonable person should ever have to endure. My apologies, dear.

Like most normal people, she doesn't follow this stuff on a daily basis. But, when she offers a strong and definitive opinion about someone or some issue, I've learned that she is usually right ... even if it takes the rest of us a long time to see the wisdom of her judgment.

Just one example: many years ago, I became friendly with an overly ambitious eager beaver that wanted to run for Congress. After just one shared dinner, my wife judged him as excessively selfish and the type of person that would cut corners to get where he wanted to go. Years later, this eager beaver had made his way up the slippery pole of politics and was running for President, and during a heated TV interview he revealed the corner cutting side of his personality.

My wife just looked at me across the room and thought she did not say a word, the message was loud and clear: "I told you so."

Recently, her antenna has gone up again. This time it's

plastic bags.

As she said very succinctly the other day, "There is no good reason that they should not be banned. They are killing our oceans and it's only the plastic bag industry that is keeping the ban from happening."

She is right.

Plastic bags (and other plastics) are killing our oceans and the fish and wildlife that live there. Technically, they are called 'single-use, high-density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic bags' – and support for banning these bags is growing not just in South Carolina or the U.S. but also globally. More on the global part later.

One fact (not an alternative fact): the average plastic bag is used only once for an average of 20 minutes, but if it ends up in a landfill, it can be around for 1,000 years.

We have all seen the pictures of seals, fish and other sea life with the plastic beverage six pack rings stuck around their necks or strangling them at the gills. As bad as this is, this is really just a tiny part of a bigger problem – it's really about the trillions of pieces of plastic bottles, bags, toys, fishing nets and other plastic junk that is killing our oceans. These plastics don't break down very fast (if at all) and when they do, they degenerate into small particles that get into the food chain – what you and I eat.

Currently, we are dumping about 8 million tons of plastic a year in the oceans and there is now 110 million tons of this stuff floating around in the world's oceans – and most of this stuff came from North

America.

A quick check of your atlas will tell you that South Carolina is in North America and on the coast – which brings us to the nitty gritty issue of home rule and the nitty gritty of South Carolina politics.

Two ocean front municipalities, Folly Beach (aka The Edge of America) and Sullivan's Island have passed a local ordinance banning plastic bags. Those in the Statehouse that opposed the ban (supported by the plastic bag industry, the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce and others), introduced a bill that would prohibit other municipalities from passing such a ban.

Now if you jump to the conclusion that this was a traditional business vs the environment, left vs right, Democrats vs Republicans issue – you would be wrong. Many coastal Republicans supported the ban and it was also partially about 'home rule.' If a local government does something that a special interest group doesn't like, they can run to the Statehouse (already corrupted by special interest money, see the local papers for details) and get the legislature to overrule the home folks.

In a House of Representatives vote last month, this time the good guys won – by a single vote, 50-49. But make no mistake about it, the bag boys (with their bags of cash) will be back.

But, they are on the wrong side of history ... and my wife.

With a little research, I found out what my wife knew instinctively. This is an issue that is bigger than just two

### Word of the Week

bucolic 1: of or relating to shepherds or herdsmen  
2: pleasing or picturesque in natural simplicity

Merriam-Webster.com

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THE NEWS AND PRESS, DARLINGTON, S.C.

## National Teacher Day Appreciation Day

By Sharman Popova

I'll always be grateful for the loving guidance of my first-grade teacher, Mrs. Abercrombie. She was a seasoned teacher of the old-school; she took no business from any of her small charges. She had a commanding appearance, taught all the core subjects, expected homework on time, and believed that we would rise to the standards she set for us. And by golly, we did.

Most teachers are able to size up their students pretty quickly and Mrs. Abercrombie was no exception. She had my number on day one. I was a talker and she tried to remedy that by putting my little desk and chair right beside her desk at the front of the room. I was thrilled. I had the complete attention of the teacher and could talk with her while the rest of the class worked on studies. This was heaven to an only child.

Mrs. Abercrombie deftly directed my attention by challenging me with additional goals and assignments, which captured my interest and pushed me in my studies. I was an avid reader and she gave me books outside the classroom curriculum that I devoured. She instilled in me a love of school and the confidence to believe I could excel in anything I put my mind to. I simply adored her.

I've had other teachers to which I owe a great debt, but I'll always credit Mrs. Abercrombie for starting me out on the right path. We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude. I never took the chance to show my appreciation to her as I grew to an adult and moved on. I wish I had gone back to thank her for giving me the gift of learning. I missed that opportunity.

APPRECIATION ON 3A

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## Moving Forward Together Summit Team names annual award winners

The 2017 Moving Forward Together Summit Team is pleased to announce that Speaker Jay Lucas, Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives has been named the 2017 recipient of the South Carolina Legislator of the Year Award and Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter has been named the 2017 recipient of the South Carolina Children's Champion Award.

Awards will be presented on June 12 at the Metropolitan Convention Center in the Vista, Columbia.

Speaker James H. "Jay" Lucas (R) served as Financial Director, County Administrator, County Attorney and City Judge in House District 65. He is a partner in Lucas, Warr and White, Attorneys at Law. Speaker Lucas was first elected to the General Assembly in 1998. House District 65 had not been represented by a Republican since Reconstruction. He earned the nickname "Landslide Lucas" from former Speaker David Wilkins because he won by a mere handful of votes. After serving several terms in office, he was elected

Chairman of the Darlington County Republican Party. In November 2010, his colleagues in the House elected him as Speaker Pro Tempore. Speaker Lucas believes that he has a responsibility as Speaker to enact reforms that will better the lives of all South Carolina families. He has become the proud recipient of several prestigious awards. Earlier this year, he received the Wilkins Award for Excellence in Legislative Leadership from the Riley Institute and the Jimmy Newsom Signature Award for his contributions to public education in Darlington County. He has also been recognized by the Mental Health Association; South Carolina Chamber of Commerce; South Carolina Recreation, Parks, and Tourism; South Carolina Solicitors Association; South Carolina Farm Bureau; South Carolina State Firefighters' Association; and the Institute for Child Success. Speaker James H. "Jay" Lucas is truly South Carolina's Legislator of the Year.

Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter (D) has served as the Executive Director of Court Appointed Special Advocates

Family Services (CASA) since 1985. She was the first African American woman in Orangeburg County ever elected to a state office when she was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1992. She became the first freshman ever appointed to and is now ranking member of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. She is a member of the Joint Bond Review Committee. She has worked on the national, regional and state levels on a variety of progressive issues aimed at making communities a better place for working families to live. Her longstanding commitment to community service is reflected in her active participation on numerous boards and commissions, including vice president of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators. Representative Cobb-Hunter believes that providing financial aid to students trying to improve their lives through education is an investment in the future of South Carolina. She championed college access and success for low-income and educationally disadvantaged students. She received an honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from both the Medical University of South Carolina and the College of Charleston and the highly coveted David Wilkins Legislative Leadership Award from the Riley Institute at Furman University. Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter is truly South Carolina's Children's Champion.

The primary objective of this Summit is to improve race relations among law enforcement agencies and the home, the school, and within the community by helping stakeholders develop a measurable framework for understanding and addressing cultural differences within their particular communities. The Summit will convene on June 12 and 13.

Schools, law enforcement agencies, the faith community, civic groups, and community organizations are encouraged to bring teams to include youth.

For additional information, register for and/or become a Summit sponsor, visit [www.blueribbonschools.com/conferences](http://www.blueribbonschools.com/conferences), click on Moving Forward Together National Summit or contact Dr. Gary L. Burgess, Sr. at 864-760-3656 or [gary@blueribbonschools.com](mailto:gary@blueribbonschools.com).

## Multi-platinum recording artist Bret Michaels to perform Bojangles' Southern 500 pre-race concert

Highlighting its award-winning throwback weekend plans of celebrating the 1985-89 era of the sport, Darlington Raceway will have rock legend Bret Michaels perform the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500 pre-race concert on Sunday, Sept. 3.

Michaels, known for his role as front man for the multi-platinum recording band Poison and as a highly successful solo artist, will perform a variety of Poison and solo hits spanning his multigenerational career.

Stage-front tickets to see Michaels perform the Bojangles' Southern 500 pre-race concert are on sale now by visiting [DarlingtonRaceway.com](http://DarlingtonRaceway.com) or calling 866-459-7223. A grandstand ticket must be purchased with pre-race concert access.

"Bret Michaels is an iconic singer and performer who will put on an amazing show for the fans during the Bojangles' Southern 500 pre-race concert," track President Kerry Tharp said. "Michaels, with the band Poison, was one of the top rock acts in the late 80's, which fits into our celebration years of 1985-89 extremely well."

Michaels is a multiplatinum global superstar who has turned his passion for music into a multi-faceted brand that encompasses record breaking touring sales,



reality TV stardom, legendary songs that have sold over 32 million records, product endorsements as well as being a devoted philanthropist, all supported and followed by three generations of loyal fans.

Michaels was born in the small town of Butler, Pa., on March 15, 1963. Rising to fame as the front man of Poison, one of rock's most iconic and enduring bands, he helped define the rock n roll scene on the Sunset Strip. Their massive success includes selling over 30 million records worldwide and numerous hit singles.

Equally as successful, Michaels' solo career has charted its own course with multiple solo albums. His album, Custom Built, topped

the charts, reaching #1 on Billboards Hard Rock list.

When this multi-talented performer is not touring he can be found both in front of and behind the camera as a director, producer and a reality TV superstar. His first foray into reality TV brought the record-breaking "Rock of Love with Bret Michaels" franchise to VH1, one of the most successful shows in the network's history, shattering weekly rating records during its run. Following three successful seasons of the show, he teamed up with VH1 for the docu-series "Life As I Know It" setting even more records.

Michaels has also starred in and won the NBC hit, "Celebrity Apprentice". Coming into the show as the underdog, his tenacity and business sense helped him win the series, raising well over \$300,000 for Diabetes research.

Michaels, personally and through his Life Rocks Foundation, has helped raise tens of millions of dollars for charity and makes donations to not only diabetes awareness and research but to such causes as childhood cancer, Wounded Warriors, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, PetSmart Charities and more. Having been diagnosed with Type I diabetes at the age of six, Michaels is passionately devoted to raise awareness

of the debilitating disease in hopes of finding a cure.

He has partnered with both the American Diabetes Association and the JDRF acting as a spokesperson and sponsor, earning him numerous awards from a variety of organizations including the ADA's first ever Chairman's Citation award.

For more information on Bret Michaels, please visit the official web site: <http://www.bretmichaels.com>.

Darlington Raceway's award-winning throwback campaign is now The Official Throwback Weekend of NASCAR featuring the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500® on Sunday, Sept. 3, 2017. The NASCAR XFINITY Series Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200 will race on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2017. Tickets are on sale now by calling 866-459-7223 or visiting [DarlingtonRaceway.com](http://DarlingtonRaceway.com).

You can keep up with all of the latest news from Darlington Raceway at [DarlingtonRaceway.com](http://DarlingtonRaceway.com), on Facebook at [Facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway](https://Facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway) and on Twitter at [Twitter.com/TooToughToTame](https://Twitter.com/TooToughToTame). Fans are encouraged to post their Bojangles' Southern 500 stories and memories at #TraditionContinues, #BojanglesSo500 and #SportClips200.

## Appreciation

Continued from 2A

This month we can all reach out to show our respect for the teaching profession and its dedicated staff through National Teacher Appreciation Week which is May 7 – 13 and National Teacher Recognition Day on May 9. This is a time to acknowledge teachers who have made a difference in your life or your child's life.

All the teachers I know go into the profession and stay in the profession because they are passionate about teaching, genuinely love children and want to make a positive impact.

### 8 ways to acknowledge the commitment and dedication of our educators:

- Write a note of appreciation
- Tell your child's favorite teacher about the impact he or she has made
- Encourage children to consider teaching careers
- Post a picture of yourself with your favorite teacher, past or present on social media
- Post a picture of your child

with his or her teacher

• Post a picture of yourself holding a piece of paper with a simple message saying, "Thank You" to a teacher and why you're thanking him or her

• Use the hashtag, #ThankATeacher when sharing on social media

• Be a partner in education, volunteer at a school, get involved

The legendary radio and television writer, Andy Rooney said, "Most of us end up with no more than five or six people who remember us. Teachers have thousands of people who remember them for the rest of their lives." But how will they know we've remembered them if we don't tell them?

To learn more about the impact of teachers through the TEACH Foundation's Partners for Unparalleled Local Scholastic Excellence (PULSE) programs, visit the Foundation website at <http://www.teachfoundation.org/jumpstart>

Sharman Poplava is the Executive Director of the TEACH Foundation.

## Coker College's Master in College Athletic Administration ranked as one of the country's most affordable online degree programs

Coker College's master of science degree in college athletic administration is one of the most affordable online master's in sports management programs in the country according to AffordableColleges.com's recent rankings.

A bachelor's degree is considered the minimum educational requirement for most careers in athletic administration. Students who earn a master's in sports management stand to advance their careers more quickly than those with fewer academic qualifications.

Coker College's online degree program offers students a solid foundation in specialized areas such as sport business management, current issues in college athletics, NCAA compliance regulations, sport communication, sport law, recruiting of coaches and athletes, fundraising and sport marketing. An internship course is also available to students who want to receive course credit for workplace experience.

"Coker's master's in college athletic administration program is a prime example of a quality education for a valuable price," said Adam Connolly, Vice President of Enrollment Management for Coker College. "Graduates of the program have gone on to do amazing, career changing things and that is a testament to the high quality of the degree."

AffordableColleges.com claims to help students find a path to a rewarding, quality education by connecting them with institutions that match those ideals. They've created a value score for each institution that combines affordability and quality by weighing criteria such as loan default rates, graduation rates and financial aid data, to draw a distinction between programs that appear cheap up-front and those that will pay off in the long run. The site describes itself as a free resource designed to help everyone address the cost of college while pursuing their goals.

## Hearing

Continued from 1A

Reed said that she is excited for the children of Darlington to play in a single league and excited for the opportunity to bring visitors to the city.

"It is beneficial to the city," Reed said. "It will bring visitors here, most certainly, when we have a state-of-the-art place for them to play. The move to one league, where the recreation department will be the authority, will make the difference."

Councilwoman Carolyn Bruce said that, as an athlete herself, she knows the power that athletics has to bring people together.

"One of the things that I ran was doing something our kids because that is our future," Bruce said. "They go to school together; they can come together, wherever it may be, to play sports. I know for a fact that is going to be good and this is what we have to do for our children."

Some of the concerns brought up by citizens included extra traffic through the neighborhoods where the complexes would be, maintenance of the properties once they

are built, the fact that softball and baseball would be separated making it difficult for parents. Many expressed support for the project, saying that it will be something positive for their children and grandchildren. Darlington County School Board member Dr. Thelma Dawson was in attendance and, when asked by Mayor Gloria Hines to give her opinion, said that she was in favor of the complex.

Andrews said that not everything about the project will be perfect for everyone but he believes that it will be a good thing for Darlington.

"People always talk about the sports teams are in Hartsville and how good they are," Andrews said. "You go to Hartsville Northern League and it's no better than Blue Street. They don't need a million dollar facility to have anything; it's a mindset there. You throw them out there and they want to compete. Sometimes our kids are looking for an excuse for why they are doing bad; we've got to change that mindset and it starts with being in one place. I look forward to the opportunity of building this for the citizens of Darlington."

## DCSD

Continued from 1A

"Things are not quite as bleak as last time we met," Smith said. "We did get some additional funding, we got a higher student base cost than expected and some additional funding for the retirement increase that we are having to do."

Smith said that she took notes from the last special called meeting the board had and compiled a list of options for the things that board members had asked her to consider.

Those options include an increase in employee salaries, salary scale increases for teachers, an increase in athletic/band/art supplements and the addition of an Early Childhood Director position. All of the numbers given to the board were

given as information only. No action was taken. Further meetings will be held to discuss what option the board will use going forward into the next fiscal year.

At the beginning of the meeting, board members heard from two administrators with Lexington County 4 about the early childhood program that the district operates. After the presentation, DCSD Superintendent Dr. Eddie Ingram spoke about the importance of thinking outside of the box when it comes to education.

"It is not about memorizing answers," Ingram said. "I think it is about learning to ask the right questions. We can't do that sitting in rows, getting out our cover sheets, making sure we memorize things when human knowledge is doubling every year as it is right now."

## Taste

Continued from 1A

"The plan is to hopefully open it up again the day after the Taste to municipal folks across the county because the documents are what have created who most of us are," Gandy said. "I want folks to be able to actually interact with the exhibit. We have been working hard so that when it is over, Society Hill will be able to say, that's us. That's who we

are. That's where we came from."

The event will be from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Society Hill Train Depot. Advance tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Society Hill Town Hall, the Darlington County Historical Commission or online at <https://sites.google.com/site/longbluffhistoricsociety>. They can also be purchased for \$25 at the door. The Society Hill Train Depot is located at 122 West Depot Street in Society Hill.

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**QUOTE**

*For with much wisdom  
comes much sorrow; the more  
knowledge, the more grief.*

Ecclesiastes 1:18

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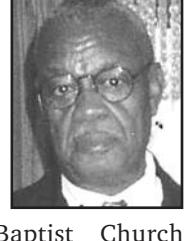
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## Alphonso "Larry" Sawyer

Funeral services for Mr. Alphonso "Larry" Sawyer of Darlington were held at 12:00 o'clock noon Monday, May 1, 2017 at Bethel AME Church in Darlington.



Interment followed in Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery directed by Jordan Funeral Home, Inc.

Mr. Sawyer, a son of the late Albert and Pauline Jackson-Sawyer, was born in Darlington County on July 9, 1931. He departed this life on Sunday, April 23, 2017.

He was educated in the Darlington County School System. He was employed with the Darlington County Sanitation Department for thirty-five years.

At an early age he joined Bethel AME Church where he was a life member.

Survivors are: two loving sisters, Mary Sawyer and Dorothy Toney; a devoted niece, Pauline Bell (Bobby); a special nephew, Lt. Colonel Mickel Sawyer; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The family received friends at the residence, 118 Lee Street, Darlington.

## Frank McLeod Flowers, Sr.

Frank McLeod Flowers, Sr., age 88, passed away Tuesday, April 25, 2017 in Morrell Nursing Center. Funeral services were held 3 p.m. Friday, April 28th at Black Creek Baptist Church, with burial following in Auburndale Cemetery, directed by Belk Funeral Home. The family received friends from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home and other times at 3120 Leavensworth Rd. Darlington, SC 29540.

Born July 30, 1928, Frank is the son of the late George Wellington Flowers and Eula Springs Flowers. He attended grammar school in Dovesville, SC and was valedictorian of his class. He was a 1947 graduate at St. John's High School. Frank was a member of the National Honors Society, Charter President of the Key Club, a Collack Medal Recipient, and lettered in football, baseball, basketball, and track.

In 1951, Frank graduated from Clemson University with a B.S. in Animal Husbandry. He was Cadet Captain in his senior year, and in 1951 was a member of "Commission of Three Hundred" to study the future of Clemson University. Frank was inducted into the Clemson University Dairy Hall of Fame in 1999.

After graduating from Clemson University, Frank served in the U.S. Army as a 2nd Lieutenant in U.S. Infantry as rifle battalion leader in 224th Infantry regiment. He served in three major companies during the Korean Conflict and was awarded for his service with the Combat Infantry Badge, three battle stars, and received a purple heart. He retired as 1st Lieutenant and was a lifetime member of the VFW of Darlington.

Frank was a member of the Darlington County Farm

Bureau since 1954 and served as the first vice president until joining the S.C. Farm Bureau as a district field representative and later promoted to field service director. He later resigned his position as field service director to assume full-time control of his dairy and farming operations. In 1975, he was elected as vice president of the Pee Dee Farm Bureau District, and held that position until 2014.

During his tenure in S.C. Farm Bureau, he also served as co-chairman of the National Farm Bureau Dairy Advisory Committee, a member of the S.C. Farm Bureau Dairy Committee, and chairman of the executive committee of the dairy committee for 13 years, prior to his retirement from dairy farming in 1998. He was a 1983 recipient of the S.C. Farm Bureau distinguished service award.

Frank served as president of the Darlington Kiwanis Club, past member of the board of directors for Federal Land Bank, a member of the board of directors of Darlington County Mutual Savings and Loan, a member of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and a past President of Darlington County Agricultural Society.

He was a life-long member of Black Creek Baptist Church, where he served as Sunday School superintendent for 35 years, and was a Deacon for many years and was chairman of the board of Deacons for many terms. He was a member of the board of trustees, and also held many other positions in the church. Frank was a long-time contributor and supporter of the Lord Cares Ministry, Connie Maxwell Children's Home, and the Free Medical Clinic in Darlington.

In 1973, Mr. and Mrs. Flowers expanded their farming operations by purchasing Auburndale Plantation. He along with his family built a new dairy operation known as Auburndale Jerseys. The dairy herd had a reputation of being one of the top Jersey herds in the nation. The Jersey Herd was sold in 1998 to a Dairy Farm in Tifton, California. The plantation was converted totally into row crops and beef operations following the dairy cattle sale.

Surviving are his three sons, Dr. Frank McLeod Flowers, Jr of Laguna Beach, California, Marshall Flowers and his wife Kathi, Damon Flowers and his wife Susan, both of Darlington; his daughter, Meg Flowers Clark and her husband Don of Hartsville; his grandchildren, Ginny F. Munson and her husband Kevin of Darlington, Marshall "Wells" Flowers, of Darlington, Dr. Damon Flowers, Jr., of Baton Rouge, LA, Susanna Flowers of Mt. Pleasant, Caroline Clark of Greenville, Anna Clark, and Don Clark, Jr., both of Hartsville; his great-grandchildren, Tillman Munson, Bennett Munson, McKinley Weaver, and Marshall Wellington Flowers, III.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 63 years, Margaret Steger Flowers; his sisters, Mary Flowers Kirven, and Georgia D. Flowers; his brother, Paul T. Flowers, and infant brother, George W. Flowers, Jr.

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## LIVING ON PURPOSE

# With God, it's all about our attitude

By Dr. William Holland

We know how important it is to have a good attitude and the correct motives especially when it comes to approaching God. Here are two Bible stories that expose the human conscience and identify why some people seem to overlook what is really important in their quest for satisfaction and security. Our first example is found in Luke chapter 18 and is about a wealthy businessman that has a meeting with Jesus. Verse 18 says, "And a certain ruler asked Him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" It's easy to read over this and not discern exactly what he was asking. It seems "eternal life" is what everyone is always interested in, and the easy version of salvation has given the masses just enough false security to believe that all we need is to do is just understand the story of Calvary and everything will be all right.

### Steven Lee Turner

Steven Lee Turner, 59, of Darlington died on Thursday, April 27, 2017.

Funeral services were held Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 4 p.m. in the Chapel of Kistler Hardee Funeral Home. Burial followed in Grove Hill Cemetery. The family received friends from 5 until 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at the home, 2725 Dewitt Circle, Darlington and from 2:30 until 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at Kistler Hardee Funeral Home.

Lee was born in Florence, South Carolina. He was the son of the late F.C. "Sonny" Turner and Peggy Jean DuBose Turner. Lee was a member of Soul's Harbor Pentecostal Holiness Ministries where he served as Secretary and Treasurer. He was a lifetime member of NRA and was Sonoco Fireman of the year 2009. Lee touched so many lives and will be missed dearly.

Surviving are his loving wife, Wendy Britt Turner of Darlington; his loving children, Stephen Lee Turner and wife, Felicia of Columbia and Susan Elizabeth Turner and fiance, Jason Barnes of Lexington; his loving grandchildren, Shawn Turner, Richard Turner and Brittany Golden; his loving mother-in-law, Becky Britt and husband, the late Joseph H. Britt, Jr. his loving brothers, Gene Turner of Darlington and John Wayne Turner and wife, Patsy of Tennessee; and many loving nieces, nephews and friends.

Memorials may be made to Soul's Harbor Pentecostal Holiness Ministries, PO Box 1107, Hartsville, SC 29551 and McLeod Hospice House of Florence, 1203 E. Cheves Street, Darlington, SC 29532.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.kistlerhardeefuneral-home.com.

Our second story is found in Luke chapter 19 and is about a man named Zacchaeus. This man was also a wealthy leader in his community, but notice closely what he was seeking when Jesus came into his neighborhood. Verse 3 says, "And he sought to see who Jesus was; and he could not for the crowd, because he was a short man." The first man wanted to

know how to secure a place in heaven, but Zacchaeus only wanted to know about the person of Jesus! He did not ask about a point system, political favors or how to earn enough gold stars, he was sincerely focused on God. Likewise, we should remember the next life is not about streets of gold but rather about who sits on the throne. Heaven is not a fire insurance policy, but the glorious honor of being with the one who rescued us because He loves us and wants to be with us forever.

The first man walked away depressed because he wanted an easy way to guarantee a good seat in the comforts and glories of splendor. He represents those who are satisfied with just going through the motions in order to satisfy a requirement. Zacchaeus on the other hand, represents those who desire to worship God in Spirit and truth and are willing to sacrifice their will. These individuals are filled with the Spirit of God and will be delighted to shout His praises because they have a clear conscience and a clean heart!

There is never a problem so devastating they cannot sing, "It is well with my soul" and there will never be a night so dark they cannot trust the light of Christ to be a light unto their path. Whether in abundance or lack, on top of the mountain or in the valley of the shadow of death, there is a song of triumph on their lips and the oil of gladness within their souls! All of this is evident not because they have gathered empires of wealth and power, or have been recognized and respected in the halls of man's admiration, but because they simply wanted to know who Jesus is. If anyone is just using His grace as a free reservation for heaven, they will miss the point of salvation, but if we love God just for who He is, we are given the privilege to live in the joys of His presence now and forever.

Dr. Holland lives in Central Kentucky with his wife Cheryl, where he is a Christian author and community outreach chaplain. Request a free copy of his new CD at: billyholland-ministries.com

# 2017 DARLINGTON COUNTY RABIES CLINICS

**Dr. John W. Davis, DVM  
Town and Country Veterinary Clinic**

**Vaccination Fee: \$10 per shot**

**Note: Dogs must be on a leash and cats in a box or carrier.**

Date	Time	Location	Veterinarian
May 6	9 a.m.-Noon	Darlington Health Department	Dr. John Davis
May 13	9 a.m.-Noon	St. David's Academy/Society Hill	Dr. John Davis
May 20	9 a.m.-Noon	Darlington Health Department	Dr. John Davis
May 27	9 a.m.-Noon	St. David's Academy/Society Hill	Dr. John Davis

The South Carolina Rabies Control Act requires that all dogs and cats have a current rabies vaccination. For the majority of vaccines, the minimum age to vaccinate puppies and kittens is three (3) months of age.

Upon vaccination, the pet should wear the numbered rabies tag provided by Dr. Davis around its neck.

Dr. Davis will also provide you with a certificate of vaccination.

## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The 66th National Day of Prayer will be observed on Thursday May 4, 2017 at noon.

The event will be held at Darlington Presbyterian Church, located at 311 Pearl Street in Darlington. The theme this year is "For Your Names' Sake. Hear Us...Forgive Us...Heal Us!" taken from Daniel 9:19.

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## PETS OF THE WEEK



Meet the incredibly talented and lovely, Cathy! This petite little lady with the charcoal grey and black tiger racing stripes is super sweet and chatty, eagerly engaging in conversations. Very mellow and snuggly, she was so relaxed during her intake, she nearly fell asleep in the furry paws of a large dog, Cleopatra! Come by soon and see why Cathy is all the Talk of the Town! female; Teen tabby; 5 lbs

"Ain't Nothing Like a Hound Dog!" Jameson certainly lives up to all the hype in having a sweet, goofy hound as your sidekick! Terribly handsome with his sleek chestnut jacket and black saddle, Jameson has never met a stranger. Fantastic with other dogs and a good choice for a family with kids, Jameson loves attention and really enjoys making new friends. 46lbs; 3-4 yrs old; hound; male

The Darlington County Humane Society is located 0.5 miles from Darlington Raceway off Highway 151 in Darlington.

## Have you lost or found a pet?

If you have lost or found a pet, go online to [www.darlingtonhumane.org](http://www.darlingtonhumane.org) and click on the link **Lost/ Found Pets**. You will be directed to the [www.thelostpets.com](http://www.thelostpets.com) Web site where you can register your missing pet.

You will be able to provide a detailed description of your missing pet, as well as attach a photo. Upon registering your lost pet, an e-mail alert will be sent to the Darlington Shelter's e-mail address. This will allow the Shelter staff to recognize your lost pet should it arrive at the facility.

## Area Happenings

## Weekly Events

## Centennial Farmers Market

This market features fresh, organic gourmet foods, free-range eggs and homegrown, healthy foods including homemade breads and sweet treats and as always, live music and entertainment! Every Thursday from 4 - 7 p.m. Location: Corner of 5th St. and Carolina Ave. in Hartsville.

## Darlington Elks Lodge

Tuesdays: Swing/Shag dance lessons, "New" line dance lessons from 8-10 p.m.

Wednesdays: Karaoke from 8-10 p.m.

Thursdays: Bingo at 7:30 p.m.

Darlington Elks Lodge is located at 836 Timmonsville Hwy. For more info: 843-393-1451

## Paws to Read

Paws to Read is a literacy program where emerging and reluctant readers can create positive emotional connections with reading. Therapy Dogs International with their trainers come for one-on-one reading sessions on the first Saturday and third Tuesday of each month at 12:30 pm. and 3 p.m. respectively at the Darlington Library Branch.

## Story Time

Darlington: Thursdays at 10 a.m. Info: 398-4940 ext. 305.

Hartsville: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Info: 332-5115 ext. 7.

Society Hill: Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Info: 378-0026

Lamar: Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. Info: 326-5524

## Library Youth Programs:

Darlington Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.

Lamar Family Movie Day: Tuesdays 4:00 p.m.; Youth Program: Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

## Crochet &amp; Knit Clubs

Lamar: each Monday at 4:30 p.m. 326-5524

Society Hill: each Friday from 2-4 pm 378-0026

Darlington: 2nd Friday of the month 10 a.m. - noon 398-4940

Hartsville: "The Stitchers" group meets the 1st & 3rd Mondays and 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 5 pm.

## Pee Dee SCORE

Pee Dee SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) offers Free confidential counseling to small business, serving Darlington, Florence and surrounding areas. Schedule an appointment by calling the Hartsville Chamber of Commerce at 843-332-6401.

## Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

Meetings for Narcotics Anonymous (NA) are held at the Church of God on 620 North Main Street in Darlington. Meetings will be

## May 3 - 9

## Market on Darlington Square

Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Visit with the community, listen to local music, and enjoy a variety of vendors and food.

## NAACP Meeting

The Darlington Branch of the NAACP meets 7 p.m., May 9, at 109 Pearl St., Darlington.

## May 10 - 16

## American Legion

American Legion Post 13 of Darlington will meet Thursday, May 12 at the Post on Harry

207 S. Main St. • 393-0885

## May 17 - 23

## DDRA Spring Concert Series

Enjoy local, live music and area restaurants' eats from 7 - 10 p.m. on Liberty Lane on

Pearl St. in Downtown Darlington on Friday, May 19.

## Miss Darlington and Miss Darlington Teen Scholarship Pageant

May 21 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Elementary School, 140 Park St. in Darlington. For more information, visit missdarlingtonsc.wixsite.com/darlingtonpageant.

## Darlington County Ambulance Commission

The Darlington County Ambulance Commission will meet on Tuesday, May 23 at 6 p.m. at the EMS/EPA Building Courthouse Annex, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway next to the South Carolina National Guard Armory. A meal is served at 6 p.m. and the monthly meeting follows. The nation's largest Veterans organization invites its members, eligible Veterans, and active National Guard/Reserve personnel to attend.

## Appreciation Cookout for Darlington County Veterans

The Darlington Veteran's Affairs Office will host a cookout on May 26 at the America Legion Post 13, located at 1752 Harry Byrd Hwy in Darlington. The cookout will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Darlington County Veterans are invited so we can show our appreciation for their service. There will be hotdogs, sausage dogs, chips, drinks, and door prizes.

Please call the Darlington County Veterans Affairs Office at 843-398-4130 with any questions.

## May 31 - June 6

## Ag + Art Tour

The tour will be in Chesterfield, Darlington, Florence and Horry Counties June 3, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and June 4, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. A listing of participating farm sites can be found at www.agandarttour.com/sites.

## Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council meets on Tuesday, June 5, 2017 at 6 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway (Highway 151), Darlington, SC.

The Council encourages citizen participation and provides an opportunity for citizens to present their concerns at the beginning of each regular meeting.

Those wishing to make a presentation should contact the Clerk to Council at 843-398-4100 or jbishop@daroscoc.com.

## Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council meets on Tuesday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street.

10 p.m. on Liberty Lane on Pearl St. in Downtown Darlington on Friday, June 9.

## American Legion

American Legion Post 13 of Darlington will meet Thursday, June 9 at the Post on Harry Byrd Highway next to the South Carolina National Guard Armory. A meal is served at 6 p.m. and the monthly meeting follows. The nation's largest Veterans organization invites its members, eligible Veterans, and active National Guard/Reserve personnel to attend.

## NAACP Meeting

The Darlington Branch of the NAACP meets 7 p.m., June 13, at 109 Pearl St., Darlington.

## June 28 - July 4

## Freedom Fest

The Darlington Chamber of Commerce is hosting Freedom Fest at the Darlington Raceway July 1 from 4 to 10 p.m. The event features food, live music, a car show, carnival rides, laps around the Track Too Tough to Tame and one of the finest fireworks displays in South Carolina.

## Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council meets on Tuesday, July 3, 2017 at 6 p.m. and the first

Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway (Highway 151), Darlington, SC.

The Council encourages citizen participation and provides an opportunity for citizens to present their concerns at the beginning of each regular meeting.

Those wishing to make a presentation should contact the Clerk to Council at 843-398-4100 or jbishop@daroscoc.com.

Library or at the conference room at City Hall and as needed or requested by City Council.

## July 19 - 25

## DDRA Spring Concert Series

Enjoy local, live music and area restaurants' eats from 7 - 10 p.m. on Liberty Lane on Pearl St. in Downtown Darlington on Friday, July 21

## Darlington County Ambulance Commission

The Darlington County Ambulance Commission will meet on Tuesday, July 25 at 6 p.m. at the EMS/EPA Building Courthouse Annex, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway. For questions, contact: 843-398-4450.

## July 26 - Aug. 2

## Market on Darlington Square

First Saturday of the month May through October (no July) from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Visit with the community, listen to local music, and enjoy a variety of vendors and food Saturday, August 5

## Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council meets on Tuesday, July 3, 2017 at 6 p.m. and the first

Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway (Highway 151), Darlington, SC.

The Council encourages citizen participation and provides an opportunity for citizens to present their concerns at the beginning of each regular meeting.

Those wishing to make a presentation should contact the Clerk to Council at 843-398-4100 or jbishop@daroscoc.com.

## Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council will hold their monthly meeting on August 1 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street.

## Aug. 3 - 15

## NAACP Meeting

The Darlington Branch of the NAACP meets 7 p.m., August 8, at 109 Pearl St., Darlington.

## American Legion

American Legion Post 13 of Darlington will meet Thursday, August 10 at the Post on Harry Byrd Highway next to the South Carolina National Guard Armory. A meal is served at 6 p.m. and the monthly meeting follows.

The nation's largest Veterans organization invites its members, eligible Veterans, and active National Guard/Reserve personnel to attend.

## Sept.

## DDRA Spring Concert Series

Enjoy local, live music and area restaurants' eats from 7 - 10 p.m. on Liberty Lane on Pearl St. in Downtown Darlington on Friday, September 1.

## DARLINGTON



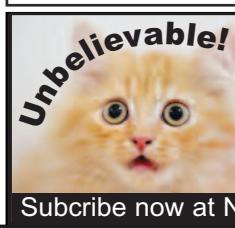
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In the Growth Plan Team Event, Cade Cassidy, Cindy Martinez, Jakayla McCollough, and Jacque Jett from DCIT placed third.

## Marketing students experience competitive and real world success

Each spring, the South Carolina DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) chapter hosts its annual Career Development Conference in Charleston, SC. The conference agenda keeps students quite busy as they are expected to attend meetings, participate in workshops, elect officers, visit exhibit booths and compete for an opportunity to represent the state of South Carolina at the international DECA conference.

Students have to take an objective test online and participate in a role-playing situation related to their event. Advanced preparation at the school level includes taking paper and computer tests, completing class assignments, and participating in role-playing situations with peers, staff, and volunteers from the community. This year, approximately 600 students competed at the state conference. Only students placing in the top ten were recognized with a certificate and medallion

during the awards banquet.

Among the students representing the Darlington County Institute of Technology (DCIT) at this year's state DECA Competition in Charleston were Cade Cassidy (Junior, MHS) and Jacque Jett (Senior, DHS). Cade was the Entrepreneur and Jacque the Marketing Consultant in the Business Growth Plan Team Event. In the competition, the team placed third, but for Cade, this was not just a competition. Cassidy has a business license for his new Entrepreneurial business, Semper Fi Industries, Inc. which specializes in energy drinks as well as other products. His target market includes the military; however, he expects to venture out and is looking for other businesses to stock and sell his products. While in Charleston, he took the opportunity to stop at convenience stores to get contact information and investigate opportunities to give a cold canvass sales pitch for his business venture. This

competitive event required a 30 page business plan and other personal selling props. Cade says that being in the Marketing class and working in the retail industry at the same time has really been beneficial. He emphasized that writing the 30 page business plan made him think through ideas that he hadn't considered before.

In addition to the 3rd place finish in the Business Growth Plan Team Event, DCIT had three other students who were recognized for their achievements. Tierra Mumford, Cindy Martinez and Jakayla McCollough all placed in the top ten in Accounting Concepts. Mrs. Pamela Smith and Ms. Latrica Jackson who serve as the DECA advisors at the Darlington County Institute of Technology (DCIT) expressed how proud they were of all of the students and the hard work the students put into preparing for competition. Mrs. Smith teaches Marketing and Accounting. Ms. Jackson teach-



Tierra Mumford placed in the top ten in Accounting Concepts.

es Professional and Leadership Development, Office Procedures, Entrepreneurship, and Business Finance. Most of these classes are dual credit or articulated with Florence-Darlington Technical College.

### Deputies investigating Darlington shooting

Darlington County Sheriff's Deputies are investigating a shooting that occurred at a residence on Pineville Rd. south of Darlington. Deputies were called to the area at about 9:30 p.m. Sunday, April 30. According to witnesses two black males arrived on a moped and one of the males fired a weapon several times striking the residence. There

were no injuries reported and no motive has been established.

If you have any information you are asked to contact Darlington County Sheriff's Investigators at (843) 398-4501 or Crime Stoppers of the Pee Dee at 1-888-CRIME-SC or text tip number 274637 (CRIMES). You do not have to reveal your identity to leave information.

### Darlington County Fire District has a new member to fight arson

Darlington County Fire District Chief Ricky Flowers and his new partner "Cato" will be introduced as the newest members of the Arson Investigation team Friday. Cato, a one year old female yellow Labrador retriever, and Chief Flowers, completed the four week canine-accelerant detection school sponsored by State Farm® and certified by the Maine State Police/Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

Cato is a certified accelerant detection canine who has been trained to locate the presence of ignitable liquids that may have been used to start arson fires. Cato will showcase her abilities by doing a demonstration Friday.

"We want to support the efforts of the Darlington County Fire District to douse arson fires and put criminals behind bars," said State Farm Spokesman Roszell Gadson. "The scope of arson goes beyond impacting insurance companies – it affects the personal and financial well-being of us all." Training dogs to locate accelerants at fire scenes saves time and money in arson investigations. A few years ago, investigators could spend days or weeks sifting through rubble at a scene. Today, with a trained dog, the work can be done in less than an hour.

State Farm® has been a sponsor of the Arson Dog Program since 1993. Cato is one of the more than 380



Chief Ricky Flowers and Cato

arson dog teams in the United States and Canada sponsored by State Farm and trained by Maine Specialty Dogs. Teams consisting of a dog and human handler assist local and state law enforcement officers with fire investigations.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), an estimated 280,000 intentional fires are reported to U.S. fire departments each year, with associated annual losses of 420 civilian deaths, 1,360 civilian injuries, and \$1.3 billion in direct property damage. The actual number of arson fires and amount of property damage is likely much higher as arson is an underreported crime. Arson dogs played a key role in locating evidence of arson in many of these fires.

### CHURCH NEWS

Please send your church news and photos to: editor@newsandpress.net

#### Women of G.R.A.C.E.

Central Baptist Church, 512 Spring St. in Darlington, will host the Women of G.R.A.C.E. Extravaganza Weekend May 5 and 6. The guest speaker will be Pat Owens of Faith Step Ministries. Tickets are required for Saturday's lunch and must be purchased by May 3. For more information, call 843-393-8581.

#### Homecoming

Bible Truth Holiness Church, 5360 Indian Branch Road, in Lydia, SC will have their annual Homecoming on May 7. Sunday School starts at 10 a.m. and preaching begins at 11 a.m. with Bro. Stacy Floyd. Dinner will start around 12:45 p.m. and at

1:45 p.m. there will be a singing with Forever Redeemed from St. Stephens, SC. and local singers. Come and help celebrate 64 years of ministry. For more information call 843-332-3442 or 843-858-1209.

#### 150th Anniversary Celebration

First Presbyterian Church of Hartsville will hold their 150th Anniversary Celebration Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7. A celebration concert presented by several choirs will be at 5 p.m. in the church sanctuary Saturday evening. Sunday will include morning fellowship at 9:45 a.m. followed by a special worship service at 11:00 a.m. The church is located at 213 West Home Avenue in Hartsville.

#### Women's Day Service

Cherry Grove Missionary Baptist Church on 552 E. Billy

Farrow Hwy in Darlington is having its Annual Women's Day Service Sunday, May 7. The guest speaker will be Mrs. Nicki Wright Spears of Olive Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Fulfillment Hour begins at 9:00 a.m. and worship service begins at 10:00 a.m.

#### Choir Anniversary

Lawson Grove Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir will be celebrating their first choir anniversary on Sunday, May 7, at 4 p.m. The speaker for this occasion will be Lawson Grove's very own Pastor Anthony Hooks. Everyone is welcome to come show their support for this worship experience. The church is located at 3585 Lawson Grove Road in Hartsville. For more information, call 843-332-2132.

#### Bible Study

Bible study at Mt. Zion Tabernacle Believers Church 426 W. Broad St. Darlington,

on Tuesday nights at 6:00 p.m. Bible study led by Rev. Larry Scipio. Contact Deacon Z. Frierson at 843-992-3158 or church 843-992-8125. Come join us.

#### St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

3123 W. Palmetto St., Florence. Worship Time: 11 a.m. (4th Sunday 8:30 a.m.) Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Phone: 843-601-3672

Facebook: St. Catherine's EC Vicar: The Rev. Jeffrey R. Richardson

#### Lawson Grove Baptist Church

3585 Lawson Grove Rd, Hartsville. Sunday-- Church School at 9:45a.m. and Worship Service at 10:45a.m. Wednesday-- Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible study 7p.m.

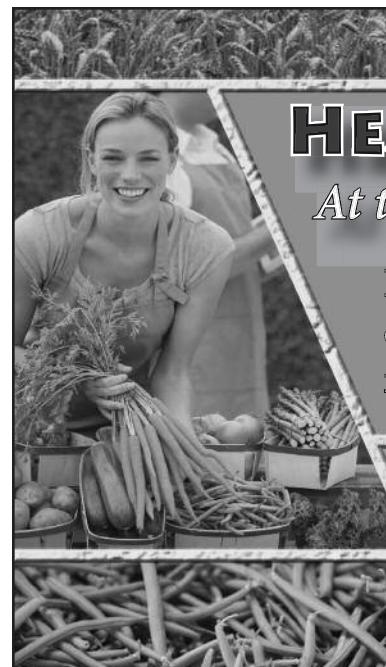
Streaming Available at lawsongrovebaptistchurch.com

#### Black Creek Baptist

1st/3rd Sunday Pastoral Sunday: Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Church Services 11:00 Elder M. Frierson 2nd/4th Sunday: Sunday School at 9:30 by Deacon Z. Frierson Service at 11:00 a.m. Min. Gerald Green. The community is invited to attend. Come expecting to hear the anointed Word. Contact Deacon Z. Frierson 843-229-3158

#### The Lord Cares

Please continue to assist The Lord Cares in caring for those in need in the Darlington area. T.L.C.'s food bank is located at 201 Grove Street in Darlington. They are open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Donations of non-perishable food items (especially canned meats) are needed, as are toiletries, bathroom tissue, and paper towels. Mail monetary donations to: The Lord Cares PO Box, 1457, Darlington, SC 29540



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# Opening inning dooms Darlington against Chiefs

By Drake Horton  
Contributing Writer

Under a blistering sun, the Darlington Falcons baseball season came to a close this past Saturday as the North Myrtle Beach chiefs won 5-2 in the district playoff elimination game.

Getting another chance to play at home, Darlington was unable to overcome a four-run first inning.

"It was a rough start," Darlington head coach Dennis Gearhart said. "We just couldn't find it early in the game. I've said it all year: you can't give good baseball teams extra outs and free bases. I thought we settled in pretty good after that. Other than the first half inning we won the game, it's a 2-1 game other than that first half. We threw a lot of pitches in that inning and pitch count came into play later."

After giving up a single to start the game off, Falcons' starting pitcher Drake Adams walked the next three batters, a few the result of questionable calls behind the plate, resulting in the first run of the game.

With one run already in and the bases still loaded with no outs, North Myrtle Beach capitalized following the RBI walk

with a two-RBI single by the next batter.

The Chiefs scored their fourth run and final run of the inning off an error by Falcons shortstop Quez Mullins.

From there, Adams rolled, shutting the Chiefs out from the second inning through the sixth, before giving way to Gage Weatherford in the seventh.

Darlington found some life offensively in the third inning when Eric McElveen doubled down the left field line, scoring one. Matthew Demaurice followed that up with RBI groundout quickly cutting a 4-0 deficit in half.

"I thought we battled, I thought we played well," Gearhart said. "It was a special season, it was a fight, a roller coaster of a season too, you know, lots of up, lots of downs, but in the long run I think we got better as a program, I think we learned a lot. Hats off to the seniors, they are a big part of the reason why this program has taken the steps in the right direction."

With the lead cut to two and a runner on third, the Falcons had a chance to get another run, but a strike out ended the threat.

The Falcons' bats went quiet for the next three innings following that third inning before they came back to life for a moment in the seventh.

After North Myrtle Beach added a run in the top of seventh off of Weatherford to increase the Chiefs lead to 5-2, Darlington had three outs left to score three runs or its season was over.

Chase Weatherford led the inning off with an infield single and Jalin Mullins reached after an error by the Chiefs second baseman, giving the Falcons two men on with no outs and McElveen, a deep ball threat coming up to bat.

Needing a hit and hoping for a homerun the Falcons, instead got a 6-4-3 double play crushing any chance for a rally. Demaurice grounded out to end the game on the next at bat.

Darlington finishes the season with an 11-12 record overall.

## Weekly Recap

Darlington opened up its playoff run this past Tuesday, April 25 with a 1-0 road win over the Chiefs before losing to AC Flora on the road 9-2 on Thursday.



Matthew Demaurice tries to help the Falcons get some momentum while at the plate in the game against North Myrtle Beach. PHOTO BY DRAKE HORTON

## North strikes out against Lamar in the opener

By Drake Horton  
Contributing Writer

The Lamar Silver Foxes got its playoff run off to a good start this past Wednesday, defeating the North Eagles 10-0 in five innings.

Behind superb pitching and just enough hitting, Lamar overwhelmed the Eagles, who looked completely out of place against the Silver Foxes.

Coming off an injury that has kept him from playing lately, let alone pitching, Luke Amerson, dominated the North batters, striking out 12, walking two and giving up just one hit in a complete five inning performance.

"Luke's been out a few weeks with an injury," Lamar head coach Adam Windham said. "We really didn't know if we would get him back. He's really limited to pitching with his injury, but he did a great job, he threw strikes and that is all that we can ask of him."

Amerson was basically unhittable, striking out the first seven batters he faced; that lone hit by North came in the fifth on an accidental swing.

"I just threw strikes and the defense made plays," Amerson said. "I really didn't walk too many."

"I threw a bunch of fastballs, didn't really need the curveball too much. The fastball was on."

Offensively, it was kind of a hit and miss for the Silver Foxes despite the lopsided score that resulted in the game ending early.

On the positive side, Lamar loaded the bases in the first four innings of game, scoring one run in the first, three runs in both the second and third inning, two runs in the fourth and the final run in the fifth.

But on the negative side, the Silver Foxes hit way too many pop ups, missing that one hit or



Luke Amerson dominated the mound against the North Eagles after weeks of injury kept him off the field. PHOTO BY DRAKE HORTON

so that could have made the game 20-0 instead of 10-0.

"We have to stop hitting so many fly balls," Windham said. "If you hit fly balls, you're going to get out no matter who you are playing. We told them after the game that we got to get on top of the ball, hit more groundballs, line drives. People are more prone to make mistakes if you get on top of the ball and hit it hard. We got to get out of the popping it up mode some."

Daniel Galloway had the hardest hit of the game, crushing a double to the center field fence in the bottom of the fifth inning, scoring Rashard

Coleman to end the game.

It was a perfect ending to the game as it was Galloway who got Lamar on the board in the first inning with a RBI single to center field.

Jadarius Munford was responsible for all three runs in the second inning for Lamar with a two-RBI single and a run scored due to heads up base running on a groundout that saw him score from second base.

The third inning saw three straight runs scored due to back-to-back walks and a hit-by-pitch with the bases loaded and two outs.

Ace James had a RBI groundout in the fourth and later scored on a wild pitch after reaching on a North error.

## Weekly Recap

Lamar won its other game of the week, defeating the Dixie Hornets on the road this past Friday 11-5 to advance to the district championship game, which will be played in Lamar.

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Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

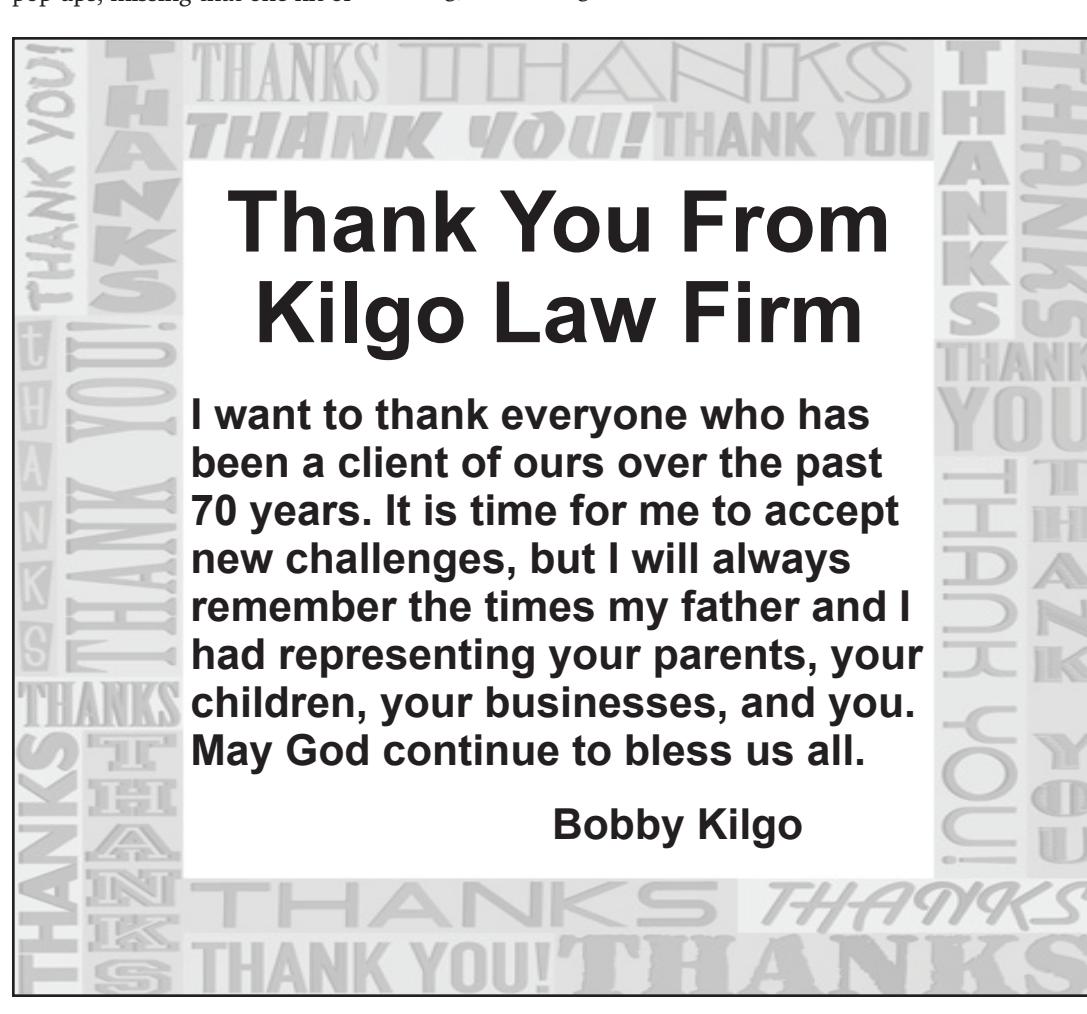
(3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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## Thank You From Kilgo Law Firm

I want to thank everyone who has been a client of ours over the past 70 years. It is time for me to accept new challenges, but I will always remember the times my father and I had representing your parents, your children, your businesses, and you. May God continue to bless us all.

Bobby Kilgo



# Darlington Garden Club cleans up Darlington

By Melissa Rollins  
Editor  
editor@newsandpress.net

The Darlington Garden Club was hard at work last week bringing some color and much needed spring sprucing up to the Welcome to Darlington sign near Pate Elementary School.

Ronda Brown said that the club does special projects each year to help make the city beautiful for its residents and visitors.

"Every year the ladies suggest what project the garden club can do," Brown said. "DeLette Jordan suggested that we do something with the entrances to Darlington. The Beautification has been working on a long-term plan for new signage to Darlington. I took that in and showed it to the ladies. They decided that if we were going to do something, we were going to go all the way; we were just going to plant plants but we voted to do more."

Brown said that making a good first impression goes a long way when it comes to attracting visitors.

"The problem is that you only have so many hands and so many hours in the day," Brown said. "Now this area looks more park-like and gives a better impression for people

coming in to Darlington."

The money that was used for cleaning up the area came from a fundraiser held every summer.

"We really are just the stewards of the money that is donated through that fundraiser," Brown said. "This is a tribute to anybody who has ever given the garden club money."

Brown said that donations they receive are a testament to the fact that people care about the way their town looks.

"Those donations show how much this means to the citizens of Darlington and the administration is willing to back that up by taking care of it," Brown said. "This is where a lot of people who have never been to Darlington before are coming in. We want this to be your first view of Darlington, 'Isn't that beautiful' or 'Isn't that quaint?'

The Darlington Garden Club meets the third Monday of every month. Meetings are at 1 p.m. and the location changes. The club recently changed their name; it was previously known as the Kalmia Garden Study Club. For more information about the club and the meetings call Ronda Brown at 561-234-9411.



Members of The Darlington Garden Club take a break from cleaning up the Welcome to Darlington sign near Pate Elementary School.

PHOTO BY MELISSA ROLLINS

## THE STATE CAPITOL REPORT

By Rep. Robert Q. Williams  
SC House District #62

The House of Representatives and the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.3726, the

• Retirement System Funding and Administration Act, and enrolled the legislation for ratification. This bill implements recommendations of the joint legislative committee formed to study the unfunded liability facing the state retirement systems and propose changes that could allow the state's pensions to remain viable by continuing to deliver benefits to retirees without undermining the state's finances.

• H.3726 decouples employer and employee contribution rates into pension systems by eliminating the required differential between the two rates which is currently set at 2.9 percent for the largest pension plan, the South Carolina Retirement System which serves most state government employees, teachers, various local government employees, and others, and 5 percent for the Police Officers Retirement System. The legislation provides for a 2% increase in the employer contribution rates for these systems effective July 1, 2017, so that the SCRS employer contribution rate will increase from the current 11.56 percent to 13.56 percent and the PORS employer contribution rate will increase from the current 14.24

percent to 16.24 percent. Each year thereafter, a 1 percent increase is scheduled for these employer contribution rates until Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

• H.3726 implements recommendations for improving governance of the retirement systems and simplifying lines of authority which draw upon findings of South Carolina's Legislative Audit Council and the private firm that conducted the independent audit of the state's pension systems. The legislation provides greater definition for the role of the Executive Director of the Public Employee Benefit Authority, who is designated by PEBA's Board of Directors and serves at the pleasure of the board. PEBA's organizational structure is clarified such that all employees are hired by and report to the Executive Director.

• The House amended, approved, and sent the Senate H.3930, a bill providing authorization to carry a handgun in public without a permit, either openly or concealed, implementing what is often called "Constitutional carry" or "permitless carry" in South Carolina. In making its revisions, the legislation retains most of the current provisions relating to concealable weapons, including: the issuance of concealable weapons permits by the State Law Enforcement Division; the posting of notification that allows a business owner to prohibit concealable weapons on the premises; the homeowner permission required for carrying a concealable weapon into a private residence; and a list of

places where concealable weapons are not allowed such as schools, daycare facilities, hospitals, courthouses, and the meeting places of government bodies.

• The House amended, approved, and sent the Senate H.3566, a bill establishing conditions upon which school first responders may possess firearms on school premises while rendering aid in crisis situations. The legislation makes provisions for the Law Enforcement Training Council to develop guidelines for a one week training program offered by the Criminal Justice Academy to the emergency medical service personnel and firefighters who serve as school first responders which provides certification that, along with a valid concealed weapons permit, allows them to possess firearms on school premises while they are responding to a campus shooting or other emergencies.

• The House approved S.354 and enrolled the bill for ratification. The legislation makes provisions for Department of Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Unit facilities where individuals entering hospital emergency rooms suffering from mental illness or substance abuse issues may be transferred to begin receiving appropriate care. This bill makes provisions for a crisis stabilization unit facility operated or authorized by the Department of Mental Health which provides a short term residential program offering psychiatric stabilization services, detoxification services, and brief, intensive crisis services

twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

• The House amended, approved, and sent the Senate H.3823, a bill requiring healthcare professionals to report the exposure of infants to alcohol or drugs. The legislation adds physicians, nurses, and medical or allied health professionals to the list of those who are required to report instances of suspected child abuse or neglect by mandating a report to the Department of Social Services whenever they encounter a child, birth to one year, who is diagnosed with neonatal abstinence syndrome or a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, or a child, birth to one year, who is medically affected by the prenatal substance exposure to a controlled or illegal substance, or withdrawal from alcohol or a controlled or illegal substance.

• The House amended, approved, and sent the Senate H.3865, the "South Carolina Pregnancy Accommodations Act." The legislation enhances state laws that combat pregnancy discrimination, promote public health, and ensure full and equal participation for women in the labor force by requiring employers to provide reasonable accommodations to employees for medical needs arising from pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, including accommodations for lactation, that allow

employees to remain on the job.

• The House approved and sent the Senate H.3809, bill facilitating access to a year's supply of contraceptive drugs, such as birth control pills, patches, and rings, that can be obtained all at one time rather than through periodic refills over the course of a year.

• The House amended, approved, and sent the Senate H.3824, a bill establishing requirements for healthcare practitioners to review a

patient's controlled substance prescription history. The legislation establishes a protocol for conducting a review a patient's controlled substance prescription history, as maintained in the prescription-monitoring program, before a practitioner issues a prescription for a Schedule II controlled substance.

If I may be of assistance please feel free to call your legislative office in Columbia (803-734-3142), or my home (843-395-9408).

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## Duke Energy Progress customers in South Carolina to see slight increase in fuel rates

GREENVILLE, S.C. - Duke Energy Progress is proposing an increase in monthly fuel costs for its customers beginning this summer, the first proposed increase since 2014.

The company made its annual fuel filing Thursday with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (PSCSC) for costs associated with the purchase of fuel to generate electricity at its power plants.

Under the proposal, typical residential customers using 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month would see their bills increase from the current \$113.17 to \$116.83, an increase of \$3.66, or 3.2 percent.

Commercial customers would see an average increase in their bills of about 3 percent, and industrial customers would receive an average increase of about 1.9 percent.

If approved by the PSCSC, the new fuel rates would go into effect July 1.

The main reasons for the proposed overall increase in

rates include:

- An under-collection of projected fuel costs of \$10.2 million for the prior period

- An increase in expenditures related to distributed energy resource initiatives to meet the goals of Act 236 (or the Distributed Energy Resource Program Act)

Duke Energy Progress makes a fuel cost recovery filing annually in South Carolina. The fuel rate is based on the projected cost of fuel used to provide electric service to the company's customers, plus a true-up of the prior year's projection. Last year, monthly bills decreased by nearly \$3 when these annual charges were approved by the PSCSC.

Duke Energy Progress works to actively manage its fuel contracts to keep fuel costs as low as possible for customers. Savings achieved from the joint dispatch of Duke Energy's generation fleet in the Carolinas also help to minimize the company's fuel costs. The PSCSC reviews fuel costs and adjusts the fuel component of cus-

tomer rates accordingly.

By law, the company makes no profit from the fuel component of rates.

The proposed increase this year would affect the bills of all Duke Energy Progress customers in South Carolina. The company's other South Carolina utility -- Duke Energy Carolinas -- will make its annual fuel filing in July.

Duke Energy Progress is committed to helping customers take control of their energy use and manage their bills. The company offers energy-saving tips and innovative efficiency programs for every budget to help customers realize additional savings.

One such program is the Home Energy House Call - a free in-home energy assessment, valued at \$180, designed to give Duke Energy customers more information about how they use energy in their home and strategies to save money on their monthly bill.

To learn more about these programs, visit [www.duke-energy.com/savings](http://www.duke-energy.com/savings).

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## Relay for Life Darlington County set for May 5

By Samantha Lyles  
Staff Writer  
syles@newsandpress.net

Relay For Life, the signature fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, is set to kick off its Darlington County event on May 5 at the Byerly Park Recreational Complex in Hartsville.

This eight-hour walkathon brings together hundreds of cancer survivors, caregivers, and all those who support the fight against cancer for a night of fellowship, fun, and remembrance.

The Relay evening starts at 6 p.m. with a celebration of everyone who's been affected by cancer, whether they were diagnosed recently or are in long-term remission.

This is followed by the Survivors Lap, where those facing a cancer diagnosis hit the track and take the night's inaugural lap. Anyone who has overcome cancer is invited to join. Next up is the Caregivers Lap, honoring those selfless people who devote their time and energy to caring for cancer patients. Caregivers often walk this lap

with the person or people they are helping.

The Luminaria Ceremony features hundreds of small white luminaria bags often featuring names of loved ones lost to cancer, or those still waging the fight. Their bright warmth offers support and hope to the grieving and honors the survivors.

While many Relay participants will walk in stages, with group members tagging in and out during the eight hour event, Darlington Police Department Chief Danny Watson says that he plans to run most of the night, only taking breaks for rest and refreshments.

A veteran runner who racks up several miles nearly every day, Watson checks Facebook each morning and finds someone in his feed who is ill or enduring hardship and he dedicates his daily run to them, sending them prayers for strength and healing. In this same spirit, Watson says he and running buddy Curtis Boyd intend to churn out some miles at the Relay For Life, with each step generating positive energy for those involved in the fight

against cancer. "Over 140 people last year alone in Darlington County died from cancer, and that's just the people who have passed away. There are so many other people out there who are survivors, who are fighting cancer, that you'd never even know," says Watson, praising their courage and citing a favorite Bible verse that gives him hope during adversity.

"I always think about Philippians 4:13 - 'all things are possible through Him.' And that's clearly seen at the Relay... it doesn't just raise money for cancer research, it lets people know that they're not alone, that there are people around to love them and support them," says Watson.

Chief Watson and the Darlington Police Department also organized an April 8 hot dog fundraiser at Darlington's Walmart and sold hundreds of Relay for Life "donation feet." These donation markers now decorate the walls of Darlington's City Hall, with all the little feet spelling out names of cancer survivors and those



Chief Danny Watson of the Darlington Police Department shows some of the 500+ "Relay For Life" donation markers on display at the DPD, spelling out the names of cancer survivors and those lost to the disease.

PHOTO BY SAMANTHA LYLES

ipants and guests to celebrate the night, and to remember those who could not be present. It provides a moment of unity where Relay walkers, volunteers, and sponsors can reflect on the past and commit themselves to help end the pain and suffering of cancer.

Byerly Park is located at 700 Russell Rd in Hartsville. To learn more about participating, volunteering, or sponsoring the Relay for Life of Darlington County, visit them on Facebook or contact Chinel Boateng at (843) 245-8538 or email chinel.boateng@cancer.org



## Head Start holds Week of the Young Child event

Darlington County Community Action Agency Head Start Program, in partnership with Darlington County First Steps, held the annual "Week of the Young Child: Investing in Young Children Benefits All" celebration on April 28 at Hartsville's Byerly Park.

From 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., kids enjoyed games and refreshments while their parents learned about 2017/18 school year Head Start recruitment and early childhood education opportunities for kids aged 3 to 5 in Darlington County.

"It was an excellent turnout. Parents really showed up," said education coordinator Diane McIver. "We recognize and respect that parents are the first teachers, they are the first base for our children. However, we are here to help the parents promote them further. Without Head Start, some parents get stuck at a level, and that's what we are here for – to make sure our children get school-ready. We do this by focusing on five essential domains: cognition, language, approaches to learning, physical, and social/emotional."

To learn more about early childhood education programs available in Darlington County, visit or call one of these Head Start facilities:

St. Joseph Head Start, located at 305 Washington Street in Hartsville; phone (843) 332-6593

MG Burno Head Start, located at 223 Law Plantation Road in Darlington; phone (843) 395-8036

Butler Head Start, located at 1103-C South Sixth Street in Hartsville; phone (843) 339-9660

Or you may call Diane McIver at (843) 878-9958 or (843) 758-8733

## Evening Under the Oaks



Oak Manor Inn of Hartsville played host to the annual "Evening Under the Oaks" fundraiser on Saturday, April 29. Guests enjoyed an enchanted evening of fine food, spirits, and live music while bidding on a variety of donated auction items including

vacation getaways, sports memorabilia, and original artworks. All proceeds from the event benefit the Darlington County Humane Society.

PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA LYLES





## Darlington High School Early College Graduate Spotlight: Christina Epps

Christina Epps is one of five Darlington High School Early College Honors Program students set to graduate with her Associate of Arts degree from Florence-Darlington Technical College.

When DHS unveiled its Associate of Arts Degree program for qualified Early College Honors Program students, Christina decided to rise to the challenge and take advantage of this opportunity. While only a high school freshman, Christina committed to spend the next three years, including one summer, devoted to a full college course load each semester in addition to her other high school classes. Her hard work has paid off because with the successful completion of her

spring courses, Miss Epps will walk during Florence-Darlington Technical College's Spring commencement ceremony in May and then receive both her college degree and high school diploma during Darlington High School's graduation ceremony on June 2nd.

Christina is a dynamic student-athlete at DHS where she is a member of both the tennis and track teams. Christina also actively participates in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Anchor Club, National Honor Society, Beta Club, History Club, and Prom Committee; she also serves as Student Government President and Key Club Secretary. Even with her participation in clubs and athlet-

ics, Christina still manages the time to work two part-time jobs and dance.

Christina plans to attend USC and then graduate school to eventually become an attorney or actuary. When looking back, she says "...it has been one of the best decisions in my life. I am still in awe about how much money and time I have saved before attending college." Christina would also like to encourage other students to, "take advantage of every opportunity that the ECHP and AA degree program offers." She also reminds students to "never think that you are not smart enough. Success is all about how hard you work for it." If success is about how hard you work, it is clear that Christina is a success.



## Darlington High School Early College Graduate Spotlight: Matthew Williams

Matthew Williams is one of five Darlington High School Early College Honors Program students set to graduate with his Associate of Arts degree from Florence-Darlington Technical College.

When DHS unveiled its Associate of Arts Degree program for qualified Early College Honors Program students, Matthew decided to rise to the challenge and take advantage of this opportunity. While only a high school freshman, Matthew committed to spend the next three years, including one summer, devoted to a full college course load each semester in addition to his other high

school classes. His hard work has paid off because with the successful completion of his spring courses, Matthew will walk during Florence-Darlington Technical College's Spring commencement ceremony in May and then receive both his college degree and high school diploma during Darlington High School's graduation ceremony on June 2nd.

Matthew is an active student at DHS where he participates in the National Honor Society and History Club. He also serves as Key Club Treasurer and Student Government Vice President. In addition to being involved in various school organiza-

tions, Matthew manages to work part-time and play the guitar in his church's worship team. When not working or involved in school activities, he also enjoys playing the guitar and spending time with family and friends.

Matthew plans to attend Francis Marion University or USC and eventually own his own business. When thinking about the ECHP program at DHS, Matthew stated, "I believe that this program offers students the widest variety and most beneficial opportunities in the Pee Dee." We are certainly glad that Matthew took advantage of this opportunity and its benefits, and we are proud of his success.

## Grant awarded to CareFIRST Carolina Foundation

COLUMBIA – CareFIRST Carolina Foundation was recently awarded a \$1,500 grant from the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina. This grant bears the name of one of the guiding principles of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, in omnibus caritas, meaning "in all things charity."

Caritas grants are awarded to organizations meeting basic needs of underserved individuals and families living in poverty in South Carolina. In total, 47 organizations were awarded Caritas spring 2017 funding for a total of \$112,200.

Funding will support CareFirst's Friends and Neighbors Assistance. This program provides financial assistance for families in poverty facing unanticipated medical costs for specialty care including mammograms, eye exams, emergency dental assistance, emergency medications and other services. This grant will serve residents of Lee County and Darlington. For more information, visit [www.sistersofcharitysc.com](http://www.sistersofcharitysc.com).

## Hollifield, Arnold Earn All-Conference Accolades for Coker Baseball

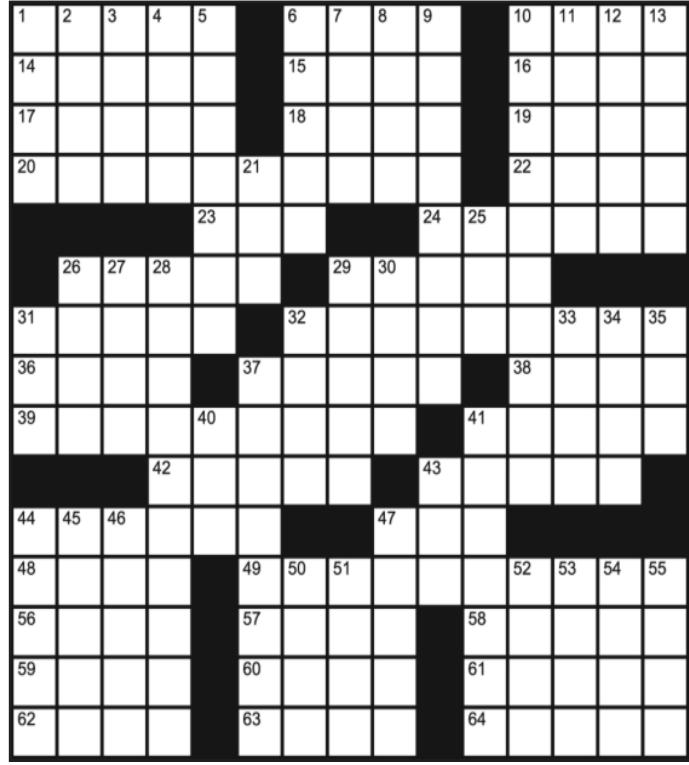
Coker baseball hurlers Griffin Hollifield and Forrest Arnold were named to the South Atlantic Conference all-conference teams, the league announced today. The league's full release can be viewed here.

Hollifield was named to the All-SAC second team as a relief pitcher, while Forrest Arnold was named to the All-SAC honorable mention team as a starting pitcher.

Hollifield has made a team-high 22 appearances as a sophomore, totaling 45.1 innings of work, the third-highest total on the team. He owns a 2-2 record, with his six saves being tied for second in the South Atlantic Conference. He has allowed 13 runs, 10 earned on 38 hits, walking only six and punching out 22 on the season. His 1.50 earned run average leads the team and also the South Atlantic Conference. The mark earned Hollifield the conference statistical championship for earned run average. This is Hollifield's first career all-conference selection. The sophomore from Elgin, S.C. is the son of Kelley and Doug Hollifield, and is a business administration major.

Arnold has made 13 appearances including 11 starts this season for the Cobras. He owns a record of 5-3 with two complete games. Both efforts were complete-game shutouts, over Lenoir Rhyne (Mar. 18) and Brevard (Apr. 15), where he took a perfect game bid into the ninth inning. Arnold leads the team and is eighth in the league in innings with 71.0. On 69 hits, he has allowed 39 runs, 31 of them earned. The right-hander has walked 18 and struck out 48 on the year, hurling to a 3.93 earned run average, which is second on the team. Arnold was named Astroturf South Atlantic Conference Pitcher of the Week twice, both times after his complete-game efforts. This is Arnold's first career all-conference selection. The West Columbia, S.C. native is the son of Heather Castles and Malcolm Arnold, and is a sports management major.

## CROSSWORD



### Across

1. Government agency ruling Soviet camps  
6. Boys  
10. Acad.  
14. Throat dangler  
15. Sundae topper, perhaps  
16. Jaywalking, e.g.  
17. OK, in a way  
18. Bill collector?  
19. Blockhead  
20. Weariness of body from strain  
22. Adjutant  
23. Drink from a dish  
24. A trader who deals with animals hides  
26. Mill output  
29. Static \_\_\_  
31. "You there?"  
32. Useful  
36. Biblical birthright seller  
38. Drag  
39. Structures created by worms  
41. Bluish gray  
42. Spoonful, say  
43. Blinds  
44. On dry land  
47. A.T.M. need  
48. Farm soil
49. Causing to grow thin  
56. "Major" animal  
57. "... happily \_\_\_ after"  
58. Electric dart shooter  
59. Advanced  
60. Adam's apple spot  
61. Antipasto morsel  
62. A chorus line  
63. Cafeteria carrier  
64. Alter
- Down**
1. Deceive  
2. Eye layer  
3. Big galoots  
4. "Ah, me!"  
5. Famous Italian astronomer  
6. Add  
7. Bone-dry  
8. Drop  
9. A turning point  
10. Not definite or clear  
11. Kind of situation  
12. Insinuating  
13. Schlepper  
21. Toni Morrison's "\_\_\_ Baby"  
25. Queen, maybe  
26. 100 centavos  
27. Apple spray  
28. Oblong red veg

## WORD SEARCH



Accuse	Easel	Hers	Quite
Adapt	Engage	Isn't	Radar
Administrati	Enjoy	Laid	Requirements
on	Evil	Lift	Rugs
Again	Exits	Lion	Runs
Ants	Experts	Live	Seat
Ashamed	Fade	Losing	Sews
Auntie	Fading	Made	Sorry
Award	Fairy	Males	Stomachs
Barber	Fame	Marry	Swamp
Chew	Fins	Moss	Sweep
Chief	Fluff	Name	Tapped
City	Frogs	Near	Thee
Dial	Gate	Nest	Trying
Done	Habits	Nursed	T-shirt
Draw	Heading	Nurses	Turn

Answers on 5B

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## Coker College Concert Band's spring concert to honor longtime area music teachers

The Coker College Concert Band will perform their annual spring concert on Sunday, May 7, at 4 p.m. in the Watson Theater of the college's Elizabeth Boatwright Coker Performing Arts Center, with a reception following to recognize retiring band program directors Steve and Penny Rogers. The event is free and open to the public.

Penny and Steve Rogers are co-directors of the Coker band program, which they founded five years ago. The current band has around 40 members and is made up of Coker students, local high school students and community mem-

bers, including several local music teachers. The Band Program also has three smaller ensembles: the Brass Ensemble, Jazz Band and Flute Choir.

Penny Rogers has taught as an adjunct professor at Coker for many years prior to founding the band program. Prior to their time at Coker, Penny and Steve spent many decades teaching music in area public schools. The couple first met at a band directors meeting in Horry County; they were both second year teachers. Penny jokes, "it was the most productive meeting we have ever been to!"

The concert will include selections by the Coker College Concert Band, Jazz Band and the Flute Choir. These large and small ensembles will perform a wide variety of music, including everything from standard arrangements of familiar melodies to contemporary music using some unusual musical instruments.

The reception following will celebrate Penny and Steve's extensive contributions to Coker College and music education across our region.

For more information about the event, please contact band@coker.edu or 843-287-0669.

## FDTC's Foundation sponsors golf tournament for scholarships

Enjoy South Carolina's beautiful Spring weather on the golf course at the Florence-Darlington Technical College Educational Foundation's 15th annual College Golf Classic and Corporate Challenge. The tournament is Thursday, May 18, 2017 at Traces Golf Club in West Florence and it's all to support scholarships at Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC).

The tournament begins with registration at 11 a.m. and a catered lunch at noon. A "shot gun" start at 1 p.m. officially kicks off the FDTC Golf Classic and Corporate Challenge.

"It's really two tournaments in one," according to Jill Lewis, FDTC Educational Foundation Executive Director. "We have the Golf Classic running the same time as the Corporate Challenge and the winner gets to take

the Corporate Cup home where they have bragging rights until next year!" Last year's Corporate Challenge winner was NUCOR Steel of Darlington County.

For more information, about the FDTC Foundation Golf Classic and Corporate Challenge, Thursday May 18 at Traces, contact Jill Lewis with the College Foundation at jill.lewis@fdtc.edu or call 843 661-8003.



The Audie Brown Chevrolet family recently celebrated 'Customer Appreciation Day' with free food and inflatables for kids.

## BOOKINGS REPORT

DARLINGTON COUNTY DETENTION CENTER APRIL 17 THROUGH APRIL 24, 2017  
INMATE NAME/AGE/BOOKING OFFENSE

### CHARGES

**ABHN:** Assault and battery, high and aggravated nature

**DUAC:** Driving under unlawful alcohol concentration

**DUI:** Driving under the influence

**DUS:** Driving under suspension

**CDV:** Criminal domestic violence

**CDVHAN:** Criminal domestic violence, high and aggravated nature

**PDC:** Public disorderly conduct

**PWID:** Possession with intent to distribute

**SPOM:** Simple possession of marijuana

Violence 3rd Degree

- Michael Eugene Shaw, 48, of 502 Ashland Rd, Hartsville, DUI/Driving Under the Influence .08 1st

- Austin Tanner Shepherd, 23, of 21399 Skyview Dr, Tecumseh OK, Shoplifting <\$2000

- Tommy Joe Tyner, 28, of 2847 Patrick Hwy, Hartsville, Driving Under Suspension

- Jack Donovan Lewis, 46, of 1749 Hwy 9, Bennettsville, Obtain Sign/Prop Under False Pretense <\$2000; Giving False Information; Fail to Appear After Release for a Misdemeanor; Defrauding Hotel Boarding House or Restaurant; Defrauding Hotel Boarding House or Restaurant

- Malik Dequan Lowery, 21, of 312 Piney Grove Rd, Timmonsville, Poss of a Weapon During Violent Crime; Armed Robbery Armed With Deadly Weapon

- Curtis Lashawn James, 29, of 303 Colonial Dr, Timmonsville, Driving Under the Influence; Child Endangerment Vehicle (Minor); Driving Under Suspension; Child Passenger Restraint Violation; Fail to Appear DUS

- James Luther Galloway, 64, of 991 Ghost Valley Rd, Hartsville, Resisting Arrest; Shoplifting <\$2000

- Emanuel Tony Graham, 24, of 2724 Mt Olive Rd, Hartsville, Fail to Appear

- Rhkeim Ingram, 21, of 2484 Galloway Town Road, Hartsville, Malicious Injury to Real Property <\$2,000; Poss of a Weapon During Violent Crime; Armed Robbery Armed With Deadly Weapon

- Bryant Lamont Johnson, 40, of 2756 Hopewell Road, Hartsville, Domestic/Domestic

Jr., 59, of 439 W Home Ave, Hartsville, DUI/Driving Under the Influence .08 1st

- Deangelo Marquell McFarland, 26, of 1030 E Home Ave, Hartsville, Parole Violation

- Jessie Allen Dixon, 34, of 2857 Patrick Highway, Hartsville, Shoplifting <\$2000; Shoplifting <\$2000; Driving Under Suspension

- Issac Cisco McLeod, 63, of 815 Tuskegee St, Hartsville, Entering Premises After Warning

- Frank Devon Odom, 21, of 340 Press Walters Road, Hartsville, Petty Larceny <\$2000

- Olondo Jimmy Samuel, 31, of 1645 S Center Rd, Darlington, Assault and Battery 3rd Degree; Malicious Injury to Personal Property <\$2000

- Robert Lee Smith, 36, of 1804 Shadow Hill Rd, Hartsville, Probation Violation

- Frederick Lashawn Sumpter, 27, of 1231 Hampshire Ave, Rock Hill, Domestic Viol 2nd Degree

- James Brandon Thomas, 30, of 1609 Longbranch Rd, Hartsville, Fail to Maintain Proof of Insurance in Vehicle; DUI/Driving Under the Influence .08 1st

- Donte Laqawn Wilson, 29, of 153 Bowens St, Darlington, Domestic Viol 2nd Degree

- Omni Catrice Blackmon, 25, of 2542 Value Drive, Hartsville, Shoplifting <\$2000; Child Passenger Restraint Violation; Driving Under Suspension

- Jonathan Dudley Bosman, 34, of 225 Lake Grove Dr Lot #26, Darlington, Shoplifting \$2000 or Less (Enhance 16-0-157)

- Lindsey Butler, 32, of 2193 Beaver Dam Drive, Hartsville, Poss Other Controlled Sub in

Sched I to V 1st; Poss Other Controlled Sub in Sched I to V 1st

- Alan Jeffrey Dalrymple, 54, of 3047 Crest View Drive, Florence, Domestic/Domestic Violence 3rd Degree

- Benjamin Earl Dials, 55, of 1100 Second Loop, Florence, Operating Motor Vehicle w/o License; Speeding >15 but <25 MPH Over the Speed Limit

- Ashley Danielle Isgett, 30, of 3108 Sally Circle, Florence, Sentenced by General Sessions

- Carrie Lee Lashall Mazon, 36, of 1204 Farmlane Rd, Hartsville, Disturbing Schools

- Octavus Fuqwan McDowell, 28, of 917 McKeithans St, Lydia, Sentenced by General Sessions

- Jonathan Edward McPhail, 41, of 1732 N Governor Williams Hwy, Darlington, DUI/Driving Under the Influence .08 1st; Open Container of Beer/Wine; Seat Belt Violation; Driving Under Suspension; Traffic/Fail to Give or Giving Improper Signal

- John David Pendergrass II, 44, of 813 D Street, Hartsville, Assault and Battery 3rd Degree; Non Support

- Rachele Ann Peterson, 37, of 404 Mayshack Dr, Hartsville, Disturbing Schools

- Henry Timmons Thomas III, 46, of 1619 Country Manor Road, Darlington, Burglary Second Degree; Petty Larceny <\$2000; Breach of Trust <\$2000; Breach of Trust <\$2000; Grand Larceny >\$2000 <\$10,000 Enhancement 120972

- Stephanie Denise Blakely, 34, of 1501 E Bobo Newsome Hwy, Hartsville, Public Disorderly Conduct

- Corey N Cannon, 23, of 5152 Hoffmeyer Rd, Darlington, Poss of a Weapon During Violent Crime; Domestic Violence of a High and Aggravated

- Mark Anthony Fox, 47, of 560 Catus Lane, Hartsville, Weekender

- Rico Reamound Gatson, 33, of 107 King Edward St, Darlington, Fail to Return Drivers License After Susp; Driving Under Suspension

Darlington, Fail to Return Drivers License After Susp; Driving Under Suspension

- Charles Dru Hunter, 31, of 79 Therry Lane, Elgin, Driving Under Suspension; Speeding >15 but <25 MPH Over the Speed Limit

- Spencer McCoy Ryals, 23, of 2254 Clara Rd, Darlington, DUI/Driving Under the Influence .08 1st

- William Bradford Smith, 35, of 1490 Elliott Hwy, Bishopville, Breach of Trust w/Fraud Intent >\$2000 <\$10,000

- Chassidy Leanne Soles, 21, of 820 Green Pastures Drive, Hartsville, Public Disorderly Conduct

- Christopher Ernest Yarborough, 43, of 1715 Patricia Ln, Hartsville, Assault and Battery 3rd Degree

- James Arthur Young, 56, of 2034 N Church Place, Spartanburg, DUI/Driving Under the Influence .08 1st; Open Container of Beer/Wine

- Starter Duke James Byrd, 20, of 1272 Clyde School Road, McBee, Weekender Serving Time

- Steve Douglas Cagle, 45, of 924 Stanley Dr, Hartsville, Poss Other Controlled Sub in Sched I to V 1st; Breaking Into Auto/Tanks Where Fuel Stored

- Kathryn Nyopal Griggs-Gainey, 43, of 924 Stanley Dr, Hartsville, Poss Other Controlled Sub in Sched I to V 1st

- Joseph Allen Johnson, 31, of 2424 Special Ln, Hartsville, Domestic Viol 2nd Degree

- Kassie Rena Rogers, 34, of 817 Wagon Rd, Darlington, Public Disorderly Conduct

- Sena Larranette Easterling, 35, of 921 Wilson Village Dr, Darlington, Entering Premises After Warning

- Bobby Farmer, 62, of 2040 North 5th Street, Hartsville, Speeding >10 but <15 MPH Over the Speed Limit

- Damian Devon White, 24, of 305 South 8th St, Hartsville, Fail to Stop for Blue Light; Reckless Driving

## Fugitive Task Force captures wanted man

Henry Timmons Thomas, III, age 46, of Darlington was captured at a residence on E. Home Ave. in the Hartsville area of Darlington County today. Thomas has been charged with burglary, second degree, which is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than fifteen years and petit larceny, which is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

Thomas was captured by Darlington County Sheriff's Deputies with the assistance of the US Marshal's Task Force, the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, and the Florence County Sheriff's Office. Thomas was on the run for three weeks.

Darlington County Sheriff's Criminal Investigations Division Investigators allege that in March Thomas entered a business in the Darlington area of Darlington County without permission and took a quantity of business checks. Thomas is currently being held at the W. Glenn Campbell Detention Center awaiting arraignment. According to Investigators, additional charges are pending.

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# classifieds

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MAY 3, 2017 | PAGE 5B

THE NEWS AND PRESS, DARLINGTON, S.C.

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**NEW LISTING**

**150 Nez Perce Drive** - Fabulous custom built home on cul-de-sac in Darlington Country Club featuring 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths situated on 3 acres. This home has so much to offer such as a basement with family room and home office. This is a must see! **\$267,000**

**1172 Harry Byrd Highway** - Spacious home featuring 4 bedrooms, 3 baths on 3.8 acres with walking distance of Darlington Raceway. Front porch & rear screen porch, detached garage and workshop. Central heating & air. **\$139,000**

**RESIDENTIAL**

**150 Nez Perce Drive** - 3 BR, 2 BA, 3,772 SF - **\$267,000**  
**1172 Harry Byrd Highway** - 4 BR, 3 BA, 2,738 SF - **\$139,000**  
**116 N. Spain Street** - 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 1,957 SF - **\$183,600**  
**919 Gibson Street** - Hartsville, 3BR, 2 BA, 1,121 SF - **\$44,900**  
**505 Cagle Street** - 3 BR, 2 BA, 1,300 SF - **\$43,900**  
**705 S. Main Street** - 2 BR, 1.5 BA, 1,422 SF - **\$32,900**  
**512 Mallard Duck Drive** - 3 BR, 1.5 BA, 1,121 SF - **\$45,000**

**LAND**

**36.45 Acres Iseman Road** - **\$72,900**  
**117.89 Acres New Hopewell Rd** - **\$350,000**  
**Timmonsville Highway** - 25.74 - **\$128,700**  
**TBD S. Main Street** - .56 Acres - **\$20,000**  
**New Hopewell Road** - 60.22 Acres - **\$220,000**  
**TBD Rogers Road** - 2.35 Acres - **\$25,000**  
**US Highway 151** - 2.08 Acres - **\$94,900**  
**TBD Pink Dogwood Street** - 2 Lots - **\$24,000 Per Lot**  
**Harry Byrd Hwy** - 9.62 Acres - **\$110,800**  
**Harry Byrd Hwy** - 7 Acres - **\$80,500**  
**Lydia Highway** - 3.64 Acres - **\$59,000**

**COMMERCIAL**

**130 S. Sixth Street** - Hartsville Business - **\$99,500**  
**130 S. Sixth Street** - Hartsville - **\$50,000**  
**121/123/127 S. Main Street** - **\$149,900**  
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42p1

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910 Pearl Street, small house, \$425.00/month 843-393-7545 41ctfn  
116 Virgil Wells Circle, 3 bedroom house, \$525.00/month, 843-393-7545 41ctfn

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2007 Dodge 2500 6.7 DIESEL. Mileage 338,000, heavy duty, new tires, runs well. No mechanical issues. No collisions. Selling no longer needed to pulling RV. Truck bed body dented. \$12,000 Firm Call 843-618-8196 Ed or 843-687-8488 34ctfn

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PUBLIC AUCTION Saturday, May 13 at 10 am 757 South Anderson Rd. Rock Hill, SC Selling 40+ Cars, Trucks, SUV's CAT 314C Excavator, (2) Kubota Excavators, JD Gators Service Trucks, and more for City of Rock Hill, SC. 704-791-8825 ncaf5479/scal2893r www.ClassicAuctions.com

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### Notice of Landscaping Bids

The City of Darlington is accepting bids for the landscaping maintenance of several areas. Sealed bids will be accepted through 4 p.m. Friday May 26, and opened at 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 30. Bid packets with complete details can be picked up at the Codes Enforcement Office, 400 Pearl St., Darlington beginning Wednesday, May 3, 2017. For information, call the Planning Department at 843-398-4000 x 103 or email darlingtonplanner@gmail.com.

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### NEW LISTINGS

**4818 Lullwater Drive**-New Construction in Summerville S/D. This home has it all. Large den, formal dining room, kitchen with eat in bar, pantry, and stainless steel appliances. 2,066 sq ft of living area, 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths, small flex room could be used as an office, 2 car garage and bonus room over garage. Listed at **\$209,900**.

**1724 S. Center Road**-Nice home located in a country setting. Vinyl siding home with 1,279 sq ft of living area. 2 bedrooms and 2 baths. Large front porch and rear deck. Workshop, carport, and covered shed for RV. Home sits on 1.29 acres of land. Listed at **\$79,500**

### RESIDENTIAL

**130 Edwards Ave** - 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 2,966 sq ft **\$174,900**  
**213 Lawson Rd**-3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,516 sq ft-\$159,900

**878 Cribb Road** - Florence - 3 bed-

rooms, 2 baths, 1,665 sq ft - **\$154,900**

**874 Cribb Road** - Florence - 1 bed-

rooms, 2 baths, 1,536 sq ft - **\$146,900**

**405 Chatham Place**, Florence - 3

bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,700 sq ft - **\$149,900**

**1381 Nolan Dr** - Put 3 bedrooms, 2

baths, 1,295 sq ft, large workshop -

**\$144,900**

**211 Lawson Rd** - 3 bedrooms, 2 bath

1,456 sq ft - **\$139,900**

**4860 Lullwater Dr** - 3 bedrooms, 2

baths, 1,460 sq ft - **\$139,900**

**4854 Lullwater Dr** - 3 bedrooms, 2

baths, 1,460 sq ft - **\$139,900**

**301 S. McFarland St** (Hartsville) - 2

bedrooms, 1 bath 1,400 sq ft - **\$30,900**

## Society Hill Garden Club wants to see historic town bloom

By Melissa Rollins  
Editor  
editor@newsandpress.net

Society Hill will be getting a little more colorful thanks to a few community members with a passion for getting their hands dirty.

Several months ago during a town council meeting, Melissa Burch told council members that she was interested in starting a garden club to help with the beautification of the historic town.

"I have always loved gardening and I've always had a garden; at all of our homes that has always been my hobby," Burch said. "When we came to Society Hill, it was such a beautiful little town but there was not a flower to be seen."

Burch said that knowing the difference a few flowers can make, she started talking to Mayor Tommy Bradshaw about what she could do.

"I started talking to Tommy and asked if there was a garden club or any support for beautification," Burch said. "He said no, and I told him there was about to be. I guess it was just my personal desire to pretty things up."

Burch said that she had intended for the club to meet and start planting earlier in the year but that the weather was not cooperating.



Cora Byrd, Melissa Burch, Sarah Grace Allen, Gail Gandy show off their handy work after completing the first project of the Society Hill Garden Club. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

"The cold snap a few weeks ago totally threw off everything by about a month because things that were about to bloom froze," Burch said. "It was just one thing after another. That weather snap just messed everything up."

The garden club was finally able to meet and tackled the area around the Society Hill Municipal Offices sign, planting roses.

"We will be getting all of

our flowers from Bunch's Nursery in Bennettsville; we will use him exclusively," Burch said. "Mr. Bunch is the nicest fellow in the world. He is very pro-Society Hill. He is 80-years-old and he knows his stuff. I bought my Crepe Myrtles from him and he watches them. Every time he comes to Society Hill he takes notes and he'll tell me what I need to do with them."

The Society Hill Garden Club will meet once a month

Melissa Burch's house. The time is currently set from the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Birch at 813-323-1445.

Burch said that she was very happy with the way their first project turned out and she can't wait to see what they can do next.

"I think it turned out really great," Burch said. "I'm tickled."

## Do you know Darlington County?



The photo from last week was Pim Farms on Dovesville Hwy. The readers with correct guesses were Jacqueline Muldrow, Hoyt Campbell, Bill Segars, Beulah Samuel and Frances Isaac.

Today, you will find a photo of someone from Darlington County. Do you know who it is?

Hint:

This person has written extensively about growing up in Darlington.

He is pictured here with his wife shortly after they were married. He and his wife recently celebrated their 74th anniversary. They are pictured here on the Capitol lawn.

Please let us know by sending your guesses to: editor@newsandpress.net or call 843-393-3811. Good luck!

*Editor's Note: We have renamed this fun little trivia section because we think that our readers know Darlington County. Love playing along and want to do more? Do you have an old picture of an important person from Darlington County's past? Do you have a special spot that you love to visit in the county? Think you can stump your fellow readers? Pictures can be sent to editor@newsandpress.net. Please include a name and a few biographical lines if sending a picture of a person or the location if sending a picture of a place.*

## Students initiated into Phi Kappa Phi

Several local students were recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, through Francis Marion University. Those students were:

- Hubert Setzler III of Darlington
- April Garrity of Hartsville
- Emily Lavender of Hartsville
- Rachel Drose of Hartsville
- Nicholas Smith of Lamar
- Sierra Lind of Timmonsville

These residents are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the

### Notice of Appeal

A meeting of the City of Darlington Board of Zoning Appeals will be held at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street, Monday, May 15, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of those interested in the Appeal to the Board, as listed below.

Item # 1 (Case 04/21/17) Property of Jai Varahi LLC, Tax Map No. 165-05-02-006; bordered on the North by Pearl Street; bordered on the West by the property of DCH Investments LP, Tax Map No. 165-05-02-003; and bordered on the South and Southeast by Lamar Highway.

PROPOSAL: REQUEST FOR VARIANCE TO ARTICLE V OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE SIGN REGULATIONS TO INSTALL A DIGITAL SIGN WITHIN 300 FEET OF A DWELLING.

Individuals may submit comments in writing by Thursday, May 11, 2017, to City Planning Department, P.O. Box 57, Darlington, SC 29540, or they may provide comments in person at the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting. Info: 843-398-4000 x 103 or darlingtonplanner@gmail.com.



## Darlington County receives grant for summer reading

The Darlington County School District will receive approximately \$37,000 for summer reading, one of 20 districts set to receive funding through the Summer Reading Camp Community Partnership Grant. The TEACH (Teaching, Educating and Advancing Children in Hartsville) Foundation will also contribute \$29,000 to further the program to at-risk students in grades 4K, 5K, 1st and 2nd grades.

"Summer learning loss is a well-documented problem for students. Children need as much quality exposure to vocabulary acquisition, reading and comprehension as possible. Those experiences, coupled with rigor and relevance, will serve to improve children's academic futures as they move through school," said Dr. Eddie Ingram, superintendent of the Darlington County School District.

"We are excited to once again partner with the YMCA, Coker College and the TEACH Foundation to provide reading opportunities for students this summer. I'm very proud of our staff who took the initiative to secure these funds."

The Jump Into Reading Program will include Coker College, the YMCA of the Upper Pee Dee and the TEACH Foundation with the purpose of providing students who are significantly below third-grade reading proficiency.

### About Sonoco

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## To the Members of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative

**THERE ARE MEMBERS AND FORMER MEMBERS** of Pee Dee Electric Cooperative whose capital credit checks were returned to us due to incorrect or undeliverable address.

If you think you may be on our online list, go to PDEC.com and click on our searchable site. If your name is on the list, please contact us at 843-665-4070 to have a check reissued. Please be prepared to provide information that confirms verification of your identity.



## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received by City of Darlington, 400 Pearl Street, Darlington, SC 29532 until 2 PM on May 30, 2017, at which time they will be publicly opened and read for the City of Darlington Various Buildings Selective Roof Repairs / Replacements project in Darlington, SC.

Base Bid work includes total removal of existing roofing systems down to the structural deck for approximately 50 squares for the Maintenance/Facilities Building. Roof replacement includes minor deck repairs, rough carpentry, roof insulation, including taper, and a three-ply and modified bitumen roof system. All associated sheet metal components and accessories are included. Removal of minor, non-friable asbestos containing roof materials is included.

Alternate Number 1 work includes selective shingle replacement and selective shingle repairs to the Administration Center Building (Areas A, B and C) and Memorial Center Building (Area C).

Alternate Number 2 work includes slate repairs to the Memorial Center Building (Area B).

Alternate Number 3 work includes select repairs to the low-sloped roofs on Darlington City Hall Building (Areas A, B, C and D).

Bids must be on standard forms furnished by ADC Engineering, Inc. and must be addressed to City of Darlington at the address as noted above.

For a non-refundable \$50, drawings and specifications may be obtained from Duncan Parnell, 3150 W. Montague Ave., N. Charleston, SC 29418, Phone: 843-747-6033, website: <http://www.dpibidroom.com>. No partial sets. Addenda will only be able to be obtained by those buying full sets.

Bid Bond in an amount equal to and not less than five percent (5%) of the gross amount of the base bid is required. If the successful bidder fails to execute the contract within ten (10) days after award, or fails to give satisfactory surety as required by law, the above deposit will be retained by Owner as liquidated damages.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within sixty (60) days after opening thereof.

**Pre-Bid Meeting:** A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held at 10 AM on May 16, 2017 at 400 Pearl Street, Darlington, SC 29532. Attendance is mandatory.

All contractors are hereby notified that they shall be properly licensed in accordance with the provisions of Section 40-11-10 through 40-11-340 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 as amended.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids and, to waive all technicalities and formalities and to award the Contract to another other than to low bidder, should it be deemed in his best interest.

City of Darlington  
Darlington, SC