

BOXING ON B1



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QUOTE

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

EDMUND BURKE

75¢

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New mayor's plan: Let's get to work

Boyd defeats Hines nearly 2-1: 'We prayed for these numbers'

By Bobby Bryant
Editor
editor@newsandpress.net

Early in the morning on Election Day Nov. 5, Curtis Boyd posted a message on his Facebook page about how his day began.

"God started me off today with a beautiful message from a friend," Boyd wrote. "Then I walk out the house to see God's soldiers, the Darlington and Hartsville F3 (fitness) group, stop and pray with me this morning. Now a pastor called me and prayed for me."

By 8:45 that night, Boyd had been elected the new mayor of Darlington.

Boyd, an athlete and owner of a chain of Fitness World gyms in eight cities, defeated Gloria Hines, Darlington's first black and first female mayor, with 58 percent of the vote, a solid win that avoided the runoff election most people had expected.

Hines, a cosmetologist and longtime council member who was elected mayor in 2015, finished the race with 622 votes (32 percent) to Boyd's 1,134 votes. Another challenger seeking the mayor's seat, City Council member and Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Bruce, received 195 votes (10 percent). Bruce, who also was running to keep her at-large seat on council, lost that race as well.

Two other council members, Bryant Gardner and John Milling, were re-elected to their at-large seats. The fight for Bruce's council seat now goes to a Nov. 19 runoff between newcomers Howard Nettles and Ernest Boston.

Boyd's energetic campaign

officially began in April and didn't stop until Election Day, with supporters driving vehicles towing "Boyd" election signs around the city until nearly the last minute. Boyd spent at least \$11,485 on his campaign, most of that his own money, according to campaign disclosure reports he filed with the State Ethics Commission. (Hines reported spending at least \$4,358, almost none of that her own funds.)

"I just want to say thank you," Boyd told the News & Press. "I'm more than humbled by the support and love that's been shown by everybody. We prayed for these numbers and God gave us above and beyond what we asked for. ... I'm looking forward to going to work."

Asked if he could point out one thing he did that was key to winning the election, Boyd said: "I would say if I had a single thing, it was putting God first. I left it in God's hands and He led me in the right direction."

Boyd's 58 percent finish indicates that he must have won over a number of black voters who otherwise would have supported Hines or Bruce. Boyd said he had no specifics of how his victory broke down in terms of black and white voters. "I had people from all races supporting me," he said.

Hines, in an interview with the News & Press immediately after the votes were counted, said of her loss: "It is what it is. Ain't nothing I can do about it. ... You know what? I made peace with God. And I told God, 'Whatever it is, whatever it is.' I'm going to be all right."



Curtis Boyd PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA LYLES

But Hines also accused Boyd of buying votes and questioned whether he actually was living inside the city limits.

"I think there's some things — he paid some people to vote," Hines said. "It's all over Facebook and everything. ... Five dollars apiece. I didn't pay anybody. ... I don't believe in buying people. I've never bought anybody. So if he bought people and they voted for him, so be it."

Hines also questioned Boyd's residency in the city limits. "He has a house in the city, and pretending that he's living there, but he's really not. ... He's got so many cars (there), nobody knows whether he's staying there or not."

The mayor also criticized her other challenger, Bruce, for allegedly breaking an agreement not to run against Hines in 2019. "She did the wrong way, too," Hines said. "... Four years ago, I told her I wanted two terms, and when I finished my two terms, I'd help her get in (as mayor). But she disobeyed that. She went the other way. I don't know why. I didn't do anything to her."

Boyd emphatically denied Hines' allegations. "I didn't pay



Gloria Hines

anyone to vote for me," he said. "It's ridiculous for her to even bring that up." He said that an anonymous Facebook user started that rumor. As for his residency, Boyd said that he owns a home in the city and in the county, but that his legal residence is inside the city limits. He described Hines' comments as stirring controversy for the sake of stirring controversy and said, "Darlington needs a breath of fresh air."

Bruce also denied that she had broken any deal with Hines. "She's not telling the

truth," Bruce said. Bruce said that in 2015, she had originally been considering a run for mayor, but that Hines asked Bruce not to run against her. "She said, 'If you let me run this time, next time I will support you (for mayor).'" After getting advice from others, Bruce said, she ruled out a mayor's race, accepted Hines' promised support for 2019, and ran successfully for an at-large council seat.

ELECTION ON 3A

Nettles, Boston in runoff for council

By Bobby Bryant
Editor
editor@newsandpress.net

A runoff election for an at-large seat on Darlington City Council will be held Nov. 19, county elections officials say.

Howard Nettles, director of community outreach and marketing for Genesis Health Care, and Ernest Boston Sr., who works for Generation 3 Powersports, will face each other in the runoff.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. You can vote in the runoff regardless of whether you voted Nov. 5.

RUNOFF ON 3A

How expensive was the mayor's race?

For **CURTIS BOYD**, at least \$11,485. In his most recent campaign disclosure report to the State Ethics Commission, dated Oct. 15, Boyd reported using \$8,554 of his own money in the election cycle. He reported \$2,931 in individual contributions. He reported having spent all that, totaling \$11,485. Boyd's single biggest contributor was listed as Glenn McRae of Darlington, \$500.

For **GLORIA HINES**, at least \$4,358. In her most recent campaign disclosure report to the Ethics Commission, dated Oct. 10, Hines reported using \$150 in personal funds during the election cycle. She reported \$4,410 in individual contributions, for total contributions of \$4,560. She reported having spent \$4,358 of that. Hines' single biggest contributor was listed as Willie and Betty Pearson of Darlington, \$560.

CAROLYN BRUCE had not filed any campaign reports for the mayor's race or her council race with the Ethics Commission, according to the agency's online database.

-- Bobby Bryant



Bryant Gardner and John Milling

County adopts Bailey Bill to preserve historic properties

By Samantha Lyles
Staff Writer
syles@newsandpress.net

Darlington County Council met Nov. 4 and voted unanimously to help owners of historic properties invest in their revitalization.

Council approved final reading of Ordinance 19-19, adopting the Bailey Bill and clearing the way for property owners to receive tax breaks when they refurbish historical homes and buildings. Once a property is deemed of historical value by the county, owners can apply to have their property assessed at its original fair market value rather than its valuation post-

remodeling.

This means that if you buy a historic home for \$80,000 and invest \$100,000 in renovations, the property tax bill would be assessed at \$80,000 rather than \$180,000.

On another matter related to preserving local history, council approved contracting with architect Robert H. Goodson Jr. of Hartsville to design a new museum addition for the Darlington County Historical Commission.

The contract requires no funding from the county as the entire museum project will be funded by a \$4 million bequest gifted to the Commission by the late Carolyn "Bet" Norment Phillips.

The museum will be located beside the current Historical commission building at 204 Hewett St. in

Darlington, and construction should begin next year.

Also on the agenda, council approved second reading of Ordinance 19-22, which would authorize a fee-in-lieu-of-taxes (FILOT) agreement between an as-yet unidentified private industry known as "Project Star" and the multicounty business park owned jointly by Darlington County and Florence County.

The Project Star investment is expected to total \$5 million over 10 years.

If the FILOT is approved, the company would pay an agreed upon fee instead of property taxes for a period of 30 years.

More information on the company behind Project Star is expected when council holds third and final reading for the ordinance.

COUNTY COUNCIL ON 3A



Citizens gathered on the Darlington Public Square at 11 a.m. Monday to celebrate Veterans Day and pay homage to all the servicemen and -women who fight to keep our nation free. Members of each branch of the armed forces, including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard were acknowledged and thanked for their service. Staged by American Legion Post 13, the event featured guest speaker Capt. Ian Rohde, USAF, who shared his thoughts about the ongoing importance of military service. Rohde noted that living in a free country is a gift repeatedly paid for with sacrifice and bloodshed. He said that his daughter, like generations of Americans past, has announced her intention to serve in the armed forces. "I stand with pride and hope that she might one day ensure the next generation will have the opportunity to repay that and do the same," said Rohde. PHOTO BY SAMANTHA LYLES





The Pee Dee's Oldest
Independently
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opinion

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Word of the Week

armistice - an agreement to stop fighting a war

Merriam-Webster.com

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t he NeWS AND Pr eSS, dAr I INGT oN, S.C.



★ VETERANS DAY 2019 ★



OP-ED

The Old-Timers

By Bill Shepard

Go ahead, call me Old-Timer, see if I care!

I feel honored and wear the title gladly. After all, Old-Timers are people who have been around a long time, seen a lot of changes, and have been able to adjust and remain.

One could say that an Old-Timer is a survivor. Yes, that's a good description. In order to become an Old-Timer, one must be a survivor.

Old-Timers like to talk! They begin their conversations with, "I remember when." From there, they are apt to cover the globe, depending on who is listening and who is talking. Old-Timers will talk at the drop of a hat, and some I know will drop their own hat!

Don't ever ask an Old-Timer a question unless you have a lot of time on your hands to listen. Chances are he will tell you all he knows and a lot he doesn't know. Everyone knows it takes a lot longer to tell a body what one doesn't know about a subject than what he does know.

Old-Timers are a good source of information about whatever you want to know. You can learn more from an Old-Timer than you can at the library - of course, it might not be as accurate, but no bona fide Old-Timer would admit that.

When you get it straight from the Old-Timer's mouth, it has to be accurate. He would bet his life on it, and he is the one doing the remembering. Another one of his sentence openers is "I remember just as if it was yesterday." It's sort of strange. You can ask an Old-Timer what he had for dinner yesterday and he can't remember, but ask him what he ate on his 10th birthday and he can tell you, right down to the biscuit.

I can attest to that. The year I celebrated my 10th birthday, my mom prepared a large plate full of fried Irish potatoes just for me. A neighbor came over and gave me a dime. I thought that was really something. My favorite food, a dime, 10 years old, all on the 10th day of April.

Just like it was yesterday, I remember! Now that's been a long time ago, but I remember. Just don't ask me what I had for breakfast this morning, nor my children's ages, nor my wife's birthdate.

Ah, I am a certified, bona fide Old-Timer! Go ahead, ask me! I can tell you about the WPA, PWA, CCC Camps and the New Deal! I can even point to places in Darlington where I watched the WPA workers hard at work with pick, shovel and wheelbarrow. Some of the fruit of their labors can be seen in Williamson Park and elsewhere. Some folks said it was just a "giveaway" program started by the Democrats, but that's for other folks to argue.

I still remember some of the things they used to say about the workers. One fellow said that one drop of sweat from a WPA worker would cure a rattlesnake bite! Another said that one worker had a heart attack and died, and when the doctor came, he had to examine the entire crew to find the one who had died.

I still think a lot of good was accomplished by the program. By the way, if you want to know what WPA stands for, look it up. One Old-Timer said it stands for We Poke Along.

I can tell you about the Great Depression and how Roosevelt got us out of it. I remember where I was, what I was doing and with whom, the day the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. I can tell you about me and my buddies slipping off to join the Army without our parents' consent. We were determined to show the enemy they couldn't sneak up on America and do their dirt and get by.

I can tell you about the big flood of 1928 that washed away the bridge that stood over Swift Creek down by the big mill. And about the railroad embankment washing away, leaving the rails swinging in mid-air! That was one scary sight for a 6-year-old to behold.

Old-Timers like to talk about the ways they used to earn their spending money. Ways like working in the tobacco fields for a nickel an hour, or picking cotton for 30 cents per 100 pounds, and plowing a mule all day for 50 cents. I couldn't make a lot of money picking cotton, but it sure was fun picking on the same row with my sweetheart.

Every Old-Timer I know likes to talk about the Saturday Westerns at the old Liberty Theater in Darlington and their favorite cowboy. When Buck Jones was playing, you would have to stand in line to get a ticket. That man had a white horse named Silver and he could outrun a passenger train. I know he could for I saw him do it lots of times.

Now, I liked Tim McCoy, Bob Steels and old Hop-A-Long, but none of those fellows could beat Buck on the draw. When Gene Autry and Roy Rogers came along, the old Westerns seemed to change. Sorta like when Hillbilly music changed to country music. I can't explain it, but I think you know what I mean. Anyway, they were all my favorites, and for a dime I could spend the entire Saturday afternoon at the movies.

Like I said, Old-Timers like to rattle on and on about the things they used to do a long time ago. If you don't believe it, just drop your hat the next time you are in the company of one. Somebody just picked up my hat and handed it back to me. I suppose that means it is time to stop. I reckon I had better, but that doesn't mean I have run out of things to talk about. I'll just save some for next time.

The next time you meet an Old-Timer, be kind and lend an ear. You just might be one yourself someday.

Thank you to all involved in 15 years of turkey giveaways

The annual Thanksgiving (turkey giveaway) event for Darlington will be held Tuesday, Nov. 26.

We would like to send out a special thank you to Randy Witherspoon and Piggly Wiggly of Darlington, who are helping with our event this year.

Also a special thanks to Terry Lewis of Darlington Family Pharmacy, who has again agreed to be the event sponsor.

Pepsi has agreed to donate drinks again this year as they have all 15

years.

Orlando (Hudson) has also been a major sponsor every year and will be distributing turkeys with us again this year.

Finally, a very big thank you to EB (Edward Bridges), who has helped co-ordinate this event since the beginning.

The event normally starts between 6:30 and 7 a.m. on the Public Square and goes until supplies run out.

A turkey, canned foods and a drink will be given out.

Thank you to all the sponsors that give each year. Due to the generosity of businesses and friends in town, we have been able to give an average of 1,000 turkeys, canned foods and drinks each year for the past 15 years.

Event sponsors: Darlington Family Pharmacy/Terry Lewis, Orlando Hudson, Pepsi, Santee Automotive, Tobaccoville.

Gold sponsors: Kistler-Hardee Funeral Home - Thanks, Todd, for sponsoring 15 years in a row. Gardner Law Firm - Thanks, Johnny, 15 years. McLeod Darlington, 15 years. Darlington Raceway, 15 years. Pee Dee Environmental Services. Mike Reichenbach. Hartsville Animal Hospital.

Silver sponsors: Fastrak - Thanks, Timmy, 15 years. Pee Dee Electric -- 15 years. Southern Auto Parts - Thanks, Johnny, 15 years. Pam Sherrill Real Estate - Thanks, Pam, 15 years. Dedicated Community Bank -- 15 years. Carolina Bank --

15 years. Goodsons - Thanks, Hal. Bristow Oil - Thanks, Damon. State Farm/Bill Moore - Thanks, Bill. Asset Technologies. Suggs Insurance - Thanks, Greg. Tadlock Painting - Thanks, Dewey. Mayflower Restaurant. Hill & Jordan - Thanks, Rob. Belk Funeral Home - Thanks, Sidney. Rennie and Eagle -- Go Tigers! Darlington Kiwanis Club.

Donations are still needed for this year's event. If you would like to help, please make checks out to The Lord Cares and mail to Dr. David Eads, 208 Cashua St., Darlington, SC 29532.

Dr. David Eads,
Darlington

Letter to the editor

OP-ED

The greatest game

By Tom Poland

"Just what did football do for you?"

A fellow emailed me. He had read a comment I made about playing football. I could tell he never played the game. Too bad.

No matter what level you play, high school, college, or NFL, the sport makes you a better person, but I didn't tell him that. I thought about his question. Just what did football do for me?

I thought some more. Why do I like football so much? I love the big green field, precisely lined in white.

I can't smell freshly cut grass without thinking of football. I love the uniforms, the colors, and helmets. I like the violent hits. The big runs and slants and deep throws. I like to see a receiver blow by a cornerback.

I like to see a punt arcing high into the air, spinning like a bullet. I love seeing a great back juke a would-be tackler out of his shoes. I love a crushing sack that makes the quarterback spit up the ball.

I like to see the team break out of the huddle and line up, a great machine where each part contributes to the overall perfection.

I like the pageantry. Banners, flyovers, logos, marching bands, cheerleaders, and mascots. If you are a Georgia fan you have the best mascot by far, Uga. Who doesn't like dogs, excuse me, Dawgs.

I like the emotions. It doesn't bother me to see an angry coach grab a player by the facemask. I like to see players show emotion after

a big score, sack, or interception. I like it when a TV camera zooms in on a distraught fan or one celebrating wildly.

I like seeing fans stand as one and hearing them roar, an immense chorus. Nothing tops the drama of a drive to victory as the clock ticks down to zero.

I love the ball with its finely pebbled surface and bright white laces. I like to see an official indicate first down, an opponent's false start, and a touchdown. The zebras bring civility to this game of collisions.

I like the traditions. Georgia's hedges and trumpet solo. Clemson's rock. Seeing Auburn's golden eagle fly around Jordan Hare stadium. LSU's Mike the Tiger. And if you've never been to the World's Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party, you should go.

The stadium's split down the middle: red and black on one side, orange and blue on the other. A spectacle.

So, what did football do for me? Plenty. It makes me feel more alive come fall. It gave me a lifelong desire to stay in shape. It taught me the value of sacrifice and being a team player.

Discipline is indeed a game changer. It taught me equality. Something Bill Curry said, once the coach at Georgia Tech and later Alabama, resonates with me. "There is no racism in the huddle."

Sometimes I dream

I'm in a game playing safety. The quarterback drops back. Here comes the receiver. Here comes the ball.

Then I wake up and disappointment crushes me.

Some moms don't let their sons play football because they might get hurt. They shortchange their sons.

Yeah, you get hurt.

I got knocked out twice, broke three vertebrae, suffered a bruised sternum, jammed fingers, and had my leg ripped open when a

player missing cleats ran over me.

The metal posts sliced me open.

The team physician stitched me up and back into the game I went.

My injuries never bother me, and I'm glad I have them.

Battle scars, they prove I played the greatest game, a game that did me some good, one that makes my life better now that I'm in the fourth quarter of another game, the game we call life.

The News & Press

117 S. Main St., Darlington, SC 29532
Phone (843) 393-3811 Fax (843) 393-6811

STAFF

General Manager: Morrey Thomas mthomas@newsandpress.net
Editor: Bobby Bryant editor@newsandpress.net
Staff Writer: Samantha Lyles slyles@newsandpress.net
Design: Rachel Howell ads@newsandpress.net
Advertising: Stephan Drew sales@newsandpress.net
Customer Service: customerservice@newsandpress.net

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Darlington Raceway moves festival to spring

Darlington Raceway has announced that its longtime Speed & Feed BBQ festival and car show has a new name and date.

The newly renamed Speed & Feed BBQ Festival and Cruise-In presented by Raldex will now take place on March 13-14, 2020. The festival was originally held in November since 2013, but will now be a springtime event.

The Speed & Feed Festival and Cruise-In presented by Raldex will once again host a quality barbecue competition featuring dozens of teams

throughout the region. In 2020, the teams' barbecue will now be judged by the Kansas City Barbecue Society.

The KCBS, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and enjoying barbecue, is the world's largest organization of barbecue and grilling enthusiasts with over 20,000 members worldwide. KCBS sanctions over 500 barbecue contests world-wide, including Darlington Raceway's in 2020.

The event will be free and open to the public on Friday, March 13, from 5-10 p.m. and Saturday, March 14, from 10

a.m. – 4 p.m. Individual tickets will be sold for the BBQ tasting, which starts at 11 a.m.

Tickets will be \$1 per ticket or 12 for \$10. A \$1 per car parking fee will also be administered on both days. The track also plans on to have musical entertainment and amusement rides available both days.

Friday activities will include pace laps around the famed 1.366-mile track for \$10 per person with proceeds benefiting the track's nonprofit arm, Darlington Shares.

Saturday will feature driving experiences in actual race

cars through the Rusty Wallace Racing Experience, which will be on site that day.

Experiences can be purchased in advance through the driving school by visiting www.RaceWithRusty.com or on the day of the event. Driver experiences are scheduled for 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. during the event.

The Cruise-In portion of the festival will feature an open show of cars and trucks on display for enthusiasts. The Cruise-In will be free to people wanting to put their car on display.

"After hosting the Speed & Feed event in the fall for several years, we felt it was best for our fans to create more of a festival-style event and move to a spring date with a fresh look," track President Kerry Sharp said.

"The decision was made in part due to the growing popularity of the Kansas City BBQ Society, who will now be judging our competition. The Speed and Feed BBQ Festival and Cruise-In presented by Raldex will still continue to feature great barbecue and a Cruise-In style car show for our commu-

nity to enjoy."

With a \$2,000 Grand Champion prize on the line, another experience for the BBQ competition is that the Grand Champion of the March event will be honored during pre-race ceremonies for the NASCAR Cup Series Southern 500 on Sunday, Sept. 6.

The second-place competitor will be recognized during pre-race for the NASCAR XFINITY Series Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200 race on Saturday, Sept. 5.

Election

Continued from 1A

This summer, after Bruce announced she was challenging Hines for mayor, Bruce said that Hines asked to see her. According to Bruce, Hines brought up their 2015 agreement, but cast it as an agreement to leave Hines unchallenged for two terms as mayor. "I never agreed to that," Bruce said. "And I never would have agreed to that. ... SHE broke the agreement" made in 2015.

As far as last week's city elections, Bruce said wryly, "I was hoping for a different result." She thanked her supporters and said she accepts the citizens' choices. "As long as I'm living in Darlington, I will be a supporter of the city of Darlington," Bruce said.

Also in the Nov. 5 elections, City Council member Bryant Gardner received 1,017 votes and council member John Milling received 980 votes to win re-election to their seats.

Gardner and Milling expressed their gratitude to all the voters who turned out to support them. "I appreciate their efforts and their votes more than they will ever know, and I look forward to

Mayor of Darlington						
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6
Curtis Boyd	91	78	649	245	54	16
Carolyn Bruce	10	26	35	40	74	6
Gloria Hines	32	110	71	157	230	21
Write-in	0	0	0	0	2	0

Darlington City Council						
	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6
Ernest Boston	30	105	67	174	246	21
Carolyn Bruce	53	78	173	121	177	20
Bryant Gardner	78	56	614	210	43	13
Winfred Herrington	25	110	85	151	246	20
John Milling	80	57	571	217	40	13
Howard Nettles	62	60	459	149	34	14
Write-in	1	1	5	2	3	0

Votes by district Nov. 5. Absentee votes not included in these charts.

having the opportunity to serve again for the next four years," said Milling.

"I concur," added Gardner. "Thank you so much to the voters for getting out and showing their support."

In addition to the Darlington city races, three other municipalities in the county held elections Nov. 5.

In Hartsville, Bryson

Sparks Caldwell, Johnny Andrews and Bobby McGee were elected to City Council seats without opposition.

In Lamar, two members of Town Council, Inez Bess Lee and Angele White-Bradley, were re-elected to their at-large seats, defeating challengers Danielle Todd-Wilkes and Nat Williams.

And in Society Hill, Town

Council member Deborah Harrell was re-elected to her at-large seat and newcomer Chuck Baker was elected to an at-large seat.

Candidates Melissa Burch and Scott Dixon lost their bids for council seats.

Staff Writer Samantha Lyles contributed to this report.

Runoff

Continued from 1A

Nettles got 780 votes in the Nov. 5 city elections and Boston, 643. They edged out another newcomer, Winfred Herrington Sr., a retired social worker, who got 638 votes.

After reviewing several ballots last week that had been challenged (mostly because of uncertainty about voters' residency inside the city limits), elections officials determined that Nettles had not picked up the few additional votes he needed to claim victory in the council race without a runoff. (Nettles said on Facebook that he only needed three more votes.)

A recount confirmed

County council

Continued from 1A

South Hartsville resident George Cannon alerted council to a potentially hazardous situation along Martin Luther King Drive and Russell Road. Cannon said SCDOT has not cut the grass in this area in a long while, so it has grown very

Herrington had not made the runoff.

Nettles, in responses to a Darlington County League of Women Voters survey done for the Nov. 5 elections, said that the city needs "more businesses, job opportunities, housing, events and tourism. ... As a city, we need to work to resolve issues rather than create them for self-gain."

Boston, responding to the same survey, cited the city's problems with flooding and drainage: "How can we get funding for our drainage system to attract businesses to downtown Darlington? ... There are more steps the council can take to help spur growth and development. We are not going backwards, but we are not moving forward, either."

high and deep and encourages motorists and pedestrians to litter.

His main concern, though, was that children walking to school are forced to wade through this deep grass or walk in the street, exposing them to danger in both cases. Cannon asked council and county staff to help find a remedy to this problem.

Millions from civil settlements paid to S.C. attorney general's office, outside law firms

By Rick Brundrett
The Nerve

Over the past four fiscal years, the state Attorney General's Office settled 33 civil cases against various companies for a total of nearly \$210 million, though agency records show that the proceeds typically didn't go directly to affected South Carolina consumers.

Instead, most of the money was used by lawmakers to help cover an annual list of one-time expenses by state agencies, while another \$40 million collectively went to the Attorney General's Office (AGO) and outside law firms hired in the cases, a review by The Nerve's found.

The AGO, headed since 2011 by Alan Wilson, settled 24 of the 33 cases without outside firms from fiscal 2016 through last fiscal year, keeping all of the settlement proceeds in 10 cases, agency records show. An agency spokesman said settlement funds retained by the AGO are used to help support the office's operations.

In the nine other settlements involving outside firms, at least one of the firms hired in each case has ties to former state attorneys general Travis Medlock or Charlie Condon, or other politically connected attorneys, including S.C. Rep. Todd Rutherford, D-Richland; John White, appointed by Gov. Henry McMaster as the State Transportation Infrastructure Bank (STIB) board chairman; and Reynolds Williams, appointed by Sen. Hugh Leatherman, R-Florence, to the state Retirement System Investment Commission.

In recent written responses to The Nerve, Wilson spokesman Robert Kittle said the Attorney General's Office "doesn't make the rare decision to hire outside counsel based on positions or political connections."

"We employ the firm most qualified, with the greatest expertise and resources to best protect the public interest,"

Kittle said. "As the State's chief legal officer, the Attorney General must make the call as to who can represent the State most effectively with these criteria in mind."

Asked whether affected South Carolinians directly received any settlement proceeds negotiated by the AGO, Kittle replied that "sometimes money does go to South Carolina consumers," though "in most cases, we're suing on behalf of the state and the settlements go to the general fund on behalf of everyone."

"Individual S.C. plaintiffs who've been harmed file their own separate lawsuits," he added.

Of the \$209.7 million in settlement proceeds over the last four fiscal years, a total of about \$3 million was transferred to state agencies – mainly to state employee insurance and Medicaid programs, records show.

Some of the 33 settlements reached over the last four fiscal years involved well-known corporations, including Verizon Wireless, Sprint, Chase Bank, Wells Fargo, Volkswagen, General Motors, Uber, Target and Johnson & Johnson.

The single-largest settlement over the period was a \$148.7 million settlement reached in fiscal 2016 with Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals Inc., which is part of Johnson & Johnson, after the state alleged promotion of the anti-psychotic prescription drug Risperdal for unapproved uses. In that settlement, \$124.3 million was transferred to the state general fund, according to AGO records.

John Simmons of Columbia, a former U.S. attorney for South Carolina who also worked in the state Attorney General's Office, and the Spartanburg law firm where White, the STIB board chairman, is the managing shareholder, represented the state in that case, along with a Houston law firm, records show. Two

other firms based in Alabama were used in a separate fiscal 2017 settlement.

Kittle said White was involved in the Risperdal case. Efforts to reach White for comment were unsuccessful.

The outside fees and costs in the Risperdal case totaled \$23.1 million – the bulk of the nearly \$27 million paid to all outside firms over the last four fiscal years, attorney general records show. During the period, the AGO retained a total of about \$13.2 million, including \$3.1 million in the 10 cases in which the office kept all the settlement proceeds.

Of the \$3.1 million, \$1.2 million was retained by the AGO in a settlement last year with Uber Technologies Inc. over a national data breach involving the ride-sharing company's drivers, records show.

A news release from the AGO didn't specify that the agency was keeping all of the settlement proceeds, describing it only as "South Carolina's share," though it noted there were 5,163 affected Uber drivers in the state.

Combined, fees to the AGO and outside law firms accounted for about \$40.2 million, or 19.1 percent of the total \$209.7 million in settlement proceeds over the four-fiscal-year period, The Nerve's review found.

Kittle in an email said the S.C. Legislature has "encouraged our office to keep a portion of the settlement funding to replace the reduced state funding," noting that general fund revenue to the agency dropped by \$4.2 million from fiscal 2009 to fiscal 2012.

"Due to the budget decreases, the office has utilized litigation funds for stability and to carry out the mission of the agency to protect the citizens of S.C.," he said.

State budget records show, however, that the agency's total budget, which includes state, federal and "other" funds, has skyrocketed since Wilson took over, jumping from \$18.1 million in fiscal 2012 to \$101 mil-

lion this fiscal year, which started July 1.

And, as of June 30, the agency had \$31.2 million in "other" fund reserves and a \$1.4 million general-fund surplus, according to state Department of Administration and Comptroller General's Office records.

In response, Kittle attributed the agency's budget growth to a change in state law in 2017 that required the transfer of federal funds and court fees and fines from the state departments of Administration and Public Safety to the AGO for crime victim services.

Still, before the law took effect, the AGO's state and "other" funds grew collectively by \$5.8 million and \$3.8 million, respectively, from fiscal 2012, state budget records show.

Of the \$31.2 million in "other" fund reserves to start this fiscal year, \$12 million "can be used for all operational purposes across the office," while the approximately \$19.2 million balance is "restricted to special programs," such securities registration and enforcement, Kittle said, adding none of that amount can be used by the agency's consumer protection section.

A collective \$166.6 million, or 79.4 percent, of the total \$209.7 million in settlement proceeds over the last four fiscal years was transferred to the state's general fund, according to AGO records.

Lawmakers in recent years through a budget proviso have combined the "Litigation Recovery Account" with other state surplus money to fund a list of one-time expenses by state agencies – some of which The Nerve has questioned.

In this fiscal year's budget, for example, \$1.25 million under the proviso was funneled to the 46-member Senate chamber. After The Nerve in May submitted a formal open-records request for details on how the money was intended to be spent, Senate clerk Jeff

Gossett in a written response said only there were "no records responsive to this request."

Under current contracts approved by Wilson, the maximum allowed fee for outside law firms is 21 percent of the settlement proceeds – compared to the 10 percent fee set by his predecessor, McMaster, according to Sonny Jones, a senior assistant deputy attorney general who heads the agency's consumer protection and antitrust section. Typically, private lawyers in civil cases can receive fees ranging from 30 percent to 40 percent of the total settlement if they win, he said.

Wilson has the discretion to cut the 21 percent fee in half if a case settles before the filing of a lawsuit or settles shortly after the filing of the suit, Jones said, though the office couldn't immediately provide The Nerve with a breakdown of how often that has happened.

As for fees retained by the Attorney General's Office, Jones said there is no set rate, adding that the judge in the case approves fees awarded to the office and outside lawyers hired by Wilson.

Records provided to The Nerve show that former state attorney general Medlock and Chad McGowan of the McGowan, Hood & Felder firm, which has offices in Columbia, Charleston and Rock Hill; and Greenville attorney N. Heyward Clarkson III participated in three settlements totaling \$10.3 million in fiscal 2016 involving liquid crystal display (LCD) companies.

Ex-attorney general Condon, who has a Mt. Pleasant office, represented the state in a separate \$2.1 million settlement the same fiscal year involving the biopharmaceutical company Amgen Inc.

Outside fees and costs in those four cases totaled more than \$2.3 million, AGO records show. Efforts by The Nerve to reach Medlock, who was the state attorney general from

1983-1995, were unsuccessful. Condon, who served as the state attorney general from 1995-2003, declined to discuss specifics of his case – in which \$221,462 in fees and costs were awarded to his firm – referring all questions to Wilson's office.

"While some of the outside firms we've hired do have ties to the AG's office, there are others that have no ties or connections, as well as cases that are pitched to us that we turn down," Kittle said in an earlier email response.

Asked why Medlock and Condon were hired by the AGO, Jones replied in part: "It has to do with control over outside counsel. Any document that's filed, we have to review. ... Any court hearing, we're there. We have input, and a lot of firms don't understand that. ... Former AGs or firms we have worked with understand that."

Jones also said when a law firm "brings a case to us, and it's something we think we can resolve ourselves in-house ... we tell them, 'We get a crack at it first.'"

In other cases involving outside attorneys hired by the AGO, records show that current state Rep. Rutherford and Columbia attorney Kenneth Suggs received a collective \$1.4 million in fees and costs out of a \$6 million settlement in fiscal 2016 involving Cephalon Inc., which was accused in a lawsuit filed by Wilson in 2011 on behalf of the state alleging the company promoted drugs covered by the state health plan for unapproved uses.

Brundrett is the news editor of The Nerve (www.thenerve.org). Contact him at 803-254-4411 or rick@thenerve.org. Follow him on Twitter @RickBrundrett. Follow The Nerve on Facebook and Twitter @thenerves.

Cry out, "Save us, God our Savior; gather us and deliver us from the nations, that we may give to your holy name, and glory in your praise."

1 Chr 6:33

Obituaries

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229 W. Broad St., Darlington 843-393-2824
217 W. Main St., Lamar 843-326-5890

Gregory Scott Reynolds

DARLINGTON -- Gregory Scott Reynolds, 50, of Darlington died on Friday, Oct. 25, 2019, at his home.

A visitation was held Sunday, Oct. 27, 2019, at Kistler Hardee Funeral Home and other times at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rowlett, 304 Barfield Road, Darlington.

Gregory was born in Tennessee. He was the son of Lesta Brewster Reynolds and the late Ronald Eugene Reynolds.

Gregory was an avid knife collector. He also enjoyed golfing, riding motorcycles, hunting and riding four-wheelers. He was also a diehard fan of the Tennessee Volunteers football team.

Surviving are his mother, Lesta Brewster Reynolds; his wife, Michelle Rowlett Reynolds; his daughter, Logan Scott Reynolds; and his mother and father-in-law, Gayle and Ken Rowlett.

Family and friends are

invited to sign the online guest book at www.kistlerhardeefuneralhome.com.

Jean Loflin Lee

TIMMONSVILLE -- Jean Loflin Lee, 68, passed away Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Nov. 9, in the chapel at Belk Funeral Home. The family received friends following the service.

Born March 10, 1951, Jean was the daughter of Betty Jean Hamer Loflin and the late William Henry Loflin.

She retired from GE Medical after over 30 years, and she enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her granddaughter.

In addition to her mother, Betty Jean Hamer Loflin, Jean is survived by her daughter, Magan "Betsy" (David) Thomas; granddaughter, Evely Thomas, all of Goose Creek; sister, Lynn Graves of Florence; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death

by her son, Jon Michael "Mike" Lyons.

Memorials may be made to McLeod Hospice House, PO Box 100551, Florence, SC 29502.

A guestbook is available online at belkfuneralhome.com.

Earnest H. Scurry

DARLINGTON -- Earnest "Diller" Heyward Scurry, 75, died Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019.

Funeral services were Nov. 9 in the chapel at Belk Funeral Home with burial at Grove Hill Cemetery. The family received friends Friday at the funeral home.

Born Nov. 15, 1943, Earnest was the son of the late James Scurry and Geneva Weaver Scurry.

He served in the National Guard.

He worked for Industrial Paving for 33 years and previously owned Raceway Grill in Darlington.

Surviving are his wife, Judy Bochette Scurry of Darlington;

son, Brad (Heather) Scurry of Hartsville; grandchildren, Justin Lambert, Dustin Scurry (fiancé Brooke), and Kaitlin Scurry; two great-grandchildren, Macie and Sage Scurry; stepchildren, Patsy (Steve) Esponda of Wyoming and Mack (Belinda) McCarley of York.

Also surviving are two brothers, Lewis Scurry of Columbia and Allen Scurry of Rocky Mount, N.C.; sister, Marie Cox of Bishopville; and his fur babies, Rambo, Sassy and Sam.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Chasity Scurry; his first wife, Melba Scurry; second wife, Diane Scurry; siblings, Willie Mae, Ruby, Betty Jean, J.T., Harold, David, Roland, Jim and Wayne.

Memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice.

A guestbook is available online at belkfuneralhome.com.

Living on Purpose

Remembering our nation's veterans

By Bill Holland



This is the official week when we honor and remember all of our veterans, but hopefully, we appreciate their service and sacrifices every day of the year.

Most people assume the special day is spelled "Veteran's Day." However the day does not belong to veterans, but rather honors all veterans, so no apostrophe is needed. Also, Veterans Day is not the same as Memorial Day as this is a time to remember those who literally gave their lives for our country, particularly in battle or from wounds they suffered in battle.

Veterans Day, originally called Armistice Day, honors all those who have served the country in war or peace, living or deceased, and is intended to show appreciation for all veterans for their military service.

When we think about those who have served our nation, we realize that many men and women have paid a great price trying to defend and protect us and we are truly grateful. We can also look around and see many wounded warriors who are faced to live with physical disabilities along with serious psychological problems resulting from what they have gone through.

Though we might not be aware of the severity of this situation, there is an ongoing phenomenon regarding the high rate of suicide among U.S. military veterans. According to a report published by the Department of Veterans Affairs in 2016, which analyzed 55 million individual cases from 1974 to 2014, along with more recent data, tragically confirmed that an average of 22 veterans commit suicide each day.

In May 2019, President Trump signed an executive order for an initiative to counter this horrible reality. The program aims to equip state and local governments with the resources necessary to identify and intervene in scenarios where veterans may be at risk. Included within the record \$73.1 billion for veteran health services is \$8.6 billion allocated for mental health services.

I'm reminded of a story about a young man named Josh who suffered a traumatic brain injury in Iraq which left him with extreme hopelessness and depression. He had been deployed Southwest of Baghdad where during an attack, a mortar exploded 10 feet away from him, leaving him severely wounded and with a one-way ticket home.

Six months later, on one particular winter evening, he was really having a hard time trying to fight the shadows of fear and sadness. His Ka-Bar (knife) was lying on the table

beside his computer where he had just written a letter trying to explain his torment. He stepped outside to sit on the cold and wet cement steps just wanting to end it all.

He remembers promising to himself that tonight I will, as he took another drag from his cigarette. Staring out into the darkness, he noticed something moving and soon discovered it was a kitten that was slowly walking toward him.

It was soaking wet but friendly and obviously, being so skinny, it was hungry. It was a tom with black and white patches and when Josh reached out to pet him, the mysterious visitor leaned into his touch and started to purr.

This emotional connection with another living being triggered something deep within Josh's heart as he felt hot tears running down his face in the cold drizzle. The kitten did not show fear but just kept staring at him with beautiful green eyes. In fact, Josh says this innocent creature seemed to understand how desperately he needed a friend at that very moment.

He carried his unexpected guest inside, dried him off and gave him some food. His plan to end it all had been distracted.

Holding the kitten close, Josh considered he might not be able to deal with his own problems, but decided that he could try to help this little fellow with his. Josh named him Scout and on bad days, Scout would curl up in Josh's lap and shower him with love that brought comfort and peace.

Over the next few weeks, the bond they developed inspired Josh to request help for his depression, and eventually, he grew stronger in his faith and confidence. It's not a stretch of the imagination that Scout helped save his life as Josh is now married and his wife just gave birth to a baby girl.

Of course, Scout still loves to sleep in Josh's lap.

If you are a veteran and struggling with PTSD, counselors are available at 1-800-273-8255. "I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears" --Psalm 34:4.

Jane Windham's recipe for Carrot Cake

Ingredients

- For the Cake*
1 1/2 cups vegetable oil
2 cups sugar
4 large eggs
1 tbsp lemon zest
2 cups all-purpose flour
2 tsp baking powder
2 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp salt
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
3 cups grated carrot

- For the Frosting*
1 cup butter 2 sticks
2 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
1 tbsp lemon zest
3 tbsp fresh lemon juice
5 cups confectioners' sugar

- For Garnish*
small bag of chopped pecans
whole pecans optional
grated lemon zest optional
thin slice of lemon optional

Instructions

For the Cake
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray 3 (9-inch) round cake pans with nonstick

baking spray with flour. (I use Baker's Joy.)

In a large bowl, combine oil, sugar, and eggs and beat at medium-high speed with an electric mixer until creamy.

Add lemon zest, beating until combined.

In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking powder, ginger, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and nutmeg.

Gradually add to oil mixture, beating until combined. Stir in grated carrot. (You can grate your carrots by hand, but pull out that food processor and make things easier on yourself!)

Spoon batter evenly into prepared pans, and bake for 18 to 22 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean.

Let cool in pans for 10 minutes.

Remove from pan and cool completely on wire racks.

For the Frosting

In a large bowl, beat butter, cream cheese, lemon zest, and lemon juice at medium speed with a mixer until creamy.

Gradually add sugar, beating until smooth.



Spread the frosting evenly between the layers and on top and sides of the cake.

For the Garnish
Apply chopped pecans to the side of the cake.

Grate additional lemon zest on the top. (optional)
Add whole pecans to the edge of the top. (optional)

Twist a thin slice of lemon and add to the top. (optional)

Recipe Notes

Refrigerate until ready to serve and keep refrigerated until it's all gone.

It will keep for a few days, but it also freezes real well if you are unable to use it all within a short time.

See more from Jane Windham at cottageatthecrossroads.com.

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

Mechanicsville Baptist Church
2364 Cashua Ferry Rd., Darlington. 843-393-1029.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.-Sunday School; 10:30 a.m.-Worship Service
4 p.m.-Prayer Closet; 5:30 p.m. Evening Worship Services
Monday: Monday Night Ministry (MNM)-Youth Fellowship & Meal
Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. - Old Fashioned Chapel Service & Fellowship Meal; 6:30 p.m. - Small Group Bible Study (all ages) and Youth Group Meeting.

Choir anniversary at Savannah Grove
The Gospel Choir of Savannah Grove AME Church,

1401 Andrews Mill Road, Lamar, will celebrate their 50th choir anniversary Nov. 17 at 4 p.m. Rev. Johnnie O. Coe, presiding elder of the Marion District, will be guest speaker. All former choir members are asked to attend.

The Upper Room Holy Ghost Mission
Sunday morning worship is at 11 a.m. Bible study Thursday at 7 p.m. at 109 Main St. in Darlington.

Church Prayer Line
Anyone who needs prayer is welcome to call Covenant Baptist Church Prayer Line at 843-393-8555.

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.

Lawson Grove Baptist Church
3585 Lawson Grove Rd., Hartsville. Sunday - Church School at 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Wednesday.

Black Creek Baptist Church
The church, 139 Mont Clare Road, Dovesville, announces hours: Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. Worship Services and 6 p.m. Evening Worship. Wednesday: 6:30 Adult Bible Study; Youth Bible Study, Children (Children In Action) 7:30 Adult Choir Practice

Second Missionary Baptist Church
Second Missionary Baptist Church, 212 W. Washington St., Hartsville, announces hours. 8 a.m. early morning worship service, 9 a.m. church school service, 10 a.m. morning worship.

Covenant Baptist Church
Covenant Baptist Church, 628 Pocket Road, announces hours: Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday school, 11 a.m. Spoken Word Service. Wednesday: 6 p.m. Bible Study.

Mt. Zion Tabernacle Ministries
Mt. Zion Tabernacle Ministries, 426 W. Broad St. in Darlington, announces hours: 1st/3rd Sunday Pastoral Sunday: Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Church Services 11 Elder M. Frierson 2nd/4th Sunday: Sunday School at 9:30; Service at 11 a.m.

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 at 201 Grove St. in Darlington.

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Go ahead! Touch my ears. I know you want to. Everyone does and that's OK with me. A curiosity of sorts, in time you will forget about how unique my ears are and see how much fun life can be with ME by YOUR side. I had the pleasure of hanging out with two teenage girls the other day and they called me a "rock star" as I was so awesome in their book! Expertly mixing and mingling with two other females on my journey today and also rooming with a super bouncy/in your face female, I'm accepting of all canine energies and personalities. Kids are a joy in my book and I love sharing my space and time with them. Cats are too enticing for me so it's better we not share a home together. If you are in the market for a friendly, doting and handsome fellow to bring love into your home, please come on by and check me out! Male; lab mix; 37 pounds

Fun maker! For a good time, come to my pad! My name is Roscoe and I am a friend to all! I've met several dogs ... male and female ... big and little ... and each one makes me smile! If you are a human, you too are in for a real treat as I've never met one I did not want to love on and shower with my special TLC doggy goodness. Dressed for success sporting a sleek almost buff colored coat, I have a broad grin, wiggly hips and cupped ears to make sure I capture every word you whisper to me! If you have other dogs in your home and slightly more sturdy kids, than I think I'd really like to meet you. Playful, outgoing and drawn to human laps like a moth to a flame, I encourage to take me out for a stroll to see how perfect I am for you! 37 pounds; shep/bull mix; 2 years old



Have you lost or found a pet?

If you have lost or found a pet, go online to www.darlingtonhumane.org and click on the link **Lost/ Found Pets**. You will be directed to the 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

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous will hold an open meeting of big book and traditions studies weekly at 8 p.m. Monday nights at Trinity UMC on Pearl Street. Use Orange Street entrance. Info: 843-395-6897. Al-Anon is a fellowship of adult relatives and friends of alcoholics for mutual support. Visitors are welcome. Childcare is not available. Al-Anon meetings: Thursdays at 8 p.m. at the Hartsville AA Hut, 310 S. McFarland Street. Info: 843-992-2981.

Al-Anon Meetings

Al-Anon is a fellowship of adult relatives and friends of alcoholics for mutual support. Visitors are welcome. Childcare is not available. Al-Anon meetings: Thursdays at 8 p.m. at the Hartsville AA Hut, 310 S. McFarland Street. Info: 843-992-2981.

Board of Zoning Appeals

5:30 p.m. on Mondays on an as-needed basis, coordinated through the Codes Enforcement Office.

Business Network International

BNI meets each Tuesday at from 7:30-9 a.m. at Black Creeks Art Council, 116 W College Ave in Hartsville

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.

Crochet & Knit Clubs

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

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.

Darlington Library Programs

Summer Reading Program, Darlington Library, Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
Family Movie - Thurs. at 4pm
Accelerated Reader Testing, Available ALL Summer
Potluck Club [What the Fork?], Monthly Event, 4th Wednesday at 5:30 pm, bring one dish and feast on many...theme changes monthly, call 843-398-4940 for more information.

Darlington Kiwanis Club

Every other Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Darlington Country Club. Members often come a little early for fellowship.

Hartsville Kiwanis Club

Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. at the Hartsville Country Club

Hartsville Lions Club

Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. at Mr. B's Restaurant

Hartsville Rotary Club

Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. at Hartsville Country Club

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.

Pee Dee SCORE

Pee Dee SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) offers Free confidential counseling to America's small business, serving Darlington, Florence and surrounding areas. Existing and start-up businesses can schedule an appointment by calling the Hartsville Chamber of Commerce at 843-332-6401.

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

Monthly Events

a.m. Info: 326-5524
American Legion
American Legion Post 13 of Darlington meets second Thursday of each month at the Post on Harry Byrd Highway.

Darlington Branch NAACP

The Darlington Branch NAACP meets on the second Tuesday every month, 7 p.m. at 109 Pearl St. For more, please contact President Anthony Hall at 843-229-1274.

Darlington County Disabilities and Special Needs Board

The Darlington County Disabilities and Special Needs Board will meet on the following dates and times in 2019. All meetings will begin at 2 p.m. The agenda and meeting location will be posted monthly.
Meetings: April 30, May 28, June 25, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 29, Nov. 26.
No meeting in December.

Darlington County First Steps

2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 pm in the Chamber of Commerce Boardroom, 214 N 5th St., Hartsville.

Darlington County Historical Commission Meeting

Darlington County Historical Commission meets at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Darlington County Historical Commission at 204 Hewitt Street in Darlington.

Darlington Kiwanis Club Board Meeting

The Board of Directors for the Darlington Kiwanis Club will meet at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at Taki's Diner or a board member's home.

Darlington County Planning Commission Meeting

Darlington County Planning Commission meets 5:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Darlington County Courthouse Annex/EMS Building at 1625 Harry Byrd Highway in Darlington

Darlington County Humane Society Board of Directors

Darlington County Humane Society Board of Directors meet at 6 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Hartsville Memorial Library at 147 W. College Avenue in Hartsville.

Darlington Downtown Development Association Board of Directors Meeting

The DDRA Board of Directors will meet at City Administration, 410 Pearl Street, at 8 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, except in July and September.

Free Vision Screenings

Free Medical Clinic of Darlington County and the Darlington Lions Club are sponsoring free vision screenings, third Wednesday of each month, 1-4 p.m. at Free Medical Clinic of Darlington County, 203 Grove St. You do not have to be an FMC patient.

Head Start

Darlington County Head Start program policy council meetings, fourth Monday of each month, 5:30 p.m. at Butler Head Start Center, 1103 S. 6th St., Hartsville.
Darlington County Community Action Agency board meetings, 4th Thursday every month at 5:30 p.m., Butler Head Start Center.

Veterans of Foreign Wars

The Darlington chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars, VFW "GREY/FARROW" Post 3609, meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Taki's Restaurant, 609 Pearl St. in Darlington

Nov. 2019

The Taste of S.J.E.

Come out and enjoy all the tasty food on Thursday, Nov. 14 from 5-7 p.m. in the St. John's Elementary Cafeteria at 140 Park St. in Darlington. \$5 per person.

The Toast of Darlington

Thursday, Nov. 14 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Historic Edwards House. Enjoy live music, gourmet food, cash bar, and awards. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased by contacting Harriet at the Darlington Chamber at (843) 393-2641 or hhobbs@darlingtonchamber.com.

Grab a Bag SC

The City of Darlington Beautification Board will participate in the Grab A Bag SC Campaign from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 16. Volunteers should meet at the City Administration Building, 410 Pearl Street, across from Roses and Piggly Wiggly. Individuals or teams of four can register to win \$100 in Walmart gift cards. Litter will be weighed in at the City Administration Building.

Darlington Planning Commission

Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street, Darlington, SC.

Connections After Hours

Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Patriot Chevrolet of Darlington, 1050 Lochend Drive. Connections events are held monthly. Chamber members host these events in their place of business so they can promote their products/services. Business cards are also collected from those in attendance and given to the host at the end of the event. Members who attend have an opportunity to be drawn to give a 60-second infomercial about their business. This event is FREE.

Beautification Board

Wednesday, Nov. 20 from 5-7 p.m. at the City of Darlington Administrative Offices, located at 410 Pearl Street, Darlington.

Shop Small Downtown Open House

The Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association (DDRA) will hold a Shop Small Downtown Open House on Thursday, Nov. 21, from 5 to 8 p.m. in partnership with American Express and Darlington Area Recreation. We will have Pictures with Santa, Music, Vendors, and a Snow Machine on the Public Square. The first 200 guests will receive a Shop Small tote bag filled with goodies. Several shops around the Square will have refreshments, kids crafts, face painting, and special deals that night only!

Second Annual Lights of Love

The Auxiliary of Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center invites you to join our Second Annual Lights of Love tree lighting ceremony on Sunday, Nov.

24 at 4:30 p.m. Lights in honor/memory of a loved one can be purchased in the gift shop on the first floor of the hospital. Acknowledgement cards will be mailed to commemorate the honor, and all names will be published in the program. Proceeds from the event will fund special projects for the Auxiliary along with yearly scholarships awarded to students pursuing an education in the medical field. For more information, please call 843.878.1019.

Dec. 2019

Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council will hold their monthly meeting Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building, 1625 Harry Byrd Highway (Highway 151), Darlington. 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 jbish-op@darcountsc.com.

Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council will hold their monthly meeting Dec. 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

3rd Annual Festival of Trees

Opening Night Preview Party will be Friday, Dec. 6 at Black Creek Arts Council. Tickets are \$35 per person. General admission to show on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. until 4 pm. and Sunday, Dec. 8 from noon until 4 p.m.

251st Annual Christmas Dinner

We welcome the family members of all of our Soldiers to come join us on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 10 a.m. to fellowship over a great meal, come see what we have accomplished over the past year and get to know the 251st.

Christmas Parade & Festival

Darlington Rescue Squad's Annual Christmas Parade will be held Sunday, Dec. 8 at 4 p.m., followed by the Darlington Kiwanis Club's Annual Carol Lighting Service at 6 p.m. Christmas Festival will be held at the Public Square from 4-8 p.m.

Darlington County Board of Education

The Darlington County School District Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. Dec. 9 in the Training Room of the Administrative Office located at 120 E. Smith Avenue in Darlington.

Hartsville City Council Meeting

Dec. 10 at 5:30 p.m. at Hartsville City Hall, 100 E. Carolina Ave., Hartsville.

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State Department of Revenue issuing rebate checks

Six months after lawmakers approved \$50 tax rebates for eligible taxpayers and less than one month after the Oct. 15 Individual Income Tax extension deadline, the final numbers are in from the South Carolina Department of Revenue (SCDOR).

More than 1.2 million qualifying taxpayers will receive \$50 rebate checks over the next month, with 400,000 checks being prepared and issued already.

"This is great news for South Carolina's taxpayers," said Gov. Henry McMaster. "Any time the government funds essential programs and agencies and has money left over, we should strive to send it back to the people who earned it. I'm proud of

the Department of Revenue's work towards getting these checks to South Carolinians as quickly and as efficiently as they've been able to."

Rebates are being issued in ZIP code order, and most eligible taxpayers will receive their check by Dec. 2. Married couples who filed a joint 2018 South Carolina Individual Income Tax Return will receive one \$50 rebate check.

SCDOR Director Hartley Powell said he is proud the agency was able to begin issuing so many rebate checks so soon after the Oct. 15 Individual Income Tax extension deadline.

"We're on time and on target," Powell said. "We want to ensure checks are in taxpayers'

hands in time for the holidays. We are well on our way to meeting the Dec. 2 deadline set by lawmakers."

Powell said the SCDOR created a dedicated webpage with information and FAQs and is ready to answer customer questions by phone and email. "We're here to help," he said.

To qualify for the rebate, you must have:

-- Filed your 2018 South Carolina Individual Income Tax Return by Oct. 15, 2019.

-- A 2018 South Carolina tax liability of at least \$50 after credits.

How to identify the rebate check: Rebates are mailed in a standard envelope with the SCDOR listed in the return address. The memo line on

each check reads "SC TAX REBATE." A box in the middle of each check provides information about what the rebate is.

The check will be for exactly \$50.

All rebate checks will be mailed to eligible taxpayers to the address the SCDOR has on file, which is likely the address on your 2018 South Carolina Individual Income Tax Return.

If you still live at the address listed on your 2018 return, you do not need to update your address.

If you have moved since filing your 2018 return, and you have not yet updated your address with the SCDOR, visit dor.sc.gov/rebate for instructions on how to update your

address as soon as possible.

Please allow time for processing and mailing.

If you're eligible and haven't received your rebate by Dec. 27, download and complete form SC3911.

Write "Rebate" at the top of the form and skip the Refund Options section -- direct deposit is not available for the \$50 rebate.

If you have questions about the \$50 rebate, visit dor.sc.gov/rebate, email SCRebate@dor.sc.gov, or call 1-844-898-8542 and choose the rebate option.

Follow the SCDOR on Facebook and Twitter for \$50 rebate updates.

Day of prayer at courthouse

Restoration Outreach Ministries, Darlington, presents a day of prayer at the Darlington County Courthouse Nov. 17.

"Coming Together in Prayer on the Courthouse Yard" begins at 3 p.m.

For more information, call Pastor Henry Chapman, 843-230-5140.

Airman works toward master's degree at USC while serving his country

University of South Carolina

COLUMBIA -- The first words visitors see at the U.S. Air Force website are "We do the impossible every day."

As an airman, husband and father of two working toward his second master's degree while on active duty, Tech. Sgt. Matthew Sigmon has learned that the slogan is true, and that the key word is "we."

Sigmon is just a few classes away from earning a graduate degree from one of the world's best programs for sport and entertainment management at the University of South Carolina. As if grad school weren't hard enough, he also recently returned from a one-year combat zone deployment in Afghanistan.

"It is really difficult, but I've learned that you have to serve others around you in order to make things work," Sigmon says. "If you do your part, you'll find your community will be there to help you when you need it."

Sigmon has, beyond doubt, served. He's a 17-year Air Force veteran who has risen through the ranks and is now in charge of building bombs and supervising 45 airmen. He went into the explosives specialty because, as he puts it, "a long time ago they needed someone, so I did it."

Throughout his military service, Sigmon has found ways to serve and to learn beyond his normal duties. He has helped coach high school football and wrestling while deployed in South Korea. He went to college and earned his bachelor's degree in sports and health sciences and a master's in education with an emphasis on sport management. He then completed the Air Force's Senior NCO Professional Military Education Course before coming to South Carolina's Master of Science in Sport and Entertainment Management program.

"I was looking for the best in the world, because I wanted the competition," Sigmon says. Getting to his higher education goal had challenges,

but as always, he was willing to do the work.

He accepted a yearlong tour in Korea so he could follow it by being stationed at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter. His new station put him less than an hour from South Carolina's Columbia campus and just minutes from USC Sumter, also part of the university system. He found his Air Force family and the university community ready to help him achieve his academic mission.

"USC and the Air Force have both worked with me to make this happen," Sigmon says.

Both Shaw and the sport and entertainment management department have found ways to provide flexibility for Sigmon to meet his military and school duties, including working with his military schedule and deployments overseas.

While the transition from airman to student and back again might be difficult for some, Sigmon's philosophy makes it easy.

"The transition from student to whatever the hat worn is as simple as serving the next person who needs you," he says. "Service is the most important aspect of life."

As he finishes his latest degree, Sigmon is planning to retire from the Air Force and hopes to work in the sport management industry. Some of the best moments of his childhood were made around sporting events, and he wants to be part of making those great moments for new generations.

Sigmon says all the hard work has been worth it. To those who are where he was years ago, in high school or college and pondering the next step, he offers straightforward advice.

"First, find the job you want to have, no matter what it is. Talk to a person who has that job. Find out what it takes to get there, and then go out and do it."

Francis Marion University set to eliminate tuition costs for eligible freshmen

Francis Marion University is taking another step towards making high quality higher education accessible with the establishment of a new financial award aimed at next fall's incoming freshmen.

The new FMU Freshman Supplement will make it possible for all freshmen who are South Carolina residents, and who have demonstrated financial need, to cover the cost of all tuition and fees during their first year at the University.

The supplement will pay the difference between a student's first-year tuition and fees and all federal grants, state scholarships, institutional scholarships, stipends, and other external awards a student may receive.

The amount of the supplement

will vary depending upon the other awards and scholarships received.

Fred Carter, FMU's president, says the freshman supplement is logical next step for the University.

"Opening the door to a quality university education has been FMU's mission since its founding 50 years ago and it's no less a part of whom we are today," says Carter. "Helping students with demonstrated need overcome those hurdles is one of the most critical things we do. It's why we established the First Generation Fund last year, and it's why we're creating the FMU Freshman Supplement now."

FMU launched the First Generation Fund last year. It's

designed to provide resources for students who are the first in their family to attend college. Donate or find out more at this website: <https://www.fmarion.edu/firstgen/>

The deadline for freshmen enrolling in the fall of 2020 to meet the initial requirements for the FMU Freshman Supplemental Award is Feb. 1, 2020.

To be eligible for the freshman supplement, students must meet the following criteria:

- Be accepted to FMU as a first-time freshman, which means completing an application well in advance of the deadline.
- Have completed and submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to

Francis Marion University.

- Qualify for Full-Federal Pell Grant Eligibility.
- Be a South Carolina resident.

- Enroll as a full-time student at FMU for the fall 2020 semester.

For more information on the Freshman Supplement, visit <https://www.fmarion.edu/freshmensupp/>.

More information on the FAFSA and financial aid from FMU in general is available at <https://www.fmarion.edu/financialassistance/>. The FAFSA application can be accessed at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/afsa>.

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Second-half shutout propels Hartsville past South Aiken

By Drake Horton
Contributing Writer

Down by 2 at the half, the Hartsville defense flexed its muscles, shutting out the South Aiken Thunderbirds in the second half and overcoming four turnovers on the way to a 28-16 win at home in the first round of the 4A playoffs.

"South Aiken has been snake-bitten all year," Hartsville head coach Jeff Calabrese said. "They had a really good football team; they just couldn't find a way to win a lot of games. Giving them four gifts like that in a playoff game, it's kind of scary, but our kids found a way to win and you have to give them credit for finding a way no matter how ugly or pretty you advance to another round."

The game had somewhat of a weird start for the Red Foxes. South Aiken started with the ball, but while it was unable to do anything offensively, it was able to pin Hartsville deep in its own territory on the punt.

It was that punt that would end up helping the Thunderbirds get their first score of the game. Unable to get out of the shadow of their end zone, the Red Foxes were forced to punt and it resulted in South Aiken getting great field position.

The Thunderbirds capitalized from the great field position, turning it into a 6-yard rushing touchdown to give South Aiken a 7-0 lead. The lead was short-lived, however, as Hartsville answered on its next drive, converting one fourth down before Owen Taylor scored from 4 yards out.

It looked like the Red Foxes

were about to get rolling in the second quarter going up 14-7 when Taylor connected with Tate Hawkins for a 39-yard touchdown reception, making it back to back drives that Hartsville had scored.

South Aiken did not fold, however, after the Red Fox touchdown, answering with a 47-yard touchdown of its own on the next drive off a nicely set up screen. The Thunderbirds missed the extra point, however, keeping Hartsville in front 14-13.

With just a couple of minutes left before the half, Hartsville looked to extend its 1-point lead, but a tipped pass resulted in an interception, the first of four turnovers by the Red Foxes.

The Thunderbirds turned the Red Foxes' mistake into points as South Aiken converted a successful 25-yard field goal with 25.4 seconds left before the half go up 16-14.

The third quarter was sloppy for both teams as Hartsville and South Aiken traded turnovers in the opening period of the second half. First, Hartsville fumbled, it's third turnover of the game. The Thunderbirds followed that up with a fumble of their own on the ensuing drive only to have Taylor fumble it right back to them on the next play.

South Aiken was not able to do anything with turnover, however, turning the ball back over on downs. Following that it looked like Hartsville had fumbled again, giving the ball back to the Thunderbirds, but a roughing the passer penalty negated the turnover and the Red Foxes capitalized, scoring four plays later.

After the touchdown and a successful two-point conver-



sion Hartsville went up 22-16 and it never looked back due to some great defense by the Red Foxes.

"They hit us on a couple of plays," Calabrese said. "It wasn't like we were playing bad defense, but just giving up points and of course the offense put them in a bad hole early in the first quarter, but really we were playing good defense and I think finding a way to play a great second half certainly helped."

According to Calabrese, the strong defensive performance in the second half was not due to any adjustments that were made, but instead to

Hartsville just being able to make plays.

"There weren't a lot of adjustments to make," Calabrese said. "I think we were basically in the right spot. You know, sometime in the game of football you can be there and they just make a play, but it is not something that needs to be fixed and I think that is how we felt. It was like everything was in pretty good shape; we just have to make those plays and we found a way to do it in the second half."

The Red Foxes added some insurance late in the fourth quarter when Dariyan



Pendergrass broke off a 48-yard touchdown run with 1:17 left in the game.

Hartsville now goes on the road to take on Beaufort in the second round of the playoffs.

'High expectations' for Coker women's basketball

The Coker University women's basketball team looks to leave it all on the floor in 2019-20.

The Cobras won five games a season ago, with four of them in South Atlantic Conference play.

Fifth-year head coach Shannon Johnson is challenging her team to compete on a nightly basis in a tough conference.

"Our goals are to take advantage of and grow from our non-conference games to help us prepare for league play, and also to compete on a nightly basis in the South Atlantic Conference," said Johnson.

"We have some experienced players this year that will be able to perform night in and night out."

Johnson stated that she holds high expectations across the board for every player this year.

"I hold high expectations for the entire team this season," said Johnson.

"We are going to be successful if we all can accept our roles and finish each game."

"We are depending on our experience this season."

"We are working on developing more consistency from game to game."

The Cobras return 13 players from last year, and also welcome four new players to the fold.

Included in the group of returners is a member of last year's SAC All-Freshman Team in Saquita Joyner.

"We are looking for our returners to put up some big numbers this season and lead our team in a positive direction," said Johnson.

"We have five seniors who will play the bulk of the minutes and set the pace for us to be successful. Our sopho-

mores will be ready this season after getting a year of experience and learning how to be productive in this conference."

Coach Johnson is looking for some key roles out of her incoming freshman class.

"We are looking for our newcomers to hone their craft each and every day to be successful," said Johnson. "They all played significant roles on their high school teams, so we want them to learn and be able to compete at this level."

Johnson noted that the newcomers have challenged the returners in practice, and she likes the intensity she has seen early on.

"Our newcomers have been hungry in practice and pushing our returners daily, and that is what we need in practice," said Johnson.

"We are being patient but we are working hard to reach a common goal and that is to be successful on the court," she added.

Coker opened the 2019-20 campaign at Mount Olive Nov. 9, before traveling to the College of Charleston for a Division I exhibition on Nov. 12.

The Cobras will host Erskine in their home opener on Nov. 16, before welcoming Converse for a midweek contest on Nov. 19.

Coker begins conference play on Nov. 26 at Wingate, before hosting Lincoln Memorial on Nov. 30.

The Cobras open the month of December at home against Mars Hill on Dec. 7, before traveling to Carson-Newman on Dec. 14.

The Cobras will play host to Queens (N.C.) on Dec. 18, before traveling to Paine on New Year's Eve (Dec. 31).

The Cobras will open the new year 2020 at Lenoir-

Rhine on Jan. 4, before coming back home to host Catawba on Jan. 8.

Tusculum comes to town on Jan. 11, before the Cobras will hit the road for Anderson (S.C.) on Jan. 15 and UVA-Wise on Jan. 18.

The Cobras host Newberry on Jan. 22, before traveling to Lincoln Memorial on Jan. 25.

Coker will wrap up the month of January hosting Wingate on the 29th.

February begins at Mars Hill (Feb. 1), before the Cobras travel to Queens on Feb. 5.

Carson-Newman comes to town on Feb. 8, before the Cobras hit the road to Catawba on Jan. 12.

Coker will play two consecutive home games from there, welcoming Lenoir-Rhine on Feb. 15 and Anderson on Feb. 19.

The last road swing of the year will go through Tusculum on Feb. 22 and Newberry on Feb. 26, before the regular season finale and Senior Day against UVA-Wise on Feb. 29.

"Our toughest stretch of schedule will definitely be within our conference," explained Johnson.

"Every night we will have to go out and play our best. This is one of the toughest conferences and we are happy to play against top-notch competition."

"We want to focus on getting better as a unit and taking each game one by one."



TITLE I PROGRAM ANNOUNCES "CLASSROOM VISITATION WEEK" NOVEMBER 18-22, 2019

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- St. John's Elementary School
- Thornwell School for the Arts
- Washington Street Elementary School
- West Hartsville Elementary School



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Title I schools will be sending information home to parents about this event. Please make plans to visit your child's school so that you can see the wonderful learning activities that our students are engaged in on a daily basis.

S.C. handing out incentives to companies that lay off workers, close plants

By Rick Brundrett
The Nerve

In announcing in April that DHL Supply Chain, a global logistics company, would locate a \$100 million distribution and warehouse park in Dorchester County, Gov. Henry McMaster in a prepared statement said he couldn't "wait to see what the future holds for this great company here."

In exchange for the planned investment, which is supposed to create 450 jobs, a \$1 million state grant was awarded to Dorchester County for the project, and the company was approved for state job development credits, according to a release from the S.C. Department of Commerce.

But what neither McMaster nor other state officials publicly mentioned at the time was that DHL Supply Chain notified the state last year that it was laying off 576 workers in Spartanburg.

And it's not the only time the state has awarded taxpayer-backed incentives to companies that have laid off workers or closed plants in South Carolina.

The Nerve found in a review of state Commerce and Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) records that at least 10 companies, including DHL, which announced layoffs or closures since last year had been awarded state incentives, either for the facility in question or for other South Carolina locations operated by that company.

Overall, 2,013 workers at those companies were projected to lose their jobs, scheduled from March 6, 2018, to next July 31, according to federally required lay-off/closure notices provided by the companies to the DEW.

Below is the list of those companies and the number of projected affected workers, according to DEW records:

BAE Systems Inc., Summerville: 233 (layoffs)
DHL Supply Chain, Spartanburg: 576 (layoffs)
Gildan Activewear, Hamer: 54 (closure)
Lippert Components Manufacturing, Chester: 134 (closure)
MPW Industrial Services, Greer: 75 (closure)
Plastic Omnium, Anderson: 290 (closure)
Schaeffler Group, Fort Mill: 189 (closure)
Shaw Industries Group, Central and Clinton: 362 (closures)
Sitel, statewide locations: 8 (layoffs)
Wellman Plastics Recycling, Johnsonville: 92 (layoffs)

Commerce records show that the state Coordinating Council for Economic Development (CCED), an 11-member panel made up of the heads or board chairpersons of state agencies involved with economic development and chaired by Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt, approved grants ranging from \$200,000 to \$1 million to counties for site infrastructure improvements for five of the 10 companies.

The Nerve has pointed out that the CCED, which is administered by Commerce, typically has discussed taxpayer-backed incentives behind closed doors in Commerce's headquarters on the 16th floor of a high-rise office building across from the State House. Projects typically are given code numbers to keep the identities of the recipient companies secret until agreements are finalized – a process that usually takes months.

Three of the five state grants in The Nerve's latest review went to counties where the benefiting companies have existing or announced facilities not affected by the most-recent layoffs or closures at other company locations, records show. That included DHL Supply Chain, which benefited from the \$1 million grant announced in April to Dorchester County, though the company notified state and local officials in June 2018 that it was laying off 576 workers in Spartanburg.

In an email to The Nerve, Nicole Porter, a spokeswoman for German-based DHL, said DHL Supply Chain was a "partner with Walmart (in Spartanburg) where we provided associates and managed the (distribution) facility," and that Walmart later "chose to transition that back in house."

"Those associates simply shifted over to Walmart as they took the business back in house," Porter said.

Besides state grants, job development credits (JDCs) or final "revitalization" agreements, which typically involve JDCs, were approved for six of the 10 companies in The Nerve's review of CCED annual reports and Commerce press releases.

Job development credits are rebates of a portion of employee wage withholdings. Factors affecting the amount of those credits that eligible companies can claim include the number of jobs created, the level of wages paid, and the location of the company. The tax break can total millions over time.

In the case of the Schaeffler Group, a global automotive and industrial supplier, the company's Chesterfield County facility in 2012 was awarded JDCs, plus taxpayer-backed job training through the state Technical College System's "readySC" program, according to a Commerce release. The company's Chesterfield and York county plants also had final "revitalization" agreements approved in 2014 or 2016, CCED records show.

In May of this year, the German-based manufacturer announced plans to move about 200 workers from one of its plants at its North American headquarters in Fort Mill to another factory in Cheraw, according to

media reports.

The Nerve asked Commerce if any of the state incentives agreements with the 10 companies contained "clawback" provisions, which typically require companies to repay all or part of certain awarded benefits, based on a formula, if job creation or investment requirements aren't met. Commerce spokeswoman Alex Clark directed The Nerve to submit a formal open-records request for that information.

Last year, The Nerve revealed, based on Commerce records released under the state Freedom of Information Act, that since 2015, 14 companies that committed to locating or expanding in the state collectively repaid nearly \$7 million in state grants after failing to meet job creation or investment requirements.

Generally, "clawback" provisions are "contained in performance agreements between a company and the (CCED) when the applicable county receives a grant award to support an economic development project," Clark said in an email.

She added job development credits by law are "performance-based," and that there is no "clawback" for "quarterly credits earned based on applicable performance for that quarter."

After Commerce certifies a company for JDCs, the state Department of Revenue audits the company, which involves requesting payroll information to ensure that the JDCs are "being calculated correctly," and "other information" to confirm that "all requirements are being met and maintained to continue claiming" the credits, said agency spokeswoman Bonnie Swingle. She declined to give specifics about the "other information," noting, "We do not discuss specific audit practices."

If a company incorrectly calculates its credits for the audit period, the DOR issues an "audit assessment," and the company has 90 days to reply, either "with an appeal or payment," Swingle said.

Brundrett is the news editor of The Nerve (www.thenerve.org). Contact him at 803-254-4411 or rick@thenerve.org. Follow him on Twitter @RickBrundrett. Follow The Nerve on Facebook and Twitter @thenervesc.



Aanuke Mounahbi (Boone) was the first-place winner of the 25-mile American Endurance Ride Conference 2019 Sandhill's Stampede event at Sugarloaf Mountain in Patrick Nov. 2. Boone is a 10-year-old Arabian, owned by Marie and Mark Sobiski of Darlington. Boone was ridden by Brooks Prater of Rock Hill, daughter of Mike and Michelle Prater. The race drew 26 entries from six Southeastern states to compete. BECKY PEARMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Darlington pastor's new book encourages heavenly perspective

By Samantha Lyles
Staff Writer
styles@newsandpress.net

In "Learning to Fly," a newly published collection of essays, Rev. Tim Coker urges readers to consider that while life is rarely easy, God does not want us to suffer.

Rather, Coker believes that if we take a higher perspective and enlist God as our co-pilot, we can navigate through troubles with less turbulence and learn to love every part of the journey.

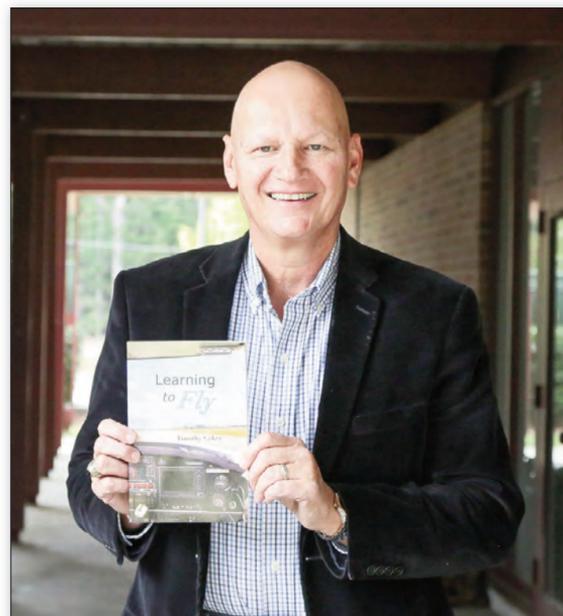
"I write about suffering, and marriage, and in some cases those two are related," says Coker with a laugh. "I write about parenting. ... What do you do when you really mess up and fail, what do you do when you're afraid?" Coker says, noting that many of God's simplest lessons are ones that we tend to forget and relearn repeatedly during our lives.

"There's a chapter on forgiveness, because holding a grudge never hurts the person you're holding it against," Coker says. "Most of the time, he or she isn't even aware of it, but it just eats you up! So let it go!"

Coker says that the book has more than one chapter dealing with how to gracefully recover from blunders, how to forgive ourselves and others and move forward. "I've had so many mess-ups in my life, I've got a lot of material on that subject," he says.

Though Coker has previously published a small collection of stories centered around his love of Christmas – titled "A Walk Through Christmas" – he hadn't completed a longer form book.

As a writing project, "Learning to Fly" has been on and off the back burner for over 15 years. Coker says that he would occasionally pick up the manuscript to add something,



Rev. Tim Coker of Darlington's Central Baptist Church with his new book "Learning to Fly." PHOTO BY SAMANTHA LYLES

then lose track of it for another long stretch. Coker is a cancer survivor (he's twice battled non-Hodgkin's lymphoma), and while he is now cancer-free, his experience reminded him that our time on Earth is limited and he didn't have forever to finish his project.

"Many years ago I was in a seminar with Dr. David Jeremiah, and he said that long after people forget your sermons, if you really want to expand your ministry and help people, then put a book in their hands," says Coker. "They can go back and refer to that book, and you never know who's going to get their hands on it."

He says he hopes that readers find something useful in the book, some words to bring them solace and perspective when dealing with difficulties.

"If God's grace is real, and I believe it is, then He graces us

with the ability to endure cancer and suffering, loss of our loved ones, facing death, being afraid – real life," Coker says. "If people only read one chapter, I hope they read the first chapter, titled 'The God Who Wants More For You.' I think that at this point in time, people have marginalized God and think wrongly about Him. ... I believe that a lot of people think God just wants more from us, but God also wants us to experience more. He's a God of joy and He wants more for us."

Coker will be signing copies of "Learning to Fly" from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17, at Central Baptist Church, located at 512 Spring St. in Darlington. Copies are available at the church, and can also be ordered through online booksellers like Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

" Thank you for electing me Mayor of our great town. I am both honored and humbled by the outpouring of support and encouragement I received through this election season.

As mayor I will work tirelessly, alongside the city council, to bring restoration, growth, recreation, and revitalization to Darlington – striving to reclaim our reputation as the Pearl of the Pee Dee.

I love our city. I love the people who live here. And I am fully committed to bringing productivity, unity, and positive change that will impact the lives of all of our residents.

Thank you for trusting me with this great responsibility to move our community forward over the next four years.

Curtis
BOYD

MAYOR OF DARLINGTON

BE STRONG
BE COURAGEOUS
DO THE WORK

1 CHRONICLES 28:20
#forDARLINGTON

One More Round Boxing of Darlington



One More Round Boxing of Darlington and head coach Larry Frazier brought live fighting action to the A.W. Stanley Gym on Saturday, Nov. 9. Bouts featured promising young pugilists from South Carolina and North Carolina, squaring off for experience and bragging rights. Frazier, a veteran and member of the U.S. Marine Corps Boxing Hall of Fame, themed the evening around a celebration of Veterans Day (Nov. 11) and the anniversary of the USMC. PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA LYLES



Trinity-Byrnes scores at Drama Festival

Trinity-Byrnes Collegiate School took home first place in the SCISA Regional One-Act Drama Festival for the second year in a row last week.

Trinity-Byrnes was one out of seven schools to prepare One-Act plays to perform at the hosting Sandhills School in Columbia.

This year, the students decided to perform a comedic piece titled, "Check, Please!" by playwright Jonathan Rand, proving that they can conquer both comedies and dramas after placing in first last year with an abridgement of William Inge's drama, "Bus Stop."

"This is such a fun piece. It follows a man and a woman desperately searching for love while encountering disastrous first dates, including a screaming sports fan, a man suffering from panophobia, and a mime, among many others. I was excited to see our students interpret the script and really bring these characters to life. We're beyond thrilled to be advancing to State, but we know what the competition holds, and we will need to continue to rehearse and avoid getting too comfortable with our win," said director Chrissy Monaco.

"TBCS has such an amazing Drama department and it was such an honor to get to represent it at Regionals. I had such an incredible time performing with such wonderful people.

We all love to act and perform, so having the opportunity to go to State is such an honor," said Abbey Novinger, a sophomore at TBCS.

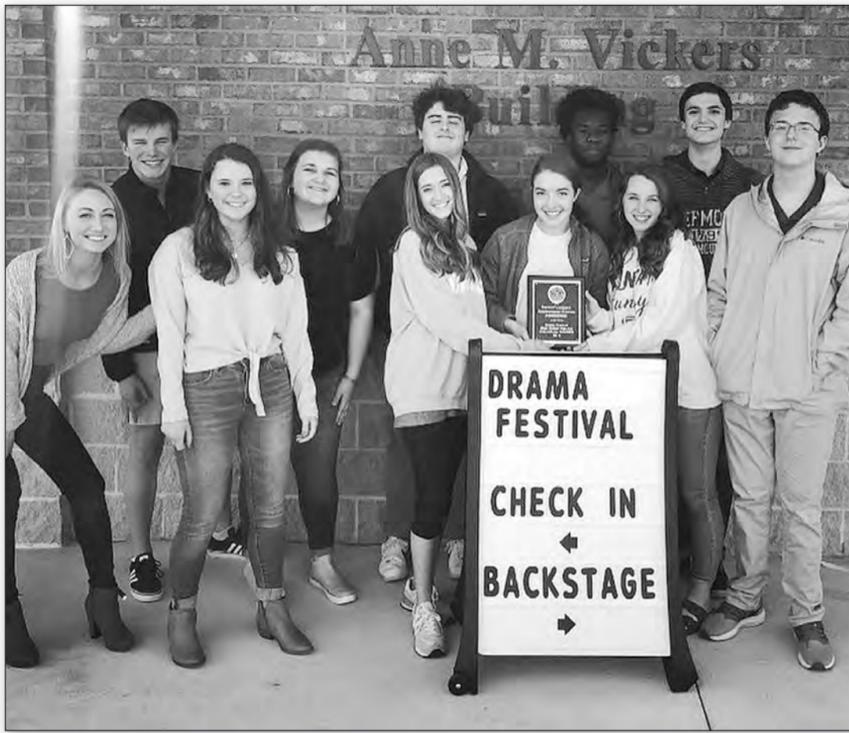
"Trinity-Byrnes' Drama Program has had a massive impact on my everyday life and my interactions with friends. It's always fun to go and represent the school in a way that defines you as who you really

are. The opportunity to go to State has made me appreciate the school even more. As a class, we are proud to continue to stay emotionally connected for the upcoming, difficult competition," said Alek Huggins, a senior at TBCS.

Student performers include: Kat Glassman, Alek Huggins, Sallyann Frost, Luke Baker, Trystan Elliot, Abbey Novinger,

Lydia Barefoot, Maddie Lowe and Nigel Robinson. Stagehand: Brennan Dowdy. Maddie Lowe also won the award for "Best Actress" for her performance as "Linda."

Trinity-Byrnes will be heading to the State Competition Nov. 21, which will be held at the Sumter Opera House.



Toast of Darlington is Nov. 14

The Toast of Darlington, presented by Manheim Darlington, is Nov. 14 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Edwards Avenue.

The event features live music, gourmet food and a cash

bar. Tickets are \$25; call the Darlington Chamber of Commerce, 843-393-2641.

Please bring two cans of nonperishable food to stock the shelves of The Lord Cares.

Florence-Darlington Technical College student choir granted funds for dress clothes

Florence-Darlington Technical College's first student choir in more than 30 years will have tuxedos and gowns thanks to a \$2,500 grant.

The funds to buy the dress clothes came from the Florence Regional Arts Alliance just in time for two big performances for the brand new group. The grant helped the choir purchase 10 formal black tuxedos and 10 formal black gowns. It also helped choir members purchase branded apparel from the bookstore on campus.

The FDTC Student Choir planned to sing patriotic songs at the Florence Veteran's Day ceremony at the Veterans Park next to the Florence Center Nov. 11.

The students will wear their new clothes at the Christmas Concert at the Francis Marion University (FMU) Performing

Arts Center Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. FDTC's choir will join groups from FMU and Morris College as well as the FMU String Ensemble. FDTC Music Instructor, Rebecca Hunter, who leads the FDTC Student Choir, has been rehearsing the classic Oratorio de Noël by Camille Saint-Saëns.

FDTC's Student Choir was organized earlier this year by Hunter. The participating students are enrolled in her Music 101 class. In addition to local performances, she has also secured the choir an invitation to sing at the National Memorial Day Celebration at the Washington, D.C., Kennedy Center in May 2020.

"It's a great opportunity for our students to learn from and hear other great musicians!" said Hunter. Hundreds of students from choirs around the country are invited to the



three-day celebration of the 2020 Memorial Day event in the nation's capital. The show will be broadcast to American armed forces and their families serving around the world.

FDTC's Student Choir is also performing for the residents of the Carolinian Nov. 19. The Carolinian is a retirement facil-

ity in Florence. Music Instructor Hunter is applying for other grants to help pay for the FDTC Student Choir's expenses to the nation's capital.

For more information, contact her at rebecca.hunter@fdtc.edu or 843-661-8181.

S.C. 4-H'ers excel at All American Quarter Horse Congress

Clemson University

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Five South Carolina 4-H'ers and their coaches brought a bounty back to the Palmetto State from the largest single-breed horse show in the world: two large trophies and 37 medals.

Aliza Allison (Lexington), Hartley Grant (Anderson), Marie Elizabeth Grant (Anderson), Rebekah Floyd (Greenwood) and Langley Vernon (Anderson) competed in educational contests at the 2019 All American Quarter Horse Congress, which attracts more than 650,000 people to the Columbus, Ohio, area and generates \$409 million each year.

The team of Allison, Hartley Grant, Marie Elizabeth Grant, Floyd and Vernon took first place on Oct. 15 in the Horse Bowl Contest, a quiz bowl contest where participants are asked questions about horses and horse-related topics.

"Quick thinking was a must in this contest as youth activate their electronic buzzer before their opponent in order to answer the question and score points," said Katie Shaw, coach and South Carolina 4-H Youth development specialist. "Of course, our young people also demonstrated a great command of knowledge about horses and related topics in order to achieve the overall

championship in this contest."

Allison, Hartley Grant, Marie Elizabeth Grant and Vernon continued to shine the following day in the Hippology Contest, again garnering the championship. Hippology is the study of horses and the contest tests participants' knowledge of horse and horse-related items from any aspect of the horse industry.

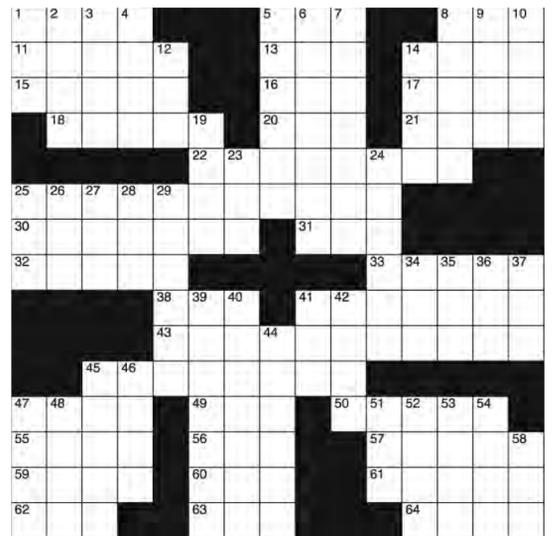
Contest elements included a written exam, horse judging, identification of items and/or their use, and solving problems and presenting the solution. The team was also awarded individual and team phase awards.

"The youth are excited for

their success at this national contest and look forward to competing in more horse-related educational contest," Shaw said. "This event really exemplifies the 4-H mission of using experiential learning experience to empower young people to shine, and there's no doubt that our 4-H'ers on the South Carolina team were excited to use their skills and knowledge to respond to the challenge of competing on a national stage."

For more information on how to get involved in these or other 4-H Horse Project activities visit <http://www.clemson.edu/4h/horse> or contact your local Clemson Extension office.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Shelter for pigeons
- Popular lit genre ___-fi
- Used to harvest agave
- Wintertime accessory
- "Gandalf" actor McKellen
- Taxis
- Political plot
- Public television
- Nigerian ethnic group
- Informal loan clubs
- "Wheel of Fortune" host
- C C C
- North, South and Central make them up
- In an early way
- Lied down in rest
- Female hip-hop trio
- Improves
- Genus of mackerel sharks
- Electronic countermeasures
- Emerging
- Balkan body of water
- A type of delivery
- Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- Title given to a

DOWN

- Reciprocal of sine
- Political organization
- Defunct funk record label
- Geological times
- One who drinks slowly
- Nightclub entertainment
- Establish in one's mind
- Restaurants
- Off-Broadway theater award
- Requests
- You don't watch to catch it

- Intestinal pouches
- Satisfy
- Wet dirt
- Regularly repeated
- Before
- The color of Valentine's Day
- Indicates near
- Bon ___: witty remark
- One's holdings
- Request
- Prefix meaning "badly"
- Midway between north and northeast
- Ottoman military title
- Teased
- Happily
- Pie ___ mode
- Mars crater
- Sports TV personality
- Taxi driver
- Abba __, Israeli politician
- The sick are sometimes on it
- Relating to olives
- Swiss river
- Grayish white
- A way to engrave
- Where Coach K. works
- Midway between south and southeast

WORD SEARCH

M C P G W V E P N E U M C P H G S Y B Y
C H M N O I T C I F E B P X H T N E M Y
F S E M G N I W O D A H S E R O F Y B O
O G T I W U Y U S B M G T Y R A N U B H
G D O U Y G I E G W O L A I L O P H R T
T E N V P Y S L X L T S H L I H E V R I
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L O M E O W I I I O N T A P S I L X V U
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T T E M S N N A A N E O R O Y D P L I Y
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| ALLEGORY | CLIMAX | MENT | IMAGERY |
| ALLITERATION | CONFLICT | DIALOG | IRONY |
| ANTAGONIST | CONNOTATION | EXPOSITION | METAPHOR |
| ASSONANCE | CONVENTION | FICTION | METONYMY |
| CHARACTER | DENOTATION | FIGURATIVE | NARRATION |
| | DENOUE- | FORESHADOWING | PARODY |
| | | HYPERBOLE | PLOT |

Answers on 5B

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on Form #371ES with the Probate Court of Darlington County, the address of which is Room 208 Courthouse, One Public Square, Darlington, SC 29532, within eight(8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and the address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim and a description of any security as to the claim. Estate: Crystal Dawn Happ Date of Death: 9/13/2019 Case No: 2019ES1600504 Personal Representative: Mark Richard Happ Address: 1137 Bonnoitt Street, Darlington, SC 29532 (16p3 leave in thru 11-13-19)

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NOTICE OF SALE

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of The Citizens Bank, Plaintiff, vs. Benjamin Lee Brown, Michael Ray Poston, Jr., individually and as Personal Representative of the Estate of Cecelia Conyers Mathis, Denise Mathis, Cassandra Lovelace, individually and as Personal Representative of the Estate of David Paul Mathis, McLeod Health, and any other person claiming any right, title or interest in the real estate, and John Doe and Richard Roe; any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe, and any unknown minors or person under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe representing any unknown heirs of, or claimants against the property described in the Complaint, Defendants., CA# 2019-CP-16-00639, I, the undersigned, will sell on December 2, 2019 at 12:00 o'clock, p.m., at the Darlington County Courthouse, Courthouse Square, Darlington, South Carolina, to the highest bidder the following property: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the Town of Hartsville, County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, being designated as Lot No. 99 on a plat entitled property owned by the Hartsville Cotton Mill, made by T. E. Wilson, C.E. dated April 16, 1947, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County, SC in Plat Book 13 at Page 143; said lot being bounded and measuring as follows: NORTH: By Lot No. 98 on said plat, a distance of 91.1 feet, more or less; EAST: By Lot No. 103 on said plat, a distance of 100 feet; SOUTH: By Lot No. 100 on said plat, a distance of 90.6 feet; and, WEST: By Mill Avenue, a distance of 100 feet. This being the same property conveyed to Cecelia C. Mathis by deed of Robert C. Conyers dated August 31, 2005, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County in Book 1040 at Page 3329. Address: 509 Mill Avenue, Hartsville, SC TMS# 056-11-04-032 TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit, at the conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of the bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to

be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit at time of bid or comply with the other terms of the bid within thirty (30) days, then the property will be resold on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day at the risk of the said highest bidder. Personal or deficiency judgment having been waived, the bidding will not remain open, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately after the sale. Purchaser to pay for preparation of the deed, documentary stamps on the deed, and recording fees. SUBJECT TO DARLINGTON COUNTY TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS, EASEMENTS, RESTRICTIONS, ANY OTHER MATTERS OF RECORD s/ Haigh Porter October 22, 2019 Special Referee for Darlington County Ray Coit Yarborough, Jr. Attorney for Plaintiff (16c3 leave in thru 11-13-19)

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on

LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE OF SALE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DARLINGTON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CASE NO. 2019-CP-16-00796

First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company Plaintiff, -vs- Ryan A. Godfrey and Stuart A. Godfrey, Defendant(s) BY VIRTUE of a judgment heretofore granted in the case of First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company vs. Ryan A. Godfrey and Stuart A. Godfrey, I, Benjamin D. Moore, Esquire Special Referee for Darlington County, will sell on December 2, 2019, at 12:30 pm, at the Darlington County Courthouse, One Public Square, Darlington, SC 29532, to the highest bidder: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate, lying and being near to and northwest of the City of Hartsville, County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, being the northeastern 90 feet of Lot No. 13 according to plat of survey made by Frank H. Lucas, Jr., R.S. dated February 21, 1953, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County in Plat Book 30 at Page 31, reference to which plat and plat of said lot by Sam M. Hunter, Jr., L.S. dated March 7, 1961, is craved for a more particular description thereof; said lot measuring 90 feet along its southern and northwestern boundaries and is bounded as follows: NORTHEAST: By Lot No. 14 on said recorded plat; SOUTHEAST: By property of Mrs. Floyd; SOUTHWEST: By the remaining southwestern 10 foot portion of Lot No. 13; and, NORTHWEST: By Howle Avenue. This being the same property conveyed unto Ryan A. Godfrey and Stuart A. Godfrey by deed of Mona Parnell Howell dated March 29, 2016, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County in Book 1078 at Page 1078. TMS #: 055-05-01-088 SUBJECT TO DARLINGTON COUNTY TAXES TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Special Referee at conclusion of the bidding, five (5%) of his bid, in cash or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, the same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of noncompliance. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to make the required deposit

at the time of the bid or comply with the other terms or the bid within twenty (20) days, then the Special Referee may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the former highest bidder). Should the Plaintiff, or one of its representatives, fail to be present at the time of sale, the property is automatically withdrawn from said sale and sold at the next available sales day upon the terms and conditions as set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale or any Supplemental Order. A personal or deficiency judgment having been demanded by the Plaintiff, the sale of the subject property will remain open for thirty (30) days pursuant to Section 15-39-720, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976; provided, however, that the Court recognizes the option reserved by the Plaintiff to waive such deficiency judgment prior to the sale, and notice is given that the Plaintiff may waive in writing the deficiency judgment prior to the sale; and that should the Plaintiff elect to waive a deficiency judgment, without notice other than the announcement at the sale and notice in writing to the debtor defendant(s) that a deficiency judgment has been waived and that the sale will be final, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. NOTICE: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search well before the foreclosure sale date. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 3.875% per annum. Benjamin D. Moore, Esquire Special Referee for Darlington County Theodore von Keller, Esquire B. Lindsay Crawford, III, Esquire Sara Hutchins Columbia, South Carolina Attorney for Plaintiff Email: court@crawfordvk.com (18c3 leave in thru 11-27-19)

Notice of Sale
C/A No: 2019-CP-16-00795

BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Darlington County, South Carolina, heretofore issued in the case of Freedom Mortgage Corporation vs. Tonya Marie Amerson; Carl E. Amerson, Jr.; I the undersigned as Special Referee for Darlington County, will sell on December 2, 2019 at 11:00 AM, at the County Court House, Darlington County, South Carolina, to the highest bidder: Legal Description and Property Address: ALL THAT CERTAIN piece, parcel or lot of land lying, being and situate in Hartsville, in the County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, being known and designated as Lot No. 5, Block H as shown on a map of re-subdivision of the W. C. Barefoot Subdivision by Frank H. Lucas, R.P. E. dated October 8, 1948 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County in Plat Book 15 at Page 181 and being generally bounded and described as follows, to wit: On the West by Green Street on which it fronts and measures 75.26 feet; on the North by Lot No. 4, Block H on which it measures 200.76 feet; On East by Magnolia Cemetery on which it measures 74.96 feet and on the South by Lot No. 6, Block H on which it measures 199.04 feet, all as shown on plate prepared for Howard D. Brown and Paul V. Cannarella by Lind, Hicks and Associates, Surveyors, Inc. dated February 25, 2004 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County in Plat Book 198 at page 498. Reference said Plat for a more complete and accurate description. THIS BEING the same property conveyed unto Carl E. Amerson, Jr. and Tonya Marie Amerson, as joint tenants with right of survivorship, by virtue of a Deed from Bradford G. McBride dated September 15, 2017 and recorded September 19, 2017 in Book 1083 at Page 2432 in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County, South Carolina. 603 Green Street Hartsville, SC 29550 TMS# 036-04-02-039 TERMS OF SALE: For cash. Interest at the current rate of Four and 50/100 (4.5000%) to be paid on balance of bid from date of sale to date of compliance. The purchaser to pay for papers and stamps, and that the successful bidder or bidders, other than the Plaintiff therein,

will, upon the acceptance of his or her bid, deposit with the Special Referee for Darlington County a certified check or cash in the amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of bid on said premises at the sale as evidence of good faith in bidding, and subject to any resale of said premises under Order of this Court; and in the event the said purchaser or purchasers fail to comply with the terms of sale within Thirty (30) days, the Special Referee shall forthwith resell the said property, after the due notice and advertisement, and shall continue to sell the same each subsequent sales day until a purchaser, who shall comply with the terms of sale, shall be obtained, such sales to be made at the risk of the former purchaser. Since a personal or deficiency judgment is waived, the bidding will not remain open but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. If the Plaintiff or the Plaintiff's representative does not appear at the above-described sale, then the sale of the property will be null, void, and of no force and effect. In such event, the sale will be rescheduled for the next available sales day. Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale. Sold subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record. Eugene P. Warr, Jr. Special Referee for Darlington County Darlington, South Carolina _____, 2019

Hutchens Law Firm LLP
P.O. Box 8237
Columbia, SC 29202
803-726-2700
(18c3 leave in thru 11-27-19)

Notice of Sale
C/A No: 2019-CP-16-00242 BY VIRTUE OF A DECREE of the Court of Common Pleas for Darlington County, South Carolina, heretofore issued in the case of Ford Mortgage Company vs. Ana Jackson; Gardner Green Subdivision Homeowners Association, Inc.; Gardner Green, LLC., I the undersigned as Special Referee for Darlington County, will sell on December 2, 2019 at 11:00 AM, at the County Court House, Darlington County, South Carolina, to the highest bidder: Legal Description and Property Address: All that certain piece, parcel or tract or lot of land situate, lying and being in the

County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, known and designated as Lot 3 having 0.92 acres on a plat made by Nesbitt Surveying Co., Inc., dated September 9, 2010 and recorded in Plat Book 209 at Page 33 in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County. Reference is made to the above-referenced map for a more complete and accurate description. This being the same property conveyed to Ana Jackson by Deed of Wayne Sturkie and Son Builders, LLC, dated August 20, 2015 and recorded August 24, 2015 in Book 1076 at Page 3444, in the Office of the Register of Deeds for Darlington County, South Carolina. 2428 Skeets Farm Road Darlington, SC 29540 TMS# 213-00-02-003 TERMS OF SALE: For cash. Interest at the current rate of Four and 25/100 (4.25%) to be paid on balance of bid from date of sale to date of compliance. The purchaser to pay for papers and stamps, and that the successful bidder or bidders, other than the Plaintiff therein, will, upon the acceptance of his or her bid, deposit with the Special Referee for Darlington County a certified check or cash in the amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of bid on said premises at the sale as evidence of good faith in bidding, and subject to any resale of said premises under Order of this Court; and in the event the said purchaser or purchasers fail to comply with the terms of sale within Thirty (30) days, the Special Referee shall forthwith resell the said property, after the due notice and advertisement, and shall continue to sell the same each subsequent sales day until a purchaser, who shall comply with the terms of sale, shall be obtained, such sales to be made at the risk of the former purchaser. Since a personal or deficiency judgment is waived, the bidding will not remain open but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. If the Plaintiff or the Plaintiff's representative does not appear at the above-described sale, then the sale of the property will be null, void, and of no force and effect. In such event, the sale will be rescheduled for the next available sales day.

LEGALS ON 5B

WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS.

Public notices tell you what is being done by your government and in your courts. It's your right to know when there's a zoning change, public hearing or election coming up. Do you want to know when a bar or strip club is opening in your neighborhood or if your property is auctioned off? These are just a few types of public notices that are required to run in S.C. newspapers.

There's no better way to notify the public than through the combination of S.C. newspapers and SCPublicNotices.com... the permanency of print paired with the accessibility of a statewide, searchable site.

Public notices/legal ads from virtually all S.C. newspapers are now available online in one convenient location.

This service is provided by S.C. newspapers at no cost to taxpayers.

Search public notice ads from this newspaper at
SCPublicNotices.com



NOON FRIDAY AD DEADLINE
Call 393-3811, fax 393-6811 or e-mail
customerservice@newsandpress.net.

classifieds

NOVEMBER 13, 2019 | PAGE 5B
THE NEWS AND PRESS, DARLINGTON, S.C.

WWW.NEWSANDPRESS.NET

HOMES FOR RENT

211-2 Edwards Ave - 1 bedroom downstairs apartment, gas stove & refrigerator provided, gas heat, window a/c unit, NO washer/dryer hook up, water included, \$400/deposit, \$400/rent, call (843) 393-8084.

13ctfn
674 Stanley Circle - 1 room efficiency, includes utilities, \$425/month, (843) 393-7545.

15ctfn
110 S. Twitty Street - 2 bedroom house, \$450/month, (843) 393-7545

16ctfn
2753 Welling Farm Road (Hoffmeyer Road) - Small efficiency home located on large well landscaped lot near Magnolia Mall. Utilities furnished. \$500/month. (843) 393-7545.

17ctfn
212-1 Edwards Ave - Large 3 b/room, 2 bath duplex with single carport, washer/dryer hook up, central heat & air, \$550/deposit, \$550/rent, (843) 393-8084.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FDA Registered, 100% Digital hearing aids as low as \$199 each. American Made Technology. Call 800-937-2218 use promo 88270 for a risk-free trial! FREE SHIPPING!

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We

specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 844-524-2197
Lung Cancer? And Age 60+? You And Your Family May Be Entitled To Significant Cash Award. Call 855-664-5681 for information. No Risk. No money out-of-pocket.

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Games: (SC1109)

POWER SHOT MULTIPLIER, (SC1098) IT TAKES 2

HAVE YOU DREAMED OF BECOMING A PUBLISHED BOOK AUTHOR? We can help. Visit CourierPublishing.com or call 864-232-8736. Located in Greenville, established 1869.

Still have life insurance? Need or want to access those funds now? If you're 75 or older and have a policy worth \$100k or more, you may qualify for a cash buyout. Call Benefit Advance. 1-877-649-1439

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. NOT just a discount plan, REAL coverage for [350] procedures. Call 1-855-397-7030 for details. www.dental50plus.com/60 Ad#6118-0219

AUCTIONS
Auction - 154.7 +/- Acres - Friday, November 22, 11 AM - E. Shortcut Road & S. Hill Road, Timmonsville, SC - Damon Shortt Auction Group 843-669-4005 SCAL2346 damonshorttproperties.com

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

FOR SALE
Privacy Hedge BLOWOUT SALE. 6' Green Giant or Emerald Green Arborvitae, regular price \$179 Now \$99. 5' Leyland Cypress \$49. FREE installation & delivery. Discountreefarm.com 931-743-0833

HELP WANTED - DRIVERS
ADVERTISE YOUR DRIVER JOBS in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 2.1 million readers. Call Randall Savely at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.
MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
NEED NEW FLOORING? Call Empire Today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 844-254-3873

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 833-833-1650

Two great new offers from AT&T Wireless! Ask how to get the Next Generation Samsung Galaxy S10e FREE. FREE iPhone with AT&T's Buy one, Give One. While supplies last! CALL 1-866-565-8453 or www.freephones-now.com/SC

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-875-2449. TELEVISION & INTERNET SERVICES

AT&T Internet. Starting at \$40/month w/12-mo agmt. Includes 1 TB of data per month. Get More For Your High-Speed Internet Thing. Ask us how to bundle and SAVE! Geo & svc restrictions apply. Call us today 1-866-843-6183

Get NFL Sunday Ticket FREE w/ DIRECTV Choice All-Included Package. \$59.99/month for 12 months. 185 Channels PLUS Thousands of Shows/Movies On Demand. FREE Genie HD DVR Upgrade. Call 1-844-624-1107

Odom's Mini Storage
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Darlington, SC
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(843) 393-9071

DISH Network \$59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY \$19.95/month. Call Today for \$100 Gift Card! Best Value & Technology. FREE Installation. Call 1-877-542-0759 (some restrictions apply)
Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$14.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-877-649-9469
Spectrum Triple Play! TV, Internet & Voice for \$99.97/mo. Fastest Internet. 100 MB per second speed. Free Primetime on Demand. Unlimited Voice. NO CONTRACTS. Call 1-855-402-1186
Viasat Satellite Internet. Up to 12 Mbps Plans Starting at

Odom's Mini Storage
AUCTION:
Nov. 19 at 2 pm
1009 N. Main Street
BRIANA MECLAM
Storage #37
Household items
Total due: \$273.00
ANTHONY WHITAKER
Storage #42
Household items
Total due: \$274.00

\$30/month. Our Fastest Speeds (up to 50 Mbps) & Unlimited Data Plans Start at \$100/month. Call Viasat today! 1-866-463-8950
VACATION RENTALS
ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PROPERTY FOR RENT OR SALE to more than 2.1 million S.C. newspaper readers. Your 25-word classified ad will appear in 99 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Call Randall Savely at the South Carolina Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

Legals

Continued from 4B

Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale. Sold subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

Eugene P. Warr, Jr. Special Referee for Darlington County Darlington, South Carolina

Hutchens Law Firm P.O. Box 8237 Columbia, SC 29202 803-726-2700

(18c3 leave in thru 11-27-19)

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION (NON-JURY MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE)

C/A NO. 2019-CP-16-01006 DEFICIENCY WAIVED STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DARLINGTON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, PLAINTIFF, vs. Jerome Adams; Sandra L. Berry; South Carolina Department of Revenue; Ryland S. Holloman, Jr.; Jacqueline S. Young, DEFENDANT(S) TO THE DEFENDANTS, ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint herein, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, or otherwise appear and defend, and to serve a copy of your Answer to said Complaint upon the subscriber at his office, Hutchens Law Firm LLP P.O. Box 8237, Columbia, SC 29202, within thirty (30) days after service hereof, except as to the United States of America, which shall have sixty (60) days, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, or otherwise appear and defend, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein, and judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE that should you fail to Answer the foregoing Summons, the Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference of this case to the Master in Equity for Darlington County, which Order shall, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure, specifically provide that the said Master in Equity is authorized and empowered to enter a final judgment in this case with appeal only to the South Carolina Court of Appeals pursuant to Rule 203(d)(1) of the SCAR, effective June 1, 1999.

NOTICE OF FILING OF SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the foregoing Summons, along with the Complaint, was filed with the Clerk of Court for Darlington County, South Carolina, on September 20, 2019.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, (hereinafter "Order"), you may have a right to Foreclosure Intervention. To be considered for any available Foreclosure Intervention, you may communicate with and otherwise deal with the Plaintiff through its law firm, Hutchens Law Firm LLP, P.O. Box 8237, Columbia, SC 29202 or call 803-726-2700. Hutchens Law Firm LLP, represents the Plaintiff in this action and does not represent you. Under our ethical rules, we are prohibited from giving you any legal advice.

You must submit any requests for Foreclosure Intervention consideration within 30 days from the date of this Notice. IF YOU FAIL, REFUSE, OR VOLUNTARILY ELECT NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION, YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY/AGENT MAY PROCEED WITH A FORECLOSURE ACTION.

If you have already pursued loss mitigation with the Plaintiff, this Notice does not guarantee the availability of loss mitigation options or further review of your qualifications. THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, except as stated below in the instance of bank-

ruptcy protection.

IF YOU ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT OR HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED AS A RESULT OF A BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING, THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU PURSUANT TO STATUTORY REQUIREMENT AND FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES AND IS NOT INTENDED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT OR AS AN ACT TO COLLECT, ASSESS, OR RECOVER ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THE DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY.

(18c3 leave in thru 11-27-19)

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DARLINGTON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2019-CP-16-01126 Road/Route US 52 & S-528 Intersection Improvements Project ID No. P028980 Tract 4 South Carolina Department of Transportation Condemnor, VS. Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Landowner(s), and Willie Pearson, taxpayer, Other Condemnee(s), and John Doe and Mary Roe, representing all unknown persons, having or claiming to have any right, title interest in or to, or lien on the lands described herein, including all unknown heirs of Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Unknown Claimant(s).

TO: THE LANDOWNER(S), OTHER CONDEMNEE(S) AND UNKNOWN CLAIMANT(S) ABOVE NAMED: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED, advised and notified, that pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., the within Condemnation Notice and Tender of

Payment, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, has been filed with the Clerk of Court for Darlington County. The purpose of this lawsuit is to enable the Condemnor, the South Carolina Department of Transportation, to acquire certain real property for its public purposes, as is more fully stated in the attached Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment. Responsive pleadings to the Condemnation Notice and Tender of Payment are not necessary. BY: s/Andrew F. McLeod Attorney for Condemnor (SCDOT) Andrew F. McLeod, Bar #64130 PO Drawer 1449, 222 Market Street Cheraw, SC 29520 Telephone: (843)537-5204 amcleod@hmandrlaw.com October 29, 2019

LIS PENDENS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DARLINGTON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2019-CP-16-01126 South Carolina Department of Transportation Condemnor, VS. Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Landowner(s), and Willie Pearson, taxpayer, Other Condemnee(s), and John Doe and Mary Roe, representing all unknown persons, having or claiming to have any right, title interest in or to, or lien on the lands described herein, including all unknown heirs of Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Unknown Claimant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Condemnor above named pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, has brought an action against the Condemnee(s) above named to acquire the real

property described herein for public purposes, to-wit:

All that parcel or strip of land in fee simple, with improvements thereon, if any, including rights of access as may be needed for controlled access facilities, containing 0.1394 acre (6,071.67 square feet) more or less, and being described as follows: Within 115 feet of the survey centerline at US Route52, on the right between approximate survey station 219+52 and 221+00; thence along a transition to 80 feet of the survey centerline of US Route 52, on the right, at approximate survey station 222+00. Tie Equality: STA 219+71.33 US-52 = STA 13+91.66 OFD3 Tax Map Number 145-00-02-006 The property sought herein is to be acquired for public purposes, more particularly for the construction of a section of US 52 & S-528 Intersection Improvements. BY: s/Andrew F. McLeod Attorney for Condemnor (SCDOT) Andrew F. McLeod, Bar #64130 PO Drawer 1449, 222 Market Street Cheraw, SC 29520 Telephone: (843)537-5204 amcleod@hmandrlaw.com October 29, 2019

NOTICE OF ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM NISI STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DARLINGTON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2019-CP-16-01126 South Carolina Department of Transportation Condemnor, VS. Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Landowner(s), and Willie Pearson, taxpayer, Other Condemnee(s), and John Doe and Mary Roe, representing all unknown persons, having or claiming to have any right, title interest in or to, or lien on the lands described herein, including all unknown heirs of Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Unknown Claimant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Condemnor above named pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, has brought an action against the Condemnee(s) above named to acquire the real

property described herein for public purposes, to-wit: All that parcel or strip of land in fee simple, with improvements thereon, if any, including rights of access as may be needed for controlled access facilities, containing 0.1394 acre (6,071.67 square feet) more or less, and being described as follows: Within 115 feet of the survey centerline at US Route52, on the right between approximate survey station 219+52 and 221+00; thence along a transition to 80 feet of the survey centerline of US Route 52, on the right, at approximate survey station 222+00. Tie Equality: STA 219+71.33 US-52 = STA 13+91.66 OFD3 Tax Map Number 145-00-02-006

The property sought herein is to be acquired for public purposes, more particularly for the construction of a section of US 52 & S-528 Intersection Improvements. BY: s/Andrew F. McLeod Attorney for Condemnor (SCDOT) Andrew F. McLeod, Bar #64130 PO Drawer 1449, 222 Market Street Cheraw, SC 29520 Telephone: (843)537-5204 amcleod@hmandrlaw.com October 29, 2019

NOTICE OF ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM NISI

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DARLINGTON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO. 2019-CP-16-01126 South Carolina Department of Transportation Condemnor, VS. Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Landowner(s), and Willie Pearson, taxpayer, Other Condemnee(s), and John Doe and Mary Roe, representing all unknown persons, having or claiming to have any right, title interest in or to, or lien on the lands described herein, including all unknown heirs of Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Unknown Claimant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Condemnor above named pursuant to the South Carolina Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 28-2-10, et seq., of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, has brought an action against the Condemnee(s) above named to acquire the real

sons, having or claiming to have any right, title or interest in or to, or lien on the lands described herein,

including all unknown heirs of Oree H. Pearson, deceased, Unknown Claimant(s). TO: THE CONDEMNEE(S) OR CLAIMANT(S) HEREIN, NAMES AND ADDRESSES UNKNOWN, INCLUDING ANY THEREOF WHO MAY BE MINORS OR UNDER OTHER LEGAL DISABILITY, IF ANY, WHETHER RESIDENTS OR NON-RESIDENTS OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND TO THE NATURAL, GENERAL, TESTAMENTARY GUARDIAN OR COMMITTEE, OR OTHERWISE AND TO THE PERSON WITH WHOM THEY MAY RESIDE, IF ANY THERE BE: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the order appointing Rodney C. Jernigan, Jr., Esquire, as Guardian ad Litem Nisi, for all persons whosoever herein collectively designated as John Doe and Mary Roe, Condemnee(s) herein, names and addresses unknown, including any thereof who may be minors or under other legal disability, whether residents or non-residents of South Carolina, has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County. YOU WILL FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that unless the said minors or persons under other legal disability, if any, or someone on their behalf or on behalf of any of them, shall within thirty (30) days after service of notice of this order upon them by publication, exclusive of the day of such service, procure to be appointed for them, or any of them, a Guardian ad Litem to represent them for the purposes of this action, the Condemnor will apply for an order making the appointment of said Guardian ad Litem Nisi absolute. BY: s/Andrew F. McLeod

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Darlington City Council will hold a public hearing during its regular monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at City Hall, 400 Pearl St., Darlington to discuss the following issues.

Zoning Designation of 16.85 acres at the corner of Old Florence Highway, D Avenue, and Friendship Street.

The parcels, (TMN 165-04-01-005 and 165-00-02-010), are bordered on the North by D Avenue; on the East by Friendship Street; on the South by the property of the City of Darlington (TMN 165-00-02-011) and the property of American Towers LLC (TMN 165-00-02-013); and on the West by Old Florence Road. The proposal will designate these parcels as Basic Industrial (BI) to be used as buffer property and for potential future development.

Zoning Designation of Blue Street property.

The parcel, (TMN 164-06-01-078), is bordered on the North by Blue Street; on the Northeast by the property of Saving Grace Pharmacy Inc. (TMN 164-06-01-087); on the South by the property of Alfred Lindsay (TMN 164-06-01-075); and on the West-southwest by the property of Mirella B. McKay (TMN 164-06-01-088). The proposal will designate this parcel as Low Density Residential (R-10) to be more conducive for residential construction than its cur-

rent zoning designation of General Commercial (GC). Documents regarding these requests are available for review at Codes Enforcement Office in City Hall, 400 Pearl St. Individuals may submit comments in writing by Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019, to City Planning Department, P.O. Box 57, Darlington, SC 29540, or they may provide comments in person at the Council meeting. Info: 843-398-4000 x 103 or rock@cityofdarlington.com. (18c1 leave in thru 11-13-19)

Notice is hereby given that Lucky 7 Grocery LLC intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and off premises consumption of beer and wine at 641 Weaver Street, Darlington, SC 29532. To object to the issuance of this permit/license, written protest must be post-marked no later than 11/28/2019. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:

(1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest;

(2) the specific reasons why the application should be denied;

(3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant);

(4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and,

(5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed.

Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, Attn: ABL, PO Box 125, Columbia, S.C. 29214; or faxed to: (803) 896-0110. (18p3 leave in thru 11-27-19)

Answers from 2B

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X	V	E	A	D	N	A	R	V	V	S	S	X	L	M	M	L	Y	P	P		
T	L	P	V	E	L	A	N	O	I	T	A	R	R	A	N	C	R	X	I		
H	H	Y	D	C	H	O	U	R	O	H	P	A	T	E	M	I	U	E	V		
U	X	H	X	C	C	S	U	F	E	V	I	T	A	R	U	G	I	F	R		
U	F	S	E																		

A Taste of Christmas at First Baptist Church



With a chill in the air and the holidays growing near, the City of Darlington Police and Fire Departments teamed up for the annual "Taste of Christmas" fundraiser, held Nov. 7 at First Baptist Church of Darlington. For just \$10, guests enjoyed all they could eat from a variety of grillers, bakers, and yummy food makers. Proceeds from the event are used to purchase Christmas gifts for local children in need. PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA LYLES



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