



News & Press

TWO SECTIONS • 14 PAGES

JANUARY 30, 2019

ESTABLISHED 1874

QUOTE

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

EDMUND BURKE

75¢

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Darlington, S.C.

WWW.NEWSANDPRESS.NET

Suddenly, we're national news

From Staff Reports

Darlington County was propelled into the national and even international news Jan. 22 when school-bus driver Bernadine Reed got 40 students off a burning bus, with none of the children suffering injuries.

The Darlington County School District compiled on its web site some of the headlines the incident made in newspapers and on TV stations' web sites around the state and nation:

(Florence) Morning News: Darlington County school bus driver praised as hero

WBTW-TV, Florence: A Darlington County bus driver recognized as a hero after fiery wreck

WPDE-TV, Florence: Darlington bus driver says she didn't think twice about saving students from fiery crash

WMBF-TV, Myrtle Beach: S.C. school district recognizes 'hero' bus driver who saved 40 students after fiery crash

The State, Columbia: Driver rescues 40 kids from a burning school bus, S.C. fire department says

The Charlotte Observer: 'I'm just a mother who got 40 kids off to safety.' S.C. bus driver talks about fire

School Transportation News: School bus driver recognized for saving students from fiery crash

Inside Edition: New driver calmly rescues 40 children from burning school bus

WACH-TV, Columbia: Darlington bus driver says she didn't think twice about saving students from fiery crash

WIS-TV, Columbia: S.C. school district recognizes 'hero' bus driver who saved 40 students after fiery crash

Myrtle Beach Online: S.C. bus driver: 'I'm just a mother who got 40 kids off to safety'

The Bellingham (Washington) Herald: Driver rescues 40 kids from a burning school bus, S.C. fire department says

The (Hilton Head) Island Packet: 'I'm just a mother who got 40 kids off to safety'

The Miami Herald: After saving 40 kids from a burning school bus, 'hero' driver went right back to work

School Bus Fleet: Driver rescues students from school bus before it catches fire

'Just a mother that got 40 kids off a bus': After fiery crash, driver hailed as hero

By Bobby Bryant
Editor
editor@newsandpress.net

One firefighter gives thanks to God and a quick-thinking school bus driver for the fact that 40 Darlington County elementary-school students escaped injury Jan. 22 when a car slammed into their bus from behind, starting a fire that engulfed half the bus.

"That had all the makings of being a total disaster," said Thomas Spivey, chief of the Palmetto Rural Fire Department, which responded to the 6:30 a.m. accident on McIver Road near Wellman Industries. "The Lord was with us this morning."

And so was the driver of the bus, Bernadine Reed, a Darlington resident who'd been working as a school-bus driver for only 45 days. "The bus driver did a superb job of getting the students off there," Spivey said.

At a news conference the day after the accident, Reed explained that she had just stopped for a railroad crossing when the car slammed into the



By the time this photo was taken, the fire was nearly extinguished. PHOTO COURTESY OF PALMETTO RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT



By this point, everyone had been evacuated. PHOTO COURTESY OF PALMETTO RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT



Bernadine Reed. PHOTO BY BOBBY BRYANT

rear of the bus, which was carrying 40 Brunson-Dargan and Cain elementary school students. (Initial reports of 34 students were incorrect.)

"A little girl from the back of the bus said, 'It's smoking,'"

Reed told reporters. "I opened the door so everybody (would) be able to get off the bus. ... The only thought I had was getting them all off the bus to safety."

"They all know that if something happens, you have to follow my rules, so that's what they did," Reed said. "... They all were nervous, screaming and crying. But after we got off the bus, we all huddled in a circle (and) they (were) fine." But cold -- it was about 25 degrees outside on an unusually frigid winter morning.

When firefighters arrived, Spivey said, they found a silver Buick, its front half on fire, wedged under the back end of the bus. The back half of the bus was engulfed in flames.

ACCIDENT ON 3A

First responders get free home-security devices

By Samantha Lyles
Staff Writer
slyles@newsandpress.net

During Hurricane Florence and its aftermath, many Darlington County firefighters, law enforcement officers and emergency medical personnel spent 10 days working from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), away from their families and homes.

Thanks to a partnership with State Farm Insurance and technology company Canary, local first responders will now be able to do their jobs while ensuring that their loved ones are safe.

Through their "Protect the Protectors" campaign, State Farm and Canary have provided Darlington County's first responders with 250 home security cameras, which can be



Darlington County first responders receiving their free home security devices. PHOTO BY SAMANTHA LYLES

monitored remotely from a computer or smartphone. The device allows users to monitor motion, air quality and tem-

perature changes through the use of an app.

"This partnership between us and technology company

Canary was created as a way to show our admiration and thanks for what you all do in the community," said Bill

Moore, State Farm Insurance agent in Darlington.

FIRST RESPONDERS ON 3A

Report: \$300,000 settlement for woman attacked by police dog

From Staff Reports

A woman who was attacked by a Darlington County Sheriff's Office police dog in 2017 has received a \$300,000 payout, according to a Florence television station.

WPDE-TV reported last week that the woman, Patrinoia Butler, received the settlement from the S.C. Insurance Reserve Fund,

which basically serves as an insurance company for city and county governments in the state. WPDE said it filed a Freedom of Information Act request to learn the settlement amount.

Butler's Florence lawyer, Rose Mary Parham, said in a statement: "As you can see from the settlement, we obtained the maximum available for our client allowed by law. Although Patrinoia was

at no fault whatsoever in bringing about this ordeal, she was very pleased with the money she received as a result of the county's negligence."

Parham did not return a phone call from the News & Press about the case.

The dog attack took place in December 2017 near McBee in Darlington County.

ATTACK ON 3A

Domino's employee killed while delivering pizzas

From Staff Reports

An employee of Domino's Pizza in Darlington was shot and killed late Saturday night while making a delivery on a rural road in Darlington County, officials said.

Abdul McKenzie, 39, of Darlington, was found dead in a car on Rogers Road near Larry's Drive just before midnight Saturday, according to

the Sheriff's Office and the Coroner's Office.

McKenzie had been a Domino's employee for nearly 20 years, his supervisor, Osmond Kasim, told local news media. The Domino's on Pearl Street, where McKenzie worked, was to stay closed indefinitely during the investigation, Kasim told local media.

DOMINO'S ON 3A





The Pee Dee's Oldest
Independently
Owned Newspaper

opinion

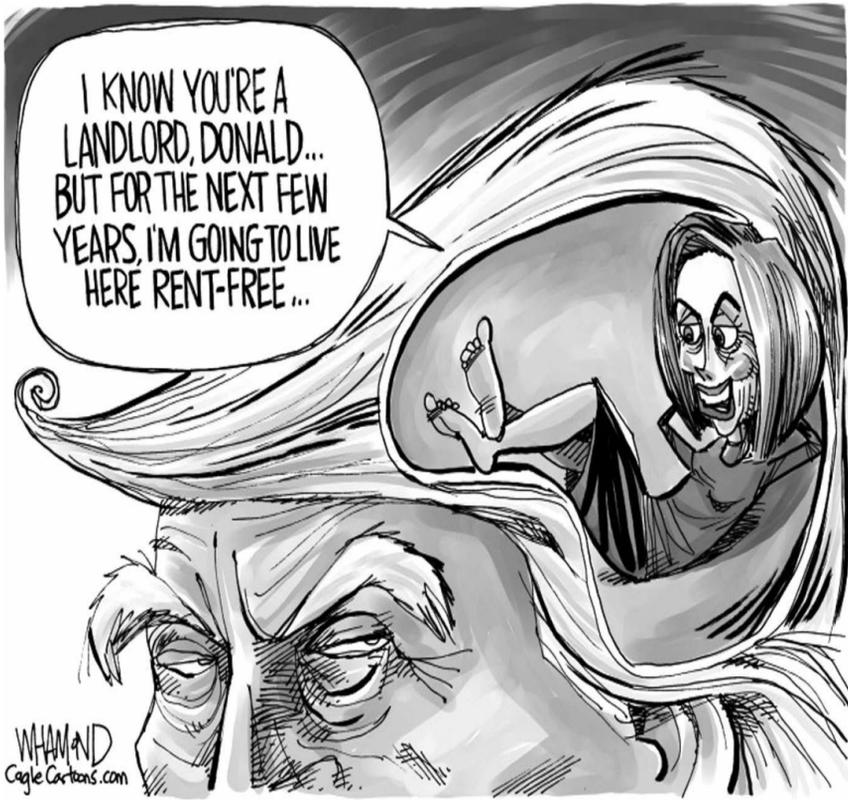
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Word of the Week

leuth - to search for information
Merriam-Webster.com

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THE NEWS AND PRESS, DARLINGTON, S.C.



OP-ED

I meant to

By Bill Shepard

I meant to!

I wonder how many times that line has been used? It would be hard for me to number the times they have been spoken from my own lips!

When heard or spoken, they most often carry the sound of regret over something done or not done. I could write of many instances when I have repeated the line or heard it repeated. Here are just a few! Read on:

The rain is falling and the roof is leaking, the furniture inside is getting wet, raised voices are being heard, and then the words that follow are, "I meant to repair the roof! Now it is too late, but I meant to!"

The car is stalled by the roadside, refusing to move another mile. A lone and upset man is standing by the roadside, hoping to catch a ride to some gas station! His family is sitting inside the car, the needle on the gas gauge is stuck on empty, and the word "why" is repeated over and over, and the words that follow are "I meant to!"

I thought of writing a letter to an old friend, but changed my mind and said I would call instead. Better than calling or writing, why not make a short visit when I get the time. I did neither. Word arrives that my old friend has passed away! Now it is too late, but I meant to!

Procrastination is a thief and it wears a lot of faces that rob us of our time and leave regrets behind. The words "I wish I had," "I should have," and "I could have," all carry the same sound, that of regret and I meant to! Read on.

I wrote the following poem, "I Meant To," a long time ago while living in Florida. I was retired and living in a house near the water's edge. It was convenient for me to step out of my house and fish. I enjoyed the sport and engaged in it too often. I would arise early and with all intentions of doing some needy project about the house! The poem "I Meant To" tells the rest of the story.

"I Meant To!"

I awoke this morning with a made-up mind
To do all the things which I had let get behind.
Things neglected, not because I wished!
The reason was simple ... I saw a fish!

I meant to paint the house and mow the lawn,
So I arose early, at the break of dawn.
Now I have time to do the things I wish.
At that very moment, I saw that fish!

A full 5 yards that fish must have leaped
And splashed the water almost at my feet!
I stretched and yawned, "You can't tempt me!"
He leaped again as if to say, "We'll see!"

I dropped what I was doing and ran for my net.
I knew right then that I had lost my bet.
I gave my net a whirl and it moved with a swish.
At that very moment, I saw that fish!

He was 30 feet on the other side,
Leaping and playing in the morning tide.
There I stood with the net in my hand,
Knowing that I lost again!

Oh yes, I meant to do lots of things today,
If that ol' fish hadn't started to play!
Now the day is gone and in spite of my wish,
All I have done is chase that fish!

- From "Bill's Book of Poetry," 1980

OP-ED

A changing rural Southland

By Tom Poland

I've been writing about how the South is changing for a while now.

That's why I was asked to take part in the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit, "Crossroads: Change Comes To Rural America."

By the time you read this, I will have taken the stage at the Newberry Opera House in, where else, Newberry, to give two talks. My first talk is to 300 10-year-olds. Well, change has come to kids too.

They're used to all sorts of digital media, pads, tablets and web-sites. If a silver-haired guy can keep their attention for an hour, it'll be remarkable. I think I can, though. Later in the evening I'll address adults, a less-challenging audience for sure.

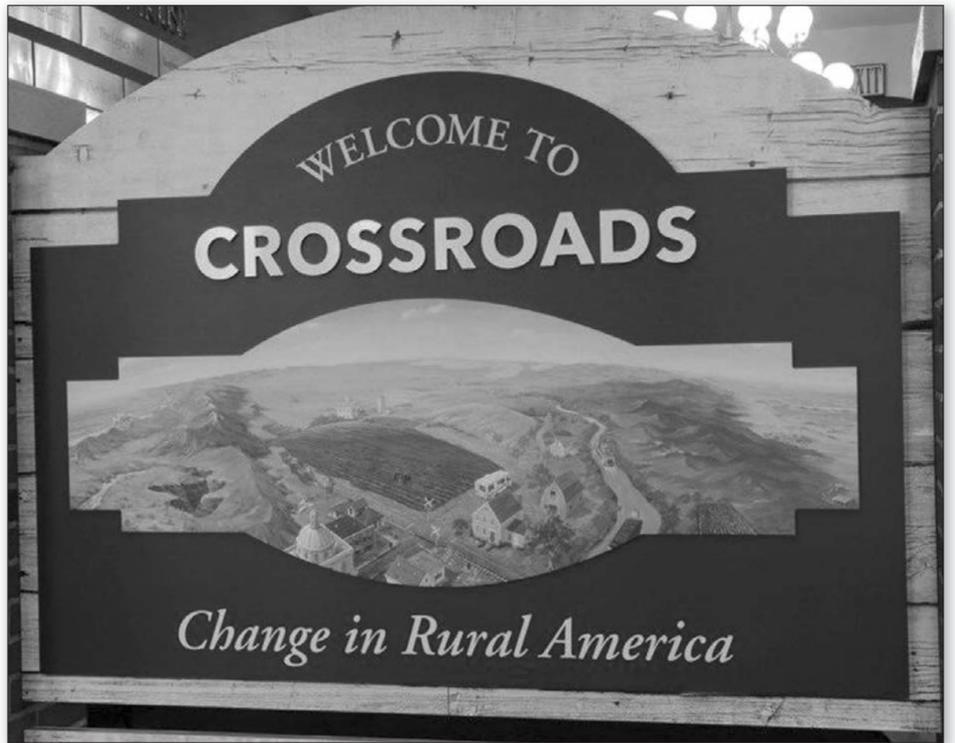
As for the kids, I plan to show them photographs of how things used to be. I doubt any of them have been in churches where ladies used funeral home fans to stay cool. Air conditioning ended that.

And I am sure few have been in a genuine country store and fished a sub-zero Coke from the bottom of an ice-filled vat. Nor, I wager, have any walked roads picking up soft drink bottles to get a deposit. I bet none of them ever pumped gas at a country store to earn a few dollars either.

I'm pretty sure none have used a fly swatter like our grandmothers did. Windows and doors stay shut in this era of central air and heat. A "See Rock City Barn roof?" No way they have seen any of those.

Many are gone and those left are fading past. I plan to tell them about the excitement you felt hunting for arrowheads, swinging in an old tire hanging from an oak limb, and what a character the Goat Man was. Shoot, if the Goat Man came along today folks would put him an institution pretty fast. Crazy they'd say he was. And climbing a fire tower to get a great view of the land? I doubt kids do that anymore.

Today, many folks live in



"Crossroads: Change Comes To Rural America" is a Smithsonian traveling exhibit.

communities managed by rule-obsessed homeowner associations. Why, if they buried old tires in the ground along their driveway and painted them white, they'd pay a huge fine.

It wasn't that long ago I wrote about eating snow ice cream. I suspect today's brand of kids is happy eating those Dippin' Dots, a sorry excuse for ice cream if there ever was. I'll show them an old-fashioned checkerboard too, one where old timers used Royal Crown cola caps instead of checkers.

Change. According to the folks at Smithsonian, the percentage of Americans living in rural areas since 1900 has dropped from 60 to 17 percent.

I believe it. I grew up in the country but have lived on the fringes of a city for a long time myself. Yes, we stand at a crossroads all right.

Behind us we see the past. In front of us looms a future in which people will be more helpless than ever. Someone will grow food for them and make clothes for them too. Well, we do have to pump our own gas now. There was a time, though, when service station attendants would pump it for you.

Today's kids wouldn't know anything about that.

We old folks were lucky to grow up in a time when we had to entertain ourselves.

We didn't sit on the sofa with an iPad in our hands all day. We weren't obese either. We played outside in fresh air and sunshine and now and then some of us would work an old hand pump to get cold water to drink. Now water comes in plastic bottles that

litter the land wherever you look.

"Crossroads: Change Comes To Rural America." Yes, change sure came to rural America didn't it. Well, I don't like much of it, and I suspect you don't either.

The News & Press

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Accident

Continued from 1A

Cellphone photos published on local TV stations' web sites – photos that have now gone viral on the Internet -- show sheets of fire and smoke pouring off both wrecked vehicles, although the students, bus driver and car driver had all escaped by the time those photos were shot.

"The pictures kind of speak for themselves," Spivey said.

"It was really, really scary. ... It was big. It was big."

He said it was so cold that the water from fire hoses was freezing solid after it hit the pavement.

The Buick hit the bus with such force that it wedged itself several feet under the bus, he said.

No one was inside the Buick but the driver, and he managed to escape through a rear door, Spivey said. "That's amazing. I think he had one scratch on him."

Media reports identified the driver as Nelson Crowley, 29, of Patrick.

Cpl. Sonny Collins of the S.C. Highway Patrol said he would be facing charges of driving too fast for conditions.

EMS crews arrived at the scene, but no one wound up being taken to a hospital, Spivey said.

Paramedics checked the students and apparently found all of them to be unharmed. Spivey called it "amazing" that no one needed to be hospitalized.

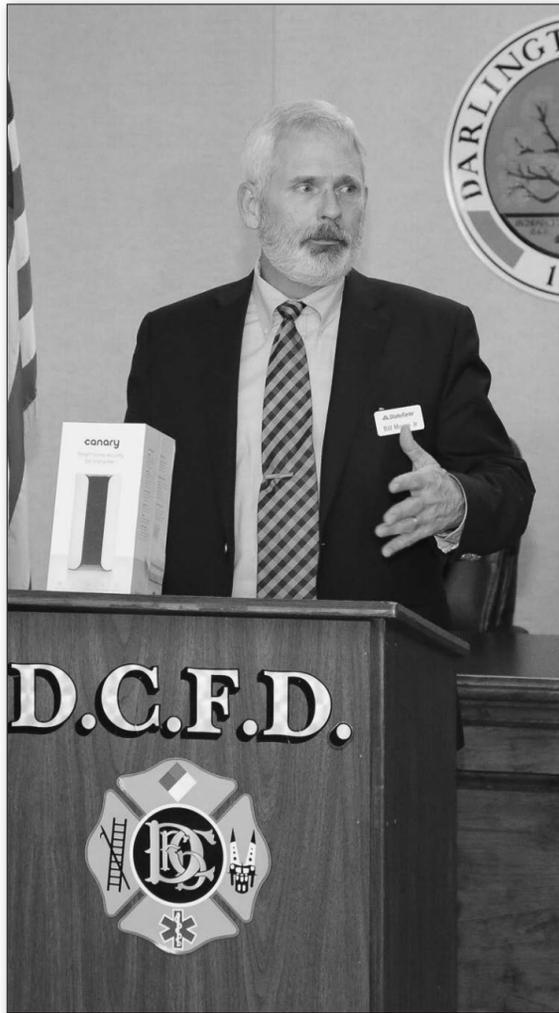
There were conflicting reports about whether the car's driver eventually went to a hospital.

Darlington County Schools Superintendent Tim Newman, who joined Reed for the press conference Jan. 23, said that the new bus driver -- only 45 days on the job -- had become his hero. "Ms. Reed did everything to make that situation turn out as best as possible," Newman said.

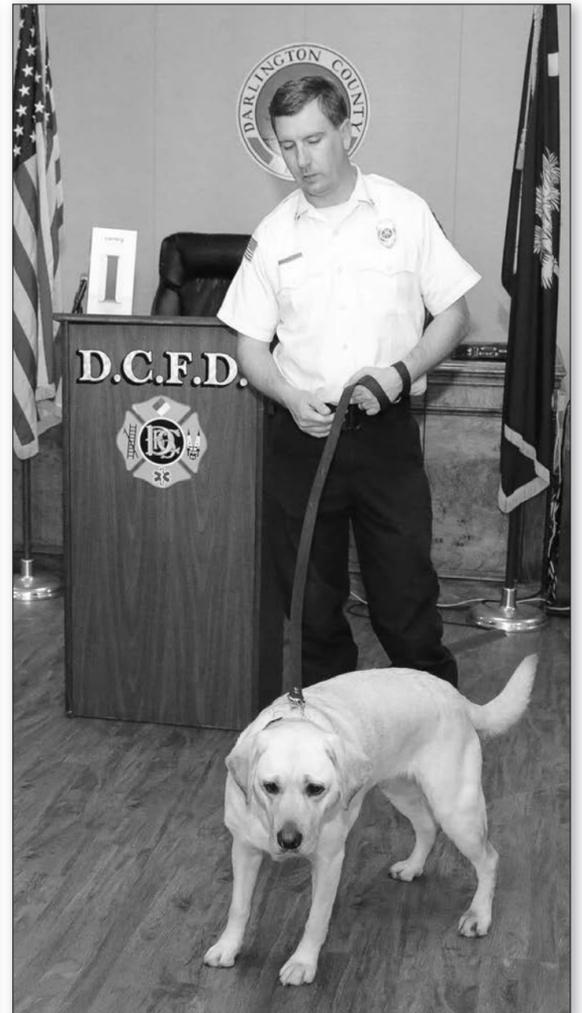
"... As we saw from the pictures that were out there, the video that was out there, it was a very scary situation. I'm so thankful for Ms. Reed, the actions that she took."

Reed told reporters: "I'm just a mother that got 40 kids off a bus to safety."

And after the news conference ended, she got back on another school bus to take home another round of students.



Bill Moore, Darlington State Farm agent



DCFD Chief Ricky Flowers and arson dog Cato
PHOTOS BY SAMANTHA LYLES

Domino's

Continued from 1A

McKenzie's wife, Trinity Sampson, said in a statement:

"Abdul was a good man and great husband and loving father of three girls. He is one of the kindest, most giving (people) I have ever known. ... He showed everyone the utmost respect and love. ... He bothered no one. He had no enemies, so we are outraged and broken" by his slaying.

An autopsy had been scheduled for Monday, offi-

cial said.

The State Law Enforcement Division was assisting the Darlington County Sheriff's Office in the investigation.

Darlington County Coroner Todd Hardee called it a "senseless death."

Anyone with information about the case is asked to contact the Sheriff's Office at (843) 398-4501 or CrimeStoppers of the Pee Dee at 1-888-CRIME-SC. You don't have to leave your name to share information with investigators.

First responders

Continued from 1A

"We hope that this will provide you with a bit more personal security and allow you to do your jobs with confidence, knowing that all is safe and sound with your families and homes, and if something wasn't, you would be immediately able to find out."

On Jan. 25, State Farm representatives met with first responders at the EOC and pre-

sented them with their free devices.

Since the launch of the campaign in December 2015, more than 15,000 Canary home monitoring devices have been donated by State Farm and Canary to first responders across the country.

"We spend a lot of our time out in the public trying to make things better for everyone else, and a lot of times we leave home for an extended period of time ... so having a Canary system is kind of a big deal. I can pull it up on my phone and

make sure everything's good, and it will send me an alert if something is not good," said Ricky Flowers, Darlington County Fire District (DCFD) Chief.

Kenny Bowen, Darlington County Emergency Management director, said that EMS personnel were sometimes away from home for 72 continuous hours during last year's hurricane and flooding, and the Canary systems will be "a great help to them."

State Farm has teamed with DCFD before on public safety

grant programs, such as providing the department with a trained arson dog named Cato. Chief Flowers offered guests a brief skills demonstration where Cato located trace amounts of accelerant and signaled its presence.

"What used to take us hours when processing a fire scene takes us now about 15 minutes to find out if there's anything we need to be concerned about," said Flowers, who lauded Cato's efficiency and rewarded her with treats.

Attack

Continued from 1A

The police dog's handler was reportedly searching for a burglary suspect when the dog went out of control.

Butler was not involved in the case; she was a bystander.

The sheriff's deputy handling the dog, named Sky, reported that the dog started running toward two people walking along the road. He said the dog wouldn't obey his

commands and attacked one of the people, Butler, who was trying to run away. He said the dog seized Butler by the arm and knocked her to the ground. She had to be hospitalized because of the injuries she suffered.

Consortium to prevent, treat and sustain recovery for opiate use disorders

Drug overdose was responsible for the deaths of more than 70,000 Americans in 2017, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

To address this growing issue, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Office of Rural Health awarded a Rural Communities Opioid Response Planning grant to be used to form a consortium of local health care, substance use treatment providers and other human service agencies.

Caresouth Carolina has used the grant funds to develop the consortium in collaboration with community partners in Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Marlboro and Lee counties.

Daniel Myers, coordinator for the Rural Opioid Community Response Consortium, said the organization has three main objectives: Prevention of opiate use disorders, treatment of opiate and other substance use disorders and sustained recovery for people struggling with an opiate use disorder or dependency.

The goal of the consortium will be to de-stigmatize the initial steps to obtain help for an opiate or other substance use disorder.

The consortium will also work to end opiate overdose in the five county region and beyond by working with S.C. Harm Reduction and DAODAS

to increase access to Narcan, a life-saving antidote to opiate overdose.

"We want to make our communities healthier and enhance the lives of people here in the Pee Dee," Myers said. "We are here to make people aware that there is help and to let the community know that we're going to find a way to fix this."

In addition to CareSouth Carolina, the consortium members and support partners include: Trinity Behavioral Care, ALPHA Behavioral Health Center, Rubicon Family Counseling Services, McLeod Regional Medical Center, Tri-County Community Mental Health Center, Pee Dee Mental Health Center, Northeastern Rural Health Network as well as first-responders and human service agencies in the five county region.

The planning grant will serve Chesterfield, Dillon, Darlington, Lee and Marlboro counties. In those areas, more than half (51.7 percent) of residents live on incomes below 200 percent of federal poverty guidelines (FPG) and 14.6 percent are uninsured, exceeding the state rate of 13.3 percent and higher than the national rate of 11.7 percent.

Among those with incomes under 200 percent FPG, 20.3 percent are uninsured, according to the Census Bureau.

"Many in these communities don't have access to resources, and many don't

have insurance, but they're still hurting," Myers said. "This type of situation sets us up with an epidemic. They want relief, but don't know where to turn."

In 2019, the group will be developing plans to address the worsening opiate epidemic, and developing a plan for continuing the work of the consortium.

The plan will include increasing access to opiate and other substance use, treatment, prevention, and recovery services. In addition, the consortium is developing a unified strategic plan and workforce plan, for the goal of increasing local workforce capacity in the areas of medication assisted treatment/suboxone therapy, substance use disorder treatment and peer recovery support.

"That's what this consortium is all about. The goal of the consortium members and all of our support partners is to meet the needs of those who are managing an opiate or substance use disorder, through comprehensive medical care, with integrated behavioral health care, and community supports," said Myers.

For more information on how to get help for an opiate or other substance use disorder, or if you are interested in the consortium speaking to your organization, contact Myers at 843-624-1891 or at daniel.myers@caresouth-carolina.com.



DARLINGTON COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

BBQ FUNDRAISER

Thursday · January 31, 2019

Catered by Schoolhouse BBQ of Scranton
(includes BBQ, rice, liver or red gravy, sweet potato souffle, slaw & bread)
Homemade baked goods for sale at both locations.

\$8 DONATION

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1003 W. Carolina Avenue
(843) 332-6221

DARLINGTON:
11AM-6:30PM
First Church of God
620 N. Main Street
(843) 393-7942

Tickets sold at West Hartsville Baptist Church, Re-Tail Therapy, Burry Bookstore, Colours, CJ's Cakes and Catering, or at the door.

Tickets sold at First Church of God, Darlington County Animal Shelter, Bella Domani, Merle Norma, or at the door.



Proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the Darlington County Humane Society and its rescue and medical effort for the Darlington County Animal Shelter located at 1701 Animal Control Boulevard, Darlington, South Carolina.

The Darlington County Humane Society is a 501c(3) Non-Profit Organization.

QUOTE

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

PHILIPPIANS 3:10-11

Obituaries

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Tillie Carnes

DARLINGTON -- Tillie Mae O'Neal Carnes, age 82, died Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019, in Lexington, N.C.

A graveside service was held Friday, Jan. 25, 2019, in Grove Hill Cemetery. The family received friends Thursday evening at Belk Funeral Home.

Born in Dovesville July 22, 1936, she was the daughter of the late Perry Stevenson O'Neal and the late Frances Caroline Watford O'Neal. Mrs. Carnes worked in the manufacturing industry for many years, retiring from Duracell Batteries in Lexington. She was a devoted mother who loved her family very much. Mrs. Carnes enjoyed spending time with her family and always had a special place in heart for the "little babies."

Surviving are her children, Mickey (Paula) Carnes of Lexington, N.C., Donna (Charles) Beanblossom of Southmont, N.C., Kathy (the late Jimmy) Trent of Lexington, N.C., and Debra (Wade) Holbrook of Lexington, N.C., 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, sisters, Daisy Windham and Miriam Windham, and a brother, Harry O'Neal.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John "Bill" Carnes, her son, Charles Randy Carnes and siblings, Elsie, Lib, H.A. and Linda.

A guestbook is available online at www.belkfuneralhome.com

Mary Ellen Register Langston

DARLINGTON -- Mary Ellen Register Langston of Darlington died Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019.

She was born in Oates on July 22, 1931, daughter of the late Jack and Lena Register. Being raised the daughter of a sharecropper during the Depression made her a hard-working, independent woman.

She had many jobs in her 87 years, but the job she did best was being a mother, grandmother and great-



grandmother. She loved her family as much as anything she ever did. Mother to Lanette and Jimmy Blackman, and yes, she thought of Jimmy as her son; grandmother to Michelle Blackman (Hewitt) Harrell, Becky Blackman (John) Hicks and Rachel Blackman; great-grandmother to Alexis Ramirez, Noah Harrell, Chloe Hicks and Malena Harrell, and a sister-in-law to Anne Register.

She was preceded in death by her brothers: Henry "Doc" (Annette) Register, Bud Register and Richard (Barbara) Register.

Mary worked at AQ Mills in Timmons ville for over 35 years until the mill closed. Then Hamrick's in Florence was opening and she went to work there as department manager until her retirement.

She was a member of Mechanicsville Baptist Church, the Senior Ladies Sunday School Class and the YAH Club with whom she enjoyed many trips. She loved to attend Saints Alive at the First Church of God.

She enjoyed working in the yard with her flowers. In

recent years, when she could not get out, she enjoyed the birds that would come to the feeders outside of her window. Redbirds were her favorite, and that was no surprise since she loved the color red.

The family received friends last Thursday at Belk Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the McLeod Hospice, c/o McLeod Foundation, PO Box 100551, Florence, SC 29501-0551 or a charity of one's choice.

A guestbook is available online at www.belkfuneralhome.com

Walter Planter Sr.

DARLINGTON -- Graveside funeral services for Walter Planter Sr. of Timmons ville were Friday, Jan. 25, 2019, at Florence National Cemetery.

Interment followed directed by Jordan Funeral Home Inc.

The family received friends Jan. 24, 2019, in the funeral home chapel.

Living on Purpose

The Lord is our strength and shield

By Bill Holland

We have learned since childhood about the blessings of being protected.

Remember when we were in the arms of our Mom and Dad, it seemed the dangers of the world could not reach us. Now that we are grown, we appreciate our home that gives us shelter from the elements and provides us security against whatever that might want to harm us.

But of all the things in this world that can provide a sense of safety and defense, there is nothing that can compare to the power and authority of God. Psalm 23:4 helps us to see there is no need to be afraid. "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

The rod and staff are reminders that we are his sheep and Jesus is our great shepherd.

He is carefully watching over his people and wants us to stay close to him.

The other night I had difficulty sleeping and as I tossed and turned all types of harassing thoughts were bombarding me and trying to interfere with my peace.

I began to pray and ask God to help me and was reminded that in the Bible God is referred to as a shield.

This brought me great comfort as I began to visualize being completely surrounded by this huge strong shield and I began to envision the arrows of the enemy harmlessly bouncing away.

The next thing I knew it was morning.

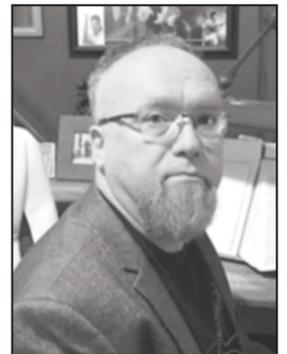
As I went downstairs and started on my first cup of coffee, I was still thinking about the shield and went into my office to look up the definition.

A shield means a guard to defend and protect, to cover as a barrier, a place of shelter and security to hide behind and a way to preserve and maintain our safety.

Becoming aware of this promise gives us peace even when fear and confusion is raging all around us. "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest": Matthew 11:28.

In this chaotic world, it's refreshing and encouraging to trust that God is always there for us, but if we allow ourselves to become engulfed with an overload of negative information we can become anxious and worried to the point of exhaustion.

We do not always make the right choices to spend time with Him but just to under-



stand that He loves us and listens to our concerns is such a wonderful encouragement. When the storms of life are raging and we are drowning in a sea of worry and doubt, we can trust Him and run into His presence.

There is a story in Matthew Chapter 8 about Jesus going across a lake in a boat with disciples.

While he took a nap, there arose a violent storm and his friends were terrified that that boat was going to sink. They awoke him and he calmly spoke to the wind and waves to stop and suddenly it was perfectly calm.

He is the same yesterday, today, and forever and still has the power and desire to command "peace be still" to your storms today. "Our soul waits for the Lord: He is our help and our shield": Psalm 33:20.

Salvation is usually considered in the sense of being born again into a brand new spiritual creation but this covenant is not just limited to saving our spirit.

Christ gives us total salvation, which includes ministering to our body, mind and emotions.

He is concerned and ready to help us in any area we might need. If we notice the definitions of salvation we can see that Jesus is actively engaged to help, heal, restore, preserve, protect, rescue, provide a way of escape and deliver us from any type of harm or danger.

He is a strong and mighty tower and if we choose to dwell in the secret place of the most-high we are at peace under the shadow of the Almighty.

Whatever you are going through today, remember that God can do anything, He is our refuge and our shield of security that never fails. "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in Him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoices; and with my song will I praise Him": Psalm 28:7.

CHur CH neWs

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

First Church of God

First Church of God, 620 North Main St., Darlington, is offering new classes to cope with divorce or grief. DivorceCare, a free 13-week course, began Jan. 16.

GriefShare, which is also free and runs 13 weeks, also started Jan. 16. For more, call 393-7942. The church holds services on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. The church holds Wednesday Family Nights weekly starting with a meal at 5:45 p.m.

Nesbitt Family Sings

Bible Truth Holiness Church, 5360 Indian Branch Road in Lydia, would like to invite you to come Feb. 3 to hear Sis. Stephanie Nesbitt from St. Stephen. She will be at morning service at 11 a.m. and evening service at 6. The Nesbitt family will also be singing at each service.

Prayer Breakfast

Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church Pastor Support Ministry presents Denim & Pearls prayer breakfast Saturday, Feb. 9, from 9-11 a.m. at Mount Zion Fellowship Hall, 3208 N. Governor Williams Highway, Darlington. Donation: \$8.

17th Homecoming

Love Life Ministries, 213 Cross St., Highway 52 Bypass, Darlington, holds its 17th annual homecoming Feb. 3. Sunday school: 10 a.m. Church: 11 a.m. Dinner served: 1 p.m. Songs by Carla and Redemption at 2 p.m. 843-393-6366.

Prayer Service

St. James will hold a Noon Day Prayer Service every Wednesday. The church is at 312 Pearl St.

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 Fashion Chapel Service & Fellowship Meal; 6:30 p.m. - Small Group Bible Study (all ages) and Youth Group Meeting

The Upper Room Holy Ghost Mission

Sunday morning worship is at 11 a.m. Bible study Thursday night is at 7 p.m. at 109 Main St. in Darlington. Call 843-250-0418 for prayer.

Bible Study

Bible study at Mt. Zion Tabernacle Believers Church 426 W. Broad St. Darlington, on Tuesday nights at 6 p.m. Bible study led by Rev. Larry Scipio. Contact Deacon Z. Frierson at 843-992-3158 or church 843-992-8125.

Covenant Baptist Church Prayer Line

Anyone who needs prayer for healing and deliverance is welcome to call the Covenant Baptist Church Prayer Line at 843-393-8555. The prayer line is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

St. Catherine's Episcopal Church

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

Lawson Grove Baptist Church

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

Black Creek Baptist Church

Black Creek Baptist Church, 139 Mont Clare Road, Dovesville, announces their 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

Covenant Baptist

Covenant Baptist Church, 628 Pocket Road, announces their hours: Sunday: 10 a.m. Sunday School, 11 a.m. Spoken Word Service. Wednesday: 6 p.m. Bible Study. Need a ride to church? Call 843-393-7872.

Mt. Zion Tabernacle Ministries

Mt. Zion Tabernacle Ministries 426 W. Broad St. in Darlington announces their 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 by Deacon Z. Frierson Service at 11 a.m. Min. Gerald Green.

Philadelphia Southern Methodist; Traditional - Conservative. 1665 Philadelphia St., Darlington. SS 10 a.m. Worship 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. They are open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.



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PETS OF THE WEEK



Lab lovers alert! Check out Eleanor, who is graced with a complete pet resume! An interactive, friendly lady who has a very solid temperament, Eleanor has never met a stranger and is really wonderful with other dogs and kids who are slightly older. With her playful outlook on life and a little bit of energy to share, Eleanor will be at her best in a more active home where she can go and do, be a part of the family unit and partake on grand adventures with the family as they explore parks, walk in downtown areas or simply cruise the countryside. This happy, sweet lady is hoping you will stop by to see how perfect she is for you! 47 pounds; 1-2 years old; female; lab mix



Margo is your "girl next door." A simple brown-coated Lab/shepherd mix, she does not ask for much. She is not brindle or fluffy

or freckled. She just wants another four-legged friend and a family who will give her quality playtime. Margo politely met several dogs today, males and females. If you're looking for an all-around good playmate for your current dog or a walking partner for yourself, Margo is a great choice. She is a very happy girl and loves belly rubs. Margo is one of those dogs who always has a smile on her face. We think she will put one on yours! Lab mix; female; 43 pounds; 1-2 years old

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

Have you lost or found a pet?

If you have lost or found a pet, go online to www.darlingtonhumane.org 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

Board of Zoning Appeals

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

Hartsville Rotary Club

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

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.

BNI

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

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

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.

Paws to Read

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

Story Time

Darlington: Thursdays at 10 a.m. Info: 398-4940 ext. 305.
Hartsville: Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Info: 332-5115 ext. 7.
Society Hill: Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Info: 378-0026
Lamar: Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. Info: 326-5524

Thurs: 8pm
Fri: noon, 8pm
Sat noon, 8pm

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.

Monthly Events

Hartsville Pilot Club

Fourth Monday each month at 6 p.m. at their clubhouse across from the Lawton Park Tennis Courts

Hartsville Toastmasters

2nd and 4th Monday each month at 7 p.m. at the Black Creek Arts Center

Water and Soil Conservation Board

The Darlington Soil & Water Conservation District Board will meet at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month in the Clemson Extension Kitchen at 300 Russell Street, Room 207 in Darlington. Meetings are open to the public. For more information call 843-393-0483.

DDRA Board of Directors Meeting

The DDRA Board of Directors will meet at the Darlington Library, 204 N. Main Street, at 8 a.m. on the first Tuesday of the month, except in July and September.

Darlington County First Steps

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

Williamson Park Committee

The Williamson Park Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at Harmon Baldwin Recreation Center, 300 Sanders Street.

DC 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: Jan. 29, Feb. 26, March 26, April 30, May 28, June 25, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 29, Nov. 26. No meeting in December.

Darlington Branch NAACP

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

DHS Booster Club

The Darlington High School Athletic Booster Club has set meeting times for the next several months. Monday, Jan. 14, 2019, 6 p.m. in the DHS Media Center. Monday, Feb. 18, 2019, 6 p.m. in the DHS Media Center. Monday, March 18, 2019, 6 p.m. in the DHS Media Center.

Feb. 2019

Coker College Homecoming

Join us on Friday, Feb. 1 for an alumni drop in at Bizzell's and Saturday, Feb. 2, there will be campus tours, class pictures, alumni reception and so much more.

Historic Landmarks Commission

5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4, at City Hall, 400 Pearl St.

Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council will hold their monthly meeting Feb. 4 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 jbishop@darcosc.com.

Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council will hold their monthly meeting Feb. 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street.

Darlington County Board of Education

The Darlington County School District Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. Feb. 11 in the Training Room of the Administrative Office located at 120 E. Smith Avenue in Darlington.

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Feb. 21 at 8 a.m. at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building located at 1625 Harry Byrd Highway.

Darlington Tree Board

Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

March 2019

Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council will hold their monthly meeting March 4 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 jbishop@darcosc.com.

Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council will hold their monthly meeting March 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street.

Darlington County Board of Education

The Darlington County School District Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. March 11 in the Training Room of the Administrative Office located at 120 E. Smith Avenue in Darlington.

Darlington Planning Commission

Tuesday, March 19 at 9 a.m. at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street.

April 2019

Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council will hold their monthly meeting April 1 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 jbishop@darcosc.com.

Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council will hold their monthly meeting April 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

Darlington County Board of Education

The Darlington County School District Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. April 8 in the Training Room of the Administrative Office located at 120 E. Smith Avenue in Darlington.

May 2019

Historic Landmarks Commission

5:30 p.m. Monday, May 6 at City Hall, 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council will hold their monthly meeting May 6 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 jbishop@darcosc.com.

Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council will hold their monthly meeting May 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

Darlington Tree Board

May 13 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

Darlington County Board of Education

The Darlington County School District Board of Education will meet at 6 p.m. May 13 in the Training Room of the Administrative Office located at 120 E. Smith Avenue in Darlington.

Local Emergency Planning Committee

May 16 at 8 a.m. at the Courthouse Annex/EMS Building located at 1625 Harry Byrd Highway, Darlington.

Darlington Planning Commission

Tuesday, May 21 at 9 a.m. at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

June 2019

Darlington County Council Meeting

The Darlington County Council will hold their monthly meeting June 3 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 jbishop@darcosc.com.

Darlington City Council Meeting

The Darlington City Council will hold their monthly meeting June 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the City of Darlington Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 400 Pearl Street, Darlington.

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Clemson's Sandhill REC expanding research, educational programs

Clemson University

COLUMBIA — While the needs of the agriculture industry in South Carolina have changed significantly in the 92 years since the gates opened at the Sandhill Research and Education Center (REC), its mission of meeting those needs has never wavered.

Chosen for its sandy soil, Sandhill REC was established in 1926 by a state statute for South Carolina's primary land-grant institution, Clemson University, to conduct agriculture research in the state's then-primarily rural Midlands region. Today, research efforts at the REC have evolved and expanded to continue to support the state's \$41.7 billion agribusiness industry.

"The REC is surrounded by an urban setting now, but our mission still remains the same — and we can do many things here involving commercial agriculture and horticulture that are relevant and engaging to our urban setting," said Kathy Coleman, director of the Sandhill REC.

"In addition, Clemson's agribusiness Extension program saw significant cuts during the recession, and one of the things our farmers have asked for and demanded the most is to have expertise in the agribusiness area," she said. "Clemson has worked to rebuild our Extension agribusiness program and house it here at Sandhill where we can work with our farmers statewide."

While all six of Clemson's Research and Education Centers around South Carolina are devoted to agricultural research in its distinct soil and climate regions, for the last 20 years Sandhill REC has been able to allow public access to portions of its grounds.

But because of its research mission, a balance must be struck between public access and preserving the integrity of the research.

"We understand we're in a community that enjoys getting out and walking and having a place to enjoy the outdoors," Coleman said.

"What we want to do is make sure what we provide in the areas we do allow the public is a learning experience about agriculture. But in reestablishing a lot of our research areas, we do have to provide a level of biosecurity and security for our researchers who are spending a lot of time, money and effort into putting in a research project that could last many years.

"We are working to find a balance between being a good neighbor with our community and also fulfilling Clemson's main mission as a land-grant university — to provide agriculture research and education programs to our farmers and communities statewide."

Among the focuses of Sandhill's agricultural research is forestry, which is South

Carolina's largest industry, both in terms of jobs (90,624) and payroll (\$4.1 billion). The total economic impact of South Carolina's forest industry is around \$17 billion annually.

The longleaf pine ecosystem that once spanned more than 90 million acres from northern Virginia to southern Florida has dwindled to fewer than 3 million acres, but researchers at Sandhill REC are working to reverse that trend by comparing bare-root seedlings to containerized seedlings to optimize growth for commercial forestry.

"It's giving us an idea of which seedling types work best, which is valuable if you're trying to restore longleaf pine stands," said Cory Heaton, assistant director of Sandhill REC and Extension wildlife specialist. But with longleaf pines spread across the state's distinct soil and climate regions, researchers are studying not only which seedlings work best, but also working to restore ground cover in those forests — the herbaceous plants and grasses that make up the understory.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Forest Service are collaborating with Clemson Extension senior associate agent T.J. Savereno on a common garden study to better understand native longleaf understory plants collected from different areas of the state.

Seeds were collected from the wild and brought to three common gardens — one at Sandhill, one at the Pee Dee REC in Florence and one at the Coastal REC in Charleston — to allow researchers to select cultivars that perform better based on the site where they are planted.

Scientists at Sandhill REC also are working to help South Carolina farmers produce crops more efficiently and at greater profit. The REC has soybean variety trials under way with 35 varieties of soybeans planted side by side.

"Not only are they growing here, they're also growing on-farm at a few locations and at all of Clemson's six RECs around the state," Heaton said. "That allows us to select the varieties that perform best for each of the state's ecoregions, so it helps the farmers to choose the right crop for the right land."

When Sandhill was established, most of Clemson's peach research was conducted there. Even today, a significant portion of the peaches grown commercially in the U.S. are derived from root stock that Clemson developed.

But while peach research has been on hiatus in recent years at Sandhill, its scientists are returning to those roots.

"We're looking at different diseases and the ability for different varieties to withstand those diseases," Heaton said. "Clemson has been a huge player throughout peach history, and this is just a way to continue



The Sandhill Research and Education Center (REC), one of six Clemson University Research and Education Centers, was established in 1926 for agricultural research in the primarily rural Columbia area. CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

that legacy."

Sandhill REC is home to the Agribusiness Extension Program Team. Its agents provide expertise in farm risk management, marketing, agriculture policy, local food systems development, small business planning and agritourism to commercial growers, beginning and small farmers, agribusinesses, lenders and ag professionals on improving profitability and sustainability.

"We offer education programs, work with farmers on making better decisions, look at the trends and try to improve our competitiveness not only here in the U.S. but around the world," said Nathan Smith, Extension professor in agribusiness.

Extension agribusiness agents can also help farmers address transition or planning, whether that means how to get into farming with the S.C. New and Beginning Farmer Program, how to transition to the next generation of a family farm or how to transition out of the business at retirement.

The agribusiness team has also received a grant to begin analyzing farms to give producers better insight into the financial aspects of their farm while also allowing the agribusiness team to develop statewide benchmarking reports.

"Producers will be able to compare themselves to the benchmarking report and be able to make more informed management decisions based

on their specific farm challenges," said Adam Kantrovich, Extension associate professor of agribusiness at Sandhill REC.

Through other grant funding, the Sandhill REC staff is starting up an incubator farm, which consists of about five acres of land that is subdivided into half-acre plots.

"Interested individuals from the public who have successfully completed an application process and been awarded a plot in this farm can basically learn how to become a farmer on a small scale," said Cody Bishop, the farm manager at Sandhill REC.

While these aspiring producers come into the program often-

with little to no experience on growing crops, the grant funding and expertise at Sandhill REC allows them to hit the ground running.

Participants in the program who are allotted a half-acre to farm have access to specialty equipment such as bedders and plot machines specifically meant for small-scale work, as well as the use of a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certified pack shed for washing, drying, sorting and packing their products.

"We have several folks this year who are getting seeds in the ground and getting their soil beds ready for spring crops," Bishop said.

"So they'll grow over the win-

ter time and become ready for harvest in the early spring."

Sandhill REC hosts a School Days program for more than 1,000 pre-K to second-grade students throughout the Midlands area each October.

Schools are invited to an educational day focusing on aspects of agriculture from water usage to different crops to the life cycle of plants.

"A lot of kids in the northeast side of Columbia do not get to see agriculture as many folks in the state do," Bishop said.

"We plant cotton, soybeans, sunflowers and sorghum for them to be able to actually visualize and see what that would look like in the field."

Coker to become Coker University

Coker College announced Monday it will begin operating as Coker University on July 1, giving the institution a name that adequately reflects its growth as a graduate degree-granting institution, an innovator in online learning, and a viable higher education option for international students.

"Change of any kind always takes some getting used to, particularly for an institution that's been around for more than a century, but change has become increasingly more necessary in the field of higher education," says Robert Wyatt, president of Coker.

"The name Coker University is going to showcase the breadth of our academic offerings, from undergraduate degrees to graduate degrees to online degrees, as well as the growing number of students we're seeing from around the country and the world. It's an exciting time for Coker and for our community."

University status is a reflection of the tremendous growth Coker has experi-

enced in recent years, including the addition of five graduate programs and four online bachelor's degrees. Coker regularly recruits international students, many of whom come from areas where the term "college" is used most frequently to describe a high school education.

By becoming Coker University, the value of a Coker degree will be more clearly indicated to both international and domestic audiences, and the breadth of opportunities available to Coker students will be implied in the institution's name.

Despite all of the change Coker has experienced in its 111 years, including becoming co-ed in 1969, its mission has, and always will, remain the same, the school says.

The wellbeing and success of its students remains the school's top priority, and the crux of a Coker education still centers around personalized, discussion-based learning and the values of the institution's student covenant: integrity, respect, scholar-

ship, sustainability, service, and contribution, the school said in a statement.

"Changing the full name of Coker will not change the experience of alumni because that experience lives in our memories of campus, classes and friendships," says Heather McConnell Buckelew ('95), president of the Coker Alumni Association.

"The evolution from college to university is absolutely a natural next step for the school," says Howard Coker, senior vice president of global paper/industrial converted products at Sonoco Products Company and the great-great-grandson of the college's founder, Maj. James Lide Coker.

"We're pulling from 11 different countries now, 30 different states. [With] the number of graduate degrees we have in place, it's absolutely appropriate at this time in the cycle of the history of the college to recognize ourselves as we are, which is a university."



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Depth pushes Falcons by Myrtle Beach as Lady Falcons run out of gas in the fourth

By Drake Horton
Contributing Writer

A strong second half by the Darlington Falcons and a poor showing in the fourth quarter by the Lady Falcons were the main reasons for a boys' win and girls' loss against Myrtle Beach this past week at home.

Darlington (boys) 74, Myrtle Beach (boys) 52

Depth is a coach's best friend and for Darlington's Anthony Heilbronn, he used every bit of the depth he had to help push his Falcons to a 74-52 win over the Myrtle Beach Seahawks at home Jan. 22.

"Honestly, I think as the game went on we kind of wore them down," Heilbronn said. "Their best player, Knox, No. 4, didn't come out. So that third quarter, it was close so then we got up eight, 10, 12 points he was just gassed and in the fourth quarter I have starters resting, I'm bringing them in fresh; he has just not recovered and that allowed us to pull away, I think."

Two of those starters, seniors Ty Johnson and Kenyon Scott, combined for practically half of the Falcons' 74 points, with Johnson finishing with 20 and Scott with 18.

While Scott's offensive performance was expected this year, Johnson's has been a pleasant surprise. Known for his superior ball-handling skills and defense, anything that Johnson gave you on the offensive end was just an added bonus. This year that bonus is bigger and better than ever.

"Getting Ty offensively, anything you get out of him is a bonus," Heilbronn said. "We didn't come into the year

expecting him to be doing what he is doing. This is the second game in a row that he has hit three threes; last week he was 3-5, tonight he was 3-5, 3-6. His stroke is confident. He's going into Earle's JV practices on Sunday getting shots and getting reps. He wants to do well, he's putting the work in and you can see that it is paying off."

As a team, it was a tale of two halves and it was the depth of Darlington that was mostly responsible for it.

After trailing by two at the end of the first and holding just a small six point lead at the half, Darlington exploded in the third quarter and walked away in the fourth quarter as the fresher legs were just too much for the Seahawks to keep up with.

The Falcons closed the third quarter on an 8-0 run to run their lead to 12 to start the fourth and a 16-1 run in the fourth iced the game away.

With the win, Darlington improves to 18-3 overall and 5-1 in the region.

Darlington (girls) 27, Myrtle Beach (girls) 31

The effort was way better, the performance in general was way better, but the result was still the same.

After losing their first matchup with Myrtle Beach Jan. 8 by a score of 42-17, the Darlington Lady Falcons made quite the improvement, but it still was not enough as the Lady Seahawks were able to squeak by with a 31-27 win Jan. 22 in Darlington.

"First off, hats off to Myrtle Beach; they are a good team," Darlington girls' head coach



Brad Knox said. "They played in the lower-state last year and the way my team fought tonight I am very proud, because they could have folded and they showed me they can play with anybody. We just have to fix up and touch up on some late game situations toward the end and take better shots, but we will learn from it and get better."

Darlington, which trailed for a majority of the game, got on a roll in second and third quarters, going on a 17-4 run that started midway in the second and went all the way through the third.

Going into the fourth quarter, the Lady Falcons were up by three, leading 27-24, but Darlington was unable to score a single point while Myrtle Beach scored seven in the final period.

"All season long, we have been trying to find different young ladies to put the ball in the basket for us," Knox said. "If we had that one player that could do it, like consistently every night, then that is a plus for your team, but we try to do it by committee and we are going to keep getting better."



Coker hires coach for women's volleyball

Coker College has hired Travis Nead as their next women's volleyball head coach.

"We are excited to have Coach Nead lead our volleyball program," said Lynn Griffin, vice president for athletics and athletic facilities. "Coach Nead has the necessary experience to lead our women's volleyball program and recruit student-athletes who will be and continue to be successful at Coker and within the South Atlantic Conference."

Nead spent the previous four seasons as assistant volleyball coach and recruiting coordinator for Western Carolina University. He thrived as an in-game defensive coach, and was responsible for preparing tactical scouting reports for defensive schemes, organizing team travel, and managing the recruiting process for the entire program.

Nead has coached a Southern Conference All-Freshman Team recipient in each of the past three seasons, as well as multiple players that have received defensive player of the week and defensive player of the month awards.

Prior to his time at Western Carolina, Nead was an assistant volleyball coach with Eckerd College, as well as the head coach at Carrollwood Day School where he compiled an overall record of 43-31.

Nead was also a club volleyball head coach for several clubs in the Tampa and St. Petersburg areas where he posted an overall record of 126-65.

"I am very excited and

humbled to be named the next head coach for the Coker women's volleyball program," said Nead.

"I'd like to thank Dr. Griffin, Julia Rowland and the entire search committee for the opportunity to lead such a fine group of student-athletes.

"I'd also like to thank Coach Glover and the entire Western Carolina University athletic community for all of their support in my five seasons at WCU.

"When I visited Hartsville, and met with everyone on the search committee, it became very clear to me that the athletics department, as well as the college itself, are committed to providing the very best for their student-athletes while also ascending the ranks of the South Atlantic Conference.

"My family and I are excited to begin this next chapter of our lives in Hartsville, and I look forward to working with these student-athletes to help them succeed both at Coker and beyond."

Nead graduated with a business management degree from the University of South Florida in 2010, and then received his master's in recreation and sports sciences from Ohio University in 2013. He is a native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and the husband of Stephanie Nead.

Sellers to teach USC class on civil-rights history

University of South Carolina

Cleveland Sellers, an icon of the civil rights movement, will teach a class at USC this spring, "Films and Stories of the Civil Rights Movement."

The course, which starts March 18, will feature documentaries, news clips and audio recordings of the civil rights era, including recordings of Martin Luther King Jr. preaching church sermons. Many of the documentaries planned for the class feature Sellers, including "Scarred Justice: The Orangeburg Massacre" and the HBO film about MLK's final years, "King in the Wilderness."

"We think students will gain more detail about how civil rights has been analyzed by academic historians and also how it has been remembered by people who were on the scene as events transpired," says Bobby Donaldson, associate professor of history and director of the Center for Civil Rights History and Research at the university.

Throughout the 1960s, Sellers organized protests, marches and sit-ins and was the program director for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. In 1968, he was wounded when state troopers opened fire on student activists who were protesting a segregated bowling alley in Orangeburg.

Three students were killed and more than 25 injured in what became known as the Orangeburg Massacre. Sellers was the only person convicted and jailed in what was the first deadly confrontation between law enforcement and students. He was pardoned 25 years later.

"I'm convinced we need to do more on African-American history and civil rights. We seem to have lost focus on the issues of race and economics and how it impacts our communities in 2019," Sellers says. "It appears as if we have people

who don't understand what the struggles were in the 1960s. We've seen how voter suppression and all kinds of efforts are made to minimize the impact of a growing people of color population. We are obviously going to have to go back to some of the same messages to put a stop to that and reverse some of those efforts to turn back the gains of the 1960s.

"The civil rights movement was the most well-organized and significant and impactful social movement of the 20th century, and we did cause some basic changes in the United States. We shouldn't lose that."

Sellers also will be featured in a major exhibit, "Justice for All: South Carolina and the American Civil Rights Movement," which will open Feb. 7 in the University Libraries, a collaboration between the Center for Civil Rights History and Research and university librarians and archivists.

"With the work we're doing on civil rights and the upcoming exhibit, it's a good time to bring him back to teach a course about the civil rights movement as he lived it and as he remembers it," Donaldson says. "Coming back will be a way to introduce him to current students and, I believe, given his own personal experiences, it will help us tell the stories in ways we can't do simply with exhibits. Included in the exhibit are things about him and about people he knew. That's what's amazing. We uncovered things we didn't know we had."

"Cleve was such an integral part of the movement and played a leadership role. He knew so many of the luminaries of the movement. For us, he's able to provide a first-hand account of his interactions with those persons."

Sellers will be in residence at the start of the semester and will team up with Ramon Jackson, a doctoral student in the history department, to teach a class in Spring Session

2, which begins March 18. The undergraduate class will meet Monday and Wednesday evenings and some sessions will be open to the general public.

"As dean, I am excited that the College or Arts and Sciences is sponsoring Cleveland Sellers' return to campus. Cleveland is one of the true heroes of the civil rights movement, and a hero, like many others, who endured hardship for his cause," Dean Lacy Ford says.

"Later in his career, Cleveland made important contributions to higher education, both here at USC, where he served as director of African-American studies, and as an administrator at other schools. On a personal note, Cleve's office was beside mine in Gambrell Hall for several years, and I can tell you from first-hand observation that he was very dedicated to helping his students. He was a great colleague, always eager to talk history, civil rights, politics, and often a little football or basketball depending on the season. It is wonderful to welcome him back to USC."

Along with being popular with students and colleagues during his years at USC, Sellers was instrumental in recruiting a strong group of scholars to campus.

Patricia Sullivan, a professor of history, said the opportunity to work with Sellers is one of the reasons she came to the university.

"He was a huge attraction for me as a civil rights historian. When I came here in 2003, he was directing African-American studies and teaching a course in civil rights history. He's a terrific teacher. He's very knowledgeable, and he's extraordinary with students," Sullivan says.

"He's a vibrant force, someone who makes a huge impact on a university campus. For me, it was great being his colleague for those first years I was here

and it's a tremendous opportunity for the university to have him back here. He's a noted historical figure in South Carolina and nationally."

History professor Kent Germany says he, too, came to USC in 2006 from the University of Virginia for the chance to work with Sellers.

"Cleveland Sellers is an American hero that has spent his career fighting for things universities need to be fighting for. It's great news he's coming back," Germany says. "He's an unassuming, quiet, deliberate person. When he communicates, he's not a preacher in a pulpit, his conversation style is cerebral. Watching him teach and give lectures you see how disarming he can be and how congenial he can be. He's someone who worked with Dr. King, Stokely Carmichael. But he doesn't come in with this giant ego. He's very much has the style of a community organizer. That's the remarkable thing that comes across in his teaching."

Another person Sellers drew to the university is Kimberly Simmons, associate professor of anthropology and African-American studies and the interim director of the Institute for African-American Research. She said the timing is perfect for Sellers to be back on campus, as the nation and the state mark anniversaries of civil rights struggles and look ahead to next steps.

"His return right now is significant; there's a lot we are thinking about. Where have we been and where are we headed? Student groups today are organizing around different issues — gun violence, #MeToo. There are different kinds of issues, but there are connections there. The struggle may be different, but the struggle continues," Simmons says. "His story is timely, and we can learn a lot from his leadership and his voice. And you feel really good in his presence."

Meet the stars of Dancing with the Stars of Darlington County

Welcome to the runup to the 2019 edition of Darlington County's Dancing with the Stars, an annual event that benefits the Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault. The event will be held Thursday, Jan. 31, at 7:30 p.m. at Center Theater in Hartsville.

For the past several weeks, we've been introducing couples who will be taking part in the event. You can go to the Pee Dee Coalition's website (www.DWTSofDC.com) to vote your favorite couple for the People's Choice Award.

This week's featured couple:

Te'Quan Coe (Professional) and Brandy Stellingworth (Celebrity). Dance style: Quickstep. Decade: 2010s. Choreographer: Terrie Reames.

Sponsors: Dr. Orville H. Dyce with Black Creek Medical; Carolina Bank; West Oil Company; Steve Roos with Ashcraft Studio; Fitness Worldwide Gyms LLC; Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate - Segars Realty; Hartsville Family Dentistry; Sonoco Products Company;

Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated; Hodge Ethridge Insurance and Financial Service - Nationwide Insurance; McLean Marechal Insurance and Financial Service - Nationwide Insurance; Duke Energy; Edwin Haenni; Curry and Debbie Dawkins; The Kiwanis Club of Hartsville; Darlington Family Pharmacy; Burry Bookstore; Wesley United Methodist Church.

Also, Coker College; First Citizens Bank; Wanda and Terry Hassler; Coble Wealth Management, LLC; Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center; Elsesser Custom Cabinetry; Hartsville Country Club; Fred and Vanessa Wilhelm; Palmetto Auto Auction; Danny and Whitney Dorsel; Prestwood Complete Dental Care; Sweeney Wingate & Barrow PA; North Industrial Machine, LLC; Novolex; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stanzione; Michael Milbee with Waddell & Reed; Tobaccolville USA, Inc.; Gardner Roofing Inc.; Herald Office Supply; Anderson Brass Co.; Integrated Systems; Southeast Pump Specialist Inc.; The Citizens Bank; McDonald's of Hartsville; The

Jewelers Bench; the Extended Dorsel Family; Raceway Ford and Chevrolet; Stifel Nicolaus; Fastrack Inc.

Dr. Dyce with Black Creek Medical is presenting this year's show.

Celebrity dancer Brandy Stellingworth has been a proud member of "HartsVegas" for over five years. She has two boys, Brayden and Owen - 13 and 5 years old, respectively.

A radiology technologist by training, Hartsville inspired her to change careers and embrace her inner entrepreneur. She opened Retrofit sip-'n'-seat, a "classy rustic" tapas bar and furniture store downtown.

Brandy has always felt that it is important to give back to the community, and her business has raised money for Carolina Kids, Brain Cancer Awareness (Defeat GBM), as well as, collecting school supplies for the Boys and Girls Club. In 2016, she served as president of the Women's League of Hartsville and enjoyed raising funds for causes such as the Trent Hill Center, Rubicon and Child and Family Resource Foundation. The Women's

League also provided grants for multiple teachers in Darlington County.

Brandy's love of philanthropy prompted her to participate in Dancing with the Stars.

The Pee Dee Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Assault is a special program, and she is delighted to help raise awareness for the worthy cause.

Professional dancer Te'Quan Coe is a local violinist and graduate of Hartsville High School.

When he's not playing the violin, he enjoys writing music and being involved in the community. You can see him playing frequently at local events downtown.

Te'Quan has traveled all over the country sharing his gift.

To continue his involvement in the community, he was excited to join the Dancing with the Stars team. Te'Quan says he supports this event because he feels that everyone knows someone who has been a victim of domestic violence and sees the importance of raising awareness.



Brandy and Te'Quan PHOTO BY STEVE ROOS

Vikings bring National Championship to Darlington

By Samantha Lyles
Staff Writer
slyles@newsandpress.net

The Pee Dee Vikings semi-pro football team will need to make some room in their trophy case as the Darlington-based crew won two more pieces of shiny hardware after another outstanding season.

Head coach James "Jay" Charles said the year started great and only got better as the Vikings amassed a 9-3 record for their regular season in the Central Carolina Football League.

"We went to the championship game against the Triad Outsiders from High Point, North Carolina, and it went to double overtime. We ended up losing by a field goal, 9 to 6," says Charles.

"It was a well-fought game and we had a lot of standout players - too many to mention. All season long, our boys gave their all," says coach Adrian Benjamin.

But, despite the disappointment of barely missing the league crown, the Vikings had one more shot to come out on top.

"The top two teams from each league every year get invited to a national bowl game in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. They matched us up against the Connecticut Mustangs, and we won 16-6," says Charles.

Cornerback Daily Whitten took MVP honors for the National Championship game, and linebacker Avery Harkless was the team's MVP in the CCFL championship game.

"To be a second year team and win 10 out of 13 games, and playing teams that have been in the league for 10



years, they're now looking at us like we're one of the top teams to beat. That's a major feat," says Benjamin.

Charles says the Vikings' winning team chemistry may be rooted in familiarity, since many players took the field together in high school, college, arena football, flag football. Benjamin says that a share of credit must go to Charles himself - a hard-driving former player who emphasizes fitness and practices in

step with (or ahead of) his team.

"They respect (Charles) because they know he played college, played arena. He knows the drills and can still get out there and run with them now. When he tells them to change something up or play their position a certain way, they listen to him. That takes you far," says Benjamin.

Coach and running back John Mills says that kind of commitment is key to keep-

ing the Vikings inspired and energized, and that spirit transfers over to their families and fans.

"I have my family there in the stands, and it's a game I love, so once I have their support it's all in. Wherever I'm at, they are at," says Mills.

Fan support has increased over the Vikings' second season, with strong regular atten-

dance and the occasional guest appearance by the Darlington High School Falcons marching band. Charles says the team is grateful for the support of Darlington Area Recreation, which upgraded bleachers, concessions and restroom facilities at Virgil Wells Stadium to host their home games.

The Pee Dee Vikings are gearing up for another season, with tryouts this past weekend and a grueling summer of practices ahead. If you're a fan of gritty gridiron action, make plans to attend a Vikings home game this fall. Tickets are just \$5 each, and Charles promises an evening of high intensity football sure to entertain the whole family.



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‘You get to know a lot of people’: The Darlington Rotary Club marks 50 years

By Bobby Bryant
Editor
editor@newsandpress.net

Rotary International’s mission: “Provide service to others, promote integrity and advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through our fellowship of business, professional and community leaders.”

In March 1969, the Darlington Rotary Club was founded with 25 members. Its presidents over the years have included the late News & Press publisher Morrell Thomas, Judge Lee Chandler, Dr. Joe Matthews, Tony DiLeo and other notable Pee Dee names.

On Jan. 31, the group will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a dinner at the Darlington Country Club honoring some of the local organization’s charter members, including Dr. Hubert Baker, 76, Charles Howard, 80, Alvin DeWitt, 87, and Olin Bennett Sansbury Jr.

We sat down with past Rotary presidents Baker and Howard for a joint interview about their Rotary years. (In photo, Baker is at left, Howard at right.) We spoke by phone with past Rotary president DeWitt, who was unable to be present for the interview session.

Excerpts from the joint interview follow:

Q. How did you first decide to get involved with Rotary?

HOWARD: As far as my concern, I thought there needed to be more versatility. ... Another local club (the Kiwanis Club) had a great following and a

large attendance, and I felt like we should broaden the scope in Darlington and have more than one service club.

BAKER: I grew up in Timmonsville. The Rotary Club in Timmonsville sent me to Boys State, which got me interested in Rotary. And I was impressed with the number of people they had joining (the Darlington club). ... We ended up having two state Supreme Court justices in the club; we had some very prominent people in this club.

HOWARD: We got some people who didn’t normally do things like this. ... Good businesspeople, professionals, they didn’t (join) the clubs and we were able to persuade them. ... They must have seen what I saw, that maybe there ought to be more activity (with service clubs in the area). Of course, one of the most significant people was Sen. (J.P. “Spot”) Mozingo – what a busy man he was. ... (People) saw a need for it and they joined. ... When we began to meet, (we met) in the back of the Darlington Restaurant.

Q. In the time that you have been in the Rotary Club, Darlington has been through a lot of changes. What stands out in your mind the most?

HOWARD: Losing the tobac-

co market. ... It was before our Rotary started, but losing the cotton mill here (the Milliken Co. mill) was a devastating event. ... Losing the tobacco market was very significant. Tobacco has gone away, basically. (The) money coming in and being spent here – it’s gone.

BAKER: The close community. You get to know a lot of people. ... It’s a quiet little community. You don’t have a lot of hustle and bustle and traffic. It’s a very pleasant place to live.

HOWARD: Basically the same thing. ... I’ve just

tobacco market, the cotton market, the (Milliken) mill was fully employed – it was just gangbusters.

Q. (In terms of Darlington’s future), how do you feel personally about the Courthouse? There was a big debate – do we tear it down and build a new one or just leave it alone? (The November referendum on building a new county courthouse was voted down.)

HOWARD: It needs SOMETHING. We need to upgrade this one or build a new one. We just haven’t had the right person selling the idea. And it’s got to happen. It is tremendously important for Darlington. ... So many people didn’t understand (the referendum question on the ballots). And consequently they weren’t dedicated to doing (a yes vote). If they make another attempt, they need to be sure people understand what they are talking about.

BAKER: We really need a rock-solid plan – this is what it’s going to do, this is how much it’s going to cost, this is what it’s going to look like.

(Following are excerpts from a phone interview with charter

Darlington Rotary member Alvin DeWitt.)

Q. How did you first decide to get involved with Rotary?

DeWITT: I’m the only charter member who is still active (in the club). I guess, to give you a short answer, I was asked (to join). I had returned home from the services (after World War II), got married and had two children. ... Morrell Thomas called me up and asked if I would like to join the Rotary Club.

Q. What means the most to you about your involvement with Rotary?

DeWITT: It would be the people you come into contact with. You have a cross-section – preachers, newspaper editors. ... (And it was important) when we started giving scholarships to students in high school – whatever (money) we could raise. ... It’s been a very good organization to belong to.

Q. In the time that you have been in the Rotary Club, Darlington has been through a lot of changes. What stands out in your mind the most?

DeWITT: Everything has changed since 1969. Everything has changed in 50 years. (But we still have) the community, the spirit and the people I’ve associated with.



known some fine people all my life, fine families. ... As a boy, I remember when Darlington was thriving, and you could come to town on Saturday and couldn’t find a parking place. ... You had the

Q. What is your best memory of Darlington, in the time you have lived here?

A year after hurricane hit Puerto Rico, Rotary members continue to rebuild homes and lives

By Vanessa Glavinskas
Rotary International

Eladio Montalvo faced a stark choice: risk drowning in his one-story home or climb through a window into the house next door.

It was under construction but had a second floor where he could escape the rising floodwaters. He boosted his dog through and scrambled in after him.

The two huddled inside an upstairs bathroom for 22 hours while Hurricane Maria raged over Puerto Rico. With 155-mph winds and torrential rains, Maria was the strongest hurricane to hit the island in more than 80 years.

After the storm, Montalvo went out to see what was left of the home he had lived in since 1958. The walls were standing, but the water inside had risen chest-high.

Everything was destroyed. Without any family nearby, he had nowhere to go. He moved into his car.

“But after the storm came the calm,” he says. “Good people came.”

Faustino Rivera pats Montalvo affectionately on the shoulder.

It’s September 2018, a year since Hurricane Maria, and Rivera and several other members of the Rotary Club of Mayagüez have stopped by to visit.

Montalvo lives in a fishing town called El Mani outside the city of Mayagüez on the island’s west coast.

He invites his guests inside to see the progress he has made adding a shower to his bathroom.

There’s a pile of tiles that he plans to lay soon, and he has started painting the walls a light shade of blue. The home is neat-

ly but sparsely furnished: a bed, a TV, and a few plastic bins, including one labeled camisas that has shirts and shorts tucked inside.

“He’s become my friend,” says Rotarian Orlando Carlo, who checks in on Montalvo almost every week.

The Mayagüez club paid \$4,200 for the materials Montalvo used to add a second story to his home.

Made of concrete, outfitted with hurricane shutters, and built high enough off the ground to avoid flooding, the new addition contains a small kitchen, bathroom, and bedroom. Montalvo did much of the work himself, calling on friends and neighbors skilled in construction when he needed help.

To find people like Montalvo who needed help but didn’t qualify for reconstruction aid from the U.S. government’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Mayagüez Rotary club members worked with community leaders and screened each family.

“We are trying to help those who really need help,” Carlo explains. “Those who can’t get it from anyone else.”

By the time Carlo met him, Montalvo had been living in his car for nearly six months. A local church leader introduced the two, hoping Rotarians could help Montalvo find permanent housing.

“I could tell immediately that he was severely dehydrated from staying out in the sun and sleeping in his car,” Carlo says. “He seemed stunned and needed guidance on how to start rebuilding. We assured him we were there to help him.”

After the hurricane, Carlo was also living alone. His wife had gone to stay in Florida while he remained behind to run his

construction business. But the lack of electricity and reliable communication meant his work projects were stalled, so he mostly spent his days volunteering. “It gave me a lot of time to help,” he says.

His home survived the storm, but the shortage of gasoline meant he had to plan his trips carefully. He rationed bottled water and food, eating what he calls a “hurricane diet” of canned pasta or sausage and rice.

“We didn’t have power back until the end of October,” says Christa von Hillebrandt-Andrade, president of the Mayagüez Rotary club.

“We could use one bucket of water per day. My teenage daughter learned that water is the No. 1 thing you need. She could live without electricity and even without her cellphone, but not without water.”

Mayagüez is home to 75,000 people and to the island’s second-oldest Rotary club after San Juan.

In the past, the club carried out smaller projects, but the massive devastation caused by Maria motivated members to do more to help their neighbors, especially the very poor.

“I’ve been a Rotarian for 40 years, and I’ve never seen so much help come from other Rotary clubs,” Carlo says.

After Hurricane Maria, clubs across the United States wired the Rotary Club of Mayagüez about \$50,000 directly; more than half of that money came from the Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle in California and a group of clubs in New York.

As club treasurer, Rivera keeps track of every receipt and sends updates back to the donor clubs. A year after Maria, the club had helped 22 families



Faustino Rivera greets Eladio Montalvo, who was forced to live in his car before the Mayagüez Rotary Club helped him rebuild his home. PHOTO FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



San Juan Rotary Club members distribute mattresses in Villa Santo. PHOTO BY GERRY CUMPIANO

repair their homes, mostly replacing roofs that were blown off by the hurricane.

Scanning the horizon from a hillside neighborhood nicknamed Felices Días — “Happy

Days” — Carlo points out a less-than-happy sight: the many blue FEMA tarps that still stand in for permanent roofs. “There is still a lot of need here,” he says.

“But we are willing to contin-

ue to help as long as it takes.”

And for Montalvo’s part, he has remained optimistic in spite of all he went through. “Hurricane Maria gave me more than she took,” he says.



The City of Hartsville recognized these employees and many others for service to the city. Pictured are: Rebecca Mejia-Ward (Human Resource Manager), Rilla Thomas (Clerk of Court/Finance), Marguerite Miles (Finance), Marlene Johnson (Police), and Natalie Zeigler (City Manager).

City of Hartsville recognizes employees for their years of service

The City of Hartsville has recognized employees who hit milestone years with the city.

Seventeen employees were acknowledged for a total of 270 years of service to the city of Hartsville.

Of those 270 years, 105 were from only three very dedicated employees: Marlene Johnson (30 years), Marguerite Miles (35 years), and Rilla Thomas (40 years). Rebecca Mejia-Ward, Human Resources Manager, commended these employees for their service to Hartsville and its residents.

She said, "It is quite unusual in today's world to find employees that stay with an organization for as little as five years. These outstanding ladies have long surpassed that milestone and deserve this recognition for their many years of commitment to the city."

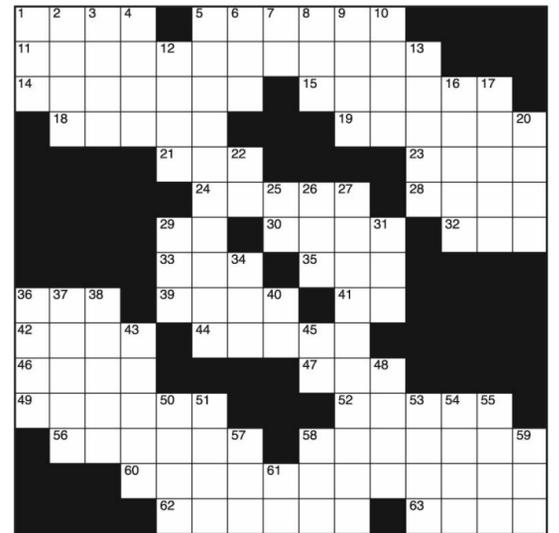
Hartsville is fortunate to have so many dedicated workers who report to their job each day, officials said.

Employees recognized for service:
 Rilla Thomas, 40 years,

Finance Department
 Marguerite Miles, 35 years,
 Finance Department
 Marlene Johnson, 30 years,
 Police Department
 Kevin Garner, 20 years,
 Sanitation Department
 Randy Byrd, 20 years,
 Utilities Department
 Benjamin Gilbert, 20 years,
 Sanitation Department
 Kathy Dunlap, 20 years,
 Hartsville Museum
 Ronald Davis, 15 years,
 Sanitation Department
 Gina Tiller, 15 years,
 Operations Department

Tenyonda Richardson, 15 years, Police Department
 Jourmany Roderick, 10 years, Streets & Grounds Department
 Jeremy Curtis, 5 years, Police Department
 Faith Howle, 5 years, Parks and Recreation Department
 Rebecca Mejia-Ward, 5 years, Human Resources Department
 Tim Watford, 5 years, Fire Department
 Bill Gardner, 5 years, Sanitation Department
 Suzy Moyd, 5 years, Main Street Hartsville

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 19. Activities
 21. WWII-era US President
 23. Soft, flexible leather
 24. Proverb
 28. Wish (Hindu)
 29. Injury treatment
 30. Red Sox ace
 32. "Deadliest Catch" captain
 33. Baseball stat
 35. Where marine life lives
 36. Heartbeat test
 39. Signs on the dotted line
 41. Atomic #24
 42. Bind securely
 44. Swiss Nobel Peace Prize winner
 46. Fragrant brown balsam
 47. Where you were born
 49. Sells a ticket for more than its price
 52. Where goods are presented
 56. Jewish salutation
 58. Fruits
 60. Poorly educated
 62. Microorganism
 63. Depicted
 27. Citizens who are qualified to vote
 29. Greek letter
 31. Body part
 34. Boxing result
 36. Newts
 37. Predatory semi-aquatic reptiles
 38. Cockatoo
 40. The NFL's big game (abbr.)
 43. Leguminous east Indian tree
 45. News reporting organization
 48. A nemesis of Batman
 50. Legal term
 51. Not all
 53. A way to greet
 54. Knot in a tree
 55. Satisfy
 57. Russian space station
 58. A baby's meal-time accessory
 59. Stitch together
 61. _ and behold
- DOWN**
1. Ballplayer's tool
 2. Hairdo
 3. From a distance
 4. Belt one out
 5. Revising a text
 6. More (Spanish)
 7. Beloved Spielberg alien
 8. BBQ dish
 9. Provoke
 10. Within
 12. Canadian flyers
 13. Smugly smile
 16. Buffalo
 17. Lake in the Kalahari Desert
 20. Grab
 22. Rural delivery
 25. Equally
 26. It's sometimes passed



Pictured left to right: Edneasha Johnson (president) and Patricia McQueen Bennett (Soror of the Year)

Bennett named Omicron Zeta Omega's Soror of the Year

Each year, the Omicron Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. recognizes an outstanding chapter member to receive its most prestigious award, "Soror of the Year."

The Soror of the Year is recognized for hard work, time, effort, for being some-

one who attends meetings regularly, displays leadership through an officer position and/or committee work and possesses the Alpha Kappa Alpha spirit. The 2018 Soror of the Year is Patricia McQueen Bennett. She serves as the chapter's Ivy Leaf Reporter and Historian.

Urgent adoption need at the Darlington County Humane Society Rescue

The Darlington County Humane Society Rescue has seven dogs - Bruno Mars, Eleanor, Mama T, Margo, Marilyn, Paul and Tess, who are currently facing euthanasia due to space constraints at the shelter.

They must have active applications in process by an adopter or a rescue organization by Jan. 30.

For more information about adopting or rescuing from the Darlington County Humane Society Rescue, please contact: Kim Tiedemann at KimDCHSTiedemann@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/darlingtoncountyhs.rescue> or on our website at <http://www.helpdarlington-pets.com>.

Animals at shelters have limited days after their stray hold and many animals are in need. Since shelters have to take in abandoned dogs and cats daily, they run out of cage space, therefore, the dog or cat that has been there days prior will be euthanized.

It doesn't matter if they are young puppies or kittens or purebred animals.

Overpopulation of domestic animals forces local animal control agencies to euthanize over 1 million dogs and cats every year.

Nationally, a cat or dog is euthanized in a local animal shelter every 63 seconds.

Depending on the shelter and space, after their stray hold, some only have one to two days left, and some have one to two weeks to be adopted or rescued.

They are innocent and wonderful dogs and cats that are in urgent need to be adopted by their forever family.

With hundreds of adoptable animals available, the



Darlington County Humane Society is a great place to start your search for a pet.

Adopt your next family member from the Darlington County Humane Society Rescue and know you are bringing a health checked, vaccinated, and even spayed or neutered pet into your home. Volunteers and shelter staff are available to help you find the perfect companion.

Adoptable animals are listed on the website site and Facebook page. However, the best way to find a new furry companion is by visiting us in person at 1701 Animal Control Blvd Darlington SC 29532 — after all, you might meet your new best friend.

The Darlington County Humane Society Rescue is in its 15th year of operation and has recently seen some remarkable success at rehoming pets. A group of volunteers and shelter staff have worked to increase adoptions, engage rescue organizations and reduce the euthanasia rate.

Donations of monetary contributions, volunteer time and supplies are also gratefully accepted at 1701 Animal Control Blvd, Darlington, SC 29532

WORD SEARCH

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| BRACIOLE | CARBONARA | PANE | SARDE |
| BRANZINO | FARFALLE | PASTA | SCAMPI |
| BRUSCHETTA | GNOCCHI | PESCE | TORTEL- |
| LINGUINE | PESTO | LONI | VITELLO |
| CACCIA- | MARINARA | PIZZAIOLA | ZITI |
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| CALZONE | MOZZAREL- | RAGU | |

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Ex-detention center officer charged

Darlington County sheriff's investigators have arrested a former detention center officer for bringing contraband into the W. Glenn Campbell Detention Center between Jan. 6 and Jan. 12, the sheriff's office said in a news release.

Willard Julius Shannon is charged with misconduct in office and was expected to appear before a Darlington County magistrate.

Lamar woman killed; Wedgefield man held

From Staff Reports

A Lamar woman has died of a gunshot wound, and a Wedgefield man sought in her slaying has turned himself in.

Bartina Robinson, 41, of Lamar, apparently was shot inside a vehicle traveling on East Bobo Newsom Highway near Hartsville Jan. 23.

The suspect drove Robinson to a hospital, dropped her off, and fled, according to the Darlington County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies were notified of a victim with a gunshot wound at the hospital around 9:50

p.m. that night.

Based on witness statements and other evidence, investigators obtained warrants for the arrest of Larry Roger Allen Carroway, 39, of Wedgefield, for voluntary manslaughter, possession of a firearm by a convicted violent felon and possession of a weapon during a violent crime, stated Darlington County Sheriff Tony Chavis in a news release.

Carroway has turned himself in, Chavis said.



Armed robbery in Lamar

A "masked individual" carrying a gun robbed a convenience store in Lamar last week, according to the Darlington County Sheriff's Office.

Yogi's Mini Mart on West Main Street was the target of the robbery, officials said. No additional details were available.

S.C. lawmakers likely to fill PSC seat with one of two insiders

By Rick Brundrett
The Nerve

After nearly a year and a half of delays, state lawmakers are poised to fill a \$107,822 Public Service Commission seat with either an incumbent who voted for electric rate hikes for the failed V.C. Summer nuclear project, or a former longtime commission staffer.

Meanwhile, two rejected candidates for the congressional District 2 seat, which covers all of Lexington, Aiken and Barnwell counties, and parts of Richland and Orangeburg counties, are questioning exactly why a legislatively controlled committee, called the State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee (PURC), voted to find them "not qualified."

In interviews with The Nerve, Patty Carson, currently the mayor of the town of North in Orangeburg County, and Bruce Cole of Forest Acres in Richland County, president of a Columbia think tank and a PSC nominee last year, said no PURC members or staff gave them any specific reasons for rejecting them.

"It's not transparent, and it should be," said Cole, who, according to documents he filed with PURC, earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard University, a master's degree in accounting from Northeastern University, a master of business administration degree in finance from Stanford University and a doctoral degree in planning from Clemson University.

"You're representing the people.

"Everything you do should be transparent."

Carson, who, according to her PURC documents, holds a bachelor's degree in engineering management from the Missouri School of Mines and

Metallurgy, provided The Nerve with emails from her to Heather Anderson, the lawyer for PURC, asking why she was found not qualified.

"The (PURC) members did not provide specific reasons concerning each candidate's finding of qualified or not qualified. The vote was unanimous regarding the finding of not qualified," Anderson said in an email to Carson, noting that "there is no additional information I can provide."

Carson told The Nerve she also had concerns how she was treated during her Jan. 14 screening hearing.

"All these older gentlemen are just leaning back in their chairs with their arms crossed," she said.

"They didn't look like they were even interested."

The Nerve in 2014 reported about another female candidate who was questioned during her screening hearing by Rep. Bill Sandifer, R-Oconee, and the PURC vice-chairman, about whether she had discussed her candidacy with her children.

There currently are no women on the PSC.

The Nerve requested comment from Sandifer and Sen. Thomas Alexander, R-Oconee, who is the PURC chairman, but did not receive a response by the time of publication of this story.

Anderson did not provide specifics to The Nerve about why PURC found Carson and Cole not qualified.

The two nominated candidates, both of whom are attorneys, are Elliott Elam of Lexington, the PSC vice-chairman who was first elected to the commission in May 2014; and Florence Belser of Columbia, who worked for the PSC from 1993 to 2003 and since 2004 has been with the state Office of Regulatory Staff, which signed off on

South Carolina Electric & Gas rate hikes over the years for the \$9 billion V.C. Summer project.

PSC records show that from September 2014 to October 2016, Elam voted to approve three rate hikes for SCE&G customers for the construction of two nuclear reactors at the V.C. Summer site in Fairfield County, which was abandoned by SCE&G and partner Santee Cooper on July 31, 2017.

Lawmakers in 2007 quietly approved a law, known as the Base Load Review Act, which allowed PSC to raise rates for the project.

Elam, a former consumer advocate at the S.C. Department of Consumer Affairs, earlier declined The Nerve's requests for comment on his PSC candidacy, while Belser did not respond to requests seeking comment.

An ORS spokesman in August confirmed that Belser, who makes \$113,110 in her current job, recently had moved from Summerton in Clarendon County to Columbia to run for the District 2 seat.

The Nerve in May revealed that PURC, which largely controls the regulation of utilities in South Carolina, has no written criteria for making its final choices.

State law makes it difficult for the public to participate in PSC candidate screening hearings and other types of proceedings controlled by the Legislature, as The Nerve reported in September.

PURC by law is made up of 10 members, six of whom are lawmakers, though the latest nomination report lists nine members. There currently is a vacant seat designated for a member of the general public, according to Secretary of State records.

Under state law, PURC,

which nominates candidates to the seven-member PSC, can nominate no more than three candidates for a seat, which is filled by the General Assembly. An election in the Legislature for the District 2 seat is set for Feb. 6.

The convoluted election process for the four-year seat has dragged on since Aug. 25, 2017, when PURC in a one-sentence written statement said, without giving a reason, that the screening of candidates for three open PSC seats, including the District 2 seat, had been "suspended until further notice," as The Nerve reported at the time.

On the last day of regular session in May last year, lawmakers in an unrecorded voice vote effectively approved a "do-over" election for the seat, rejecting the entire slate of three nominated candidates, which included Cole and Elam.

The move allowed Elam to stay on the commission months after his term expired, giving him the opportunity to vote in December and last week on matters related to the V.C. Summer project, including Virginia-based Dominion Energy's takeover of Cayce-based SCANA Corp., the parent company of SCE&G.

Carson and Cole were among the six most-recent candidates who applied for the District 2 seat.

James "Buddy" Atkins of Columbia, a former state water official who served on the PSC from 2000-2004, was found qualified but not nominated. Brenton Jeffcoat of Lexington, a bond attorney, withdrew before the Jan. 14 screening hearings, according to Anderson.

Under state law, candidates are legally qualified if they have at least a bachelor's degree and a "background of substantial duration and

expertise" in at least one of eight broad categories: energy; telecommunications; consumer protection and advocacy; water and wastewater; finance, economics and statistics; accounting; engineering; or law.

State law, however, allows PURC members to qualify candidates even if they don't have experience in any of eight categories ... as long as three-quarters of the committee agree to do so and provide "written justification of their decision."

In her screening hearing last week, Carson, who since 2015 has been the mayor of North, a town of about 850, said she is responsible for "all aspects of the town," including managing the wastewater treatment plant, police force and public works department, according to the hearing transcript.

She previously served as an industrial engineer, marketing engineer, financial analyst and corporate project manager in the private sector, according to records she filed with PURC.

PURC's final nomination report indicated that Carson had the lowest test score among the candidates.

She told The Nerve when she asked Anderson, the PURC lawyer, for a copy of her two-hour written test so she could see which questions she missed, Anderson replied, "Oh, absolutely not."

Carson said she was "very frank and honest" in a written statement she submitted to PURC, noting, "We need to restore the public's confidence in the Public Service Commission."

Cole is founder and president of the Richard T. Greener Institute for Social Policy Research, a Columbia think tank which, according to Cole's LinkedIn account, is

"focused on elimination of economic and health disparities in South Carolina's communities of color through applied empowerment economics."

He also is manager of Palmetto Realty Advisors in Columbia and has served in a variety of other academic and corporate positions throughout his career, according to records he filed with PURC.

"I believe I am absolutely the best candidate for the job," he told The Nerve.

Asked why he thought PURC found him unqualified for the upcoming election, Cole replied, "I don't know," though he quickly added it was "probably the same reason" why lawmakers last year rejected the entire slate of nominated candidates, including him.

"They just threw the whole slate out, and that was unprecedented," he said. "They didn't explain, and even when (state Rep. Jerry) Govan asked for an explanation, they refused to give an explanation."

In the end, Cole said he believes it would be "helpful to consider who the winners and losers are in this scenario - not just in regard to who the candidates are, but with regard to their constituents."

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.

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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: Grier C. Copeland Date of Death: 10/25/2018 Case No: 2018ES1600585 Personal Representative: Candycy Chloe Chapman Address: 3954 Lee State Park Road, Bishopville, SC 29010 (27p3 leave in thru 1-30-19)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

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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 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: Mary Keith Date of Death: 11/01/2018 Case No: 2018ES1600569 Personal Representative: James Larry Haney Address: 402 W. Home Avenue, Hartsville, SC 29550 (27p3 leave in thru 1-30-19)

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: Gene Edward Odum Date of Death: 12/3/2018 Case No: 2019ES1600005 Personal Representative: Adam Eugene Odum Address: 1335 Wildlife Landing Drive, Hartsville, SC 29550 (27p3 leave in thru 1-30-19)

NOTICE OF SALE

Case No. 2018-CP-16-00687
BY VIRTUE of a judgment heretofore granted in the case of First-Citizens Bank & Trust Company v. 102 Main, LLC, et. al., Case No. 2018-CP-16-00687, I, the undersigned, as Special Referee for Darlington County, will sell on February 4, 2019, at 11:00 A.M. at the Darlington County Courthouse, 1 Public Square, Darlington, South Carolina, to the highest bidder: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, with improvements, situate, lying and being in the Town of Lamar, County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, fronting on Main Street, Seventy (70) feet, the Southwestern boundary, Two Hundred and Fifty (250) feet by drive or passageway, East, Two Hundred (200) feet, by lands now or formerly of G.W. Mims and O.B. Jordan and Old Bank of Lamar, Northwestern boundary, Ninety one (91) feet ten inches by lands now or formerly of G.W. Mims, also all right in the brick wall belonging now or formerly to Old Bank of Lamar, the boundary shown in said deed which is a copy of another deed shows 91 feet and 10 inches Northwestern boundary when in fact the correct directional boundary is Northeast instead of Northwest. Also: All of that lot of land in the Town of Lamar, Darlington County, South Carolina, bounded Northeast 20 ½ feet by lot now or formerly of B.S. Josey and six inches by lot now or formerly of O.B. Jordan, Southeast 21 feet by Main Street and Northwest 51 feet by lot now or formerly of B.S. Josey. Said lot being known as the Old Bank of Lamar lot, and it joins the lot first above described. This being the same property conveyed to Carolina Table Manufacturing of Lamar, Inc. by deed of 102 Main, LLC, recorded October 24, 2011, in Book 1063 at page 9211, in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County. This being the same property conveyed to 102 Main, LLC by deed of Carolina Table Manufacturing of Lamar, Inc. recorded on May 8, 2013 in Book 1069 at Page 1127 in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County. TMS#: 067-03-01-017 AND ALSO: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land situate, lying and being in the Town of Lamar, County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, fronting on Boykin Street and bounded as follows:

Southeast by Boykin Street for a distance of approximately one hundred eighty (180) feet; on the Northeast by Tax 067-03-01-012 for a distance of approximately sixty (60) feet; on the Northwest by Tax Parcel 067-03-012 for a distance of approximately ninety (90) feet and also property of Lamar Warehouse Company for a distance of approximately fifty (50) feet; and on the Southwest by property of Watford herein and by property of Shirley Windham for approximately fifty (50) feet. For a more complete and accurate description reference is hereby made to a plat of survey prepared for 102 Main, LLC by Nesbitt Surveying Company, Inc. on October 7, 2009, and recorded in Plat Book 211, at Page 83, in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County, wherein this parcel is referenced as Tract 2, containing .25 acres.

AND ALSO: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land situate, lying and being in the Town of Lamar, County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, known as the Coin Shop Property fronting on Main Street and bounded as follows: North by property of J.W. Severance, Jr., a distance of 28 feet; East by property now or formerly of Alva Jordan, a distance of 184 feet; South by Main Street a distance of 36 feet; West by a vacant lot a distance of 184 feet. For a more complete and accurate description reference is hereby made to a plat of survey prepared for 102 Main, LLC by Nesbitt Surveying Company, Inc. on October 7, 2009, and recorded in Plat Book 211, at Page 83, in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County, wherein this parcel is referenced as Tract 1 containing .15 acres.

This being the same property conveyed to 102 Main, LLC by deed of Warren J. Jeffords, recorded in Book 1075, at Page 3951, in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County. TMS#067-03-01-013 and 067-03-01-016

SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENTS, COUNTY TAXES, EXISTING EASEMENTS, EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND OTHER SENIOR ENCUMBRANCES, IF ANY.

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master In Equity 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 Master In Equity may resell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the former highest bidder). A personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will remain open for thirty (30) days after the date of sale. 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 3.50% per annum. If Plaintiff or 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. The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights prior to sale.

Haigh Porter Special Referee for Darlington County (27c3 leave in thru 1-30-19)

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF DARLINGTON IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS COURT FILE NO. 18-CP-16-771 NOTICE OF SALE (Deficiency Waived)
SOUTH CAROLINA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO FLORENCE DUPONT EMPLOYEES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, vs. LESLIE ANN MCKENZIE-STIDHAM, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF LARRY O'NEAL MCKENZIE A/K/A LARRY O. MCKENZIE, SADIE REBECCA MCKENZIE, JUSTIN BAXTER MCKENZIE, MIKE MCKENZIE, MARK A. MCKENZIE, DIXIE'S FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, CAROLINA PINES MEDICAL CTR C/O PROBATE RECOVERY SYSTEMS, LLC, KISTLER HARDEE FUNERAL HOME AND MCLEOD HEALTH, Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under and by virtue of a Decree of this Honorable Court filed in the above-entitled action, I shall offer for

sale to the highest bidder for cash according to the custom of auction, at the Darlington County Courthouse, Darlington, South Carolina, at 12:00 o'clock p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be reached, on February 4, 2019, on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, the following described real property, to wit:

ALL that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with the improvements thereon, situate, lying and being in the County of Darlington, State of South Carolina, shown as containing 1.92 acres, more or less, on plat thereof prepared by Ervin Engineering Co., Inc., dated November 30, 1978. According to said plat said parcel is bounded on the North by right of way of State Road S-16-14 known locally as The Old Hartsville Highway; on the East by property of Flowers; on the South by property of G.C. Kinsaul; and on the West by property of G.C. Kinsaul. For a more particular description, reference is hereby made to said plat, a copy of which is recorded in Plat Book 79 at page 31, in the office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County, South Carolina. This being the same property conveyed to Larry O. McKenzie by deed of CitFinancial, Inc. dated June 27, 2012 and recorded on July 27, 2012 in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Darlington County in Book 1066 at Page 3552. TMS #145-00-01-014

Property address: 797 E. Billy Farrow Highway, Darlington, SC 29532 No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. The property shall be sold for cash to the highest bidder. The highest bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will be required to deposit with the Special Referee, at the conclusion of the bidding, cash or certified check in the amount of five (5%) per cent of the bid, the said deposit to be applied to the purchase price. If applicable, the successful bidder shall pay for deed preparation, costs of recording the deed, and transfer taxes on the deed. In the event the successful bidder shall be other than Plaintiff, Plaintiff shall be entitled to interest on the bid from date of sale to date of compliance at the rate of 6.00% per centum per annum.

Should the highest bidder fail to comply with the bid within twenty (20) days from the date of sale, the Special Referee will resell the property at the risk and expense of the defaulting bidder upon the same terms as above set out. The Sheriff of Darlington County may be authorized to put the purchaser into possession of the premises if required by the purchaser. The property is sold subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements, encumbrances and restrictions of record.

/s/ Haigh Porter Special Referee for Darlington County FLORENCE, SC December 19, 2018 Plaintiff's Attorney: Cynthia Jordan Lowery 843-579-7000 (27p3 leave in thru 1-30-19)

APPLICATION FOR TITLE

To all persons claiming an interest in: 1997-1422- Aquarius-BEC15020E697. Luis Derry will apply to SCDNR for title on watercraft/outboard motor. If you have any claim to the watercraft/outboard motor, contact SCDNR at 803-734-3858. Upon 30 days of the date of the last advertisement if no claim of interest is made and the watercraft/outboard motor has not been reported stolen, SCDNR shall issue clear title. Case No: 20171016950817. (27c3 leave in thru 1-30-19)

APPLICATION FOR TITLE

To all persons claiming an interest in: 1985-15' DUR41904B585 1984-35HP-MERCURY-6531604. Carroll Dennis will apply to SCDNR for the title on watercraft/outboard motor. If you have any claim to the watercraft/outboard motor, contact SCDNR at 803-734-3858. Upon thirty days after the date of the last advertisement if no claim of interest is made and the watercraft/outboard motor has not been reported stolen, SCDNR shall issue clear title. Case No: 20161229950911. (27c3 leave in thru 1-30-19)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES

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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: Elsie G. Bullard Date of Death: 12/15/2018 Case No: 2019ES1600025 Personal Representative: Pamela B. Vaughan Address: 105 Georgia Drive, Darlington, SC 29532 (28p3 leave in thru 2-6-19)

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given that Sara's Porch, LLC intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license/permit that will allow the sale and on premises consumption of beer, wine at 804 N. Governor Williams Hwy, Darlington, SC 29532. To object to the issuance of this

permit/license, written protest must be postmarked no later than February 8, 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. (28p3 leave in thru 2-6-2019)

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NOON FRIDAY AD DEADLINE
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customerservice@newsandpress.net.

classifieds

JANUARY 30, 2019 | PAGE 5B
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WWW.NEWSANDPRESS.NET

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices
Burt Jordan REALTORS 843-393-4010
117 Erinvine Court, Darlington, SC 29532

NEW LISTINGS
511 Anderson Drive - Move-in condition this 3 bedroom, 2 bath brick ranch located on a quiet street at the end of cul-de-sac; new carpet in bedrooms; new vinyl plank flooring in kitchen; fresh paint; large fenced backyard - Won't Last Long. - **\$109,000**
Lots 1, 2, 9, 19, 21, 22, 54 thru 59 Country Club Road - Wooded lots in Darlington Country Club perfect for your forever home. - **\$25,000 each**
Lot 13 & 14 Tee Circle - Wooded lots in Darlington Country Club perfect for your forever home. - **\$25,000 each**
FEATURE
416 Spring Street - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick ranch located in the City of Darlington. Partial Fenced yard with great curb appeal. Great starter or retiree home. Conveniently located to Downtown Darlington, Post Office, Churches and walking distance to recreational fields and High School. New flooring in kitchen and dining area with new appliances as well. - **\$110,000**

OFFICE FOR RENT!
123 Erinvine Court - Office building with large reception area, 3 offices and lots of storage in each office. Office is located inside the Country Club on Erinvine Court (DCC—take 1st right & office is last one on right). **\$900.00** per month plus security deposit.

RESIDENTIAL
511 Anderson Drive—3 BR, 2BA, 1137 SF—**\$109,000**
111 Maryland Drive—4 BR, 3 BA, 2962 SF—**\$189,500**
1725 Harry Byrd Highway—3 BR, 2 BA, 2900 SF—**\$249,500**
101 Georgia Drive—3 BR, 2 BA, 2206 SF—**\$169,900**
416 Spring Street—3 BR, 1.5 BA, 1137 SF—**\$110,000**
108 Alabama Drive—3 BR, 2 BA, 1680 SF—**\$169,800**
722 Spring Street—4 BR, 3 BA, 2456 SF—**\$135,000**
104 Tennessee Drive—5 BR, 4 BA, 3844 SF—**\$249,900**
104 Oakview Drive—4 BR, 3F & 2 H BA, 3640 SF—**\$290,000**
111 Virginia Drive—5 BR, 4 BA, 4290 SF—**\$324,900**

LAND
Lots in DCC - \$25,000 each
421 1/2 Allen Street—25 Acres—**\$4,500**
31.5 Acres Asland Road—**\$110,000**
TBD Cashua Ferry Road—57 Acres—**\$15,900**
S. Center Road—47.46 Acres—**\$233,000**
Dewitt Circle—23.62 Acres—**\$141,720**
Dewitt Circle—29.58 Acres—**\$236,640**
TBD Evangeline Drive—31 Acres—**\$25,000**
TBD First Street—37 Acres—**\$12,900**
Green Street Road—277.31 Acres—**\$522,813**
425 Guess Street—25 Acres—**\$4,500**
E. Hampton Street—46 Acres—**\$10,000**
Harry Byrd & Highway 151—7 Acres—**\$80,500**
Harry Byrd Highway—9.62 Acres—**\$110,700**
22 Acres Hibiscus Road—**\$68,500**
Highway 401—23 Acres—**\$112,700**
Hoffmeyer Road—154.45 Acres—**\$387,000**
Tract A Hwy 52 By-Pass & Road 409—7 Acres—**\$12,000**
Tract B Hwy 52 By-Pass & Road 409—1.38 Acres—**\$25,000**
S. Main Street—56 Acres—**\$17,500**
117.89 Acres New Hopewell Road—295,000
Lot 68 Nez Perce Drive—95 Acres—**\$24,900**
Pink Dogwood Street—2 lots—**\$24,000 each**
TBD Smith Avenue—7 Acres—**\$325,000**
TBD Swift Creek Road—60.52 Acres—**\$223,900**
00 Swift Creek Road—3.47 Acres—**\$24,900**
Lot 13 Wildshall Road—84 Acres—**\$27,000**
Lot 15 Wildshall Road—80 Acres—**\$27,000**
Lot 1 Wyandot Street—1.35 Acres—**\$45,000**
Lot 17 Wyandot Street—1.07 Acres—**\$40,000**

COMMERCIAL
116 S. Main Street—**\$155,000**
706 S. 5th Street—**\$369,000**
676 E. McIver Road—**\$59,000**
307 Washington Street—**\$34,900**
321 N. Main Street—**\$64,909**
213 N. Marquis Hwy—**\$490,000**
1005 E. McIver Road—**\$129,900**
686 E. McIver Road—**\$60,000**

FOR LEASE
123 Erinvine Court—**\$900.00/Monthly**

UNDER CONTRACT
706 S. 5th Street **Green Street Road**

SOLD
22 Acres Hibiscus Road
Lot 6 Wyandot Street

PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE FOR INFO ON ALL OF OUR LISTINGS!

FOR FULL LISTINGS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CALL 393-4010 OR LOG ONTO WWW.BURTJORDAN.COM

Burt Jordan
Broker-In-Charge
260-4138

Jackie Anderson Realtor 307-5383
Tommy Bryant Realtor 615-1795

MISSING CAT

River has been missing from South McCall St. in Darlington since January 10



Big, friendly cat · Black, brown, and white tabby coat · Microchipped

If found, please call Deborah Cintron at (302) 229-1510

Odom's Mini Storage

1009 N. Main Street
Darlington, SC

(843) 393-1327 or
(843) 393-9071

\$400/deposit, \$400/rent, call (843) 393-8084. 29c3



SPRINGFIELD APTS.: 1 bedroom units available NOW! Great location, quiet, beautifully landscaped. Units loaded with modern conveniences. You'll love to call Springfield home! Credit and background check required. Units designed for persons with disabilities and/or rental assistance subject to availability. Call (843) 393-7521 for more info. Section 8 welcome. Equal Housing Opportunity. Managed by Partnership Property Management, an equal opportunity provider and employer. Apply today! 28c3



First 2 months FREE RENT Raceway Estates of Darlington, \$150/month Lot Rent, PeeDeeRentals.com - (843) 732-4800. 7cctfn

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!

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.

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

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

Sleep Apnea Patients - If you have Medicare coverage, call Verus Healthcare to qualify for CPAP supplies for little or no cost in minutes. Home Delivery, Healthy Sleep Guide and More - FREE! Our customer care agents await your call. 1-866-721-3917

AUCTIONS
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 Alanna

Odom's Mini Storage

AUCTION:
Feb. 5 at 2 pm
1009 N. Main Street

FELICIA DAMON
Storage #22
Misc.
Total due: \$258.00

CYNTHIA HORNE
Storage #29
Misc.
Total due: \$213.00

RASHONDA WASHINGTON
Storage #133
Misc.
Total due: \$260.00

RICE'S PAINT & BODY SHOP

1500 Ebenezer Rd., Darlington

We are looking for experienced help. Must have drivers license. Apply in person. Call (843) 944-0021

Ritchie at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

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 Alanna Ritchie at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

MISCELLANEOUS
SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00 - MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill - Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
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: 844-597-6582

Get a SMARTPHONE for \$0 DOWN* with AT&T Next and AT&T Next Every Year* \$250 Gift Card for Switching to AT&T! (*Req' s well-qualified credit. Limits & restr' s apply.) Call us today 1-866-490-3653

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE
I PAY TOP DOLLAR - For Used Mobile Homes! Call (803) 607-6353.

STOP RENTING - Own your own home, take tax money and pay for your home! 14x70 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath nice home.

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-NEW LISTING
420 Sheffield Drive - Brick home with 1,595 sq ft of living area. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, formal dining room, fireplace in home office and large sun room. 32 X 24 detached garage/workshop. Home sits on 1 1/2 lots. Located within walking distance to the Blue Street ball fields and Darlington High School. Priced @ **\$135,000**.

3053 Marcus Drive, Hartsville - 1.98 acre lot in Beaver dam S/D. County water and septic tank. There is a burned home on the property. Property is being sold "AS IS." **\$6,500**

1539 Cashua Ferry Rd - Immaculate brick home located in the Mechanicsville area of Darlington County on 14 acres with 44 producing pecan trees. Home has 1,841 sq ft of living area, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, home office, large laundry room and a spacious pantry. 2 car attached garage that is fully insulated, 24 X 36 wired workshop with a 12 X 36 attached shelter. Huge screened back porch with a ceiling fan. The landscaped back yard has a pergola and swing that is shaded with wisteria. This home is a must see! Call me today to view this home. Priced @ **\$259,900**

RESIDENTIAL

2116 Lide Springs Rd - 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 2,818 sq ft, 9 acres, 2 large workshops and a cabin - **\$299,995**
212 Cashua Ferry Rd - 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2,924 sq ft - **REDUCED \$219,000**
119 Alabama Drive - 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2,055 sq ft, 2 car garage, 2 shops - **\$169,900**
1381 Nolan Dr - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,119 sq ft, 19.4 acres, 100' wide large workshop - **\$180,000**
396 Shearin St - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,119 sq ft - **\$154,900**

2386 E. Lydia Hwy, Hartsville - 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,868 sq ft - **\$149,900**
2372 E. Lydia Hwy, Hartsville - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,484 sq ft - **\$139,900**
2410 E. Lydia Hwy, Hartsville - 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1,896 sq ft - **\$124,900**
2759 Cashua Ferry Rd - 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 983 sq feet - **\$89,900**
645 Gilchrist Road - 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1,300 sq ft - **\$74,900**
114 Tedder Street - 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2,200 sq ft - **\$72,900**

LAND AND LOTS

50 +/- acres on Cashua Ferry Rd - Great land for hunting. Some wetlands. Close to Great Pee Dee River. **\$150,000**
44.30 acres Barfield Rd - Mostly wooded. Great place for hunting or building a cabin. **\$124,000**
4 +/- acres Cashua Ferry Boat Landing at the Great Pee Dee River - Land is located right beside the boat dock. 3 septic tanks and well. SOLD "AS IS" **\$100,000**
8.20 acres Medford Drive **\$25,000**
Farrow Ridge Ct - .74 acre Nice lot with well & septic tank. Mobile home allowed. **REDUCED \$10,000**
Rogers Rd - 2.35 acres of land. Mobile home allowed. Public water available. **\$18,000**
Redwood Drive - Nice lot located off of **UNDER CONTRACT**
638 Cartersville - 1/2 acre lot with county water and septic tank. **\$10,000**
Lot 56 Kent Avenue - 1 acre, mobile home allowed **\$9,000**
motivated seller make an offer
Lot 21 Jamestown Ave - Mobile home allowed. 46 acres **\$6,500**
15 acres on Swift Creek Rd - Wooded. **UNDER CONTRACT**
1.05 acre lot in Wildshall S/D - S/D Restrictions apply - **\$29,900**

COMMERCIAL

2244 Harry Byrd Hwy - Commercial bld. 11,684 sq ft metal building. Sits on 4+ acres of land. 6 ft fence around perimeter of property. Currently used as an office, warehouse, & Restaurant/ lounge. Plenty of office area. 5 restrooms. It would make a great church, restaurant, or banquet hall lots of potential uses. Conveniently located 4 miles from Darlington Raceway. Close to Hartsville and I-20. Owner will finance with a \$150,000 down payment. Call today to see this property. Priced at **\$750,000** **REDUCED - Motivated seller, bring all offers**

To view these properties visit www.pamsherrill.net

PAM T. SHERRILL
BIC/Owner/Auctioneer SCAL#3103 - Cell: 339-7505

CASEY RHEUARK Realtor 843-307-4035
CHARLES WATSON Appraiser CR-2868 Cell: 245-3103

JENNIFER BYRD Realtor 843-495-3630

Total electric, new cabinets, new counter tops. \$9000. Call 803 607-6353.

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HOMES FOR RENT

605-2 East Broad Street - One bedroom duplex apartment, \$325/month. (843) 393-7545. 21cctfn

1129 N. Main Street - One bedroom, furnished house with utilities provided. Call (843) 393-7545. 23cctfn

266 Ridge Road - One bedroom, small modular, furnished with utilities. \$425/month. (843) 393-7545. 26cctfn

202 Dutton Lane - 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, stove & refrigerator provided, washer/dryer hook up, gas heat, window a/c, references required, \$425/deposit, \$425/rent, call (843) 393-8084. 26cctfn

3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick house on 1/2 acre of land. Includes central/AC, stove, washer/dryer hook-up. NO PETS. Background/credit check. \$750/deposit, \$650/month. (843) 398-1129. Leave message for a return call. 28p2

211-2 Edwards Avenue - 1 bedroom downstairs apartment, stove & refrigerator provided, gas heat, window a/c unit, water/sewer/trash pick up included, references required,

