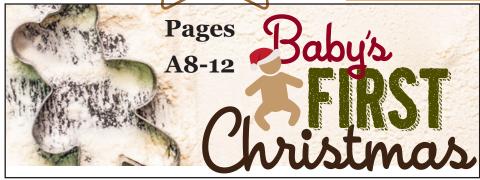


Toy giveaway brightens Christmas for hundreds of kids, News, A3



The Hent

VOLUME 146, NO. 35



Deputies save man from burning

Jonathan Vickery Publisher

jvickery@thepeoplesentinel.com

Three sheriff's deputies were recognized by a fire department for going above the call of duty.

Deputies Freddie Washington, Robert Kirby, Timothy Batchler, and Jeremy Brown responded to a head-on wreck at Hwy. 37 and Ashleigh Road on May 1. One of the vehicles had caught fire while the

driver was trapped inside.
"The deputies had cases

of water in their cars. They were running up and exposing themselves to flames by pouring bottles of water on the fire, which kept the fire from progressing," said Long Branch Fire Chief Andy Hogg. "They worked hard to keep that man from burning up. As far as I'm concerned, they probably saved the man's life.

See HEROES, 6A



Sheriff Steve "Grits" Griffith, 1st Sgt. Freddie Washington, Long Branch Fire Chief Andy Hogg, Deputy Robert Kirby, Deputy Timothy Batchier, and Patrol Lt. Brian Johnson.

Merry Christmas from the staff of FAITH, TRUST & PIXIE People+Sentinel



Sara O'Neal has touched many lives during her 30 years at Barnwell Pediatrics. With photos of her children hanging on the wall behind her, she holds a sign someone gave her that states: "By touching so many lives, you have changed the world."

Nurse practitioner celebrates 30 years of helping area's children

Jonathan Vickery Publisher jvickery@thepeoplesentinel.com

arnwell's first nurse 5 practitioner never planned to stay very long. Fast forward 30 years and thousands of pediatric patients, she's still here.

"I am on my third generation of seeing some families. I have learned so much through the years. I try to treat my patients like they were my own," said Sara O'Neal, who celebrated her 30th anniversary as a nurse practitioner at Barnwell Pediatrics on Nov. 2.

After working five years in Clemson, O'Neal's family moved to Aiken in 1992 for her husband's job at Clariant (now Archroma) in Allendale County. She contacted Dr. Abe Moskow, founder of Barnwell Pediatrics, to see if he knew of any job openings.

Her timing was perfect as Moskow was in the process

"I try to get to really know my patients and treat them like they are my own kids."

- Sara O'Neal,

Nurse Practitioner at **Barnwell Pediatrics**

of converting his practice to a rural health clinic to serve all children, regardless of their abilities to pay. However, guidelines stipulated that he needed a nurse practitioner

"At the time, nurse practitioners were not real common in this area," said Moskow.

O'Neal was hired and officially began her duties Nov.

"When she came to work with me, we were able to open a four-county area (Barnwell, up the doors to take care of all Bamberg, Allendale and Aithe children – rich, poor and in ken) have placed their trust in between," said Moskow.

Prescription for Success

"I had to earn the trust of most people because they had never heard of nurse practitioners," said O'Neal.

Her spirit, genuine love for people, and her compassionate nature created a prescription for success for O'Neal as a small-town healthcare provider. She goes the extra mile and stays up to date on the latest healthcare news so she can better serve her patients, said Moskow.

"I try to get to really know my patients and treat them like they are my own kids," said O'Neal, who also tries to educate the parents.

"She gained experience and has developed into quite a fine primary care provider," said Moskow of his long-time colleague. "She is an integral part of healthcare in our area.

Generations of families from

See 30 YEARS, 7A

Board of Education

Alexandra Whitbeck Reporter reporter@thepeoplesentinel.com

Barnwell School District 45 (BSD45) Superintendent Dr. Crissie Stapleton was sworn in as the chair of the State Board

of Education on December 13. Dr. Stapleton was selected by the state legislative delegation to represent counties in the Second Circuit on the State Board of Education (SBE) in 2019, and has served BSD45 as the super-

intendent for five years. "I am so honored to be able to serve in this role. My dream as a child was always to be a teacher, and that passion for education has never changed. I have been so fortunate to work with such dedicated people and learn from amazing role models that have helped me grow in the field of education," said Dr. Stapleton.

The SBE is responsible for making policies for public K-12 education in the state and consists of 17 appointed

members.

Before she stepped into the position of superintendent at BSD45, Dr. Stapleton served as a K-8 curriculum coach at Williston-Elko School District 29 (WSD29) before its consolidation, as assistant principal and director of curriculum and instruction at BSD45, and then served as assistant superintendent in 2015.

"I am humbled to serve in a capacity that will not only impact students in our area, but will also have an impact statewide."

- Dr. Crissie Stapleton, new chair of the State **Board of Education**

Dr. Stapleton's career in education began in 2001 after graduating from the Honors College at Clemson University. She has also taught outside of Barnwell County at Anderson School District One and Aiken County Public Schools.

"I am humbled to serve in a capacity that will not only impact students in our area, but will also have an impact statewide. What an amazing blessing that is! My fellow board members on the State Board are remarkable people from different areas and backgrounds. I'm fortunate to work with such a dynamic team of individuals who all want to make a positive difference in public education statewide," said Dr. Stapleton.

Dr. Stapleton feels fortunate to be part of a school district that continually inspires her to do her best. She finds her passion for education to be constantly refueled by BSD45 school board members, staff, families, and students.



Dr. Crissie Stapleton, superintendent of District 45, is sworn in as State Board of Education chair by outgoing board chair Alan Walters during the December 13, 2022 meeting.



For home delivery pricing, 4A

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OBITUARIES, 2B

Sydney Joyner -Barnwell

James Wooden -Williston

Career center decks halls with unique trees

Alexandra Whitbeck

Reporter reporter@thepeoplesentinel.com

The Barnwell County Career Center decked the halls with creative Christmas trees made by students in each course from materials found in their classrooms.

"The task was to use whatever was in the class. It took us about a day and half to figure out what we're going to use," said Dorian Sanders, a first-year student in the mechatronics class.

Each tree is unique to the classroom it sits outside of. The cosmetology class crafted a tree using hair curlers and blow dryers, criminal justice students depicted a Christmas crime, and the mechatronics class made an electrifying display.

"We used conduit for the trunk of the tree, and we used a metal box for the bottom, a breaker panel I reckon," said Sanders. "We used conduit for the branches and spray painted them green, and we used breakers, light switches, outlets, light switch covers and boxes."

"I think our tree is pretty good," said third-year mechatronics student Alan Villalobos. "I feel like we were probably the most creative."

"Critical thinking went into it, a lot," said Sanders of the mechatronics tree.

At the entrance to the school sits the spiraling tree made by the building construction class.

"We made our tree out of random wood we found around the shop," said Antonio Washington, a building construction student. "We made the base of the board out of 2x4s, and for the ornaments we cut down a branch of an oak tree."

Each disc of oak has also had some other ideas



The building construction class created a wooden Christmas tree that sits in the school's entryway as a part of the decoration contest where they won first place.

the initials of its creator burned onto either side. This theme was consistent in some of the trees as the welding class also had their initials on handmade ornaments.

"They used the products they'd normally be dealing with, like welding made their tree out of all metal and cut out their own ornaments," said BCCC Director David Augustine.

The building construction students did not decide on this style of tree right in the beginning, according to Washington they toyed around with some other ideas as well.

"We were going to do a random pole and try to make branches off of it, but we came up with this idea, so we just went with it," said Washington.

The mechatronics class



Mechatronics students at the Barnwell County Career Center made an electrifying Christmas tree.

before landing on their final project.

"We were going to get a motor and wire it up to spin it, but we didn't have a motor small enough," said Sanders. The students were also planning to wrap elements of the tree in electrical tape, according to Villalobos.

The health and science students relied on an old friend to bring their tree to fruition. Herman the skeleton was used as the centerpiece of their Christmas decor. "We decided to do

Herman because he was the only thing we had to prop up," said Vivian Sheppard, a first-year health science student. "We kind of propped his body up and put clear tubing and blew up balloons and used various

The star atop Herman's head is made of medical vials, and his wrapped ribcage is decorated with angels made of masks and blown-up surgical gloves.

Unlike some of the other classes, Herman was always the plan for the health science class.

"I wasn't surprised [with the level of creativity] because we have such great students, but just to see some of the ideas was just cool to see," said Augustine.

These Christmas trees were crafted in roughly a week and a half, and Augustine is impressed with how quickly BCCC students were able to get

the building construction festive for the upcoming ture career or current job.

Herman the skeleton dressed up to serve as the health where they came in second place.

science class's Christmas tree entry in the Barnwell County Career Center's Christmas decorating contest

holidays. Augustine readthat it be expanded to the whole school.

Selected teachers voted on which trees are the most creative and best used classroom materials.

First place was the building construction class and Herman the skeleton placed second in Dawn Wilbanks' Health and Science class.

These sorts of innova-The idea started when tive projects are one of the reasons students enjoy class reached out to him learning at BCCC as they wanting to do something further interest in their fu-

"This class helps with ily agreed and suggested my job, I'm an apprentice at Swiss Krono and I'm doing maintenance, so mechatronics helps a lot with that," said

"I'm a third-year student with mechatronics, and I'm considering getting an actual career in the field," said Villalobos.

"This is my first year, and it's pretty cool. I like it," said Sheppard. "I want to be an ultrasound tech; I want to share those happy moments with families when they get to see their babies."

Barnwell County Arrest Reports

Arrest reports listed below are public record and have been provided by local law enforcement agencies. All persons named are presumed innocent until their cases are determined in a court of law.

(BCSO) for Distribution of Meth and Petit Larceny. Angus was booked and released to Barnwell County Detention Center (BCDC).

Julie Baxley, 47, of 131

803.259.5631

was arrested on December 16, 2022 by the BCSO for two counts of Unlawful Communications. Baxley was booked and released

Jimmy Curtis Blood-**Kayla H. Angus**, 30, of 34 worth, 36, of 306 Shady Colonial Drive, Barnwell, Lane, Ulmer, was arrested County Sheriff's Office mestic Violence of High and Aggravated Nature. Bloodworth was booked and released to BCDC.

> Jacob Alexander Cobb, 18, of 1960 Blacks Drive. Williston, was arrested

BCSO for Unlawful Communications. Cobb was booked and released to

Larry Dennis Craddock, 28, of 351 Elberta Lane, Barnwell, was arrested on November 23, 2022 and November 24, 2022 by Barn- the City Limits and Public well Police Department 15, 2022 by the Barnwell BCSO for Criminal Do- (BPD) for Grand Larceny was booked and released and Use of a Vehicle without Consent, respectively. Craddock was booked and released to BCDC.

> Ra'Marja Daniels, 19, of 2788 Highway 37, Williston, was arrested on November

0066 Ellenton Street, Barnwell, SC

HOLIDAY HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sat. 8:30 a.m. to 5:30p.m.

nal Sexual Conduct. Daniel was booked and released to BCDC.

Robert Allen Davis, 26, of 131 Rose Street, Barnwell, was arrested on November 25, 2022 by BPD for Discharging a Firearm in Disorderly Conduct. Davis to BCDC.

Harry Dukes, 41, was arrested on December 4, 2022 and December 5, 2022 by Williston Police Department (WPD) for Trespass of Real Property. Dukes was booked and released

ford, 25, of 563 Telfair Drive,

for Driving with an Unlawful Alcohol Concentration. Ledford was booked and released to BCDC.

John Daniel Moore, 35, of 1212 Still Road, Barnwell, was arrested on December 17, 2022 by BCSO for Use Nicholas Joseph Led- of Vehicle without Permis-Williston, was arrested on Moore was booked and December 3, 2022 by WPD released to BCDC.





(803)259-5524

Toy giveaway brings smiles to children

Alexandra Whitbeck

Reporter reporter@thepeoplesentinel.com

The community came out for Maurice Austin's 3rd Annual Toy Giveaway held at Ned Branch Missionary Baptist Church on December 17.

Children in the City of Barnwell took pictures with Santa, ate catered food, got their face painted, and participated in festivities before the toy giveaway.

"You made so many kids smile today. Thank you for coming back to your hometown and giving back. You are such a blessing to others," said Debra Kearse Young of Austin. Young is a member of Ned Branch.

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Maurice Austin (center) brought smiles to the faces of Children posed for photos with Santa Claus after receiving free toys at the annual event.

children at his annual toy giveaway in Barnwell.

City of Barnwell Mayor Marcus Rivera read a Christmas story.

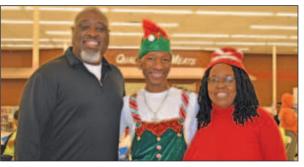
Mayor Rivera thanked Austin for the "work and love you've displayed to this community." He also thanked Ned Branch for their efforts in reaching out into the community.

Save the Children provided free books and CAN Community Health provided free healthcare information and resources.

Austin hopes to open this event to the entire county in coming years.



ABOVE & BELOW: Volunteers display some of the toys that were given to children at the toy giveaway.



Pastor Bobby Dukes and Debra Kearse Young of Ned Branch Missionary Baptist with Maurice Austin (center).



803-266-2290

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of the staff at Folk Funeral Home, Inc. and Crematory



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Cantata spreads Christmas spirit in Jonathan Vickery Publisher

jvickery@thepeoplesentinel.com

The inaugural Allendale County Christmas Cantata ushered in the Christmas season with music.

The event was held Dec. 15 on the lawn of the historic Allendale County Courthouse. It was hosted by courthouse employees.

"Christmas is very special time of year, regardless of our religious beliefs, because it's a holiday built around our families. Our cantata is meant to bring everyone together and will become an annual event here at the courthouse where we can come together to celebrate as one family despite our differences and distances," said Tawni Major, who helped organize the event.

Allendale County Auditor Crystal Isham encouraged those in attendance to prepare their ears and hearts for the beautiful sounds of the live entertainment, which reminds us of "the birth of hope, love, and God's forgiveness in our hearts."

New Allendale County Administrator Bert O'Rear said Christmas brings a general feeling of goodwill toward all men that makes people more charitable, polite, and neighborly.

"Christmas is a wonderful holiday, a great season, and a fabulous time for joy, peace, and love. It is not simply a commemorative holiday, but is a reminder to all of us of the death of Jesus Christ on the cross because of our sins. The most valuable gift man ever received from God was the gift of eternal life," said O'Rear.

On behalf of the organizers and county, Major thanks everyone for making the first cantata a success. They hope it will get bigger and better next year.

Photos by: Jonathan Vickery / Publisher



A free meal was served to everyone inside the courthouse following the cantata.



Tawni Major (right), an organizer of the Christmas Cantata, hands out programs to attendees of the event.



Allendale County Auditor Crystal Isham is pictured with her son, Aidan, who read a Christmas poem.



The Modern Daze Band performs Christmas favorites at the cantata.



Alice Kirkland was excited to see Santa (Keith Smith) at the cantata.



Decorated Christmas trees adorn the lawn of the Allendale County Courthouse. They were decorated as part of a contest.



Valerie Chess Smith, the newly-elected treasurer for Allendale County, proudly holds the poinsettia she received as the first place winner of the Christmas tree decorating contest. Not pictured: Second place winner Sabrina Albany and third place winner Amanda



The Allendale County Mass Choir performs Christmas songs at the



Hattie Jackson, an employee of the Allendale County Assessor's Office and member of Allendale City Council, dances with Santa as the Modern Daze Band performs "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" Also pictured is Allendale County Clerk of Court Elaine Sabb (left).



Residents listen to a performance by the Modern Daze Band.



ounty council remembers Judge Larry Inabinet

Alexandra Whitbeck Reporter reporter@thepeoplesentinel.

The Barnwell County Council met for the last time under the guidance of current Chairman Harold Buckmon before the chairman seat rotates to Vice Chairman Jerry Creech.

Chairman Creech's 2023 Goals

Jerry Creech currently serves as the Vice Chairman of the council, and will soon step into the position of Chairman due to the council's seat rotation every two-years.

hopes to make advancements on a multitude of county-wide projects.

"We're pushing Barnwell County into a modern county," said Councilman Creech at the meeting.

A handful of projects are already underway, and incoming Chairman Creech hopes to either continue or complete many of them. Some of the projects already in progress are work with the S.C. Dept. of Natural Resources to renovate facilities at the state park, create more



County Councilman Freddie Houston presents a Resolution of Recognition to Judith Bolen Inabinet (right) honoring her late husband, the Honorable George Lawrence "Larry" Inabinet. Other members of Judge Inabinet's family include son George Lawrence "Beau" Inabinet, son-in-law Jeremy Wall, and daughter Rachel Wall.

many more.

Incoming Chairman Creech also proposed county projects from funding from the next Capital Project Sales Tax. This includes a new animal shelter, a new coroner's facility, a looped system of water service including Barnwell, Williston, Blackville, and Hilda, expanding the detention center to house more federal inmates, and bringing broadband coverage to the entire community.

recreational opportunities housing federal inmates Commission

In this position, he on Lake Edgar Brown, and would bring more money into the county and would come after extensive conversations with the Barnwell County Sheriff's Department regarding feasibility.

Councilman Daniel Alexander has been looking into the expansion of broadband services in Barnwell County and plans to continue doing so in the coming months. Incoming Chairman Creech hopes this can be handled by 2024.

S.C. American Revo-According to Creech, lution Sestercentennial

A resolution was approved to establish the Barnwell County 250 Committee to organize local events in support of the South Carolina American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission.

The S.C. American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission was authorized in the General Assembly in 2018 and its goal is to celebrate and promote the state's role in the American Revolution by educating, engaging, and inspiring South Carolinians and visitors," according to their website.

This committee will focus on significant events, people, and places in Barnwell County during this historic period.

Although the event itself will not happen until July 4, 2026 and the committee will experience two chairman rotations, Vice Chairman Jerry Creech brought this resolution before council now in the effort to plan ahead.

For more information about this state-wide initiative Barnwell County will play a role in, visit https://www.southcarolina250.com/.

Resolution of Recognition Councilman Freddie

Houston presented a Resolution of Recognition honoring the late Judge George Lawrence "Larry" Inabinet for his service to Barnwell County.

Receiving the plaque were his family; wife, Judith Bolen Inabinet, daughter, Rachel Wall and her husband Jeremy Wall, and son, George Lawrence "Beau" Inabinet.

"Barnwell County Council wishes to express its appreciation for the

many contributions the Honorable George Lawerence 'Larry' Inabinet made through his life and for the examples he set," stated

the resolution. Councilman Houston expressed his personal condolences to the family, and reminisced on some of the many memories he shared with his friend.

Judge Inabinet passed away on November 29, 2022. He left behind a legacy in Barnwell County serving as the Chairman of the Finance Committee at the Williston First Baptist Church and as a Family Court Judge in the Second Judicial Circuit elected in 1983.

2023 Meeting Dates

Below are the regular county council meeting dates for the upcoming year, each is the second Tuesday of the month. These dates were approved at the Dec. 13 meeting: January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12.

Heroes: Fire department recognizes sheriff's deputies for live-saving efforts in line of duty

"Instinct set in and we did what we had to do until the fire department got there," said Washington.

The deputies kept the fire knocked down until Chief Hogg and his wife Teresa arrived in the fire truck to fully extinguish the fire and extricate the driver. Their efforts prevented the victim from suffering serious burns, said Chief Hogg.

water bottles everywhere driver of one vehicle, but Department likes to rec-

"We did what we had to do until the fire department got there."

- 1st Sgt. Freddie Washington,

on using water bottles to stop a fire from seriously burning a man trapped inside a burning wrecked vehicle

when we got there," said also cared for a lady and

The deputies not only "They had 16-ounce helped the trapped male children in the second

The Long Branch Fire

FROM PAGE 1A ognize people outside of the department for heroic efforts. They presented Above and Beyond the Call of Duty awards to the deputies at the fire department's Christmas party on Dec. 17.

"I'm grateful to the Long Branch Fire Department for recognizing them for their bravery and actions that helped save a guy's life," said Barnwell County Sheriff Steve Griffith.

As the holiday season approaches, our hearts are warmed

by thoughts of the many good people we've had the opportunity to serve this year. You've certainly brightened our year! Thank you for your support and loyalty. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.



OPEN: FRIDAY & SATURDAY 1503 Jackson Street, Barnwell PHONE: 803-621-2080 | CELL: 803-671-0467

Barnwell Association **Registration Open**

Registration is underway for the 2023 season for boys and girls (ages 3 to 15)

Sign-ups for baseball and softball will be held every

Tuesday and Thursday between Jan. 3rd and 31st from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

at the Barnwell County Public Library Price depends on age. Cash or check only.

For questions, email

bbsa29812@gmail.com

Corder's Creative Corner: An observation where people are more

David B. Corder Contributing Writer

I don't go into libraries very often. I prefer to buy my books instead of borrowing them. But on occasion, I like to stroll inside an Athenaeum. Being among a great quantity of books tends to relax me. I go to my local library.

Going to the library was my safe space in high school. I'd go every day after lunch and hide among the hallways of shelves. It was quiet, without the annoying abrasiveness of adolescence itching at my ear

teacher's lectures laying siege to the portcullis of my mind. In the library I could take rides on dragons, stalk the shadows with vampires, and scour the woods with a bow in my hand. I could write my dour poems and fantasy stories. The library was a haven.

Some people go to the spa, ies are, as they should be, me, wandering the aisles quiet. And so I go there. Even when I have a break during the school day, I like to retreat behind the walls and hide among the towers bricked together by books. I won't be bothered there.

Which is somewhat unfortunate. You see, the last few

times I've gone into a library, and they have been spread out, sporadic occasions, I assure you, I've made an observation: I am alone among the fortress of tomes. If there are other people in the library with And it still is. Librar- me, they are not beside of books. They are on the computers, or they are at a corner table, charging their phone while they scroll through it. They're ignoring the books.

entering an art gallery will change.

enamored with the color of the building's walls than the actual paintings that have been put on display. They have missed the entire point of coming to the destination in mind. Of course, it's wonderful that there is a free service that provides utilitarian usage of technology for those who don't have access to it. I am not arguing that point. What I'm saying is, the halls of literacy are hollow and casting loud echoes.

As I said: an observa-I find this odd. It's like tion. Hopefully, one that



Williston West Main Complex at West Main Street, Williston, SC **Barnwell Arms Complex** at Thomas Street, Barnwell, SC

Blackville Complex at Hampton Ave., Blackville, SC Branchville Villa complex at Branchville Lane, Branchville, SC **Denmark Gardens Complex at** Fairfax Boundary Complex at Boundary Street, Fairfax, SC

Bamberg Villa Complex at Race Street, Bamberg, SC

Hampton Gardens Complex at W. Holly Street, Hampton, SC

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O'Neal. She's now seeing the grandchildren of some of her original patients.

"From being your patient to working side by side with you, it has been the best experience ever. You have been there for countless people, patient or not, for the last 30 years and we could not be more thankful for you. You go above and beyond for each and every person you know and even ones you don't know. You are such a ray of sun on cloudy days," said Auburn Walters Ferguson, an employee of Barnwell Pediatrics.

No Place Like Home

As someone who's always lived in bigger cities like Minneapolis, Chicago and Greenville, O'Neal thought Barnwell would be a brief stop in her medical career.

"My husband didn't think I'd ever like a small town," said O'Neal.

Even Moskow knew she planned to work for him for a short while before moving on to Aiken or another bigger city.

But, over time, Barnwell began to feel like home.

She recalls having two flat tires – one in Äiken and one in Barnwell. No one stopped to help her in Aiken, but she said people stopped in Barnwell.

"This is a great town because everybody tries to help one another," said O'Neal.

Eventually, the O'Neals moved from Aiken to Barnwell where they continue to live.

"I never thought I would be here for 30 years. Barnwell became like family. It embraced me and my family. I would not be anywhere else," she said.

After years of investing in the lives of the community's children, the community returned the favor five years ago as she battled uterine cancer.



Santa came to visit Barnwell Pediatrics on Tuesday, December 20. He's pictured above with most of the staff.

Throughout her cancer friend and an inspiration current building after appreciate you and you journey, she was supported by her family, work family, and community. She never had to go alone to her 17 chemotherapy and 28 radiation treatments. People also brought food and made sure she knew how she was loved.

"She never complained. I had to make her take a day off," said Moskow of O'Neal, who only missed a day or two of work during her treatments.

Cancer influenced O'Neal personally and professionally.

"Cancer made me appreciate the little things. Life's too short to worry about this stuff," she said. "It influenced me by being more caring. I pick up on things a lot faster, including if a patient is sad or depressed."

February 15, 2023 will mark five years of being cancer free. That's a major milestone.

"We have all been so blessed to have you in our lives. You are wonderful

as a survivor," said resident Cindy Smoak.

Growth & Gratitude Barnwell Pediatrics opened April 1, 1987 after Moskow saw a need for pediatric care in Barnwell.

He started his career in medicine in 1982 working with his father's family medicine practice in Denmark. After five years of working with his father, Moskow said most of his business was coming from Barnwell County.

"I was told that you can't do pediatrics in a small town, but we gave it a shot," said Moskow. "Healthcare without having to go too far is a huge benefit to a community."

Barnwell Pediatrics began in half of a building near the Barnwell County Hospital. They quickly outgrew their space and purchased the whole building. The addition of more and more patients led to the construction of the current building on Marlboro Avenue in Barnwell 20 years ago. at your job and great as a They plan to expand the

outgrowing the 12-room building, said O'Neal.

The staff has also grown from just two providers (Moskow and O'Neal) to six, plus seven nurses and six other employees. This has helped ease the workload, which used to keep Moskow and O'Neal in the office until 7 or 8 p.m. sometimes.

Reflecting on her 30 years at Barnwell Pediatrics, O'Neal said she's seen many changes, from medications that are no longer used to new technology that has improved efficiency. However, the commitment of O'Neal and the entire staff of Barnwell Pediatrics remains the same.

"I appreciate all patients and their parents for trusting me," she said.

It always makes her feel good when she sees a former patient who overcame health issues or who remembers the impact O'Neal made on their life. She recalls a man she took care of 20 years ago coming up to her recently at CVS Minute Clinic, where she works part-time, to thank her. "He said, 'I

were such a good healthcare provider."

In more recent years, O'Neal said they have seen more children experiencing issues like diabetes and mental health that were once associated with just adults. The effects of COVID have led to a rise in depression and anxiety among children and

She also appreciates her work family for their support and encouragement, especially through her cancer battle, plus Moskow for taking a chance on her 30 years ago.

"Thank you everyone for 30 years of memories! Here's to many more! I am thankful, grateful, and blessed," she said.

She is also grateful to her family for all they've done, including hearing her phone (or pager in earlier years) go off at night, going places with her, and getting stopped by people who ask her medical questions.

"Sam, Sammy and Jordan have been my rocks," said O'Neal.

She and her husband Sam, who now works at

the Savannah River Site, will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary in June 2023. Son Sammy works in the internet technology department for Barnwell District 45 while daughter Jordan is an oncology nurse in Greenville.

New Generation

Though she doesn't see herself retiring for a long time, she acknowledges the importance of training up the next generation of nurse practitioners.

Nurse practitioners can work anywhere with an attending doctor. They take classes about caring and empathy.

"The medical field is always growing. I feel nurse practitioners are going to be primary providers,' said O'Neal.

O'Neal became a nurse practitioner 38 years ago after first working as a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at a Greenville hospital. After five babies died in one week, she knew she needed a change. This led her to complete a one-year program in Asheville, N.C. to become a nurse practitioner.

"We are here to serve people. If you're not in it for that reason, you're in the wrong field," she said.

O'Neal enjoys working with students who are pursuing careers in the medical field. Many leave their time at Barnwell Pediatrics wanting to work with children.

"I feel like I need to give back because I was a student once too. I want them to learn from my experience," said O'Neal, who has had some students follow in her footsteps.

After 30 years of helping the area's children, O'Neal said, "I feel very blessed in my job and being a cancer survivor. God and prayers are what gets me through life."

As a sign in her office states, the Christian and Disney fan relies on faith, trust, and pixie dust.

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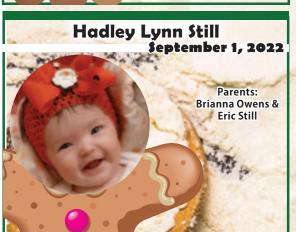
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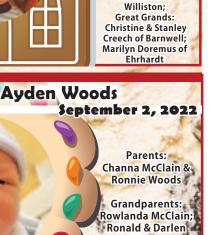












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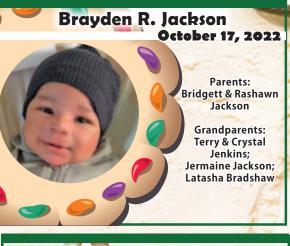




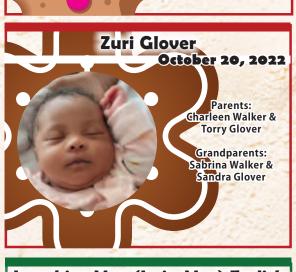


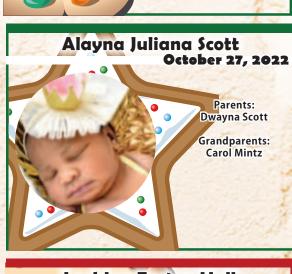






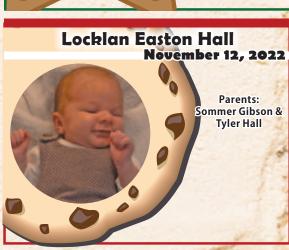


















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Barnwell girls basketball beats North to improve to 7-1

Jeff Miller Sports Writer

1B

The Barnwell Warhorse girls basketball team traveled to North High School Saturday, December 17, looking to improve upon an already strong 6-1 record. The Lady Warhorses did just that, improving to 7-1 by defeating the North Eagles 64-44. The victory marks the sixth straight win for the Horses.

During the six-game winning streak, Barnwell has won five of the six by 20 or more points. That makes six of the seven wins on the season by 20 or more points.

The Horses have been led by the trio of Aushonea Hammonds, Makayla Creech, and J'Nivia Caree, but have gotten contributions from many players. That is one of the reasons Barnwell keeps winning. Opponents can't try to shut down a single player. If they do, another steps up and makes them pay. The Horses have several players that can score, handle the ball, play defense, and get rebounds. Another reason for their success is that Barnwell pressures opponents and gets to the free throw line.

Barnwell Coach William Hammonds said Saturday's win over North was "a great win...It was an opportunity for our young players to gain more experience."

Hammonds will never be happy with what has already happened, but stays focused on what is ahead. When asked about winning several games in a row, he responded by saying, "The team continues to improve and progress. Each week our goal is to find some way to get better."

One week Hammonds mentions the concentration on defensive intensity, another week it is distributing and protecting of the basketball. Hammonds continued saying, "We have to continue to work hard and find ways to improve each time we step on the floor."

As for the season to date, "It's going surprisingly well. Coming in, I wouldn't have thought it, because we play a few young girls, but they are catching on and progressing well," added Hammonds.

Currently, Makayla Creech leads the team in scoring, followed by Aushonea Hammonds, with both averaging more than 11 points per game.



Eriana Abney driving and controlling the ball in a win against

Blackville-Hilda.

Photos Courtesy: Alisha Buxton



Ausheona Hammonds is one of the top scorers and one of the assists leaders for the Horses.

Creech also leads the team in rebounding, followed by Sha'Kai Jefferson. J'Niyia Caree and Hammonds lead the team in assists. Creech leads the team with 70 percent made from the free-throw line, while Caree leads the team from beyond the three-



Barnwell's Makayla Creech drains another jumper and leads the team in scoring.



Coach William Hammonds intensely watches the action during Barnwell's 64-44 win over North.

point line. In addition to the leaders above, Eriana Abney, Kalen Mayes, and Jaiden Devore are all in the team's top three in some category. It is a true team effort, with lots of contributors.

Going into the Christmas break with a 7-1 record is nice. Steadily improving on the small parts of the game is good. Getting contributions from lots of players is great. If you put all these together, and they continue playing together and improving day to day, this could be a very good team and a very special season.



line, while Caree leads the team from beyond the three-is now 7-1 on the season.

The Lady Warhorses have had a lot to clap about during the current 6 game win streak. Barnwell is now 7-1 on the season.

GA/SC BORDER BOWL X PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Jayla Neal, Cheerleader - Barnwell High



Varsity Cheerleader

State Champion Gameday Cheer team member

"Jayla exhibits a level of athleticism that is rarely seen and is greatly appreciated. She never quits and she never stops trying to be better than she was the day before."

- Barnwell Cheer Coach Amy Williams

(Editor's Note: We will feature a different Georgia/SC Border Bowl area player each week.)



James Wooden



WILLISTON - Funeral services for James Fredrick Wooden, 85, of Williston, were held at 2 o'clock p.m., Sunday, December 18, 2022 in the Folk Funeral Home Chapel, Williston, with Dr. Matt Thomas officiating; burial followed in the Williston Cemetery. The family received friends at 1 p.m. until the time of the service on Sunday at the funeral home. James passed away Wednesday, December

14, 2022. Born in Rossville, GA, he was the son of the late Fredrick Monroe Wooden and Lilly Faye Bell Wrape and was married to

Phyllis Phillips Wooden. James was a member of Delary Baptist Church, Rock Spring, GA. James was a member of the CB Radio Club, networking with other CB enthusiasts while raising money for people in need. He previously worked as a heavy equipment operator and retired from SRA Track at SRS. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and his horse, Jet. James especially loved his grandchildren and spending time with them.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis Phillips

Town of Blackville

St. James Anglican Church

Christmas Program

150 Pascallis Street

150 Pascallis Street

Christmas Eve Service

St. James Anglican Church

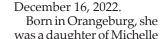
Wooden of the home; stepdaughters, Donna Lambert of Landrum and Connie Lambert (Edward) Kizer of Williston; grandchildren, Eric Lambert, David Grinnell and his fiancé Maryanne, Casey Lambert and his fiancé Laura Hill, Michala Grinnell, Seth Grinnell, Isaiah Matthew Grinnell, Luke Grinnell, Chelsie Kizer, Sadie Grinnell, and Connor Kizer; and numerous cousins he dearly loved.

He was preceded in death by his step-son, James Henry Lambert.

Folk Funeral Home, Inc. and Crematory assisted the family with arrangements. Visit the online registry at www.folk funeralhome.com.

> The People-Sentinel 12/21/22

Sydney Joyner



BARNWELL - A pri-

vate family service for

Sydney Ann Joyner, 20, of Barnwell, will be held

Thursday, December 22,

2022 in the Folk Funeral

Home Chapel, Williston,

with the Reverend Don

McCormack officiating.

Sydney passed away on

was a daughter of Michelle Lynn Fail Mansfield. She attended Barnwell High School and was a middle school and high school cheerleader. Sydney always had a great smile and a loving personality. She loved her family and especially her son, Nolan.

Survivors include her mother, Michelle Mansfield of Barnwell; her son, Nolan Tyler Still of the home; brothers, Larry B. Joyner III and Logan Lewis Joyner, both of Olar; grandmother, Christine "Nana" Singletary of Barnwell; grandfather, Ronnie Fail of Olar; great-

grandparents, Bobby and Rita Fail of Olar; uncle, Dustin (Britt) Croft and their children Landon, Weston, and Hayden; great uncles, Toby (Wanda) Singletary and Marion (Lisa) Singletary; and a number of cousins.

She was preceded in death by her great grandparents, Ted and Jo Single-

Folk Funeral Home, Inc. and Crematory is assisting the family with arrangements. Visit the online registry at www.folk funeralhome.com.

> The People-Sentinel 12/21/22



To promote your event, email the information to jhowell@thepeoplesentinel.com or fax it to (803) 259-2703.



Town of Barnwell Christmas Eve Service **Holy Apostles Anglican** Church in Barnwell 1706 Hagood Avenue

<u>Dec. 25</u> Christmas Day Service St. James Anglican Church 150 Pascallis Street 10:30am

Dec 22

6:30pm

Dec 24

11pm

Auditions Jan 9, 10, 12 Circle Theatre of Barnwell is holding auditions for its production of "My Fair Lady" at the old Barnwell 6:30pm Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. They are looking for men and women (all ages), teens (16 and up)

in some ensemble singing. Auditioners are asked to come prepared to sing something of their choosing (to help us determine voice range/quality). No monologues are necessary as they will be doing cold reading from the script.

Meetings

Barnwell Development **Association:**

Annual Emancipation Day Program

Hosted by the Barnwell-Blackville Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. Macedonia Missionary **Baptist Church** 3572 Dexter Street10am

Town of Hilda

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Dec 22 **Christmas Parade** At the Depot 6pm

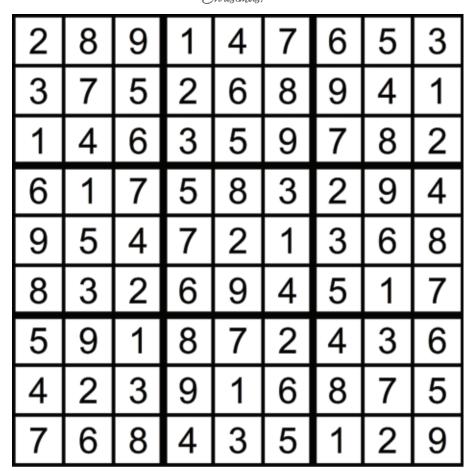
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small businesses in Barnwell County. 20 Wall St, Barnwell 8:00am

<u>3rd Wednesdays</u> The Barnwell Non-Profit Roundtable

All Non-Profits are invited to attend to get to know various organizations and serve our community. We discuss problems, hopes, what's orking and what 218 Main St. Barnwell, SC 8-9am









to fill various roles. Lead

parts (solos/duets/trios).

Everyone will be involved

roles will have singing

BARNWELL GOVERNMENT



Barnwell County Holiday Hours

For the Landfill and **Convenience Centers**

Saturday, Dec. 24

Convenience Centers Open 7 am to 1 pm Landfill closed

Monday, Dec. 26

Convenience Centers and Landfill open routine hours

Saturday, Dec. 31

Convenience Centers open 7 am to 7 pm Landfill open 8 am to noon

Monday, Jan. 2

Convenience Centers and Landfill open routine hours

Barnwell County Offices

Friday, Dec. 23 – Closed Monday, Dec. 26 – Closed Tuesday, Dec. 27 – Closed Monday, Jan. 2 – Closed



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Two alumni, one student receive Hawk of the Year awards

Contributed Hawk of Year Foundation

The newest Hawk of the Year recipients include two Blackville-Hilda alumni and one current student.

Charles Dowling, Jamie Simmons, and Jordan Gibson are the 2022 recipients of the award, which was started in 2015 by Blackville-Hilda High School alumni Mrs. Eartha Jones-Rice

(Class of 1984) and the late Mr. Andre Jamison (Class of 1985).

"Our foundation highlights recipients that work behind the scenes doing, but not limited to volunteering their time, resources, guidance, prayers, and donations; making the athletes feel

Hawks Hit id was also a e all-conferences currently a member of Blackville-Hilda Athletic Booster Club and supporter of various community services.

Jordan Gibson, a current student at BHHS, is the second 2022-2023 Hawk of the Year recipient. He previously held the role of president of the Future Business Leaders of America at Blackville-Hilda High School. He is

filda Hawk," BHHS yearbook committee, as well as a former game recorder. He is a proud and devoted mem-ber of Macedonia Misneur and sionary Baptist Church ilda High in Blackville under the Dr. Floyd Hughes Sr. Gibson is very active in the Blackville community and surrounding areas as he keeps everyone inaseball and track. He is formed on social media and is involved in various acts of community service. He also serves as the social media coordinator for the Tiffany Grant Foundation.

The third and final recipient of this year's award is Jamie Simmons, a BHHS alumna of the Class of 2000. She is a mother of three, including Malik Daniels (former 2020 BHHS football very proud of being a a former member of the player #52), Tamari Dan-

2022-2023 Hawk of the Year recipients are (left to right): Jordan Gibson, Jamie Simmons, and Charles Dowling. Contributed Photo

iels (current Blackville football player #10) and Traden. Simmons earned her associates degree in Human Services and has been a Licensed Certified

My name:

over 17 years. She works to the local high schools for the Barnwell County Consolidated School District. She is very active in the community and gives donations to feed the Nursing Assistant for homeless, donates water

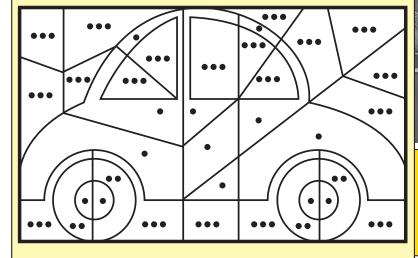
in the county, is a part of the football moms booster club and helps with feeding, and provides donations to the recreational department.

Newspaper reading adventures for little learners!

Vol. 22 No. 3 © 2022 by Vicki Whiting, Editor

Count and Color

Color the spaces with • RED. Color the spaces with • BLUE Color the spaces with ••• YELLOW.





My Rhyme Time

Beep beep, beep beep! The horn in my car goes beep beep! One beep, two beep, three beep four! Beep one more and open the door.

Learning Buddies: Spell your child's first name, using the lines to write large letters. Use an uppercase letter for the first letter in the name and lowercase letters to spell the rest. Have your child trace the letters with a finger, **My Letters**

C is for Car c is for car



Learning Buddies: Read the two phrases aloud. Have your child read with you. Trace the uppercase and lowercase letter **C**. Say the letter as you trace it.

How many words or pictures can you find on this page that start with the C sound like the word car?

My Numbers

How many

How many

How many ?



Trace and say the number. Read the

My Sentence Learning Buddies: Read the first part of the sentence aloud. Ask your child to think of a way to finish the sentence. Write your child's words in the lines. Read the entire sentence to your child while pointing out that reading is done from left to right. Older children may want to trace all or some of the letters in the sentence.





Point to the number

1 in the newspaper.

number and, if it's large enough, have your child

trace the number.



Sunday

Letter Identification With your child, look

through the newspaper to find pictures of things that begin with the same sound as the letter **C** in

Learning Buddy Sign Here

leted _____ activities with my Learning Buddy. I have completed _

Learning Buddy's signature

Monday Tuesday

Math Play

C-to-c Dot-to-Dot With your child, find and circle six uppercase Cs Have your child say the

on one sheet of the newspaper. On the same page, find and circle six lowercase cs. Have your child connect the "dots" to make a silly picture.

Wednesday

Count the Cars

Look through today's newspaper and count the number of cars pictured. Next count the number of wheels you see. Then count the number of doors you see pictured. Point out that the word **count** starts with the same sound as

the word car.

Thursday

AKE

Cut out the letters A and K and E from the headlines. Then cut out the letters, C, T, M and L. Show your child how you can spell the words
CAKE, TAKE, MAKE,

and LAKE simply by changing the letter in front of the AKE

Friday

Page Scramble

Show your child how the pages of the newspaper are numbered. Then mix up several pages of the paper. Have your child put the pages back in order.

Saturday

Same and Different

Find and cut out two

pictures of transportation Examples are: bus, train, car, plane, boat. With your child, talk about the two kinds of transportation. Find three ways they are the same and three ways they are different.



Kid Scoop Junior comes out once a week, but you can use the newspaper every day to prepare your child for success in school. Each daily activity focuses on a specific learning readiness skill. Step by Step Success 1. Read the activity instruction aloud. 2. Show how to do the activity by doing it yourself first. 3. Ask your child to copy what you do.

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