



Local athletes compete in annual Border Bowl, Sports, B1

Potential building sale jeopardizes Allendale non-profit,



Allendale County News, B4

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Dollar General robbery deemed inside job

Alexandra Whitbeck
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The Blackville Police Department (BPD) found the Dec. 28, 2022 Dollar General robbery to be an inside job and have arrested all individuals involved including a clerk and former employee.

Katovius Raheem Sincino, 26, of Blackville, was charged with armed robbery, possession of a firearm in a violent crime, and

possession of a firearm as a convicted felon.

According to BPD, Sincino entered the store around 9:30 p.m. wearing a black leather jacket and khaki pants. He then pointed a black semi-automatic pistol at the clerk, Curtis Wayne Gilyard Jr., who was later found to be a part of the crime.

"The employee and the other two conspired to rob the Dollar General while the employee was working. He was part of the plan," said BPD Lieutenant Brian Gray.

Gilyard, 25, of Blackville, was charged with robbery and criminal conspiracy.

While inside, Sincino took money from the drawer and the safe.

Also involved was former Blackville Dollar General employee Kyriek Dei'jon Kearse, 25 of Blackville. Kearse was charged with robbery and criminal conspiracy.

A taskforce of BPD officers were assigned to look for these individuals after all three arrest warrants were obtained.



Curtis Wayne Gilyard Kyriek Dei'jon Kearse Katovius Raheem Sincino

Gilyard and Kearse were arrested on the afternoon of January 3 by BPD at the Hampton

Apartments in Blackville.

See ARRESTS, 8A



Photos By: Jonathan Vickery / Publisher

Dwayne Searson (right), senior district manager for Boddie-Noell Enterprises, owner of the Barnwell Hardee's, presents Brenda Dukes a plaque in recognition of her retirement after 43 years of service.

Hardee's general manager retires after 43 years

Jonathan Vickery
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A part-time job turned into a 43-year career. Brenda Dukes, general manager of the Hardee's in Barnwell, retired on Dec. 30, 2022, after 43 years with the company. Though she was too young to work when Hardee's first opened its Barnwell location in 1972, she was hired in April 1979, just before she graduated from Barnwell High School. She worked part-time the first year while attending Denmark Technical College and Voorhees College, but later moved into a full-time role.

"Hardee's pretty much adopted me from that point on and became a second home. I never thought it would be a career for me. I was just trying to earn some money for school," said Dukes, who lives in Williston. She stayed with Hardee's because they worked her schedule around her classes.

She started as an early morning backline cook, which allowed her to work before school. She later learned to



Jenice Jones is the new general manager of Hardee's in Barnwell.

Williston student charged in bomb threat

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Williston-Elko High School and Barnwell High School each received a bomb threat in the first week of 2023 – one via phone call, and one via text message.

Williston

A bomb threat was made to Williston-Elko High School (WEHS) around 9 a.m. on Wednesday, January 4 resulting in evacuation and charges being brought against the caller.

Barnwell County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) cleared the three Williston schools of any threat with assistance from Savannah River Site (SRS) bomb dogs around noon the same day.

"Nothing was found," said BCSO Chief Deputy Darlene Cook of the alleged bomb.

South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) was brought to investigate the source of the threat as it was made via phone call to the school.

SLED determined the source of the call before 3 p.m. the same day and alongside BCSO, were swiftly able to identify the caller.

A WEHS student was found to be responsible for the bomb threat and was subsequently apprehended and charged for doing so.

This is a felony crime and a non-juvenile would be facing up to ten years in prison. Due

See THREATS, 5A

Barnwell hit by high winds, not tornado

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Straight line winds whipped through Barnwell County on Wednesday, Jan. 4, leaving damage as tornadoes touched down in surrounding counties.

"The weather service got here late yesterday afternoon and they surveyed an area they thought could have been one, but it was not," said Barnwell County Director of Emergency Management Roger Riley.

The area in question was between Williston and Elko toward the Springfield direction.

"There was no tornado in Barnwell," said Riley.

Although a tornado did not touch down in Barnwell County, the high winds left wreckage.

"Roof damage was the main thing," said Riley. "In Blackville, I probably saw 30-plus homes that were missing some shingles or some tin had blown up on the roof."

Riley also responded to a



This home on Nick Street in Blackville was ripped from its foundation. Contributed Photo

single-wide home on Nick Street in Blackville that had blown three feet off the foundation.

There were reports of a tornado south of Wagener in Aiken County, and three tornadoes touched down in Lexington County with one that traveled into Orangeburg. The last touched down in Calhoun County.

Trees, buildings, and the Old Cotton Pavilion in Salley were damaged in the storm.

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William Anderson Hutto
- Barnwell



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Blackville native named "Rising Star" artist

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MeMe Yahsal may be better known around Barnwell County as Felicia Thompson-Brooks— a little girl who grew up singing gospel in the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Blackville.

Now, Brooks is better known as MeMe Yahsal, and is setting the stage for the southern soul genre on a national scale.

Brooks was awarded as the Next Rising Female Artist at the inaugural 2022 AMG/Southern Soul Life Awards at the Atrium Performing Arts Center in Stone Mountain, Ga. on December 2.

"Southern soul is like a traditional R&B genre of music," said Brooks. "I am hoping I can open doors for the southern soul community so the majority of people know there is another genre of music here to listen to."

After this win, Brooks was inspired to introduce more people in Barnwell County to the depth of the southern soul genre and hopes to maintain the upward trajectory of her music career.

"I've been singing for as long as I can remember," said Brooks, whose interest in music started in her family's quartet group or listening to her parents sing R&B, blues, and gospel in their band.

They were known as The Family Gospel Singers, and the group released two albums before her mother fell ill.

Her parents, Curtis and the late Eartha Thompson of Blackville, played a fundamental role in her passion for music.

Although her stage has changed from her familial choir and church in Blackville to larger venues, Brooks still makes music alongside her family members known as the 803 Soul Band.

"We all collab together," said Brooks, who is the oldest of her siblings.

Brothers Anthony D. Brooks, Tionne L. Brooks, Tarrence "T Da Wizard" Thompson of Go Brickhouse Production LLC, and sister Tomeka Wright are all singers who play an essential role in producing and promoting music by MeMe Yahsal.

Her siblings were a major influence in Brooks' return to the spotlight, a place she withdrew from years ago.

"I stopped singing for a while to raise my daughter, and then my mother passed and I completely stopped singing," said Brooks.

Brooks got back into southern soul in 2019, right before the COVID-19 pandemic, and had no idea where her career was headed given the circumstances.

"I didn't know that my



Contributed Photo

Blackville native Felicia Brooks (left), otherwise known as MeMe Yahsal, accepts the award for Next Rising Female Artist at the inaugural 2022 AMG/Southern Soul Life Awards at the Atrium Performing Arts Center in Stone Mountain, Ga. on December 2, 2022.

music would take off, but I got on the charts," said Brooks.

Brooks' debut album, 'Just Being MeMe - Southern to my Soul' was re-

leased in 2020, and has eight songs available on Apple Music.

'Eye Candy,' a song on her debut album, now has over a thousand views on

YouTube. This song was also named a 2020 Best Debut Finalist by Daddy B. Nice's Southern Soul RnB.

Daddy B. Nice's South-

ern Soul RnB Top 10 "BREAKING" Southern Soul Singles Preview of the top ten in July 2022 featured Brooks' single 'Hard Working Brutha.'

These charts were the confirmation Brooks needed to know she was on the right path as a singer and songwriter.

Brooks looks up to the late and iconic Marvin Sease, a Blackville native who was a major voice in the southern soul genre and started as a gospel singer, similarly to her.

Sease is known for his 1986 album 'Ghetto Man' which started his professional career both locally and nationally.

Following in Sease's footsteps, Brooks too does shows at home such as performing at the Blackville Music and Arts Festival in recent years and holding a private show back in March.

From here, Brooks hopes to continue hearing her music on the radio and opening the door for other southern soul artists in Barnwell County. She will also be performing a springtime 2023 show in Canada.

Brooks hopes anyone who remembers her singing in church will give her music a listen.

To listen to MeMe Yahsal, visit Apple Music, Spotify, YouTube, Facebook, TikTok or Instagram all under 'MeMe Yahsal,' or call (803) 480-9618.

Soup kitchen receives \$20,000 donation

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A \$20,000 donation is helping a soup kitchen continue its mission to feed people physically and spiritually.

The Barnwell Community Soup Kitchen received a \$20,000 donation from the Crane Fund for Widows and Children. This fund is administered by the Crane Company, which has a plant in Williston.

"Grateful doesn't seem to be big enough. They have supported us for several years, but we've never received a donation this size," said Soup Kitchen Coordinator Sherrie Still of how the maximum donation was

\$5,000 when they first started receiving donations from Crane.

This donation will help the soup kitchen continue to serve their clients five days a week. They currently serve 75 to 125 people every week. In addition to providing a nutritious meal, the soup kitchen has pastors speak.

"We feed them spiritually as well as physically," Still said.

Crane not only donates money to help the soup kitchen, but several employees donate their time by volunteering once a month at the soup kitchen.

"Having money is great because the ministry needs money to function; however, without people to come in and serve, the ministry wouldn't exist," said Still. "Crane not only met



Contributed Photo

Sherrie Still (center), coordinator of the Barnwell Community Soup Kitchen, accepts a \$20,000 check from Jeannine Fulmer (left) and Teresa Navarro (right) from Crane in Williston.

our needs in a monetary way but actually became a physical partner."

Still said they always need more volunteers to partner with them, even for just one day per month. Churches, businesses, and individuals are welcome. Volunteering at the soup kitchen is a great way for students to earn community service hours.

"Without people like that we would not exist," she said.

The Barnwell Community Soup Kitchen is open Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It is located in the activity center of Barnwell First Baptist Church (161 Allen Street, Barnwell).

For more information on the soup kitchen, including how to donate or volunteer, call (803) 671-0022 or email barnwellcsc@gmail.com.



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4 cousins share love of public service

Jonathan Vickery
Publisher

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Four cousins are serving their respective communities as elected officials.

Jimbo Moody, 55, was elected to Barnwell City Council in 2019 while his brother John, 52, was elected mayor of the Town of Hilda in Nov. 2021. Their first cousin Eric Moody, 50, was elected to Williston Town Council in 2013 while first cousin Matthew Connelly, 49, was elected to Allendale County Council in 2020.

"I think we're all in it for the same reasons," said John, who works in the IT department for Barnwell School District 45.

Elaborating on those reasons, Jimbo said, "To make it better, make a difference."

"We are trying to shape the future of our communities," said Eric, who works at the Savannah River Site.

The four men come from a close family that includes 10 first cousins. They are grandchildren of the late Amelia Zorn Moody of Barnwell.

"Amelia Moody would be proud of her grandkids," said Jimbo, who works at Archroma in Martin (Allendale County).

Growing up in Barnwell County, the cousins never imagined they would one day seek public office.

"I thought we'd support our community



Eric Moody, John Moody, Matthew Connelly, and Jimbo Moody share more than their family connection. They also share a love for helping their communities by serving as elected officials.

Jonathan Vickery / Publisher

"We are trying to shape the future of our communities."

- Williston Town Councilman Eric Moody, on why he and his three cousins ran for public office

in other ways; I never thought we'd talk politics," said Eric.

However, that's exactly what happened as the cousins were elected to office one by one.

"None of us really had any government experience but we are all people persons," said Matthew, a third-generation farmer in Ulmer.

They are now using those people skills and their love for their small towns to help move their communities forward.

"In any public position, you must be a people person so people know they can come to you with ideas and concerns.

We want to hear people's ideas and concerns so we can come together as a community," said John.

Along with his council, John has sought to improve morale and communication. They've worked to do that by launching a newsletter and holding events like the 125th anniversary festival and Christmas tree lighting.

"I love Barnwell. I want to make a difference and revive our city. We need to get our youth back involved with things because they seem to have lost touch," said Jimbo, who is also on the county's recreation committee.

Being part of the city's police committee, including doing ride-alongs, has given Jimbo a "new perspective of what they (law enforcement) really do."

Eric loves the small town feel that Williston offers, though he knows some people believe there's nothing to do.

"I've always been taught to try to leave things better than I found it," said Eric, who also serves on the Barnwell County Economic Development Corporation board.

That's why he and other town leaders have placed a big focus on water infrastructure. A \$400,000 grant was se-

cured which led to a lower ISO rating - a measure of a fire department's ability to serve its community. However, leaders know there is more work to be done.

The Town of Williston also sees recreation as a priority. Though there's no longer a pool, putt-putt, and shuffleboard as Eric remembers from his childhood, the town has an 18-hole disc golf course and hopes to soon have pickleball courts. A new recreation and activities committee is looking at more opportunities.

In Allendale County, Matthew said he and his fellow council members

do a good job of working together. They are looking to improve services and employee morale. He's also excited about their new county administrator.

"Success breeds success," said Matthew, who will be chairman this year.

A key to that success is public participation. This includes residents attending council meetings and offering feedback, as well as various groups working together.

"We encourage the public to give clear communication to council of what you'd like to see," said Jimbo. "The city gives to the people and the people give back to the city."

"We've got to work together for a common goal," said Matthew.

Attending council meetings is how Eric first got involved. After seeing things he wanted to change, he decided to run for a seat.

Barnwell City Council meets the first Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. while Williston Town Council meets the second Monday at 6:30 p.m. Hilda Town Council meets the second Tuesday at 7 p.m. and Allendale County Council meets the third Thursday at 6 p.m.

Jimbo, John, Eric, and Matthew don't profess to know everything or to always make the right decision.

"I'm still learning," said Matthew.

Their public service is guided by their united mission to help their respective communities.

Corder's Creative Corner: 'Writing makes me happy'

David B. Corder
Contributing Writer

Over the years, people have ridiculed or mocked me for some of the things I've written.

During my freshman year of college, I wrote a Young Adult story about a goth girl being beaten up in a bathroom, and it was eviscerated with harsh criticisms by a group of upperclassmen who read it.

I had a girlfriend who was worried about my "spirituality" after she

read a murder-mystery story I wrote.

I have people close to me who give me incredulous looks when I tell them that I write stories about elves.

Now, granted, not everything I write is Pulitzer-Prize-winning material. But all of the stories mentioned above all have one thing in common: writing them made me happy.

Over the holidays, I was reminded of just how much writing makes me happy as I've been in the process of

compiling something special. Earlier in 2022, I said I was working on a book, and I still am. But from working on that book, something else came about: lots and lots of short stories. Stories about sword-wielding elves, bloodthirsty vampires, and dark assassins in the night. They're stories that I'm enjoying writing, and that can't be taken for granted, because it's a huge motivation. For the past couple of weeks, I've been writing like a mad hurricane.

So, I've been happy. I've worked on various projects over the past couple of years, but something about these particular stories have made me more engaged with writing than I have been for a long time. I'm so excited about these tales that I get up in the middle of the night to work on the stories till 2 a.m., because I just can't stop. The stories are dancing around in my head, begging to be let out, and I can't deny the Muse when she comes knocking. I have to put

the stories down on paper. I have to bring them to life.

I think one reason I'm so motivated is because I plan to self-publish these stories. I don't want to throw my children to the vicious dragons that are traditional publishers. And because I'm going to self-publish, I'm working for myself. I'm doing what I want to do, and that's such a huge reward in itself. As Bill Watterson, the creator of Calvin and Hobbes, once said, "It's surprising how hard we'll work when

the work is done just for ourselves."

Truly, it is. As long as you're happy with what you create, who cares about what other people say?

If you'd like to learn more about David, visit his website at cordersbookcorner.blogspot.com. There you can read short stories and other articles as well as sign up for his monthly newsletter in which you will receive writing updates, exclusive snippets of current projects, and more! You can also email him at dbcorder-writer@gmail.com.

HealthWise Family Practice Is Proud To Welcome SHENIKA CARTER, C.N.P.

Shenika earned her graduate degree at Chamberlain College of Nursing in Illinois. She has over 15 years of experience in the medical field, that expands into primary care, medical surgical nursing, critical care, and long-term care experience.



Shenika was born and raised in Williston. She enjoys engaging members of the community to bring awareness to preventive health.

Her motto is "Health is wealth." Knowing that whether it's rainy or sunny outside, annual physicals and preventative health is very important to living a healthy life.

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Mind Matters Column

New Year's Evolutions



Dr. Greg Smith

Aiken-Barnwell Mental Health

I listened to the Hidden Brain podcast this past week and heard some interesting things from University of Missouri psychologist Ken Sheldon. The episode was titled "Who Do You Want to Be?" He made the point that as children, we are indoctrinated for up to two decades by parents, schools, churches, and other institutions who try to instruct us on how to make decisions that will put us on the right trajectory to be successful, by whatever yardstick they happen to use. Most of us feel at least a little self-doubt, fear, and find ourselves second guessing some of our decisions going forward, and that can lead to periods of struggling. Our early passions in life many times get pushed aside as we learn and are told how to achieve, pass tests, gain certificates and awards, and become certified, vetted and sanctioned on our way to being successful adults. Our intrinsic motivation, which comes from that primitive passion, that inside curiosity and interest, sometimes gets squashed by extrinsic motivators. These lead to satisfaction that comes after you have done the thing and achieved the goal but sacrifices the pleasure of the journey that got you there.

Sheldon said that to really decide what you want to do with your life, it makes sense to examine your internal likes, desires, motivations, and propensities, while holding at bay any shrill external incentives and drivers of behavior. To achieve a state of self-concordance, he purported, it is necessary to ask yourself a very conscious question, and then give your unconscious mind plenty of time and space to work on that question. Have you ever had one of those "Aha!" moments? I have. They come only after your unconscious has had plenty of time to work on a problem, then present the best solution to your conscious self to further peruse, digest and act on, or not. Discovering what we really want is truly a creative activity! Sheldon said that asking ourselves a series of conscious questions may set our unconscious minds working for us and allow good alternative solutions to problems to bubble up where

they can be used. Listening to yourself with something as simple (and complex!) as mindfulness meditation is one way to hone this skill.

Another wonderful concept that Sheldon discussed in this podcast was identified motivation. This basically means that when your intrinsic or internal motivation starts to fizzle, identified motivation shows how this activity or project or goal is very important to you, how it expresses your values, and why you must see it through. "It believes in the journey, even when the journey is painful."

Now, this being New Years, with all the hoopla and pressure around making resolutions, this podcast stirred my own thinking on this topic. How does all this information translate to resolutions or goals for the new year? It prompted me to ask a series of questions, of myself and of you as we head into 2023.

What are we striving for? What intrinsic motivation is pushing us forward?

How can we hold all the extrinsic pressures at bay? In the new year these might include ads, commercials, family, friends, and coworkers)

Can you allow your unconscious mind as much time as it needs to work on your hard questions, not just make snap decisions on one particular calendar day?

Instead of making a resolution, can you ask yourself an important question on New Year's Day, then allow your unconscious mind plenty of time to incubate the various answers until that "Aha!" moment arrives?

Can you use identified motivation to make sure your resolve to continue an activity or reach a goal that is important to you does not wane, but continues "even when the journey gets painful"?

Finally, I believe after thinking about these issues that New Year's resolutions may actually be longer term evolutions, thoughtful, emotionally aligned processes instead of off the cuff, externally driven promises that are forgotten long before February first. Ask yourself the questions I outlined above. Think deeply about your passions. Let your unconscious provide you with well advised solutions to complex problems. Then, enjoy a year filled with positive evolution, not unmet resolutions. You have my permission to take all the time you need.

Homemaker's Column

New Year's Resolutions



Christine Patrick

County Extension Agent

New Year's resolutions, coming as they do after the excesses of the holidays, typically have to do with living a smarter, healthier lifestyle. And the most common resolutions focus on foods and eating habits—resolutions such as "lose weight, avoid fast foods, eat more vegetables, drink more water," and so on.

Since resolving to live a healthier lifestyle is a lot easier than actually putting your resolutions into practice, it's a good idea to look for help and encouragement wherever you can find it. One place to look is a housewares store, kitchen shop, or chef's catalog because buying just a few pieces of low-cost kitchen equipment can help you prepare healthier meals. Here are some ideas:

- With non-stick pans you can reduce the amount of oil needed for cooking. Then use a vegetable oil spray rather than bottled oil to reduce calories from fat.

- A steamer insert is an inexpensive piece of equipment

that will fit into a cooking pot that you already have on hand. Steaming vegetables helps to retain more nutrients than other methods of cooking vegetables, and fat is not needed. You can have similar results cooking many vegetables in the microwave oven.

- A gravy separator can be used to de-grease gravies and sauces quickly, without waiting for the fat to congeal.

- A well-stocked spice rack and an adventurous spirit will help you cut down on added fat too. Take the time to research or experiment with herbs and spices so you'll know which ones pair well with which foods. Knowing, for example, that dill enhances fish, that tarragon is great with poultry, and that rosemary is terrific with pork will make the preparation of healthy dishes easier, faster, and more enjoyable.

- A grill—whether it's the outdoor or indoor (electric) variety—makes fast work of healthy food preparation. Use a fat-free Italian dressing (or other fat-free dressings) to marinate or baste almost any meat or vegetable to be cooked on the grill.

Remember that realistic New Year's resolutions are easier to keep than lofty goals, and small efforts each day can help to form a beneficial habit quickly. If your resolution is "eat smaller des-

serts," you're smart to realize that cutting down on portion size is much more realistic than depriving yourself of something you enjoy.

Remember, too, that along with healthier food choices, adding or increasing physical activity is an important component of living a healthy lifestyle. Simply walking for 30 minutes, five days a week, will help you trim your physique and provide some weight-bearing exercise that bones need.

Adding just a few more steps of walking, several times a day is another easy way to fit physical activity into a busy schedule. When you go to the store, park at the back of the parking lot rather than the front. Take the stairs instead of the elevator. Walk rather than drive, if the distance is reasonable and the weather is nice. Fresh air and sunlight are additional benefits of walking that help us to feel healthier.

Finally, remember that implementing just one small, relatively painless resolution per month can result in a year-long commitment to big changes in your health and well-being.

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Letter to the Editor

To our Barnwell County communities:

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Barnwell County, we want to thank everyone for their generous support during our annual Secret Santa project. Each December, the Rotary Club of Barnwell County provides toys to children whose families are impacted by poverty, unemployment and hard times. Our Rotarians sponsor children themselves or find businesses and friends to sponsor them.

Our Rotary Club founder Paul Harris once said, "Rotary changes us and those we serve. I believe we can change the world one life at a time." As Rotarians, we believe these are powerful words, and we operate our service organization under the motto of Service above Self. It is this spirit of giving and the generosity of so many throughout Barnwell County that make our goals possible. With your

donations, we were able to serve over 300 children countywide this Christmas season, and over \$23,000 was utilized to bring Christmas happiness to those in need.

We want to send a special "Thank You" to all our local volunteers for the services and assistance they provided: from volunteering onsite or helping collect donations to sponsoring a Secret Santa child to assisting us wrapping and handing out gifts to families. Without everyone's support, Secret Santa would not be possible. We had Rotarian volunteers, community volunteers and local student volunteers, and your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We also appreciate our local Barnwell County Department of Social Services working with us to help identify families, the Barnwell County Sheriff's

Department for assisting with logistics, and Barnwell Primary School for providing the location space. We would also like to express our gratitude to The People-Sentinel for helping us advertise the application forms for families countywide.

In closing, we know that it is our supporters who make the Rotary Club of Barnwell County Secret Santa Program possible and allow it to continue its success impacting so many families each year. When the need is there, our communities always step up to meet that need. For that, we couldn't be more grateful! May God bless each of you and the services you provide to so many. We are truly blessed.

Yours in Service,
Rotary Club of Barnwell County Executive Board



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The People-Sentinel

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by Fax: (803) 259-2703

by E-mail: news@thepeoplesentinel.com

or by form e-mail on: www.thepeoplesentinel.com

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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.

Justin Charles Allen, 27, of 295 McDonald Drive, Barnwell, was arrested on December 29, 2022 by Barnwell Police Department (BPD) for Petit Larceny. Allen was booked and released to the Barnwell County Detention Center (BCDC).

Julie Folk Baxley, 48, of 1161 Highway 64, Olar, was arrested on December 16, 2022 by BPD for Forgery. Baxley was booked and released to BCDC.

Kimberly Ann Bolen, 21, of 8206 Highway 39, Williston, was arrested on December 31, 2022 by the Williston Police Department (WPD) for Hit and Run. Bolen was booked and released to BCDC.

Antonio Malcom Brown, 31, of 19705 Solo-

mon Blatt Avenue, Blackville, was arrested on January 4, 2023 by Barnwell County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) for two counts of Failure to Pay Child Support. Brown was booked and released to BCDC.

Justin Demarcus Brown, 18, of 276 Carter Drive, Barnwell, was arrested on December 30, 2022 by BPD for Malicious Damage to Real Property. Brown was booked and released to BCDC.

Darvis Edward Buggs, 19, of 267 Forest Drive, Barnwell, was arrested on January 3, 2023 by the WPD for Driving Under Suspension, Speeding, Unlawful Transportation of Alcohol, and Simple Possession. Buggs was booked and released to BCDC.

Shakyl Chisolm, 28, of 306 Litchfield Street, Apartment #360, Barnwell, was arrested on January 7, 2023 by BCSO for Failure to Appear. Chisolm was booked and released to

BCDC.

Harry O. Dukes, 41, was arrested on December 30, 2022 by WPD for Trespass of Real Property. Dukes was booked and released to BCDC.

Kenneth James Freeman, 52, of 221 Marcia Street, Williston, was arrested on December 21, 2022 by WPD for Shoplifting. Freeman was booked and released to BCDC.

Angela Michelle Grubbs, 42, of 85 Ables Drive, Barnwell, was arrested on January 4, 2023 by BCSO for Failure to Appear. Grubbs was booked and released to BCDC.

Daniel S. Hawkins, 33, of 200 Namons Place, Green Sea, S.C. was arrested on January 6, 2023 by BCSO for Failure to Pay Child Support. Hawkins was booked and released to BCDC.

Nickalas Ryan Horne, 38, of 94 Georgia Avenue, Barnwell, was arrested on December 17, 2022 by BPD for Disorderly Conduct and

Public Disorderly Conduct. Horne was booked and released to BCDC.

Ashley Amanda Kelly, 36, of 200 Sapphire Lane, Barnwell, was arrested on January 3, 2023 by BCSO for Failure to Pay Child Support. Kelly was booked and released to BCDC.

Joseph William Kritt, 32, of 324 Tram Road, Columbia, was arrested on December 25, 2022 by WPD for Harassing/Obscene Telephone Call. Kritt was booked and released to BCDC.

Jamari Wardell Mathis, 19, of 306 Litchfield Street, Apartment #394, Barnwell, was arrested on December 5, 2022 by BPD for Possession of Marijuana. Mathis was booked and released to BCDC.

Cameron Ywain McCollum, 32, of 56 Wildwood Road, Barnwell, was arrested on December 6, 2022 by BPD for Possession of less than one gram of meth or cocaine base.

McCullum was booked and released to BCDC.

Syntav'ion Amori Priester, 18, of 169 Hiott Street, Barnwell, was arrested on December 4, 2022 by BPD for Domestic Violence. Priester was then arrested on December 7, 2022 by BPD for four counts of Burglary and four counts of Petit Larceny. Priester was booked and released to BCDC in both incidents.

Katenia Lashae Rowe, 37, of 169 Hiott Street, Barnwell, was arrested on December 7, 2022 by BPD for Obstructing Justice and Accessory After the Fact. Rowe was booked and released to BCDC.

Aleigh Lashey Thomas, 27, of 306 Litchfield Street, Apartment #370, Barnwell, was arrested on December 9, 2022 by BPD for two counts of Assault & Battery 3rd Degree. Thomas was booked and released to BCDC.

Tyler Orlando Ward, 31, of 295 Ables Drive,

Barnwell, was arrested on January 6, 2023 by BCSO for Driving Under Suspension. Ward was booked and released to BCDC.

Samuel Mathis Wilson, 40, of 6061 Boiling Springs Road, Barnwell, was arrested on January 3, 2023 by BCSO for Domestic Violence of a High and Aggravated Nature, two counts of Assault & Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature, and three counts of Pointing and Presenting a Firearm at a Person. Wilson was booked and released to BCDC.

Demeria Contreal Woodley, 39, of 75 Falcon Street, Blackville, was arrested on December 23, 2022 by WPD for Disorderly Conduct. Woodley was booked and released to BCDC.

Yasmine Lakiwi Workman, 29, of 1534 Red Oak Road, Barnwell, was arrested on January 1, 2023 by BCSO for Burglary. Workman was booked and released to BCDC.

DHEC urges residents to monitor COVID levels

Contributed
S.C. DHEC

As the Palmetto State and the rest of the nation experience an uptick in COVID-19 cases, the South Carolina Dept. of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) encourages residents to track levels of COVID-19 in their counties using the map provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and follow the masking recommendations for high and medium community lev-

els. Currently, all but 2 of South Carolina's 46 counties (Aiken and Barnwell) are experiencing high or medium levels of COVID-19.

"We are seeing significant increases in COVID-19 cases across our state, and we know there are a lot more cases that aren't being reported due to the use of nonreportable home tests," said Dr. Brannon Traxler, DHEC Public Health Director. "Masking remains one of the best ways to limit virus spread and the CDC has a great resource to help determine when to

mask in public."

The CDC's Community Levels Map is updated every Thursday. It currently shows 21 red counties in South Carolina, meaning those with high transmission, and 23 yellow counties, or those with medium transmission.

The red counties are: Cherokee, Chester, Chesterfield, Colleton, Dorchester, Fairfield, Georgetown, Greenville, Horry, Kershaw, Laurens, Lee, Lexington, Marlboro, Newberry, Pickens, Richland, Spartanburg, Sumter, Union,

and Williamsburg.

The yellow counties are: Abbeville, Allendale, Anderson, Bamberg, Beaufort, Berkeley, Calhoun, Charleston, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Edgefield, Florence, Greenwood, Hampton, Jasper, Lancaster, Marion, McCormick, Oconee, Orangeburg, Saluda, and York.

Residents can visit the interactive map or use the county check tool on DHEC's community levels page to view levels in their area. The recommendations based on county levels are:

Low levels: masking is "not needed in most settings," but remains optional for individuals.

Medium levels: individuals who are at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 as well as those who are regularly around immunocompromised individuals are encouraged to mask up, while it is optional for others.

High levels: masking is recommended for everyone in indoor settings, including schools and workplaces.

COVID-19 cases have been on the rise the last several weeks. For the week ending on Oct. 29, DHEC reported 3,459 cases. Numbers have risen almost every week since then, including the most recent week ending on Dec. 31 to-

taling 10,481 cases.

"Fortunately, we have not seen a significant uptick in severe cases, meaning those that end in hospitalizations and deaths," Traxler said. "We want that trend to continue and masking when recommended is an effective way to keep each other out of the hospital and eventually bring case numbers down."

In addition to masking, staying up to date on vaccinations and boosters, as well as testing when recommended, are important steps in preventing COVID-19 spread. For more information, visit <https://scdhec.gov/covid19>.

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Puzzles are on page B4.

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Denmark Gardens Complex at Mimosa Avenue, Denmark, SC

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Threats: Student charged in Williston bomb threat; Barnwell threat under investigation

FROM PAGE 1A

to this individual being a juvenile, the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) will be a part of the criminal process.

The caller will be appearing in court and sentenced for this offense.

"We would like to assure the community that every threat will be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated, and anyone responsible will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. We trust that this arrest will restore a sense of normalcy to the community and our school district and put anyone on notice who is contemplating similar behavior that it will be treated with zero tolerance," stated the Barnwell County Consolidated School District in a press release.

Four buses were sent from Barnwell School District 45 to aid in transporting the students to a safe location while law enforcement cleared the scene. Four regular drivers were sent alongside Director of Transportation, John Hilton.

"All three schools are going to be evacuated for safety," said Roger Riley, Barnwell County Director of Emergency Management.

Parents were then notified by the schools as to the location of their children.

"The BCCSD Board of Trustees and Administration would like to thank Sheriff Griffith and the Barnwell County Sheriff's Department, Chief Gainey and the Williston Police Department, Mr. Roger Riley and the Barnwell

County Emergency Management Team, Pastor Steven Burnette, Pastor Jamie Wootten, BCCSD Faculty/Staff, and Parents and Guardians for the swift response to the unfounded bomb threat," stated BCCSD in the press release.

"We are so grateful that all scholars, faculty, and staff are safe and accounted for. We would like to thank our community members for the unwavering support and for always remaining positive and cooperative as we work through these unfortunate situations," writes BCCSD Interim Superintendent Dr. Marcella Shaw in the Facebook post made by BCCSD.

This is the first bomb threat to WEHS in 2023. In late May of last year, successive threats were made to the high school resulting in canceled senior-year events out of precaution.

Barnwell

A Barnwell School District 45 employee received a text message on the morning of Friday, Jan. 6 alleging there was a bomb in Barnwell High School.

Law enforcement was notified at 10 a.m. and BCSO, the Barnwell Police Department, SLED, and the SRS bomb dog promptly responded. The building was cleared allowing school day operations to proceed as normal.

"We were able to trace it back to a name, but that name was not a person we could pinpoint," said BCSO Chief Deputy Darlene Cook. "It's a

fictitious name, we are sure."

Law enforcement was able to locate the 'name' of the caller around 11 a.m. the same day.

There are a variety of factors to be considered when locating the origin of the text message, which can be sent through a plethora of social media apps that do not necessarily require users to use their own identity.

This stands to be the first threat via text message law enforcement officers and educators have seen in Barnwell County.

Only high school students and staff were evacuated as the text message was specific to the high school. Guinyard Butler Middle School, Barnwell Elementary School, and Barnwell Primary School all entered a soft lockdown.

After receiving the text message, the BSD45 employee notified administration and immediately called law enforcement.

"As always, we are extremely grateful to our school and district staff for initiating our emergency management plans quickly and efficiently," said Barnwell School District 45 (BSD45) in a statement.

"We are so grateful for the Barnwell County Sheriff's Department, our Emergency Management Director and staff, as well as all other emergency personnel who respond so quickly when there is a need. Thank you to everyone! The safety of staff and students is always our utmost priority," said the statement.

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District Governor Bob Gross encourages local Rotarians

Rotary District Governor Robert "Bob" Gross, Assistant District Governor Butch Byron, and District Safety Officer Chief Brett Camp joined the Rotary Club of Barnwell County at the September 22, 2022 meeting.

District Governor Gross was present to address local Rotarians and discuss Rotary International's new theme and priorities for the Rotary year. A member of the Sea Island Rotary Club in Beaufort, Gross has been a Rotarian for 27 years and served in many Rotarian leadership roles, including the Sea Island Rotary Club president in 2006-2007. Currently he serves as the District 7770 Governor, as well as being a 10-Star Rotarian, Paul Harris Fellow, and a member of the Paul Harris Society. As an active Rotarian, he has visited Rotary Clubs in 10 countries and has attended seven Rotary International Conventions.

Gross was in Barnwell visiting with the local Rotary Club as he travels across District 7770 visiting every club that is part of the Rotarian district. Rotary District 7770 comprises the 27 eastern counties of South Carolina (the remainder of the state is in District 7750) and includes 74 Rotary clubs. He spoke about Rotary's seven areas of service: Peace and Conflict Prevention / Resolution, Disease Prevention and Treatment, Water



Rotary Club of Barnwell County President Trish Gordon (right) presents Angela Cotton a pin in recognition of serving as the club's treasurer for 2022-2023.

and Sanitation, Maternal and Child Health, Basic Education and Literacy, Economic and Community Development, and Protecting the Environment. In speaking of the work Rotary does globally and locally, Gross urged Rotarians to give of themselves to exemplify Rotary's motto of "Service above Self."

Gross also shared with local Rotarians the theme for this year's Rotary Clubs - "Imagine Rotary." He encouraged Rotarians, "Imagine a world without polio. Imagine a world with clean water for everyone. Imagine a world free of disease. Imagine a world where every child learns to read. Imagine kindness, hope, love and peace. He said these are what the first female president of Rotary International Jennifer Jones wants Rotarians to imagine."

Another focus of Rotary is clean drinking water for all. Gross shared how Rotary has worked for decades to provide



Rotary District Governor Robert "Bob" Gross encourages members of the Rotary Club of Barnwell County to give of themselves.

people with clean water by digging wells, laying pipes, providing filters, and installing sinks and toilets. Gross said 3.6 million people in the world die from waterborne illnesses. He said this is something the world is suffering from, and every 15 seconds a child dies from a waterborne illness.

Gross explained how Rotary's disaster relief efforts are helping many people impacted by natural disasters and

conflicts. Sharing specifically about ShelterBox USA, Gross explained how Rotary partners with this charitable organization to provide emergency disaster relief to displaced families around the world due to natural disasters and conflicts. Gross has been challenging each club in the district to contribute \$1,000 toward the ShelterBox USA project.

Also during the Rotary meeting, President Trish Gordon presented Rotarian Angela Cotton with her Treasurer pin for serving in that leadership role for the 2022-2023 Rotary year. Gross also congratulated Foundation Chair Jason Stapleton and Rotary President Trish Gordon for the local club's work in achieving 2-STAR status. The 2-Star Award signifies annual Rotary Foundation contributions of at least \$200 per club member. The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.

To learn more about the Rotary Club, visit www.rotary.org. Please contact Rotary Club Secretary Lynn McEwen if you are interested in membership in the local Rotary Club.

BIRTHDAY



Anne Sutton turns 91 years old

The family of Anne Sutton of Williston wish her a happy 91st birthday. Known as "Nanny" to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Sutton was born on January 12, 1932.

BIRTHDAY



Amelia Bragg turns 5 years old

Amelia Kaye Bragg turned five years old on January 10, 2023. She will celebrate with family and friends during a party on Saturday, Jan. 14.

She is the daughter of Ryan and Shanon Bragg of Barnwell. She has three siblings: Sadie, Garrett, and Sonnie. Paternal grandparents are the late Jerry Bragg of Barnwell and the late Debbie Still of Barnwell.

Maternal grandparents are Jeff & Tracy Teems and Kristal Teems, all of Barnwell.

Obituaries

William Anderson Hutto

BARNWELL - William Anderson Hutto, 78, passed away January 6th, 2023. He was born on August 4th, 1944 to the late Pernell and Corine Black Hutto. He was a retired general construction worker and a member of Hilda First Baptist Church.

He is survived by his son, Andy Hutto of Barnwell; sisters, Nancy Hutto Zorn of Barnwell and Marie (Sammy) Hutto Richardson of Barnwell; grandchildren Payton Hutto, Carly Hutto, and Will Hutto; great-grandchildren Aubree

Donaldson and Holland Bragg. He is preceded in death by his brothers, Glen Hutto, Joe Hutto, and John Hutto.

A visitation was held Saturday, January 7th, 2023 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Mole Funeral Home. Funeral services were

Sunday, January 8th, 2023 at 3 p.m. at Hilda First Baptist Church. Rev. Bert Petty officiated.

Mole Funeral Home assisted the family. Sign the online guestbook at molefh.com.

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01/11/23



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Eleanor's Corner

Auxiliary supports Blackville firefighters

Donna-Maria Conzalina
Contributing Writer

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." - Coretta Scott King

Compassionate actions certainly describe the strength of character the Blackville Fire Department Auxiliary (BFDA) represents to this compact community in northeastern Barnwell County.

Renee Chupp, founder of the 10-member BFDA in 2022, is an EMT/First Responder on Blackville's fire department. She's served there for the last four years, changing out air tanks when needed, having cooling rags and water available. "Basically what the BFDA is doing now," she said, staying up to date and in the know is vital so "the training and refresher courses never end."

Chupp started the BFDA because "the need for people to be there for calls, like a big fire. Actually, I kinda got inspired after the big house fire at the end of Lartigue," said Chupp, referring to a fire on Izlar and Jones Bridge Road.

"We didn't have an auxiliary yet and things were kind of dicey, like trying to figure out who does what. How we're getting food to these people. Firefighters and personnel who were working the scene. Police officers and everybody. Nobody really knew what to do. So, after that I decided to get a group together. Start something for when something comes up like that. Have a group of people that are able, trained, to go out and get food if needed or drinks or any kind of relief that the firefighters might need. Miss Anna Jennings from



Blackville Fire Dept. Auxiliary members include (from left): Renee Chupp, Ann Pernell, Suzanne Frederick, Ashleigh Frederick, Ken Frederick, Renae Weaver, Diane Haskins, Kristi Keigler, and Chante Washington. Donna-Maria Conzalina

the Denmark Fire Department, she's head of the auxiliary there; she kind of helped me get my boots on the ground and get started for sure," said Chupp.

Chupp, who always wanted to be an EMT as far back as she can remember, said her "mom's cousin was an EMT and really inspired me plus I was always interested in the medical field." From listening to those youthful stories and working with the local fire department, Chupp was very aware that dehydration and fatigue are major concerns for members of the fire service when battling a blaze. The combination from such an extremely heated environment and protective gear insulating the firefighter can produce dangerous conditions of dehydration and other serious physical impairments which could lead to detrimental effects on a firefighter's health, safety, and performance.

"We go through insane amounts of water and Gatorade." Chupp said.

"Any donations are extremely appreciated from the community. Team member Ann Pernell has been a Godsend. She manages the Williston Dollar General and she's donated tremendous amounts of water, cooling rags, coolers and more to help our firefighters. We are extremely grateful for the community's help. For example, David at Russell's Pizza helps us with a really good deal to get food for the firefighters. Bobby from Subway said, 'Call anytime if they need subs.' It helps us by getting bulk food for those on the scene who are hungry and tired from working long hours. We're an independent volunteer organization, so we just get help wherever we can find it and any type of help is tremendously appreciated."

Fellow BFDA member Diane Haskins, 71, was born and raised in Blackville. She said she joined because she and her husband Jamie, 73, were both EMTs. As she reflected on earlier years, she said, "We did it our-

selves, paid for everything because back then, Blackville didn't have a rescue squad located in town so there were a couple of us who got a used ambulance and we had all of our equipment in it. We stocked it with everything we needed. My husband is still a first responder."

Chupp added, "These days the BFD has a fully-equipped rescue truck with all the tools needed for support. So usually somebody from the fire department takes that truck out to the scene."

BFDA members, however, use their personal vehicles and everything they do for the fire department is strictly volunteer.

Kristi Keigler, whose husband is on the fire department, said, "He told me Renee was starting this and asked if I wanted to join and I did. I really like helping with the fundraisers that we do, like the Taste of Blackville and the 9-11 event."

Renae Weaver voluntarily serves both Den-

mark and Blackville auxiliaries, and said she's "married to the assistant chief, Dylan Weaver, at the BFD and he's also a volunteer firefighter in Denmark." Since she's a mother of three boys and expecting another child, she works more behind the scenes with fundraisers and supplies. The BFDA bylaws state that no children are allowed on the scene.

"I'm really happy with our team. We have a lot of fun together and we work well together," said Chupp. "A lot of times Preacher Ken (Frederick) has done running for us and that's incredibly helpful. He'll go out and get ice or water, drinks, food, or whatever we need. His wife, Suzanne, is also part of the auxiliary and she is extremely helpful in the fundraiser area." The Fredericks' youngest son, Samuel, 22, is also a volunteer firefighter for Blackville and Dorchester County. Sam's wife, Ashleigh, is on the Blackville Fire Department Auxiliary.

The BFDA responds

to alarms anytime of the day or night, providing firefighters with whatever supplies or assistance they may need. "Chante Washington and Stacy, both EMRs, and I are first responders. We're usually on the scene and can manage but we don't usually leave the scene and that's when we call on other auxiliary members to assist," Chupp said. "But when it comes to fundraisers and special events, we all work together. A lot of the fundraisers are for supplies, like purchasing drinks, cooling rags, coolers, etc. for the betterment of the firefighters. The Denmark auxiliary donated a lot to help us get started with our first fundraiser."

The Taste of Blackville and 9-11 fundraisers will be annual events for the auxiliary that the community can look forward to.

"The 9-11 fundraising event at the First Baptist Church in Blackville," said Pastor Ken, "was our first and we were coming off COVID, but we had somebody at church say, 'I didn't realize this was going to be such a big deal.' And that was our first year, so next year it's going to be even bigger. We encourage people to support that and recognize its significance and to know," he laughingly said, "they're going to get the best chicken anywhere around! The chicken was delicious!"

Chupp agreed and said, "We're super grateful for the community showing up. We did really well from their support, and they were gracious with us as we were still working out kinks as we learned from our first events. September 9, 2023 will be our next 9-11 event and we're already looking forward to that."

New garbage company, demolition planned for Blackville

Alexandra Whitbeck
Reporter
reporter@thepeoplesentinel.com

The December 19 Blackville Town Council meeting began with gratitude from the mayor, council members, and the community. First Lady Rita Pernell handed out tokens of holiday cheer to each attendee.

"I'm thankful you're all here tonight to attend our last council meeting of the year," said Mayor Ronnie Pernell.

Garbage Services
Republic Services garbage company is set to terminate their contract with the Town of Blackville effective June 2023. The contract between the garbage company and the town was first established in 2003.

Republic Services has undergone name changes during their time serving Blackville and has gone by Fennell Container and Suburban.

Mayor Pernell is planning to put in a request for proposal for residential garbage services at the start of the new year.

Currently, council is unable to determine future residential or business prices until a garbage company has accepted the town's proposal.

Old Theater Demolition
LRB Site Prep & Hauling, LLC accepted the contract to demolish the old theater located on Solomon Blatt Avenue in Blackville before January 30, 2023.

The bid submitted by LRB Site Prep & Haul-



TNVR program co-director Barbara Christian details the feral cat program to the Blackville Town Council at their Dec. 19 meeting. TNVR was implemented in Barnwell County ordinances earlier this year.

ing, LLC was accepted for \$15,500. Other bids ranged in the \$68,000 range to demolish the building.

Mayor Pernell ensured he would notify the community when the demolition is set to take place, and advised roads will be blocked to allow for the use of heavy equipment.

The Blackville Police Department will be redirecting traffic as needed during the demolition process, according to Mayor Pernell.

Animal Control Policy
Mayor Pernell was undecided if he wanted to address animal control at the meeting due to the high call volume of animal complaints in Blackville.

There is currently no animal control officer in the Town of Blackville. Animal control related issues are handled by the town's public works director and fire chief, Earthel Walker, alongside other buildings and grounds employees.

Mayor Pernell stated

he feels there is a "major problem with animals in the area." He hopes residents abide by the town's ordinances and understand if their animal is picked up by town officials for running at large.

Mayor Pernell explained he and town officials would aim to reconnect stray animals with their owners, if possible, when responding to a call.

He also expressed that Blackville had "very detailed codes" in regard to animal control.

Blackville's animal control ordinance is derived from the 1983 edition of the Town of Blackville Code of Ordinances, and contains structure around dangerous animals and animals running at large.

Any violation of Blackville's animal control ordinances is liable to result in a misdemeanor, according to Chapter 3, Section 214.

Barbara Christian, co-director of the Barnwell

County TNVR program, spoke during public comment about how to handle feral/stray cat colonies.

Trap-neuter-vaccinate-return (TNVR) is a proven method of controlling feral and stray cat populations that recently was approved by the Barnwell County Council.

This program is funded through a \$30,000 grant from the Best Friends Animal Society, and will continue to be funded by outside grants—meaning there is not, and will not be any cost to the town or county to maintain this program.

Christian explained she spoke with Walker about this program and his feelings about implementing it in Blackville. The introduction of TNVR in Blackville would lessen the burden of cat related nuisance calls on Walker and staff.

During public comment, Christian shared the harsh reality of feral cats entering many shelters prior to implementing TNVR programs: "in the front door, killed, out the back door."

Reach out to the TNVR hotline at (803) 450-0499 for more information about the program or to receive assistance in controlling a colony of feral cats.

Newsletter

To add an announcement in the Town of Blackville Newsletter, email vtalston@bell-south.net with the subject line 'newsletter.'

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Barnwell Baseball Softball 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

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Hardee's: Long-time general manager retires after 43 years of service

FROM PAGE 1A

bake biscuits after the biscuit maker left, but later returned to the backline and helped in other areas when needed.

After graduating from college with an associate degree in business, she interviewed for office jobs with several companies. Her manager at Hardee's asked her about moving into management.

"I was young and timid," said Dukes, who didn't think she had what it took to be a manager.

Her manager saw she had the qualities needed to be a successful manager, including a good work ethic. She turned down the initial offer, but accepted it the next time there was an opportunity. Dukes realized her classes had prepared her for this next career move.

"My course study entailed me being good with organization and accounting," said Dukes.

She entered management in 1984 as a shift leader, the entry level of management. She moved to breakfast manager where she opened the store at 4 a.m. but later changed shifts after Hardee's briefly moved to a 24-hour operation. She later became assistant manager, which provided better hours.

"I became more and more familiar with things. I liked working with people on both sides of the counter," she said.

After her general manager left in 1991, Dukes was promoted to the Barnwell location's top leader. Though being general manager meant going in early and leaving late, she had her husband's blessing. She stayed in that position until her retirement.

"Brenda has set an example. She's been like a mother to her Hardee's family. The respect level is mutual," said Dwayne Searson, senior district manager for Boddie-Noell Enterprises, which owns the Barnwell Hardee's and 350 other locations around the country.

"I manage with love. I've tried to lead with a caring heart and treat others with respect. When I correct you or tell you something, you know I want you to be good at what you're doing, even if you don't do it that long," said Dukes.

Just as she's given her job her all, she's also tried to instill that mindset in her employees.

Arrests: Robbery was as inside job

FROM PAGE 1A

Sincino turned himself in the next day on January 4.

"He actually came to the police station and turned himself in," said BPD Captain Lee Huggins.

All individuals have been released to Barnwell County Detention Center. BPD was unable to disclose any further details on the investigation.

Both Sincino and Gilyard have a record of criminal offenses. In 2019, Sincino was charged with second degree burglary and petit larceny, and Gilyard faced domestic violence charges in 2009 and was involved in a hit and run in 2010.

Hours before this robbery took place, the Dollar General in Hilda was robbed around 5 p.m. A gun was not brandished at the Hilda location and the robber did not steal any items as other customers began entering the store.

The Barnwell County Sheriff's Office is actively investigating the Hilda robbery, and believes both incidents may be related.



General Manager Brenda Dukes with some of her employees (past and present) at Hardee's of Barnwell.

"Brenda Tilley Dukes has been a patient, kind, understanding, and definitely caring person for the 15 years I have been working with her," said new general manager Jenice Jones, who was previously assistant manager.

Her coworkers surprised Dukes on Dec. 28 with a party complete with food, cake, and kind words about her impact on them. Several former coworkers also attended, including biscuit maker Liz Ingram and breakfast manager Connie Hammond who both retired in 2022. Searson presented her with a plaque and gift on behalf of the company.

In addition to expecting employees to show up on time and do a good job, Jones said Dukes also had the patience to effectively deal with customers. "Dealing with people most definitely is a challenging job and a lot of people don't have the patience," said Jones.

Customer Valenda Black said Dukes has always been a hard worker and "always made sure things



Retired biscuit maker Liz Ingram (left) congratulates Brenda Dukes, general manager of Hardee's, on her retirement during a Dec. 28, 2022 party. Also pictured is Connie Hammond, who retired in 2022 as breakfast manager.

were done as they should be. She will be missed."

Leon Holloway and Ronald Kelly are longtime loyal customers of Hardee's. They said they've enjoyed getting to know Dukes over the years and watching how she treats employees and customers.

"She's been a good manager," said Hollo-

way. When asked what she will miss most about Hardee's, she said it's the people, including her customers and employees.

"First and foremost, I love God. Because I love God, I have to love his creation (people). I try to see the good in everyone and point that

out to them. Being the boss doesn't mean you don't have to be nice to people. It's important to invest in them as a person then you can get more of what you need from them," said Dukes of being open-minded, loving, and kind.

She will also miss the Boddie-Noell company because the family-

owned company has created a family atmosphere by how they've treated their employees, recognizing outstanding performance, and showing appreciation for accomplishing goals.

"They really do believe in people," said Dukes.

Searson said the Barnwell Hardee's has been in great hands with Dukes at the helm because he's never had to come there for issues in two and a half years. He said they will also likely win the Founders Award for store performance.

"I thank God for giving me the strength to do this job this long," said Dukes.

As she starts her new role, Jones said she will take everything that Dukes taught her and use it to help her customers and employees. She also considers Hardee's her home away from home.

"Looking forward I hope that I can build a team that puts the needs of the customers first. To keep the patrons of Barnwell coming back and giving service with a smile. I have big shoes to fill; we will just take it one day at a time. She will be truly missed," said Jones.

Speaking of her successor, Dukes said Jones has the same level of dedication as she does.

"She has been a great resource to me in meeting our goals, along with the rest of the crew. She has a passion just like I do for people and she gives it 100 percent," said Dukes of Jones.

With her last shift behind her, Dukes said she looks forward to more family time, helping more at church, and "helping out any way God sees me to help his creation."

Bamberg / Barnwell Adult Education Open House Registration Event



Barnwell Site:
10370 Ellenton Street
Barnwell, SC 29812

Bamberg Site:
3788 Faust Street
Bamberg, SC 29003

January 12th
10:00am - 6:00pm

January 12th
4:00pm - 7:00pm

Students under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian present at Open House to complete the required paperwork.

Course Offerings: GED Preparation, GED Testing, SC High Diploma, WorkKeys Preparation, WorkKeys Testing, Reading and Math Skills Upgrade



Bamberg / Barnwell Adult Education
(803) 541-6021

Border Bowl X raises money for Ronald McDonald House

Jeff Miller
Sports Writer

Border Bowl X featured some of the best senior players from South Carolina and Georgia playing for the paddle, which is presented to the winning team.

Team Georgia came away with the win on the scoreboard, Satur-

day, Jan. 7 at Grovetown High School in Georgia, but the real winners are the families that have been helped by the Ronald McDonald House. Since the all-star game started eleven years ago, the Border Bowl has donated all money raised to the local Ronald McDonald House, which in turn helps families of children who have to come to the Children's

Hospital of Georgia. The Ronald McDonald House helps provide families with a place to stay and meals while children are receiving care at the Children's Hospital of Georgia. The players all wear striped Ronald McDonald socks as a reminder of who is truly benefiting from the game.

Several local players were selected to repre-

sent Team South Carolina. Williston-Elko's Chris Davis, Blackville-Hilda's Joseph Simmons, and Barnwell's Tyler Smith, Clay Pender, Jaden James, Taishaun Sutton, and Maurice Odom were all chosen for Border Bowl X. In addition to the players, Barnwell had two cheerleaders selected. Seniors Jayla Neal and Ny'Avia Bennett auditioned and

were chosen to cheer for Team South Carolina.

Despite some very good defensive plays from Maurice Odom and Jaden James, who rarely left the field, and a nice catch from Clay Pender to go along with some good blocking up front from Taishaun Sutton, and an exciting multi-tackle breaking run from Tyler Smith, and several nice tackles from Chris

Davis, it was Georgia's day to win the paddle. With the Georgia win, the series is now all tied up at five wins each.

Being chosen to participate, the new friends made, and most importantly, the children who are helped through the generosity of the Ronald McDonald House, makes everyone involved a winner.

(More photos on 2B.)



HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL SCHEDULE (Boys & Girls)



Thursday, Jan. 12
• Fox Creek at Williston-Elko - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 13
• Holly Hill Academy at JDA - 6:15 p.m.
• Blackville-Hilda at North - 6 p.m.
• Williston-Elko at HKT - 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 17
• Barnwell at Ridgeland/Hardeeville - 6:30 p.m.
• Williston-Elko at Blackville-Hilda - 6:30 p.m.
• Wardlaw Academy at JDA - 6 p.m.

WRESTLING SCHEDULE



Wednesday, Jan. 11
• Barnwell at AC Flora - 6 p.m.

WEMS boys basketball holds 6-1 record

David B. Corder
Contributing Writer

The Williston-Elko Middle School Blue Devils have been playing the court, and they've been playing hard. With a record of 6-1, the WEMS boys basketball team has been very successful this season and continue to be so.

Coach Jesse Reed is very pleased with his team. "I am very proud of each and every one of my student athletes. Not only do these guys work hard on the court, but they also work even harder in the classroom with outstanding grades."

This being his second year coaching the team, Reed has seen many areas of improvement. As he says, "...the student-athletes have been gaining more trust and relationships within the coaching staff and holding themselves accountable in their efforts to achieve self-improvement." Reed says he's been preparing the basketball players this



The WEMS boys won their Dec. 14 game against Denmark-Olar.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

year by instilling discipline for the sport, teaching the fundamentals, and stressing the importance of collaborating as a team. The team's greatest strengths are their communication, their play-calling, and their rebounding ability. Most of all, Reed is impressed with the team's ball-handling and

scoring ability, as well some of the team's key players.

Some of the team's key players include Kaiden Davis for his growth and his ability to lead the team, Randy Robinson for his talent for dominating the point, Darrell Newman for his play calling and ball movement capabil-

ity, and Xavier Brown for his impressive skills and scoring ability.

However, Reed is aware that there is always room for improvement, and he pushes his team every practice. He ensures that they focus on "hustling to get back on defense, controlling the ball when it's in our position, and minimizing turnovers." For Coach Reed, having a successful team is about more than just winning games. "Ability may take you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there. Determination, passion, confidence, and being mentally tough is what I see in these guys every day! The relationship I have built with these student athletes is unbreakable and we improve every year...so why not us?"

If you'd like to catch a WEMS boys basketball game and see the boys in action, you can catch them at home on January 18 against Blackville, or away on January 23 against Allendale-Fairfax.

Matt Lynch named USC Salkehatchie men's basketball head coach

Stephanie Gruber
Contributor

Matt Lynch has been named head men's basketball coach for the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie.

Becoming the head men's basketball coach at USC Salkehatchie "is a dream come true," Lynch said. "Salkehatchie basketball has had great success in the past and I look forward to reinvigorating the program and engaging with the Walterboro community. I look forward to recruiting student-athletes who will make the university and community proud."

Lynch most recently served as an assistant

coach under Rob Burke at Chowan University. Before Chowan, he spent four seasons in various roles at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, beginning as a video coordinator before being elevated to director of men's basketball operations for the 2018-19 campaign. He was promoted to assistant coach in January 2020.

"Matt's background and level of professionalism will be a great fit for USC Salkehatchie. He has coached at a variety of levels and served in multiple capacities. At our level, that is a huge advantage, as coaches are often required to oversee all aspects of the program," Director of Athlet-



ics Jeremy Joye said. "The enthusiasm he possesses for developing young men in ways that extend beyond the court and for building relationships within the community is apparent. We are very excited to welcome Coach Lynch to the Salkehatchie family."

Lynch opened his coaching career as an assistant coach at Fort Leboeuf High School in Waterford, Pa., before moving into the collegiate ranks at his alma mater, Edinboro University in Edinboro, Pa.

After a three-year stint at Edinboro, Lynch accepted a position as video coordinator for the women's basketball program at Miami, Ohio,

and was later promoted to interim assistant coach for the Red Hawks.

Lynch spent two seasons as the director of basketball operations at Youngstown State, where he worked for YSU coaching legend Jerry Slocum. He finished his time at Youngstown State as an interim assistant coach.

Lynch, an Erie, Pa. native, was selected to the 2021 "Forbes 30 Under 30 List" as one of the 30 most influential people in the future of sports. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Health and Physical Education from Edinboro in 2013 and completed his Master of Kinesiology and Sports Psychology at Miami in 2015.

Border Bowl X



Allendale County Schools set stage for success

Alexandra Whitbeck
Reporter
reporter@thepeoplesentinel.com

Allendale County School District (ACSD) had a change of scenery for their monthly school board meeting on November 28. Rather than asking the community to gather in their usual location at Allendale-Fairfax High School (AFHS), the meeting was held at the historic Carolina Theatre on Main Street.

The theater proved to be the ideal venue for two performances – a musical medley by the newly organized District/Community Choir and a routine by the AFHS varsity cheerleading team.

Performances

Ferdinand Cooper, the director of fine arts at ACSD, has been working to bring the arts back into the community. One step in doing so is bringing voices together in the District/Community Choir.

“What you’re seeing tonight is a small taste of what’s to come,” said Cooper.

Conducted by professional singer Nathan Cohen, the choir made of educators, students, and community members performed two selections at the meeting both of which resulted in standing ovations.

The varsity cheer squad performed three routines at the meeting, and at the finale presented a token of their appreciation to ACSD Superintendent Dr. Margaret Gilmore for her continued support of the cheer program.

“The Tiger cheerleaders were amazing, and the newly-organized District/Community-Wide Choir brought the house down with that good singing,” said Dr. Gilmore in a district update after the meeting. “I was so thrilled and beyond excited to see the great participation from YOU!”

In this district update/recap, Dr. Gilmore also detailed how she is mak-

ing plans to build a new auditorium at the high school to alleviate having to relocate from campus to use a stage.

“I am working extra hard to build a new auditorium (with a nice stage) at the high school so that we can bring the community together, under one umbrella, with nice seating, and put our scholars and choir on stage,” said Dr. Gilmore.

Financial Updates

ACSD’s fund balance increased by 29 percent this year to \$11.1 million from roughly \$8 million last year. This is due to an increase in federal grant funding approved during the COVID-19 pandemic under the CARES Act, according to the district’s Financial Director, Angela Grant.

Grant also detailed ACSD’s recent audit, which was deemed to be favorable.

Upcoming

Opportunities/Events

Dr. Tommie Mabry was the keynote speaker at ACSD’s 2022 Convocation and returned to Allendale on Thursday, December 15 to speak with scholars. He visited Allendale-Fairfax Elementary School (AFES), Allendale-Fairfax Middle School (AFMS), and AFHS.

Although ACSD has been recently implementing a number of software and programs able to be utilized by teachers in the classroom, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Johnnie Miller reminded parents in the crowd that ACSD firmly believes “programs do not teach children, teachers teach children.”

Miller detailed upcoming and already in place professional development opportunities for ACSD educators. All of these initiatives are to build capacity in teachers exploring programs such as intertwining more technology into science classrooms.

Scholars and Educators of the Month

At Allendale-Fairfax Elementary School (AFES),

Zoe Bunch was awarded as November Scholar of the Month and physical education teacher Ryon Ford was named November’s Champion in the Classroom. This is Ford’s first year with the school.

Antoine Holmes was named the Allendale-Fairfax Middle School Scholar of the Month alongside sixth grade math teacher Zavier Reid. Reid was also congratulated for his classroom benchmark data currently being on target to meet yearly goals.

At AFHS, Zy’Nahriah Rhodes was named Scholar of the Month. Rhodes is also a cadet with the AFHS JROTC Tiger Battalion and was an important part in an October JROTC competition.

Julie Nipaz is a member of the math department at AFHS, and was awarded as November’s Champion in the Classroom. Nipaz is described as “always looking for creative ways for her students to be successful,” read Dr. Gilmore from AFHS Principal Darlene Hall’s nomination letter.

“I have witnessed the growth of a truly remarkable educator,” said Principal Hall of Nipaz.

In the AFHS Evening School, Robert Powers was named the November Scholar of the Month. Powers is described as prepared to learn and ready to conquer his assignments.

Carl Love was named November Support Staff of the Month for his continued work in the SAVES program at ACSD. Willia Dean Bradley was named the November Bus Driver of the Month, and Linda Harris was named the November Food Service Employee of the Month.

Christopher Simmons was named November Custodian of the Month. Simmons was said to have “shown great dedication in assuring AFES is clean, tidy, and a great learning environment for AFES scholars,” in the nomination statement written by AFES Princi-



The crowd gives the choir a standing ovation.

PHOTOS BY: ALEXANDRA WHITBECK



The Allendale-Fairfax High School cheerleaders perform a routine during the Nov. 28 board meeting.

pal Sheila Leath. Each individual was awarded a \$25 gift card and a certificate of appreciation.

Overachieving winter benchmark assessment scorers are awarded \$10 per subject they excelled in.

Each school’s principal read many names of students who accomplished this and handed them an envelope with their winnings if they were in attendance.

Raz-Kids Winners for the Month of November were kindergartener Lo’Real Moultrie, first grader Kayleigh Lofton, second grader Skyler Haughton, third grader Jayceon Fields, fourth grader Valerie Flores, and fifth grader JacQuez Morris. Raz-Kids is a comprehensive reading resource for students that allows them to read e-books through an interactive learning portal to maintain engagement.



Professional singer Nathan Cohen conducts the District/Community Choir made of educators, students, and community members at the meeting.

Allendale-Fairfax High School Military Ball

Allendale-Fairfax High School JROTC Military Ball was a big hit on Dec. 9, 2022. The event was organized by Chief Gordon & Sergeant Major Fisher.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



USC Salkehatchie partners with Lowcountry AHEC to provide simulation training

Contributed By:
USC Salkehatchie

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie has partnered with the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC) to expand experiential learning opportunities for nurse practitioner, physician assistant, pharmacy and nursing students who are committed to underserved and rural communities.

Using the simulation-based technology and equipment housed at USC Salkehatchie’s campus, Lowcountry AHEC is providing training for students from multiple institutions including the Medical University of South Carolina, USC Columbia, and Charleston Southern University. USC Salkehatchie senior nursing students will be participating in sessions alongside the AHEC Scholars.

“The partnership between USC Salkehatchie and Lowcountry AHEC allows our nursing stu-



Simulation-based technology and equipment housed at USC Salkehatchie’s campus provides training for students from multiple institutions.

dents to experience simulated scenarios that replicate what they will encounter as registered nurses,” said April Wolfe, nursing academic program manager. “Through these experiences, the nursing students have been able to interact with a variety of students from other disciplines, allowing the students to strengthen their interprofessional skills and improve their abilities to critically think. This partnership has enhanced our abilities as educators to prepare our future nurses

to enter the healthcare workforce and competently provide nursing care to patients.”

The Simulation Education Training (SET) Initiative is a combination of online, virtual, and in-person education and training for health professions students in South Carolina. There are four main components students must complete in order to receive their certificate of completion. Students complete two self-paced online modules Introduction to SC AHEC Core Topics and Inter-

professional Team Case Simulation through the SC AHEC Learning Portal. Students also participate in a virtual, live Interprofessional Team Case Conference in which they discuss a case and develop goals for a comprehensive, team-focused plan of care.

The culmination of the initiative is the high-fidelity patient simulation at USC Salkehatchie’s state-of-the-art lab on the Walterboro campus. The lab provides nursing students and area healthcare providers a centrally located training facility that eliminates the need to travel for simulation activities. The nursing simulation lab allows students to practice nursing skills and try new things without jeopardizing the health and safety of a patient.

Lowcountry AHEC Health Profession Student coordinators will be working closely with faculty at USC Salkehatchie to ensure the senior nursing students complete the requirements of the SET Initiative.

Potential building sale jeopardizes Smart Box

Alexandra Whitbeck
Reporter
reporter@thepeople-sentinel.com

The Smart Box feeds between 300 and 400 people every week in Allendale County. Organizers are fighting to keep doing so at their Fairfax location.

Since 2017, The Smart Box has worked to alleviate food scarcity in Allendale and surrounding counties. Now, the nonprofit's location at 246 Hampton Avenue is set to be sold.

The building is currently owned by the Town of Fairfax, and according to Phyllis Smart, is being sold simply for a profit.

Smart is the founder of The Smart Box and was recently elected to the Fairfax Town Council.

"I'm the new girl on the block in town council and sometimes you don't see eye to eye, but it's more personal for them to be selling it because the town needs money, that's not the truth," said Smart.

"Because of the town's limited revenue, the council voted to liqui-

date all of our surplus property including The Smart Box, which is the DaVita Building," said Town of Fairfax Mayor Dorothy Riley.

"She was notified each time the building was placed on GovDeals for auction," said Mayor Riley, who explained Smart's lease for the building was up on December 31, 2022.

Smart explains she has spoken with multiple individuals over the years about purchasing the building and serving as her landlord, but none have come to fruition.

The Smart Box is still operating in this building although the lease is out of date and the building is up for auction.

With a background in education, Smart has made it her mission to provide necessities and resources to a town without a grocery store.

"Allendale County is a food desert," said Smart. "We rank third in the nation for high poverty and low education, so food is really a necessity here."

The Smart Box provides an afterschool and tutoring program in ad-



dition to their emergency food pantry services. During the pandemic, the nonprofit was essential to distributing food to those who could not leave their homes or afford to purchase it on their own.

Smart and other members of The Smart Box deliver food to elderly residents weekly and host food drives and events to reach out further to the community. The organization is also a collection site or a resource hub for many other groups like Toys for Tots, SC Works, and the South Carolina Victims Network.

All of these organizations, volunteers, and efforts to do good are housed at the Hampton Ave. location.

"We are fighting for the building to stay open," said Smart, who

sees the role each of these organizations play in Allendale County from this building.

Smart explains selling the building came into conversation in 2020 where it was tabled at a town council meeting. The building was originally owned by a local doctor who gave the rights of the property to the Town of Fairfax.

When this agreement was made, the original owner was under the impression the building would remain being used to benefit the community as Smart had been doing since 2017.

"He wanted it to stay in the community for the children and for families, and so he never wanted them to sell it," said Smart. "When he gave them the rights over it, he thought they were going

"The only thing I need is cement and pallets, and we'll feed people on the side of the street. We will never stop." —Phyllis Smart, founder of The Smart Box, an emergency food pantry facing their building being sold.

to give it to me because that's just how he was kind of led to believe."

The Fairfax Community Coalition was born out of this fight and others like it. This coalition is made of community members who are looking for answers about what is happening in their town.

"The coalition was started because people got tired of not getting answers when they come to town meetings," said Smart.

The Fairfax Community Coalition has petitioned the Town of Fairfax to allow The Smart Box to continue operating in the building, according to Smart, who has also heard of other methods.

"I had a lady that called me and she's in a wheelchair, and she told me she was about to get

some signs and picket," said Smart.

If the building does sell and The Smart Box is forced to move out, Smart has figured out some other options.

"We have a municipal building here in town that they don't make use of, so if you wanna sell mine, I just need a place to go. I need a place where I can service the people," said Smart.

"We'll have some resistance, but I'm a nonprofit and they have several ordinances in place in Allendale [County] to find me a place to go," said Smart.

For more information or to aid in the effort to save The Smart Box, contact Phyllis Smart at ps6952@yahoo.com or (803) 508-5837. To learn more about The Smart Box, visit thesmartboxunlocks.com.

DTC basketball team honored at youth day program



Rev. Donald Goode (center) with the teens who attended the Dec. 4 youth rally.

Contributed by: Doe Pond Missionary Baptist

On Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022, the members of Doe Pond Missionary Baptist Church in Martin welcomed the men's basketball team from Denmark Technical College, the DTC Panthers, as their special guests for their inaugural youth

day program.

The program was the brainchild of Rev. Donald Goode, pastor of DPMBC, and featured a guest musician and speakers from throughout the tri-county area. Among the featured speakers was Allendale County School resource officer Sgt. Tremaine Cohen who spoke to the congregation about the dangers of bullying and the lasting mental health effects that bullying can have on students and their families. DTC basketball phenom Brother Andre Payne delivered a stirring piece on how important conflict resolution is and how being able to communicate

with others is the most effective way to solve problems on the court, in the classroom, and especially on the street.

This was followed by words of encouragement from Brother Joe Joyner who used the adage, "When I became a man, I put away childish things." He challenged the audience to think about the childish things that are holding them back from reaching their full potential and to begin making plans to put those things aside to make their dreams come true.

The event was capped off by a rousing sermon from Rev. Goode in which he spoke about having a horizontal re-

lationship with God as well as a vertical relationship with Him. A horizontal relationship allows us to reach out to God and others, whereas a vertical relationship allows us to reach up. This was Rev. Goode's way of challenging everyone to think about their relationships with others and how God's purpose for our lives calls for us to be each other's keepers by building and fostering relationships.

As a parting gift, special prayer rocks were given to the youth who visited the church as a reminder of the importance of daily prayer.

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- Do like Demosthenes
- *Checkout clerk
- *Meat professional
- "_____ the land of the free..."
- Fictional Himalayan
- Meme move
- Man Ray's art movement
- On cloud nine
- Crude group
- Seaside bird
- Formerly known as dropsy
- Make-up artist?
- Blast from the past
- Bruce Willis' ex
- Chocolate substitute
- Mischievous sprites
- Plaintiff
- *Advantageous display
- _____ Spumante
- Meddle
- Largest share owner

DOWN

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- On a deck, perhaps
- Pad
- Gem State
- Depended on
- From a distance
- *Reusable one
- Haciendra brick
- Cleopatra's necklace
- Moonfish
- Boundary line
- Looker or ogler
- Capable of movement
- One of the Muses
- Shoshonean
- Railyard worker

ACROSS

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- Relating to bees
- Edward Teach's facial feature
- *Prepared food department
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- *Ricotta and eggs section
- Semiaquatic tetrapod, for short
- Sips from a flask?
- Bar by estoppel
- Novelist Honoré de _____
- Blackberry dessert
- Paragons
- Galactic path
- Pomp
- Be unsuccessful
- Dramatic part
- Sportscaster Andrews
- JFK or ORD postings
- Japanese alcoholic beverage
- Tiny amount
- Not in favor of
- Lecherous look
- *O in BOGO

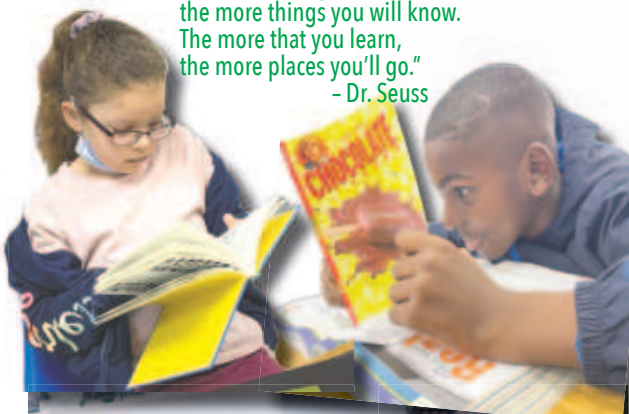


Barnwell County Consolidated SCHOOL DISTRICT
and the **The People-Sentinel**

SINCE 1852

Local News. Local People. Locally Owned.

"The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go."
- Dr. Seuss



The People-Sentinel and the Barnwell County Consolidated School District are pleased to partner together to promote literacy.

Utilizing funding designed to enhance literacy, the school district will fund a limited number of one-year subscriptions to Barnwell County's hometown newspaper. Subscriptions will be fully funded to the first 125 BCCSD families who sign up.

Reading the newspaper is a great way for BCCSD scholars to learn the importance of reading, which will empower them for the rest of their lives. The newspaper is also a great way for scholars and their families to stay informed about important community news and events. After all, knowledge is power.

Eligibility: This offer is for current BCCSD scholars only. This is for new subscriptions only and cannot be applied to existing subscriptions. Sign up must be done by the scholar's parent or legal guardian. Subscription should be sent to the house where the scholar resides.

The deadline to sign up is January 13, 2023.

Subscriptions will run January 1, 2023 through December 20, 2023.



Sign up for your **FREE** one-year subscription by contacting **Melissa Sanders** at **(803) 266-7878** or **msanders@bccsd.net**

Please include the scholar's name, school, address, and phone number when contacting Melissa Sanders.

BCCSD TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: Jessica Catid joins WEHS from Phillippines



Jessica Catid is a new English teacher at Williston-Elko High School.

Contributed
Barnwell County
Consolidated School District

Mrs. Jessica Catid, Williston-Elko High School's new English teacher, began her teaching career in 2017 in the Philippines. She came over to teach in the United States this year, beginning in September.

Mrs. Catid was inspired by a few of her former teachers to become one herself, including Miss B. from Macedonia Elementary School in Blackville.

Mrs. Catid enjoys working at Williston-Elko High School as she feels great support from both the faculty and staff, and is currently enjoying learning more about the United States. She also enjoys traveling to different states each weekend with her husband and learning about them. As of now, she has been to New York, Georgia, North Carolina, Florida, and of course, South Carolina.

Mrs. Jessica Catid is a teacher who is a life-long learner as she is currently completing her master's degree of Arts in Education with a major in English. She also loves learning from other cultures and taking pictures and videos of everything she can.

Mrs. Catid has shown to be a wonderful teacher and learner as she is willing to learn all that she can as well as do everything she can to be the best teacher. Williston-Elko High School is proud to have her in the English department.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!

Newspaper reading adventures for little learners!

My name: _____

Kid Scoop Junior

Vol. 22 No. 6 © 2023 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Designer/Illustrator

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 crayon or pencil.

Help the family find their way to the fruit.

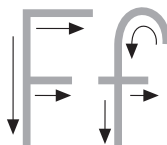
Which is your favorite?

My Rhyme Time

Oh, I can put my clothes on by myself!
I don't need help from Mom or Dad.
It takes more time I know,
Right now I'm kind of slow,
But taking time is really not so bad.

My Letters

F is for Family
f is for family



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

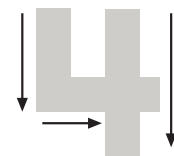
How many words or pictures can you find on this page that start with the sound the letter F makes in the word family?

My Numbers

How many ?

How many ?

How many ?



Learning Buddies: Trace and say the number. Read the questions. Touch and count to find the answers.

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.



My family is _____



Sunday

Letter Identification
With your child, look through the newspaper to find pictures of things that begin with the same sound as the letter F in family.

Monday

Math Play
Point to the number 4 in the newspaper. Have your child say the number and, if it's large enough, have your child trace the number.

Tuesday

Young and Old
Practice identifying opposites by looking for pictures of people, both young and old. Also look for plants and animals that are either young or old. Make a "Young and Old" poster.

Wednesday

Family Names
Show your child how to spell the name of a grandmother, mother, or special adult friend. Then look through the newspaper to find the letters that spell that name. Draw a line to connect the letters in order, spelling the name out loud.

Thursday

Parents and Kids
Fold a blank piece of paper down the middle to make two columns. Label one column "Things Parents Like." Label the other "Things Kids Like." Look through the newspaper with your child to find pictures of things for each column.

Friday

Big F, Little f
On one page of the newspaper, find and circle an uppercase F. Then find and circle a lowercase f. Have your child draw a line to connect the upper- and lowercase letter Fs. How many pairs can you find on one page?

Saturday

Ten Feet
Find and cut out pictures of five people who each have two feet showing, so that you have a total of ten feet. Show your child how to count in twos to create pairs.

Learning Buddy Sign Here
I have completed _____ activities with my Learning Buddy.

Learning Buddy's signature

Date

Learning Buddies!

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.

JANUARY

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

Events

Community Prayer

Wednesday, Jan. 11
246 Dampson Avenue North,
Bairfax
Please come out and pray for the Smart Box feeding program and the seniors they serve.
10am

Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Walk

Monday, Jan. 16
Lineup will begin at 9:30am in front of Williston-Kiko District Office. Walk will begin at 10am. Rides will be provided for people unable to walk.

Celebrating 8 years of Golden Retreat Senior Center
Wednesday, Jan. 18
59 Callahan Circle, Blackville (803) 219-7056
9am

Red Cross Blood Drive, Jan. 20
Barnwell High School
474 Jackson St.
Sign up at redcrossblood.org with the Sponsor Code "Warhorses".
8:30am-2:30pm

Auditions

Jan 10, 12
Circle Theatre of Barnwell is

continuing to hold auditions for its production of "My Fair Lady" at 6:30 p.m. on January 10th & 12th, at the old Barnwell Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. They are looking for men and women (all ages), teens (16 and up) to fill various roles. Lead roles will have singing parts (solos/duos/trios). Everyone will be involved 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.
6:30pm

Barnwell Library

VIRTUAL STORY TIME
Thursday, Jan. 19
Videos will be posted on facebook at **11:00 am**.
STORY TIME at the Library
Thursday, Jan. 12 and 26
11:00am in the Children's Room

Adults
Potluck Book Club
Tuesday, Jan. 31
We will be discussing *The Keeper of Lost Things* by: Ruth Hogan.
4:00pm

Tween/Teen Ages 8-18
Gaming Club
Thursday, Jan. 26
Come enjoy our Gaming Club just for Tweens and Teens. Bring your friends so you can compete with some fun Switch games. Registration begins Jan. 3rd and ends Jan. 20th. Space is limited so stop by and sign up at the front desk.
5pm-6pm

CHILDREN All Ages
Winter Scavenger Hunt
Jan. 10-13
Drop by Jan. 9-13 and help us find all of the missing pieces to build our snowman. Find them all and win a small prize.

Ages 3 and Up
I Have a Dream Craft
Jan. 11
Make a paper cloud mobile with your dreams for your community, yourself, school, and the world.
4pm-5pm

Ages 3-10
Snow Sensory Bin
Jan. 18
All day drop in. The snow has taken over! Help us dig out all of the missing objects hidden in the snow. Find them all and win a small prize.

ATTENTION VETERANS

Barnwell County Veterans Affairs Office will host "Let's Talk" Veterans Supporting Veterans on January 19 at 6 p.m. in the agriculture building) 34 Pechman St., Barnwell. Topic will be the PACT Act. Guest speaker will be Mr. Marlon Hinds of Veterans Affairs. He will address the general overview of the PACT Act and presumptive conditions, medical aspects of toxic exposure, survivor benefits, and list of upcoming outreach initiatives. This event is directed to veterans, veterans families, VA employees, other veterans centric organizations, and anyone interested in this topic. For more information, contact Joyce Brooks at (803) 541-1057.



Blackville Golden Retreat Activity Center & Barnwell Gail Reyes Senior Center

FREE for Seniors!!!

- Free Transportation**
That's right, LET US DO THE DRIVING FOR YOU! We can even pick you up from your house and bring you home!
- Free Hot, Nutritious Meal**
Each of our centers serve up a hot delicious meal everyday.
- Socialization**
No reason to be lonely! It's always a fun-filled day at our Centers!
- Exercise**
COME on... Keep those muscles moving and feeling good!

Now accepting Seniors!

Are you 60 or older and looking for a fun place to come and Socialize?

Activities:

- Arts & Crafts
- Exercise
- Computer classes
- Bible Study
- Health Courses
- Bingo
- Coffee Club
- Wi-Fi
- Bridge
- Outings
- Games
- Speakers
- and More...

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be 60 or older
- Must complete an assessment with a caseworker.

PLEASE contact Mary at 803-541-1249 for more information and to get started TODAY!



Blackville Site: 59 Callahan Circle Blackville SC 803.219.7056

Barnwell Site: 11403 Ellenton St. Barnwell SC 803.259.4592

CHECK OUT OUR FB PAGES: BLACKVILLE SENIOR CENTER GAIL REYES SENIOR CENTER

Local Directory

Barnwell Library

40 Burr St., Barnwell (803) 259-3612
Hours of Operation
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10am-6pm
Thurs 10am-7pm
Sat 10am-2pm

Blackville Library

Hours of Operation
1942 Solomon Blatt Ave., Blackville (803) 284-2295
Mon, Tues, Thurs 10am-1pm
2pm-6pm

Williston Library

Hours of Operation
5121 Springfield Rd., Williston (803) 621-6000
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 10am-1pm
2pm-6pm

Museums

Barnwell Museum

9426 Marlboro Ave., Barnwell
Tues, Wed, Thurs Noon-4pm
Self-guided tours are offered
Register at the office building (803) 259-1916

Blackville Museum

655 Main Street, Blackville
Open by appointment only until further notice.
Please call (803) 284-3267 to schedule a visit.

BLACKVILLE SENIOR CENTER

Mondays-Fridays
Golden Retreat Activity Center (59 Callahan Circle, Blackville) 803-219-7056



SERVICES

Anglican Church of the Holy Apostles
228 Hagood Ave., Barnwell
Sun - Holy Eucharist service 10:30am
Sun School at 9:30am
Wed Morning prayer/breakfast 8am
Vicar Bill Clarkson

Barnwell United Methodist Church
236 Main Street, Barnwell 803-259-3331
Sun. Services & activities: 9:15am Coffee Fellowship in Crenshaw Hall 10am Adult Sunday School in Crenshaw Hall 10:15am Youth Sunday School
11am Traditional worship service and Children's Sunday School
Monthly activities: United Methodist Women - date announced each month
Barnwell Soup Kitchen - 10:15am every 3rd Monday at First Baptist
Crochet Comforters - 10am on 4th Saturday

Bells Chapel Pentecostal Holiness
83 Week Ave., Olar
Sundays - 10:30am
Pastor Thomas Caldwell - calth02@yahoo.com (803) 335-9121 (803) 671-6369

Boiling Springs Chapel
5475 Boiling Springs Rd., Barnwell
Sunday Worship 5pm

Center of Hope Community Fellowship
(542 Main Street, Barnwell; beside IGA)
Sunday School 11:30am-12:15pm
Sunday Worship 12:30pm
Wednesday Bible Study 7pm
Pastor/Founder Bishop Charlie D. Gillison

Christ Presbyterian Church
848 Hagood Ave., Barnwell
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 10:30am
Bible Study Wednesday 6pm
803-259-5653

First Baptist Church of Barnwell
161 Allen St, Barnwell
Contemporary Service Sundays 9am
Traditional Service Sundays 11am
Sunday School at 10:10am
Watch on facebook or listen in the parking lot over 90.5

Friendship Baptist Church Sunday School
5801 Friendship Rd., Barnwell
Sundays - Assembly 9:15am
Sunday School at 10am
Worship at 11am
Discipleship Training Sundays - 6pm
Worship at 7pm

Hope Community Church of God
785 Main St., Barnwell
Sunday School 10am
Sunday Worship 11am
Wednesday Service 7pm

Jordan Missionary Baptist
200 Skyland Farm Road, Williston
Sunday School
2nd - 5th Sundays 9:30am
Worship
2nd-5th Sundays 10:30am

Life Tabernacle Church
1189 Clinton St., Barnwell
Sunday School 10am
Sunday worship 6pm
Wednesday service 7pm
Monday night prayer 7pm

Long Branch Baptist Church
3223 Highway 37, Williston SUNDAY
9:15am - Sunday school
10:30am - Morning worship service
5pm - Bible study
6pm - Evening worship service

WEDNESDAY
6pm - Prayer service

MI Lebanon Christian Church
420 Christian Rd., Barnwell (803) 259-1438
mlebanonccc@gmail.com
Sunday School at 10am
Sunday am worship 11am (blended music)
Sunday PM Bible Study 6pm (mid July-April)
www.milebanonchristianchurch.com
Minister Ron Franklin

Ned Branch Missionary Baptist Church
10620 Dunbarton Blvd., Barnwell
Inside Services: Sunday school at 9am and services at 10am. Bible study is held Tuesdays at 6:15pm. Please wear a mask.

Rosemary Baptist Church
151 Emerald Lane, Barnwell
In House service on second and fourth Sundays at 12:15pm.
CDC guidelines will be used.
Pastor Sarah Perkins

Second Baptist Church of Barnwell
181 Church St., Barnwell
In person worship service. Masks and social distancing is encouraged. Temp. checks upon entrance.
Sundays 10am

For more info: Pastor Elder Lamonte Boyd (803) 259-1385
www.facebook.com/SBCBarnwell

Seven Pines Baptist Church
Snelling, Small community church welcomes visitors
Sunday School: 9:50am
Service: 11am, 6pm
Pastor Mark Watford

Springfield Missionary Baptist Church
13225 Hwy. 278, Barnwell
Sundays, in-person worship services, masks are encouraged.
Pastor is Freddie Wright
11am

St. James Anglican
150 Pascallus St., Blackville
Sunday Worship service with Holy Communion: 10:30am
Thursday Evening: 6:30pm
Wednesday Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th of the month: 6:30pm
stjamesanglicanblackville@gmail.com
803-671-0676 (mobile)

St. Mary Baptist Church
474 Hwy. 125, Martin
Mask and social distancing required.
Pastor is Rev. Fredrick Quattlebaum.
2nd & 4th Sundays - 10am

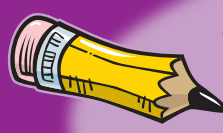
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
Snelling
Praise & Praise Service
2nd & 4th Sundays - 10am
Face masks should be worn at all times.

St. Peter Baptist Church
7110 Bay St., Elko
Mask and social distancing required.
Pastor is Rev. Anthony F. Gadsen
Sunday Worship: 11am

Unity Baptist Church
Pastor Brian Howard
5504 Hilda Rd., Blackville
Sunday School: 9:45am
Sunday Worship: 11am and 6pm
Mid week service: Thursdays JAM kids (supper provided) 6pm and Adult service 7pm

Victory Baptist Church
3361 Hwy 70, Barnwell
Sunday Worship at 11am
Interim Preacher Terry Woodside

Word Of Life Full Gospel Ministries
6254 Hwy 278, Barnwell
Wednesday Bible study/prayer Service 7pm
Sunday school 10:15 am
Worship Service 12pm
Facebook @wordoflifefgm



Kid Scoop®

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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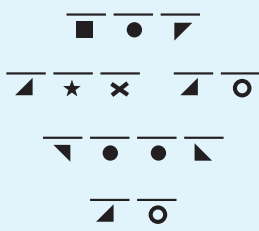
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Power of Words

The words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. helped to change the world. His words still inspire people today. He was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia. His father was the minister of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, as was his father before him. Because Martin and his father had the same name, the family called him M.L.

Caring

When M.L. was young, he played with all the children who lived in his Atlanta neighborhood.

Use the code to find out what M.L.'s mother told him.



- ▲ = A ● = O
- ▼ = D ★ = R
- × = E ○ = S
- ▽ = G ◐ = U
- ◻ = N ◼ = Y

But when they reached school age, the white children went to a school for white children only, and M.L. was sent to a school for black children. After the first day of school, M.L. and his white friends were never allowed to play together again.

Standards Link: History: Students identify the people honored in commemorative holidays.

Use Your Marbles

Martin and his friends have been collecting marbles. They counted to see how many marbles in all. Use the clue to see if you can figure out how many marbles.

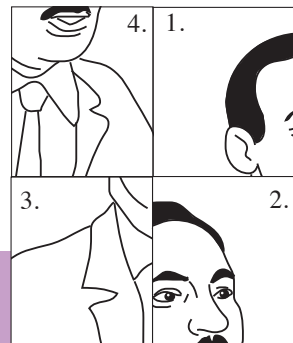
Compassion

M.L. was very sad when his friends would no longer play with him. He asked his mother why they couldn't.

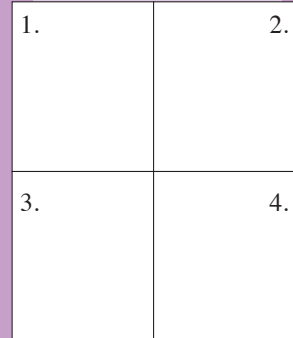
She talked about why the family didn't ride streetcars, why there was a WHITES ONLY sign on the elevator at City Hall, why there were restaurants that refused to serve black people, and theaters that allowed blacks to sit only in the balcony. She said that it was simply because some white people didn't understand that we all deserve equal treatment.

M.L. decided right then and there that someday he would try to change the world. He wanted to make it a place where white children and black children could play together and enjoy the same rights.

Standards Link: History: Students understand the importance of individual action.



Draw Dr. King by copying what you see in each numbered box.



Quiz a Friend!

Quiz a friend or family member with the following statements. If they don't know the answers, you can use today's Kid Scoop to be the teacher! All the answers can be found on today's Kid Scoop page.

- Where was Martin Luther King born?

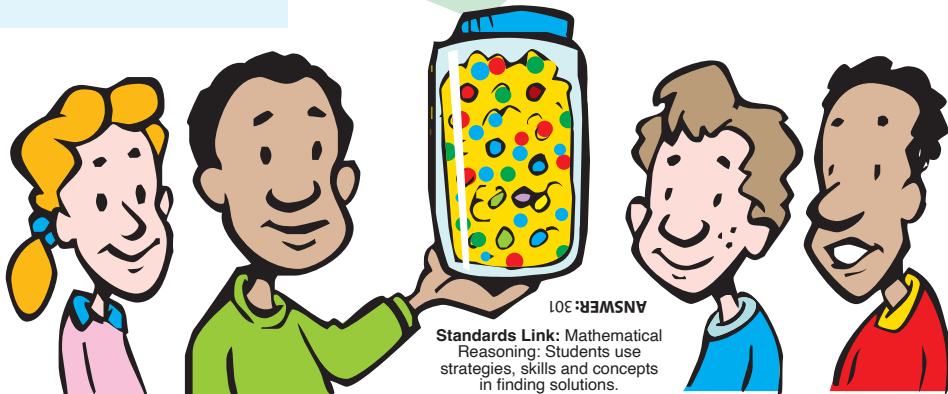
- From which college did Dr. King receive his Ph.D.?

- In 1964 Dr. King was awarded an important prize. What was it called?

- In what year was the Civil Rights Act passed?
 1964 1968 1970
- What was the name of the famous speech Dr. King gave in Washington D.C.?

- Give at least one example, recounted in today's Kid Scoop page, of Martin Luther King's courage.

- In what year was Dr. King shot and killed?
 1964 1968 1970
- Words were one tool Dr. Martin Luther King used to bring about social change.
 True False



Standards Link: Mathematical Reasoning: Students use strategies, skills and concepts in finding solutions.

Clue: When counted by 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, or 6s, there is always one marble left over. When counted by 7s, there are no marbles left over. The answer is between 299 and 310.

Integrity

As M.L. grew up, he saw more and more examples of segregation. He also saw his father and others speak out against hatred and segregation. These people taught M.L. about the power of words. He learned that words could heal or hurt.

"When the history books are written, someone will say there lived black people who had the courage to stand up for their rights."

— Dr. Martin Luther King

Discipline

- 8 + 7 = _____ the driver forced him to give up his seat to a white person.
- 3 + 5 = _____ Once he gave a speech in another town about the rights of black people. He
- 9 + 11 = _____ with a Ph.D. in Theology. M.L. would now be addressed as Dr. King.
- 2 + 4 = _____ As M.L. started school, he discovered he could dazzle people with his words.
- 9 + 8 = _____ With hard work and study, M.L. eventually graduated from Boston University
- 5 + 6 = _____ won a prize for his speech attacking segregation laws. On the bus ride home,

The sentences in the above story are out of order. Find the correct order by doing the math problem next to each line. Then put the line in order from the smallest sum to the largest.

Standards Link: Character Education: Students identify character traits in others.

Extra! Extra!

Word Power

Select a headline from today's newspaper and rewrite it to say just the opposite. How many more ways can you rewrite that headline. How does the impact of the words change when you write the headline different ways?

Standards Link: Sentence Structure: Students are able to write complete sentences.

- ANSWERS
- Atlanta, GA
 - Boston University
 - Nobel Peace Prize
 - 1964
 - "I Have a Dream"
 - Continuing to speak for civil rights even after being arrested and having his home bombed.
 - True. (He did use actions, too. 1968)
 - He helped with the bus boycott. He was arrested. He led protests.)

Courage

For more than 20 years, Martin Luther King spoke out against _____ and segregation. During these years, he was arrested, had his _____ bombed, and was accused of being "un-American."

In 1963, Dr. King gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech in Washington, D.C. "I have a dream that one day in Alabama little black boys and black girls will _____ hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and _____."

In 1964, the _____ Rights Act was passed, granting equal rights to black Americans and Dr. King received the Nobel Peace _____.

Sadly, just four _____ later, Dr. King was shot and killed in Memphis, Tenn. But his words live on.

BROTHERS

- CIVIL
- JOIN
- PRIZE
- YEARS
- RACISM
- HOME

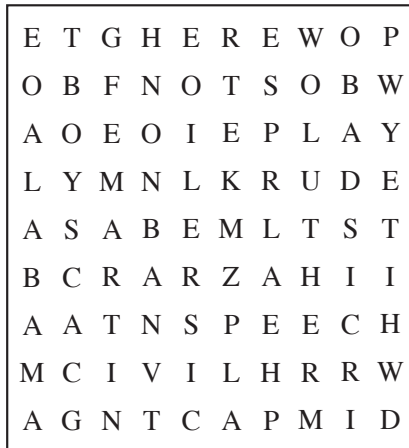
Find where each of these words belong in this story.

Standards Link: History: Students understand the achievements of famous people.

Double Double Word Search

- MARTIN
- CIVIL
- BOSTON
- EBENEZER
- MARBLES
- ALABAMA
- LUTHER
- KING
- DREAM
- SPEECH
- WHITE
- IMPACT
- BOYS
- PLAY
- HEAL

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Demonstrate comprehension by identifying answers in text.

Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SERVICE**

The noun **service** means the act of helping.

Service was at the heart of Martin Luther King's philosophy. "Everyone can be great because everybody can serve," he once said.

Try to use the word **service** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Just Like Martin

Look through today's newspaper for examples of people acting in a way that reminds you of Martin Luther King. Select one person and write a paragraph explaining how that person is somewhat like Martin Luther King.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write descriptions that use details to present unified impressions of people.

Choose your favorite Dr. King quote. Make a poster illustrating the quote and display it in your home or classroom.

"Hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can do that."

"We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

"In the end, we remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

Write On!

I Have a Dream

Write a paragraph about a dream you have for yourself, or your school, or your community, or the entire world.



Barnwell School District 45 thanks our families and community members for supporting our schools!

WARHORSE PRIDE