

Memorial Day Program
 Monday, May 27 at 10 a.m.
 Veterans Memorial Park, Barnwell
 Details on Community Calendar
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JPA
Lady Raiders
 SCISA 1A State Champions
Pages C1-8

The People · Sentinel

Serving Barnwell County and its neighbors since 1852

VOLUME 148, NO. 5

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024

3 SECTIONS / 30 PAGES / \$

Sheriff Griffith to face Gunnells on June ballot

Staff Reports
 The People-Sentinel
www.thepeoplesentinel.com

Two have filed in hopes of being elected as sheriff – current Sheriff Steve “Grits” Griffith and Stephen Gunnells.

Both will be on the June 11 Republican Primary ballot. Both are natives of Barnwell County.

Griffith, who grew up in Williston, has worked in law enforcement since 1977. He began as a dispatcher but later became a Barnwell police officer.

Since joining the Barnwell County Sheriff’s Office in 1989, the Marine Corps veteran has advanced through the ranks, including deputy sheriff, shift sergeant, narcotics investigator, criminal investigator, lieutenant, captain, and chief deputy. He was elected sheriff in November 2020 and took office in January 2021.

“Over the last three-plus years, I have, along with the Barnwell County Sheriff’s Office team, worked diligently on the three highest priorities I promised while campaigning in 2020:

drugs, gangs and community relations to rebuild trust with our youth and citizens,” said Sheriff Griffith.

Gunnells has been in law enforcement since 2004 when he went to work for the S.C. Department of Corrections at the Allendale Correctional Institution. In 2005, he became chief of the Olar Police Department. In 2006, he moved to the Blackville Police Department and received promotions, including master sergeant. He later served with the Bamberg County Sheriff’s

Office, but since 2019 has been with the Bamberg Police Department with the school resource program.

“I felt it was time to offer the people of Barnwell County an opportunity for change. I believe in my heart the people of Barnwell County deserve the best, and I want to offer that to them. I truly want to give back to the county that raised me,” said Gunnells.

Read more about both candidates on page A5.

The winner of the Republican Primary will be on the Nov. 5



Griffith (left) and Gunnells (right) have both filed for the 2024 sheriff election.

General Election ballot. There are no Democratic challengers.



Cancer survivors from Barnwell and Allendale counties unite on May 17 for the survivors lap at the Relay for Life event held in Allendale.

Cancer survivors, supporters and leaders unite for Relay for Life

Elijah de Castro
 Report for America
elijah@thepeoplesentinel.com

On Friday, May 17, members of the Barnwell and Allendale communities gathered at the Relay for Life march at the Allendale-Fairfax High School’s Tiger Stadium. Survivors of cancer, as well as their caregivers, families and other supporters, walked a loop around the football field.

“I am a cancer survivor myself,” said Barnwell Mayor Ron Still, who walked at the event. “Cancer has stricken my family a pretty good bit over the past couple of decades. ... Cancer doesn’t care about what color we are, it doesn’t care about how old we are, it doesn’t care if you’re a man or a woman. It’s a vicious disease. To see you guys out here tonight in support and remembrance is truly amazing.”

Relay for Life of Allendale & Barnwell Counties committee member Althea Carter thanks everyone who participated to honor those fighting cancer and those who lost their fight. She also thanks all cancer survivors who came out.

“Teams have been doing a great job raising money and we are even closer to our \$35,000 goal,” said Carter.

The Allendale-Barnwell Relay for Life is a year-long fundraiser aiming to bring in \$35,000 by the end of the year for the American Cancer Society. So far, \$20,416.09 has been raised.

Line dancers under the direction of Angela Youmans provided entertainment. In addition to Mayor Still, Fairfax Mayor Butch Sauls and Allendale Mayor Pro-Tem Marlon Creech brought greetings. Allendale-Fairfax High School JROTC presented colors. Minister Dawan Pookie Smith provided music throughout the night.



Relay for Life is an event that sparks unity.



Angela Youmans brought her line dancers to provide entertainment.

Elijah de Castro / Report for America

Allendale Town Council condemns mayor for comments on citizens’ ‘intellectual ability’

Elijah de Castro
 Report for America
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At a May 14 Allendale Town Council meeting, Allendale Mayor Larry Cohen was condemned by multiple council members and citizens for comments he made on May 9 regarding the “intellectual ability” of his town’s citizens.

“I’m apologizing to the citizens of this great town from this council,” said mayor pro-tem Pookie Smith. “How are we going to grow when we have leaders making comments [like these]?”

Cohen’s comments came from a May 9 interview on Allendale’s Big Dog Radio, in which he claimed that the remaining residents of the Town of Allendale have “an intellectual ability of average or below.”

“People may not like this, but you have to realize, the population in Allendale, the remaining citizens that are in

Allendale has a mentality or an intellectual ability of average or below,” Cohen said to Big Dog Radio host Carl Gooding. A video recording of the mayor’s comments was uploaded to the “Concerned Citizens of Allendale County” Facebook page, creating community outrage.

In an interview, Cohen accused *The People-Sentinel* of bias and stood by the comments he made on the radio.

“There you go again with your spin,” Cohen said. “I know what I said, they were my thoughts. I said [that] people in Allendale that are here are either average or below average. The above average people has either left here or they decided they didn’t want to participate in the chaos.”

The Town of Allendale has a council form of government, meaning that “the mayor has no additional statutory authority beyond that of other councilmembers,” according to

See COMMENTS, 12A

Water, sewer, trash rates may increase in Town of Williston

Alexandra Whitbeck
 Reporter
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The Williston Town Council passed the first reading of three ordinances at their May 13 meeting to increase the base rate for water, sewer, and trash services by \$1.

The second readings will be held at the council’s June 10 meeting. If passed, the ordinances will become effective July 1, 2024.

Rates are increasing for Williston residents due to increasing vendor fees for garbage disposal and increasing prices for chemicals to maintain the water treatment plant. The town is hoping to recoup some of this cost.

“Not only have our vendors raised costs, but we see costs rising in everyday supplies. In order for the town to counteract the impact inflation has left we were forced to raise rates,” said town clerk Kayla Jerkins. “We did not take the decision lightly and did not want

to hurt the citizens of Williston, because we can sympathize, as everyone has been impacted by inflation, as to why we only chose to raise the base rate by a dollar each.”

Trash
 The new monthly rate for residential roll-out carts is \$17. It was previously \$16.

The fee will be assessed for each dwelling and for each unit in a multifamily dwelling. Residents having more than one roll-out cart will be charged the \$17 monthly rate times the number of carts picked up. For example, two roll-out carts would cost \$34.

Non-residents, or residents living outside the corporate limits, are provided collection services upon approval of the sanitation supervisor. The rate for non-residents has increased from \$22 to \$23.

Trash services are currently provided by S&S Disposal based

See RATES, 11A

WHAT’S INSIDE

Sports	1-6B
Business	11A
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Calendar	6B
Classifieds	7-8B
Puzzles	8B

OBITUARIES, 9A

- Sherry Lee Tracey Danley - Aiken**
- George Martin Harter - Sycamore**
- Lawanda Denise Williams Robinson - Blackville**
- Linda E. Still - Barnwell**



\$1.00 Retail
 For home delivery pricing, 4B



Rodeo brings 147 fisherman to Williston

Photos By: Alexandra Whitbeck / Reporter

The S.C. Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) held their annual fishing rodeo on Saturday, May 4. A total of 147 fishermen under the age of 15 came to participate. Including parents and family members there

were over 200 in attendance. The rodeo is usually held at the fish hatchery on Dunbarton Blvd. in Barnwell. However, due to the facility being closed for renovations, SCDNR hosted the event at

the Williston Town Park's pond. 1,000 fish were released into the pond for the event, with roughly 400 catches. Since the rodeo, residents have been busy catching the remaining fish.



Elements of our rich history and heritage

The night the lights came on

As remembered and researched by Perry Sprawls

Light for Studying in the 1940s



Rural Areas



Towns

For the farm and rural families throughout Barnwell County, an unforgettable night back in the 1940s was when they flipped a switch and there was light. A bright light flooding the room replacing the old kerosine lamps that had to be filled frequently, smokey chimneys cleaned, and carefully carried around from room to room as needed. For me on the Sprawls Farm near Williston, this was in 1941. For many years, the more densely populated towns had electricity provided by the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company, but the rural areas were not included. It was too expensive for a commercial company to build long lines to reach the rural homes scattered throughout the County, sometimes miles apart.

The Rural Electrification Act (REA), passed in 1936, was one of many New Deal proposals by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to remedy high unemployment during the Great Depression and improve the quality of life for citizens, especially in the rural areas. It provided federal loans to rural electric cooperatives that were organized and governed by the rural residents, usually the farmers. The Edisto Electric Cooperative, founded in 1939, serves Barnwell County.

As the cooperatives were developed, Rural Electrification was underway with the construction of power lines, wiring homes and installing lights on the farms.

The availability of electricity was a life-

changing event for every family...transitioning from the demanding lifestyle of their rural families and ancestors to the benefits of the many electrical conveniences we enjoy today. For many, the first appliance purchased was an electric iron for clothes replacing the heavy irons that had to be heated in the fireplace or on the woodburning kitchen stove. For families when they could afford it, the major event was the installation of an electric water pump and plumbing in the house for the kitchen, and especially the bathroom and indoor toilet! Electric refrigerators soon replaced the old ice boxes in the kitchen providing for a more variety of foods to be enjoyed. The electric stove replaced the wood burning stove and the necessity to cut and bring in wood every day.

For the farm families who raised vegetables and hogs for butchering, large chest-

type freezers called deep freezers made it possible to have a variety of foods throughout the year. These freezers were often promoted and sold by the cooperatives. The electric hot water heater and washing machine moved clothes washing indoors from washing by hand in tubs in the backyard and building fires to heat the water...in all kinds of weather. And for news and entertainment, there were electrically powered radios that did not require ordering large and expensive batteries from Sears and Roebuck.

It was the cooperative effort of farmers and other rural residents in Barnwell County back in the 1940s that transitioned their living conditions from that of previous generations to the lifestyle we enjoy today, with rural electrification.

Perry Sprawls' activities to preserve the history and heritage of Barnwell County includes providing the Barnwell County Virtual Museum online at: www.bcvom.org.



Barnwell County Consolidated SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Barnwell County Consolidated School District is currently accepting comments and/or requests for the naming of the Williston-Elko Auditorium. Naming requests must come from a school or community group. Individuals are not permitted to submit requests. As it stands, we have received one request. The Williston-Elko Arts Department has requested to name the auditorium in memory of Mrs. Linda Alsept, a beloved teacher and Drama Coach at Williston-Elko High School.

Criteria for the Naming of Facilities (Policy FF):

- ◆ Should have special significance and/or has made an outstanding contribution to the school or school system
- ◆ Has been deceased for at least three years
- ◆ The nominating group must agree to provide appropriate recognition such as a plaque, portrait, or marker for the school

Comments and or further request should be addressed to: David W. Corder, Superintendent via email at david.corder@bccsd.net

The deadline for comments and/or requests to the superintendent will be May 31, 2024.

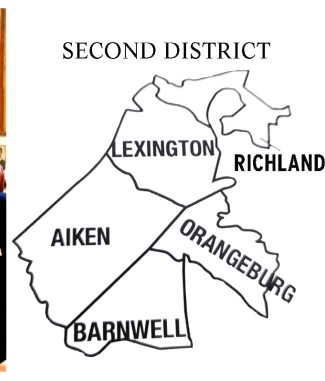
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Joe and Senator Tim Scott greet supporters in Aiken. Joe has been grateful to be on the Republican ticket with Senator Tim Scott.

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Defeat Dictators Overseas
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Preserve Our Constitutional Freedoms
Hold Washington Accountable
Restore the People's Voice

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NOTICE

If anyone has their original will kept in the will safe at the **Law Office of Miles Loadholt** (25 Hugh Street, Barnwell), please call **803-224-8813** to make arrangements to have your original will picked up. Thank you!

Blackville man finds faith through autism, cancer and witchcraft

Donna-Maria Conzalina
Faith Correspondent
naturalaffectionscolumn@gmail.com

By 2005, James Hutto lost both parents within six months of each other. This lowcountry native and son of a preacher was in a season of testing and change. The street drug, methamphetamine, was gripping people left and right and a close family member was caught in the trap. Hutto saw the young man wasn't willing to accept anyone's help, let alone his; so he prayed about it and sought a fresh start.

He ended up in Texas where his mother had passed away, a half sister still lived and the Holy Spirit secured his next mission.

As the sun was setting one Friday night, a neighbor knocked on his door requesting he ride along to help assist her coworker on lockdown. A woman she described as a single mom with three boys, the youngest being autistic; a pet wolf, two basset hounds and 19 cats needing to be fed.

Accepting the challenge, Hutto noted, "Upon arrival it was pitch black. A mobile home sat on a bayou with grass up to my shoulders." He introduced himself to the animals; the wolf, Scarlett, in particular. Once she accepted his welcome he fed the animals.

Scanning the unkempt yard, Hutto knew he'd return to cut the grass, ensuring the family had a safe environment. His neighbor guaranteed a lawn mower would await him come Monday. He walked 17 miles there, cut the grass and "had every intention of leaving before the single mother and her children arrived. But it didn't work that way," he said. While taking a break, filling a jug with water for the long hike back home, a white truck driven by the young mother pulled up.



James Hutto (left) and his son, Brandon Wolf, who has autism, at church. Donna-Maria Conzalina

"Her nine-year-old autistic son got out, toy pistol in his hand, waving his arms, making a buzzing sound like a giant hornet. He made a beeline right towards me," Hutto said. "No eye contact. He put a death grip on my wrist and was not letting go. Instantaneously, I knew my life just changed, forever."

The boy's mother commented to Hutto, "This is my son, Brandon Wolf Cub (his middle name is Wolf) he doesn't touch or allow himself to be touched by anyone; rarely even me. You're good people."

Days into weeks, Hutto continued helping the family as attachments formed. But a budding relationship was "quickly nipped in the bud" once he learned she was practicing Wicca and he, devoted to Christ, was soon to become a chaplain for a bikers organization. Still, "we coexisted very well; especially helping the young man with the deathgrip," Hutto said. "She was raised Christian and told me I wasn't judgmental like those she'd known before. Judge not lest ye be judged" was his reply. He also hoped she'd eventually return to Christ, believing

God's promise, "Raise them up in the ways of The Lord and they will come back to it," he paraphrased.

By age 13, Brandon split time between his grandparents and Hutto's home. "I became sort of a surrogate dad to him. He began calling me Daddy James. In high school, unbeknownst to me, he used my last name instead of his for classwork. I showed the papers to his mother, she glanced but didn't seem to compute the depth of his feelings."

By the summer of 2015, Brandon's struggling mother gave Hutto permission to become his power of attorney. "At that time, it wasn't in my wildest imagination that he would ever be a Hutto, but I wanted to do all I could to help him," Hutto said.

As graduation neared, school resources educated the young man about his approaching legal rights while home life found him in a mix of alpha male issues with mom's new husband.

With everyone in agreement, Hutto searched for an affordable home in Illinois for the two, while Brandon participated in a year-long after grad

high gear trying to get Brandon in some kind of structured program," he said. "The day program is ideal for him. In February, he was assessed and denied the Long Term Program Care program, which I agreed with. He does not need that. That's for people that are physically disabled. Unable to care for themselves. Brandon needs the intellectual disability side."

Attempts to get him into the program so far have gone nowhere. Once they arrived in Blackville, during the pandemic, Brandon immediately qualified via Zoom conference for S.C. Adult Disability Services, "but the phone never rang," Hutto said. "Almost 4 years later, he's still on the waiting list."

Hutto said he "saw a place in Bamberg - the board of disabilities. Went inside, presented paperwork, and was assigned a caseworker. Bought Brandon a lunch kit, walked through facilities; showed him his seat, got his physical, TB test, etc. He'd work in a community day program. Brandon was excited. Sat outside waiting for the bus day after day. It never came. I got a call instead. There was a mistake. I was totally caught off guard. What I gathered is that someone dropped the ball. My educated guess is it's not because of unavailability, not a lack of a spot for him, but that you're on a list and you simply have to wait. The bottom line is Brandon has acclimated to small town life. He's beyond happy here. He has a home but he's been on this list for four years. An autistic individual thrives on routine."

Options like respite services and community outings are likewise offered in South Carolina but it goes back to the waiting list. Over 10,000 individuals wait before him across the state.

"In my head I thought, my God, the man's going to be almost 40 before he gets any assistance," Hutto said. "So, we recently got a new caseworker assigned because of the fact that I have cancer. And because I'm his primary and only caregiver."

Brandon's daily routine has become his laptop and gaming system. His "command center."

Hutto continued, "He needs a companion program. He has 'Rae Salley'...a 'fox' he has around him all the time. A sixth dimensional being. She's everywhere he goes. To him, Rae Salley is real. She appeared around the time of my cancer diagnosis. He understands dad's diagnosis and shows no anxiety, but I do believe there's some anxiety there."

Brandon is diagnosed autistic and intellectually disabled (IDD) and Hutto has cancer. A colon cancer survivor in his 40s now Hutto, nearing 60, is a prostate cancer patient infiltrating the lymph nodes. Diagnosed 15 months ago, doctors are attacking it with hormone therapy.

"Since then I kicked into

He tells me, 'I'm not a snowflake. I won't melt.' He is either A: very brave or B: very good at putting on a brave face. And I think it's a combination of both."

Wiping a tear from his eye, Hutto said, "He needs socialization, he needs a friend. A reinforced, productive routine with trained people among other special needs individuals that he can relate to. It's critical. The old saying, you don't use it, you lose it. He's lost so much since he's been out of school. My desire is to see Brandon form a friendship. He's got Dad and that's it. The day program offers so much. But, God does not make mistakes. God brought us here. Introduced us all those years ago in Texas. I am so blessed. That young man chose me to be his dad. He's totally changed the course of my life in nothing but a positive way. I'm just looking for any umbrella that he can find assistance under."

As this interview wrapped up, we were both in tears. It suddenly came on this faith writer's heart to call, friend and brother in Christ, Barnwell County Sheriff's Department Lt. Eric Kirkland; son of the late, great Peggy Kirkland, who spent her life working tirelessly helping our community. The lieutenant, just like his mother would have done, didn't hesitate to speak with Hutto right then and there, offering encouragement, prayers and the assurance of any resources he may be able to find.

"Being in a rural place hurts us, up to mental illness. This is another case," Kirkland said.

"I'm a happy, positive man," Hutto said. "But I started to get depressed when I thought about my son's unmet needs. Having this opportunity for media exposure; for my son and others in our shoes, and speaking with Eric Kirkland has encouraged me so much. He immediately informed me of Bright Start, but it looks like they only do early intervention for children up to six, from what I can tell. He did offer major moral support and told me to call him anytime. He also mentioned something about a group that helps with home repairs and such. He is a very nice man."

Like it was years ago, Hutto's once again in a challenging season of change. "But I'm blessed," he said. "My son's gone from life in a pagan household to a community where people accept him and care. Now I just pray for someone to embrace him and be there for him when God calls me home."

BARNWELL FARMERS MARKET FULLER PARK

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9AM-1PM 2ND & 4TH SATURDAY

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All leaders, leaders-in-training, admin. Staff, ministers, deacons, musicians, ushers, finance and church secretaries, etc. are welcome.

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024 10:00AM TO 1:30pm \$25 PER PERSON

(pay in advance recommended by May 18)

Pay via Cash or CashApp \$KBE2024

Leading from the Second Chair, 8-week course information will be available.

15 Minute Break after 1st hour and light carryout lunch will be provided at the end.

Limited Seating! Maximum 200 People!

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Pastor Sarah C. Perkins

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- North Complex** at Palmetto Ave., North, SC
- Allendale Complex** at Bluff Road, Allendale, SC
- Blackville Complex** at Hampton Ave., Blackville, SC
- Branchville Villa complex** at Branchville Lane, Branchville, SC
- Denmark Gardens Complex** at Mimosa Avenue, Denmark, SC
- Fairfax Boundary Complex** at Boundary Street, Fairfax, SC
- Williston West Main Complex** at West Main Street, Williston, SC
- Barnwell Arms Complex** at Thomas Street, Barnwell, SC
- Bamberg Villa Complex** at Race Street, Bamberg, SC
- Hampton Gardens Complex** at W. Holly Street, Hampton, SC

Affordable and effective units Available. Rent is based on income. Applicants will be screened prior to Leasing. Contact the Barnwell, SC Office to submit an application on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at 1-800-922-5504 Or 803-259-3588

AG-0003364030-01

BIRTH



Noah Wren Dowling was born on April 21, 2024.

Noah Wren Dowling

Havyn Jones & Brian Dowling are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Noah Wren Dowling. She was born on April 21, 2024 at 2:10 p.m. She weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 20 and 1/4 inches. She was welcomed home by her big brother, A'kari Dowling. Grandparents are Courtney Griffin of Williston, John Griffin of Williston, Josh Jones of Andrews and Aika Strong of Williston. Great-grandparents are Wanda and Rodney Matthews of Beaufort, the late Cheryl Matthews of Columbia, and Carolyn Coleman of Williston.

BIRTH



Elaina Adelynn "Ellie" Teems was born on April 29, 2024.

Elaina Adelynn Teems

Elaina Adelynn Teems (Ellie) was born on April 29, 2024 at 7:55 p.m. at Piedmont Hospital, weighing 9 pounds, 5 ounces & measuring 22 inches long. Parents Todd & Cynthia Teems are raising Elaina and her sister Selah in their hometown of Barnwell where they are surrounded by the most loving family members and friends. Elaina is named after her great Memaw, Elaine Teems, and loved dearly by her great Granddaddy, Jerel Teems. Elaina is blessed with very supportive grandparents, Jeffery & Tracy Teems (in Eutawville), Donald & Tanya Bolen (in Williston), and Kristal Teems (in Barnwell).

BIRTH



Taten Ridge Hankins was born on May 10, 2024.

Taten Ridge Hankins

Austin and Abby Hankins of Barnwell are proud to announce the birth of their son, Taten Ridge Hankins. He was born May 10, 2024 at 12:06 p.m. at Aiken Regional Medical Center. He weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 21 inches long. He has two older siblings, Tyler and Trey Hankins. Paternal grandparents are Scotty (Jennifer) Hankins of Windsor, and Melissa Bodiford of Barnwell. Maternal grandparents are Richard and Debra Ray of Hilda. Paternal great-grandparents are James and Diane Atkinson of Barnwell and Jimmy and Peggy Bodiford of Long Branch. Maternal great-grandparents are the late Jeff (Franklin) Ray and Gloria Ray of Barnwell, the late John Lee Curtis of Denmark, and Emily Driggers of Barnwell.

BARNWELL COUNTY

LOSE TO WIN CHALLENGE

20 TO 24

\$2,500

IN CASH & PRIZES

The Barnwell County Lose To Win Weight Loss Challenge promotes healthier lifestyles through weight loss and wellness education over 16 weeks. Participants focus on improving physical health, nutrition, and mental well-being to cultivate lifelong wellness habits.

1ST PLACE		2 WINNERS	
GREATEST PERCENTAGE OF WEIGHT LOSS	MOST WEIGHT LOSS	\$500	\$500
2ND PLACE		3RD PLACE	
GREATEST PERCENTAGE OF WEIGHT LOSS	MOST WEIGHT LOSS	\$250	\$250
GREATEST PERCENTAGE OF WEIGHT LOSS	MOST WEIGHT LOSS	\$100	\$100

\$800 Raffle Prizes

A raffle system for contestants that participate in HEALing Partners supported health workshops and physical activities to be draw at the Winners Presentations.

Winners will be announced October 3, 2024

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Challenge starts June 3, 2024

Weigh ins at The Well in Barnwell May 28-June 7

Challenge ends September 24, 2024

Final weigh in must be done at The Well between September 24-September 26, 2024

Winners Presentations October 3, 2024 at a location to be determined

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The People-Sentinel

\$2,500 total prize money to be given away. Two winners of the challenge are the persons who achieve (1) the greatest percentage of weight loss will win \$500 and (2) the most weight loss will win \$500 by the end of the competition / 2nd Runner-up (2 winners) - 1) the greatest percentage of weight loss - \$250 2) the most weight loss - \$250 / 3rd Runner-up (2 winners) - 1) the greatest percentage of weight loss - \$100 2) the most weight loss - \$100 / \$800 Raffle Prizes - A raffle system cash and prizes for contestants that participate in HEALing Partners supported health workshops and physical activities outlined in the Lose To Win Challenge Handbook and at myhealingpartners.org. Contestants must be able to do in person weight in at the beginning and the end of challenge and weekly updates through text or email. For details and rules visit myhealingpartners.org or inquire in the Lose To Win Handbook.

Meet Your

LOCAL CANDIDATES

2 Republican candidates vye to be Barnwell County's next sheriff

Two have filed in hopes of being elected sheriff – current Sheriff Steve “Grits” Griffith and Stephen Gunnells. Both are on the June 11 Republican Primary ballot.

Steve "Grits" Griffith



Incumbent Sheriff Steve "Grits" Griffith is running for re-election in the hopes of continuing to serve his community. He's been sheriff since 2021, but has been in law enforcement since 1977.

The lifelong resident of Barnwell County was raised between Williston and the White Pond Community on the Pender Farm where he worked as a young boy. His parents are the late William Charlie Griffith and Dorothy Johnston Griffith of Williston. As a teen, Griffith worked as a bag boy and stock clerk for Bolen Brother's Red & White Grocery Store (now Schumpert's Market).

After graduating from Williston-Elko High School in 1977, he decided to go into law enforcement and began working as a dispatcher for Sheriff George Hogg while attending criminal justice courses at Orangeburg Technical College. Griffith worked at the Barnwell Police Department (BPD) from 1980-1982 and graduated from the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy (Class 138). In 1982, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps (USMC) and graduated from Basic Training at Parris Island, S.C. In 1983, he graduated from the U.S. Air Force Law Enforcement Academy and the U.S. Marine Corps Military Police Combat Support Course. He then served as a Military Police Officer at USMC Logistics Base, Albany, Georgia, USMC Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan, and USMC Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina until his honorable discharge in 1986.

From 1986-1989, he returned as a police officer for BPD. In 1989, he was hired by Sheriff Joey Zorn as a deputy sheriff, and worked his way through the ranks: shift sergeant, narcotics investigator, criminal investigator, lieutenant, captain, chief deputy, and sheriff (2021-present).

He is a life member of the Barnwell County Leathernecks Detachment 1227 (USMC), has been a little league baseball coach, is a member of the Ellington Agriculture Club, a life member of the National Rifle Association (NRA), and is a YMCA board member. Hobbies include hunting and fishing, shooting sports, watching baseball, and enjoying spending quality time with grandsons.

He has gained over 3,000 documented training hours over 45 years of experience serving under sheriffs Hogg, Zorn, Gantt, and Carroll as well as chiefs, chief deputies, a host of honorable law enforcement peers, and supervisors (military and civilian). Griffith describes this as both a personal and professional adventure. He continues to enjoy the "challenge of evolving with current trends, techniques, policies, technology, etc., and passing on what I have learned to the up-and-coming law enforcement officers."

On August 18, 1984, he married Melanie Dawn Powers. They have two children and three grandsons. They reside in Barnwell.

Why have you chosen to run for this seat?

GRIFFITH: I have chosen to run for re-election as sheriff of Barnwell County for numerous reasons. Over the last three-plus years, I have, along with the Barnwell County Sheriff's Office team, worked diligently on the three highest priorities I promised while campaigning in 2020: drugs, gangs and community relations to rebuild trust with our youth and citizens.

Gang intelligence has and will continue to be gathered, documented, and incorporated into investigations and community awareness on an ever-growing basis.

Illegal narcotic arrest and investigations continue to rise due to our active pursuit of the people responsible for the activity from the bottom to the top. I will not, nor will the Barnwell County Sheriff's Office team, stop the active pursuit of the individuals bringing in the illegal substances that ruin or end the lives of so many of our youth and citizens. Top threats are heroin, methamphetamine, fentanyl, and recent trafficking of fentanyl mixed with xylazine, also known as tranq. I will, with our partners, attempt to get anyone help for their addiction before it is too late, however, we will enforce the law. The gang and drug problem brings us most of our violent and property crime.

I have seen a very welcome and positive reaction to the Community Relations Unit created in 2021. This unit has documented approximately 250 partners with the Barnwell County Sheriff's Office to date. These range from clergy, churches, school administrators and teachers, businesses, neighborhood watches, private service agencies, government service agencies, Barnwell County, city, and town councils, first responders, firefighters, rescue personnel, emergency management, local, state, and federal law enforcement partners etc. I believe the most important reason I see the on-going increase is due to the bonding going on between our partners, citizens, and the Sheriff's Office. I will never abandon the goal of building trust between all citizens and this office!

The Barnwell County Sheriff's Office Facebook page is available to the public for several reasons. It is not to demean any individual. Its purpose is to:

- (1) Show the citizens we are working.
- (2) Serves as a venue to get out information on current events or major investigations we are working or assisting on.
- (3) Show arrest of major or illegal narcotic arrest as a DETERRENT to the people who trade in the flow of these threatening drugs. "I will put you out to the public."
- (4) To share the good stories and events. Along with our local news partners who cover this office, I like for the citizens to see the positive interactions with the sheriff's office, from the Law Enforcement Expo, Law Enforcement Community Service, book reading to the youth by a deputy at different partner locations, D.A.R.E. events, sponsoring speakers such as Dr. A.V. Strong to come to our schools to give presentations on gangs, etc.

We as a county have made tremendous progress and continue to prosper. I feel in my heart I can continue to lead the Barnwell County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with the citizens of Barnwell County in a strong effective manner when re-elected.

GUNNELLS: I chose to run for this seat because I felt like this is the direction God was leading me and because I felt it was time to offer the people of Barnwell County an opportunity for change. I believe in my heart the people of Barnwell County deserve the best, and I want to offer that to them. I truly want to give back to the county that raised me.

What does holding this position mean to you?

GRIFFITH:
Honor: It is a tremendous honor to hold the position of being the sheriff of Barnwell County.
Responsibility: The position of being the sheriff of Barnwell County carries a great weight. The responsibility of having approximately 100 employees to oversee, and the citizens of Barnwell County receive top notch law enforcement services and protection.

As all can understand, with a team of this size, human mistakes will be made, I correct with whatever action is applicable, and learn from it to avoid making the same mistakes twice.

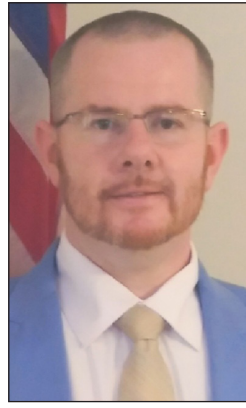
It takes knowledge, training, and command level experience to lead an office of this size with the different units involved. I am the only candidate with the qualifications to lead these operations effectively and successfully.

The greatest responsibility is to make every effort to ensure everyone goes home in the same physical and mental condition as when they report in.

I will serve with honor to the citizens and do accept the responsibility.

GUNNELLS: Holding this position means so much to me. It will allow me to grow my career, it will show the community my ability to lead, and it will help me further develop the future for me and my family.

Stephen Gunnells



Stephen Gunnells wants to be Barnwell County's next sheriff. Raised in Barnwell County, he's the son of Roger Gunnells and Debbie Collins. Grandparents are the late Jesse and the late Francis Gunnells of Barnwell, the late L.B. Collins of Williston, Florence Still of Blackville, and D.L. Still of Blackville.

Gunnells attended Blackville-Hilda schools from pre-kindergarten until his 10th grade year. He graduated from Williston-Elko High School. During his high school years, he began to prepare for a career in law enforcement by taking courses in Criminal Justice I and Criminal Justice II at the Barnwell County Career Center. While taking Criminal Justice II, he did an internship at the Williston Police Department where he did ride-alongs with officers and learned valuable information for his career.

In 2004, he started with the S.C. Department of Corrections at the Allendale Correctional Institution, where he completed the S.C. Corrections Officers Academy. Duties included supervising inmates.

In 2005 at the age of 22, Gunnells became the state's youngest police chief when he accepted the chief's job at the Olar Police Department. He completed the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy. As chief, he worked to develop good relations with the people in the community while developing skills as a police officer, dealing with daily operations of the department, plus patrolling and answering calls for service.

In 2006, he accepted a corporal position with the Blackville Police Department, but soon was promoted to the rank of sergeant and became a field training officer. He was later promoted to master sergeant. While employed with Blackville PD, he was a field training officer, shift supervisor, patrolled the town, answered calls for service, worked to develop good community relationships, and earned the respect of fellow officers.

In 2009, he moved to the Bamberg County Sheriff's Office under former Sheriff Ed Darnell. To begin building relationships with the young people in the county, he became a basketball coach with Bamberg City League Basketball program for boys ages 11-14.

In 2017, he was promoted to sergeant with the Bamberg County Sheriff's Office where he patrolled the county, answered calls for service, supervised those assigned to shift, and was assigned to the Bamberg County Task Force. A lesson from Sheriff Darnell that remains with him today is, "Feed everyone from the same spoon," meaning that regardless of who someone is or their background, treat them the same.

In 2019, he accepted a position as sergeant with Bamberg Police Department as a school resource officer. Gunnells started the first Bamberg Explorer Post for young people interested in a career in law enforcement. When the Bamberg and Denmark school districts consolidated, he was selected by the sheriff and chiefs in the county as the special duty coordinator for the school district to be a liaison between the district and law enforcement community. He was promoted from sergeant to lieutenant, and then to captain.

Training: Basic Law Enforcement Class 1, Crime Scene Investigations, Criminal Gang Investigations, Domestic Violence Investigations, Law Enforcement Response to Gangs, Organized Crimes and Narcotics, Elder Victimization, Sexual Assault Investigations, Fingerprint Recognition, Specific Skills Instructor, School Resource Officer, and other areas of specialized training.

He and his wife of 18 years, Annette, have four children. The licensed Church of God minister attends Blackville Church of God, where he has been a member for over 20 years.

What are some of the main issues you plan to address?

GRIFFITH: Along with the issues already addressed in my goals, officer safety is always a main issue. Also, recruitment and retention are an issue. Unless you have worked in the first responder field for a while, it's hard to get the whole picture of what these folks go through physically and mentally. In late 2023, I proposed, and worked together with the county council. We were able to restructure, and use federal funds and the detention center funds that were not Barnwell County tax line-items. This allowed us to get up to the S.C. State Assessment levels. However, if we don't keep pace each year, we will not be able to recruit or retain the personnel we have invested Barnwell County citizens' funds and sheriff's office time and funds into. We need to be able to keep what we have before we ask for more.

Training is always a high priority issue. Training from the start is needed. Officer safety and how to be professional and respectful to the public. Constant evolution with tactics and technology, along with policy training (use of force, failure to intervene, etc.) are critical.

GUNNELLS: I believe we must have more efficient response times and a plan to build more positive relationships with the public, especially the youth that are considered at risk by offering mentoring programs. We must build better relationships with other law enforcement agencies, have more productive and proactive patrols, more resources for investigations, a plan to decrease the drug trade, and we must lower the overall crime rate in Barnwell County.

How will you build a relationship or build trust with the community you serve?

GRIFFITH: The groundwork for trust building has been laid through Community Relation incentives and the continuous work will be ongoing, without interference or delay. Failure in this mission is NOT an option. Our sheriff's office partners, the Barnwell County Sheriff's Office team, and I have great faith in our ability to continue to work side by side in what I consider the best citizen/law enforcement co-effort of building trust in the area, if not the state.

GUNNELLS: Under my administration we would be more transparent. We will keep families informed about investigations. We will sponsor more events for the public to participate in. We will offer mentor programs for our youth. I will personally visit people in the community to ensure that their law enforcement needs are being met. The people of Barnwell County deserve to get the service for which they pay.

What are three major issues you think need to be fixed or addressed across the county?

GRIFFITH: First, I must go back to gangs, drugs, and community relations. I would like a Drug and Gang Task Force Unit and we have a proposal to launch if the right grant for Barnwell County opens. We have tried; however, it hasn't been awarded to us so far. As far as community relations, from what I have observed, the community wants to be involved as much as we want them to.

Second, trust. I need the citizens of Barnwell County's help with information. It might be a drive by shooting, a murder, a missing person, a drug house. We are looking into technology to make the tips anonymous due to Crimestoppers not being able to provide that service to us currently. However, if anyone knows something that is vital to an investigation, please help. If you don't want to talk to law enforcement, tell a pastor, a teacher, a trusted family member or friend to pass the information anonymously. I know it's scary, but when no one gives any information on a shooting at a party when there were two hundred people there, the shootings won't stop.

Third, Human Trafficking, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse are also major issues that are present. These are being addressed through the State Agencies and local agencies like Axis I, as well as ongoing Law Enforcement training.

GUNNELLS: Response times, community relations, and accountability.

Q&A continues on page A6

2 seek Republican Primary nomination for Barnwell County Council District 3

Three are running for the District 3 seat on Barnwell County Council: James “Andy” Hogg, David Peachey, and Willie Walker, but only two will be on the June 11 primary ballot. District 3 represents the outskirts of the incorporated areas of the Town of Williston, as well as the residences on the college-named streets east of Williston-Elko High School. Hogg and Peachey will be facing one another in the June 11 primary election for the Republican ticket. The winner of the Republican Primary will face Democrat Willie Walker in November during the General Election.

James 'Andy' Hogg

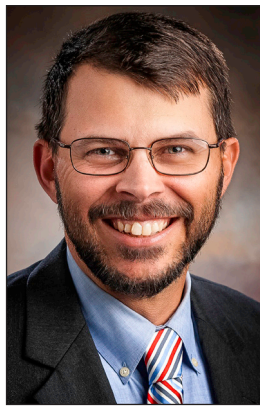


Andy Hogg is a lifelong resident of Barnwell County, and grew up in Kline.

He is married with two daughters. He is a Barnwell High School graduate, received an associates degree in criminal justice from Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College, and a bachelor’s degree in organizational management from Voorhees College.

Before his retirement, he worked in Centerra’s training department at the Savannah River Site. Hogg is certified to train instructors to teach first aid, professional rescue, CPR, and EMS responder courses through the American Red Cross. Hogg became a captain as a Barnwell County Sheriff’s Office reserve deputy serving four sheriffs. He has volunteered for the Barnwell Rescue Squad, Barnwell City Fire Department, and Long Branch Fire Department, where he was chief, for over 30 years. At the Long Branch FD, he established the Community Risk Reduction program alongside his wife. He has served on the Lowcountry Support Team for over 13 years.

David Peachey



David Peachey was born and raised in southwest Florida. Throughout his school-aged years and into his adult life, he often visited Barnwell County. During his military service, Peachey lived in several states and countless communities before his wife and three children chose to call Barnwell County home over nine years ago.

Early in life, Peachey was an active member and officer of his local 4-H, Future Farmers of America (FFA), and Cattlemen organizations where he developed leadership skills. After graduating high school, he joined the U.S. Air Force where he served worldwide for over 20 years before retiring. While in the Air Force, Peachey was a special agent with the Office of Special Investigations where he earned many awards including a Bronze Star. During this time, Peachey was also a law enforcement officer and a National Registry Emergency Medical Technician. Additionally, he graduated from several intermediate and senior-level leadership and management programs, received a professional certification in management, and earned a degree in criminal justice.

Since settling down in Barnwell County, Peachey and his wife have owned and operated a local cattle farm. Peachey served as a volunteer firefighter in the Elko fire district, coached and sponsored the Dixie Youth Baseball/Softball Association in Barnwell, volunteered and donated to the Barnwell County Career Center FFA chapter, is an active member of Press Church in Williston, is an active member on the Barnwell County Planning Commission, and serves as vice-chairman of the Barnwell County Republican Party.

Why have you chosen to run for this seat?

HOGG: I have been serving Barnwell County in the volunteer capacity all my adult life. Now that I have retired, I would like to serve in a different capacity and help shape Barnwell County to meet the needs of all the constituents.

PEACHEY: I have chosen to run for this position to be a fresh voice for our county who will make common sense decisions while standing up for the citizens and businesses of Barnwell County. I will utilize my experience to ensure not only the success of our community, but a bright future for our children who will hopefully raise their families right here in Barnwell County in years to come. As a local small business owner who understands how important county decisions are, and as a husband, father, and veteran, I have firsthand experience with the challenges and concerns our community faces. Throughout my life and career, I have found two constant, reliable sources of wisdom and guidance in all situations I have encountered, and intend to continue to rely on them while serving Barnwell County: the U.S. Constitution and the Bible.

What does holding this position mean to you?

HOGG: It means I take on the voice of the people I serve. I must listen with an open mind and make thoughtful, well-informed decisions to the best of my ability.

PEACHEY: As someone who has served his country and community for nearly three decades, I am passionate about advocating for positive advancements and changes. This position is an opportunity for me to help my fellow citizens have their voices heard within our community. Fostering relationships with our community members, business leaders, and faith organizations will be a number one priority for me if I am entrusted with this position. This will allow me to ensure the concerns, needs, and priorities of our neighbors are properly addressed.

How will you ensure the issues of the constituents you represent are prioritized on the county level?

HOGG: The best way to learn your community’s concerns is to talk to people, become invested in their issues, and get to know them on a personal level. Then, a clear picture can be formed regarding the most pressing matters that need to be addressed first and so on.

PEACHEY: Economic development, which leads to an increased tax base and additional county funding, will improve all county matters. Not only will I work hard for my district, I will fiercely advocate for all of Barnwell County! I will stand for fiscal accountability and transparency; I will work toward attracting new industries, diversifying our economy, and supporting small business owners. I will steadfastly defend our public safety professionals, and make sure that residents’ voices are heard. I will stand up to over regulation and policies that negatively impact our county, our businesses, and our residents!

How will you build a relationship or build trust with the community you serve?

HOGG: Establishing effective communication channels is crucial in developing any relationship, especially with your constituents. One must maintain open lines of communication through meeting people where they are comfortable, either public forums, social media, or attending public gatherings to hear their issues. By maintaining a transparent forum, the community will stay informed on all issues related to county government and know that I am there to serve them and be their voice.

PEACHEY: Trust and relationships are something that is earned over the course of time; however, I have learned that being honest and straightforward with those you serve vs. misleading or disingenuous will generally garner the best results and foster the best relationships. Those who know me, know “Integrity, Honesty, and Character” is not just a motto, but words I live by.

I am not running for this position for any other reason but to make Barnwell County a better place for all of its residents. As an act to help build trust with our community and to demonstrate that my intentions are sincere, I pledge to donate 25% of my monthly pay as your county councilman to a county project or organization that will benefit the entire community, and help make Barnwell County a better place.

While participating in county activities, I recently learned our county’s animal shelter is only able to budget \$600 a year for animal food, and relies on community support to help fund the remaining needs. Because of this, I intend to make my first pledge to help alleviate this issue by purchasing approximately \$200 a month in dog and cat food.

What are three major issues you think need to be fixed or addressed across the county?

HOGG: Barnwell County needs to attract more businesses to improve economic development. We need to continue to improve our educational development. We need to generate funding for the school systems through grants and economic revenue, not strain the tax base on the constituents. Finally, we need more local healthcare access for our community.

PEACHEY: Transparency – Over the years it has been observed that our council has not effectively communicated what is happening and/or what decisions are being considered within the county under the guise of “executive session.” Although all ordinances and/or resolutions are read at the monthly council meetings, they are oftentimes only read by “title only” and lack any details or particulars of matters under consideration, which residents want to know. County residents deserve to be informed so that they can advocate for their best interests.

Fiscal Responsibility – It is the county council’s responsibility to be good stewards of the taxpayers’ money! While talking with potential constituents and others within the county, it is apparent that community members are disappointed in years of poor judgment in county spending and expect a representative who will stand up for supporting common sense spending while pushing back against wasteful or unproductive expenses.

Economic Development – Although Barnwell County is in the rural part of our state, it has amazing people who live here, many of whom are either small business owners or entrepreneurs who want to either keep business local or bring business into our county from surrounding communities. Our current council is quick to entice industrial entities into our county by giving significant tax breaks, but leave the established small businesses and entrepreneurs behind. President Ronald Reagan once said that, “Entrepreneurs and their small enterprises are responsible for almost all the economic growth in the United States.” Based on this, our county should consider incentivizing small businesses and entrepreneurs to help grow our economy. The better our county’s economy becomes, the lower our taxes will be!

What is your first priority, if elected?

HOGG: I would like to see more revenue generated in Barnwell County. This would help grow our community and help reduce the financial burdens that our taxpayers are feeling.

PEACHEY: Being active within the community for several years has placed me in a good position to have several concerns; however, a good leader recognizes that changes should not be made in haste, but any decisions should be analyzed prior to making any changes that affect our community. The first thing I intend to do is become familiar with any county issues or matters that I may not have sufficient information on, talk to my constituents and learn what matters to them, then prioritize any future decisions to align with my constituents’ priorities. Not only will I look at local practices, but also at best practices and programs occurring throughout our state and country and see where improvements can be made. For example, considering where programs like Lean Six Sigma could be implemented to not only streamline county operations, but also ensure we provide increased levels of service with fewer of your tax dollars.

What are some short-term and long-term goals?

HOGG: Short-term goals would be to improve infrastructure such as roads and bridges to enhance connectivity within the county. Work with industries in the surrounding areas to develop a skilled workforce directly out of high school. Develop partnerships with healthcare agencies to provide quality healthcare services.

Long-term goals are to develop and sustain the economic growth in Barnwell County, while maintaining environmental conservation. We must, also continue to enhance our youth by providing the highest quality of education to prepare them for life.

PEACHEY: Short-term: Ensure that our community members are staying informed on the issues by providing up to date and accurate information about county business.

Long-term: Reduction of non-essential spending at all levels, adequate funding, equipment, and training for the county fire, emergency medical services, and law enforcement entities, and economic development to lower county taxes, support existing businesses, and attract industries.

SHERIFF: Q&A with 2 Barnwell County sheriff's candidates

FROM PAGE 5A

What is your first priority, if elected?

GRIFFITH: Praying for guidance from the Good Lord because no person can do this job without Him! To lead in the best manner to keep all safe and to keep the Barnwell County Sheriff’s Office team improving as they have been, to better serve and protect as sworn.

GUNNELLS: My first priority is to begin building a rapport with the citizens of Barnwell County and the employees of Barnwell County Sheriff’s Office as well as begin to implement changes and address the challenges that have been identified.

What are some short-term and long-term goals?

GRIFFITH: Short-term: To have even more interaction with the community, especially the youth. Please bring the youth to our events and please invite us to your youth events.

Long-Term: Continue to reduce crime. The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) compiles a book on crime statistics per year, per city, per county, and state agencies. If you look online (SLED Statistics) and click on the SLED website and go to the year you want to look at. These yearbooks of statistics are very detailed and accurate. My years as Sheriff are 2021, 2022, 2023-present. The 2021 stats were published in October of 2022, the 2022 stats were published in November of 2023, so I would guess the stats for 2023 will be out this fall. In both 2021 and 2022, if you scroll down near the top to the summaries, you will see that in both years statewide trends show crime in the state was down.

- In 2021, the Barnwell violent crime rate was down 46%.
- In 2021, on page 182, shows Barnwell County Arrest rates, this includes the city’s statistics.
- In 2021, on page 252, shows the breakdown of 2020 vs 2021 index crime.
- In 2022, on page 186, shows Barnwell County arrest rates, this includes the city’s statistics.

- In 2022, on page 256, shows the breakdown of 2021 vs 2022 index crime. Please be aware some cases in each of those years have been solved so the rates should show a difference now.

Some stats from the Sheriff’s Office CAD system show some interesting information:

The Sheriff’s Office response time is computer documented at 7 min 13 sec. Of course, this is an average of calls where the deputy is on scene immediately, such as a traffic stop or escort versus a call where the deputy is in Kline and must travel to the other side of Williston.

Another stat of interest is that in 2023, Central Dispatch answered the phone 70,806 times.

Some stats such as the three overdose death cases where arrests were made are not available at this time.

I have mentioned this to emphasize the importance that the Barnwell Sheriff’s Office should respond to your call in a timely manner. The Barnwell County Sheriff’s Office will make all attempts to solve all cases, big or small. And the long-term goal is to get the crime rate on a continuous downward trend and keep improving the course of the Barnwell County Sheriff’s Office to best serve all of the finest citizens in the State of South Carolina.

GUNNELLS: Short term goals are to build a rapport with the people in the county and begin bridging gaps between the public and law enforcement, place people in positions that will best suit the department and the citizens of the county, ensure standards within the Sheriff’s office are met, address any personnel issues and fill any vacancies in office, etc.

Long term goals are to meet with leaders to implement positive overall change in Barnwell County’s law enforcement culture, work with state leaders about bringing a mental health and drug rehab center to Barnwell County, and to bring the overall crime rate including drug, violent, and property crime rates below the national average in Barnwell County.

Three Barnwell County natives run for county council District 7 seat

Three have filed for the District 7 seat on Barnwell County Council: Travis Hooper, Alan Kennedy, and John Zorn. All have been born and raised in Barnwell County. The seat is currently held by Chairman Jerry Creech, who is not seeking reelection. District 7 has a population of 2,993, according to 2020 census data. The district is the largest in population and covers the eastern side of the county, including sections of Hilda, Friendship, and Kline communities. Hooper, Kennedy, and Zorn are all Republicans.

Travis Hooper



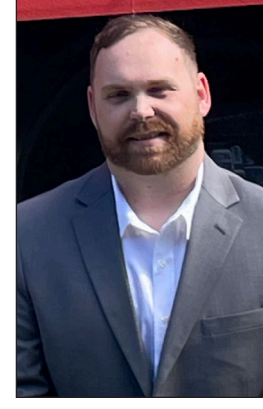
Travis Hooper is a Barnwell native raised by his parents, Maxine Hopper and the late Gary Hooper. He is married with three children and three grandchildren. He is a local business owner to his own lawn care company and his late father's business. Hooper is an ordained deacon at Barnwell First Baptist Church, a member of Masonic Lodge Harmony #17, currently serves as the President of the Ellenton Ag. Club, and is a member of the Echo Coalition Committee.

Alan Kennedy



Alan Kennedy is a Barnwell County native who grew up in the Friendship Community with parents Richard and Angie Kennedy. He is married with three daughters. Kennedy is a 2009 Barnwell High School graduate and is currently employed as a maintenance mechanic at the Savannah River Site, where he has been for eight years. Prior to working at SRS, Kennedy worked in law enforcement for six years and has been a volunteer firefighter for 15 years. He is the Barnwell voting Precinct 3 Executive Committeeman for the Barnwell Republican Party.

John 'Johnnie' Zorn



John "Johnnie" Zorn is a Barnwell County native who began serving the county as an EMT in 2010 at Williston Rescue. He later worked as an S.C. State Trooper with Troop 7. Toward the end of his career in law enforcement he was a front-line supervisor and Field Training Officer for the City of Barnwell Police Department. He returned to Barnwell County as a paramedic for Thorne Ambulance. Zorn also served as a volunteer firefighter with Friendship Community Volunteer Fire Department.

Why have you chosen to run for this seat?

HOOPER: I have chosen to run for Barnwell County Council District 7 because I feel the need to continue the improvements started by the current councilmen. I also want to help improve our community even more. I believe that we live in a great community and I want to be part of keeping our community great for our children and grandchildren.
KENNEDY: I have chosen to run for this seat because I want to see Barnwell County grow, prosper, and be a safer place for our families to live and work.
ZORN: I have chosen to run for this office due to several factors. The biggest factor that has driven me to run is my deep desire to serve my community and put its needs above my own. As I feel my selfless careers serving my community will show a proven example of.

What is your first priority, if elected?

HOOPER: My first priority, if elected, would be to find ways to increase budgets for rural fire departments that will enable them to provide better service to the people of our community.
KENNEDY: My first priority if elected is to work towards providing a more reliable EMS service for the citizens of our county.
ZORN: My first priority, if elected, is to advocate and fight for that fourth ambulance. A fourth ambulance in the county is a need not a luxury. That ambulance, although it's stationed in my district serves every district and citizen in this county. That fourth ambulance can very much be the difference between life and death in critical situations that require immediate transport. We are fortunate as a county to have a great network of first responders that are more than willing to drop what they're doing to answer the call and they help combat this missing ambulance, but in a critical situation our first responders are managing patients for extended periods of time awaiting EMS response. A fourth truck would help to alleviate that problem and save lives.

What does holding this position mean to you?

HOOPER: I have a personal interest in the increasing rates of overdose because my own nephew was a victim of this. I want to see programs that help those addicted and their families. As a member of the Echo Coalition team that meets monthly, I have first hand knowledge of the violence and drug issues that affect this county.
KENNEDY: Holding this position would mean that the constituents of District 7 would have a voice from someone who truly cares about them and who considers this area home.
ZORN: This office means to me giving back the most important thing to my community, its voice. I feel that in politics more often than not the voice of the voters gets lost somewhere along the way. Holding this office for whomever is elected means that your voice and opinions should be the last thing you are concerned about, because you now represent an entire district as well as a county. Their voices should be the ones speaking through you.

What are some short-term and long-term goals?

HOOPER:
 Short-Term Goals: Find ways to help EMS give quicker response times to people in need, and work closely with law enforcement and Axis I to bring solutions to violence and drug overdoses to the county.
 Long-Term Goals: Work with state officials to try and bring some type of emergency healthcare back to Barnwell County and look into the possibility of increasing infrastructure in the county to help small businesses thrive.
KENNEDY:
 Some short-term goals of mine are to help our fire departments and sheriff's office acquire the needed funding either through grants or other means, work towards a more responsible use of county tax payer money, and to bring back some type of emergency care inside of our county.
 A few of my long-term goals are to bring jobs and industry back to Barnwell, support small business growth and development, and to work with county agencies to mitigate the litter and trash problem in our county.
ZORN:
 Most of my short-term goals are listed above such as the fourth ambulance, the fire tax, and last is one not talked about before the condition of unpaved and paved roads in our county. My short-term goal for an ambulance is to work with our current EMS provider to see what it would take to have that fourth unit and open negotiations. A short-term solution for the fire tax is to begin trying to figure out where it went and why it went there in the first place. As far as the road conditions are concerned, I would want to work with both our county administration and SCDOT to try and figure out how we can begin to fix some of the problems. I know from experience that the unpaved roads in this county go months without attention. It has taken citizens taking photos and going to the county administration building to get the roads graded. No citizen should have continuously ask for their unpaved road to be graded, nor should they have to contend with the potential damage it may cause to their vehicles. I would like to work with our administration and SCDOT to ensure that the unpaved roads are well maintained regularly.
 My long-terms goals share some of the commonalities as my short term. The first is finding a permanent fix to the EMS system here in the county, trying to get unpaved roads paved as well as roads in disrepair fixed with the state, advocate for paid volunteer firefighters, and try to increase infrastructure. My long-term goal for fixing the EMS system is a simple one. A county funded and operated system. With the money that is being paid out and the potential billing recovery there is no valid answer as to why we do not have our own EMS system in place. I know the first thing that is going to be said is I am trying to create a job. This is not the case because if elected and this plan is successful, I will walk away from a career as a paramedic in my home county as it would be unethical for me to have any part whether in office or not. This is a need as the county needs to be able to fix the problems that are causing the issues, but more so have the control to do so versus just asking it to be done and voting to fine a service. My solution and goal for the roads in our county is to begin working with the state to what their maintenance schedule and plan is for both the unpaved and paved roads in our county. Now I understand that some of the unpaved roads are county responsible roads. I would like to work with our administrators to see what their maintenance plans were for the future and our roads. Another cause near and dear to me is advocating for paid volunteer firefighters. I feel that this is something that has been thrown to the wayside with the old saying of "It's volunteer for a reason." With the rising cost of everything and the higher-than-normal inflation we need to step up and support our volunteers more now than ever. I would like to talk to managers and directors of our business we have in our county now to see what the county could do to build its infrastructure and bring new businesses in. With an increase in new businesses comes major growth potential for our county. As well as creating new jobs that would help keep our county thriving for the future generations.

How will you ensure the issues of the constituents you represent are prioritized on the county level?

HOOPER: I want to be a representative that will personally meet with the community and listen to what our community needs. I will be vocal about my beliefs and what needs to be done for all people in our county.
KENNEDY: I will ensure that the issues and concerns of the people whom I will represent are prioritized by being approachable to them and by having the determination to stand and fight for what they want and need without backing down. I want people to be able to come to me at any time and know that I truly care about them and our community.
ZORN: I have many ideas on each of the topics that you included (i.e. healthcare, gun violence, increasing rates of overdoses). Access to healthcare I would want to start with the activation of the 911 system and EMS. I would like to see a fourth EMS unit back in Hilda. Next, I would want to work with MUSC to try and open avenues of communication about BBEMC and what the two counties can do to help with getting the specialist office opened from the original plan. On gun violence, I would work very closely with Sheriff Grits and see what resources his agency needs to begin reducing the number of violent crimes as well as drug crimes. The increasing number of overdoses I would like to work with Axis I Center, Fire, EMS, and the Sheriff's Office to hold community days to increase the knowledge of resources that are in place and available. I would like to hold training events that teach about the dangers of common and dangerous street drugs as well as the administration of Narcan.

How will you build a relationship or build trust with the community you serve?

HOOPER: I will be a strong voice for the people that I represent in this county.
KENNEDY: To build trust with the community, I will be transparent and have an open-door policy. I also plan on having regular town hall type meetings within district 7 to keep people informed on what is happening, good or bad, and to listen to concerns or comments. I believe this will allow me to be held accountable as I believe anyone who represents the people should be.
ZORN: I plan to build a relationship with my community through selfless services and running a transparent campaign. I would like to hold quarterly community meetings to be able to have open conversations with people in the community to ensure my office and the council were doing everything possible to assist and answer their questions and concerns.

What are three major issues you think need to be fixed or addressed across the county?

HOOPER: Three major issues that I want to address if elected are increasing budgets for rural fire departments, having better EMS response in the county, and pushing to get Barnwell County to build an emergent care facility to meet the needs of our people.
KENNEDY: The three major issues I believe that need to be addressed are EMS service and emergency health care provision, appropriate funding for our fire service and law enforcement, and fiscal accountability.
ZORN: As there are several major issues, I feel need to be addressed across the county it is hard to just choose three, however, I will only give three for this article. The first issue is actually my main issue as it has the potential to have the worst consequences. I would advocate and fight for a fourth ambulance to be placed back in Hilda. This isn't just because that unit answers the vast number if not all the calls in my district. It's because in certain medical situations the closeness of that unit is certainly the difference in the outcome of a call. The second issue that majorly needs to be addressed is the missing fire tax. This money is much needed in the fire service and can go a long way in providing equipment and supplies for our volunteer firefighters and the communities that they protect. The final issue is exploring what our county can do to provide better emergency medical care such as emergency room or hospital. I would like to speak with MUSC and see their improvement plans for BBEMC. I would like to work with them to try and obtain a deadline as to when they would have the specialist offices that they originally planned to have at BBEMC would be available to our communities in the county.

Are you ready to vote?

Go to scvotes.gov to check your voter registration information, see a sample ballot, find a polling place, etc.

KEY DATES

May 28

Early voting for Primaries begins at county voter registration offices and other early voting centers.

May 31

Deadline for voters to apply for an absentee ballot for Primaries.

June 7

Deadline to vote early in person for Primaries.

Could increasing recreation help Allendale confront gun violence and community's generational divide?

Elijah de Castro

Report for America

elijah@thepeoplesentinel.com

Between May 3–5, laughter and singing echoed through the once-empty streets of the Town of Allendale as the community gathered to celebrate the Yamassee Indian Tribe's Green Corn festival. The event, which brought dozens of people across the Lowcountry region together, was widely described as a success in a town lacking recreational infrastructure.

"The kids enjoyed themselves and the citizens enjoyed themselves," said Allendale Town Council member Marlon Creech. "There was a lot going on in that particular timeframe, but people still came out that weekend, they still felt safe, they still were able to come out and enjoy themselves."

The festival also offered a glimpse into the promise of what community leaders believe recreation in Allendale can be. For years, as the population of Allendale County has declined, the lack of shared recreation spaces has left locals without a place to spend time together. The results, community leaders say, have been wide-reaching.

"Right now, we have nothing," said Allendale County Council member Willa Jennings, who serves on the county council's recreation committee. "We barely have a place to meet and come together as a group. Barnwell has so much recreation for their community, [but] Allendale County has never invested in recreation."

Leaders like Jennings, as well as citizens within the county, frequently draw connections between the lack of local recreation and an observed generational divide within the community. Some elected officials, like Allendale Town Council member Marlon Creech, see increasing recreational opportunities for young people as a way to prevent gun violence and repair Allendale's generational divide.

"We gotta get the older people to come on out and get everybody to connect," said Marlon Creech, who frequently organizes with young men in the community. "If we don't connect, [young people] are not going to understand and they're not going to care about shooting up a place. They're not going to care, so we got to find a connection."

Building out recreational infrastructure in Allendale frequently faces barriers, despite widespread community support. However, multiple projects proposed in Allendale's local governments offer a look into what the promise of recreational opportunities could bring, as well as what barriers these projects face to getting off the ground.

State park proposal

Unlike its neighbors in Hampton and Barnwell counties, Allendale is one of a small number of South Carolina counties without a state park. Yet, by all appearances, the county would be the ideal place for a state park. In addition to having local support, the county has no shortage of land and is teeming with Lowcountry biodiversity.

Allendale County Council member Willa Jennings has been an advocate of getting Allendale its own state park. However, the project



Members of the Allendale community dance together at an event.

would require funding and resources from outside the county. At the Allendale County Democratic Party convention in March, where state senator Brad Hutto was in attendance, Jennings pushed Hutto to get Allendale resources in Columbia for the state park.

In addition to attracting new visitors to an area, state parks reconnect communities with the natural world, which in turn help communities facing public health issues, according to Dianne Palladino, the interim director of research and evaluation at the National Recreation and Park Association.

"There's a lot of evidence that usage of parks can



Although a state park could bring new recreational activities to Allendale like hiking, the high upfront costs of starting a state park are a barrier.



Despite local support for community centers, the Fairfax community center has yet to complete construction and has incurred over \$1 million in costs.

improve physical and mental health," said Palladino. "It can help lower medical insurance costs for parks and rec[reation] users."

Increasing access to green spaces and the natural world also has the potential to reduce gun violence in communities, according to a 2020 University of Virginia study. Additionally, Palladino said, state parks protect ecosystems like wetlands which will be critical to mitigating climate change as the continued burning of fossil fuels pushes global temperatures higher and higher.

"Conservation resiliency and fixing these areas would make them more resilient to



The Allendale Community Center has fallen into disrepair over the years, however a new grant obtained by town council member Marlon Creech hopes to reopen its doors.

climate change and weather changes, protecting natural resources, improving air and water quality," Palladino said. "It improves quality of life and there's just a benefit of having the attraction in the area."

Despite voicing support, discussions within the Allendale County Council about creating a state park in Allendale often stop at the high upfront costs;

Allendale a state park — an idea that originated from Representative Jim Clyburn — has gained support over time. A state park, Jennings said, would increase the variety of activities young people can do outside of school, like hiking and canoeing.

Community centers

Community centers for the small communities in Allendale hold widespread support. However, community centers are also known for their lengthy construction times and

a community center that began construction in 2019 has yet to be completed. The community center was originally pitched as a space to bring the community together for birthday parties, celebrations and other events. However, so far, the town has spent over \$1 million on its construction, including local relief funds it received through the American Rescue Plan Act.

In South Carolina's fiscal year 2022–23 budget, state



State parks help local communities conserve wildlife and critical ecosystems, which are crucial for mitigating the effects of climate change.

budget overages.

Currently, two community centers in Allendale are in the process of construction. In October 2023, Marlon Creech won a \$25,000 Hometown Economic Development Grant to make necessary repairs to the roof of the Town of Allendale's Flat Street community center. According to a budget report distributed at a March 12 meeting, \$40,000 has been allocated towards repairing the community center.

However, at a March meeting, Marlon Creech criticized the Allendale Town Council for what he saw as a lack of urgency and organization towards making the repairs happen, and as of May 2024, the repairs have not been completed.

A similar story exists in the Town of Fairfax, where

representative Lonnie Hosey secured \$4.5 million in earmarked funds to support the renovation of the C.V. Bing High School, located adjacent to the Allendale-Fairfax Highway as a community center. The renovations would take years to complete, and

would cost more than what Hosey had secured. Yet the million-dollar price tag of the project doesn't have to fall entirely on the county. In April, Rory Dowling, a development advisor at Ist & Main Development — downtown revitalization real estate firm — spoke to the county council about how the county can reduce the cost through taking advantage of a flurry of tax credits.

The C.V. Bing High School was used as a school for Black students during Jim Crow discrimination, and Dowling believes it is eligible to qualify as a historical building both on a state and federal level. This would get the project access to historic building tax credits, as well as tax credits the state of South Carolina gives for the renovation of abandoned buildings. The rest of the project, Dowling said, would be financed through a United States Department of Agriculture loan or private lender.

"The cost is pretty significant, but ... when you take all of those tax credit programs into play and that it's a public-private partnership, it makes the project actually feasible," said Dowling.

Community Swimming Pool

For residents of Allendale, young and old alike, learning to swim within the community has been nearly impossible. For older residents, the swimming pool that once existed in Allendale was racially segregated, and for young people,

"We never had the opportunity in my lifetime to learn how to swim in Allendale," said Allendale County Council member Willa Jennings. "The only pool that was around was a pool for a different race of people, it was not for African Americans."

The proposal to get a swimming pool in Allendale faces similar issues to other recreational projects. The project was removed from the county's recent penny sales tax list, as the council estimated that the costs of the project would be higher than the \$500,000 that had been listed.

Despite practical barriers that the local governments face, support for increasing recreational opportunities in Allendale remains high. For older residents like Deborah Creech, recreation can be a way to expand horizons for young and older people in a community where people often feel isolated from each other.

"Kids are very talented, but you have to have some way to find that [talent] and explore that," said Allendale resident Deborah Creech, who would support bringing a state park if it were implemented with proper regulations. "A lot of kids don't know what they're talented at until they start doing it."

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George Martin Harter

gardening, fishing, cooking, spending time with friends and watching his granddaughters play sports.

George served in the National Guard. He dedicated 30 years to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources as a Game Warden earning the honor of National Officer of the Year in 1986. He also served as a noncommissioned U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Officer.

He is survived by his children, Mary Ann Westendorf (Chad) and Stephen Harter (Emily); and his grandchildren, Sophie Westendorf and Langley Harter. Also, he is survived by his siblings: Joe Harter (Debbie), Bobby Priester (Johnny), Janice Smith

(Ricky), Phyllis Harvey (Buck), and Eula Sineath. In addition to his parents, George was preceded in death by his wife, Pasty Harter.

A graveside service was held 11 a.m. Monday, May 20, 2024 at Swallow Savannah Cemetery in Allendale. A visitation followed at the cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Friends of Hospice or the American Diabetes Association would be greatly appreciated.

Keith Smith Funeral Service, 128 Water Street, Allendale, assisted the family with arrangements. Sign the online guestbook at keithsmithfuneralservice.com.

The People-Sentinel 5/22/2024

SYCAMORE - George Martin Harter, 83, of Sycamore, passed away peacefully in the early morning of May 17, 2024. He was born in Allendale on November 7, 1940, to the late Cecil Wyman Harter and Doris Brabham Harter.

George was a proud man known for the love of his family especially his grandchildren. He attended Sycamore Baptist Church. He enjoyed vegetable

Lawanda Denise Williams Robinson



School District 45 as a Special Education Career Specialist.

Her sweet spirit and beautiful smile brightened every room that she walked in. She never met a stranger. Her love and passion for children with special needs radiated in her work at the school, as well as in the community. She advocated for those that couldn't advocate for themselves. She dedicated all of her work to bringing awareness to autism disorders in honor of her son, Daven.

Besides her mother, Lawanda was preceded in death by her son, Daven Williams; and her brother, Terence Williams.

Lawanda leaves to cherish her precious memories her loving and devoted husband, Brian Robinson; daughter, Brianna Robinson; sister, Latoya Smith of Bamberg; brother, Mohammed Nelson of Virginia; mother-in-law, Sandra Hammond; sister-in-law, Christie

Robinson; two brothers-in-law, Johnny Hammond of Blackville and Joshua Hammond of the Middle East; two uncles, Carl (Angelia) Williams Jr. of Blackville and Dennis (Dorothy) Williams of Missouri; two aunts, Joe Marie (Robert) Martino of Ehrhardt and Ruth Smalls of Blackville; three special cousins that were raised as her sisters and brother, Shantel Tucker, Chelsea Calhoun, and Kolin Williams; and a host of other loving relatives and friends that cared for her deeply.

Visitation was held Sunday, May 12 from 3-6 p.m. at Dash's Funeral Home. The funeral service was held Monday, May 13 at 1 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

Dash's Funeral Home in Blackville assisted the family with arrangements. Sign the online guestbook at www.dashsfh.com.

The People-Sentinel 5/22/2024



Sherry Lee Tracey Danley

crafting, buying and repurposing items to sell, AKA "hustling." She was the matriarch and rock of her family, who she loved and took care of.

She is survived by her daughters, Samantha Tracey Hamilton and Brandi Tracey; granddaughter, Gianna Elise Tracey; sisters, Cynthia Ann Morris and Paula Lisa Seabrook, nieces and nephews, Nicole Seabrook, William Seabrook, Valerie Sandifer, Nicholas Morris, April Morris Cook, and Troy Morris; as well as a slew of great nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her daughter, Amy Melissa Tracey; sisters, Barbara Burroughs and Linda Donely; and brother, Larry Donely.

A visitation was held on Sunday, May 19th, 2024 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Mole Funeral Home. A graveside service was held on Monday, May 20th, 2024 at 11 a.m. at the Barnwell County Memorial Cemetery, with Dr. T. Bart Kelley officiating.

Sign the online guestbook at molefh.com.

The People-Sentinel 5/22/2024

AIKEN - Sherry Lee Tracey Danley, 69, passed away on May 15th, 2024.

She was born in Bamberg, S.C. on November 27th, 1954 to the late William Edward Tracey and Ethel O'Neil Frazier Tracey. She enjoyed many things in life, including cooking,



Linda E. Still

the Gideons International, P.O. Box 86, Williston, S.C. 29853.

Linda passed away at home on Monday, May 20, 2024.

Born in Blackville, S.C., she was the daughter of the late Joseph Clifton Etheredge and Louise Birt Etheredge and was married to the late Larry James Still. She was a member of Reedy Branch Church where she was a member of the Joy Club and served as church secretary. She also enjoyed being involved with the Willing Hearts Club at Friendship Baptist Church. She previously worked at Barnwell County Hospital in the Medical Transcription Department. Linda loved to travel, watch Hallmark movies, and enjoyed scrolling through Facebook and playing games on her iPad. She enjoyed cooking and also was a member of the Red

Hat Club.

Survivors include her sons, James Kevin (Leigh) Still of Barnwell, S.C. and Gregory Alan (Jaime) Still of Bamberg, S.C.; her caregiver who she loved like a daughter, Kathryn Bryant of Williston, S.C.; two granddaughters, Jennifer Leigh Still of Charleston, S.C. and Ashley Michaela Still (Ray Lewis) of Olar, S.C.; a special sister-in-law, Dorothy Creech of Lexington, S.C.; along with a number of nieces and nephews.

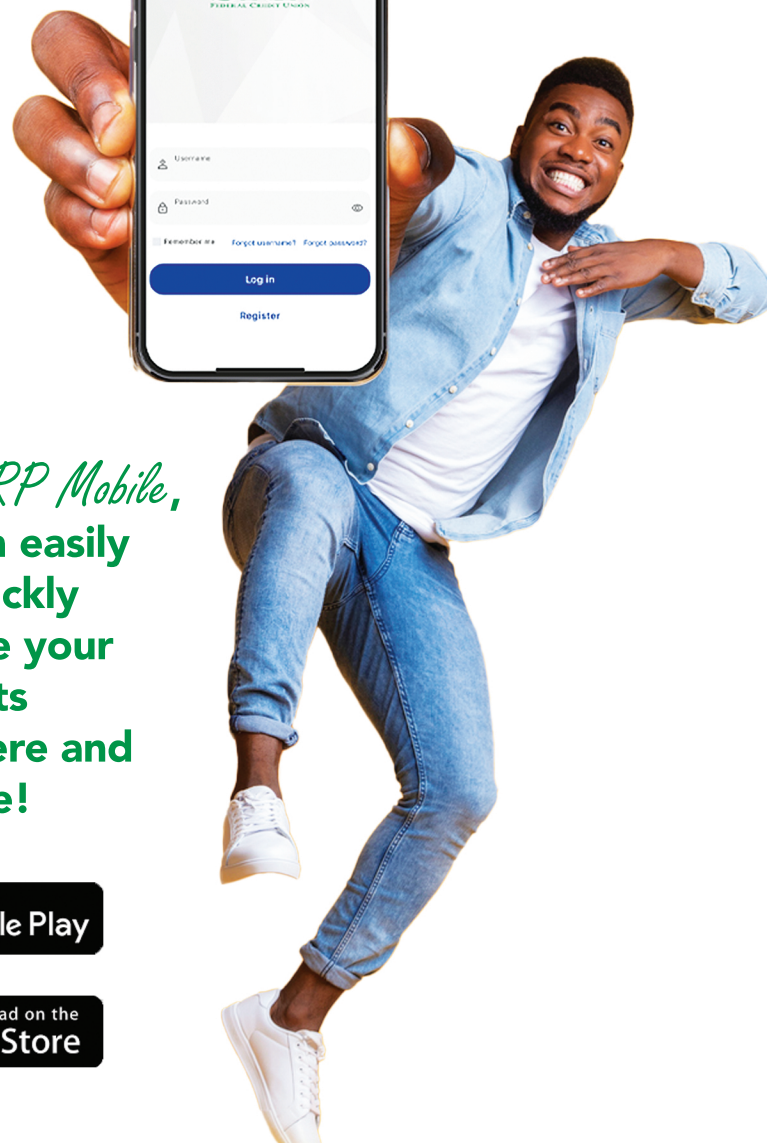
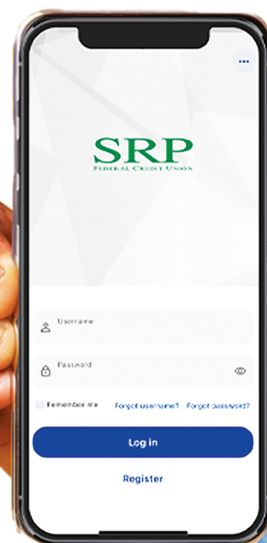
In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a brother, Donnie Etheredge.

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

The People-Sentinel 5/22/2024

BARNWELL - Funeral services for Linda Ruth Etheredge Still, 75, of Barnwell, S.C. will be held at 10 o'clock a.m., Friday, May 24, 2024 at Reedy Branch Baptist Church, Barnwell, S.C. with the Dr. Thomas Terry, Reverends Harry Warren and Garrett Etheredge officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday at Folk Funeral Home, Williston, S.C. Memorial contributions may be given to Reedy Branch Baptist Church, 411 Reedy Branch Rd., Barnwell, S.C. 29812 or

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MEMORIAL DAY

National Moment of Remembrance

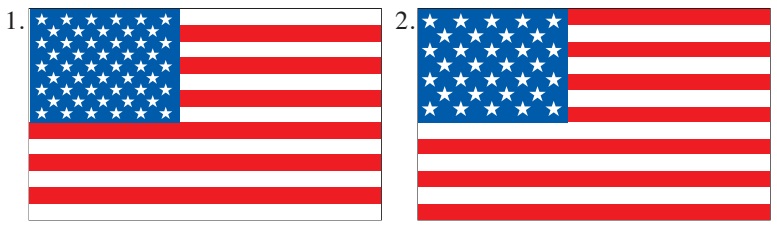
On Memorial Day weekend each year, people enjoy barbecues, sporting events, camping, weekend getaways, theme parks and concerts. But Memorial Day is really about remembering those who gave their lives defending America and other free nations in wartime.

of May, you can participate in the National Moment of Remembrance. For one minute, Americans are asked to pause and think about the service men and women who died defending the freedoms we enjoy today.

These brave men and women served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and the Coast Guard.

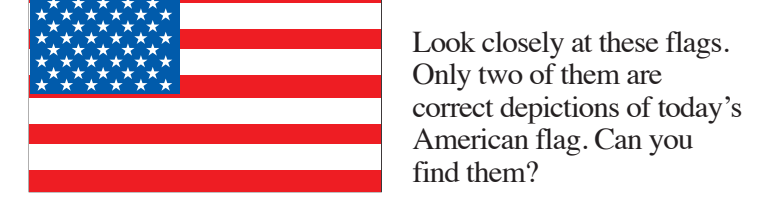
No matter where you live, at 3:00 p.m. on the last Monday

Standards Link: Civics: Students know how various American holidays reflect the shared values, principles and beliefs of Americans.

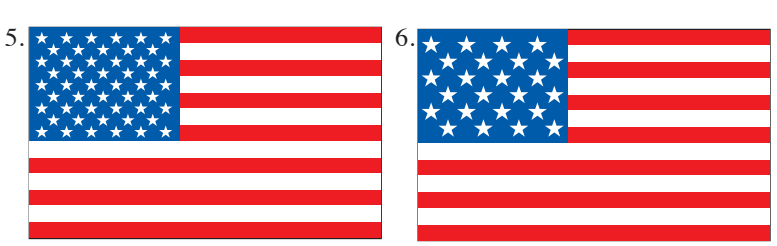


Red, White and Blue

On Memorial Day, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts often place small flags or candles beside headstones in military cemeteries across the nation.

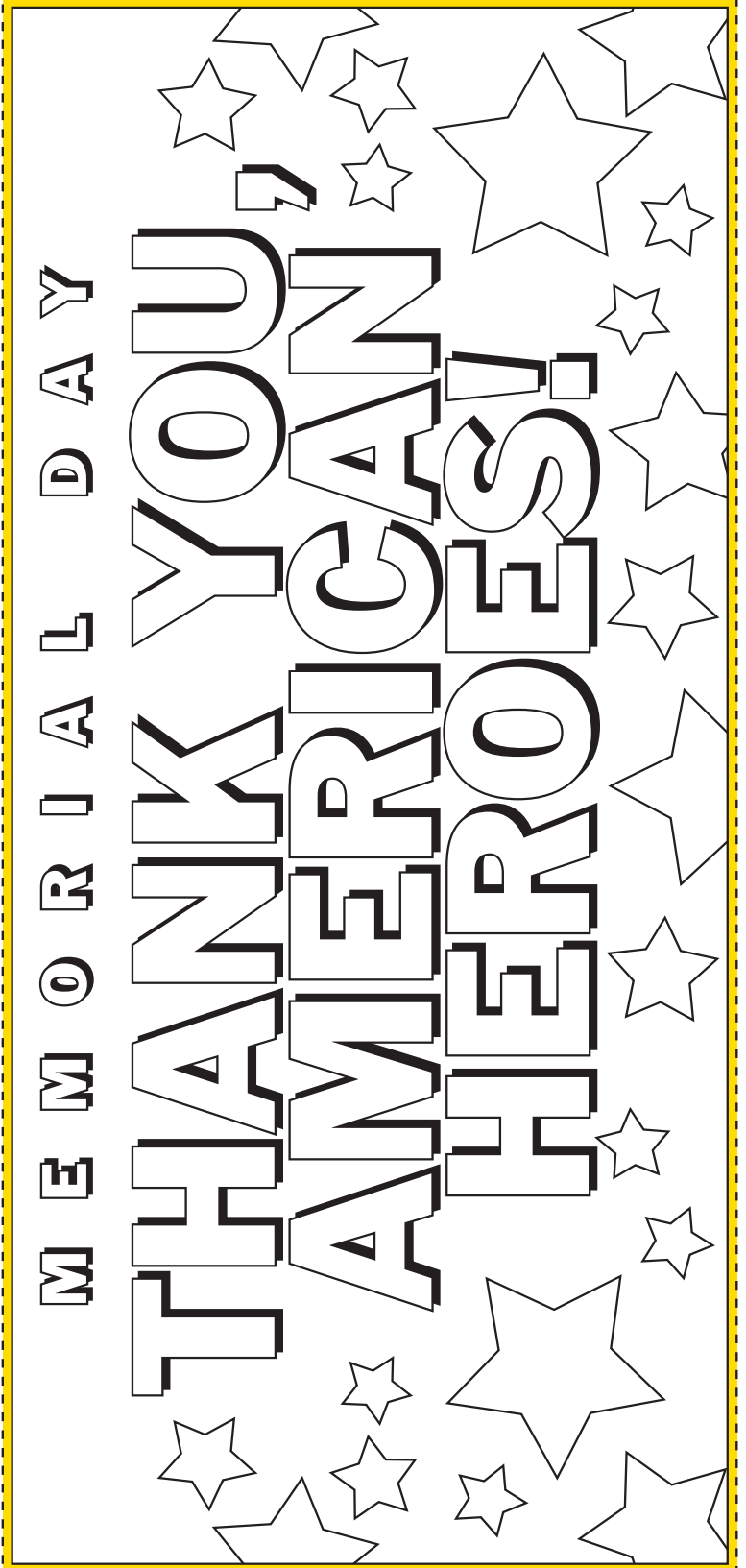


Look closely at these flags. Only two of them are correct depictions of today's American flag. Can you find them?



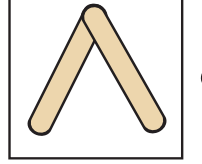
Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Color this window poster. Display it on Memorial Day.

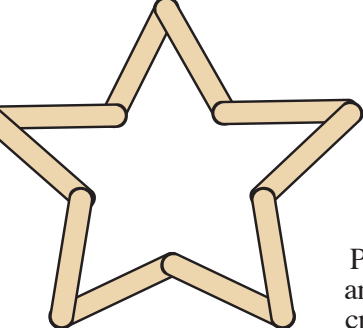


Make Patriotic Stars

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:



Glue two craft sticks in a "V" shape as shown. Make five of these for each star you want to make.



Glue each of the "V" shapes together to form a star.



Paint the star red, white and blue. You can glue a craft stick on the bottom and place the stars in your garden or a flower pot for a Memorial Day display.

Extra! Extra!

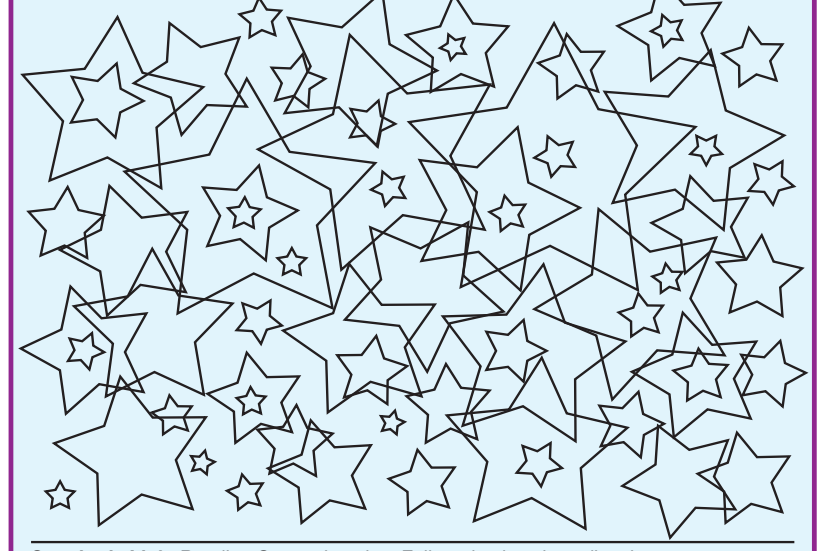
Memorial Day Observed

Look in the newspaper for events in your town happening on Memorial Day. What special Memorial Day parade or ceremony could your family attend?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information about local events.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

How many stars can you find?



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

MEMORIAL
 MOMENT
 NATIONAL
 SCOUTS
 PATRIOTIC
 CEREMONY
 BRAVE
 SERVED
 MINUTE
 PAUSE
 DEFENDING
 ARMY
 CORPS
 LIVES
 GAVE

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



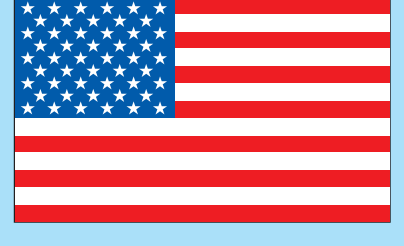
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Obituaries

The obituaries in a newspaper or on a newspaper website tell about people who have recently died. Look at today's obituaries and notice whether any of those who died had served in the military.

Standards Link: Newspaper: Understand that there are common conventions used in media.



"A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself."

— Joseph Campbell

Write On!

A Special Memory

Write about a special memory.

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word:

HONOR

The verb **honor** means to respect a person or place.

The concert was held to **honor** soldiers who had died in battle.

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



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

Construction career opportunities highlighted at Savannah River Site

Contributed Savannah River Nuclear Solutions

A group of high-school students studying construction and welding at the Barnwell County Career Center recently learned about career opportunities at one of the largest construction projects happening in the nation – the Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF) at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

The students and their instructors toured SRS to learn about the site's missions and the increasing demand for construction workers to support the SRPPF project as SRS establishes an enduring pit production mission. Once constructed and operational, SRPPF will produce plutonium pits for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) in support of the nation's nuclear deterrent.

"Students involved in the building and skilled trades programs at local high school career centers have promising career opportunities after high school," said Kim Mitchell, Lead Education Outreach Specialist with Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS). "There is a high demand for skilled craft positions which led SRNS to enter into a Project Labor Agreement with the Augusta Building and Construction Trades Council. There are also supporting positions through the SRS Apprenticeship School."

SRS is constructing SRPPF through repurposing an



A group of high-school students studying construction and welding at the Barnwell County Career Center recently learned about career opportunities at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

unfinished structure onsite which allows the NNSA to make use of an existing seismically-qualified, concrete structure with numerous supporting facilities and existing infrastructure.

During their visit, students received a short overview of SRS and apprenticeship programs, toured the Waste Solidification Building (WSB) facility, and spoke one-on-one with craft employees who shared their career experiences in the construction and labor relations fields.

The students also heard from a senior construction manager within the SRPPF project, who told them that starting their careers as part of the SRPPF project could lead to a lifelong career in an exciting and in-demand industry.

"SRS is planning for an influx of craft workers as construction of SRPPF is gearing up," Mitchell said. "Over the coming years, thousands of construction workers will play an integral role in transforming the

site located near Aiken, S.C., on the Savannah River, which borders South Carolina and Georgia. SRS covers 198,046 acres, including parts of Aiken, Barnwell and Allendale counties in South Carolina. The SRS annual budget is approximately \$3.8 billion, with a workforce of about 12,700.



Barnwell County Career Center students learn about the welding skills needed for construction projects during their tour of the Savannah River Site (SRS).

400,000-square-foot structure into a modern production facility."

Once construction is complete and upon reaching steady-state operations, it is expected that the SRPPF will require approximately 2,000 employees for its enduring mission.

The plutonium pit production mission is an essential part of the NNSA's long-term strategy for nuclear stockpile sustainment. SRS and Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) are working toward the shared responsibility to produce 80 pits per year to

maintain and replenish the nuclear stockpile.

To learn more about SRS education outreach initiatives and apprenticeship programs, visit these sites online: SRS - Education Outreach Programs and SRS Apprenticeship School. SRS is a 310-square-mile

site located near Aiken, S.C., on the Savannah River, which borders South Carolina and Georgia. SRS covers 198,046 acres, including parts of Aiken, Barnwell and Allendale counties in South Carolina. The SRS annual budget is approximately \$3.8 billion, with a workforce of about 12,700.

Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science. NNSA maintains and enhances the safety, security, and effectiveness of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile; works to reduce the global danger from weapons of mass destruction; provides the U.S. Navy with safe and militarily effective nuclear propulsion; and responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor and HILL partnership company, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, located near Aiken.

RATES: Williston Town Council considering small rate increase

FROM PAGE 1A

in Ehrhardt.

Water
The town has deemed it "proper, necessary and advisable" that the base rate of water services increase by one dollar, according to Ordinance 2024-04.

Each customer's bill is composed of two charges: a fixed base rate and a

consumption charge based on the volume of water measured in gallons used.

The base rate is dependent on the size of the water meter, which the most common single-family residence meter size being either 3/4 or 1 1/4.

The monthly rate for residences living inside the corporate limits with water

meters of this size will be \$15.96, previously \$14.96.

The new rate for residents outside the corporate limits, referred to as nonresidents, will be \$23.45.

See the below chart for updated rates for other sizes of water meters.

Sewer
The monthly cost for sewer

services is calculated similarly to that of water rates with two charges: a fixed base rate and a consumption charge. It also includes the size of the meter at the residence.

For those with a 3/4 or 1 1/4 meter, the monthly residence rate is \$20.87, and nonresidential is \$30.79.

Rates for water, sewer,

and trash services are billed on the customer's monthly water bill.

Other updates:

- The council approved locating five disc golf T-pads at the town park as requested by the Williston Disc Golf Club. The additional T-pads will allow for

accelerated play and draw in a larger number of players during tournaments.

- A second reading of the 10-year comprehensive plan was passed with minor edits. Once passed, this plan will be available on the town's website.



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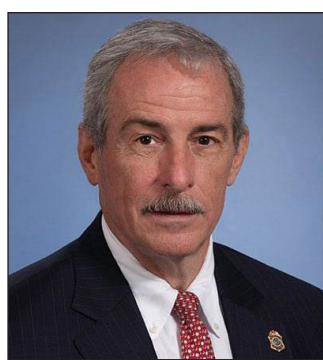
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Senate unanimously confirms Barnwell native Mark Keel to keep leading SLED

Abraham Kenmore
S.C. Daily Gazette
scdailygazette.com



SLED Chief Mark Keel

COLUMBIA — South Carolina's top law enforcement officer, Chief Mark Keel, has been confirmed to another term in the job.

Senators voted unanimously Wednesday to give Keel six more years leading the State Law Enforcement Division. Keel initially took the agency's helm in 2011.

Gov. Henry McMaster again picked Keel in December, announcing the 66-year-old chief

was willing to continue serving following a 30-day retirement, which allowed Keel to collect his retirement benefits. By law, a month-long break is required for officers to

receive pension benefits and be technically rehired as a return-to-work retiree.

"With over 40 years of law enforcement experience and more than 12 years as the leader of SLED, Chief Keel is widely recognized by the public, elected officials, and the media as the leader of our state's law enforcement community," McMaster said in a statement. "Retaining Chief Keel's leadership and law enforcement expertise is a victory for our entire state. He is a true public servant, and I thank him for his willingness to continue serving the people of South Carolina."

Keel was first appointed by then-Gov. Nikki Haley. McMaster then re-appointed him in 2018.

He will start his new term with a \$267,000 salary after legislators voted last fall to give him a raise. It was \$195,700.

Keel, a Barnwell native, started working at SLED more than four decades ago, in 1979, after graduating from Georgia Southern University. Over the years, he worked his way through the ranks, taking on a variety of positions, including as a helicopter pilot and hostage negotiator.

ADOPTABLE PET OF THE WEEK

'Tabby' is a sweet, loving boy

Tabby is this week's Adoptable Pet of the Week from The Animal Advocates.

"Tabby is a sweet and loving boy! He gets along with other cats and he is litter box trained. He is neutered and up to date on his vaccines. He would do well with a cat-friendly dog in the home. He is around six years old and loves getting attention and would make a great companion for someone," said Missy Platts with the Animal Advocates.

The Friends for Life Center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 1924, Barnwell, S.C. 29812, or made online at theanimaladvocates.org.

For more information, call (803) 259-5483, or visit the Friends for Life Center at 10975 Marlboro Avenue in Barnwell.



COMMENTS: Some Allendale residents, leaders upset over mayor's remarks on radio

FROM PAGE 1A

the Municipal Association of South Carolina. In 2022, the Allendale Town Council removed Cohen's gavel privileges and made Smith the presiding officer of council meetings; In August 2023, the council voted to keep Smith as presiding officer of the council until August 2024.

During the May 9 interview on WDOG, Cohen and Gooding were discussing the state of the town's public works system.

"My focus is behind the scenes," Cohen said. "I am working on our town's infrastructure to get it sound so we can accommodate growth."

Several citizens showed up to the May 14 meeting to speak to the council about Cohen's comments.

"I'm not the only one that knows what's being said on the radio," said Allendale citizen Amanda Pressiegill. "Be mindful of what you say, because if you're not mindful of what you say, we hear it. Don't tear down the community in which the people voted you in."

Below is the context of Cohen's comments. The recording can be found on WDOG Radio's website:

Larry Cohen: Mr. Gooding, I'm gonna tell you the straight up truth whether you hate me for this.

Carl Gooding: I don't hate you, go ahead, let it all hang out.

Cohen: People may not like this, but you have to realize, the population in Allendale, the remaining citizens that are in Allendale has a mentality or an intellectual ability of average or below. Anyone with an average or above intelligence or intellectual ability has either left town or don't want to say anything to get involved.

Gooding: In other words, anybody that's left in Allendale is stupid.

Cohen: That's what you said, I didn't say that.

Gooding: You insinuate that. I'm one of the ones that are left here, so I take offense to that.

Cohen: I'm not calling anyone stupid, I'm saying that the pool that we

are drawing from is not mentally prepared to take on the job of governing our town. They put me down, they question my credentials. I'm holding

a master's degree in engineering. I oughta know something about machines and industrial equipment, but no one wants to listen to me.

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MEMORIAL DAY SCHEDULE

The Barnwell County Landfill and Recycle Center sites will be closed on 05/27/2024 Monday in observance of Memorial Day.

The Landfill will reopen 5/28/2024 Tuesday morning at 8 am to 4 pm, and the Recycle centers will reopen 5/28/2024 Tuesday morning at 7 am to 7 pm to supplement being closed Monday and also will be open Wednesday from 7 am to 7 pm, then will return to the regular schedule.

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Hawks earn 6 STATE CHAMPION Gold Medals at State Championships

Jeff Miller
Sports Writer
sports@thepeoplesentinel.com

To say that this has been a good year for the Blackville-Hilda Hawks track and field team would be a huge understatement. The Hawks had an incredible 15 athletes qualify for the State Championships. Blackville-Hilda walked away with 10 medals (top three finish), six ribbons (4th-8th place finish), and six State Champion titles (1st place).

The boys 4x100-meter relay team consisting of Jamarien Priester, Jaquel Holman, Tamari Daniels, and Namair Anderson earned their title of State Champions by defeating the best of the best. The fastest runners in all of 1-A competed in one of the most electrifying, crowd-pleasing competitions of the entire championships. The Hawks were up to the challenge and ran one of the best 4x100 races seen across the entire state of South Carolina.

Jaquel Holman's night was not done. Holman went on to run the 100-meter dash and 200-meter dash, claiming the top spot on the podium in both showcase events, earning Holman two more State Champion gold medals. The wins also cement Holman's claim to the title of the fastest athlete in 1-A sports.

Blackville's Jamarien Priester, who signed to run track at Voorhees this fall, had a good day in the 110-meter hurdles. Priester finished in second place in a close battle to earn the silver medal and State Runner-Up title. It was a great night for Priester, collecting two medals.

Another Hawks speed-



Jaquel Holman earned three gold medals and State Champion titles in the 100-meter, 200-meter, and 4x100-meter relay.

Photo By: Kailyn Gibson

ster, Tamari Daniels, also earned another medal to go with his gold medal in the 4x100 meter relay. Tamari earned the bronze medal and a trip to the podium for the 100-meter dash.

Jamarion Kirkland also got a trip to the center of the field to stand on the podium after finishing third in the long jump.

The bronze medalist did not mark the end of the Hawks medals and podium visits. Breyanna Williams earned the silver medal in the girls 400-meter hurdles, finishing second overall. Other podium visitors included ribbon recipients Namair Anderson (7th place 100-meter dash), the 4x100-meter relay team of Sariyah Vinson, Tahlia Kinard, Anastatia Beaver,

and Breyanna Williams (6th place), and Tahlia Kinard again for the 400-meter hurdles (7th place).

Hawks head coach Rushani Burke was asked about his team's outstanding performance and said, "As our track team concludes the 2024 season, I'm filled with exhilaration for our athletes' noteworthy performances at the State Championships. Their dedication, hard work, and resilience were evident in every stride, leading to a myriad of achievements. From shattering BHHS school records to earning titles and medals, they've truly made their mark on the track and field stage."

The team's accomplishments this season speak volumes: 25 athletes were



The Blackville-Hilda 4x100-meter relay team captured gold medals and State Champion titles. From left to right: Jamarien Priester, Tamari Daniels, Head Coach: Rushani Burke, Namair Anderson, and Jaquel Holman.

Photo By: Kailyn Gibson

Region 4-1A Champions, 5 Upper State Champions, and 4 State Champions, including Jaquel Holman who clinched Triple Gold Medals at the State Championships. With 12 BHHS track & field records shattered and Jamarien Priester receiving a full track and field scholarship, the athletes have truly excelled.

"Special accolades to our boys 4x100-meter relay team for becoming 1-A State Champions, and to the girls for securing the Region 4 1-A title. As we wrap up this season, I would like to thank our administration for the support they have given the team and to my assistant coaches: Coach Cedrick Collins, Tonya Coleman, Faith Vice, and Paris Mason (athletic director) who demonstrated massive commitment throughout the season. Our journey doesn't end here, but it's a stepping stone to even greater achievements. The 2024 season will be remembered as a testament to the hard work and resilience of the BHHS track & field program," said Coach Burke.

Coach Burke does not ask for the light to be

shined upon him, but on his athletes, instead. That being said, Coach Burke has done an incredible job with this team and has helped these good athletes become great competitors and champions.

Congratulations on a tremendous Blackville-Hilda Hawks track and field season and we look forward to many more high-flying Hawks track and field seasons to come!



Tahlia Kinard won seventh place in the girls 400-meter hurdles.

Photo By: Kailyn Gibson



Coach Burke and his proud Hawk winners show their hard-earned ribbons and medals from the State Championships.

Photo By: Kailyn Gibson



Warhorse T'avion Johnson competes at state track championship

Barnwell High's T'avion Johnson competed in the 200-meter dash and the long jump at the State Championships.

Photo By: Thomas Davis

Three Blue Devils place at state track championship

Williston-Elko High's Deonte Holman finished 5th in long jump (far right, at right), Malayjia Youmans finished 7th in the 100-meter hurdles, and Jaisah Gibson finished 6th in the boys discus at the 1-A Track and Field State Championships.

Photo By: Kailyn Gibson



PCE competes at Disney's ESPN Wide World of Sports D2 Summit



PCE's Junior Prodigy team earns their first trip to compete in the D2 Summit at Disney World.



PCE's Senior Legacy team finished 6th at the D2 Summit, barely missing the finals.

Jeff Miller
Sports Writer
sports@thepeoplesentinel.com

At the conclusion of the 2024 spring cheerleading season the Palmetto Cheer Elite (PCE) Senior Legacy and Junior Prodigy squads, led by coach Amy Williams, traveled to Orlando, Florida to compete in the D2 Summit held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex at the Walt

Disney World Resort. The D2 Summit was held May 10-12, with only the best teams invited to participate. "Teams competing at the D2 Summit must receive a bid at a prior competition to be eligible to participate," said Brian Elza, co-general manager for Varsity All Star. "That's what makes The D2 Summit so rewarding for the competitors. If they don't climb their way to the top throughout their season, they won't make it

to The Summit." The Senior Legacy team comprised of Kip Robinson, Haley Grace Furr, Kenleigh Ridgeway, Cayson Austin, Sara Rudd, Graclyn Rice, Skylar Zorn, Jenny Nguyen, Molly Wilson, Caylee Davis, and Journee Ford had a great showing finishing in 6th place and barely missing the top 5 and an entry into the finals by .5 points. This was the first year for the PCE Junior Prodigy

squad to earn an invitation to the D2 Summit. The Junior Prodigy team is made up of Kintley Bolen, Eliana Cruikshank, Sydney Jackson, Shelby Jackson, Harper Joye, Emma Faye Baxley, Luke Maverick Williams, Brhettlee Hutto, Sophie Bowers, AbbiGray Smith, and Chloe Tucker. The Junior team placed 29th at the competition. PCE head coach Amy Williams was asked about her teams competing at

the D2 Summit and she said, "Receiving a bid to compete at the D2 Summit held at Disney World is a huge feat in itself. We dealt with a few hiccups that cost us some points, but overall I was a happy and proud coach. PCE has only earned bids to compete at Summit three times and this is the first year that both Elite teams earned bids. Although our adventure was cut short due to seniors missing the top 5

with only a .5 difference in raw scores, the teams represented their small towns well." Congratulations to Coach Williams and to both the Senior Legacy and Junior Prodigy PCE teams for earning an invitation and for having great seasons. No doubt, both teams will get future opportunities to compete at the D2 Summit competitions. Great job PCE!

Contributed

Contributed

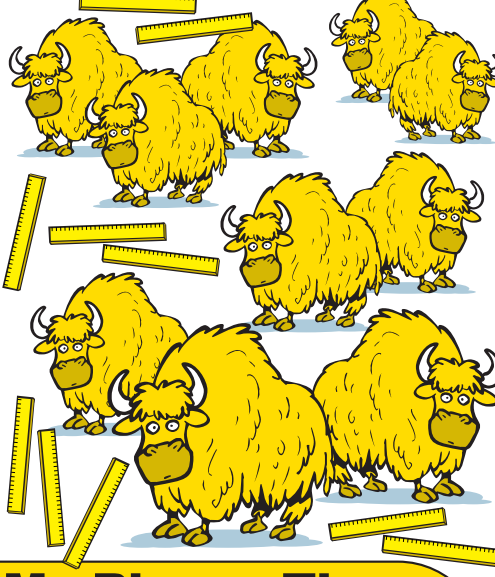
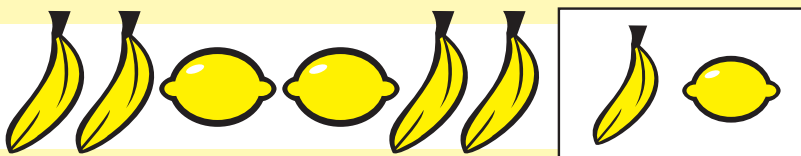
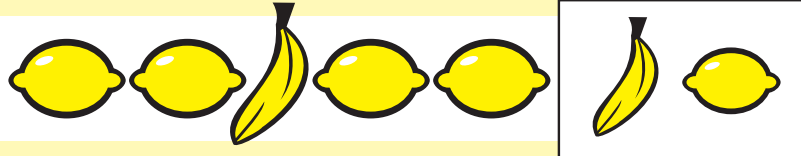
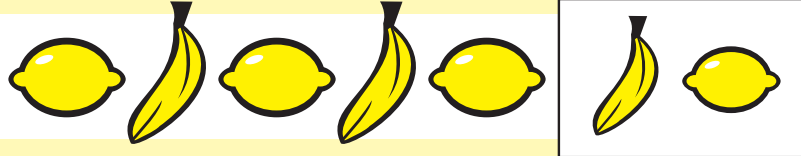
Newspaper reading adventures for little learners!

Kid Scoop Junior

Vol. 23 No. 25 © 2024 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Designer/Illustrator

Yellow Patterns

In each row, circle the yellow fruit that should come next to continue the pattern.



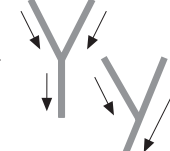
My Rhyme Time
A tisket, a tasket,
A green and yellow basket;
I wrote a letter to my love
and on the way I dropped it.

My name:

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.

My Letters

Y is for Yellow
y is for yellow



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

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

My Numbers

How many yaks?



How many yardsticks?

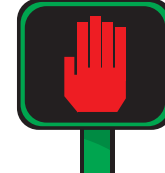


Learning Buddies: Trace and say the number. Read the questions. Touch and count to find the answers.

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.

A yellow yo-yo is _____



Sunday

Letter Identification
With your child, look through the newspaper to find pictures of things that start with the same sound as the letter Y in the word yellow.

Learning Buddy Sign Here

I have completed _____ activities with my Learning Buddy.

Learning Buddy's signature

Date

Monday

Math Play
Point to the number 10 in the newspaper. Have your child say the number and, if it's large enough, have your child trace the number.

Tuesday

My Yellow
Look through the newspaper for pictures of things that are yellow. Cut out all of the yellow things and glue them onto a piece of paper. Make a book of colors by repeating this activity with other colors.

Wednesday

Yellow Dot-to-Dot
With your child, find the letters that spell the word yellow on one page of the newspaper. Circle each letter with a yellow crayon or marker. Connect the circled letters like a dot-to-dot picture and color it in with your yellow crayon or marker.

Thursday

Sunshine News
On one sheet of newspaper draw a big yellow sun. With your child, hunt for all the letter Ys inside your sun.

Friday

Yucky and Yummy
Look at pictures of food and objects in the newspaper. Have your child point to things he/she likes and say, "Yummy!" Point to things he/she does not like and say, "Yucky!" Reinforce that the words start with the letter Y.

Saturday

Y-Toss
Wad up a sheet of newspaper and cover it in masking tape to make a little ball. Toss the ball to your child saying a word that starts with the letter Y. Have your child toss the ball back when he/she thinks of another word that starts with Y.



Kid Scoop Junior comes out once a week, but you can use the newspaper every day to prepare your child for success in school. Each daily activity focuses on a specific learning readiness skill.

Step by Step Success 1. Read the activity instruction aloud. 2. Show how to do the activity by doing it yourself first. 3. Ask your child to copy what you do.

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Barnwell Baseball Softball Association

Snapshots of 2024 teams

Thirty teams wrapped up their regular season with the Barnwell Baseball Softball Association last week after a month of games. Teams were sponsored by local businesses and organizations. *The People-Sentinel* was honored to be one of the sponsors to support this important recreational opportunity for our community's youth. All team photos are published below. With the regular season now over, the All-Star season will start soon.

PHOTOS COURTESY: DONNA MILEY PHOTOGRAPHY





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2024 BARNWELL TEAM WESTON



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2024 BARNWELL THE REBEKAH GRUBBS GROUP



2024 BARNWELL TURNIPSEED ENGINEERING



2024 BARNWELL WARHORSE MOTORS

2024 BARNWELL WIER CUTTING HORSES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events

Ongoing Monday AA Meetings
Free. Open to the public. The Axis I Center, 179 Fuldner Rd., Barnwell. 803-541-1245. www.axis1.org. 10:30-11:30am

1st Tuesdays Barnwell Development Association Inc. (aka BDA)
20 Wall St., Barnwell. BarnwellDA.com. BDAinc029.com 8am

Weekly on Tuesdays Free Food Distribution
Long Branch MBC, 922 Hopewell Rd., Gifford. Food products will be available while supplies last. 3:30-5:30pm

Tuesdays & Thursdays Senior Dance Lessons
Blackville Community Center. For all Barnwell County Seniors 60 and over. Call 803-259-4592. 3-4pm

Every Thursday Allendale Line Dance Classes
Allendale National Guard Armory (368 Court House Square, Allendale) These free line dance exercise/fitness classes are open to anyone 18 years and up. Sponsored by Allendale County Office on Aging and led by instructor Angela Doe Youmans. 6-7pm

Fridays The Gateway Church Food Pantry
The Gateway Church food pantry is also looking for volunteers to help with food distribution activities. If you would like to volunteer, please leave Pastor Jamie Sheppard a message at 803-450-6825. 9am-12pm

Mon., Thurs., Sat. Virtual Class Dancing For Joy
Exercise should be fun! Dancing for Joy is a fun way to dance and move to the beat and gain coordination, muscle tone and cardio fitness. Classes are free. We ask that you support your local food bank or pay it forward in any way you wish. Classes are virtual. To participate, email Elizabeth at egalaida@yahoo.com or text 301-473-3418 to get the Zoom information. Zoom links and codes are emailed out prior to every class. Mondays 3:45-4:50pm Thursdays 9:15-10:30am Saturdays 10:15-11:30am

Thurs., May 23 Generations Unlimited Council Meeting
T.E. Richardson Building Conference Room, Barnwell 5:30pm

Sat., May 25 Community Fishing Tournament
Locations: Edisto and Savannah rivers. Sponsored by the Barnwell First Baptist Church Men's Ministry. Minimum team size is two adults. Prizes will be awarded. This is a fundraiser to support missions in Los Angeles. Teams should meet back at the church parking lot by 4:30 p.m. for weigh-in. Sign up at the FBC office or at fcbarnwell.org/upcoming-events. 7am to 3pm

Ned Branch Missionary Baptist Church Male Chorus Anniversary
Ned Branch Missionary Baptist Church, 10620 Dunbarton Blvd., Barnwell. 3pm

Mon., May 27 Memorial Day Program
Honoring the deceased veterans.

Veterans Memorial Park, Barnwell. Tents and water will be provided. Sgt. Jerry Smith will be the guest speaker. Hosted by the Marine Corps League and Vietnam Veterans of America. 10am

Barnwell County Republican Party Meeting
2269 Ashleigh Rd., Blackville. 6:30pm social time 7-8pm meeting

Tues.-Fri., May 28-31 Blackville First Baptist Summer Camp
Ages 4-18. Sports, art, music, meal, Bible Study, fun. To register call Pastor Ken, 803-709-0165. 5:30-8pm

Sat., June 1 First Responder Photo Op
Barnwell County Animal Shelter, 55 Diamond Road, Barnwell. 8am-12pm

June 4, 11, 18, 25 Barnwell County Sheriff's Office GRITS Program
presents Story Time. Come out for story time and an activity at the Barnwell McDonalds. Children of all ages welcome. 9am

June 5, 12, 19, 26 Barnwell County Sheriff's Office GRITS Program
Children of all ages welcome. Barnwell YMCA. 10am

Sat., June 8 Hampton County's 82nd Watermelon Festival
Hampton Co. Recreational Center. Deadline to enter is May 25, for applications or more details call Melissa Goliver 803-300-8299 or visit the festival website hcmelonfest.org.

Swiss Krono Cean Scarbeary Jr. Golf Tournament 2024
Sweetwater Country Club, 571 Johnny George Lane, Barnwell. Ticket \$120. Prizes for Longest Drive & Closest to Pin. 8am

Mon., June 10-July 1 Faith @ the Fountain
15 minute kids' praise & devotion on the Circle in Barnwell 10am

Tues., June 11 Cancer Screenings
Clemson Rural Health's mobile units will provide breast and cervical cancer screenings for qualifying women ages 21-64 regardless of insurance status. Walk-ups welcome! Bamberg County Health Dept., 50 Dickinson St., Extension, Bamberg. Learn more: clemsonruralhealth.org, 803-516-9992. 9am-3:40pm

Town of Hilda Town Council Meeting
Hilda Town Hall Conference Room. Open to the public. 7pm

Tues., June 11 Allendale County Planning Commission
James Brandt Building small conference room. 6pm

Sat., June 22 The Daughters of the King will be celebrating their 35 Anniversary. Ned Branch Missionary Baptist Church, Barnwell. Contact any member of the group for tickets. Doors open 3pm Program starts 4pm

Sun., June 23 97th Usher's Anniversary Ned Branch Missionary Baptist Church
Guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. Benjamin F. Cave, Pastor of Greater Sweet Branch Missionary Baptist Church, Olar. We look forward to celebrating with each of you. If you are unable to attend, we solicit your prayers. 1pm

Thurs., June 22 Generations Unlimited Board Meeting
Administration Office, 10915 Ellenton St., Barnwell 5:30pm

Tues., Aug. 6 National Night Out
Veteran's Memorial Park in Barnwell. 4-7pm

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL June 2-5 Double Pond Baptist
357 Double Pond Rd., Blackville 5:30-8:30pm. VBS is for pre-K through youth. The theme is: "Breaker Rock Beach; God is rock solid in a world of shifting sand."

June 2-5 Friendship Baptist Church
A meal will be served each evening at 5:30pm, then we will have assembly at 6pm, and classes will begin at 6:30pm. Classes will range from the nursery to adults. Anyone who would like to participate is welcome. Any questions, call Gracie Zorn, 803-300-0709.

June 17-21 Long Branch Baptist Church
3223 SC Hwy. 37, Williston. Classes for Nursery to Adults. Theme is Breaker Rock Beach. 6pm

June 24-26 Ned Branch Church
Monday-Wednesday 6-8pm

June 29 Edisto Baptist Church Williston Town park shelter
There will be crafts, lunch, Bible stories, snow cones, a fire truck hose-down, and much more. The event is free and open to all children school age and younger. 10am-1pm

July 15-19 Hilda First Baptist Church
145 Church Street, Hilda "SCUBA...diving into friendship with God" Ages Toddlers to Teen 6-8:30pm

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

2024 Summer Reading: Adventure Begins at Your Library
Encourage the entire family to read this summer. Starting May 20, pick up a paper reading log at any ABBE Library location or track your reading at abbe.beanstack.org. Everyone who reads and/or listens to audiobooks for at least 450 minutes between May 20 & August 1 will be entered into a gift card drawing at their library. Kids and teens can also pick up a prize.

Barnwell Library Events

STORYTIME
Thurs., May 23, June 20, July 18
Read, Rattle and Roll Storytime
Enjoy songs, stories, and sensory play for toddlers and preschoolers. Followed by free developmental screenings. In partnership with Help Me Grow S.C. 11am

Crafter-Noon for Kids
May 22, June 6 & 11
Stop by to create themed crafts with us. (5/22) Decorate your own Pokémon Trainer Hat, (6/6) Make a gift for Dad, and (7/11) use recycled water bottles to make Pokémon themed planters. Registration requested call 803-259-3612 or stop by the front desk to register. Rising 5K-Grade 12. 4pm

STEM for Kids
Wed., May 29, June 26, July 31
Who knew learning could be fun? We did! Drop in and learn a thing or two. (5/29) make your own Pokéball levitating contraption, (6/26) make fireworks in a jar, and (7/31) create a catapult to launch your Pokéballs. Registration requested call 803-259-3612 or stop by the front desk to register. 4pm

Cooking Matters
Tues., June 11, 18, 25, July 9, 16, 23
Bring along the whole family to enjoy a fun 6 week cooking class. This class teaches school-aged children and their parents or caregivers about healthy eating as a family and the importance of working together to plan and prepare healthy meals on a budget. In partnership with Snap-Ed Clemson University Learning Institute. Registration required call 803-259-3612 or stop by the front desk to register. 4pm

MyPlate
Wed., June 5 & 19, July 10 & 24
Bring along the whole family to learn about the five basic food groups and identify foods associated in each group. All while you enjoy a small food demonstration. In partnership with Snap-Ed Clemson University Learning Institute. Registration

required call 803-259-3612 or stop by the front desk to register. 11am

Tea off for Summer Reading
Fri., May 31
Bring the whole family and hang out at the library after hours for mini golf. In partnership with Friends of the Libraries of Barnwell County. Registration requested call 803-259-3612 or stop by the front desk to register. 5:30-7pm

Rocks for Rocko the Kindness Snake
Mon., June 3
Family Program. Help us grow Rocko our Kindness Snake. Decorate a rock or two then take them outside to add them to our friend. 10:30am

Allendale County Library Events

Fri., May 24 Get a Leg(o) Up!
Youth ages 2-17. 4:30-5:30pm

Blackville Library Events

Super Awesome Puppet Show
Mon., June 3
Take an adventure with some extremely silly stories. 10:30am

Savannah River Ecology Lab
Mon., June 17
Learn about local wildlife with an expert and real live animals. Seating is limited and we are unable to accommodate groups. For rising 5k to 5th grade. 10:30am

Williston Library Events

I Survived Fan Club
Thurs., June 6
Love the series? We'll have cool activities tied to the books by Lauren Tarshis. For rising 5k to 5th grade. 10:30am

Super Awesome Puppet Show
Thurs., June 13
Take an adventure with some extremely silly stories. For rising 5k to 5th grade. 10:30am

Local Directory

Allendale Library

297 Main St., Allendale (803) 584-2371
Hours of Operation Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm Sat. 10am-2pm

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

19420 Solomon Blatt Ave., Blackville (803) 284-2295
Hours of Operation Mon., Tues., Thurs. 10am-1pm 2pm-6pm

Williston Library

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

MUSEUMS

BARNWELL CO. 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.

BARNWELL SENIOR CENTER

Mondays-Fridays Gail Reyes Senior Center/Generations Unlimited (11403 Ellenton St., Barnwell) 803-259-4599

BLACKVILLE SENIOR CENTER

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

Crossword Puzzle Solution

Puzzle on Page 8B

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

Sudoku Puzzle Solution

Puzzle on Page 8B

1	4	8	6	5	3	2	7	9
7	9	2	1	4	8	6	3	5
6	5	3	7	2	9	4	8	1
3	8	1	9	7	2	5	6	4
2	7	4	5	8	6	9	1	3
9	6	5	3	1	4	7	2	8
5	1	6	4	3	7	8	9	2
8	3	7	2	9	5	1	4	6
4	2	9	8	6	1	3	5	7

SALES

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TV & INTERNET SERVICES

DIRECTV OVER INTERNET – Get your favorite live TV, sports and local channels. 99% signal reliability! CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max and Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-855-237-9741

DIRECTV Sports Pack. 3 Months on Us! Watch pro and college sports LIVE. Plus over 40 regional and specialty networks included. NFL, College Football, MLB, NBA, NHL, Golf and more. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-844-624-1107

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-877-542-0759

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS. Your donation helps fund the search for missing children. Accepting Trucks, Motorcycles & RV's, too! Fast Free Pickup – Running or Not – 24 Hour Response – Maximum Tax Donation – Call (888) 515-3810

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Games: (1497) CAROLINA JACKPOT

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 833-230-8692

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance – NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-397-7030 www.dental50plus.com/60 #6258

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-877-852-0368

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material – steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-900-1261

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 833-638-3767

FOR SALE

MISCELLANEOUS

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-775-0366 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! Leaf-Filter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-875-2449.

Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company – 855-837-7719 or visit www.Life55plus.info/scan

AUCTIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION. Surplus Government Vehicles and Equipment. City of ROCK HILL, SC. Sat., June 1 at 10am. 757 South Anderson Rd. Rock Hill, SC. Selling Kubota Mini Excavators, Dump Trucks, Garbage Trucks, SUV's, Mowers, Police Cars, Tahoes, more. www.ClassicAuctions.com. Tony Furr NCAF5479/5508/SCAL2893R. 704-791-8825

ADVERTISE YOUR AUCTION in 80 S.C. newspapers for only \$375. Your 25-word classified ad will reach more than 1.5 million readers. Call Randall Savely at the S.C. Newspaper Network, 1-888-727-7377.

HUGE CONSTRUCTION, TRUCK AUCTION. May 30 & 31 at 9 AM each day. Over 1000 lots of rental return, construction related items. Online bidding and onsite. worldnetauctionslive.com. 1533 McMillan Rd., Greeleyville, SC. 843-426-4255. SCAL-3965F

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SUMMONS FOR DIVORCE

(One-Year Continuous Separation)
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AIKEN
IN THE FAMILY COURT
SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Docket No. 24-DR-02-411
JENNIFER RENEE SMITH
Petitioner
vs.
WENDELL DOUGLAS SMITH,
Defendant
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that you have been sued by the Plaintiff for DIVORCE in the Court indicated above. You must respond in writing to the attached Complaint for Divorce and serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff at the address below within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons upon you, not counting the day of service, or thirty-five (35) days if you were served by certified mail, restricted delivery, return receipt requested.

If you wish to retain an attorney to represent you in this matter, it is advisable to do so before submitting your Answer to the Plaintiff.

If you do not answer the Complaint within the required thirty (30) days, the court may grant a DIVORCE and grant the Plaintiff the relief requested in the Complaint.

Date: April 8, 2024
Jennifer R. Smith, Plaintiff
1498 Veterans Road
P.O. Box 721
Williston, S.C. 29853
2024-85 3tp 5-22-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Barnwell County, the address of which is 141 Main Street #108, Barnwell, S.C. 29812, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Gary Keith Turner
Date of Death: March 11, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00079
Personal Representative: Noreen T. Jennings
Address: 596 Old Whiskey Road, Barnwell, S.C. 29812
2024-73 3tp 5-29-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Barnwell County, the address of which is 141 Main Street #108, Barnwell, S.C. 29812, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Thomas Edward Owens
Date of Death: January 20, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00069
Personal Representative: Charlene Owens Darlington
Address: P.O. Box 52, Barnwell, S.C. 29812
2024-86 3tp 5-22-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

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Estate: Virginia Allen Mills
Date of Death: March 23, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00085
Personal Representative: Paula Lynn Miller
Address: 137 Flutter Drive, Lexington, S.C. 29072
2024-87 3tp 5-22-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

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Estate: Lois Rita Cilenti
Date of Death: April 16, 2022
Case Number: 2023 ES 06 00039
Personal Representative: Brian J. Dupree
Address: 400 Ables Drive, Barnwell, S.C. 29812
2024-88 3tp 5-22-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

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date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Patricia Lott Craig
Date of Death: March 7, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00065
Personal Representative: Mickey Craig
Address: 9617 Hwy. 37, Blackville, S.C. 29817
2024-89 3tp 5-22-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

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Estate: Gary Keith Turner
Date of Death: March 11, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00079
Personal Representative: Noreen T. Jennings
Address: 596 Old Whiskey Road, Barnwell, S.C. 29812
2024-73 3tp 5-29-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Allendale County, the address of which is 292 Barnwell Highway, Allendale, S.C. 29810, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: John Ritter Jr.
Date of Death: March 16, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 03 00037
Personal Representative: Altovise Ritter
Address: 3584 Concord Church Road, Allendale, S.C. 29810
2024-91 3tp 5-29-24

NOTICE OF SALE

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: Carrington Mortgage Services LLC, vs. Joseph Randolph Still, United States of America Acting through Commissioner of Housing and Urban Development, C/A No. 2023-CP-06-00275. The following property will be sold on June 3, 2024 at 11:00 AM at the Barnwell County Courthouse in the highest bidder. ALL THAT CERTAIN PIECE, PARCEL OR TRACT OF LAND WITH IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN BLACKVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE TOWN OF BLACKVILLE, COUNTY OF BARNWELL, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, MEASURING 100 FEET, MORE OR LESS ON ITS NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN BOUNDARIES AND 130 FEET, MORE OR LESS ON ITS EASTERN WESTERN BOUNDARIES AND BEING BOUNDED, NOW OR FORMERLY AS FOLLOWS: ON THE NORTH BY IZLAR STREET; ON THE EAST BY EAST BOUNDARY STREET; ON THE SOUTH BY LOT NOW OR FORMERLY OF THE ESTATE OF W.A. STORNE; AND ON THE WEST BY LOT NOW OR FORMERLY OF H.S. GRIMES. THIS BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO REBECCA EVANS STILL FROM HIRAM A. EVANS A/K/A H.A. EVANS, DIED TESTATE, DOMICILED IN BARNWELL COUNTY, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON FEBRUARY 25, 1968, LEAVING AS HIS SOLE BENEFICIARY UNDER HIS LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT, HIS WIDOW, WILLIE FRANCES EVANS, BY DEED RECORDED: 08/03/1981 IN BOOK: 16-0, PAGE: 797, IN THE REGISTER OFFICE OF BARNWELL COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA. THEREAFTER REBECCA E. STILL DIED ON 01/13/2009, LEAVING HER INTEREST TO JOSEPH RANDOLPH STILL AS SHOWN IN DEED OF DISTRIBUTION RECORDED: 11/06/2009 IN BOOK: 902, PAGE: 247. TMS No. 123-07-02-002
Property Address: 454 Izlar St., Blackville SC 29817
SUBJECT TO ASSESSMENTS, AD VALOREM TAXES, EASEMENTS AND/OR, RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, AND

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OTHER SENIOR ENCUMBRANCES. TERMS OF SALE: A 5% deposit in certified funds is required. The deposit will be applied towards the purchase price unless the bidder defaults, in which case the deposit will be forfeited. If the successful bidder fails, or refuses, to make the required deposit, or comply with his bid within 30 days, then the property will be resold at his risk. No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made immediately. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the amount of the bid from date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 5.037%. For complete terms of sale, see Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale filed with the Barnwell County Clerk of Court at C/A 2023-CP-06-00275. Notice: The foreclosure deed is not a warranty deed. Interested bidders should satisfy themselves as to the quality of title to be conveyed by obtaining an independent title search prior to the foreclosure sale date.

James M. Harvey, Jr.
Special Referee for Barnwell County
William S. Koehler
Attorney for Plaintiff
1201 Main Street, Suite 1450
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: (803) 828-0880
Fax: (803) 828-0881
scfc@alaw.net
A-05/15/2024, 05/22/2024, 05/29/2024
2024-92 3tc 5-29-24

MASTER IN EQUITY NOTICE OF SALE

BY VIRTUE of a decree heretofore granted in the case of: U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for GS Mortgage-Backed Securities Trust 2022-RPL2 vs. Cynthia A. Streater, et al., I, the undersigned Walter H. Sanders, Master in Equity for Allendale County, will sell on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 11:00 AM, at the County Courthouse, 292 Barnwell Highway, Allendale, SC 29810. The property to be sold to the highest bidder: All that certain piece, parcel or lot of land, together with any improvements thereon, situate, lying, and being in the Town of Allendale, County of Allendale, State of South Carolina, containing 0.277 acre, more or less, shown and designated on a plat entitled "Plat Prepared for Cynthia A. Streater" prepared by Richard L. All, PLS, No. 16497, dated March 16, 1996, and recorded April 1, 1996, in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Allendale County in Plat Book 17 at Page 385. The aforesaid plat is incorporated by reference and made a part of this description.

This being the same property conveyed to Cynthia A. Streater by deed of Lance, Inc. recorded April 1, 1996 in Book 106 at Page 139 in the Office of the Clerk of Court/Register of Deeds for Allendale County.
TMS No. 089-03-01-019
Property address: 242 Short Street, Allendale, SC 29810

TERMS OF SALE: The successful bidder, other than the Plaintiff, will deposit with the Master in Equity, at conclusion of the bidding, five percent (5%) of said bid is due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding, in certified funds or equivalent, as evidence of good faith, same to be applied to purchase price in case of compliance, but to be forfeited and applied first to costs and then to Plaintiff's debt in the case of non-compliance. In the event of a third party bidder and that any third party bidder fails to deliver the required deposit in certified (immediately collectible) funds with the Office of the Master in Equity, said deposit being due and payable immediately upon closing of the bidding on the day of sale, the Master in Equity will re-sell the subject property at the most convenient time thereafter (including the day of sale), upon notification to counsel for Plaintiff. Should the last and highest bidder fail or refuse to comply with the balance due of the bid within 30 days, then the Master in Equity may re-sell the property on the same terms and conditions on some subsequent Sales Day (at the risk of the said highest bidder).

No personal or deficiency judgment being demanded, the bidding will not remain open after the date of sale, but compliance with the bid may be made

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immediately. Purchaser to pay for documentary stamps on Master in Equity's Deed. The successful bidder will be required to pay interest on the balance of the bid from the date of sale to date of compliance with the bid at the rate of 6.000% per annum. The Plaintiff may waive any of its rights, including its right to a deficiency judgment, prior to sale. The sale shall be subject to taxes and assessments, existing easements and restrictions of record.

This sale is subject to all title matters of record and any interested party should consider performing an independent title examination of the subject property as no warranty is given. The sale will not be held unless either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent is present at the sale and either Plaintiff's attorney or Plaintiff's bidding agent enters the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this captioned matter. In the alternative, Plaintiff's counsel, if permitted by the Court, may advise this Court directly of its authorized bidding instructions. In the event a sale is inadvertently held without Plaintiff's Counsel or Counsel's bidding agent entering the authorized bid of Plaintiff for this specifically captioned matter, the sale shall be null and void and the property shall be re-advertised for sale on the next available sale date.

Neither the Plaintiff nor its counsel make representations as to the integrity of the title or the fair market value of the property offered for sale. Prior to bidding you may wish to review the current state law or seek the advice of any attorney licensed in South Carolina.

Walter H. Sanders
Master in Equity for Allendale County
Scott and Corley, P.A.
Attorney for Plaintiff
2024-93 3tc 5-29-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Allendale County, the address of which is 292 Barnwell Highway, Allendale, S.C. 29810, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Jesse H. Crapse Sr.
Date of Death: September 21, 2023
Case Number: 2023 ES 03 00091
Personal Representative: Jesse H. Crapse
Address: 150 Fire Hill Road, Walterboro, S.C. 29488
Co-Personal Representative: Kevin G. Crapse
Address: 10136 Lambs Ridge Road SE, Elizabeth, IN 47117
2024-94 3tp 5-29-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Allendale County, the address of which is 292 Barnwell Highway, Allendale, S.C. 29810, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Wilhelmina Rouse
Date of Death: February 26, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 03 00036
Personal Representative: Angela Youmans
Address: P.O. Box 1239, Fairfax, S.C. 29827
Co-Personal Representative: Dwydella Walker

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Address: 220 Silver Fox Lane, Columbia, S.C. 29212
2024-96 3tp 6-5-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Barnwell County, the address of which is 141 Main Street #108, Barnwell, S.C. 29812, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.
Estate: Bonetta Sanders Bolen
Date of Death: April 28, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00100
Personal Representative: Terri B. Sanders
Address: 507 Twin Oaks Drive, Blackville, S.C. 29817
2024-97 3tp 6-5-24

NOTICES

LEGALS

claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.
Estate: Norma Jean Easterling
Date of Death: April 6, 2024
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00099
Personal Representative: Jennifer L. Barnes
Address: 309 Cottonwood Drive, Orangeburg, S.C. 29118
2024-98 3tp 6-5-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Barnwell County, the address of which is 141 Main Street #108, Barnwell, S.C. 29812, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.
Estate: Moline Smalls Orr
Date of Death: June 27, 2023
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00075
Personal Representative: Leroy Orr
Address: 1252 Hwy. 300, Barnwell, S.C. 29812
2024-99 3tp 6-5-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Barnwell County, the address of which is 141 Main Street #108, Barnwell, S.C. 29812, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice

NOTICES

LEGALS

to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.
Estate: Gertrude Wells Croft
Date of Death: September 28, 2023
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00102
Personal Representative: David Daniel Croft
Address: 129 Hampton Avenue, Blackville, S.C. 29817
2024-99 3tp 6-5-24

Notice to Creditors of Estates

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Barnwell County, the address of which is 141 Main Street #108, Barnwell, S.C. 29812, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.), or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statements on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.
Estate: Gertrude Wells Croft
Date of Death: September 28, 2023
Case Number: 2024 ES 06 00102
Personal Representative: David Daniel Croft
Address: 129 Hampton Avenue, Blackville, S.C. 29817
2024-100 3tp 6-5-24

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Bottomless pit
 - Paper or plastic one
 - Mercantile establishment
 - *Ticket agent's cubicle
 - Kimono sash
 - Cautious gambler
 - Tidal bore
 - ____-been
 - Get together
 - *Movie preview
 - *Daytime attraction
 - Rubber substitute
 - 1960s ____ boots
 - Good times
 - No problem
 - *Box ____
 - Deli side
 - Jerk, in Yiddish
 - Cell dweller
 - *Common theater admonition
 - Blows a horn
 - Be inclined
 - Community spirit
 - Stuff for sale, sing.
 - Not manual
 - *Traveling entertainer's helper
 - Cutting tools
 - "Reap what you ____"
 - Sail holder
 - Ostrich-like bird
 - *Snack in a tub
 - *Blast from the past venue
 - Bulb in produce aisle
 - Zoo's Primate House inhabitant
 - Telephone company portmanteau
 - Like an uncomfortable mattress
 - Not in good health
 - Alleviated
 - Law school prerequisite, acr.
 - Sodium hydroxide
 - Musher's ride, pl.
- DOWN**
- Drive a getaway car, e.g.
 - Wild swine
 - Vinyasa workout
 - Landing road
 - Put on hold
 - Physicist Niels
 - Lawyers' grp.
 - Contraption
 - Adjective for #9 Across
 - Blood-related
 - Network of nerves
 - Standing pose in #3 Down
 - Postpone (2 words)
 - E-wallet content
 - Don McLean: "A long, long time ____"
 - Simone Biles, e.g.
 - *Theater guide
 - Mickey Mouse's pet
 - Alexander, for short
 - *Opera or movie
 - Sheep's milk cheese
 - Intestinal obstruction
 - What contortion and contour have in common
 - Furnish with a fund
 - Who would
 - Creole cuisine staple
 - Waste conduit
 - Bribery, to a church official
 - ENT's first concern?
 - Afflicts with a blow
 - Symbol of slowness
 - Relating to uvea
 - Gallup's inquiry
 - Burden
 - Type of cotton
 - Native Egyptian, in Roman times
 - Expunge
 - *At concession stand: "Anything ____?"
 - Not hot, at a coffee shop
 - Nonverbal OKs
 - Layer

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: AT THE THEATER

ANSWERS ON PAGE 6B

CROSSWORD

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STATE CHAMPIONS!

JDA Raiders win SCISA 1A softball championship

Jeff Miller
Sports Writer
sports@thepeoplesentinel.com

The Jefferson Davis Academy Raiders girls softball team defeated the Cross Stingrays from Bluffton 11-1 in game two of the State Championship Series to win the 2024 SCISA 1A Softball State Championship. JDA swept the best two out of three Championship Series to claim the title in dominating fashion.

To get to the Championship Series, the Raiders had to defeat three opponents. Not only did the Raiders win all three games, but the closest of the three games was a 7-1 victory. JDA faced Wardlaw Academy, Laurens Academy, and Cross. The results were all the same. JDA came away with big wins in each contest. The Raiders downed the Wardlaw Patriots by a score of 16-3, then easily conquered the Crusaders from Laurens Academy by a 17-1 margin. JDA played the Cross Stingrays the following day and walked away with a 7-1 win and a weekend of undefeated softball going 3-0.

Cross had a little more difficult path to the Championship Series. The Stingrays had to win from the lower bracket after dropping the game to the Raiders and they did just that, earning the rematch with the Raiders in the State Championship Series.

In game one of the Championship Series, JDA got some strong pitching from Reagan Still to earn a 4-0 shutout win. For game two, the pressure was all on Cross. If Cross lost, the series would be over and JDA would be crowned State Champions. JDA took care of business offensively, scoring 11 runs while good defense and another great outing from the circle by Reagan Still kept the Stingrays scoring to only a single run. Raiders won 11-1 to win the



The JDA softball team celebrates winning the State Championship!

Photo By: Elizabeth Mock

SCISA 1-A State Championship.

The Raiders have played pretty well all season long, but have come on strong at the end of the season, winning when it counts the most. The Raiders won their last six games in a row and had lots of momentum entering the post-season. Offensively, the Raiders were able to come through with clutch hits when needed and their run production kept increasing. Pair the offense's good hitting with some incredible pitching from Reagan Still and you have the formula for winning softball.

"First, I would like to thank my assistant coaches and parents for all their help this year. We could not have done it without them. Wow, what an awesome accomplishment on the season. We played basically three seasons

in one. At the beginning of season, we played really well. The middle of the season was a struggle to get where we needed to be, but man, at the end of the season our team went to a different level. Starting with the game at Andrew Jackson Academy, we decided to buy into what we were doing and it was a masterpiece on the field. We played our best softball over the last five games to win the State Championship. As I told my girls, we played big girl softball in the state tournament. We scored 55 runs and gave up only 6. It was an awesome season and I'm proud of my team and coaches!" said JDA Raiders head coach Bart Owens.

This Raiders team had many important parts working together to play championship level softball. Leading the way were seniors Reagan Still and Gylan Gooze.

Coach Owens was asked about his seniors and was happy to say, "Reagan Still has been an

absolute pleasure to coach. She is always working on her craft to get better. Reagan will go down as one of the best to ever pitch in a Raiders jersey. She always gives you a chance to win and her heart is as big as the sky. I will miss her next year, but she is off to do great things at Florence-Darlington Tech, where she has signed to play softball this fall. Reagan was lights out in the State Tournament and Championship Series."

Coach Owens continued saying, "Gylan Gooze has been with me since fifth grade and has always been a pleasure to coach. She has played several positions over the years and done really well. Gyl is a great young lady with a bright future ahead of her. She will be missed for all the laughs and dancing to keep everyone loose and ready to play. We will miss Gyl next year and she played her best softball when it counted, in the State Tournament and Championship

Series."

Everyone is very proud of the Lady Raiders State Championship, including JDA Head of School Carla Jackson. When asked about the softball team's State Championship, Jackson replied, "We are so proud of the girls' win. The dedication of each player, as well as that of Coach Bart and all the assistant coaches, has definitely paid off. This championship is the result of multiple seasons of hard work, not just one game. We are excited to see where their continued hard work and dedication leads them."

Congratulations to the Jefferson Davis Academy Raiders softball team on winning the 2024 SCISA 1-A State Championship! Best wishes to the two seniors leaving for a great future and we look to watch this team battle to make it back for another shot at the championship next year! Great job, Raiders!



Esme Montejano steals third base for the JDA Raiders

Photo By: Kathy Gooze



JDA pitcher Reagan Still prepares to strike out an opponent during the state championship game.

Photo By: Rose Loadholt



Madelyn Respass prepares to take a swing at the ball during the state championship game.

Photo By: Stacy Respass



Coach Bart Owens shares in the celebration with his team after the JDA Raiders won the state title.

Photo By: Elizabeth Moss

Meet the Team



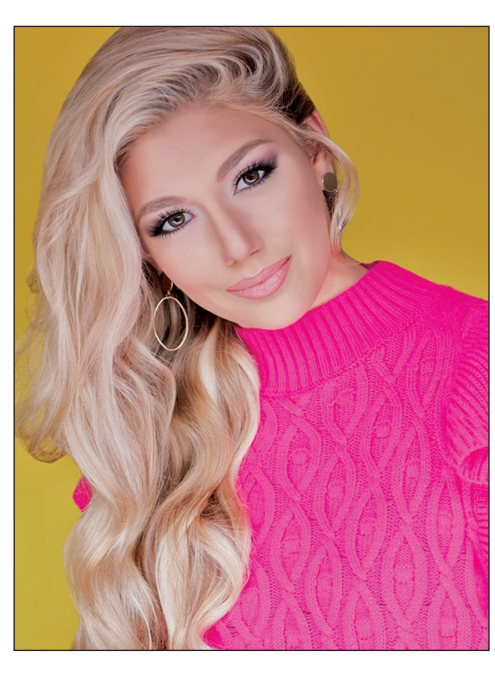
Kinslie Carson
 Grade: 9th
 Position: Left field
 Other JDA sports: Volleyball
 Hometown: Branchville, SC
 Parents: Eddie and Angelia Carson
 Favorite Championship memory: The team celebration at the end.
 Favorite non-championship memory: Being with my friends.
 Favorite thing to do outside of sports: Hang out with friends and family.



Abby Deering
 Grade: 9th
 Position: First Base, outfield
 Other JDA sports: Volleyball, basketball
 Hometown: Williston
 Parents: Andy and Carla Deering
 Favorite Championship memory: Getting to experience this with a great group of girls.
 Favorite non-championship memory: Volleyball season.
 Favorite thing to do outside of sports: Spend time in Edisto and ride my four-wheeler.
 Plans for next year: To win another state championship in a sport.



Ryann Fickling
 Grade: 10th
 Positions: First base and pitcher
 Other JDA sports: Cheer, basketball, and volleyball
 Hometown: Blackville, SC
 Parents: Tal and Sally Fickling
 Favorite championship memory: The dogpile after we won.
 Favorite non-championship memory: Going to Sumter for the State Tournament.
 Plans for next year: Make a good run in the volleyball tournament, be half decent at basketball, and win State again in softball
 Favorite thing to do outside of sports: sleep, hang out with friends, and tanning.



Elie Grace Fogle
 Grade: 11th
 Position: Right field/DH
 Other JDA sports: Volleyball
 Hometown: Blackville
 Parents: Rusty and Tavia Fogle
 Favorite Championship memory: Dumping water bottles on coach Bart after the game.
 Favorite non-championship memory: Doing a slip'n'slide on the softball field to learn how to slide into bases.
 Favorite thing to do outside of sports: Pageants, shop, go to the beach.



Gylan Sady Googe
 Grade: 12th
 Position: Third base
 Other JDA sports: Volleyball, Shotgun Raiders, Basketball
 Hometown: Barnwell
 Parents: Luther and Kathy Googe
 Favorite Championship memory: When the last out was made, and we all started screaming and running to each other. It was awesome to win my senior year.
 Favorite non-championship memory: At my last Shotgun Raider shoot awards ceremony, I was talking to my mom about my shooting coach, Coach Brad All that passed away. We were laughing and talking about the things we would do when we went on our shoots. I told my mom he always promised he would be at my last shoot. She said always remember him telling you he would be there. I started feeling rain drops. I asked my mom if she was getting rained on. She said no, the sun is shining. We looked up, and there was not a cloud in the sky. I told her that was weird that I was the only one getting rain drops on me. She just smiled. I thought she was crazy. Then I heard my name, and I won a \$1,000 scholarship. She asked me later if I ever figured out why I was the only one getting rain drops on me. I told her that was crazy. She told me she thought it was Brad telling me he was there with me. I smiled, and said he would have done that to me. I love you forever, Coach Brad.
 Favorite thing to do outside of sports: eating, sleeping, hanging out with family and friends.
 Plans for next year: Go to OC Tech for the Radiology program.



Kaylee Jackson
 Grade: 11th
 Position: Shortstop
 Other JDA sports played: Volleyball
 Hometown: Barnwell
 Parents: Adam and Lori Jackson
 Favorite Championship memory: When every player went to the pitcher's mound and celebrated.
 Favorite non-championship game memory: Making it to the playoffs and staying in the winner's bracket.
 Plans for next year: Win State again!
 Favorite things to do outside of sports: Hanging out with friends and going shopping.



Carrie Lynn Loadholt
 Grade: 11th
 Position: Centerfield.
 Other JDA Sports: Volleyball and Cheer
 Hometown: Fairfax
 Parents: Marc and Brandy Loadholt
 Favorite memory: Catching the last out in the State Championship win.
 Favorite non-championship memory: Breaking my bat in half during the first game of season.
 Plans for next year: Win state again!
 Favorite things to do outside of sports: Reading and gardening.



Jamilynn Mock
 Grade: 10th
 Positions: Catcher, First Base, Third Base
 Other JDA Sports Played: Volleyball
 Hometown: Barnwell
 Parents: Josh and Elizabeth Mock, Matt and Jennifer Davis
 Favorite Championship memory: Celebrating at the end of the game
 Favorite non-championship game memory: Playing the catcher position for the first time.
 Plans for next year: Make all A's for my High school classes and College classes next year.
 Favorite things to do outside of sports: I love to fish at Lake Murray.

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CONGRATULATIONS Lady Raiders



Gylian #22 GOOGE

2024 SCISA 1A STATE CHAMPIONS



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Seniors 2024

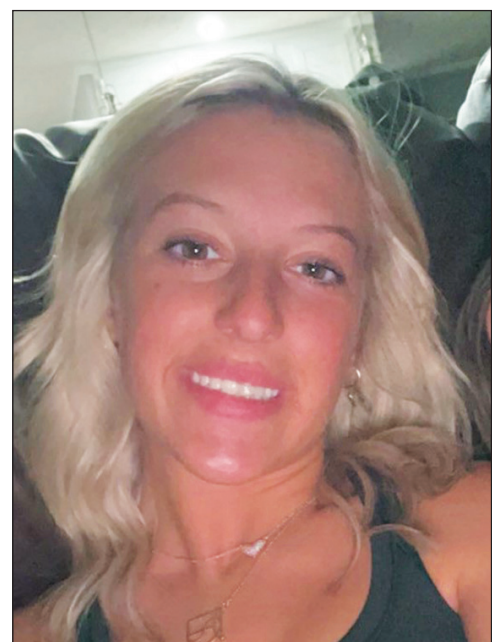


REAGAN & GYLIAN



Esmeralda Montejano

Grade: 9th
Position: Centerfield
Other JDA sports: Basketball and Volleyball
Hometown: Hilda
Parents: Amelia and Jose Montejano
Favorite Championship memory: When I slid into home plate to score, but collided with the opposing catcher and got the wind knocked out of me, and making Coach Bart cry when we won the Championship.
Favorite non-championship memory: Watching our JDA football team win a State Championship against Holly Hill.
Favorite thing to do outside of sports: Eating, sleeping, and hanging out with my friends and family.
Plans for next year: Continue playing basketball and softball and to excel in academics.



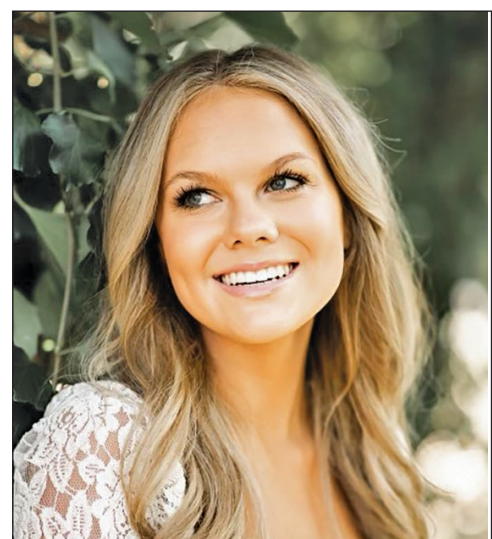
Sydney Owens

Grade: 11th
Position: Second base
Other sports played: Volleyball, basketball, football water girl
Hometown: Barnwell
Parents: Bart and Stacy Owens
Favorite Championship memory: Winning the game with all my family in attendance.
Favorite non-championship game memory: Cheering in the dugout and Mrs. Carla wearing her Boss Hogg outfit to all our Championship games.
Plans for next year: Win the Championship again!
Favorite things to do outside of sports: Sleep and eat.



Kinlee Ray

Grade: 9th
Position: Catcher
Other JDA sports: Shotgun Raiders
Hometown: Barnwell
Parents: Melinda and Clint Hutto
Favorite Championship game memory: Making and sharing memories with my teammates and winning the State Championship game was the icing the cake!
Favorite non-championship game memory: Creating friendships that will last a lifetime!
Plans for next year: To become a better student, better softball player, a better friend, and better person! AND BECOMING BACK TO BACK STATE CHAMPS!
Favorite things to do outside of sports: Spending time at the pool, spending time at the beach, and having fun!



Madelyn Laird Respass

Grade: 11th
Position: Right field
Other sports: Cheerleading and Basketball
Hometown: Elko
Parents: Greg and Stacey Respass
Favorite Championship memory: Our team scoring 6 runs in 4th inning.
Favorite non-championship memory: When Coach Bart danced before games.
Plans for next year: Do my time and get out.
Favorite thing to do outside of sports: Hang out with friends, eat and sleep.



Reagan Still

Grade: 12
Positions: Pitcher and 3rd base
Other JDA sports: Volleyball
Hometown: Hilda
Parents: Gregory (Bubba) Still and Hillery Still
Favorite Championship memory: Getting to play at my home field one more time and of course the dog pile at the end.
Favorite non-championship game memory: Playing for team USA in Australia
Plans for next year: I am going to play softball for Florence Darlington Technical College who just won their Region this year. I am excited about adding to their program. I will be studying Business and hope to get a job in Marketing where I can continue my love of travel.
Favorite things to do outside of sports: I love to travel with my family and hang out with my best friends.



Rileyh Laine York

Grade: 8th
Position: Shortstop
Other JDA sports: Volleyball and basketball
Hometown: Springfield, SC
Parents: Derek and Christie Antley
Favorite Championship memory: Having the opportunity to be a part of the team that won.
Favorite non-championship memory: Having two homeruns in one game this year.
Favorite thing to do outside of sports: Spend time with my friends and riding my four-wheeler.
Plans for next year: Be the best that I can be in everything I do

Meet the Coaches



Bart Owens
Head Coach

Coach Owens has led softball teams for 10 years and volleyball teams for 17 years. Owens is a Barnwell High School graduate. He is married to Stacy Owens and the couple have five kids; Jessica (married to Arron Stack), Morgan, Hunter, Paisley, and Sydney. He has two grandchildren; Sophia Stack and Easton Owens.

Favorite championship memory: "The ice water bath from my players. I have not done this in a long time so it was worth the wait. Also winning State in football."



Brittany Livingston
Assistant Coach

Coach Livingston served as the assistant softball coach for her alma mater, North High School, in 2007 and 2008. While a student at North High School, she played volleyball and softball where she was All-Region and All-State for both sports. Livingston also played in the SCHSL All-Star games for softball and volleyball in 2001-2002. She is married to Kelly Livingston with a daughter, Kaylee, who graduated from JDA in 2023 having played both softball and volleyball, and a son, Bryson, who plays football, baseball, and shoots for the JDA Shotgun Raiders. Livingston's parents are Don and Becky Hutto.

Favorite championship memory: Watching the girls get in a groove and come alive to hit the ball scoring 55 runs in five games was impressive. Definitely a lasting memory. I also enjoyed calling pitches for Reagan."

Favorite non-championship memory: "Seeing all the girls enjoying a game I love so much and playing their best softball, and forming life-long relationships with the team. I was grateful and thankful for the opportunity to help."



Anna Beth Randall
Assistant Coach

This is Coach Randall's second year assisting in coaching JDA softball. She is a Raider alumni having played volleyball, basketball, skeet shooting, and softball before graduating in 2018. Coach Randall played college softball at USC Salkehatchie in 2019 and 2020, and also played for a semester at USC Aiken. Her parents are Lloyd and Dawn Morgan, and she is from Springfield.

Favorite championship memory: "Seeing the girls being over the top excited and just living in the moment when the final out occurred to win the game. It made me happy knowing that they can cherish that moment for the rest of their lives."

Favorite non-championship memory: "Watching the girls never give up in every game they played and putting in the effort to make the easiest or hardest plays. Even just watching them lift each other up if they make an error or strike out."



Kelvin Phillips
Assistant Coach

Coach Phillips has coached all across the athletic department at JDA. He has coached varsity softball for six years, JV softball for four years, JV girls basketball for three years, and varsity girls basketball for one year. He also coached in the Dixie Softball Recreational League (8u, 10u, & 12u). Coach Phillips is a 1986 JDA graduate where he played football, basketball, and baseball. After graduating from JDA, he played college football at Presbyterian College. He currently lives in Neeses. He is married to his wife, Vicki, and has two children, Kiersten and Kolby.

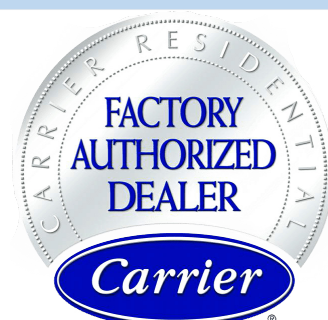
Favorite championship memory: "Getting the girls 'loosened up' by putting 'Tiger' in the dugout at the championship game in Bluffton."

Favorite non-championship memory: Laughing at Ted (the ump) about the 20 second pitch rule."

WAY TO GO RAIDERS!



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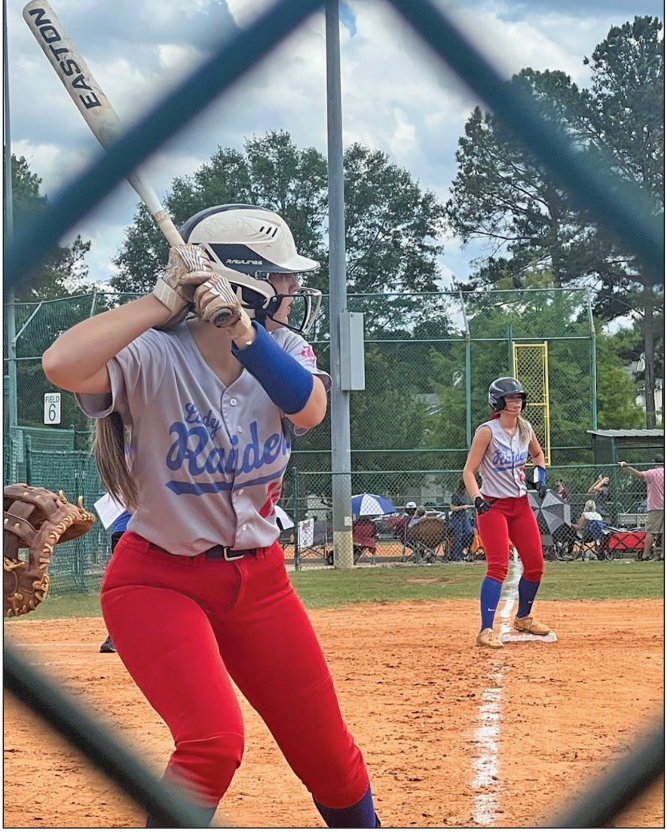
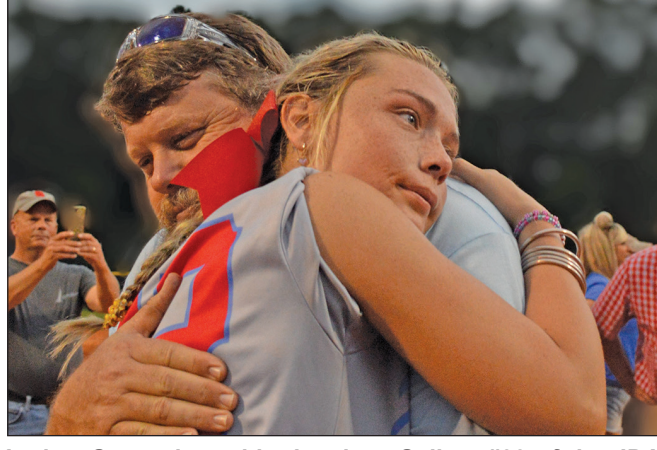


Photo By: Rose Loadholt



Luther Googe hugs his daughter Gylian, #22 of the JDA Raiders, after the team won the state championship.
 Photo By: Rose Loadholt



Photo By: Kathy Googe

CONGRATULATIONS
 TO THE JEFFERSON DAVIS ACADEMY
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CONGRATULATIONS, JDA LADY RAIDERS!
SCISA 1-A SOFTBALL
STATE CHAMPS



RYNN FICKLING
#11 1ST BASE

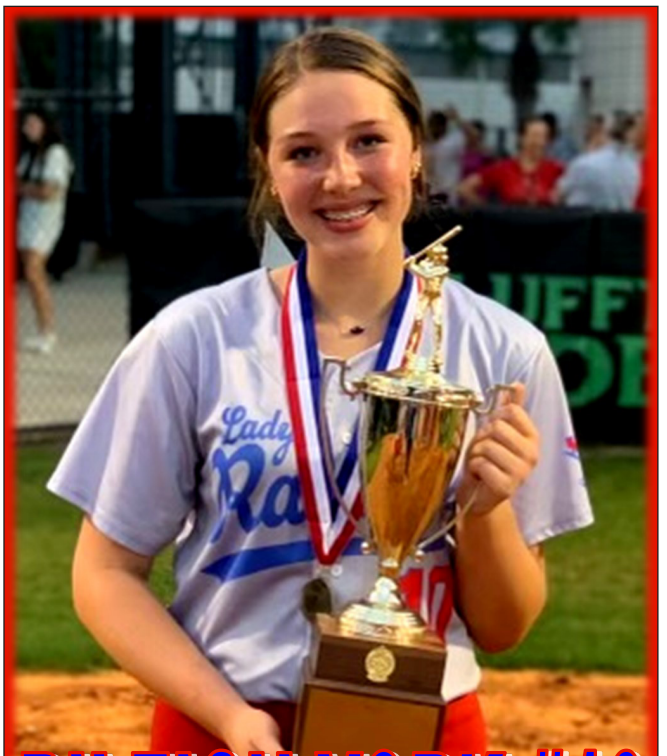
TO THE 2024 LADY RAIDERS
 You girls showed grit this season.
 No need to stop here.
 Best wishes for our seniors
 to stay gritty in the new!

To our Kinlee,
 you walked with your team all the way and we are very proud of your strength and endurance. Same time next season, girls!!

CONGRATULATIONS!
MADELYN #17
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WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

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RILEIGH YORK #10

"It has been an honor to be a member of such an amazing team and to have had the opportunity to be a part of winning the 2024 State Championship for Jefferson Davis Academy. Thank you Coach Bart, Coach Kelvin, Brittany and Anna Beth for all the encouragement and support this season."

CONGRATULATIONS LADY RAIDERS!

We Congratulate the Jefferson Davis Academy Lady RAIDERS
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GREAT JOB!
 Sydney #20
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 TO THE JDA LADY RAIDERS SOFTBALL TEAM
 for winning the State Championship!
WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL THE GIRLS!



KINLEE you are awesome!
 Clyde & Ruth Pigman (Granny & Papaw)

Jefferson Davis Academy
congratulates the
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Congratulations on winning
STATE!!



I am so proud of all of you!



Carla Jackson
 JDA Head of School

CONGRATULATIONS LADY RAIDERS!

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SO PROUD OF THE JDA LADY RAIDERS ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!



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CONGRATULATIONS LADY RAIDERS!

Congratulations Lady Raiders!



Love, Kyleigh

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