

$1.00 | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2026 | THE MANNING TIMES COMPANY INC. | VOLUME 144, NO. 47

2025 SOUTH CAROLINA PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNER

The Manning Times

MALLETT ROAD SHOOTING LEAVES TWO DEAD, TWO INJURED

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

Two men have been identified as the victims of an early Sunday morning shooting on Mallett Road in Clarendon County that left two others injured.

Clarendon County Coroner Jacqueline Blackwell identified the deceased as Jonathan Lucas, 26, of Manning, and Harold Bradley Jr., 38, of Alcolu. Autopsies are scheduled for this week at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Deputies with the Clarendon County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a shooting at 2806 Mallett Road at approximately 12:45 a.m. Nov. 15, according to a news release from the agency.

When deputies arrived, they found one person in the yard suffering from a gunshot wound. A second gunshot victim was later located at the Enmarket convenience store on Greeleyville Hwy.

Both men were transported to McLeod Clarendon Hospital, where they died from their injuries.

Two additional people sustained gunshot wounds during the incident. Their injuries are believed to be non-life-threatening.

According to preliminary findings, the shooting stemmed from an ongoing dispute between the two men who died. Investigators believe one person initially produced a firearm, prompting the other to draw a weapon and open fire.

The two exchanged gunfire, fatally wounding each other, according to investigators.

Authorities also determined that one of the men was transported from the shooting scene to the Enmarket in a vehicle and left in the parking lot. Investigators have not specified which of the two men was found at each location.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Crime Scene Unit responded to assist with processing the scene, including vehicles involved in the incident.

The shooting remains under active investigation by the Clarendon County Sheriff's Office and SLED. Authorities have not released additional details about the circumstances surrounding the dispute.

The Manning Times will continue to update this story as additional information becomes available.



SHOOTING: One of two men fatally wounded in a Nov. 15 shooting on Mallett Road was found in the parking lot of the Enmarket convenience store on U.S. 521 after being transported from the shooting scene.

(GOOGLE MAPS)

CCSD board swears in members, elects officers

Land named chairman as four trustees take oath

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

The Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees swore in four newly elected and re-elected members and selected its officers during a special called meeting Monday, Nov. 16, at the district's administrative offices.

Ceth Land was elected chairman, Bobby Fleming was selected as vice chairman, Tami Green as secretary and the Rev. Johnny Lawson as parliamentarian.

Green, who was elected to the District 2 seat previously held by former board Chairman Johnny Bonaparte, took the oath of office alongside returning trustees Linda Lemon of District 4, Fleming of District 6 and John Hardy of District 8.

The swearing-in followed the Nov. 3 general election, during which Green ran unopposed and Lemon, Fleming and Hardy won re-election.

Former state Sen. Kevin Johnson administered the oath of office, reminding trustees of the responsibilities that come with public service and the importance of keeping students at the center of their decisions.

Johnson acknowledged that serving on a school board can be difficult, particularly when members face public criticism. He encouraged trustees to remain focused on providing students with the best possible education and emphasized that their commitment to uphold the state and federal constitutions extends beyond the words recited during the ceremony.

Following the swearing-in, Superintendent Dr. Shawn Johnson presided over the election of the board chairman. Land was selected to lead the board and subsequently presided over the remaining officer elections.

In a district news release issued Tuesday, Land expressed appreciation for his selection and echoed Lawson's message about prioritizing students.

"I am proud to be selected as Chairman," Land said. "As

See TRUSTEES | **11A**

Auditor election results upheld after protest

Voting problems at Davis Station found insufficient to change outcome

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

The Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration and Elections voted unanimously Monday, Nov. 16, to uphold the results of the county auditor election following a hearing into allegations that voting problems at the Davis Station precinct prevented some residents from casting ballots on Election Day.

The board acknowledged irregularities in the voting process but determined that the evidence presented did not establish that those problems were sufficient to cast doubt on the outcome of the Nov. 3 election, in which Democratic incumbent Patricia Pringle defeated Republican challenger Kimberly Herbert by 147 votes.

According to results certified Nov. 6, Pringle, who has served as county auditor since July 2003, received 6,835 votes, or 50.52%, while Herbert received 6,688 votes, or 49.43%. Six write-in votes were also recorded.

Herbert filed a formal election protest Nov. 10, alleging that Davis Station voters were unable to cast ballots for more than an hour after polls were scheduled to open at 7 a.m. She also alleged that election workers failed to provide alternative voting options and that some residents left without voting.

During the hearing at the elections office in Manning, Herbert presented her own case, questioning witnesses and arguing that the voting problems may have affected the election's outcome. Pringle was represented by attorneys Skyler Hutto and Eleazer Carter.

The central dispute involved a malfunction of electronic poll books, which are used to check voters in before they receive ballots.



HEARING: Republican auditor candidate Kimberly Herbert listens as a witness responds to her questions during a Nov. 16 election protest hearing before the Clarendon County Board of Voter Registration and Elections in Manning.

(MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY/THE MANNING TIMES)

Herbert maintained that the first ballot was not cast at Davis Station until 8:13 a.m., more than an hour after voting was scheduled to begin. She argued that the delay, combined with the alleged failure to provide emergency ballots, may have prevented eligible voters from participating.

James Mirick, a poll watcher at Davis Station, testified that approximately 15 or 16 people were waiting when polls opened. He said the electronic check-in equipment was not functioning and that he counted seven people leaving the polling location before casting ballots.

Mirick testified that one of those

See PROTEST | **13A**

County Council seeks control of Aeronautics Commission appointments

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

Clarendon County Council has taken the first step toward changing how members of the Clarendon County Aeronautics Commission are appointed, setting up a potential conflict between county authority and a state law approved last year.

Council gave first reading Nov. 9 to an ordinance that would move appointment authority from the governor, acting on the recommendation of the Clarendon County Legislative Delegation, back to County Council.

The commission handles matters related to Santee Cooper Regional Airport, including airport operations, facilities and long-term planning.

The current appointment process was established through Act 79, signed into law in March 2025. The legislation was introduced by Sen. Jeff Zell and supported in the House by then-Rep. Fawn Pedalino, who submitted a favorable report on behalf of the Clarendon County Legislative Delegation.

Under the law, the commission's seven members are appointed by the governor upon the delegation's recommendation. It also requires commission meetings to be livestreamed and archived on the county website and places the commission under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

After the law was signed, Pedalino described it as a return to governor-appointed leadership. She said its meeting and public-record requirements would increase transparency and accountability while supporting the airport's role in economic development.

County Council is now taking a different position on who has legal authority over the commission.

County Attorney C.D. Rhodes III told council that the proposed ordinance is intended to consolidate the county's rules for boards and commissions and place appointment authority with council where permitted under South Carolina's home rule laws.

The ordinance argues that the Aeronautics Commission is a county board subject to council's authority and characterizes Act 79 and earlier amendments as likely unconstitutional because they apply specifically to Clarendon County. Act 79 remains state law, and the ordinance reflects the county's position on how home rule applies to the commission.

If the ordinance receives final approval, council would appoint the seven commissioners to staggered five-year terms. The commission would advise council on airport property, leases, regulations, operations, maintenance and development, but council would not be required to obtain its recommendation before acting.

The ordinance would require the commission to meet at least quarterly and comply with the Freedom of Information Act, including requirements for public notices, agendas and open meetings.

It would, however, supersede Act 79's separate requirement that meetings be livestreamed and archived. Rhodes and council members did not discuss during the meeting why that provision would be removed.

The proposed ordinance would initially retain the seven people currently listed as commissioners on the county

See AERO | **11A**

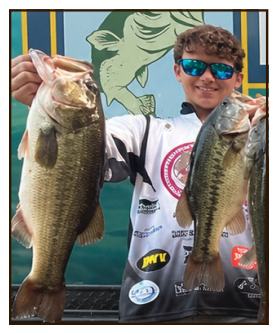
DIGEST



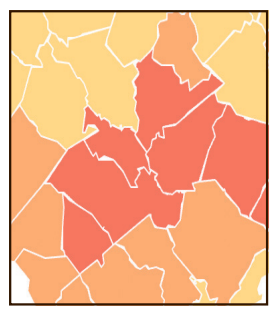
SCHP SEEKS
hit-and-run driver in Paxville | **2A**



BOAT OWNERS
to see tax changes in 2027 | **5A**



CH FISHING
team claims first place at Lake Murray | **9A**



INCREASED
wildfire risk | **2A**

INDEX

PUBLIC SAFETY 2A
PERSPECTIVES 3A
HAPPENINGS 4A
NEWS 5A
GAMEZONE 6A
CLASSIFIEDS 7A
OBITUARIES 8A
SPORTS 9A
NEWS 10A
NEWS 11A
NEWS 12A
NEW 13A
TURKEY GIVEAWAY 14A

THURSDAY'S FORECAST

82° high
66° low

SUBSCRIBE!
LEARN ABOUT YOUR COUNTY!
$35/year IN COUNTY
$45/year OUT-OF-COUNTY
MANNING LIVE.COM

PUBLIC SAFETY

CONTACT US:
803-435-8422
manningsctimes@gmail.com

SCHP SEEKS DRIVER IN PAXVILLE HIT-AND-RUN THAT SERIOUSLY INJURED MOPED RIDER

STAFF REPORT

The South Carolina Highway Patrol (SCHP) is asking for the public's help identifying a pickup truck involved in a hit-and-run collision that left a moped rider seriously injured Thursday evening in Clarendon County.

The collision occurred at approximately 7:33 p.m. Nov. 12 on S.C. 261 at McLeod Road in Paxville, according to the South Carolina Department of Public Safety.

Investigators said a GMC Sierra or Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck was traveling on S.C. 261 when it struck a moped in the roadway. The moped rider suffered serious bodily injuries, and the pickup truck left the scene.

SCHP is searching for a 2014-2019 GMC Sierra or Chevrolet Silverado that may have damage to the driver's side. The vehicle's color is unknown.

SCHP has released images of pickup trucks representative of the models and years investigators are seeking. The images do not depict the actual vehicle involved in the collision.

Anyone with information about the vehicle or the identity of those responsible is asked to contact SCHP at 803-896-9621 or 1-800-768-1501.

Anonymous tips may also be submitted through Crime Stoppers by calling 843-713-TIPS, visiting SCCrimeStoppers.org or using the P3 Tips mobile app.

The collision remains under investigation by SCHP.



(Vehicle shown is representative of the model years.)

HIT AND RUN: The South Carolina Highway Patrol (SCHP) is searching for a 2014-2019 GMC Sierra or Chevrolet Silverado believed to have struck a moped Thursday, Nov. 12, on S.C. 261 at McLeod Road in Paxville, seriously injuring the rider. The pickup may have driver's-side damage, and its color is unknown. The vehicles pictured are representative models, not the actual vehicle involved.

(PROVIDED/SCDPS

Fire officials warn of increased wildfire risk amid ongoing drought

STAFF REPORT

Clarendon County Fire Rescue is urging residents to postpone outdoor burning after responding to six grass fires that threatened nearby structures, warning that ongoing drought conditions and dry vegetation could allow even small fires to spread rapidly.

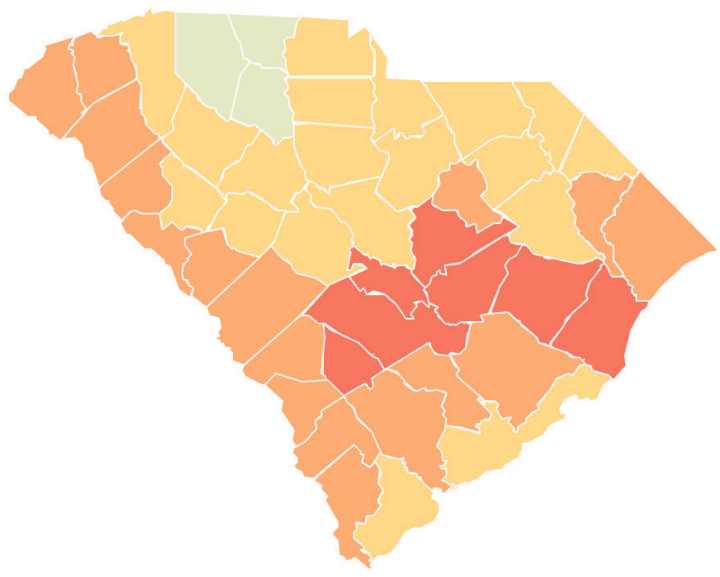
In a public safety advisory issued last week, the department said strong winds had increased the danger of outdoor fires spreading beyond their intended areas. At the time, the National Weather Service was forecasting sustained winds of 15 to 20 mph, with gusts reaching 30 mph.

The department reported responding to six grass fires since the Tuesday preceding its advisory. Officials did not specify how many structures were threatened or whether any sustained damage.

The warning comes as Clarendon County remains under a severe drought designation issued by the South Carolina Drought Response Committee on Oct. 13. Neighboring Sumter, Orangeburg, Calhoun and Williamsburg counties also received severe drought classifications, while more recent federal data shows extreme drought affecting portions of central South Carolina.

Prolonged dry conditions can leave grass, leaves and other vegetation more susceptible to ignition, allowing fires to spread quickly when winds increase. Even when humidity rises and winds subside, dry vegetation can continue to pose a wildfire risk until sufficient rainfall improves conditions.

The South Carolina Forestry Commission issued a similar warning Nov. 11, cautioning that strong winds and falling humidity could increase the likelihood of wildfires starting and spreading. Officials said dry air would make vegetation more susceptible to ignition, particularly as a cold front moved through the state.



FIRE RISK: The U.S. Drought Monitor map shows drought conditions across much of South Carolina as of Nov. 10. Yellow indicates abnormally dry conditions, light orange moderate drought, dark orange severe drought and red extreme drought. Clarendon County Fire Rescue urges residents to avoid outdoor burning.

(MAP COURTESY OF THE U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR)

The concern extends beyond Clarendon County. Florence County Fire Rescue reported responding to 29 outdoor fires between Nov. 11 and Nov. 15, with the Forestry Commission assisting at five of those incidents. Officials there also urged residents to avoid unnecessary outdoor burning.

According to the National Weather Service's fire weather forecast issued Tuesday, Nov. 17, conditions are expected to become somewhat more favorable through the end of the week as humidity increases and winds remain relatively light.

Thursday's forecast for Clarendon, Sumter and Orangeburg counties calls for highs in the lower 70s, afternoon relative humidity around 54% and northeast winds generally between 6 and 7 mph, with gusts potentially reaching 18 mph.

Rain chances could return over the weekend as a developing weather system approaches

See BURN | 11A

CCFR responds to 664 incidents in October

Manning Fire Department reports 21 calls

STAFF REPORT

Clarendon County Fire Rescue responded to 664 incidents in October, with medical emergencies accounting for nearly 80% of the department's calls, according to monthly activity reports released by local fire officials.

The county department reported 529 medical calls, making them the largest category of incidents handled during the month. Firefighters also responded to 41 vehicle collisions, 19 grass or woods fires, six structure fires and four vehicle fires.

In addition to fire and medical emergencies, Clarendon County Fire Rescue recorded eight hazardous or no-fire incidents and 57 calls classified as good intent. Those calls generally involve situations in which emergency personnel respond to a reported concern but find that emergency assistance is not needed.

Medical emergencies represented approximately 79.7% of the county department's total responses, while vehicle collisions accounted for about 6.2%.

The City of Manning Fire Department separately reported 21 calls for service during October, including two structure fires, six emergency medical calls and five vehicle-related incidents requiring assistance or rescue.

The city department also responded to six false alarms, one downed power line and one smoke scare. No vehicle fires, grass or woods fires, water rescues or hazardous spills were reported during the month.

False alarms and emergency medical calls tied for the largest share of the Manning Fire Department's activity, each accounting for approximately 28.6% of its monthly responses.

The reports reflect the range of emergencies handled by fire and rescue personnel throughout Clarendon County, from medical assistance and vehicle incidents to structure fires and other public safety concerns.

Neither department's monthly report included information about injuries, fatalities, property damage or the number of personnel involved in responding to incidents.



CLARENDON WOMAN CHARGED WITH LOTTERY FRAUD

STAFF REPORT

A Clarendon County woman has been charged with lottery fraud after authorities say she stole scratch-off tickets from a Manning convenience store where she worked and redeemed them for $36 in cash prizes.

Shakelsha Brianna Smiling, 27, was charged Thursday, Nov. 12, with intent to defraud involving counterfeit game tickets, according to a Nov. 16 news release from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED).

According to an arrest warrant, Smiling allegedly stole eight scratch-off lottery tickets from the Travel Centers of America No. 179, located at 3014 Paxville Highway in Manning, while employed at the business.

Investigators allege Smiling later redeemed the stolen tickets for $36 in cash prizes on Aug. 28, 2025. The warrant states that the tickets belonged to the South Carolina Education Lottery and that witnesses could corroborate the allegations.

The South Carolina Education Lottery requested the SLED investigation, which resulted in the charge against Smiling.

Smiling was booked into the Clarendon County Detention Center. The release did not provide information about her bond status.

The case will be prosecuted by the 3rd Circuit Solicitor's Office.

LIFE HAPPENS



We can help fill the financial gaps.

INSTALLMENT LOANS
for Life's Expenses up to $15,000*

- Fixed Rates
- Set Payments
- Same-Day Funding*

1st Franklin Financial®
1FFC.com

803-435-8782
524 W. Boyce Street
MANNING

*1st Franklin Financial Corporation, NMLS #141654, Georgia Residential Mortgage Licensee #5656. 1st Franklin Financial Corporation is licensed by the Virginia State Corporation Commission, CFI-215. Any offers referenced here do not apply to residents of states in which 1st Franklin does not hold a lending license.

insurance the
right way.
the human way.

simple human sense

CREECH • RODDEY • WATSON
CRW
INSURANCE

803-775-1168
crwins.com

Auto-Owners
INSURANCE

The Manning Times

Serving Clarendon County's Residents Since 1882

Post Office Box 190 Manning, South Carolina 29102

(803) 435-8422
manningsctimes@gmail.com

HOURS OF OPERATION:
9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

DEADLINES:
Classified, Classified Display and Legal Advertising:
Noon on Mondays

Display Advertising, Stories and Public Service Announcements:
5:00 p.m. on Fridays

The Manning Times is published by Times Publishing Company Inc., weekly at 230 E. Boyce St., Manning, SC 29102.

publisher: LEIGH ANN MAYNARD
managing editor: MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
design : MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
marketing executive: BRIAR ALSBROOKS

www.manninglive.com

CONTACT US:
803-435-8422
manningsctimes@gmail.com

PERSPECTIVES

Financial Focus

MANAGING RISK AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF LIFE

SUBMITTED BY: JESSE SURETTE, FINANCIAL ADVISOR

As an investor, you will always need to deal with risk of some kind. How can you manage the risk that accompanies the volatility of the financial markets? The answer depends somewhat on where you are in life.

When you're starting out … If you're early in your career, with perhaps four or five decades until you retire, you can likely afford to invest primarily for growth, which also means you'll be taking on a higher level of risk – because risk and reward are positively correlated. But, given your age, you will have time to overcome the market downturns that are both inevitable and a normal part of investing. Still, even at this stage, being over-aggressive can be costly.



JESSE SURETTE
FINANCIAL ADVISOR

When you're in the "middle stages" … At this time of your life, you're possibly well along in your career and working on at least a couple of financial goals, such as saving for retirement and your children's college education. You'll want to begin adjusting the balance in your portfolio between assets with higher growth and those with lower growth since there will be progressively less time to rebuild losses. You'll need to decide on the balance between risk and growth that's right for you.

When you're a few years from retirement … You may have already achieved some key goals – perhaps your children have finished college and you've paid off your mortgage. As a result, you may have more money available to put away for retirement. Growth still matters because your retirement could be 25 or 30 years long, and you'll need investments that can keep up with inflation. But you'll also need investments designed to help provide for your income needs in retirement and provide more stability. Also consider reducing your exposure to higher-risk investments and instead consider investing more in stable dividend-paying stocks, government and investment-grade bonds, and cash.

When you're retired … Once you're retired, you might think you should take no risks at all with substantial assets held in cash. However, you could spend two or three decades in retirement, so you may need some growth potential in your portfolio to stay ahead of inflation. A more balanced mix between equities and fixed income is generally appropriate. Establishing a withdrawal rate that's appropriate for your lifestyle and projected longevity can help reduce the risk of outliving your money. Of course, if there's an extended market downturn during any time of your retirement, you may want to temporarily lower your

See FOCUS | 11A

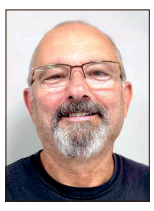
Life in the Palmetto State

VETERANS DAY: A DAY TO CELEBRATE OUR BRAVE

BY LEE REAVES, COLUMNIST

"From the halls of Montezuma,
to the shores of Tripoli."

Those are the opening lines to that popular Marine battle hymn that is performed at most every military event honoring the branches of our armed forces. This is for our servicemen and women who have served our country so gallantly. (Semper Fi!)



LEE REAVES
COLUMNIST

Last Wednesday, on Nov. 11, the U.S. celebrated Veterans Day, a holiday with roots dating back more than a century.

Each year on the 11th day of the 11th month (November) at the 11th hour, cities around the United States hold celebrations to honor these brave men and women who have not only put their lives on hold, but on the line. Their dedication to the cause keeps the citizens of this great nation safer and preserves our way of life.

One might wonder how this celebration came about.

Let's take a moment to explore how this national holiday came to be.

Veterans Day started out as Armistice Day, first observed in 1919 to commemorate the armistice that ended the fighting in World War I on Nov. 11, 1918.

As I said, Armistice Day was the predecessor to Veterans Day in 1919. Then, in 1926, Congress declared Armistice Day to be an annual observance.

In 1938, it became a national holiday, and in 1954, Congress amended its resolution by swapping the word "Veterans" for "Armistice," and it has been "Veterans Day" ever since.

Oh, BTW, the reason for all the 11s is the war ended on the 11th day of the 11th month at 11 a.m., and it stuck. So, that's why we celebrate it in the fashion that we do.

I feel it is so respectful of those who served that when I see a veteran, whether they served in a war or a conflict, I go to them and thank them for their service.

All it takes is a few small words and some courage to go to them and tell them thank you. I assure you that the courage it takes to thank them pales in comparison to what it takes to serve on the battlefield far from home like they have. Some soldiers have seen things that will make you cringe.

So the next time you see a veteran, especially a seasoned veteran, go up to them, extend a handshake of gratitude, look them in the eye, and tell them thank you for their service!!!

It will make their day knowing that someone appreciates their service and that it is not forgotten.

I certainly have not forgotten!

May God bless you!

Message from the Mayor

BY: JULIA NELSON, CITY OF MANNING MAYOR

I recently received a heartwarming letter from Eddie Garcia, a traveler from Tampa, Florida, who experienced the true meaning of Manning hospitality after an unexpected highway mishap.

On October 13th, while driving to North Carolina to visit family, Eddie mistakenly filled his diesel truck with regular gasoline. The truck quickly shut down just off the interstate. What could have been a travel nightmare quickly turned into a profoundly positive experience, thanks to the incredible kindness of our community.



JULIA NELSON
MAYOR, CITY OF MANNING

Before a tow truck even arrived, three separate Manning residents stopped their cars just to check on Eddie and his wife and offer assistance. A passing driver from Taylor Made Towing stopped while on another job to move the stranded truck to a safe location. Soon after, driver Joey arrived and safely loaded the vehicle.

Chad Atkinson, Service Manager at Prothro Chevrolet, and his team went completely above and beyond. Chad had staff member Buck drive the Garcias to Sumter to get a rental car so they could continue their family trip. He then fast-tracked the repairs, completely fixing the complex engine issue ahead of schedule and under budget. By the time the Garcias drove back through Manning on October 19th, their truck was ready.

In his letter, Eddie—a former grocery chain executive who knows a thing or two about leadership and brand promises—noted that as he left town, he saw our sign: "Manning, SC; Matchless for Beauty and Hospitality."

"Although we didn't stay long enough to enjoy its beauty, we certainly were touched by its hospitality," Eddie wrote.

He expressed his sincere appreciation for the local businesses and residents who turned an unfortunate situation into a lasting positive impression of our community.

As evident from the shared correspondence above, let us remain true to our city's motto: "Matchless for Beauty and Hospitality".

The People's Mayor,

Julia A. Nelson







THE MANNING TIMES LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

We welcome Letters to the Editor as a forum for our readers to share ideas, respond to local issues, and contribute to civic dialogue.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- Length: Letters should be 350 words or fewer. Shorter letters have a better chance of being published.
- Tone: We encourage respectful dialogue. Letters may express strong opinions but must not include profanity, personal attacks, or libelous statements.
- Focus: Letters may respond to articles published by The Manning Times, or may address any topic of local public interest, including community events, government actions, education, or elected officials.
- Identification: All letters must include the writer's full name, street address, and a daytime phone number. Only the name and town will be published. Anonymous letters will not be considered.
- Originality: Letters must be original and not submitted elsewhere. We do not publish open letters or form letters.

EDITING AND PUBLICATION:

- Letters may be edited for length, clarity, style, and factual accuracy.
- Submission does not guarantee publication. We reserve the right to decline letters at our discretion.
- Letters reflect the opinions of the authors, not the views of The Manning Times.

RIGHT OF REPLY:

- In cases where a letter names or criticizes an individual or organization, we may offer that party the opportunity to respond before publication.
- If they decline to comment, we may include an Editor's Note stating that the opportunity was offered.

HOW TO SUBMIT:

- Please email your letter to: **manningsctimes@gmail.com** or **melissamccoywrites@gmail.com**
- Include **"Letter to the Editor"** in the subject line. Letters may also be mailed or dropped off at our office.

HAPPENINGS

CONTACT US:
803-435-8422
manningsctimes@gmail.com



Relaxed Retreat expands monthly rentals amid growing demand

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

A Lake Marion resort known for fishing trips and waterfront getaways is expanding its monthly rental program as demand grows among traveling professionals, construction workers and visitors seeking extended stays without the responsibilities of maintaining a vacation home.

Relaxed Retreat at Carolina King has offered monthly cabin and RV rentals since Chris Biddle and business partner David Hall purchased the former Carolina King Fishing Resort & Marina in August 2024. Now, increased interest is prompting the owners to promote the option more widely.

"We have offered monthly rentals since our purchase in August of 2024, but we are now expanding the program due to popular demand," Biddle said.

The resort currently has four cabins and four RV sites available for monthly rentals, with the possibility of converting additional nightly accommodations as demand increases.

Monthly RV sites, which include full hookups, range from $1,000 to $1,200. Studio cabins with kitchenettes start at $1,700, while one-bedroom cabins with separate living areas and full kitchens begin at $1,900. Larger accommodations for multiple guests range from $2,500 to $4,500 per month.

All monthly rentals include utilities, with up to $150 in electricity, along with lake access and shared recreational spaces. Rentals are available year-round, and guests are required to provide only 30 days' notice before departing.

Biddle said the flexibility has attracted workers involved in nearby construction projects, traveling professionals and guests who want a lakeside retreat without the upkeep of a second home. Some residents have remained at the property for multiple years.

Situated on approximately 15 acres along Lake Marion, the resort features more than 1,500 feet of shoreline, seven docks and a boat ramp. Guests also have access to a recently constructed 50-by-100-foot dog park, on-site laundry facilities, boat rentals, fishing supplies and storage options.

The property includes approximately 70 furnished cabins, many of which have undergone improvements since the ownership change. The resort continues to accommodate traditional overnight and vacation guests alongside its extended-stay residents.

To introduce more visitors to the property, Relaxed Retreat has also launched a referral incentive program that rewards guests with a free stay for qualifying referrals.

"Many of our guests have told us they wished they had known about us sooner," Biddle said.

The resort is also adjusting prices on several short-term offerings, including eight-hour jon boat rentals at $149 and pontoon rentals at $299. Weeknight cabin rates and cleaning fees have also been reduced.

Biddle said the goal is to increase awareness while maintaining the level of service guests expect.

"It's important to note we will never be the cheapest option, but we offer excellent value for the high level of service and products we provide," he said.

Beyond attracting visitors, Biddle hopes continued growth will benefit the surrounding community through additional employment, increased tax contributions and support for local nonprofit organizations.

More information about accommodations and rental options is available at RelaxedRetreat.com.

Barrineau Accounting celebrates Manning homecoming

Barrineau Accounting celebrated its return to Manning with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 13 at its new office on South Brooks Street. Members of the Barrineau family, employees, community supporters and representatives of the Clarendon County Chamber of Commerce gathered for the occasion. Founded in Manning in 1969 by Glen A. Barrineau Sr. and his son, Glen A. "Al" Barrineau Jr., the family-owned business later relocated to Sumter. Now spanning four generations, the firm has returned to its roots while continuing to operate its Sumter office. The new Manning location offers tax preparation, bookkeeping, payroll and small business financial services.



Rotary Roundup

McLeod shares lessons in business, community service

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

What began as a required community outreach assignment has become a passion for helping others for Lynn McLeod, branch manager of 1st Franklin Financial in Manning.

McLeod, a new member of the Rotary Club of Manning, spoke during the club's Nov. 11 meeting about her career in consumer lending, the importance of building relationships and how stepping outside her comfort zone changed her perspective on serving the community.

McLeod has served as branch manager of 1st Franklin's Manning office for six years. She oversees a team of three employees serving 963 active customers, providing consumer loans ranging from $600 to $15,000.

The company specializes in helping borrowers who may have difficulty qualifying for traditional bank loans. McLeod said the goal is to provide financial assistance while helping customers establish or improve their credit so they may qualify for conventional lending in the future.

Her responsibilities range from helping customers secure funds for vehicle repairs, home improvements and unexpected expenses to managing collections when borrowers fall behind on payments. She said the work requires balancing financial responsibilities with compassion for customers facing difficult circumstances.

Beyond consumer lending, McLeod holds a mortgage license and serves as a notary public. Through her work as a notary, she has officiated 23 weddings, an experience she said reinforced the importance of personal connections in her professional life.

That emphasis on relationships eventually changed how she approached community involvement.

McLeod recalled that when she first became branch manager, she was expected to participate in several community events each year. Uncomfortable with public outreach, she initially avoided the responsibility until Annette Smith of Clarendon County Cancer Overcomers visited her office seeking support for an upcoming event.

Although McLeod readily agreed to make a donation, Smith insisted she attend the event

See ROTARY | 11A



ROTARY: Lynn McLeod, branch manager of 1st Franklin Financial in Manning, speaks to the Rotary Club of Manning on Nov. 11 about her career, community involvement and the importance of building relationships through service.

(MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY/ THE MANNING TIMES)

Clarendon turns teal for McLeod's 120th anniversary

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

Clarendon County residents are invited to wear teal Thursday, Nov. 19, as McLeod Health celebrates its 120th anniversary.

Clarendon County Council and Manning City Council have designated the date as McLeod Founders' Day and Teal Day. The local observance is part of McLeod's "Turn the Town Teal" campaign, which runs Nov. 16-22 across the health system's 18-county service area.

Residents can participate by wearing teal, turning on a teal light or displaying a teal ribbon. McLeod also encourages schools, community groups and businesses to join the celebration and create get-well cards for patients or thank-you notes for health care

See TEAL | 10A











Clarendon boat owners to see tax, registration changes in 2027

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

Clarendon County boat owners will see new registration and tax rules beginning Jan. 1, but they will receive nearly the full property tax reduction immediately rather than waiting for it to be phased in statewide.

County Council approved the local exemption in September as South Carolina prepared to implement Act 109. County Auditor Patricia Pringle explained during council's Nov. 9 meeting that the law changes how boats and outboard motors are registered and taxed.

The state exemption will be introduced over three years, eventually exempting 42.8571% of a watercraft's fair market value. Clarendon's ordinance exempts 42.75% beginning in 2027, giving local owners nearly the full reduction from the first year.

Under the new law, South Carolina will no longer issue separate titles for outboard motors. Motors of at least 5 horsepower, or the electric equivalent, that are attached to watercraft and used on state waters instead must be registered annually with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources.

The annual registration will cost $10 per motor. That fee is separate from property taxes and will appear as its own line on the owner's tax notice.

The boat and any attached outboard motor or motors will be valued together as one unit for property tax purposes. County auditors will determine how that combined assessment appears on tax notices.

Pringle emphasized that owners will continue paying property taxes on their motors. The change combines the value of an attached motor with the boat rather than taxing the two separately.

Once fully implemented, the statewide exemption will effectively lower the assessment ratio from 10.5% to 6%. It does not apply to a boat or watercraft classified as a primary or secondary residence.

South Carolina has allowed counties to adopt a similar 42.75% exemption since the 2008 tax year, but Clarendon did not approve its exemption until this year. County finance officials recommended the reduction during an April budget presentation.

County Council introduced Ordinance 2026-14 in July and gave it final approval Sept. 14. Because state law allows boat owners to receive whichever exemption is higher, but not both, Clarendon's exemption will apply while it provides the larger reduction.

The difference between the county's 42.75% exemption and the state's eventual 42.8571% exemption is slightly more than one-tenth of a percentage point.

County Administrator Walt Ackerman told council in September that the state law was confusing but the financial difference between the two exemptions was minimal. The county ordinance was written so no additional council action would be needed as the statewide exemption takes over.

The state exemption will reach the full 42.8571% in the 2029 tax year. The authority for counties to provide the older 42.75% exemption expires after 2029.

The law does not create a new millage rate for watercraft. It reduces the portion of a boat's value subject to taxation, while counties retain their authority to set applicable millage rates.

Act 109 was signed by Gov. Henry McMaster on March 30 and takes effect Jan. 1. Former Rep. Fawn Pedalino was among the bill's sponsors.

Pedalino described the legislation as an effort to reduce boat taxes and end the separate taxation of boats and motors. The bill passed the House 111-0 after representatives agreed to Senate changes.

The state will link each registered motor to a boat for tax purposes, but owners may continue moving motors between watercraft. Owners who permanently move a motor may notify SCDNR so its records and registration expiration dates can be updated.

A motor maintained separately and not attached to a boat is not legally required to be registered. The law also removes the titling requirement without eliminating existing liens against motors.

Owners whose watercraft are exempt from property taxes will receive their motor registration notices directly from SCDNR rather than through a county tax notice. After the $10 registration fee is paid, the department will mail the motor decal.

Pringle said questions about individual tax bills should be directed to the Clarendon County Auditor's Office. Registration questions may be directed to SCDNR.

VISIT MANNINGLIVE.COM

Local nurses may qualify for up to $40K in student loan repayment

Two area nursing homes are among facilities eligible for the initiative

SUBMITTED

Nurses in Clarendon County and surrounding communities may qualify for up to $50,000 in financial incentives through a new federal initiative designed to strengthen staffing at nursing homes.

Southern Senior Living is encouraging registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and individuals pursuing nursing careers to explore the Nurses for Nursing Homes program, administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

The program offers eligible nurses up to $40,000 in student loan repayment and/or a $10,000 stipend in exchange for a three-year commitment to work at a qualifying nursing home. Payments are distributed quarterly as long as participants continue meeting program requirements.

Two Southern Senior Living facilities in Clarendon County — Lake Marion Health & Rehab in Summerton and Pocotaligo River Health & Rehab in Manning — are included on the published list of qualifying facilities.

"This is an exciting opportunity for nurses who want to build their careers while making a difference close to home," said Matt Stanley, CEO of Southern Senior Living. "Our nursing homes serve families throughout Clarendon County and the surrounding rural communities. Recruiting and retaining qualified nurses is essential to providing the consistent, compassionate care our residents deserve. We want local nurses to know this opportunity exists and encourage them to see whether they qualify."

The federal initiative is intended to address nursing workforce shortages and improve recruitment and retention at qualifying nursing homes, particularly in communities where attracting qualified nurses can be challenging.

To qualify for financial incentives, applicants must hold an active registered nurse or licensed practical nurse license, obtain employment at a participating nursing home and work an average of at least 30 hours per week. Participants must also commit to three years of service and meet the program's student loan or recent graduate requirements, along with other eligibility criteria.

Nursing students and individuals who have not yet obtained their nursing licenses may begin exploring the application process. However, they must meet all licensing, employment and other eligibility requirements before receiving financial assistance.

The program also includes restrictions related to recent employment at nursing homes, which could affect eligibility for nurses already working in long-term care facilities. Certain temporary exceptions may apply, and applicants are encouraged to review the official requirements before determining whether they qualify.

Interested nurses can review eligibility requirements, confirm participating facilities and begin the application process at nursesfornursinghomes.cms.gov. Financial assistance is subject to eligibility and program approval.

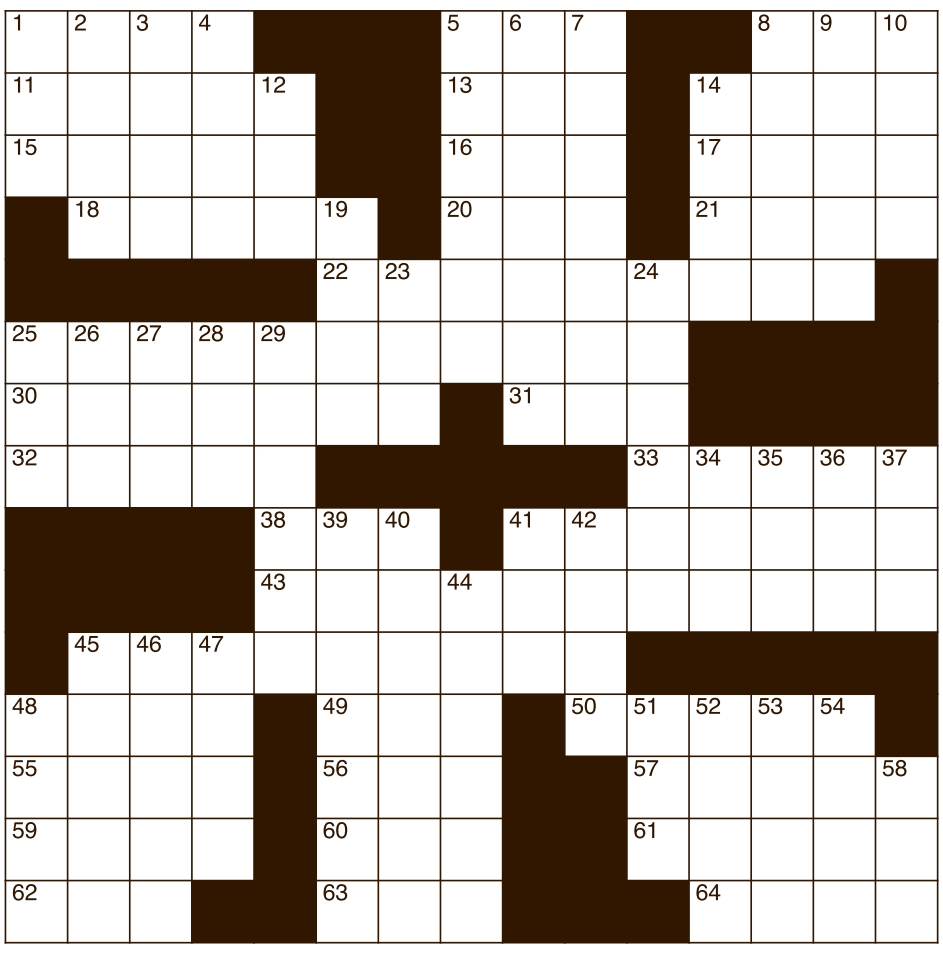
Southern Senior Living is a nonprofit senior care organization providing skilled nursing and rehabilitation services in rural South Carolina. In addition to its two Clarendon County facilities, the organization operates Lake Moultrie Health & Rehab in St. Stephen.

The organization said its mission focuses on providing compassionate care, dignity and a sense of community for residents while supporting the employees who serve them.



piggly wiggly®
Local since forever
BIG FEASTS START WITH A LITTLE TRIP TO THE PIG!
SHOP LOCAL. CELEBRATE BIG!
36 Sunset Dr, Manning, SC 29102
pigglywiggly.com | (803) 433-2118
HAPPY THANKSGIVING
$50 Gift Card
EXAMPLE ONLY
WIN!
As you read through this week's paper, keep your eyes open for our special Thanksgiving pig wearing a hat!
When you spot him, bring him by The Manning Times office & win a gift card to Piggly Wiggly to help with your holiday shopping!
Happy hunting, and good luck!
There can only be one winner a week! You can also only win ONE TIME!

GAMEZONE



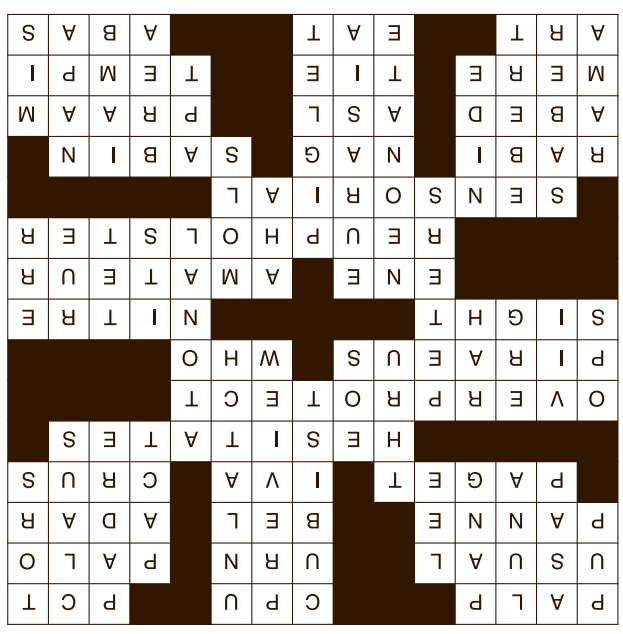
CLUES ACROSS

1. Insect feeler
5. Central processing unit
8. Part of (abbr.)
11. Typical
13. Tall, rounded vase
14. __ Alto, California city
15. Lustrous, velvet-like fabric
16. "Fresh Prince of __ Air"
17. Hebrew calendar month
18. British surgeon who discovered bone disease
20. Agreement between debtor and creditor (abbr.)
21. Elongated part of anatomical structure
22. Acts slowly on
25. Keeps a little too safe
30. Greek seaport
31. "Baba O'Riley" rockers
32. Vision
33. Potassium nitrate in mineral form
38. Midway between northeast and east
41. Not a pro
43. Give a new look
45. Sensational
48. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
49. Annoy constantly
50. Vaccine developer
55. Lying down
56. Type of language (abbr.)
57. Flat-bottomed boat
59. Smallest or slightest
60. Bind
61. Speeds
62. The products of human creativity
63. Consume food
64. Ancient Greek sophist

CLUES DOWN

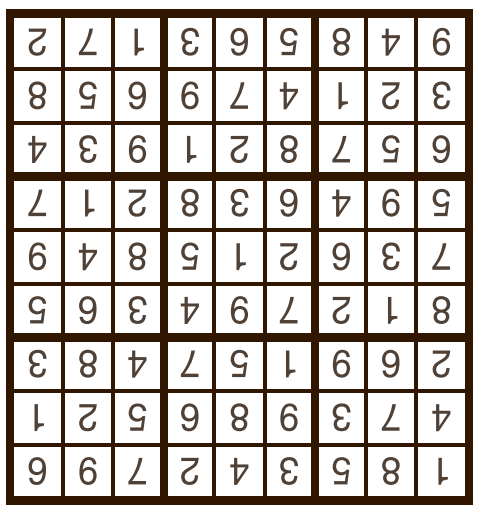
1. A young canine
2. As fast as can be done
3. Soviet moon probes
4. Sharp spasm of pain
5. One who adheres to a specific art movement
6. Show parts of
7. Unfasten
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Santa
10. Rocky peaks
12. "Matt Houston" actor Horsley
14. A written agreement between two sides
19. Beginning to end (abbr.)
23. Greek goddess of the dawn
24. Not written in any key
25. Organized missions
26. Seven
27. Work unit
28. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
29. Broadway legend Bernadette
34. Belonging to a thing
35. Vietnamese offensive
36. Bitterly regret
37. Make a mistake
39. Newborn child
40. A combined landmass
41. Satisfaction
42. Hilly peninsulas in Denmark
44. Young swine
45. Type of sword
46. Siskel's partner
47. Brood of pheasants
48. Hindu model of ideal man
51. Suitable in the circumstances
52. La __ tar pits
53. Unstressed-stressed metrical foot
54. California wine country
58. Badly

▼ ▼ ▼ THIS WEEK'S ANSWER KEY ▼ ▼ ▼



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

Level: Intermediate



FUN BY THE NUMBERS

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

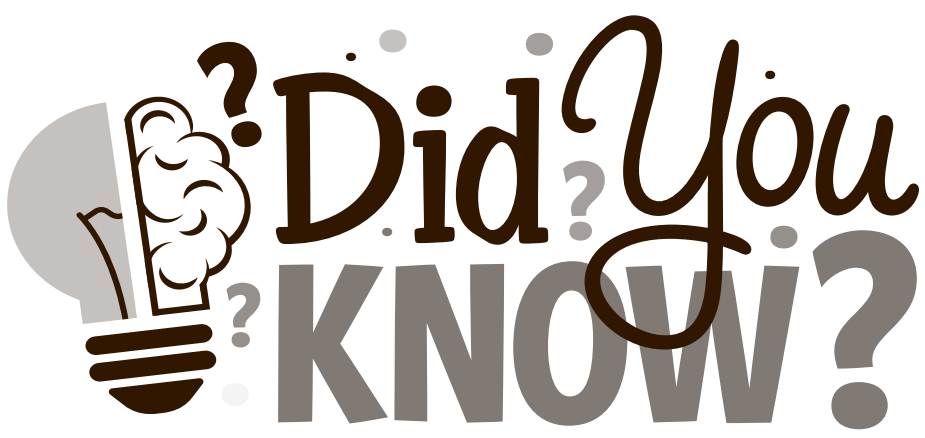
HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

GUESS WHO?

I am a singer and actress born in Tennessee on November 23, 1992. I grew up around music, as my father is a country singer and my godmother was a famous country music icon. I achieved fame on a popular Disney channel children's show and later gained wider recognition as a pop singer.

Answer: Miley Cyrus



Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse share the exact same birthday on November 18, 1928, which is the day their debut cartoon Steamboat Willie was released.

Now Hiring

NOW HIRING: RNs, LPNs, CNAs.

Southern Senior Living is always looking for reliable, compassionate, caring individuals to join our team.

Come work with us at Lake Marion Health & Rehab in Summerton, Pocotaligo Health and Rehab in Manning, or Lake Moultrie Health and Rehab in St. Stephen. Please apply online at www.southernseniorliving.org, stop by any facility or call (803)433-2005, ext. 234. We look forward to seeing you!

Southern Senior Living is an equal opportunity employer.

Southern SENIOR LIVING

803.433.2005
www.southernseniorliving.org



Lake Moultrie Health and Rehab
1038 McGill Ln., St. Stephen, SC 29479
Phone: 843-567-2307 • Fax: 843-567-2305

Lake Marion Health and Rehab
1527 Urbana Rd., Summerton, SC 29148
Phone: 803-485-2317 • Fax: 803-485-2708

Pocotaligo River Health and Rehab
3147 Sumter Hwy., Manning, SC 29102
Phone: 803-478-2343 • Fax: 803-478-2357

CLASSIFIED Market Place

ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Landon Black FOUNDATION



Donate your gently worn, used and new shoes today!

Help us raise funds just by donating gently worn, used and new shoes! Be sure to ask, friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to donate too!
Collected shoes not only help support us, but they will be reused and given a second life by those in need through #microenterprise.
It's a WIN-WIN!

Drop off boxes located at:

- The Shoppe on Brooks
- Johnson James State Farm
- First Baptist Church of Manning
- The Manning City Fire Department
- The Manning Times, Mannin
- United Methodist Church
- Clarendon Behavioral Health Services
- Hand in Hand & Harvest Market,
- John's Place
- First Baptist Fellowship Hall

Contact:
tjgjlbfoundation@outlook.com
803-433-1252

RECOVERY SUPPORT at JOHN'S PLACE
16 North Brooks Street
John's Place is a Recovery Resource Center. All are welcome!
Meetings & Support:
Alcoholics Anonymous: Wed & Fri, 5:30 PM (back door)
Narcotics Anonymous: Tues & Thur, 7:30-9:30 PM Al-Anon: Sat, 1:30 PM
Staff available Mon-Thurs, 10-4.
Peer Support Counselor upon request.
For treatment needs:
Call Clarendon Behavioral Health at 803-425-2121
or 911 for emergencies.
To host a meeting:
Call 803-433-125

ELECTRICAL • PLUMBING • AIR CONDITIONING • HEATING
Quality Service Co.
Gene Floyd
Home Solution Advisor
Schedule Online Now!
install@qualityservicecompany.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS!
No repairs. No fuss.
Any condition.
Easy three step process:
Call, get cash offer and get paid.
Get your fair cash offer today by calling
Liz Buys Houses: 1-855-704-3381

DENTAL INSURANCE
from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 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

AUCTIONS

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, 803-750-9561.

HELP WANTED DRIVERS

ADVERTISE YOUR DRIVER JOBS
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, 803-750-9561

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

AUDIEN HEARING.
The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-855-620-9614.

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.

Superior Manufacturing Company
473-3135

SHAW LUMBER
200 Dingle St. • Sumter
"Building Material Prices NAILED Down"
803-775-5361

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

NO MORE CLEANING
out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-855-820-2770 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Get 15% off your entire order. Plus, Military & Seniors get an additional 10% off. Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

TELEVISION & 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
All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package $84.99/mo. 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

VACATION RENTALS

ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PROPERTY FOR RENT OR SALE
to more than 1.5 million S.C. newspaper readers. Your 25-word classified ad will appear in 80 S.C. newspapers for only $375. Call Randall Savely at the South Carolina Newspaper Network, 803-750-9561.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF ABANDONED MOBILE HOME

Make:Flee
Model: N/A
Year: 1988
VIN number: NCFLJ41A11912CQ
Title Number: N/A
Title: N/A
Address: 2170 Alex Harvin HWY, LOT # 70, Manning SC 29102
Please be advised that the above described item that I have at my place of business has been repaired, towed, or stored. The item listed above must be claimed within thirty (30) days. Pursuant to Code Section 29/15/10 of the 1976 SC Code of Laws, as amended, this property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder after thirty (30) days have expired. Sale notices will be posted in three (3) public places for 15 days prior to sale. A copy of this notice will be sent certified mail to all lien holders of record.

(11/19-12/3)

LEGAL NOTICES

SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CLARENDON
KRYSTAL POLITE DOW,
VS.
DONALD MCKENZIE and
BARBARA JEAN DUPREE,
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
C/A NO.: 2026CP1400067
Plaintiff,
Defendants.
ORDER GRANTING SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
THIS MATTER coming before the Court upon the Motion of the Plaintiff for an Order permitting service of the Summons by publication upon the Defendant, Donald McKenzie, pursuant to S.C. Codes § 15-9-710 and § 15-9-740, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the Defendant cannot, after the exercise of due diligence, be located or served within the State of South Carolina;
IT APPEARING that an Affidavit of Due Diligence detailing the efforts made to locate the Defendant has been submitted and filed in this cause of action, and it further appearing that The Manning Times, a newspaper of general circulation in Clarendon County, South Carolina, is the publication most likely to give notice to the Defendant:
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Motion is GRANTED, and service upon the Defendant, Donald McKenzie, shall be effectuated by publication as follows:
1. PUBLICATION: The Summons in this action shall be published in The Manning Times, a newspaper published in Clarendon County, South Carolina, once a week for not less than three (3) consecutive weeks.
2. MAILING: A copy of the Summons and Complaint, along with a copy of this Order, shall forthwith be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, directed to the Defendant at his last known address, which is: 55 Westend Street, Manning, South Carolina 29102-
2021.
3. PROOF OF PUBLICATION & DELIVERY: Following the period of publication, an Affidavit of Publication provided by the newspaper must be filed with the Clerk of Court.
Additionally, an affidavit or proof of delivery verifying the mailing must be filed.
IT IS SO ORDERED.
Clarendon Common Pleas
Case Caption:
Case Number:
Type:
Krystal Polite Dow VS Donald Mckenzie, defendant, et al
2026CP1400067
Order/Publication
So Ordered
s/Shanita Brangman, Clerk of Court

(11/12-11/26)

LEGAL NOTICES

SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CLARENDON
KRYSTAL POLITE DOW,
VS.
DONALD MCKENZIE and
BARBARA JEAN DUPREE,
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
C/A NO.: 2026CP1400067
Plaintiff,
Defendants.
ORDER GRANTING SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
THIS MATTER coming before the Court upon the Motion of the Plaintiff for an Order permitting service of the Summons by publication upon the Defendant, Donald McKenzie, pursuant to S.C. Codes § 15-9-710 and § 15-9-740, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the Defendant cannot, after the exercise of due diligence, be located or served within the State of South Carolina;
IT APPEARING that an Affidavit of Due Diligence detailing the efforts made to locate the Defendant has been submitted and filed in this cause of action, and it further appearing that The Manning Times, a newspaper of general circulation in Clarendon County, South Carolina, is the publication most likely to give notice to the Defendant:
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the Motion is GRANTED, and service upon the Defendant, Donald McKenzie, shall be effectuated by publication as follows:
1. PUBLICATION: The Summons in this action shall be published in The Manning Times, a newspaper published in Clarendon County, South Carolina, once a week for not less than three (3) consecutive weeks.
2. MAILING: A copy of the Summons and Complaint, along with a copy of this Order, shall forthwith be deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, directed to the Defendant at his last known address, which is: 55 Westend Street, Manning, South Carolina 29102-
2021.
3. PROOF OF PUBLICATION & DELIVERY: Following the period of publication, an Affidavit of Publication provided by the newspaper must be filed with the Clerk of Court.
Additionally, an affidavit or proof of delivery verifying the mailing must be filed.
IT IS SO ORDERED.
Clarendon Common Pleas
Case Caption:
Case Number:
Type:
Krystal Polite Dow VS Donald Mckenzie, defendant, et al
2026CP1400067
Order/Publication
So Ordered
s/Shanita Brangman, Clerk of Court

(11/12-11/26)

SUMMONS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CLARENDON
KRYSTAL POLITE DOW,
Plaintiff,
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
VS.
DONALD MCKENZIE and
BARBARA JEAN DUPREE,
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
BARBARA JEAN DUPREE
Defendants.
TO THE DEFENDANT:
Barbara Jean Dupree
55 Westend Street
Manning, SC 29102
Barbara Jean Dupree
121 Kennedy Lane, Apt. 214
Manning, SC 29102
You are hereby summoned and required to answer the Complaint, Plaintiff's First Set of
Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents to Defendant Barbara Jean Dupree, and Plaintiff's Request for Admissions to Defendant Barbara Jean Dupree in this action, a copy of which is attached hereto and served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to same upon the subscribed at 1244 East Boulevard, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203, within forty-five (45) days after the service of same, exclusive of the day of such service. If you fail to answer same within the forty-five (45) day period, the Plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein and judgment will be taken against you by default.
This 5th day of February, 2026.
/s/ Mark L. Simpson
Mark L. Simpson
S.C. Bar No. 6801
Attorney for Plaintiff Chandler Volta, P.A.
1244 East Boulevard
Charlotte, North Carolina 28203
(704) 980-9999 (Main Line)
(704) 803-4732 (Direct Line)
mark@cvinjurylaw.com

(11/12-11/26)

SUMMONS

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CLARENDON
KRYSTAL POLITE DOW,
Plaintiff,
IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
VS.
DONALD MCKENZIE and
BARBARA JEAN DUPREE,
Defendants.
TO THE DEFENDANT:
Donald McKenzie
55 Westend Street
Manning, SC 29102
Donald McKenzie
1013 Sloane Street, Lot 46
Turbeville, SC 29162
You are hereby summoned and required to answer the Complaint, Plaintiff's First Set of Interrogatories and Request for Production of Documents to Defendant Donald McKenzie, and Plaintiff's Request for Admissions to Defendant Donald McKenzie in this action, copies of which are attached hereto and served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to same upon the subscribed at 1244 East Boulevard, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203, within forty-five (45) days after the service of same, exclusive of the day of such service. If you fail to answer same within the forty-five (45) day period, the Plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein and judgment will be taken against you by default.
This 5th day of February, 2026.
/s/ Mark L. Simpson
Mark L. Simpson
S.C. Bar No. 6801
Attorney for Plaintiff Chandler Volta, P.A.
1244 East Boulevard
Charlotte, North Carolina 28203
(704) 980-9999 (Main Line)
(704) 803-4732 (Direct Line)
mark@cvinjurylaw.com

(11/12-11/26)

LEGAL NOTICES

SUMMONS AND NOTICES

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE FAMILY COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY OF CLARENDON COUNTY
2026-DR-14-017
SUMMONS AND NOTICES
[Termination of Parental Rights]
South Carolina Department of Social Services, Plaintiff,
vs.
Taneshia Conyers,
John Doe, Defendants.
IN THE INTERESTS OF:
Minor Child Born in 2026
Minors Under the Age of 18.
TO: Defendant Taneshia Conyers
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the complaint for termination of your parental rights, the original of which has been filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Clarendon County at 102 S. Mill Street., Manning, SC 29102, on August 6, 2026, a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer upon plaintiff through its attorney, Steve Suchomski, at 105 North Magnolia Street, Sumter, South Carolina 29151.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that you have the right to be present and represented by an attorney. If you cannot afford an attorney, the Court will appoint an attorney to represent you. It is your responsibility to immediately contact the Clerk of Court's Office for Clarendon County to apply for an attorney appointment to represent you if you cannot afford an attorney.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that: (1) the guardian ad litem (GAL) who is appointed by the court in this action to represent the best interests of the child(ren) will provide the family court with a written report that includes an evaluation and assessment of the issues brought before the court along with recommendations; (2) the GAL's written report will be available for review twenty-four (24) hours in advance of the hearing; (3) you may review the report at the GAL Program county office.
NOTICE OF HEARING: A hearing in this matter is set for January 19, 2027 at 2:00 p.m. at the Clarendon County Family Court, located at 102 S. Mill Street., Manning, South Carolina 29102.
Refer any questions to the attorney for the Plaintiff , Steve Suchomski, at 105 North Magnolia Street, Sumter, South Carolina 29151 and phone number (803) 773-5531 x286.
AS A RESULT OF THIS HEARING, YOU COULD LOSE YOUR RIGHTS AS A PARENT.

(11/19-12/3)

PUBLIC NOTICE OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE TOWN OF TURBEVILLE FOR 2027

The Turbeville Town Council conducts its regular monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meetings are being held in the Turbeville Town Hall which is located at 1400 Main Street in Turbeville. The regular monthly meeting schedule for 2027 will be as follows:

January 12	July 13
February 9	August 10
March 9	September 14
April 13	October 12
May 11	November 9
June 8	December 14

Anyone wishing to address the town council or appear on the agenda is encouraged to contact the Town Clerk at (843) 659-2781. Agendas for all regularly scheduled meetings will be available to the public no later than 24 hours before the meeting.

Kaitlin Alexander
Town Clerk

Windows, Siding, Porch Enclosures
Window World
FREE ESTIMATES!
4655-A Hwy.17 By-Pass South, Myrtle Beach, S.C. 29577
www.windowworldofmyrtlebeach.com
843-445-9921 • 800-NEXT-WINDOW

GET MORE BUSINESS!
CALL TODAY!
803-435-8422

Johnny Levy



Manning – Johnny Levy, 82, husband of Barbara Benbow Levy died Thursday, November 12, 2026, at McLeod Health Clarendon, Manning, Manning, SC. He was born March 13, 1944, in Jordan Community, of Clarendon, South Carolina. A son of the late Isaac and Inez Pearson Levy.

The family is receiving friends at his residence, 101 E. Hospital St., Manning, SC.

Shirley Mae Peterson Lloyd



Manning – Shirley Mae Peterson Lloyd, 76, died Thursday, November 12, 2026 at McLeod Regional Medical Center of the Pee Dee, Florence, SC. She was born December 1, 1950 in Manning, SC. A daughter of the late Sam and Clara Hilton Peterson.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her son and daughter in law, Quincey (Nikki) Lloyd, 400 Briarcliff Rd., Manning, SC.

Alicestine Black Dow



Summerton – Alicestine Black Dow, 73, died Thursday, November 12, 2026 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. She was born January 4, 1953. A daughter of the late Willie and Mamie Riley Black.

The family is receiving friends at her residence, 1058 Delaine St., Summerton, SC

Louise Bradley Bradshaw

Manning – Louise Bradley Bradshaw, 74, died Sunday, November 15, 2026, at her residence in Manning, SC. She was born August 21, 1952, in Manning, SC. A daughter of the late Robert and Mary Thelma Samuels Bradley.

John Balford Strother



TIMMONSVILLE – John Balford Strother, 83, passed away on Monday, November 9, 2026, at Lake City-Scranton Healthcare Center.

Born July 22, 1943, in Timmonsville, he was a son of the late Alton Wallace Strother, Sr. and the late Mable Young Strother. John was a man who was truly one of a kind. Known for his stubborn spirit, loving heart and willingness to always speak his mind, you never had to wonder where you stood with him. He had a way of keeping people on their toes, and whether he was telling one of his many stories or playing a joke on someone, he certainly knew how to leave an impression. His straightforward nature, quick wit, and unforgettable personality will be dearly missed by all who loved and knew him. John enjoyed the simple pleasures in life, especially farming, hunting, fishing and watching NASCAR. He loved sharing stories, reminiscing about days gone by, and giving those around him a hard time whenever the opportunity presented itself. Though his absence will leave an empty place in the hearts of those who knew him, his stories, laughter, jokes, and unforgettable personality will live on in the memories of those he leaves behind. He was one of a kind and there will never be another quite like him. He was a retired farmer and a member of Sardis Baptist Church.

He is survived by several nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Alton Wallace Strother, Jr.; two sisters, Mary Strother Tuten and Mattie Strother Fry; a niece, Susan Simmons; nephew-in-law, William "Bill" Richburg III; and his brother-in-law, John Wesley Tuten.

A funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Friday, November 13, 2026, at Sardis Baptist Church with the Rev. Burton Welsh and the Rev. Freddie Young officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Nephews served as pallbearers.

Visitation was one hour prior to the service from 10 to 11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials may be made to Sardis Baptist Church, 3129 Sardis Highway, Timmonsville, SC 29161.

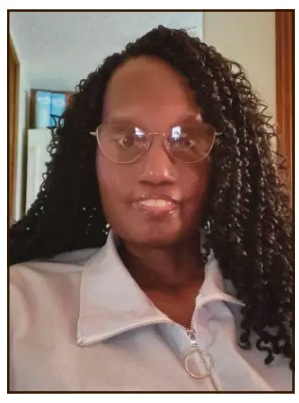
Stephens Funeral Home & Crematory, 304 N. Church Street, Manning, is in charge of arrangements, (803) 435-2179. www.stephensfuneralhome.org

Solomon James



Pinewood – Solomon James, 76, died Saturday, October 24, 2026 at his residence in Pinewood, SC. He was born February 19, 1950 in Manning, SC. A son of the late Allen James and Elizabeth Jackson.

Celissie Ann Pearson

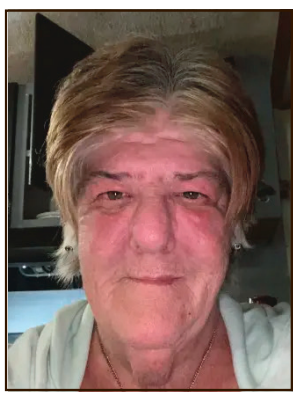


On Wednesday, November 11, 2026, Celissie Ann Pearson passed away peacefully at McLeod Regional Medical Center of The Pee Dee in Florence, South Carolina.

Born on Thursday, July 22, 1976, in Patterson, New Jersey, she was a daughter of the late George Franklin and Rosa Ida Lemon Pearson.

Services are incomplete and will be announced by the Fleming & DeLaine Funeral Home and Chapel of Manning.

Karen Michelle Blasko Makowski



MANNING – Karen Michelle Blasko Makowski, 62, passed away on Monday, November 16, 2026, at Prisma Health Richland.

Born June 28, 1964, in Charleston, she was the daughter of Ernestine Hardee Bates and the late Michael Henry Blasko.

She is survived by her mother of Manning; her daughter, Jennifer A. Franklin of Manning; five grandchildren, Rylee, Madalyn, Emily, Abby and Zoe; and a brother, John Blasko (Frances) of Virginia Beach, VA.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her stepmother, Sandra Blasko.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Stephens Funeral Home & Crematory, 304 N. Church Street, Manning, is in charge of arrangements, (803) 435-2179. www.stephensfuneralhome.org

Harold Antione Bradley

On Sunday, November 15, 2026, Harold Antione Bradley aka "Pat Pat" & "Biggz Stone", departed this life at McLeod Health Clarendon in Manning, South Carolina.

Born on Thursday, September 8, 1988, in Manning he was a son of Harold Lee and Lillian Boatright Bradley.

The family will begin receiving relatives and friends Thursday, November 19, 2026, 3:00pm - 8:00pm at the residence, 1035 Canary Ct., Trinity Heights Subdivision, Alcolu, South Carolina.

Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced by the Fleming & DeLaine Funeral Home and Chapel of Manning.

Joel Richard "Ricky" Lee



ALCOLU – Joel Richard "Ricky" Lee, 78, husband of Debbie McElveen Lee, passed away on Thursday, November 12, 2026, at his home.

Born April 17, 1948, in Sumter, he was a son of the late Thomas Sanford Lee and the late Marcelle Rose Player Lee. He was a US Army veteran of the Vietnam War, a retired farmer, and a member of Farm Bureau where he was a past president.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years of Alcolu; a son, David Richard Lee (Elizabeth) of Sumter; a daughter, Sarah Nicole Marlowe (Justin) of Alcolu; four grandchildren, Adalyn, Olivia, Elliott and Nora; a brother, Toey Lee (Mary) of Alcolu; a sister, Janice Burgess (John) of Fayetteville, NC; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 15, 2026, in the chapel of Stephens Funeral Home with the Rev. Eric McGill, the Rev. Elton "Pappy" Hilton and the Rev. Gregg Varner officiating. Burial followed at Trinity Cemetery in Alcolu.

Pallbearers were Eddie Keels, Jim Burgess, Allen Lee, Tommy Lee, Chase Lee and Clayton Lee.

Visitation was one hour prior to the service from 1 to 2 p.m. at Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home of his daughter, 13773 Plowden Mill Road, Alcolu.

Memorials may be made to Trinity Church of Alcolu or Trinity Alcolu Cemetery Fund, 2653 Trinity Church Road, Alcolu, SC 29001.

Stephens Funeral Home & Crematory, 304 N. Church Street, Manning, is in charge of arrangements, (803) 435-2179. www.stephensfuneralhome.org

PLACE YOUR AD IN MORE THAN 80 SC NEWSPAPERS

Reach up to 1.5 million readers using our small space ad network!

SCNN South Carolina Newspaper Network

Contact Randall Savely
803.750.9561 | scnnonline.com

Statewide and regional options available

WHEN PUBLIC NOTICES REACH THE PUBLIC, EVERYONE BENEFITS.



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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLISHED IN SC NEWSPAPERS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE IN ONE LOCATION.

VIEW NOTICES

This free service is provided by the Palmetto State's newspapers.

SEARCH PUBLIC NOTICE ADS FROM THIS NEWSPAPER
SCPublicNotices.com



CONTACT US:
803-435-8422
manningsctimes@gmail.com

manninglive.com
the manning times



EAGLES: Scott's Branch football players run onto the field through a cloud of smoke as cheerleaders welcome the team before a game earlier this season. The Eagles (8-3) will travel to Lamar on Friday, Nov. 20, for the third round of the Class A Division II state playoffs.

(KEDRICK JOHNSON/STAR5 PHOTOGRAPHY)

Scott's Branch advances as Manning, Clarendon Hall end playoff runs

Eagles reach third round with 35-12 victory over Lee Central

STAFF REPORT

Scott's Branch advanced to the third round of the South Carolina High School League Class A Division II playoffs with a 35-12 victory over Lee Central on Friday, Nov. 13, at Spann Stadium in Summerton.

The Eagles improved to 8-3 after using a rushing-focused offense and three recovered fumbles to control the second-round matchup. The victory followed a first-round bye and extended Scott's Branch's winning streak to two games.

Senior Quintin Jackson scored four touchdowns, including three rushing scores, as the Eagles relied on a backfield featuring Jackson, Nyren Bowman and Danny Ragin.

Scott's Branch established its ground attack on the opening possession, moving 69 yards before Jackson scored on a 3-yard run. Bowman added the two-point conversion to give the Eagles an 8-0 advantage.

Lee Central responded with a 57-yard touchdown run by Sinatra Rembert, cutting the deficit to 8-6. The Eagles regained momentum in the second quarter after recovering a fumble near the Stallions' end zone.

Quarterback Kaleb Minger connected with Jackson for a 7-yard touchdown, sending Scott's Branch into halftime ahead 14-6.

The Eagles widened the margin after halftime. Bowman scored on a 13-yard run before Scott's Branch assembled a 19-play, 84-yard drive that extended into the fourth quarter. Jackson finished that possession with another 3-yard touchdown run.

Lee Central answered with a 5-yard touchdown by Rembert, but the Eagles recovered another fumble late in the game. Jackson sealed the victory with a 49-yard touchdown run.

Scott's Branch forced four fumbles and recovered three, disrupting Lee Central's offensive opportunities. The Stallions finished their season 7-5.

The Eagles now prepare to travel to Lamar, which improved to 9-2 after defeating Branchville 50-0 in the second round.

Scott's Branch (8-3) will face Lamar (9-2) on Friday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m., with the winner advancing to the Class A Division II state semifinals.

Manning's playoff run ends at Dillon

Manning High School's football season came to an end Friday, Nov. 13, with a 42-0 loss to Dillon in the second round of the South Carolina High School League Class AA playoffs.

The Monarchs finished 6-6 after advancing past Battery Creek in the opening round. Dillon improved to 9-1 with the victory, its second over Manning this season.

The teams previously met Oct. 16, when Dillon defeated Manning 37-22. The Monarchs held a 14-10 halftime lead in that contest before the Wildcats took control during the third quarter.

Manning entered the rematch hoping to build on its 30-24 first-round victory over Battery Creek, which was decided by a touchdown in the final seconds. The Monarchs were unable to carry that momentum into the second round, however, as Dillon held them scoreless.

The loss concluded Manning's season with six victories, including a postseason win that extended the Monarchs' campaign into the second week of November.

Dillon advances to face Marlboro County on Friday, Nov. 20, after the Bulldogs defeated Strom Thurmond 42-35.

Clarendon Hall's season ends in state semifinals

Clarendon Hall concluded its football season Friday, Nov. 13, with a 48-21 loss to Dorchester Academy in the South Carolina Independent School Association Class A state semifinals.

The Saints finished 5-7, marking a significant improvement for a program that went winless last season and entered 2026 trying to recover from a 21-game losing

See EAGLES | **13A**

Clarendon Hall fishing team claims first place at Lake Murray

BY: MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY

Clarendon Hall's fishing team brought home a first-place finish and a third-place showing during the South Carolina High School Bass Challenge Series tournament held Nov. 7 at Lake Murray.

Troy Phillips and Logan Paul captured first place in the high school division, bringing in a five-fish limit weighing 16 pounds, 7.6 ounces. The pair competed aboard Boat No. 19, captained by Ed Paul.

Phillips and Paul also recorded the team's largest fish of the tournament, weighing 4 pounds, 5.6 ounces.

Clarendon Hall also earned a third-place finish in the junior division, where Jackson Waynick and Cole Graham competed aboard Boat No. 6. The pair caught two fish weighing a combined 2 pounds, 9 ounces, with Caleb Acosta serving as boat captain.

The tournament featured additional Clarendon Hall anglers competing in both divisions.

In the high school division, Colton Singleton and Levi Barrett competed aboard Boat No. 31, captained by Mike Singleton, while Gauge Mosier and BellaGrey Mosier competed aboard Boat No. 40, captained by Rod Mosier. Neither team recorded a fish at weigh-in.

In the junior division, Clara Phillips and Kinley Ingram competed aboard Boat No. 4, captained by Tony McArthur. The pair also finished without a fish at weigh-in.



BASS: Clarendon Hall fishing team members Troy Phillips, left, and Logan Paul, right, display their winning five-fish catch alongside boat captain Ed Paul following the South Carolina High School Bass Challenge Series tournament Nov. 7 at Lake Murray. The pair took first place in the high school division with a total weight of 16 pounds, 7.6 ounces.

(PROVIDED/WHITNEY PHILLIPS)

The Lake Murray competition was part of the team's 2026-27 tournament schedule, which includes events at several lakes and waterways across South Carolina.

The team's next scheduled tournament is Dec. 5 at Lake Wateree, following a practice day Dec. 4. Additional competitions are scheduled at Lake Keowee on Jan. 30, the Cooper River on Feb. 27, Santee Cooper on March 13 and Lake Wateree on April 24.

Clarendon Hall is already preparing for its 2027-28 fishing season, with registration scheduled to open June 1, 2027.

Those interested in joining the team or learning more about sponsorships and fundraising opportunities may contact coach Whitney Phillips at 803-460-9379.



HVAC HEATING & COOLING SERVICES

SPECIALIST, LICENSED & INSURED

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES:

- Installation
- Repair
- Maintenance
- Replacement
- Ductwork Services
- Custom System Design
- Industrial HVAC
- Energy Management
- Ventilation Systems
- Commercial Refrigeration
- Home Comfort Systems
- Ductless Mini-Split Systems
- Thermostat Upgrades
- Air Quality Solutions
- Emergency Services

Lowery Clarendon Heating and Air

5502 Sumter Hwy.
Alcolu, SC 29001
(803) 433-2320
www.loweryair.com

Fall fishing picks up on Santee Cooper lakes

STAFF REPORT

Cooling water temperatures are bringing promising fishing conditions to lakes Marion and Moultrie this November, with catfish moving into deeper channels, striped bass schooling and largemouth bass feeding ahead of winter.

The November fishing report from Santee Cooper Country, featuring information from fishing guides Joseph Dennis and Capt. Kyle Austin, highlights opportunities for anglers targeting several popular species as fish adjust to changing water temperatures.

Water temperatures ranged from the upper 60s to lower 70s earlier in the month, with mid-November reports placing temperatures around 67 degrees. As the water cools, baitfish are gathering in schools, drawing larger fish into feeding areas across both lakes.

Catfish remain a major attraction, particularly for anglers pursuing trophy blue catfish. Dennis reported fish being caught in 20 to 25 feet of water along flats and smaller creek channels early in November, with others beginning to move into deeper channels around 40 to 45 feet.

As temperatures continue to fall, anglers may find catfish in deeper flats and channels reaching 45 to more than 50 feet. Drift-fishing with Santee Cooper rigs baited with fresh herring, perch or gizzard shad is recommended, with fresh bait playing an important role in attracting bites.

Striped bass fishing is also gaining momentum following the opening of striper season. Anglers should look for fish in approximately 30 to 45 feet of water along flats, creek channels and underwater structures.

Live herring or shad fished on Carolina rigs are recommended for deeper fish, while schooling stripers can be targeted with bucktails, Charlie Brewer Slider grubs and pearl-colored swimbaits.

Morning schooling activity has been reported on Lake Moultrie, with additional opportunities on lower Lake Marion near Bells Marina and in moving water through the Diversion Canal.

Crappie and bream are gathering around submerged brush piles as water temperatures decline. On Lake Moultrie and lower Lake Marion, anglers should concentrate on brush in approximately 25 to 35 feet of water, while shallower brush in 15 to 20 feet may hold fish on upper Lake Marion.

For crappie, small Charlie Brewer Slider jigs and live minnows suspended beneath slip corks are recommended. Anglers targeting bream can use crickets, worms or shrimp on Carolina rigs fished around submerged brush.

Largemouth bass fishing is also improving with the arrival of fall conditions, according to Austin, who reported that baitfish are beginning to gather in shallow ditches, depressions and the backs of creeks.

Austin recommends targeting shallow flats in 2 to 5 feet of water, particularly areas with scattered grass and sandy openings. The backs of creeks and ditches, along with main-lake brush piles in less than 10 feet of water, are also promising locations.

Topwater walking baits, shallow-running crankbaits, bladed jigs, small swimbaits and jerkbaits are among the recommended presentations. Creeks and pockets with cypress trees or hydrilla can also provide productive fishing as bass feed ahead of winter.

Areas such as Taw Caw, Jacks and Potato creeks offer the types of habitat anglers may want to explore. Austin emphasized the importance of locating baitfish, which often attract feeding bass during the fall transition.

While fishing conditions are favorable, boaters should remain cautious of underwater hazards, particularly in upper Lake Marion, where submerged tree stumps, standing timber and shallow flats can create dangerous conditions.

The Nov. 11 fishing report from Angler's Headquarters placed Lake Marion at approximately 74.30 feet, compared with its full-pool elevation of 76.8 feet. Lake Moultrie was at approximately 74.07 feet, below its full-pool elevation of 75.5 feet. Morning surface water temperatures were around 67 degrees.

Anglers should monitor changing water levels and weather conditions before heading onto the lakes, especially when navigating unfamiliar areas.

With cooler temperatures continuing to influence fish movement, November offers opportunities for anglers targeting

See FISHING | **10A**

New SC law allows UTVs on public roads beginning Nov. 18

BY MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY
mtscreporter@gmail.com

South Carolina residents will be allowed to drive certain utility terrain vehicles on public roads beginning Wednesday, Nov. 18, under a new state law establishing registration requirements, safety standards and restrictions on where the vehicles can travel.

The law applies to qualifying utility terrain vehicles, commonly known as UTVs or side-by-sides, but does not extend the same roadway privileges to traditional all-terrain vehicles, or ATVs.

According to the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles, UTV owners must title and register their vehicles, maintain liability insurance and obtain a state-issued license plate before operating on public roads. Drivers must also meet age and licensing requirements, and vehicles must satisfy specific equipment and performance standards.

Although the law expands where UTVs may legally operate, it does not grant unrestricted access to South Carolina roads.

Which vehicles qualify?

Not every side-by-side is eligible for public road use. Under SCDMV guidelines, qualifying UTVs must have four-wheel drive, an engine displacement of at least 450 cubic centimeters and a top speed exceeding 55 mph.

Vehicles must also measure no more than 80 inches wide and have a gross vehicle weight rating of 4,000 pounds or less.

Required safety equipment includes factory-approved Type 2 seat belts for every seat, headlights, brake lights, taillights and functioning turn signals. Type 2 seat belts provide both lap and shoulder restraints.

The new law applies specifically to qualifying UTVs and does not generally make traditional ATVs street legal. UTVs typically feature side-by-side seating, a steering wheel and seat belts, while ATVs have straddle-style seating and handlebars for steering.

South Carolina maintains separate laws governing ATV operation, including restrictions involving children, protective equipment and safe operation. Owners should verify that their vehicles meet all requirements before attempting to register them for roadway use.

Where and how UTVs can operate

Under the new law, registered UTVs may operate on certain public roads with posted speed limits of 55 mph or less, but they are prohibited from interstate highways.

In areas without a local ordinance governing UTV operation, vehicles are restricted to secondary roads with speed limits of 55 mph or less and must remain within 10 miles of the address listed on their registration. The law also allows UTVs to cross roads with higher speed limits at intersections.

For owners whose registered address is within a gated community, the 10-mile limit may instead be measured from an entrance or exit to that community.

Counties and municipalities may adopt ordinances regulating the hours, methods and locations of UTV operation. Those ordinances may establish different operating conditions, although the 55 mph road speed limit restriction remains in place.

Local governments may also authorize nighttime operation. Owners should check for applicable local restrictions before traveling on public roads.

Drivers must be at least 17 years old and possess a valid driver's license. Beginner's permits, provisional licenses, temporary licenses, route-restricted licenses and licenses limited to motorcycles or mopeds do not qualify.

Drivers and passengers younger than 21 must wear helmets secured with chin straps, along with face shields or goggles. Children younger than 8 are prohibited from riding in UTVs on public roads, regardless of whether the vehicle has appropriate seating or restraints.

All drivers and passengers must wear properly fastened seat belts. UTV operators must also comply with applicable traffic laws, including those governing speeding, impaired driving and hands-free cellphone use.

Drivers must carry their licenses, registration certificates and proof of insurance while operating on public roads.

How to register a UTV

Owners seeking to operate their UTVs on public roads must complete the titling and registration process through the SCDMV.

To establish ownership, applicants must provide an existing title or manufacturer's certificate of origin and submit an Application for Title, SCDMV Form 400, at a branch office.

Owners must also provide proof of liability insurance and documentation showing that applicable sales tax has been paid. Sales tax may be paid at the SCDMV branch if necessary.

The registration fee is $10 every two years. Once registered, the vehicle must display its state-issued license plate securely attached to the rear.

Owners who use their UTVs exclusively off-road are not required to register or insure them under the new public-road provisions.

See UTV | **13A**

TEAL
FROM PAGE 4A

workers.

Clarendon County Council unanimously approved its designation during its Nov. 9 meeting. Chairman Jay Johnson noted that council members were wearing teal shirts for the occasion before inviting McLeod representatives forward for a photograph.

The county's resolution recognizes the generations of physicians, nurses, other employees, volunteers, leaders, patients, families and community partners who have contributed to McLeod's work. It also encourages residents to take part in the anniversary celebration.

Manning City Council issued a similar proclamation recognizing McLeod Founders' Day and Teal Day in the city.

McLeod traces its beginnings to 1906, when Dr. F.H. McLeod began providing care from a house in downtown Florence. The organization has since grown into a regional health system with seven hospitals, including McLeod Health Clarendon in Manning.

McLeod Health President and CEO Donna Isgett said the health system has had the privilege of caring for generations of families during its 120-year history.

"In celebration of our anniversary, we are Turning The Town Teal — and we hope you'll join us," Isgett said in a message posted on the health system's website.

Additional ways to participate include displaying a teal window cling, changing a phone screen to the McLeod anniversary wallpaper and sharing photos or videos of teal displays. Details are available at mcleodteal.org.



TEAL: McLeod Health representatives joined Manning City Council on Nov. 10, pictured on Page 4, and Clarendon County Council on Nov. 9, pictured above, as both governments designated Nov. 19 as McLeod Founders' Day and Teal Day in recognition of the health system's 120th anniversary. PROVIDED

(PROVIDED)

FISHING
FROM PAGE 9A

everything from trophy catfish and schooling stripers to shallow-water largemouth bass.

The November fishing report was provided by Santee Cooper Country, with contributions from Dennis and Austin. Additional fishing information is available at fishingstatus.com.





At HopeHealth, we believe we are truly healthier together - Just like our hometown heroes and HopeHealth patients, South Carolina football stars LaNorris and Jayden Sellers. Two brothers, together healthy. Our partnership with the Sellers brothers reflects our deep roots in the community we serve.

"HopeHealth has helped me be healthy from childhood until today," says LaNorris, "It's always great to give back to them, after all they've done for me." Jayden echoes this sentiment, saying, "They give back to the community, they help people who truly need it. They also helped us a lot growing up, so I want to repay that now."

With multiple locations across **five counties**, HopeHealth serves nearly **85,000 patients** throughout South Carolina. We are committed to eliminating barriers to care by welcoming insured and uninsured patients alike, with financial assistance programs available for those who qualify.

Services Include:

- Primary Care
- Pediatric Care
- Family Medicine
- Women's Health
- Pharmacy
- Behavioral Health
- Lab Services
- Endocrinology
- Rheumatology
- Diabetes & Nutrition
- Chronic Disease Care
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Annual Wellness Visits

HOPEHEALTH

Become a Patient Today! | (803) 433-4321 | *hope-health.org*
12 W. South St., Manning, SC 29102

TRUSTEES
FROM PAGE 1A

Rev. Lawson stated, we must keep the students of Clarendon County first as we move forward and work together."

Lawson, who also delivered the invocation at the beginning of the meeting, was elected parliamentarian without opposition after nominations were closed.

The board's next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m.



TRUSTEES: Members of the Clarendon County School District Board of Trustees gather for a group photo following the swearing-in of newly elected and re-elected members and the selection of board officers Nov. 16. Pictured, from left, are (front row) Kim Jones, Vice Chairman Bobby Fleming, Chairman Ceth Land, Secretary Tami C. Green and Linda Lemon; and (back row) Ron Wingard, Mike Shorter, John Hardy and Parliamentarian the Rev. Johnnie Lawson.

(PROVIDED/CCSD

BURN
FROM PAGE 2A

the region. However, forecasters said uncertainty about the system's track makes it difficult to determine how much rainfall South Carolina will receive.

Clarendon County Fire Rescue recommends avoiding outdoor burning on windy days, keeping a readily available water source nearby and never leaving a fire unattended. Fires should be kept a safe distance from homes, buildings, vehicles and other combustible materials.

Residents should also ensure fires are completely extinguished before leaving the area, as lingering embers can reignite and spread.

The South Carolina Forestry Commission requires notification before outdoor burning of yard debris in unincorporated areas, and municipalities may have additional restrictions. Residents should check applicable regulations before starting a fire.

Fire Rescue officials said postponing outdoor burning until conditions improve remains the safest option for protecting homes, property and surrounding communities.

SC NEWSPAPERS DELIVER HIGHLY ENGAGED CITIZENS

88%

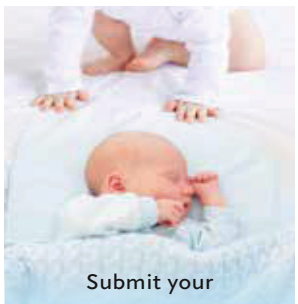
of SC newspaper readers vote in local elections.

Source: 2023 South Carolina State Study conducted by Coda Ventures

VOTE

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWSPAPERS

LOCAL | CREDIBLE | RELEVANT | CONNECTED



Submit your BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT @ the manning times

803-435-8422

manninglive.com

AERO
FROM PAGE 1A

website, indicating that its immediate effect would be a change in governance rather than replacement of the board.

The most recent Aeronautics Commission meeting located in county records reviewed by The Manning Times was held June 24. Commissioners discussed proposed bylaws, airport operations and their work with county officials, including County Administrator Walt Ackerman.

During that meeting, the commission scheduled another meeting for July 22 and discussed the importance of maintaining a regular schedule. The Manning Times did not locate a notice, recording or minutes for that meeting or a later commission meeting on the county website or its social media pages, but has not independently confirmed whether a later meeting occurred or was canceled.

The ordinance also addresses other county boards and commissions. It would reaffirm the Development Board and Archives Advisory Board as county-created boards while recognizing that several others, including the Library Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals, operate under statewide laws.

Ordinance 2026-21 must receive two additional readings and a public hearing before it can take effect.

ROTARY
FROM PAGE 4A

and participate in person.

McLeod admitted she considered several excuses not to go but ultimately attended, where she found herself surrounded by familiar faces, including some of her customers. Listening to a speaker share her experience with cancer helped her recognize that community involvement was about more than promoting a business.

"They really just wanted support. They really just wanted to know somebody was out there listening and they cared," McLeod said.

The experience transformed what had initially been a corporate requirement into a personal commitment to helping others. She began attending more local events, connecting with residents and organizations and recognizing needs throughout the community.

"That focus shifted from what does my job require me to do to what does my community need me to do," she said.

Her growing involvement also led to a relationship with Leigh Anne Maynard, a former Rotary Club president, whom McLeod met through her business connections and community activities.

Maynard encouraged her to join Rotary after repeatedly seeing her participate in local events. McLeod said joining the organization has strengthened her belief that successful businesses and strong communities depend on one another.

"Businesses cannot thrive in isolation," she said. "When we use our professional platforms to lift up our neighbors, we build an ecosystem where everybody wins."

During a question-and-answer session, McLeod discussed additional services offered through the Manning branch, including mortgage lending and financing partnerships with local retailers.

She explained that consumer loan terms range from nine months to five years, with no penalty for early repayment. Participating retailers can also submit financing applications directly, allowing customers to arrange purchases without first visiting the lending office.

Founded in 1941, 1st Franklin Financial operates more than 370 branches across 10 Southeastern states, according to the company's website.

McLeod closed by emphasizing that whether she is working with borrowers, officiating weddings or volunteering alongside fellow Rotarians, relationships remain at the heart of her work.

"Whether you're lending $600 to help someone get through the month or managing a major commercial portfolio, the core of professional excellence is seeing the human being on the other side," she said.

She encouraged fellow Rotarians to continue finding ways to turn their professional responsibilities and connections into opportunities to serve the community.

FOCUS
FROM PAGE 3A

withdrawal rate.

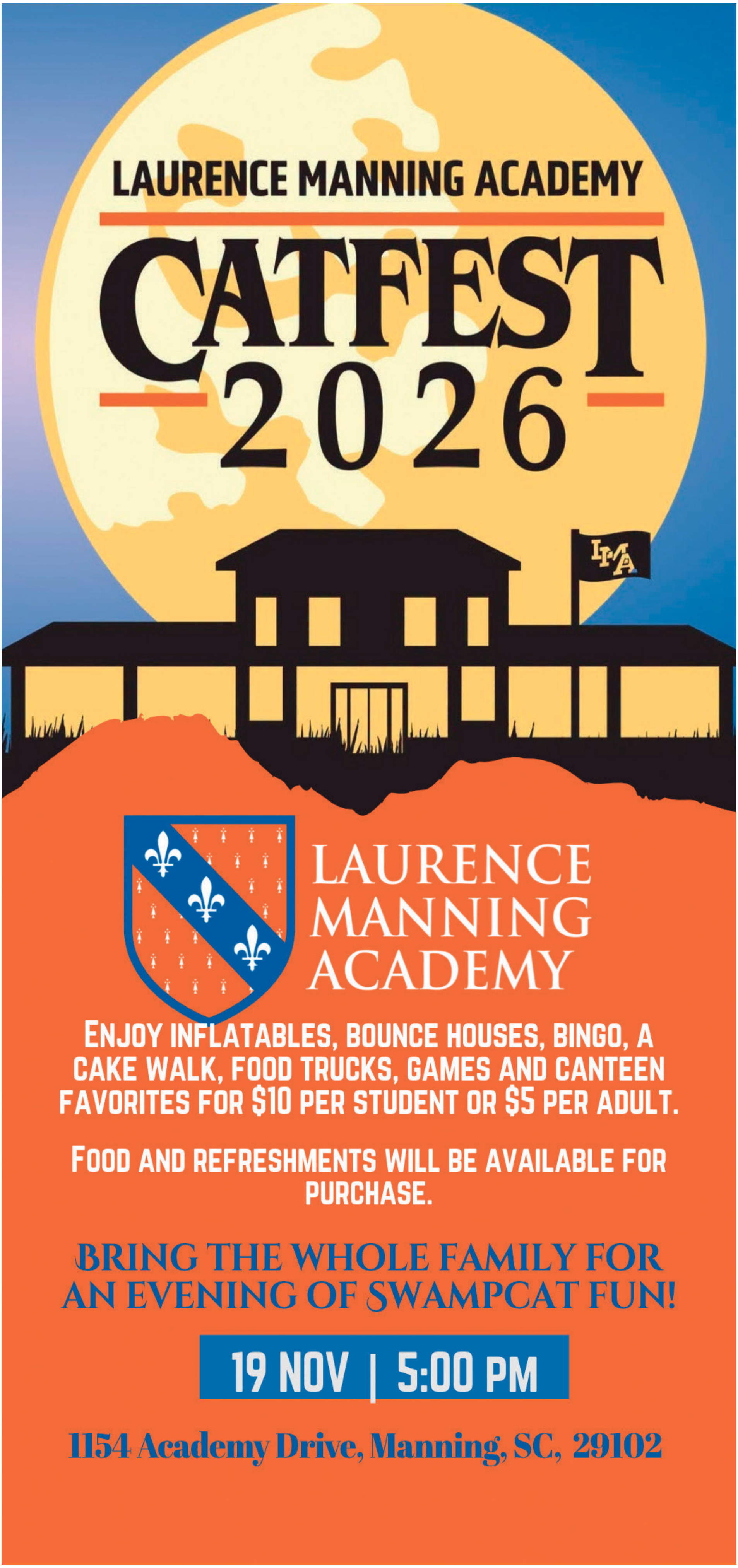
Managing investment risk is a lifelong process that evolves with your goals, responsibilities and time horizon. While you'll look for balance among your investments based on your life stage, having a balanced and diversified portfolio doesn't fully protect against a loss. Still, aligning your strategy with your stage of life can help navigate market volatility and stay on track toward long-term success while avoiding emotional investment decisions. The key is staying informed and making intelligent choices that reflect your current income needs and future aspirations

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

VISIT MANNINGLIVE.COM




LAURENCE MANNING ACADEMY
CATFEST
2026
LAURENCE MANNING ACADEMY
ENJOY INFLATABLES, BOUNCE HOUSES, BINGO, A CAKE WALK, FOOD TRUCKS, GAMES AND CANTEEN FAVORITES FOR $10 PER STUDENT OR $5 PER ADULT.
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.
BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FOR AN EVENING OF SWAMPCAT FUN!
19 NOV | 5:00 PM
1154 Academy Drive, Manning, SC, 29102

EAGLES
FROM PAGE 9A

streak.

Under head coach Shane Wallace, Clarendon Hall earned five victories and returned to the postseason, advancing to the semifinals with a 34-0 first-round win over Thomas Heyward Academy.

The semifinal brought a rematch against Dorchester Academy, which had also defeated the Saints during the regular season.

Dorchester entered the contest with one of the classification's strongest rushing attacks. Reed Almers continued that production in the semifinal, rushing for 141 yards and two touchdowns on 10 carries. Carter Beeks added two rushing touchdowns as the Raiders secured the victory.

Despite the loss, Clarendon Hall's 21 points represented a stronger offensive showing than its first meeting with Dorchester, although the Saints were unable to overcome the Raiders' scoring.

The victory improved Dorchester Academy to 10-2 and sent the Raiders to the state championship game against Dillon Christian on Nov. 21.

For Clarendon Hall, the season represented a substantial change in direction, from a winless campaign to a state semifinal appearance in one year.

UTV
FROM PAGE 10A

The law also establishes a separate provision for farmers who hold a valid South Carolina Agricultural Tax Exemption (SCATE) card and driver's license. Under that provision, qualifying farmers may operate UTVs or similar motorized vehicles with top speeds below 55 mph within 10 miles of their agricultural operations.

The agricultural provision allows qualifying farmers to operate those vehicles under different conditions than the general UTV rules. However, the statute does not separately identify which registration, insurance or safety requirements are waived, leaving questions about how the exception will be applied.

Why the law changed

The legislation, Act 164, was approved in May after years of discussion about how to regulate UTVs, which are commonly used by farmers, hunters and rural property owners.

According to reporting by the SC Daily Gazette, lawmakers said the vehicles had operated in a legal gray area, creating confusion among owners and law enforcement officers about when they could be driven on public roads.

Sen. Russell Ott, D-St. Matthews, who sponsored the legislation, argued that establishing registration and safety requirements would provide clearer rules for vehicles already being used in rural communities.

Some lawmakers raised concerns about the safety of smaller, slower-moving vehicles sharing roads with passenger cars and trucks. Supporters maintained that the restrictions would provide a framework for safer operation.

Additional information, including registration instructions and vehicle requirements, is available at dmv.sc.gov/vehicle-owners/types-of-vehicles/terrain-vehicles.



PROTEST
FROM PAGE 1A

voters needed to leave for work in Florence. He said he asked an election worker to obtain a provisional ballot for the individual but received no response.

He also testified that he did not observe election workers offering alternative voting options during the interruption.

During questioning, Mirick acknowledged that he did not obtain the names or contact information of those who left and could not establish whether they eventually returned to vote.

Election workers disputed portions of his account.

Monica Blair Franklin, the precinct's poll clerk, testified that the polling location opened at 7 a.m. but experienced problems with its electronic poll books. She said the elections office was contacted and a technician was dispatched to address the malfunction.

According to Franklin, one electronic poll book was replaced and both machines were reprogrammed before normal operations resumed.

Franklin testified that voters were informed they could cast provisional ballots while the equipment was unavailable, but most chose to wait until the problem was resolved.

Alice Durant, a poll manager at Davis Station, supported that account, testifying that alternative ballots were offered and that she observed only one voter leave and later return.

The conflicting testimony left unresolved how many voters departed during the interruption and whether all were informed of available alternatives. It also did not establish whether any of the seven people Mirick reported seeing leave ultimately failed to cast ballots.

Herbert questioned why paper poll books were not used to check voters in while the electronic equipment was unavailable. During questioning by board members, Franklin acknowledged that paper records were available at the precinct.

The hearing also established a distinction between the electronic poll books and the equipment used to mark and scan ballots. Testimony indicated that the primary malfunction involved the electronic check-in system rather than the ballot-marking devices.

Herbert argued that the interruption was particularly significant because of the narrow election margin and voting patterns at Davis Station.

She maintained that Republican candidates generally received a greater share of their support on Election Day and that a disruption during the morning voting period could have disproportionately affected her campaign.





HEARING: (Top) Clarendon County elections board Chairman Edward Gamble III, center, reviews documents with board attorney Ryan McCabe, right, during the Nov. 16 hearing. (Bottom) Republican auditor candidate Kimberly Herbert listens as the board announces its decision to uphold the Nov. 3 election results. Local businessman James Nance is seated beside her.

(TOP: ALAYSHA MAPLE/THE SUMTER ITEM BOTTOM: MELISSA FOUST-MCCOY/THE MANNING TIMES)

Certified countywide results show Herbert received 3,902 Election Day votes compared with Pringle's 2,113. Pringle, however, led in early voting, receiving 4,523 votes compared with Herbert's 2,736.

Those figures provided context for Herbert's argument but did not establish how voters who may have left Davis Station would have voted.

Attorneys Skyler Hutto and Eleazer Carter, representing Pringle, argued that an election should not be overturned solely because irregularities occurred. They maintained that Herbert had not presented evidence establishing that enough votes were affected to change the result or make it doubtful.

Hutto cited South Carolina Supreme Court decisions establishing the legal standard for reviewing contested elections, including the principle that election results generally should be upheld unless irregularities materially affect the outcome.

Pringle's attorneys also sought dismissal of the protest before presenting their witnesses, arguing that Herbert had not met the required burden of proof. The board declined to dismiss the matter at that point and continued hearing testimony.

Following the hearing, Vice Chairman Brian Magaw moved to confirm and certify the auditor election results.

Magaw said the evidence established that irregularities occurred but did not demonstrate fraud, constitutional violations or problems sufficient to render the election outcome doubtful.

The board approved the motion unanimously.

Although the protest was unsuccessful, board Chairman Edward Gamble III acknowledged that problems occurred during the election and said the board would address them.

Gamble described some of the issues as personnel matters that would be handled by the board. He did not publicly identify specific disciplinary or corrective actions.

"We just have to keep trying to get better. And for those mistakes, we apologize," Gamble said.

Herbert's written protest had asked the board to investigate the circumstances, review election records, obtain sworn testimony and consider legally available remedies, including a new election if the evidence warranted such action.

The board instead determined that the evidence presented did not justify setting aside the certified results, leaving Pringle's election victory intact.

While the hearing resolved the election protest, questions remain about the number of voters affected by the Davis Station interruption and what corrective measures the board may take to prevent similar problems in future elections.









IT'S TURKEY TIME!

Register at any of the participating businesses listed for your chance to win a **FREE THANKSGIVING TURKEY.**
The process is simple. Just shop your favorite business that is listed below, look for the turkey box, enter your name and phone number.
The drawing will be held live on The Manning Times Facebook page at 10am on November 20th.
Turkeys can be picked up any time on November 20th from The Manning Times located at 230 East Boyce Street in Manning.

The HOLIDAY Market
225 SOUTH BOUNDARY ST.
OPEN YEAR-ROUND | BOUTIQUE MALL | VENDORS | GIFT ITEMS

1st Franklin Financial
(803) 435-8782
524 W Boyce St, Manning, SC 29102
HAPPY ThanksGiving

Aunt Sarah's Child Care
Services for children 6 weeks to 12 years
1329 Pope St, Turbeville, SC
(843) 659-5437

Local Since Forever
piggly wiggly
36 Sunset Dr. Manning • 803.433.2118

THE PLAYERS COURSE AT Wyboo
1560 Players Course Dr. | Manning, SC 29102 | (803) 478-2500

Southern SENIOR LIVING
Short-Term Rehab and Long-Term Care
Pocotaligo River Health and Rehab, 3147 Sumter Hwy, Manning, SC, 803-478-2323
Lake Marion Health and Rehab, 1527 Urbana Road, Summerton, SC, 803-435-2317
Lake Moultrie Health and Rehab, 1038 McGill Lane, St. Stephen, SC, 843-567-2307
Happy Thanksgiving

BROWN'S FURNITURE & BEDDING
Stan Brown
Sealy
brownsfurnitureofsumter.com
31 W. Wesmark Blvd.
Sumter S.C.
803-774-2100
brownsfurniture@hotmail.com

CLARENDON COUNTY
Economic Development
Happy Thanksgiving

Randy's Diesel Performance
158 N. Main Street
Greeleyville, SC 29056
843-426-4455

D&H Bar-B-Que
est. 1947
BBQ by the pound
BBQ plates • chicken • fried fish
sides &more!
803-433-2189
412 S Mill Street Manning, SC
Happy Thanksgiving

Jalisco MEXICAN GRILL
2167 AM NASH RD.
MANNING, SC
jaliscomexgrill.com
803-505-6552
YUCATÁN MEXICAN RESTAURANT