

DIVERSITYWORKS

APRIL 2014 VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

"For All of Us"



HONDA

**THE INCREDIBLY
VERSATILE PIONEER**

HSC PRESIDENT VALUES
ASSOCIATES' CONTRIBUTIONS

HER PASSION & CARE
RIVAL HER INTENSIVE EDUCATION

MEDICINE MAN
MEETS EXPECTATIONS

THIS ENTREPRENEUR
CREATES THE LOOK SHE WANTS

COUNTY'S CHURCHES PLAY
PIVOTAL TRANSFORMATION ROLE

FEATURING:

COVER PHOTO: BRIAN NEWMAN



CHARLENE LOWERY



DANIEL OWENS, MD



CECILIA ADUAKO



DR. REGINALD MILLER

HONDA

Honda of South Carolina Mfg., Inc.

Honda's philosophy is based on "Respect for the Individual." We are committed to bringing together a diverse group of associates, dealers and suppliers to foster the kind of Innovation and vitality that enables us to achieve our dreams of creating products and technologies that make people's lives better.



Honda of South Carolina Mfg., Inc.
Timmonsville, SC

FEATURED ARTICLES

10



Food Lion
Jeremy Coble

8



Marion Econ. Dev.
Dr. Julie Norman

7



Sonoco
Lauren Hughes

44



CHS
Dr. Daniel Owens

26



The King's Academy
Tari Dean

6



Sweet Gilliard
Donald Gilliard

MISSION AND VISION

OUR MISSION

Diversity Works© is a magazine for the socially conscious and responsible worker at any level. The magazine has a commitment to be a showcase for organizations and their individuals that represent best practices in diversity of the workforce and supplier choices. We feature articles on those displaying inclusionary vision in and for the marketplace and who can both encourage and provide role models to others. Diversity Works©, via its editorial content and other signature promotions, will be a vessel to inform the world about appreciating and accepting the physical, social, cultural and other differences in one another and promote better outcomes through interacting with those unlike ourselves. Our mission is to promote the concept "community" in the workplace, to stimulate literacy and save the planet via recycling printed matter.

OUR VISION

To create a more collaborative world wherein we practice diversity on a more balanced basis, to experience a return to reading and to reuse the ink and paper products that our reading materials are printed with.

Spanish Version

Translated by: Yadira Santiago, MA

NUESTRA MISIÓN

Diversity Works© es una revista dirigida a trabajadores, de cualquier nivel, socialmente conscientes y responsables. La revista tiene el compromiso de ser una vitrina para las organizaciones y sus individuos que representan las mejores prácticas en cuanto a diversidad de las opciones de plantilla laboral y proveedores.

Nuestros artículos muestran una visión inclusiva en y para el mercado; que a su vez estimulen y promuevan un modelo de conducta para los demás. Diversity Works©, a través de su contenido editorial y sus promociones de firma, será una fuente que informará al mundo sobre la apreciación y aceptación de diferencias físicas, sociales, culturales que promuevan mejores resultados a través de la interacción con los que son distintos a nosotros. Nuestra misión es promover el concepto de "comunidad" en el lugar de trabajo para estimular el conocimiento y salvar al planeta a través del reciclaje de material impreso.

NUESTRA VISIÓN

Crear un mundo más colaborativo en el que se practique la diversidad de una manera más equilibrada; experimentar un regreso a la lectura, así como la reutilización de los productos de tinta y papel con los que se imprimen nuestros materiales.

Published By:



PO Box 6986 • Florence, SC 29502

Business: (843) 669-5929 • Mobile: (843) 307-5146

Website: www.diversityworkssc.com • www.dmmadvertisingandmarketing.com

Email: dmmadworks@aol.com



STAFF:

Diana M. Murphy	CEO/Publisher
Gregory Eaddy	Production Coordinator
Rennie Lunn-McAllister	Executive Editor
Dewana Cooper	Designer
Chinel Boateng	Contributing Writer
Anna Bowman	Contributing Writer
Les Echols	Contributing Writer
Alicia C. Phillip	Contributing Writer
Jenafer Wenteler	Contributing Writer
Terry James	Photographer

ADVERTISERS & PARTNERS INDEX

AAA BRADLEY BAIL BONDS | www.aaabradleybailbonds.com
 ACCUSTAFF | www.accustafflorencesc.com
 ADP TAX CREDITS | www.ADP.com
 ANDERSON BROTHERS BANK | www.ABBank.com
 ARBORONE FINANCIAL | www.arborone.com
 B&S CREATIONS AND CONSIGNMENT
 CAROLINAS HOSPITAL SYSTEM | www.carolinashospital.com
 CHILDREN'S DEPOT & MORE BOUTIQUE | www.childrensdepotnmore.com
 CIRCLE PARK BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES | www.circlepark.com
 CITY OF FLORENCE | www.cityofflorence.com
 CLEAN WORLD USA | www.cleanworldusa.com
 COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY | www.coastal.edu
 COKER COLLEGE | www.coker.edu
 EFIRD CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE | www.efirdautogroup.com
 FINKLEA LAW FIRM | www.FinkleaLaw.com
 FLORENCE CAREER CENTER | www.fsd1.net/schools/careercenter
 FLORENCE-DARLINGTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE | www.fdtc.edu
 FLORENCE LITTLE THEATRE | www.florencelittletheatre.org
 FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE | www.fsd1.org
 FOOD LION LLC | www.foodlion.com
 GE HEALTHCARE | www.gehealthcare.com/us/en
 GITTENS CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CLINIC | www.GittensHealthClinic.com
 HONDA | www.honda.com
 HOPEHEALTH | www.hope-health.org
 MARION COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT | www.marion.k12.sc.us
 MCLEOD HEALTH | www.McLeodHealth.org
 MODERN WOODMEN | www.modern-woodmen.org
 NESMITH INSURANCE AGENCY
 NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE | www.newyorklife.com
 OFFICE DIGITAL | www.TheOfficeDigital.com
 ORGANO GOLD/ QUENTIN WILLIAMS | www.quentinwilliams.organogold.com
 PALMETTO HEALTH | www.PalmettoHealth.org
 ROBERT DAVIS ENGINEERING, LLC
 ROCHE CAROLINA INC. | www.rochecarolina.com
 S/W PRINTING | www.swprinting.com
 SAFE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION | www.safefed.org
 SANTEE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC. | www.santee.org
 SC EDUCATION LOTTERY | www.sceducationlottery.com
 SCIENCESOUTH | www.sciencesouth.org
 SERVICE MASTER FIRE & RESTORATION | www.svmfirewater.com
 SONOCO | www.sonoco.com
 STATE FARM INSURANCE | www.starlealexander.com
 TERRY JAMES PHOTOGRAPHY
 THE KINGS ACADEMY | www.tkaflorance.com
 THE LAW OFFICE OF LINWARD EDWARDS II ATTORNEY AT LAW | www.ledwardslaw.com
 WALMART | www.walmart.com
 W. LEE FLOWERS- IGA | www.igaguy.com

CONTENTS

From the Editor Desk

BUSINESS

3	PRISM INCLUDES SMALL & MINORITY BUSINESSES
4	PEOPLE SKILLS MAKE HIM #1
5	NEW COURT, CHIEF & COMMANDER COLLABORATION
6	CHARITABLE EFFORTS PROVE PROFITABLE FOR PRODUCTION COMPANY
7	SONOCO ZONES IN ON COLLEGE GRADS
8	CREATING A BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS
9	JOHNSON CONTROLS BRINGS ITS DIVERSITY COMMITMENT TO SC
10	FOOD LION AND THE CIAA: 20 YEARS STRONG
11	THIS ENTREPRENEUR CREATES THE LOOK SHE WANTS
13	SHE KEEPS RISING TO THE TOP
14	YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS BECOMING MORE 'HYP'
15	DUO MAKES MOTHER/DAUGHTER FASHIONABLE
15	LEARN CAUSE & EFFECT, THEN SUPPORT

DIVERSITY AND SPIRITUALITY

16	WOMEN OF WISDOM MINISTRY PART ONE
16	REVIVING THE FALLEN AND HERSELF
17	COUNTY'S CHURCHES PLAY PIVOTAL TRANSFORMATION ROLE
17	FAITH COMMUNITIES CREATED ANSWER

EDUCATION

18	SUMMER CAMP: AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING BIG!
20	MANY TRAITS MAKE HIM A SURE FIT
21	NEW CCU PROGRAM HELPS INCOMING STUDENTS SUCCEED
22	TEACHER APPRECIATION
22	MARION COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR
23	KNIGHT NAMED DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR
23	OLANTA ELEMENTARY'S DIANE CARTER NAMED FSD3 TEACHER OF THE YEAR
23	FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE TEACHER OF THE YEAR
24	MEET DR. LUCIA HUANG – FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR
25	LITTLE BECOMES MUCH
26	TEACHERS GIVE THEIR ALL AND THEN SOME

SPECIAL

27	COVER STORY: HSC PRESIDENT BRIAN NEWMAN
28	MUTUAL THANKS FROM EVERYWHERE
28	A PLACE TO START OVER... HOME WILL ALWAYS BE HOME!
29	MENTAL HEALTH EMPHASIZED
29	PARENTING IS MOST POWERFUL ROLE
30	NEW SITE, DIRECTOR TAKE GALLERY FORWARD
30	YOUNG PRODIGY RAISING THE BAR
31	FIGHTING AUTISM WITH HER HEART AND SOLE!

ENTERTAINMENT

32	AWARD-WINNING CHEF FINDS NEW DISHES, TRAVEL ROUTES
33	NEW NATIONAL CEO COMING TO TOWN
33	FLORENCE LITTLE THEATRE IN ITS 90TH YEAR TO PRESENT THE WIZARD OF OZ

FINANCIAL

34	LET GO FINANCIALLY TO MOVE ON
34	SAFE HISTORY STILL DRIVES TODAY
35	EARLY LESSONS NEED REPEATING
35	FINANCIAL LITERACY
36	ENSURING YOUR WEDDING DREAMS COME TRUE

HEALTH

37	BIGGEST LOSER WILL BE TRUE WINNERS
39	CHRONIC ILLNESS IS CONTROLLABLE
40	CAROLINAS HOSPITAL SYSTEM CELEBRATES CERTIFIED NURSES DAY
42	HER PASSION AND CARE RIVAL HER INTENSIVE EDUCATION AND TRAINING
42	OKOH NOW LIVING HIS DREAM
43	CAROLINAS HOSPITAL SYSTEM NURSES RECEIVE PALMETTO GOLD AWARD
43	MEDICINE MAN MEETS EXPECTATIONS
43	CHS' PACK EMULATING HIS FATHER
44	EXCEPTIONAL PHYSICIAN WEARS MANY HATS

Not quite sure why food comes to mind when trying to digest the magazine for this quarter, which, thanks to you active community builders, is off to a very promising start!

Freshly filled sections and spring colors are significant contributors as they could be likened to a designer cake, a grand soup or an overflowing buffet.

Myself not being much of a cook, I have learned to discern which tastebuds sense what flavors. And I can tell you from experience as well as classical training the tip of the tongue detects sweetness -- that is why we lick or lap from an ice cream cone. While we sip wine to appreciate its bouquet, we gulp thirst-quenching drinks because usually they have a (cool down) job to do. However, the smorgasborg that is presented this quarter is a real spread.

Take a whiff of the Chamber's new PRISM model and get the scoop on how youthful exuberance appeals to organizations like Food Lion, Johnson Controls, Coker College, Hartsville Young Professionals and it sprinkles the stage with an accomplished violinist.

Entrepreneurs are really serving it up in the fields of children's/wedding fashions, women's consignment, insurance and production companies, while municipalities and educational institutions are being fed and growing from it methodically through measures like Florence's new livability court, police chief and codes enforcement commander; Marion's new Economic Development Director and CCU's new acceleration program for freshmen.

Business and service sectors are getting refills from the likes of leaders at Wal Mart, award-winning Carolinas Hospital Systems nurses and all the medical professionals there as well as those from Palmetto Health, McLeod Health and Hope Health who keep all of us top of mind.

Just taste and see the differences being made from autism campaigns, perfecting parenting, then savor the flavor of the new directions that are being led by the Art Trail Gallery, women spiritually LEAPing and sample the restorative powers of those who have "been there". Snack on churches and faith communities who are diligently answering their calling to create solutions in their locales.

Appreciation of our teachers and veterans goes both ways and that constitutes a full course meal, delivering an appetizing zeal of victory. And although life/succession and financial planning have a unique taste all their own, the good

advice on these pages make the process more palatable.

We should all be putting on the Ritz when the new NAACP CEO comes to town – we even have an award winning chef to help us get ready. But since we mixed this spectacular dish and put it together for you, step back, give thanks, take a big bite, enjoy and share!



Rennie Lunn-McAllister
Executive Editor

PRISM INCLUDES SMALL & MINORITY BUSINESSES

When Les Echols joined the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce in August of 2013, his biggest challenge was facing the age old question: “what can the Chamber do for me?” Les began to try to solve this puzzle by visiting small businesses and getting their opinion of what the Chamber can do differently. The results were eye-opening. “I think there was and is still a communication gap”, says Les. “Businesses don’t always



Les Echols, Community and Minority Enterprise Director

communicate their specific needs to their Chambers, leaving a gap between what is needed and what Chambers provide”. After several months of outreach and visits, Les compiled a report

based on findings and submitted them as a new initiative. Les called the initiative PRISM, named after the glass object that separates white light into its spectral colors. But in this instance, PRISM means so much more.

The PRISM is a symbol of a business approach and outreach targeted to different cultures, but the acronym is Promoting the Inclusion of Small and Minority-business. The Chamber embraced the initiative as the beginning of a new era of inclusion within the Chamber and the community.

To be more specific, the PRISM initiative is an economic development initiative which seeks to help grow the local economy and strengthen area business by leveraging Chamber minority and small business assets. PRISM will place focus on accelerating the growth of minority businesses and expanding the Florence

minority entrepreneurial community. According to Les, “we are looking to enhance job opportunities and wealth increase in the minority business community by embracing strategies that stimulate the creation and growth of women, minority and disadvantage-owned businesses”. Les and the Florence Chamber have appointed a PRISM Action Committee, a group who will serve as an advisory committee for the initiative moving forward. The PRISM Action Committee consists of members from The Greater Florence Chamber business community who are dedicated to realizing opportunities that promote the business case and the impact of diversity and inclusion in Florence County. The committee will work to implement a variety of initiatives designed to promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace, such as special events, conferences and educational seminars.



NeSmith Insurance Agency is your one stop shop for all your insurance needs. We specialize in Auto, Home, Renters, Commercial, or Commercial General Liability Insurance! Having a wedding, Reception or a Concert? We offer Event Insurance!

Life insurance is very important! We have Life Insurance available for all ages and all ILLNESSES! Please don't leave the burden on your loved ones. Also available is cancer policies, major medical and dental policies.

Call NeSmith Insurance Agency for a quote!
Don't let your Insurance Be M.I.A, Call N.I.A Today!!

Llamenos hoy y hable con Kilma para una cotizacion!

Office hours 9:00 am - 5:30 pm Monday - Friday

Visit our new location today!!!



700 S. Parker Drive, Suite 4 • Florence, SC 29501

(843) 667-9099

DON'T LET YOUR INSURANCE BE M.I.A. - CALL N.I.A TODAY!!

THE LAW OFFICE OF

Linward Edwards II

ATTORNEY AT LAW



- CRIMINAL DEFENSE
- FAMILY LAW
- DUI'S
- AUTO ACCIDENTS
- REAL ESTATE

2301 S. IRBY STREET • FLORENCE, SC 29505

OFFICE: (843) 410-9605 • FAX: (843) 536-0715

LINWARD@LEDWARDSLAW.COM • WWW.LEDWARDSLAW.COM

Clarity.

Knowledge.

Efficiency.



Disciplined, Dedicated & Determined to get you results!

PEOPLE SKILLS MAKE HIM #1

By Alicia C. Phillip



Quentin Williams,
Independent Insurance Agent

Quentin Williams is the kind of guy who can quickly turn a stranger into a friend. Others describe him as benevolent and social, and so it is no wonder that he chose a career path as an insurance agent; a natural fit for his welcoming personality. Williams was introduced to the insurance business by a cousin, who was also an insurance agent. Says Williams: "My cousin recognized that my outgoing personality was a perfect fit for an agent, and that instead of sending him referrals, I could establish my own clientele." So that's exactly what

Williams did, and he has been in the insurance business for five years thus far. As an independent insurance agent, Williams is able to work for more than one company, and as a result, he can provide the best products and services for his clients. His products and services include: Term Insurance, Whole Insurance, Universal Life Insurance, Disability Income Insurance, Hospital Indemnity, Cancer Insurance, and Fixed Annuities.

When asked about some of the misconceptions that people tend to have about insurance, Williams described several misconceptions: "Many people do not seek insurance coverage until they or a loved one experiences a major illness. Health is our greatest asset, yet many fail to seek the protection of insurance in their younger years. Therefore, a big misconception appears to be that they will always have time. In addition, once a person inquires about coverage, another misconception is that the cost of insurance is determined by the agent. The individual's age, current and past health history, and lifestyle are just a few factors that determine insurance cost. Moreover, another misconception is that life insurance is simply to cover the cost of funeral services. While that is one provision of life insurance coverage, the bigger value of life insurance is to replace the income lost as the result of the death of the head of household."

Indeed, Williams encourages everyone to consider the benefits of insurance and the available insurance options for their individual situations. According to Williams: "It is a very humbling and gratifying experience to sit down with prospective clients, educate them on the services available, and present options that meet their need, at a price that they can afford." Since becoming an insurance agent and learning the business, he has discovered that while the benefits of insurance are varied, disparities also exist. "In fact, research indicates that six out of ten Americans do not have life insurance. Further, the 40% with coverage, do not have enough of it". This supports the misconception that insurance is only necessary to cover the burial and not supplement the lost income. In addition, many fail to realize that insurance coverage at your place of employment ends once you terminate your employment with that company. Moreover, waiting until your later years to secure a policy can be costly if your health has declined. So it is important to speak with an insurance agent sooner, rather than later. Williams can be contacted at 843.694.9252 or via e-mail at q_williams03@yahoo.com. Moreover, because he believes in the spirit of entrepreneurship and having multiple streams of income, Williams is also an online distributor for Organo Gold, a healthy beverage company, which specializes in gourmet coffee, teas and hot chocolate. Visit him on the web at www.quentinwilliams.myorganogold.com.

OFFICE DIGITAL

SOLUTIONS

A Full Service Business Technology & Supply Company designed to bring a New and Innovative Approach for today's business model.



IBM
Canon
hp
RICOH
DELL
ABC

Certified partner with these and more World Class Companies

Over 10,000 items in stock
Ready for delivery Local, Regional, or Nationwide

1-843-292-8700
1-800-475-3914

www.TheOfficeDigital.com

Services & Products

- Office Image & Document Solutions
- Printing & Copy Supplies
- Medical IT & Scanning Solutions
- Shredding Solutions
- Office Furniture & Work Space
- Computer & Server Solutions
- Point of Sale Solutions
- Electronic Payment Solutions
- Automatic Teller Machines (ATM)
- Janitorial Supplies & Solutions
- Security & Staffing Solutions



"Bringing the Treasures of the Earth To the People of the World"

ORGANO GOLD

"Building for the Future"

REGULAR COFFEE

- DEHYDRATES
- VERY ACIDIC
- RAISES BLOOD PRESSURE
- RAISES STRESS LEVEL
- COFFEE JITTERS
- CAFFEINE CRASH

ORGANO GOLD COFFEE

- BALANCES PH LEVEL OF BODY
- NATURAL DETOXIFICATION
- BOOSTS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM
- NO JITTERS OR CAFFEINE CRASH DUE TO GANODERMA
- OXYGENATES THE BODY
- CERTIFIED ORGANIC GANODERMA
- 150 ALL NATURAL ANTIOXIDANTS



CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Quentin Williams
Independent Distributor
843.694.9252
quentinwilliams.organogold.com
q_williams03@yahoo.com



NEW COURT, CHIEF & COMMANDER COLLABORATION

By Rennie Lunn-McAllister



*Florence Municipal Court Judges (left to right):
The Honorable Taft Guiles, The Honorable Rangeley Bailey,
The Honorable Debra O. Jackson (Chief Administrative
Judge), The Honorable Nicholas W. Lewis, and
The Honorable Edgar Lloyd Wilcox, II.*

Along with the City of Florence's new livability court, new police chief and codes enforcement commander comes new enthusiasm for the mechanisms that make this municipality tick.

Chief Allen Heidler, Commander Anson Shells and Livability Court Administrative Judge Debra Jackson got together to explain the sweeping changes. "The progress we are seeing goes toward leadership, our comprehensive plan and the execution of both," Heidler said, to which Shells added, "we begin with remediation of blight through enforcement of city codes. These cases are brought to Livability Court where they are, but our goal is to resolve violation beforehand. It's after we remove the blight that we can make progress toward redevelopment".

Jackson said the new court for Florence is not a new idea. She explained that the new structure is modeled after the Livability Court in Charleston. The City

of Charleston has been holding Livability Court for several years. Florence City Council members, the City Manager, two City Court judges, and several key staff members travelled to Charleston to observe livability court in action. Having served five years in Florence City Court, Jackson noted that the nuisance cases – which the new court addresses – were not a good mix with the more violent cases. "We needed to avoid mingling Criminal Domestic Violence or DUI cases, for example, with our new caseload," which includes overgrown/unkept yards, abandoned/dilapidated buildings, sign ordinances and the like.

Heidler projected that "We believe that addressing livability issues will bring about a cleaner and safer Florence, creating areas where criminals don't want to exist while also lowering crime in those areas."

Beautifying the North, Northwest and Eastern sections of Florence, Shells said, entails adopting a graffiti removal program, gateway projects, vacant lots landscaping, building façade renovations, stone and butterfly gardens, and conducting ongoing yard maintenance for the elderly or disabled who cannot do it themselves.

In meting out justice via the new court, Jackson said the judges abide by the US Constitution, the South Carolina Code of Laws and the municipal ordinances. "The city has the burden of proof and the accused is presumed innocent in every case. Our Livability Court is designed to hold both sides accountable," Jackson said. No matter the side of town, all city residents have the same responsibility to promote neighborhood pride. "Regardless of what we do as a city, if the neighborhood doesn't appreciate

it and get involved along the way to redevelopment, then only a few will take ownership in the process," Shells said. "Our hope is that every neighbor will take an interest in redevelopment."

"With the appointment of three new judges, we are now in a position to hold livability court more frequently and for an extended period of time," Jackson said. Referring to the legal maxim, "Justice delayed is justice denied," Jackson explained that the City has taken the necessary steps to provide "as much time as it takes" to get these cases resolved or fully adjudicated. As in any vision driven police department, remediation to problems is huge. Heidler explained, "It's really about the entire team expressing a genuine concern for the community. All of the city departments are working together as a team to ensure neighborhood redevelopment is a success, a very high priority of our council and city manager."



North Florence Public Meeting

Redevelopment's focus is on neighborhoods as well as downtown. "You can't have one without the other and we are so gratified to have a large and diverse representation from the faith community. We want businesses, schools, fraternal organizations and others to follow suit, by getting involved in the neighborhood cleanup process because this is one time getting your hands dirty feels good.



See Your Business Come To Life In Downtown Florence

Contact: Shelby Jenerette

Email: shelby@northdargan.com

Location: 150 N. Dargan St. Florence, SC 29501



CHARITABLE EFFORTS PROVE PROFITABLE FOR PRODUCTION COMPANY

By LaVerne Neal Smith

The opportunity to earn a living doing what we love while giving back is a rare event afforded only a few. However, Donald Gilliard, a native of Georgetown, SC is combining his love for the stage and fulfilling his legacy of service to the community, as founder of Sweet Gilliard Productions Company.

Gilliard's path to business owner, director and motivational speaker is anything but typical. However, it is a testament to the power of determination, faith, and forgiveness. Gilliard explains, "I perfected God's Trombones while incarcerated serving 20 years of what was intended to be a life sentence." Gilliard faced many skeptics and endured ridicule from his peers when "I would speak of my dream to take God's Trombones to the community," Gilliard recalls. "But God had another plan for me and I have since directed more than 20 performances of God's Trombones nationwide."

A successful political consultant, Gilliard anticipated walking out of prison directly into employment. However, he experienced what many in his situation encounter, very few employers willing to take a chance and offer an opportunity. Unfortunately, Gilliard's experience is the norm. According to the Center for Economic Policy and Research, "A felony conviction greatly lowers ex-offenders' prospects in the labor market". CEPR reported in 2008, an

estimated cost to the US economy of \$57 to \$65 billion in lost output by not employing these individuals.

Receiving a prodigal son's reception, the faith-based community welcomed Gilliard and it has proven a profitable union. Working with local churches, and other charitable organizations, Sweet Gilliard Productions brings one of America's most powerful literary works, God's Trombones, to the stage.

Written in 1927 by James Weldon Johnson, this literary masterpiece acts out seven scripture lessons with song, dance and sermon. "There are very few productions that will do to an audience what God's Trombones does." Gilliard remembers his first introduction to James Weldon Johnson as a high school student in Georgetown, SC and later as a theatre major at SC State in Orangeburg, SC. "I was really transfixed by Johnson's beautiful words. I understood what James Weldon Johnson was doing. I grew up listening to powerful ministers, like my uncle the legendary Rev. Frank Vereen, from the Georgetown and Pee Dee areas of SC."

This labor of love for Gilliard has also been a blessing for the community. Gilliard states, "one of our first productions of God's Trombones was performed as a church benefit to assist three families, each of whom tragically lost a loved

one while traveling to revival with their pastor."

It was Gilliard's desire to help the very community that gave life to his dreams that led to Sweet Gilliard Productions. His manner of conducting business is a direct result of the lessons learned from his grandmother, Ernestine 'Sweet' Gilliard, affectionately known as Miss Sweet. Gilliard describes the woman who raised him from a baby as "a strong Christian woman who loved our family and taught us to try to always do good by our fellow man." Sweet Gilliard Productions honors the life and spirit of, as Gilliard claims, "one of the most important persons in my life, the other being my mother, Barbara Faison." If you are looking to attend the next performance of "God's Trombones" or interested in your organization hosting a performance visit www.sweetgiilliardproductions.com



Donald Gilliard



PHONE 317-4900
FAX 317-4910

Handling a full range of legal services in a timely manner with proficiency and professionalism



J. GREG HENDRICK ATTORNEY GARY I. FINKLEA ATTORNEY BROOKE CHAPMAN EVANS OF COUNSEL JOSHUA BAILEY ATTORNEY CHARLIE J. BLAKE, JR. ATTORNEY

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

- Purchase/Refinance
- Equity Line/2nd Mortgage
- Investment/Commercial
- Reverse Mortgage
- 1031 Exchange
- Mobile Homes
- Wills/Probate

CIVIL LITIGATION

- Contract Disputes - Fraud
- Insurance Claims
- Boundary Lines/Land Disputes
- Quiet Title Actions
- Construction Defects
- Mechanic's Lien
- Foreclosure/Collection
- Consumer Law

PERSONAL INJURY

- Automobile Accidents
- Wrongful Death
- Workers' Compensation
- Dog Bites
- Slip and Fall
- Malpractice
- Insurance Claims

FAMILY LAW

- Divorce
- Custody Disputes
- Child Support

CRIMINAL LAW

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

IMMIGRATION

*** We are pleased to announce the addition of Brooke Chapman Evans who will focus her practice on Family Law, Immigration and Litigation. Please visit Finklealaw.com for more information ***



Finklealaw.com

Hablamos Español



SONOCO ZONES IN ON COLLEGE GRADS

Sonoco Products Company (www.sonoco.com), headquartered in the small town of Hartsville, South Carolina, really is, “The Total Package.” Originally founded as Southern Novelty Company 115 years ago, Sonoco is a \$4.9 billion global business representing four segments: Industrial, Consumer, Protective Packaging, and Display and Packaging. As South Carolina’s largest company and a global packaging leader, Sonoco is always looking for top talent. One avenue to employment, solely dedicated to college graduates, is Sonoco’s Management Trainee Program. This program offers college graduates extensive in-plant training opportunities and manufacturing experience with the potential to become a plant manager upon completion.

And one of the reasons why college graduates are eager to join Sonoco’s Management Training Program is due to the company’s diverse culture. Tony Murphy, a recent hire to Sonoco and a NC A&T graduate, has “been impressed with how Sonoco values its people and diversity of thought.” Murphy is a site manager for one of Sonoco’s flagship plants in its Thermoforming Division. As a site manager, he ensures that Sonoco is providing a safe work environment for all employees, makes sure employee development is a focal point for his managers, fosters a culture with continuous improvement, and builds

a manufacturing center of excellence delivering world class results in safety, quality and productivity. Murphy describes his experience thus far at Sonoco to be “both exciting and very rewarding.” Murphy is also “looking forward to a long career with Sonoco where [he] can contribute to its success, and in turn be rewarded with continued personal development and growth.”

Built around the philosophy that, “People Build Businesses,” Sonoco is a company that truly cares about its people, providing them with amazing growth opportunities. Elizabeth Rhue, a nine year employee of Sonoco, says “the people are genuine, the management team really cares about us and our successes, and every door is an open one. I have been given opportunities and have been to places I’ve never imagined.

With Sonoco involved in so many formats of packaging and having so many different functional areas, there are multiple opportunities for me to continue to grow.”

Lauren Hughes, an Industrial Engineering major from Clemson University, started out as a Management Trainee with Sonoco and is now a Production Shift Supervisor. Hughes believes that “having a training program

after college with your first full-time job helps you learn and provides you with a solid base before moving on to your job.”

Hughes desires to be in a manufacturing leadership role and feels that Sonoco is the perfect place for her and anyone else with the same desire. “The Management Trainee Program has given me exposure to all facets of Sonoco’s operations: safety, quality, production and logistics, customer interaction, leadership, task management, and people development.”

That truly is “The Total Package” for any employee.

Founded in 1899, Sonoco is a global provider of a variety of consumer packaging, industrial products, protective packaging and packaging supply chain services. With annualized net sales of approximately \$4.9 billion, the company has more than 19,900 employees working in 335 operations in 33 countries, serving many of the world’s best known brands in some 85 nations. Sonoco is a proud member of the 2013/2014 Dow Jones Sustainability World index. For more information on the Company, visit our website at www.sonoco.com.

We want to hear from you. If you are interested in learning more about Sonoco’s Management Training Program and becoming a member of the Sonoco team, please visit Sonoco Careers at www.sonoco.com/careers.



*Lauren Hughes,
Production Shift Supervisor*



*Tony Murphy,
Site Manager*



Diversity is smart business



At Sonoco, a global supplier of consumer and industrial packaging and provider of packaging services, we’re committed to attracting, developing and retaining today’s top talent and to creating, from the top down, an environment that encourages employees to contribute ideas, seek challenges, assume leadership and achieve their personal goals while helping the Company succeed.

Increasing employee diversity isn’t just the right thing to do, it’s smart business. The more backgrounds and perspectives we have, the smarter and stronger Sonoco will be.

1 North Second Street, Hartsville, SC 29550 US • 843 383 7000 • sonoco.com

MARION COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: CREATING A BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS

By Anna Bowman

When Rodney Berry resigned from the position of Marion County Economic Development Director in 2013 to become the Economic Development Representative for the newly appointed 7th Congressional District, Congressman Representative Tom Rice, the search committee was faced with an enormous challenge to fill the position with someone with the necessary experience and vision to stimulate a healthy economy in Marion County.

Dr. Julie Norman, a native of Charleston, WV, with a Masters in Business Administration from Marshall University and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from West Virginia University, not only met the criteria necessary for the job, she exceeded them. Norman is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD), and has 15 years of economic development experience in rural communities like Marion County. She began her career in the field of economic development in 1998. "My work over the past years has been primarily at the state level for the West Virginia Department of Commerce (formerly the West Virginia Development office), where I served as Deputy Executive Director of the Governor's Workforce Investment Division, and later a newly formed sister state agency called WORKFORCE West Virginia," she said.

Marion County has been plagued with double-digit unemployment for years and has seen local businesses close their doors and jobs leave the county due to the ongoing recession, but Norman is not deterred. "Since coming on board I've met with several dozen different local, regional, and statewide organizations to ascertain ways that we may be able to partner to address the unemployment issues in Marion County," she said. She's excited about working with several dedicated leaders and citizens who are committed to improving the county. "Marion County Council is supportive of a number of approaches that we will be taking to improve employment opportunities in Marion County, many of which were identified in our new Strategic Plan for Economic Development," she added.

Being proficient in the economic development field, Norman understands that it's important to involve as many people as you can in order to create a strong economic foundation. "We



Dr. Julie Norman

SC Department of Commerce on recruiting and marketing efforts and has ongoing discussions with the Marion County School District and Florence-Darlington Technical College to improve education and training opportunities for unemployed and underemployed adults as well as high school and college graduates. She is extremely appreciative of a working relationship with Marion County Progress, Inc., a private sector group that supports the Marion County Economic Development Commission. "I'm thankful to have the assistance of Marion County Progress and we work extremely well together as an effective team. As part of our BRE (Business Retention and Expansion) program, members of Marion County Progress (and Members of the Marion County Economic Development Commission), accompany me on existing industry visits to each company twice a year. In addition, Marion County Progress has been instrumental in revamping our website, developing marketing materials, and providing technical assistance to emerging small businesses."

Norman is aware that the Pee Dee region has suffered from plant closing over the past decade, and Marion County alone has lost more than 2500 jobs since 2000. "One particular issue unique to Marion County is the lack of training programs related to manufacturing," she stated, "Companies have to be assured that we not only have a qualified skilled workforce that is ready 'now', but that we also have the capacity to continuously fill the pipeline of workers needed if they locate their business in Marion County; education and training are drivers of economic development." She also notes that the county struggles with attracting jobs because it's not a part of a Metropolitan Statistical Area

have our mayors in the county meeting quarterly to discuss ways to unite what we do for the betterment of the county," said Norman. She also works closely with NESA and the

(MSA), which is often the first place prospective companies search for potential new locations. "This is one reason regionalism is so important to rural areas," Norman pointed out.

Because Marion County has a vast amount of farmers in the area, one of Norman's plans is to recruit in the area of Agri-business and has been working hard on developing the Agriporium™, a proposed 25,000 sq. ft. facility on Hwy. 501, that will include a commercial kitchen incubator, food hub, retail store, packaging center, farmer's market, and small business assistance center to help farmers and entrepreneurs in developing and marketing specialty value-added products and expanding their businesses. "This is our 'grow from within' approach to job creation," Norman explained, "The other industries we are currently targeting in our recruitment efforts are manufacturers of recreational equipment, automotive parts, guns and ammunition, recycling, food processors, and other niche manufacturing operations.

Having the former Marion County Economic Development Director, Rodney Berry, working as the Economic Development Liaison for the district with Congressman Tom Rice is a tremendous benefit for Marion County. "Rodney and I maintain regular contact and Congressman Rice is someone I count on quite regularly as well. Both are extremely active and aggressive in promoting Marion County and are fighting daily to create the jobs we so desperately need. We are very fortunate to have both of them on our team," she said. Her overall vision for Marion County is that it again becomes a vibrant thriving community where people want to live and work because of the tremendous opportunities available to all. "I'm very optimistic," she said. Norman is the mother of two sons, Taylor, 23, a student at Charlotte School of Law and Brock, 17, a junior in high school, in West Virginia.





**JOHNSON CONTROLS BRINGS
ITS DIVERSITY COMMITMENT
TO SOUTH CAROLINA**

For Johnson Controls, a multi-industrial company that employs hundreds of people in South Carolina, diversity is a requirement for doing business right. It's very likely a Johnson Controls battery started your car this morning, or that you sat in a Johnson Controls car seat on your morning commute. It's also likely that when you got to your end destination – an office building, a hospital, a school – your building was controlled by a Johnson Controls product. Some of those Johnson Controls products reach the marketplace thanks to the work of employees in Florence. In South Carolina, and throughout the 150 countries worldwide where Johnson Controls operates, diversity is a driving force. The company believes that focusing on diversity is a way to better serve customers. Diversity allows Johnson Controls to develop products and services reflecting the preferences of a diverse global marketplace. "Diversity at the Johnson Controls Florence Distribution Center has been an important ingredient to our continued, measured improvement," said plant manager Jeff Vine. "Employees have rallied around one another to repeatedly achieve new heights of performance. These successes are a reflection of what is possible when a very diverse workforce from Florence and the surrounding community comes together for a common cause." Johnson Controls is committed to attracting, developing and training the best talent in the world. The company recognizes that excellence comes in many forms and from every region. Johnson Controls fosters a culture that promotes excellent performance, teamwork, inclusion, leadership and growth. To accomplish the company's business growth objectives, employees must be involved and engaged as individuals and as team members. The company's employee and leader diversity mirrors the global markets and populations Johnson Controls serves. "Diversity helps build a strong team of both employees and leaders here at the Florence Distribution Center. Our employees help us utilize our diversity of thoughts and processes by participating on many employee committees, including the Safety, Activities, United Way, and the Green Committees," said Athenia Edwards, manager of human resources at the company's Florence Distribution Center. Johnson Controls believes that by valuing diversity, all employees can fully realize their potential.

Our professionals are ready to work for you today!

We place Administrative, Clerical, Data Entry,
and Lght Industrial.

Temporary ♦ Temp-to-hire ♦ Permanent Staffing



AccuStaff

519 W. Evans Street ♦ Florence, SC 29501
Call Now: 843-664-0050
www.accustaffflorescesc.com



RDE provides broad-based engineering design services. The firm provides complete structural engineering services including structural design, structural evaluations, seismic risk assessments and construction administration.

The firm has experience in a wide range of facilities including:

- Office Buildings
- Shopping Centers
- Commercial Buildings
- Churches
- Medical Buildings
- Public Schools
- Private Residences
- Seismic Retrofits
- Public & Institutional Buildings
- Apartments
- Retirement Centers
- Public infrastructure

We emphasize innovative and cost effective engineering design. We find ourselves riding a lot of elevators, making us no strangers to the proverbial, but polite question, "What do you do?"

181 E Evans Street,
Florence, SC 29506 843 536 0896

**Robert Davis
ENGINEERING, LLC**



IN THE BUSINESS OF YOUR SUCCESSSM

individual impact | collaborating | being myself

Diversity at ADP. Inclusion is a core value that's helped us become a \$10 billion global leader in workforce solutions. It's a mindset that creates a workplace in which you feel good about yourself and the people around you.

Join us at ADP, and discover how we're counting on you to come in and make a real difference, every day.

Count me *in*.

ADP.COM/CAREERS

ADP, 2205 Enterprise Drive, Suite C, Florence, SC

ADP believes that diversity leads to strength. We are an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer; M/F/D/V. The ADP logo is a registered trademark of ADP, Inc.

FOOD LION and the CIAA...20 YEARS STRONG!

By Garland Scarboro, Manager, Diversity and Inclusion

20 years and counting ... Food Lion is proud to be a major partner of the CIAA. Over the years, the shared vision and aligned values of Food Lion and the CIAA have enabled us to grow and strengthen our partnership and our organizations. Food Lion's corporate values of Determination, Integrity, Courage, Humility and Humor coincide with the CIAA's commitment to providing students with a learning environment that blends excellence in academics with teambuilding athletics.

The CIAA's values of Tradition, Leadership and Community align with those of Food Lion and with our overall vision.

TRADITION: Food Lion embraces the rich heritage of the CIAA, which is now in its 102nd year. Food Lion recognizes that diversity of cultures, backgrounds and experiences yields heightened learning, innovation and inclusion. The educational experience at the CIAA schools reflects the dedication of the CIAA educators and administrators. At the heart of the CIAA

legacy is the CIAA Tournament. An annual tradition, the Tournament is the perfect venue for generations of students, faculty, alumni and fans to celebrate what they've built over the last 102 years.

LEADERSHIP: The CIAA's long-standing commitment to developing young leaders creates a brighter future for all of us. The CIAA student athletes we cheer to victory during their regular season games and at the Tournament bring with them knowledge, acuity, teamwork and confidence as future young leaders in corporate America. The CIAA provides these student athletes with life-changing opportunities, subsequently benefiting our businesses, communities and society as a whole. Since 2003, Food Lion has donated over \$3.2 million towards scholarships at CIAA schools.

COMMUNITY: Food Lion believes in supporting and reflecting the communities we serve. The close proximity of the CIAA

colleges and universities to Food Lion stores offers convenient and welcoming shopping experiences for the CIAA faculty and staff, while providing employment opportunities for students.

"Being a CIAA Partner makes sense from a business perspective," stated Garland Scarboro, manager of Diversity and Inclusion. "The 2013 CIAA Tournament:

- Generated a 13% increase in Food Lion's local store sales, above the prior year.
- Created Food Lion brand recognition and customer loyalty, while driving sales with the 197,000 CIAA alumni and fans in attendance.

This positively impacts Food Lion stores because approximately 80% of CIAA Alumni reside in Maryland, North Carolina and Virginia."



**Jermaine Coble,
Delhaize International
Graduate Trainee**

First African American student from an HBCU to be accepted into the International Management Trainee Program.



Business owners are an important part of our electric co-op.

Santee Electric Cooperative makes every customer an owner of the business. Unlike other utilities, Santee Electric exists to make sure your needs are always met, not to make a profit. And since Santee Electric is locally owned and operated, your co-op is always there with you, reinvesting in your community.



Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

P. O. Box 548 • 1500 Longstreet St. • Kingstree, SC 29556

Kingstree: 843-355-6187 • Georgetown: 843-546-4521
Manning: 803-473-4036 • Hemingway: 843-558-3313
Pamplico: 843-493-5745 • Lake City: 843-374-3000

*Celebrating 15 Years!!!
Thank you...We Appreciate Your Business*

Children's Depot & More Boutique



© 2013 CORNELL ONLINE LLC

Store Hours: Tuesday - Friday 11AM-5PM and Saturday 10:00AM-4PM

15% off (with this ad)

Good thru April 30, 2014
Not valid with any other discount

800 W. Evans St.
Florence, SC 29501
(843) 665-2300
www.childrensdepotnmore.com

Like us on Facebook -- Children's Depot & More Boutique

THIS ENTREPRENEUR CREATES THE LOOK SHE WANTS...



*Charlene G. Lowery,
Owner*

Children's Depot & More Boutique is located at 800 West Evans Street in Florence. The owner of the boutique is Charlene G. Lowery, retired Pee Dee Director for Congressman James E. Clyburn. "I made the decision to open the store when it was hard to find the style and quality of clothing that she wanted for her granddaughter Maya. She would spend hours shopping whenever she would travel out of town, just looking for the right things, something unique. It was at that time that she realized that there must be other mothers and grandmothers who were faced with the same dilemma. "So, Monday, March 1, 1999 I opened my store then located at 755 W. Evans Street" said Lowery, who have been at the new location since 2000. Her store carries designs by Will'beth, Little Threads, Mulberry Street, Feltman Brothers, LaJenns, Florence Eiseman, Calvins clothing and several other designers. She offers a range of sizes from newborn to size 20 1/2 in girls and size 16 1/2 in boys. "Whatever your clothing needs are, we will gladly try to fill them," said Lowery, adding, "We offer special occasion dresses and suits. We also carry christening gowns, Holy Communion dresses and accessories. We are excited about our new gift registry for expectant mothers. Expectant mother can come in and complete a registry for the things that she would like to have for the new member of her family. This will take the guesswork out of shopping for the baby, and Mom will get what she wants. Children's Depot also has a playroom for the children, allowing moms to shop while children keep themselves entertained. A specialty shop that offers more than just children's clothing, Children's Depot & More Boutique now carries ladies jewelry and limited clothing. "Come in and look us over. I think you'll like what you see," said Lowery.



*Starlee B. Alexander
Owner/Agent*

Now at our new location 2027 S. Irby Street

**LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR
STATE FARM IS THERE.®**

statefarm.com® • State Farm Insurance Companies
Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois

P.O. Box 169 • 2027 S. Irby Street
Florence, South Carolina 29505
(843) 662-4164 • Fax (843) 665-7373
starlee.alexander.bw97@statefarm.com
www.starleealexander.com



When excitement bubbles over on your carpet, hardwood, tile or upholstery, ServiceMaster Restore has the products and processes to clean it all. Call us today!

SERVICEMASTER FIRE & WATER RESTORATION
843-665-7475

Our Services Include:

- Carpet & upholstery cleaning
- Fire & water restoration
- 24/7 response
- Green cleaning options



*The clean you expect.
The service you deserve.®*

www.svmfirewater.com



Re-Elect Al Bradley Florence County Councilman District #3



Bradley Recognizes Differences as Assets. He supports the need of the district by helping to provide a safe, secure, and healthy environment. He is working with council to foster plans, manage growth and provide a desirable economic development that creates prosperity and job opportunities for all citizens. Bradley assumes a proactive leadership role in determining the future direction of the county.

*Impacting Profitability . . .
Inspiring a Better Place to Live and Work...*

www.alphonsobradley.com

(Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Al Bradley for Florence County Councilman District #3)



Lola Jones Park Track



Brooks-McCall Park



Maple Park Playground



Dorothy Hines nature trail in the Williams Heights community

Because We Care About Your Health & The Environment

We **GREEN CLEAN!**



Residential

Medical Cleaning

Commercial

- Janitorial
- Temp Clean
- Carpet Care
- Health Facilities

Clean World USA

2327 Prosperity Way, Suite 8 Florence, SC 29501

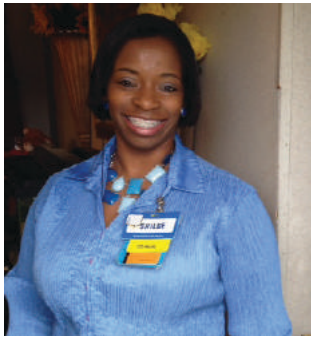
phone: 843.669.2273 fax: 843.669.7048

www.cleanworldusa.com

SHE KEEPS RISING TO THE TOP

By Alicia C. Phillip

Shilbe Thompson-McGee, known as “Smiley” is the new co-manager at Wal-Mart Store #0630 in Florence, a position she groomed herself for.



*Shilbe Thompson-McGee,
New Co-Manager of Florence
Wal-Mart Store #0630*

In fact, McGee has been a loyal Wal-Mart employee since she first entered the work world. Her very first job was with Wal-Mart in 1988 as a part-time jewelry sales floor associate. Months later, because of her dedication, hard work, and eagerness to learn about the company, she was offered a full-time position. Within two years she was promoted to the jewelry department manager, and it was in that position that she found her passion. After twenty years as a jewelry department manager in three different local stores, McGee then accepted an assistant manager position in Dillon. Subsequently, she was offered her current co-manager position, one she says

she thoroughly enjoys.

Some of her responsibilities as co-manager include ensuring that the associates perform at a certain level of expertise in providing a safe workplace and shopping environment. In addition, she strives to demonstrate effective ways to promote change, and overcome obstacles and issues that may cause a negative impact on productivity. Her goal is to always provide honest feedback in a timely manner, making sure that tasks are not only assigned but successfully carried out.

Says McGee about the importance of her new position: “My job itself teaches, guides, and assists in the development of the associates. This position is also important to me because I am dedicated and committed to providing our associates with the best working environment. Providing a successful working relationship with my employees allows us as a staff to give our customers a safe, memorable, and easy shopping experience that they look forward to continue. Lastly, this position will give me the chance to learn and implement any new enhancements the company sends down to better our store. Learning these new processes will help me to teach, train, and ensure that each associate

has the tools and resources that they need for their job.”

McGee has several initiatives planned for her new position. She will ensure that the store has the proper second shift front-end staffing, since many customers take advantage of the store’s 24-hour opening to shop late at night. Her plan includes implementing a procedure to handle customer overflow at night so that stockers aren’t repeatedly pulled from their areas to run the registers. She also plans to encourage teamwork among all three shifts to reach the store’s daily goals and provide superior customer service.

Her personal goals are to act with integrity at all times and to enforce the three basic beliefs that Wal-mart was built on. Says McGee, “I just want to make sure that I play a part in continuing the success of this company while maintaining the initial goal of Sam Walton, with the purpose of including our workers.”

McGee is definitely accomplishing those goals and looking forward to continuing her managerial career with Wal-Mart. Her motto is.... “I owe it All to God”!!!

Walmart

Save money. Live better.

Bennetsville, SC (843) 479-0007	Cheraw, SC (843) 537-6381	Dillon, SC (843) 841-9800	Hartsville, SC (843) 383-4891
Florence SC (843) 292-0862	Florence, SC (843) 664-2020	Lake City, SC (843) 394-7405	Mullins, SC (843) 423-9444

If interested in a walmart career please apply at www.walmart.com

EFIRD

CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

MOST AWARDED SUV EVER
THE GRAND CHEROKEE



Unrivaled. The Grand Cherokee sets extraordinary standards for performance, luxury, Best-in-Class Highway Fuel Economy of 30 Miles Per Gallon+ and attention to detail.

HWY 52/I-95 EXIT 164 IN FLORENCE
www.efirdautogroup.com 843-669-1881

YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS BECOMING MORE 'HYP'

By Rebecca S. Heiss & Casey Hancock, Co-Chairs



The Hartsville Young Professionals (HYP) are causing a big stir in the small Pee Dee city of Hartsville, SC. After several months of planning to kick things off in a big way, HYP has burst onto the downtown scene with new energy and a new vision to help make Hartsville a great place for young professionals to live. So far, HYP is living up to its motto, "Let's do something together." Last fall they held a very successful, (and very fun!), cornhole tournament downtown and collected several hundred dollars worth of goods for the local food bank. At a kickoff event in January, they hosted close to fifty young professionals at a networking event featuring a speaker from the local Governor's School for Science and Mathematics.

HYP's goal is to connect members with one another, as well as with local businesses, educational institutions and non-profits. As a small but vibrant community, Hartsvillians should be active and aware of all of the opportunities for entertainment, service, and outdoor fun in the town they call home. The young professional's goal is to communicate all of these opportunities, bringing it's members updates and inside access to events and local happenings. Hartsville is a great place to live and work, and the HYPs are out to show it. HYP notes that they don't have criteria for "young" or "professional" and that anyone "young at heart" is welcomed to join. They recognize the value of having a diverse membership and pull members from across broad career backgrounds, with various political affiliations, and a wide range of perspectives.

Co-Chair Rebecca Heiss shared with us, "Inclusiveness was one of the core principles we used when laying out plans for the group. It's the amazing synergy of new and exciting ways to think and come together that makes this group so strong."

In speaking to the leaders of the organization, it's obvious that inclusiveness is a core value for HYP. It's apparent in everything they do, and they recognize that efforts to make all of their membership feel welcome are integral to their success. In 2014 HYP will be hosting quarterly networking events to highlight their city and its businesses. They are also partnering with Main Street Hartsville to have cornhole games at the Concerts on College this spring. HYP's leadership Council gets calls every week about partnering with local projects and events. Fearn Gupton, the Events & Special Projects Director said, "There will be plenty of other things going on throughout the year that haven't been announced yet. So, stay tuned."

If you're interested in being among the first to know about all the happenings for young professionals in Hartsville, you can find HYP at their new website, www.hartsvilleyp.org, and on Facebook, Twitter (@HartsvilleYP), and LinkedIn.



Terry L. James
Professional Photography
Member: PPA, PPSOC, PPSofNC
Cell: (843) 319-0660 • Office: (843) 661-5679
jamest955@att.net

Over 25 Years Experience
Associate Degree in Photographic Technology Portrait
Studio Management

*Weddings • Portraits • Corporate
Anniversaries • Special Events*



DUO MAKES MOTHER/DAUGHTER FASHIONABLE

By Les Echols



Sharonda Eagle & Barbara Sanders, Owners

A unique partnership led to the development of B&S Creations and Consignment, an upscale consignment boutique that not only sells new and excellent condition clothing and shoes for the entire family, but also specializes in custom gift baskets, floral arrangements, home décor and event planning. The mission of B&S Creations and Consignment is to provide exceptional value and customer service to consignors and customers by providing a convenient, safe, and effective venue for buying and selling quality items on consignment. The mother-daughter duo of Barbara Sanders and Sharonda Eagle started B&S in 2011 out of Sharonda's home. The team started the business making specialty gift baskets upon request for every holiday from Valentine's Day to Easter to Father's Day. As the business evolved, demand for their services continued to grow, and in November of 2012, the partners opened a store front location in the heart of downtown Florence at 134 South Irby Street. Barbara explains "my daughter and I decided that this was the building for us because we know that downtown Florence was being developed and we could surely capitalize on the growth. From time to time we get visitors that say they are staying at Hotel Florence and are looking for unique places to shop." B&S Creations and Consignment draws a diverse customer base by providing an upscale, but welcoming atmosphere, where their customers can find high quality and name brand merchandise at a fraction of the retail cost. "We carefully choose only the best pieces of quality clothing. Whether customers are looking for something unique, casual, or professional, they are sure to find plenty to choose from among our quickly revolving stock where their taste fits their budget", said Sharonda. Consignments are accepted daily and no appointment is necessary. The quality and appearance are important factors to B&S Creations and the buyer: current, fashionable, well presented clothes as they are marketable and they sell. All items must be cleaned according to the care tag before arrival and less than 3 years old. Because of the nature of their relationship, Sharonda and Barbara refer to the sturdy partnership of B&S Creations and Consignment as "unbreakable". Barbara concludes "my daughter and I are a perfect match in that we each bring different skills and ability to successfully make this business grow".



Our Business is Your Business!



Custom Gift Baskets • Floral Arrangements • Jewelry
• Handbags • Clothing & Shoes for the Entire Family
• Wedding Planning • Home Decor • Consignment

Shop B&S Creations and Consignment

Mon. - Fri. 10a - 5p • Sat 10:30a - 7p • Sunday By appointment
134 S. Irby St. • Florence, SC 29501

(843) 292-1333

ourcreations2012@gmail.com

Look for us on Facebook: B&S Creations and Consignment

843.662.5207
www.swprinting.com

SPECIAL
OFFER*
* MUST MENTION THIS AD.

SW
Printing
Company

COLOR
COPIES

35¢ EA.
ONE SIDE ON 20LB BOND

Offered Products

- ✓ Business Cards
- ✓ Letterheads
- ✓ Envelopes
- ✓ Newsletters
- ✓ Bulletins
- ✓ Raffle Tickets
- ✓ Posters
- ✓ Wedding Invitations
- ✓ Color Copies
- ✓ Wide Format Prints
- ✓ Full Color Brochures
- ✓ Multi-Part Forms
- ✓ Banners & Signs
- ✓ Stamps
- ✓ Graphic Services
- ✓ Logo Design
- ✓ Note Pads
- ✓ Promotional Items

128 South Irby Street • Florence, SC 29501
YOUR FULL SERVICE PRINTING COMPANY

Since
1932

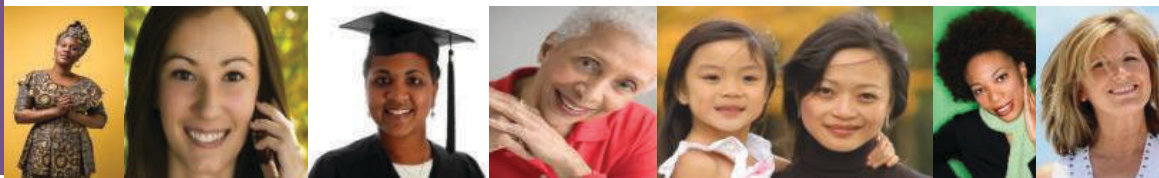
LEARN CAUSE & EFFECT, THEN SUPPORT

By Nicole Echols

Historically, philanthropy is defined simply as "love of humanity". Yet in our diverse global society, philanthropy is a multi-faceted aspect that enhances lives and changes opinions. The art of giving is more than signing a check or developing fundraisers for causes. Giving becomes a community endeavor that must be a well-oiled machine to produce results. The first step is finding a cause or multiple causes that you believe in and would give the benefit of time, energy and money. Keep in mind that one does not have to have lived through a particular situation to support a cause. An honest self-evaluation of your values and priorities becomes the foundation for a decision that can impact the lives of hundreds, maybe thousands of people from diverse backgrounds. Churches and civic organization are a good start. Nonprofit organizations and alumni associations are always seeking volunteers for events and for long-term assistance. Secondly, make a realistic self-evaluation of what you can give. Set aside time you can help at local organizations and the amount of money that you can budget for giving. Create a good balance that ensures you don't over-extend yourself physically, emotionally or financially. Once you know what you can contribute, the real work starts. Finally, get out there and do the work! Giving is often selfless, so it requires a special person or organization to put their own opinions and misconceptions aside for the greater good. There will always be givers and there will always be those in need. By finding a cause and dedicating time, we all have the opportunity to become visionaries in the diverse world of philanthropy. To learn more about philanthropy and giving, contact Nicole Echols at 843-260-4012.



Nicole Echols, Community
Development Coordinator, Harvest
Hope Food Bank



WOMEN OF WISDOM MINISTRY: HELPS WOMEN LEAP INTO THEIR UNIQUENESS AND LEARN TO FLY PART I

Most women seem to accept just being ordinary when God has called each to be extraordinary. We live our lives in a little corner of the world. We go to work and do a job. We spend time with families and enjoy limited achievements. We do pretty much the same thing day in and day out, with a few bursts of excitement and elation, here and there (which trigger the thoughts, that there must be more to life than this). However, within the “essence” of who women are, there is a call to be unique and achieve a “once in a life time” purpose. What holds women back from reaching the true spiritual potential that God has planned for us? What holds women back from achieving their diverse potential while helping the sisterhood become strengthened as one. Perhaps it is fear, a lack of vision, listening to other people in our lives, playing small and being modest? Marianne Williamson, author of *Return to Love*, says, “Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond

measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, ‘Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?’ Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world.

Yet, most women tend to play small as we see other women who tend to live bigger and bolder lives, become real stand-outs, the true and independent originals God has called them to be. We see women who live in the true sincerity of their life purpose and who put no limits on what they can achieve regardless of age, race or size. We look at these women and wonder how they do it. How did she come up with that great idea? How does she have so much style? How can she be so engaging? How does she accomplish so much at each season of life? Where did she get all that self confidence? What causes her to have such a sense of self and live fully? We all crave a glass of whatever these women are drinking, but we can’t seem to find the watering hole.

The watering hole is at the well of self confidence which comes from knowing who you are in Christ and living as Christ has called you to live. To lead women to the well and encourage women to drink was the catalyst for “Women of Wisdom” ministry, founded in 2009 by Reverend Cynthia Walters, Ed.D. The mission is to help women become their personal best and live each season of their life with originality, joy and compassion. To LEAP into one’s uniqueness means to • Live fully • Exude confidence • Accept truth • Practice love and forgiveness

For more information on Women of Wisdom Ministry conferences or to book speaking engagements, please contact Rev. Dr. Cynthia Walters at (803) 351-2053 or visit www.wowleap.com.

Contributed by Rev., Cynthia James Walters, Ed.D.-Founder



REVIVING THE FALLEN AND HERSELF

By Rennie Lunn-McAllister

What do the roles of pastor, mother, caregiver widow, author, counselor and Biggest Loser contestant have in common? Modestine Williams Brody, a wonder in and of herself and sometimes, to herself. After getting saved and married, the highlights of her life include co-founding with her husband/pastor (the late) Louis Brody their Resurrection Outreach Ministries and now continuing his work without him at the helm. “We started this worthy work and I realized that after he was gone, I could not quit on his efforts,” she said recently, explaining that the genesis of ministry sparked from his personal experience as a homeless, drug addicted Army veteran who regained his footing, path and vision in life and strived to show others in similar plights the way back. Their union led them to mentoring youth, a puppet ministry, a crisis shelter for clients of Pee Dee Mental Health and that kept them busy. “One aspect of our mentoring, done through the Solicitor’s Office,



Pastor Modestine Brody

reached as many as 50 youth offenders per week, giving and preparing for them a chance to earn pardons. Another area of service was to the mentally ill, whom we provided for at our (semi rural) Douglas Street campus and even when (then contractor) Pee Dee Mental Health moved their crisis shelter program closer to town, the homeless kept coming to us, no matter that the funding left with the program”.

A fixer with the heart and guts for service, Modestine Brody is in the business of transforming lives as, she says, “through the power of God’s love.” She should know as she and her spouse operated the shelter, caring for mentally ill, homeless, veterans, pregnant women and disabled, connecting them to other community services.

One of the couples’ vows to each other is to continue the mission, run the race and keep the faith and that is what the widow is doing. The plan is in motion to reopen the shelter for families because there is no other facility in this area that accepts male’s 10 and over or 21 and younger. “We feel that our center would be a great service to this community by filling this gap in services and we really want to keep families under one roof. We are not resting while the

shelter is closed (due to lack of funding) but we are gathering strength, supporters and partnerships. We still need volunteers, donations, financial contributions, furniture for bedrooms, linens, renovation materials and community resources,” she explained. While overseeing the Risen Soldier Thrift Store located 200 E. Darlington Street, parenting Desmonda, Joshua, Leah and newly adopted James, taking care of her mother Martha and grandson Demsond, Jr., and looking out for stray doggies, the certified counselor and mentor has much to do and is adding more to her plate. “At the store I plan the operations in honor of my late husband and other veterans. Every day they get a 20% discount on anything in the store and senior citizens get 10% discount. Even though the store is our main source of income now, we still manage to provide services to those in need by offering emergency transport and pickup to other shelters,” said the former Guardian Ad Litem and Hospice volunteer who now pastors under the CCFM umbrella. She likes to refer to her services this way: ‘If your clutter is out of control, call the Clutter Patrol for pickup and organizing. Read more about her journey in her books “When a Prophet Cries and “Bring Forth”.

COUNTY'S CHURCHES PLAY PIVOTAL TRANSFORMATION ROLE

By Dr. Reginald Wayne Miller

MARION--Cathedral Bible College has initiated a movement to bring radical change to Marion County. The



Dr. Reginald Wayne Miller,
President

Transformation of Marion began at a banquet at the college during February. The college continues to hold weekly lunches where pastors are invited to come and hear the vision of what God can do in a community that is transformed by the prayers and practices of the Christian community. The goal of the college is to enlist the cooperation of every church in the county to see Marion transformed spiritually, socially, and economically.

At the first meeting, white pastors were invited at the end of the banquet to wash the feet of black pastors as a testimony that all were committed to the defeat of all racism in the county and that repentance for the past was given and accepted. Most of those present began to weep when the foot washing began. The concept of Transformation came from a series of Christian videos that document the changes of several communities, cities, and even a

country where the people of God of all denominations and races saw that their community was in crises and were willing to put aside all differences in order to work together for the unity of the Body of Christ and for the Body to work to see major changes in the religious, social, and economic areas of the community. At each meeting a 17-minute video of a community in Guatemala is shown where more than 20 years of Transformation the community saw 80% of the inhabitants born again, the four jails were closed as almost all crime ceased, and an economy that saw 4 trucks a month leave with produce to sell was increased to 40 trucks a month.

Marion County is believing for the same miraculous Transformation for a county that is one of the poorest in South Carolina. As a first step the pastors for the first time in the history of Marion have changed their Annual Lenten program from the 3 downtown traditional white churches to now include the 3 predominately black churches with the clergy of those churches and 20 other churches all sharing together in the weekly Lenten services. This is the first step of getting the community to worship together and pray together and believe together. There is much more planned for the coming year and years as the group seeks to see this happen in every



community in the county, sharing pulpits, holding joint worship services and praying for revival. In addition, the churches are going to begin to work together to deal with problems of drugs, and alcoholism, gangs, and education.

Finally, the group is planning a county wide prayer meeting in front of the courthouse later this year praying for jobs and for businesses to locate in Marion County. The Transformation of Marion County will continue until the county is united, free from the social ills that beset it, and becomes one of the most prosperous counties in South Carolina.



Dr. Miller washes the feet of Rev. Simon Jenkins who is also a member of council, while others watch on.

FAITH COMMUNITIES CREATED ANSWER

By Cecilia L. Meggs

In the Early 1990's, Lighthouse Ministries was formed out of concern local pastors from Florence County churches had. There was overwhelming individual need in the community, but no "organized means" to ensure people had access to equitable assistance from the assorted local faith communities. These pastors pooled their resources to create Lighthouse Ministries. This group of pastors, from widely varied faith communities, became the original board members for Lighthouse Ministries. Their driving vision was that all people of faith, regardless of religious affiliation, can come together for the betterment of their community.

Today Lighthouse Ministries performs this service by providing an accessible central location where local residents in need can receive assistance. By organizing community resources, administering them, reaching out in mutual fellowship to faith groups and individuals, and by providing relief for emergency physical needs, Lighthouse Ministries continues to enact the mission of the original Florence area pastors. We minister to the spiritual and real world physical needs of God's children and continue to welcome and accept others as they are.

This builds by its very mission, diversity. A mix of people, differing perspectives, varied contexts, fresh ideas, and partnered sharing of these gifts allows for more diverse responses to individual needs. That inclusion gives this ministry crucial resilience. Resilience allows Lighthouse Ministries to creatively adapt to changing social systems and respond to human vulnerability. This collaborative approach enables a synergy to affect and enable more people. Our diversity builds loving resilience and therefore is our strength.

Lighthouse Ministries continues to transform to include more congregations, organizations, companies, agencies, and individuals as partners. This is always guided first by our mission and purpose. The ministries' financial and in-kind support and volunteers continue to grow in number and outreach. Lighthouse Ministry's increasing diversity now includes offering our facilities to other agencies within the community, who share our vision. We offer space for local legal services office and the Alston Wilkes Society so they may provide services to persons in need. The first Friday of every month, we host the "First Friday Homeless Connect" event. Lighthouse

Ministries provides the facilities for more than 25 local agencies to converge and offer services to any person who is struggling to meet their basic needs. This partnering allows us to expand services far beyond the scope of the original board's dream. Lighthouse Ministries is a "one stop" shop in the community for all peoples' needs.

Today Lighthouse Ministries has become quite diverse to include all religions on our board, staff and volunteer base. We also have an Advisory Committee whose members include participants who have received services. Lighthouse Ministries is comprised of women, men and children from Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, and other traditions coming together for one united cause; respectfully serving and enabling people in need. I believe the original board members would be so very pleased!



Cecilia L. Meggs, Executive Director Lighthouse Ministries

SUMMER CAMP: AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING BIG!

By Andreaka Johnson



When the last school bell sounds in June, do you know what your kids will be doing this summer? While visions of pool parties, video games, and junk food may dance in their heads, you most likely have other plans. Summer camps are often a go-to solution for parents, and with a little planning, you can also ensure they're kid approved too. Research has proven that learning loss occurs among children that remain unengaged in learning during the summer months. To combat this learning loss, parents must find summer camps that are both fun and educational. Not to worry, ScienceSouth has the solution to your summer conundrum. Starting in June, the educational organization will offer seven summer science camps ranging from forensic science and engineering to space and biology. These camps all manage to balance fun with the

engagement of kids in meaningful learning experiences.

Think you've narrowed down a camp that'll warrant a thumb's up from you and your child? Here are some tips that may help you seal the deal: **Are you serious?:** It should be a no brainer, but remember to ask your child what types of things he or she would like to do this summer. While you may think origami is cool, a week full of paper folding may be a little much for them. Asking their opinion beforehand ensures money well spent and most importantly a happily engaged camper. **Book early:** Camp providers often offer discounted camp rates to customers who register early. For example, ScienceSouth offers \$25 off per camp for those who register and pay before April 30. Early registration also offers a better chance of your child getting the camp(s) of his or her choice. **Ask questions:** Some may consider breakfast the most important meal of the day, but lunch to a hungry child is definitely a worthy contender. So make sure you know where the responsibility falls for providing meals. ScienceSouth offers a daily snack, yet all campers must bring their own lunch. In addition, remember to also ask about cancellation policies and the camper to counselor ratio. These details

may seem minor now, but they could potentially impact your child's camp experience.

Learning is fun with friends!: Check with the parents of some of your kid's friends to see what they have planned for the summer. As friends, it's likely the kids share similar interests. You may luck out and find that your kids will be going to the same camps or plan to now that they know what's on your schedule. **Timing is key:** Be sure to pay special attention to the run time of camps. Some camps run all-day or have after care options, while others are half-day. All of ScienceSouth's camps run from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm, with drop off beginning at 8:00 am and pick-up ending at 2:00 pm. Visit www.sciencesouth.org for a listing of camps and dates for this summer's science camp for kids.



JUNE-JULY
Mon-Fri

PAY ONLY
\$175
per camp before April 30

WOOHOO!

GET READY FOR SCIENCE MADE FUN!

- BUILD ROBOTS
- SOLVE MYSTERIES
- EXPLORE SPACE
- EXAMINE NATURE
- DESIGN RACECARS
- LAUNCH ROCKETS
- TAKE FINGERPRINTS
- LEARN CONSTELLATIONS
- MEET OUR ANIMALS AND MORE!

SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP for KIDS

ScienceSouth
www.sciencesouth.org

843.679.5353
1511 Freedom Blvd. Florence, SC

TEACH
encourage
instruct
MENTOR
PRAISE
influence
GUIDE
INSPIRE



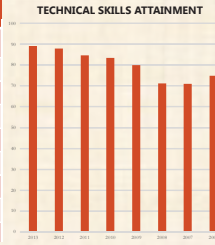
Florence Career Center

servicing students from

South Florence High School ~ West Florence High School ~ Wilson High School

Ratings for Career and Technology Centers

Technical Skills Attainment	
Year	Percentage
2013	89.1
2012	88
2011	84.7
2010	83.4
2009	80
2008	71.2
2007	71
2006	74.9



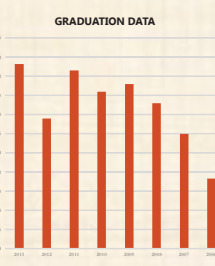
Initial state ratings criteria and definitions were developed through work with a group of career and technology center directors and advice from the School-to-Work Advisory Council. Beginning in 2005 the criteria were reviewed by the Career and Technology

Center Ratings Advisory Committee for their congruence with federal Perkins vocational education program and accountability requirements. Three criteria for use in the ratings have been adopted.

- Mastering core competencies or certification requirements
- Center 12th Grade Graduation rate
- Placement rate

Mastering core competencies or certification requirements

Graduation Data	
Year	Percentage
2013	93.3
2012	87.6
2011	92.6
2010	90.4
2009	91.2
2008	89.2
2007	86
2006	81.3



The percentage of students enrolled in career and technology courses at the center who pass the certification or licensure examinations taken.

For those students enrolled in curriculum areas in which certification or licensure examinations are not currently offered, the Mastery criterion

is the percentage who earn a 2.0 or above on the final course grade. Under this system each student will count one through his/her certification or licensure examination, or the GPA of 2.0 earned in the CATE courses. Students are to be assessed on the competencies identified in the adopted syllabi or specified for certification programs (e.g., FAMS). This factor applies to any career and technology course in the center. This criterion is weighted at twice the value of other criteria (50%).

Center 12th Grade Graduation rate

The number of twelfth-grade career technology education students who graduate in the spring is divided by the number of twelfth graders enrolled in the center and converted to a percentage. This criterion incorporates passage of the Exit Examination required for graduation.

Table 26
Career and Technology Center Absolute Ratings Criteria

Criterion	Points Assigned				
	5	4	3	2	1
Mastery (weighted x 5)	94% or more	89-93%	78-88%	72-77%	71% or below
Center 12 th Grade Graduation Rate (weighted x 2.5)	97% or more	92-96%	87-91%	82-86%	81% or below
Placement Rate (weighted x 2.5)	98% or more	95-97%	92-94%	89-91%	88% or below

The absolute index is calculated using the following formula:

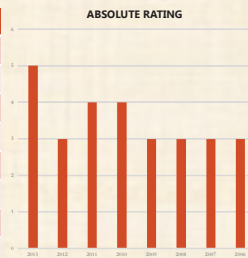
- (1) Match the center's data/performance to the points assigned to each rating criterion.
- (2) Add the weighted points for each criterion. Weighted points are calculated by multiplying the assigned points by the weighting factor assigned to each criterion. Weighting factors are:
Mastery = 5.0
Graduation = 2.5
Placement = 2.5
Total Weight = 10
- (3) Add the points and divide the total by ten (the total of criteria weighting factors). The resulting index determines the school's Absolute Rating as follows:

Table 27
Career and Technology Center Absolute Performance Rating

Year	Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	School at Risk
2010 and Beyond	3.9 and above	3.5 – 3.8	3.1 – 3.4	2.7 – 3.0	Below 2.7

8 yr. History of Absolute Ratings of FCC

Absolute Rating	
2013	5
2012	3
2011	4
2010	4
2009	3
2008	3
2007	3
2006	3



Director Bradley believes that as academics improves discipline decreases. Below is the 7 yr. history of administrative hearings for FCC

Florence Career Center May Hearing Report 2007 - 2013

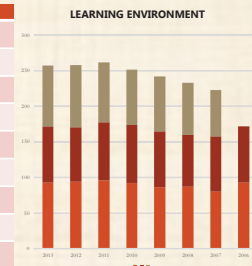
Year	# of Hearings
2013	8
2012	10
2011	13
2010	8
2009	17
2008	21
2007	35



Director Bradley also believes that as academics improves parent, teacher and student perceptions of the school improves. 8 yr history of school surveys.

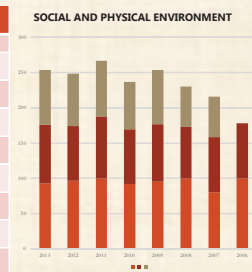
Percent Satisfied with Learning Environment

Year	Teacher	Student	Parent
2013	92.6	79.2	85.5
2012	93.8	76.6	87.1
2011	96	81.7	83.7
2010	92.3	81.5	77.5
2009	86.4	78.4	76.7
2008	87	72.5	73.1
2007	80	77.6	65.2
2006	93.8	79.1	65



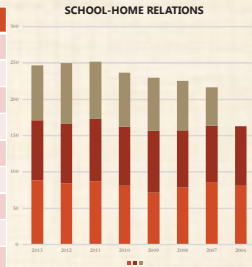
Percent Satisfied with Social and Physical Environment

Year	Teacher	Student	Parent
2013	92.6	83.6	77.8
2012	96.8	77.3	74.2
2011	100	87.7	79.1
2010	92.3	77.6	67.1
2009	95.5	81.4	76.7
2008	100	72.7	57.7
2007	80	78.3	57.8
2006	100	78	0

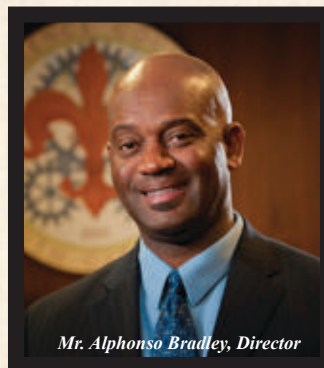


School-Home Relations

Year	Teacher	Student	Parent
2013	88.8	82.3	76
2012	84.4	81.8	83.9
2011	87	86.1	78.6
2010	80.8	81.4	74.6
2009	71.4	85.4	73.2
2008	78.3	78.8	68
2007	86	77.3	53.3
2006	81	82	0



“Showcasing the best in Career Education”



Mr. Alphonso Bradley, Director



126 E. Howe Springs Rd.
Florence, SC 29505
Phone: (843) 664-8465
Fax: (843) 413-4688
www.fsd1.net/schools/careercenter

Tiers Lisbon

Hartsville, Business Administration

“There’s help here at Coker. The professors, the library—everything is here to help you. They want to see you succeed.”



- MAJORS**
- BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
 - CRIMINOLOGY
 - EDUCATION
 - PSYCHOLOGY
 - SOCIOLOGY
 - SOCIAL WORK

- RESOURCES**
- CONVENIENT NIGHT CLASSES
 - ACADEMIC ADVISING
 - FINANCIAL AID
 - WRITER’S STUDIO
 - MATH TUTORS

**Quality education on your schedule
—now in Florence!**

With Coker’s Adult Learners Program for Higher Achievement (ALPHA), a world of opportunity is yours—and we’re here to help you every step of the way. Give us a call and find out how you can get started on your bachelor’s degree today.



COKER COLLEGE

ADULT LEARNERS PROGRAM FOR HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT

coker.edu/alpha | alpha@coker.edu | 843-857-4213



MANY TRAITS MAKE HIM A SURE FIT

By Laura Hoxworth, Content Manager & Writer

Talkative and gregarious with an infectious smile, Coker College senior Eren Moses holds a certain presence when he walks into a room. Some of that, of course, can be attributed to his 6’6” frame—but it’s more than just his stature. Eren Moses was born to be a leader. He just didn’t know it until he came to Coker. Growing up in New York and Massachusetts, Eren spent most of his childhood close to his two brothers—one four years older, the other four years younger. He describes himself first as family-oriented. “We looked out for each other,” he says with a matter-of-fact shrug. “That’s the way my mother raised us.”

The first sparks of Eren’s strong character began to show early on in the way he always strove to be a good influence for his siblings. And now, with another little brother who’s only 5 years old, Eren feels being a supportive and positive role model isn’t a choice so much as a responsibility. “If I can help it, then I feel like I need to be there to help them,” he says. “That’s what any older brother or older sister should be, and I don’t take that lightly at all.” That innate drive and sense of responsibility is exactly what Dan Schmotzer, head men’s basketball coach, saw in Eren when he recruited him to Coker four years ago. “He’s gotten all this success that he’s had—in academics, and in basketball—he’s done it all on his own, and I give him credit for that,” says Schmotzer. But aside from being driven to accomplish his own goals, Schmotzer says Eren has an ability to inspire others, naturally leading by example in all

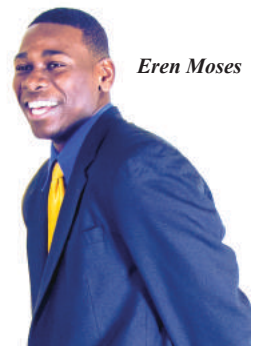
areas of his life. “Eren is a born leader,” he says simply. “It’s not optional for him.” With Schmotzer’s coaching, Eren says he’s learned how to develop his personal leadership style—not only in the way he motivates a team, but also in the way he adjusts his approach to bring out the best in individuals. It all comes down to communication.

“I feel like that’s my biggest asset, communicating on the court,” he says. “I’m definitely a vocal leader. I have to talk every possession now—it’s just a part of how I play basketball. My team thrives if I’m able to help them.” But what’s probably most telling about Eren is that his leadership doesn’t end when the clock stops running. “My teammates will come and talk to me about things,” he says, “and I take pride in that just like I take pride in being a role model for my little brothers.”

Off the court, Eren has transformed his natural leadership abilities into success in the classroom. A business administration major and communications minor, Eren thanks his professors and Coker’s participatory learning environment for helping him improve on his strengths. “Coker has definitely helped me with interpersonal skills,” he says. “I don’t think you get that in many colleges, on any level. Coker is probably one of the best at forming people who know how to speak well and carry on a conversation or presentation.” Outside of class, Eren honed his leadership abilities even more through his three years on the Coker Enactus team, a national

student organization that aims to inspire progress through entrepreneurial action. At times, Eren says he’s struggled to keep up with the many demands of school, basketball, Enactus and responsibility to his family. But he has a motivation inside of him that he just can’t keep quiet.

“I feel like if I’m not making sure that I have Option A, B, C and D, then I’m not doing something right,” he says. “If that fails, then what am I going to do? I’m always thinking about the future.” For Eren, the future can’t come fast enough. Eren is restless—driven by a natural motivation to succeed and ready to take the next step on his road to success. “It won’t do me any good to stay in the same place,” he says. “I have to make sure that I’m doing something that’s going to keep me on my toes.” As for what that next move is, he’s keeping an open mind. “I’m ready to embrace any challenge,” he says. Because in the end, Eren has confidence that his hard work, strong motivation and leadership skills will allow him to accomplish whatever he puts his mind to. “I’ve been a talkative person my whole life,” he says. “I’ve always been outspoken. I just didn’t realize that I was trying to be a leader.”



Eren Moses

NEW CCU PROGRAM HELPS INCOMING STUDENTS SUCCEED

By Brandi A. Neal, Ph.D.

This summer, the University College at Coastal Carolina University will premiere a summer transitional program for freshman students. The Coastal Excellence and Leadership Program (CEaL) will introduce young scholars to university life and enhance their academic and leadership skills. CEaL's mission is to provide a framework for the continued success of high-performing students and to build a foundation for success at the outset of students' undergraduate studies.

CEaL takes a three-part approach to student success. In addition to academic coursework, students will participate in leadership and social activities. Enrollment in two academic courses during the Summer II academic term, which runs from July 14 to Aug. 9, is required. Coursework will be supplemented by designated study hours to provide additional academic support, as well as academic programming to reinforce beneficial study habits. Students will be enrolled in English 101 (ENGL 101), an introductory college-level English composition course, which instructs students in various writing styles, and in University 110 (UNIV 110), The First Year Experience. Both are

three-credit-hour courses. UNIV 110 is designed to assist first-year students in developing creative and critical thinking skills, information literacy, and the personal and social skills needed for a successful transition from high school to the University.

While the CEaL Program partners with many University groups, collaboration with the Office of Student Activities and Leadership (OSAL) is especially important because it offers diverse opportunities for social growth and leadership development. CEaL participants will engage in activities that mirror existing University programs offered by OSAL. By the end of the summer, CEaL students will be prepared to become active members of the Coastal Carolina University Community.

CEaL is a residential program, and participants must reside in campus housing. Ronald R. Ingle Hall will serve as the residence hall for CEaL students. Two Resident Assistants (RAs) will be assigned to Ingle Hall to assist participants with their transition to on-campus and on-their-own living. CEaL students will remain in their Ingle room assignments through their first full academic year and will therefore

be able to take advantage of the break between the summer and fall academic terms. Participants will also be encouraged to further develop their leadership skills by working with the volunteer crews who help out during Welcome Week at the beginning of the fall semester.

The CEaL program offers many benefits. CEaL students are able to acclimate to campus life and its expectations prior to the beginning of the fall semester when campus will be much busier and more crowded. In addition, CEaL students benefit from early access to CCU faculty and staff as program participants will have extended interaction with their academic advisers throughout the program.

As a native South Carolinian, I am excited to have returned for the opportunity to work with outstanding students. In my role as program director, I look forward to assisting CEaL participants in their evolution from high school students to undergraduate scholars, and I would be happy to talk with you if you have any questions or comments about the CEaL Program.

Brandi A. Neal, Ph.D., Program Director
bneal1@coastal.edu • 843-349-2196



CAMPUS TOURS

VISIT COASTAL.EDU



Scan the code to book your visit



FIND US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/CoastalAdmissions



@CCU_Admissions



Teacher Appreciation

We strongly believe that teachers play a key role in every individual's development and evolution. Showing appreciation to them is therefore a fair reward and an act of gratitude that will also make you feel better. Teaching is a profession like no other. Many careers require dedication, hard work, a skills set, charisma and intelligence. However teaching also requires more unique qualities; the ability to strike the delicate balance between discipline and freedom; to encourage individuals while considering what is best for the group but most of all it requires a genuine desire and willingness to care for others. It goes without saying that knowledge and learning is vital to enable us to live our lives. While most of us appreciate the fact, many of us don't appreciate those who dedicate their lives to the cause: the teachers! Teaching has been described in many ways: growing humans, the art of patience, shaping minds... But it has never been categorized as a an ordinary job, or as a profession that can make you rich. Most teachers live on moderate salaries and then proceed to an unfairly low retirement wage. That's international, and it's always been like that. And their low wages are just a part of the problem. Public expressions of teacher appreciation are infrequent. With few exceptions, human societies and civilizations have never been too appreciative or grateful towards teachers, no matter how much they have contributed to expanding that which makes us different from any other species: knowledge. If you feel that a particular teacher is or has been crucial in your personal growth, or if you are simply fond of him or her and the way they teach, don't be shy to let them know. You'll feel well and you'll make that person the best possible gift, because teaching is their life.

MARION COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Elaine Smith teaches Physical Science and Chemistry at Marion High School. Although she has been teaching for about 20 years, this is her seventh year at the high school. This native of Hartsville, SC obtained her B.S. in Economics from USC, and her Masters in Secondary Science Education from FMU. While at FMU, she did her student teaching at Marion High School. rs. Smith's husband is from Mullins, which helped keep her in the area. She actually entered college as a music education major, "drifted through philosophy and history, and then went into economics. They had graphs!" She smiles when she thinks about being a Chemistry teacher, though, and her classroom reflects her bright personality. She feels really honored to be chosen by her peers as the Marion County School District Teacher of the Year. Her stated goal as the District TOY? "I'd like to have an active Teachers Forum that will be an agent of positive change." Another of her goals is to create an achievement-oriented school culture. She is off to a good start! This year Mrs. Smith's classes used Skype to communicate with professors at Furman University about gene mapping projects using polymers, and she spent time last summer working on creating science standards and lessons for the proposed new Science Standards.



\$3 Billion

South Carolina's colleges prepare our state's citizens for the jobs of today and tomorrow. Since the South Carolina Education Lottery began eleven years ago, the state legislature has allocated more than \$3 billion for the benefit of students and programs at colleges across our state. Much of the investment has made college more affordable for students seeking an education. And an educated workforce signals prosperity for all South Carolinians. Our business is selling tickets. Our passion is education.

SCEDUCATIONLOTTERY.COM



KNIGHT NAMED DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Jill Knight, a National Board Certified social studies teacher at Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology, was named the Darlington County School District's 2013-14 District Teacher of the Year at the district's annual Teacher of the Year banquet. Knight, who has been teaching for more than thirteen years, beat out four other finalists for the top honor. Drew Snyder,



Jill Knight

an English teacher from Darlington High School, was honored as the Darlington County School District Outstanding First Year Teacher. The Darlington County School District Teacher of the Year program is designed to honor and award those teachers who exceed

expectations to provide meaningful and rewarding learning experiences. It is dedicated to all teachers who work diligently every day for their students.

Knight is the Social Studies Department Chair at Mayo High School for Math, Science and Technology, where she also teaches American Government, US History and Economics. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science Secondary Education from Georgia Southern University and her Master of Education in Language and Literacy from the University of South Carolina. In addition to her National Board Certification, she has earned her Gifted & Talented Endorsement (Converse College) and her AP US History Endorsement (Clemson University). Outside of the classroom, Knight serves as the school's sponsor for the student council, the Europe Group Leader, and Faculty Advisor for the SPC Credit Union's Youth Advisory

Council. As the District Teacher of the Year, Knight will serve as the District's Teacher Forum chair-elect, work closely with the Superintendent and administrative staff on teacher-related issues, represent Darlington County teachers on local and state committees, and represent the district at State Teacher Forum functions throughout the year. Knight will also go on to compete for the South Carolina Teacher of the Year title. To become the district's Teacher of the Year, Knight had to participate in a rigorous selection process. Each of the district's 23 schools selected a Teacher of the Year. A team of judges narrowed the candidates down to five finalists. The finalists then participated in an intensive interview session that included a videotape review of their classroom skills. Based on the interviews, the judges selected the district Teacher of the Year. The four remaining finalists become "Honor Roll Teachers."

OLANTA ELEMENTARY'S DIANE CARTER NAMED FCSD3 TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Diane Carter

at the standards set by the state, but I look at my students as individuals. I try to find ways to make the lessons and concepts connect to them on a personal level."

"When that student that has been struggling with a concept finally looks up and says, 'I've got it!' that's the best reward ever," Carter said. "I hope that one day I will receive the ultimate reward by running into a former student and them telling me that they are successful and independent because of what I instilled in them so many years ago."

A 17-year veteran teacher, Carter said she knew as a high school senior that she wanted to be an educator. "I was getting ready to

Diane Carter, a teacher at Olanta Elementary School, integrates her students' interests into her lessons to make the concepts she is teaching easier for them to understand. "When I stand up to teach my students I not only look

graduate and was thinking about all the teachers that helped me get to that point in my education," she recalled. Over the years I had teachers who gave it their all and pushed each student to reach his or her potential, but there were others who seemed more preoccupied with counting down to summer vacation and what they could do on their break. It was then I realized that I wanted to be a teacher who gave it her all and pushed each student to reach their potential."

Carter said there are many accomplishments that she is proud of in her 17 years at Olanta Elementary, but one last year in particular stands out. "I was worried about the upcoming PASS test," she said. "When we finally received the scores, I was amazed that I had over 90 percent of my students to score "Met" or "Exemplary" in reading and social studies."

Carter earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education from Morris College. She earned a Master's degree in instructional accommodations from Francis Marion University last May. She has served as a Sunday school teacher at her church and currently serves on the pastor aide committee and assists

with the young adults. Carter also volunteer for many activities at Olanta Elementary, including the Sunshine Committee, Pastries for Pops, Mind Your Manners Luncheon, Muffins for Moms and Polar Express Day.

"I am so proud of Ms. Carter and her accomplishments," commented Mary Howard, Olanta Elementary principal. "She believes that her most important job in teaching is to educate the whole child. Her students describe her as consistent, inspirational, and heartfelt."

Carter was chosen from among nine school-level teachers of the year that were selected by each school last year. A panel of three judges – a retired educator, a current superintendent in another district and last year's district Teacher of the Year – selected the finalists based on written responses to questions that focus on teaching philosophy, influences that led to a teaching career and the importance of education on society. The judges then selected the District Teacher of the Year based on those scores plus the teachers' observation scores.



Vickie Squires

FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT FIVE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Vickie Squires has been selected as Florence School District Five's District Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Squires has been employed by the district for seventeen years. During those years she has worked with special services and is currently a first grade teacher. Following graduation from Johnsonville High School in 1992, Mrs. Squires earned her Bachelor's Degree in Special Education

in 1996 from Columbia College. Mrs. Squires received a Master's of Education Degree in Early Childhood Elementary from Coastal Carolina University in 1999. She is also National Board Certified as an Exceptional Needs Specialist. Mrs. Squires is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Coastal Carolina University.

MEET DR. LUCIA HUANG – FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE’S TEACHER OF THE YEAR

BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

Lucia Huang, Florence School District One’s 2013-14 Teacher of the Year said her biggest accomplishment has been rooted in her students’ successes. For the past few years Huang’s students have excelled on the National German Examination, many with top ranking scores. This past year, two of her students ranked number one in South Carolina on the exam. Also, of the top ten scorers on the National German exam in South Carolina, eight were Huang’s students from Wilson High School. Moreover, for the past three years, her students have represented South Carolina winning the all-expenses paid summer trip to Germany through the German Pedagogical Exchange Service’s national program.

TEACHING PROFESSION

Huang also believes that being a published author helps her as a teacher. “I constantly talk to my students about the research process, the writing process, and the publishing world. Being a published author helps me to be a knowledgeable teacher,” she said. Huang said the two books that she published, one in English and another in Chinese, focus on topics that she uses every day in her teaching: pedagogy and German literature.

Presently, she serves as the head of the World Languages Department at Wilson High School where she has taught for the past 15 years. She has also served as a member of the South Carolina Department of Education’s Instructional Materials Review Panel for Chinese. In addition, she has worked as an adjunct professor at Coastal Carolina University, Francis Marion University and the University of Phoenix (online). From the National Foreign Language Center, Huang received a \$25,370 grant to conduct a three-week language summer camp at Wilson and to provide materials about Chinese culture for the school media center.

CHALLENGES

Huang said the biggest challenge for her as a world language teacher is the lack of multiculturalism in the area, and she credits technology for helping to bring German culture in the classroom. “During our classroom discussion, students are often amazed when they discover that in spite of the language and culture differences, American and German teens face similar problems,” she remarked.

BACKGROUND

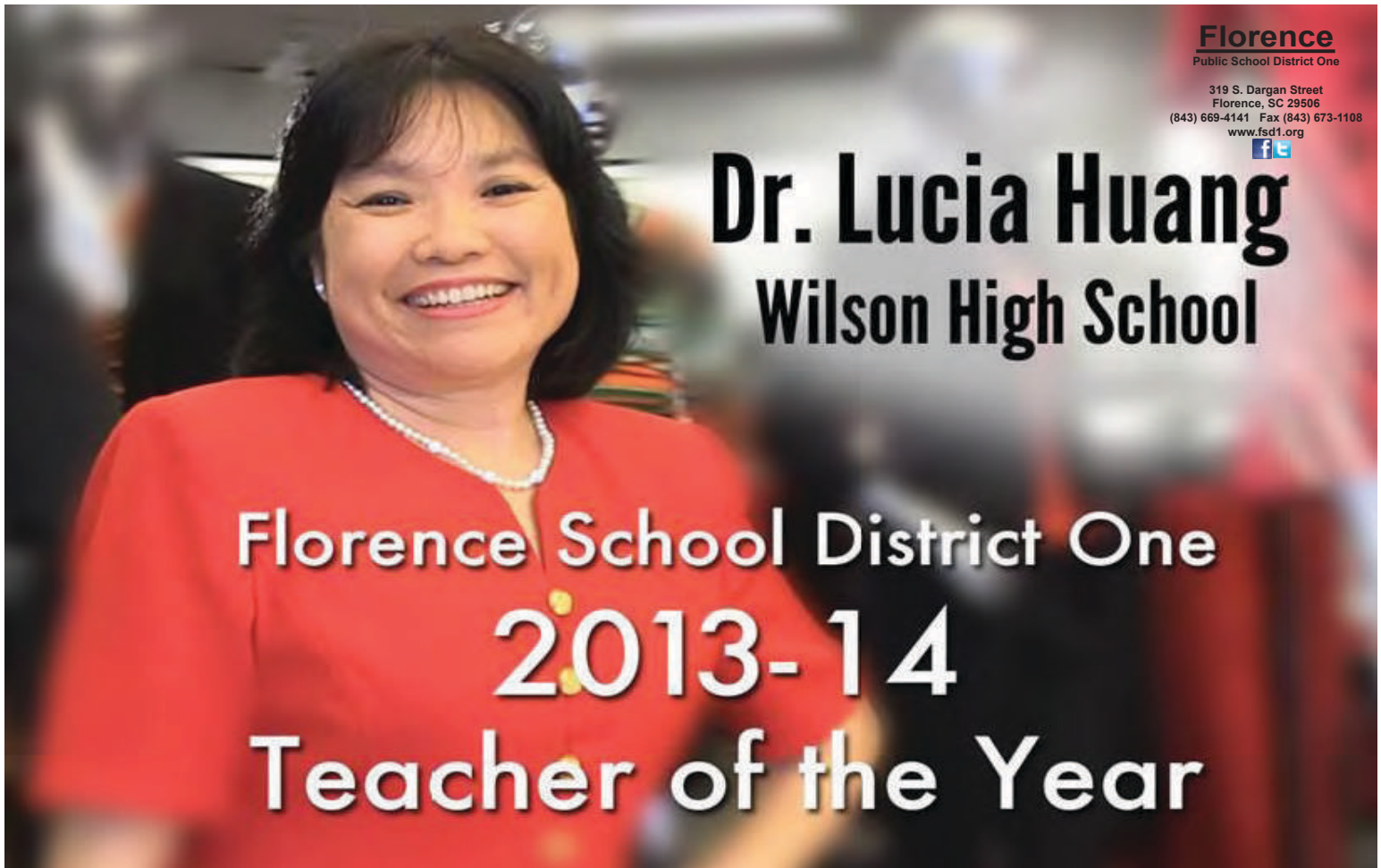
A native of Taiwan, Huang received a Bachelor of Arts in German from the Catholic University in Taipei and both the Master of Arts in German and the Doctor of Philosophy in Education with a concentration on Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Tennessee.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

This past school year, she was invited by Atlantik-Brücke to share her teaching experiences with other educators in California and the Southwestern states. As a participant, Dr. Huang visited several major German cities and important memorials. She said meeting with German politicians, religious leaders, business representative, educators, and students allowed her to gain first-hand experience of modern Germany.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Huang said her classroom is well managed, yet loud. “Yes, with twenty plus teenagers conversing in German at the same time my classroom becomes student-centered and not quiet. Learning a new language is not a passive activity.” Huang added that she encourages students to work collaboratively in a classroom of open communication.



LITTLE BECOMES MUCH

By Dan Strickland, Superintendent

A snowflake is one of God's most fragile creations, but look what they can do when they stick together! ~Author Unknown

This winter, we have seen the incredible power that comes from snow falling in the South. Although we received relatively little snow, it was enough to have a profound impact on our community. We had to close schools and government offices and open warming shelters. Federal, state and local government entities worked together to manage the situation and worked with our schools to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information possible. Experiencing all this gave me pause to think. Snowflakes are indeed very fragile, and yet every single one of them is unique. And when you combine these unique, delicate creations, you get a tremendously powerful result. A few snowflakes drifting to the ground would have had little impact, but even two inches worth of snow made a difference. Here in Marion County, we are fortunate to have a unique blend of teachers, students, staff and community members. Although singly we may not be able to accomplish as much as we'd like, together we can impact our community in a powerful way. I know that by working together, we can accomplish more than we can by working separately. Ever since I came into this position, I have been stating to community members that our schools need us all. While we are working on increasing our students' test scores and graduation rates, we are also working on teaching job skills and social interaction.



Dan Strickland, Superintendent

By providing good schools with students that graduate college and career ready with good citizenship skills, we hope to make Marion County a better place for us all. So let me encourage you to partner with us. We are looking for innovative ways to improve our schools. We are looking for partners to help us support our students, and for ideas and most especially feedback from our community. Your participation is always encouraged. Over the next year, I hope to see more county-wide partnerships that promote the growth of Marion County. Know that we here in the Marion County School District are here to support you.



Palmetto Gold and Silver Schools

Competitive sports teams

Artistic Gifted and Talented programs

Marching, jazz and concert bands

Caring and supportive teachers and staff

Dr. Dan Strickland, Superintendent

Dr. Kandace Bethea, Deputy Superintendent

www.marion.k12.sc.us

Do Your Dreams And Goals Have You On The Move?

**FDTC's
Transfer Courses
Can Go With You!**



- Transferable Credit ○ Low Tuition
- LIFE Credit

High School Juniors and Seniors

Take classes that will give you a headstart on a degree at FDTC or that can be transferred to four-year colleges and universities.

Lottery tuition assistance may be available to high school dual-enrolled students taking a minimum of two classes (6 hours).

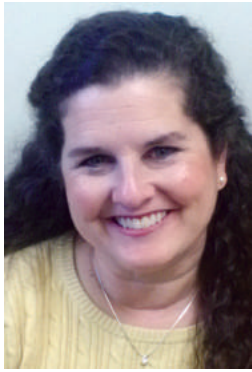
College Students

Ask your advisor at your home college about taking courses at FDTC that will transfer back to your home college.

**For more information,
contact the Admissions Office
at 843-661-8289 or go online at
www.fdtc.edu**

TEACHERS GIVE THEIR ALL AND THEN SOME

By Tari Dean, LS Principal at The King's Academy



Tari Dean

An American patriot once noted, "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do." History is replete with instances of individuals who turned the tide of human events because they did what they could do. For how long would the children of Israel have languished in slavery if Moses had refused to lead them to the Promised Land? What would have been the outcome of the American Revolution without George Washington's selfless leadership? How would three hundred plus slaves have discovered their way to freedom if Harriet Tubman had not bravely risked everything to do what she could? All of these individuals set aside their pursuit of personal goals and dreams in exchange for privation, danger, and mental stress, all because they embraced the opportunity to do what they could do to serve their fellow man.

Strong communities are built brick by brick, one life at a time, by individuals who do what they can to positively impact the lives of those around them. Nowhere is this concept more clearly seen than in classrooms across our city. A teacher is in a unique position to bring hidden talents to life, to spark an interest in some previously unknown area of study, and to inspire students to dream bigger and do more than they would have imagined. I find in II Thessalonians 5:14 an apt description of the work teachers do; it implores us "to warn those who are lazy; encourage those who are timid; take tender care of those who are weak; be patient with

all" (New Living Translation). It would be interesting to know how many readers can recall a teacher who significantly influenced their life's work, who encouraged them in a moment of despair, or who helped them learn a hard life lesson. Truth be known, many of our homes and businesses have been indirectly influenced by the work of some teacher, somewhere, because that teacher changed someone in our home or business for the better.

Why do they do it? What draws teachers to this field and keeps them coming back for more? Most of the great teachers I have known are intoxicated by the thrill of opening someone's mind to new insights and ideas. Recently after helping young children with some math problems, one of my own children (maybe a future teacher???) shared, "Mom, I love the feeling I get when I know I have explained something so that someone else understands it for the first time." Frequently called "the a-ha moment," this is the drug of teaching, so addicting that it causes the best teachers to continually tweak their lessons in the hopes that they will reach more students more effectively. All great teachers love their students. The love chapter, I Corinthians 13, tells us that love "is ever ready to believe the best of every person" (Amplified Bible). This kind of love enables teachers to see beyond what a student is to what he or she can become. Love enables a teacher to exhibit patience while waiting for that student's full potential to come to fruition, and love extends forgiveness and the chance to start over when that student messes up!

Finally, I believe great teachers teach because that is what God has gifted them to do. I

often describe teaching as part art and part science. The science of teaching includes the skills that can be learned: how to organize a lesson, how to create a fair test, techniques of discipline, and so on. The art of teaching, however, like so many of the arts, cannot be taught; it is a gift. It is the pregnant pause before the last line of the story that keeps those first graders hanging on every word; it is "the look" that quiets a roomful of middle school students one minute and has them in stitches five minutes later; it is explaining the chemistry concept to high school students four different ways without losing patience until everyone "gets it."

I am blessed because I sat in classes with teachers who were all these things and more to me. My life was changed by teachers who did what they could do to change the world one student at a time. Maybe yours was too. As we focus on teachers this month, hug a teacher; tell a teacher how much s/he means to you. At the very least, in honor of great teachers everywhere, let's imitate them and resolve to do something to make a difference in the lives of those around us.



TKA MISSIONS WEEK 2014

1 Week + 7 Countries + 20 Teams + 208 Students =
Countless Men, Women and Children Reached

Belize • Bahamas • India • Ireland • Israel • Switzerland • United States

THE KING'S ACADEMY

Minds and Hearts Coming Fully Alive in Christ!

TKA is now accredited through SACS and CASI, an accreditation division of AdvancED, in addition to SCISA. TKA is also a member of ACSI.



4k - 12th Grade
DSS License #23512

1015 South Ebenezer Road • Florence SC
www.tkaflorence.com • (843) 661-7464

TKA accepts students of all races, nationalities and economic backgrounds and does not discriminate in admission, education or any other school-administered programs.

Honda of South Carolina Mfg., Inc.



HSC PRESIDENT VALUES EVERY ASSOCIATES CONTRIBUTIONS

By Rennie Lunn-McAllister

Honda of South Carolina’s (HSC) current and first US President, Brian Newman, can often be seen out on the manufacturing floor where he loves interacting with HSC’s diverse and vast workforce. “I manage like my parents taught me,” he says, “when I am among our team here at Honda, I don’t see color, I see Honda associates as one team producing high quality products at a reasonable price for worldwide customer satisfaction. Every associate is important, should be respected, and be given the opportunity to develop his or her full potential.”

Honda is a leader in the fields of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and side-by-sides (SxS), with the fundamental belief of respect for the individual in regard to initiative, equality and trust. Employing a local workforce of more than 900 associates, HSC is 49 percent Caucasian, 43 percent African American, 6 percent Asian and 2 percent Hispanic.

“The uniqueness of the human being is born with the capacity to think, reason and create, and we strive to nurture and promote these characteristics in our company,” said Newman. Citing the Honda Philosophy, he added, “Honda is comprised of individuals working together for a common purpose. It is the contributions of each associate in our company that attributes directly to our success.”

The Honda North America Diversity Committee keeps these fundamentals in mind, whether they are focusing on advertising/marketing, communications, dealerships, financial services, philanthropy, procurement or employment. Its mission statement reads: To appropriately elevate consciousness, awareness and commitment (knowing, understanding, and doing) regarding diversity in the areas of employment, dealer representation, suppliers, asset management and philanthropic endeavor across all Honda entities in the US, in the pursuit of becoming a company that of society wants to exist. Its initiative viewpoint speaks to the fact that Honda associates should not be bound by preconceived ideas or notions. They are

encouraged to think creatively and act on their own initiative and judgment, while understanding that they must take responsibility for the results of those actions. The company aims for its associates to recognize and respect individual differences, while treating each other fairly. Relationships between associates are based on mutual trust created by recognizing each other as individuals, helping out where



Brian Newman, HSC President

others are deficient, accepting help where there are deficiencies, sharing knowledge and making a sincere effort to fulfill responsibilities.

It’s a philosophy that aligns neatly with Newman’s own principles, personally and professionally. An Ohio native, he is a family man, happily married to wife Tangie, father to four and grandfather to five. He is an active leader in the Florence community, which makes him privy to the needs and bountiful blessings of this area. Newman has served on the boards of the American Heart Association, Florence-Darlington Technical College’s Foundation and Commission, Florence Regional Arts Alliance, Florence March for Babies, Florence District Four Strategic Planning committee and both Florence and State Chamber of Commerces.

These opportunities to serve have

given the the 34-year veteran Honda associate a keen eye for monitoring how industry impacts not only community and education, but the ecology, as well.

“Honda has an ongoing commitment to minimize its environmental footprint as much as possible in regard to wildlife,” said Newman. “It does not matter whether they belong to deer or owl or fish or fowl, we make provisions to preserve them and their habitats. We are landfill free and even though it costs us three times more than traditional waste procedures, Honda recycles its waste to energy. We want to make sure we are good stewards for the future and remain one with nature.”

Newman also sees the importance of incorporating a degree of fun and levity into the HSC way of life. Through programs and events, such as the annual Honda Battle of the Bands (HBOB), he ensures that the company is giving back and spreading a little joy while also celebrating diversity. HBOB is an event, which features a rousing competition in Atlanta between the marching bands of several historically black colleges and universities. HSC purchases tickets to give associates the opportunity to attend, as well as supporting local high school bands who are interested in attending. Other endeavors include the Honda Campus All Star Challenge (academic bowl) in Los Angeles, the Collegiate Women Sports Awards program and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund. Philanthropically HSC strives to balance its giving among diverse organizations. Looking to the future, Newman says he will continue to focus on achieving workforce goals toward equality, noting that HSC has a “good lineup in front of us. Every new model or product brings an opportunity to include more MBEs (minority business enterprises) and WBEs (women business enterprises).”

Because Brian Newman grew up understanding that diversity, equality and fairness were important values, Honda associates and those they touch through the company’s community presence, will be more likely to embrace the same values for generations to come.

MUTUAL THANKS FROM EVERYWHERE

By Rennie Lunn-McAllister

It is probable that every civilian knows how grateful they are to the arm forces who protect them but for sure there is thankfulness for the opportunity to serve according to some local veterans.



Randy W. Godbold

Florence County Veteran Affairs Officer Randy W. Godbold is one who left youthful days of tobacco fields, go-cart racing, raising chickens for 4H and not wanting to listen to his parents and turned to the service as it was his only way out of Florence. "Two weeks after joining I was getting off a plane in Great Lakes, IL to a snow covered landscape. I was wearing a short sleeved shirt and they gave us all Navy peacoats," he recalled.

Stationed in Charleston aboard a guided missile cruiser – the USS Wainwright CG-28 – he spent 10 months a year for the next five years at sea. "I got to see the world and after two years' service got married and started a family," he said. Now after 22 years of service he looks proudly on his military career and is "grateful to God for leading me to where I am today. I did not realize all the people and places I encountered would mold me into who I am now," he said. Like everyone else, he counted down the days until he could get out, but now he, in retrospect, is grateful for the lasting friendships and security gained

while in service.

His predecessor Rick Walden is another thankful soldier. His journey began as a Private E1 from Cairo, GA who followed an older brother and an uncle into the Army. "I liked the way they looked in uniform and when they came home on leave they had the car, the money and the girls.

Now, after 28 years with tours in several states and countries, he believes his military experience was exceptional, except for humid and rainy Viet Nam. Later interacting with British and Dutch soldiers and their families, he learned new customs and his knowledge base grew even more in Germany. Back home in Georgia and Texas, Sgt. Major Walden was responsible for training Reserve and National Guard legal specialists and court reporters.



Rick Walden

Although he entered retirement, Walden realized upon retirement that he was compelled to give back. And he says it is still a good investment of time and talent for young people to spend some time in service. "The military will teach and instill in young people discipline, responsibility and accountability... core values that many of today's youth are devoid of.

Sharonda Eagle knew her parents could not

afford to send her to college so she left Marion and joined the Navy which opened new worlds. "After Fort Jackson, I went to North Chicago, IL to become an aviation maintenance administrationman. "I enlisted to gain stability, have a challenge and adventure but most of all to obtain a sense of foundation, love and support, community and family as I came from a fragmented background."

It worked. Nine years in, she and her husband had twins and her life took a different turn. "Being a female veteran, it feels good to be recognized as a hero. It makes my active duty years more enjoyable and I recommend that every young person spend three years in the branch of their choice The Navy got me ready for the next level; I learned to be an adult, a team player and manager of diverse peoples," said the recent college graduate with a 3.67 GPA. She is now pursuing her MBA and the Navy is paying for that, too. She is not just a veteran; she is a disabled one who fought in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and who was on active duty on 9/11. "As the oldest and only person of my immediate family to have joined the military, my family is very impressed with my accomplishments," she said, adding that she is pleased with herself also.



Sharonda Eagle

~~~~ FROM A MOTHER'S VIEW ~~~~

A PLACE TO START OVER... HOME WILL ALWAYS BE HOME!

By Rose Rock



Chris Rock and his mother Rose

Rose Rock is author and motivational speaker and the mother of famed comedian Chris Rock and actor/comedian Tony Rock. She has raised ten children and seventeen foster children and she did it by never shying away from hard conversations and by not being afraid to present strong ideas

about boundaries, discipline, choices, and consequences. In short, Rose Rock tells it like it is.

In her book, "Mama Rock's Rules," Rock shares the funny and highly practical lessons she learned both as a parent and an educator, while offering strategies for teaching children to be self-reliant. But as Mother's Day approaches, she wants to share her thoughts about how parents can continue to provide love and support to their children after they leave home as young adults in this special exclusive article for Diversity Works Magazine©:

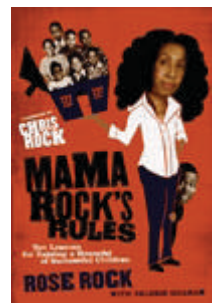
"Free at last! That's exactly what many parents feel when their children are all grown up and leave the nest. I have to admit that I always had mixed feelings about that. You see, my children weren't 'Soap Opera' children that only popped up in certain scenes on certain days. My children and I were in constant interaction with each other".

I shed many tears in private and a few openly when each of them got their own homes or went off to college. But one thing I always made sure that they knew is that "Your home will always BE your home – and no matter how old you get there will ALWAYS be a bed waiting for you at home. I could get away with saying those words because I always raised my children to be self-sufficient and independent. They were so eager to get out there and show the world what they were made of – so I never had the fear that they would fail to launch. I really do believe that a big reason why they didn't have a great deal of anxiety about leaving home is because they knew that wherever they went in the world – that wouldn't stop me from being their mother or prevent me from being accessible to them.

Allowed to fail but not to quit - this may come as a surprise to some but "life gets rough!" No matter how well you prepare a child there

will be times when they will feel lost, confused and overwhelmed. Maybe the job isn't working out or those college courses were a lot tougher than they anticipated or they have fallen hopelessly into debt. Whatever the reason, they begin to feel the sting of defeat and then the shame that often follows. How many of our children are out there in the world suffering in silence? Telling you that everything is fine when they haven't eaten a hot meal in days or an eviction notice is posted on their door. How many of our children are afraid to say "I made a mistake" or "I need help?" how many of our children are afraid of being seen as a failure in the eyes of their parents. Our children should never be afraid to make mistakes – they are allowed to fail but not to quit!

Rose Rock, is the author of, "Mama Rock's Rules," available at Barnes & Nobles and online at Amazon.com. Ms. Rock is having a book signing on Saturday, May 10th, 2014 at Barnes and Noble, Magnolia Mall, Florence from 1-3 pm.



MENTAL HEALTH EMPHASIZED

By Anna Bowman

The Pee Dee Mental Health Center has served individuals and families in Florence for more than forty years and is one of 17 Community Mental Health Centers in the state of South Carolina that operates under the umbrella of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health (SCDMH). The mission of the PDMHC is to provide effective mental health services to the people in Darlington, Florence, and Marion counties who are experiencing emotional or psychiatric distress. However, there are individuals who are reluctant to seek services because of the stigma.

Rosemary A. Barile, Client Advocate and Community Liaison with the Pee Dee Mental Health Center, understands the stigma(s) relating to seeking services. "Admitting that mental health issues are affecting you or a loved one still has a stigma in our society," she said. "Our center serves as the administrative office for mental health services provided by SCDMH in Florence, Darlington, and Marion counties, and we make our services available to walk-ins and scheduled appointments for an assessment with a trained clinician," she added.

In her role as Client Advocate, Barile listens to the concerns of clients and ensure that they are engaged in their treatment and can express their full wishes in their recovery. Keeping pace with

the growing Latino population in the Pee Dee area, Barile is also trained to assist Spanish speaking clients in their native language.

A native of Rhode Island, Barile has been employed with the PDMHC for nearly 14 years, and understands the importance of having local services readily available for clients, "Our local office provides assistance to persons in obtaining a variety of mental health services and supports according to their assessed needs," said Barile. The PDMHC serves approximately 2,600 adults and children in the Florence, Darlington and Marion counties. Individuals and families contemplating seeking services should be cognizant of the fact that the South Carolina Department of Mental Health recognizes the responsibility to ensure the rights of those receiving services within its facilities. As the Cultural Competence Coordinator, Barile organizes events along with the Cultural Competence Committee to enhance services, "We have training for the staff that ultimately benefits our clients," she stated.

Barile, wants to reassure clients who seek services at the Pee Dee Mental Health Center have the following rights extended to them throughout their treatment and recovery:

- **Confidentiality** – No information will be given

out from PDMHC to any unauthorized person or agency without written approval.

- **Consent** – Clients will not receive services without their written approval except in emergency situations.

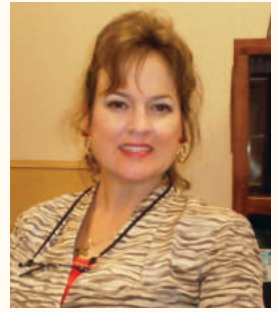
- **Competent Services** – Clients will receive effective and efficient

services that will meet the professional quality standards determined by HIPPA.

Proper Treatment – Clients have the right to be treated in a fair and courteous manner.

- **Grievances** – Clients have the right to question a treatment decision, to request a change in therapists, or raise questions concerning the practices and procedures of PDMHC.

The Pee Dee Mental Health Center is located at 125 East Cheves Street, Florence, SC 29506, and can be reached by phone at 843-317-4073, or visit the website at: www.state.sc.us/dmh/peedee/.



Rosemary Barile, Client Advocate and Community Liaison

~~ SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS & CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH ~~

It is estimated that every year there are 237,868 victims of sexual assault; which means every 2 minutes someone is sexually assaulted in the United States. It is also estimated that 1,642 children died, in the United States, because of abuse, in 2012.

PARENTING IS MOST POWERFUL ROLE

By Veyounder Brown

"Parenting is the most important position we will ever manage, yet it is the only management position we will ever be placed in without any training," says Mrs. Elizabeth Poston (LMSW), Lighthouse Ministries' Working Mothers' Education and Support Program (WMESP) is a 6 month child abuse and neglect prevention program. It is designed for low income women with children between the ages of 0-5



Veyounder Brown, Director of Outreach Lighthouse Ministries

years of age who reside in Florence County. The ultimate objective of the program is to prevent child abuse and child neglect. The three step program consists of life skills classes, money management sessions, diapers and wipes for the mother's small children. Equipping parents with

skills to reduce potential child maltreatment is achieved by increasing parental confidence, offering positive, non-violent parenting skills, improving parent-child relations, reducing child behavior problems, lessening parental stress and anxiety, minimizing poor spending habits, creating and managing effective budgets, providing appropriate community referrals and by ensuring that babies have an adequate amount of diapers for to be kept comfortable and clean.

A Licensed Master Social Worker educates mothers on ways to reduce stress. She expresses that when we discipline our children while under stress, the chances of abuse or neglect increases. She provides clarification on age appropriate behaviors so mothers will know whether or not discipline is required. For behaviors which require discipline, several appropriate options are provided. She reiterates that she is aware of the "spare the rod and spoil the child" concept; however, there are effective alternatives to corporal punishment.

Mothers are encouraged by trained mentors who meet with them monthly for six months to create and monitor their household budget in order

to eliminate unnecessary expenses. Information about credit and money management geared toward increasing the mothers' ability to manage their households with limited financial resources is provided during the monthly visits. Direct services and referrals to collaborating agencies are also made available to the mothers as needed throughout their 6 months in the program. As an incentive to encourage mothers to complete the 6 month program, they are provided diapers, wipes, laundry detergent, baby wash, baby lotion and diaper rash ointment.

Upon completion of the program mothers are asked to respond to an exit evaluation of the program. They all express their gratitude for receiving the diapers and additional hygiene products provided for the babies; however, the most repeated answer for what they enjoyed most about the program is the life skill / parenting classes. "I just want to say thank you so much for all that you have given me and my baby. The diapers and supplies are appreciated, but these classes have been a true blessing. They will help me to be a much better parent to my baby than I was to my much older children," said Mary.

NEW SITE, DIRECTOR TAKE GALLERY FORWARD

By Anna Bowman



The Art Trail Gallery, which officially opened its doors on December 9, 2008 on North Dargan St., in Florence, has gone through major changes in the last couple of years; the most noticeable change being its physical address and most recently, its new director. In November 2012, the Gallery relocated to, 185 West Evans Street, (the former Bo Smith Building, corner of West Evans and Irby Street), and in 2014, David Hobbs, a former longtime volunteer and former board member was tapped as the Gallery's new director.

The Florence Downtown Development Corporation, (FDDC), a non-profit organization devoted to revitalizing and restoring civic pride in Downtown Florence, was instrumental in the creation of the Art Trail Gallery, recently selected Hobbs as the new director. The Charleston native, who retired from DuPont in 2011 and is a member of the Florence County Planning Commission, is looking forward to continuing to add to the

overall progression of the Gallery by returning to the original purpose: to be a catalyst for the arts and to become the economic engine for development in downtown Florence. It will be an attraction not only for local residents but for tourists, as well.

The gallery, which is home to the studio of national award winning sculptor, Alex Palkovich, has, in its short existence, already made a powerful impact on the arts culture in Florence. Since its inception, the Gallery has exhibited the art work of more than 600 artists from the Pee Dee, and has been visited by thousands of tourists including those from states like Georgia and Maryland. In fact, in 2013 the Art Trail Gallery was the recipient of WMBF News' Pee Dee's Best Award in the category of Best Art Gallery.

"The vision for the Gallery, going forward, is to include a diverse group of artistic styles, music events, additional classes, working with our downtown neighbors, and collaborating with our daily visitors to ensure that their needs are being met," said Hobbs. "Plans are now coming together to include new occupants, Roney's Creative Picture Framing and the Florence

Regional Arts Alliance, to enhance the experience of visiting the Gallery," added Hobbs.

Hobbs, who works side-by-side with his wife, Janis Hobbs, (an artist and volunteer) with the gallery, has seen the downtown area grow steadily for the past couple of years. "The downtown area has seen a recent influx of new businesses like the FMU's Performing Art Center, Florence Little Theater, Florence County Museum and the much anticipated Hotel Florence that houses Victor's Bistro, and all are within walking distance of the Gallery," said Hobbs.

The goal for the Art Trail Gallery now is to operate more like a business and become self-sufficient in order to continue to be a part of the revitalization of the downtown Florence progression. "All this can only be accomplished with our partners and wonderful volunteers in the gallery" he said. The Art Trail Gallery is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit the Art Trail Gallery website at www.art-trail-gallery.com, or view the Facebook page: Art Trail Gallery, or call David Hobbs at the Gallery at 843-667-0428.

YOUNG PRODIGY RAISING THE BAR

By Anna Bowman

A person who plays the violin is called a violinist, but someone who plays the violin like Te'Quan Coe, is called gifted. Coe, 16, a sophomore at Hartsville High School, discovered his love for the violin after attending an orchestra concert, while he was in the fifth grader at Hartsville Middle School. "When I watched the orchestra play, I looked at every instrument," he said, "But when I saw the violinists play, I decided I wanted to play the violin and become the best violinist ever," he said.

Since that night, his talent has captured the attention of people in his hometown of Hartsville, as well as admirers in surrounding areas. One such admirer, Ronnie Scott of Kingstree, discovered Coe's talent during an Apollo-styled event he held last year. Even though the young violinist didn't win, Scott was so impressed by his talent that he submitted a video of Coe's performance to the famed Apollo Theater in New York. "We were so excited when we learned that Te'Quan was chosen to audition at the Apollo Theater," said his mother, Vanessa Cain. And for the young violinist, "It felt like my heart had stopped I was so excited," added a jovial Coe.

When his family realized that they would have to raise funds to curtail the cost of traveling to New York to attend the audition, the community responded with donations to support the young musician., "It felt great to have the love and support of my community and

especially my TaTa Supporters to allow me to follow my dreams," an enthusiastic Coe stated. His mother is truly happy that her son is so humble and understands how his talent is a true blessing. It's extremely hard to believe that the once shy young man would lock himself in the bathroom to practice, before gaining the confidence to start playing around the house and eventually in public. Because of his diligence to practice and perfect his talent, Coe has been chosen to the All-State Orchestra the past three years, where he represented his school on the state level.

"Coe, who was born with a host of medical problems that doctors feared, would shorten his life, proved the doctors wrong. "The doctors gave us the grave diagnosis and told us to just love him," Cain remembered. "But with God in our lives, Te'Quan not only survived beyond his fifth birthday, but has had the pleasure of allowing God to guide him to his own music ministry. "I consider my music a ministry because you may never know what someone is going through and my music just might help to brighten someone's day or put them in a better mood," he proudly exclaimed. "When I'm playing my violin it eases my mind and relaxes me, so I want others to feel the same," To view violinist Te'Quan Coe in action, visit his facebook page, Minister "T" Te'Quan Coe Master of Violin.



FIGHTING AUTISM WITH HER HEART AND SOLE!

By Anna Bowman

Amy Pennington still can't believe how wonderful everything turned out for the inaugural, Pacing for Pieces Music Half Marathon and 5K race, a fundraiser for the Autism Advocacy Group of Florence, which featured nearly 400 runners. In early, March a sea of people gathered at Palmetto Peddler in Florence, SC, to fulfill a vision inspired by Amy to make a difference in the autism world. She was truly overcome with joy about the race, "I could be in tears for years to come, it's wonderful to see; it's very heartwarming," Pennington said of the turnout for the race and show of support for the Autism Advocacy Group of Florence, a group she joined a year ago, and is now a board member. The inaugural race surpassed all expectations by raising an amazing \$15,000 for the Autism Advocacy Group of Florence. Like so many of the runners who took part in the race, Pennington and her husband, John Van, are a family touched by autism.

Pennington and her husband were thrilled when they learn that she was pregnant with their first child. "I was a tomboy growing up, so when we learned that we were having a boy, I was thrilled, she said. "I had always pictured my home full of boys – and am indeed blessed with a house full of boys," she warmly added.

In June 2009, their first born son, Griffin, was diagnosed with autism at the tender age of 2 ½ years old. "When my husband and I received the diagnosis we did what any other parents would do – we went through a grieving stage. At first we were in denial. Griffin was diagnosed with high functioning autism; thankfully we caught it early and got the right therapy and support for our family. We went through an anger state of 'why us,'"

she revealed. "We are happy to say we are in the acceptance stage and have been over the past few years. It's a wonderful feeling embracing autism. This is why we decided to get involved with the Autism Advocacy Group of Florence. We knew how hard it is for parents and if our story would help just one family we would be satisfied," she proudly said.

After the diagnosis, I think my husband feared the diagnosis the most; there's something special about a daddy and his son," she said. Adding, "I think men always envision



(Photo by Lynn McElroy Photography)

their son's future, playing sports and becoming strong men one day – we still have fears! Our biggest fear for Griffin is not being accepted by his peers or having friends," Pennington said. She is extremely happy with the education that her son is receiving. He started off at Lester Elementary that has an excellent program geared toward autism. Griffin now attends Carver Elementary, where they are currently zoned, in a mainstream class", she said, adding, "My husband and I are blown away with the options Florence District 1 provided for us!" stated a jovial Pennington.

Her faith in God has allowed her to see her family's journey in a more positive way, "I knew without a doubt God gave

me this beautiful gifted child for a reason," she explained, "and with the beauty of acceptance came a "divine" vision of wanting to get involved and create a race in Florence that would celebrate people that were affected with autism," she said. And with the help of the members of Autism Advocacy Group of Florence, family, friends, church members, volunteers, and through the use of sponsors, donations and print and social media, her dream of making the inaugural, Pacing for Pieces Music Half Marathon and 5K Race fundraiser a reality. "It was a feeling of accomplishment

when I saw the number of participants! Again, God had given me a plan and I was only being obedient. He just used me to get the job done," Pennington said.

For people who want additional information or to donate to the Autism Advocacy Group of Florence, please email aagflorence@gmail.com or join the group for its upcoming Autism Night, at Chick-fil-A, 2016 S Irby St, Florence, on April 24th, from 5-8pm, and a portion of the

proceeds will go to the organization in observance of Autism Awareness Month.

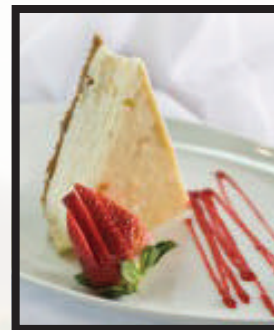
"Autism is a struggle for many children and their families, in fact, there are days when I want to scream to the top of my lungs, 'I hate autism!' but then reality hits and I'm reminded of how grateful I am for so many things, include the person that God has allowed me to become because of my son's diagnosis. God has given me a different view of the world and I will continue to fight autism with my heart and sole!

Pennington and her husband John Van, are the proud parents of two sons, Griffin, age 7, and Gray age 4. The family resides in Florence, SC.



AWARD-WINNING CHEF FINDS NEW DISHES, TRAVEL ROUTES

By Alicia C. Phillip



LAKE CITY--Chef Carlos Brown, award-winning restaurateur, is the Executive Chef at Table 118 Kitchen and Wine Bar, an upscale eatery and wine bar that specializes in Southern cuisine. Raised in Charleston, he was inspired to become a chef by his mother and grandmother, who are some of the best cooks he has ever known. Growing up, while his siblings were playing, he'd be in the kitchen watching his mother as she cooked. She taught him the importance of cooking with his soul and that people can actually taste the love that you put into preparing a meal. He recalls that he never saw his mother follow a recipe; she just had an innate ability to create amazing meals. Because of her skill and passion, he knew that becoming a chef was his life's path. And to this day, he does not let recipes confine him, but instead uses them as a guide. He is always willing to expand his creativity by trying new things.

He attended culinary school at Johnson & Wales University, and since then, his career has spanned more than 25 years, including partnerships at several restaurants, such as Momo's Bistro in Columbia, as well as managing the food services at The Citadel, and the award-winning restaurant, The Charleston Grill. He believes that his job as executive chef is to create, manage, and entertain. For him, cooking goes beyond just preparing a meal for people to eat. Instead, dining should be an experience, and people should be entertained. And it is that passion that he brought to Lake City, Table 118. He wants to help build a city with fine cuisine and grow a community.

Chef Carlos loves preparing Low country, French, and Cajun dishes, and believes that seafood is the best food for

creating captivating presentation dishes. His favorite signature dish is shrimp and grits.

Indeed, Chef Carlos' skills and passion are opening doors for him. He is currently working on a television show that is being considered by a few networks. His goal is to take his experience on the road and television. He also enjoys giving back to the community. Says Chef Carlos: "My involvement in the community is simply treating people how I want to be treated. Coming up we would be looked down on, and I never want to wish that feeling on anyone. I thank God I discovered my gift, because a gift is for giving." In fact, his most significant accomplishments to date include his C3 Culinary Camp, which is a 2-week camp that teaches high school students how a passion for food can lead to a profession in the culinary arts. Working with young people gives him an opportunity to give them a chance.

When not at work, Chef Carlos enjoys singing, so much so that he believes that if he were not a chef he'd be a singer. He also enjoys spending time with his family, and he is in the process of writing a book as well. His role models include Chef Gordon Ramsey and Chef Emeril Lagasse. Chef Carlos' advice to anyone wanting to enter the culinary field is: "do it with your heart and you'll never lose."

At Table 118, dishes are prepared in an elegant style, using the finest ingredients. The menu features lunch options such as the PO Boy, the Shrimp Etouffee, and the Veggie Wrap. Salads include the Pear Spinach Salad, Beet Salad, and Caesar Salad. Dinner offerings include the New Zealand Lamb Chop, the Pinot Gris "Oscar" Filet Mignon, and the Seafood Belmar.

The bar offers a variety of drinks, including handcrafted cocktails, such as the Lake City Sipper, which is mixed with rye whiskey, lemon and thyme syrup; and the Hibiscus, which consists of champagne, candied hibiscus flower, and bitters. In addition, Table 118 offers both on-and off-site catering, as well as private dining. The dining room can seat up to 70 guests and offers a view of the open kitchen, while the outdoor patio can seat up to 30 guests. Reservations can be made by telephone, as well as online.

Table 118 is located at 118 E. Main St., Lake City, SC 29560. Its hours of operation are: Closed on Sundays; Monday: 5-9pm; Tuesday and Wednesday: lunch from 11am-2pm and dinner from 5pm-9pm; Thursday: lunch from 11am-2pm and dinner from 5pm-10pm; and Friday and Saturday: lunch from 11am-2pm and dinner from 5pm-11pm. For more information, please contact Table 118 at 843.699.9289 and visit them on the web at www.Table118.com.



Chef Carlos Brown



DOLCE VITA
CHOCOLATE | WINE | TASTING ROOM

Finest Chocolates and Wines

Dargan Street • Downtown Florence



NEW NATIONAL CEO COMING TO TOWN



Lorraine C. Miller

The Florence Branch of the NAACP annual Freedom Fund Dinner will be 7pm Friday April 11, at the Florence Civic Center. Guest Speak is Lorraine C. Miller, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Baltimore, MD. She was appointed to this position in October 2013 at the NAACP Board of Directors meeting. From 2007 through 2011, Miller was the 35th Clerk to the U.S. House of Representatives – the first African-American and third woman to serve in the

position. As Clerk, she managed the daily operations of the U.S. House, overseeing nine departments and 270 people. The theme this year is “All in for Justice and Equality”. The Freedom Fund Dinner serves to highlight issues fostering community relations and quality of life, and to recognize community leaders who advocate equality and diversity. The dinner represents our major fundraiser and your financial support enables us to continue our work with community groups who share our vision of social and economic inclusiveness. The NAACP is the oldest, largest and most effective civil rights organization in the nation. It continues to advance its mission of improving the social, economic and political conditions for all people. Tickets are \$50 per person. If you have any questions, please feel free to call (843) 245-2022 for more information.

FLORENCE LITTLE THEATRE IN ITS 90TH YEAR TO PRESENT THE WIZARD OF OZ

April 25-May 3, 2014

By L. Frank Baum, Adapted by Frank Gabrielson, with music and lyrics of the MGM motion pictures score by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg, Background Music by Herbert Stothart, Directed by Scarlett Knight
The Florence Little Theatre will present the ACS Technologies, Habitat 2000 and Knight Software production of Wizard of Oz on April 25-May 3, 2014. This production is being directed by Scarlett Knight. This family classic returns to close our season with the timeless story of little Dorothy Gale of Kansas, who like so many girls of her age, dreams of what lies over the rainbow. One day a twister hits her farm and carries her away over the rainbow to another world. Come join Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tinman, the Cowardly Lion and Toto as they travel the universe of Dorothy’s imagination. The Florence Little Theatre is located at 417 S. Dargan Street. Tickets go on sale Underwriters, Benefactors, Patrons and Sponsors on Monday, April 21, General Membership on Tuesday, April 22 and to the general public on Wednesday, April 23. For more information, please call 662-3731 or visit our website at www.florencelittletheatre.org.

Production Dates:

Friday, April 25 at 7:30pm • Saturday, April 26 at 11:00am • Saturday, April 26 at 7:30pm
Sunday, April 27 at 3:00pm • Tuesday, April 29 at 7:30pm • Wednesday, April 30 at 7:30pm
Thursday, May 1 at 7:30pm • Friday, May 2 at 7:30pm • Saturday, May 3 at 7:30pm

Tickets: \$25Adults/\$18 Students • For more information call 662-3731



Information:
843 774-5167

Saturday, April 26th

10:00am to 4:00pm

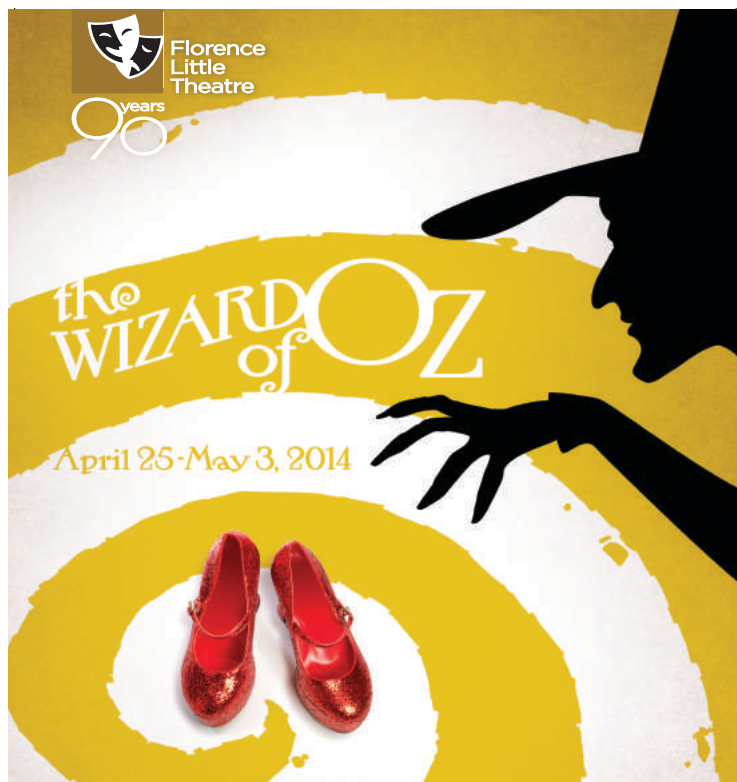
Live Entertainment Concessions
Arts/Crafts Venders Classic Car Show
Senior Bingo-10:00am

INFLATABLES-MECHANICAL BULL
BUNGEE JUMP-PETTING ZOO-CAMEL
PONY RIDES-ROCK CLIMBING WALL



Street Dance -7:00pm to 11:00pm

Steve Owens & Summertime Band



Underwriters
ACSTechnologies
HABITAT 2000
APARTMENTS

Book by Frank Baum, Adapted by Frank Gabrielson, Music and Lyrics from the MGM motion pictures score by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg, Background Music by Herbert Stothart, Directed by Scarlett Knight
Evening shows 7:30pm • Matinees 3:00pm • \$25 Adults / \$20 Students
Florence Little Theatre 417 S. Dargan Street, Florence, South Carolina, 29506
843-662-3731 • fltdsp@aol.com • www.florencelittletheatre.org

LET GO FINANCIALLY TO MOVE ON

By Melanie Colclough



Melanie Colclough,
Deputy Director of SC Thrive
(SCT)

How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time. Taking a bite at a time is the best way to get on the road to financial wellness, too. Start by assessing where you are and devise a solid plan to get where you want to be. You may have to change some behaviors that helped to create your current situation, though. Two obstacles people face when trying to reach their desired financial goals seem to be focusing too much on the past and future. Getting rid of these barriers can help you successfully make moves in the present.

The Past – Many people who aren't where they want to be financially often feel so guilty and ashamed about their history with money they can't move past it. One woman revealed how she created thousands of dollars in credit card debt that far outweighed her income. It got so overwhelming, she didn't even make the minimum payments. This went on for some time because she was too embarrassed to seek help. Don't let your past paralyze you. Money is fluid and keeps moving whether you tell it what to do or not. Remember, indecision IS a decision. Forgive yourself now so you can clear your mind to create a sound plan.

The Future – Sometimes when the financial plan is created, it often looks overwhelming. When my husband and I were dating we decided early on that being debt-free was a mutual goal. But, after we saw the plan, we realized it would take many, many sacrifices and several years to reach our goal. Instead of focusing on how daunting the overall plan seemed, we focused on what we had to do each day. Remember, it took time to create your situation—so undoing it will take time, also. A big part of financial wellness is knowing where you want to go then taking little steps toward the goal each day.

The Lessons – Let go of the past and don't get overwhelmed about achieving your financial goals. 1) Do your own research (after all it is your hard earned money), 2) Find a knowledgeable representative to help you devise a plan, 3) Take small bites each day toward your goals, and 4) Stay actively involved in YOUR plan.

Contact SC Thrive (SCT) to schedule a financial wellness training for your staff. SCT leads South Carolinians to stability by providing innovative and efficient access to quality of life resources like The Benefit Bank of SC (TBB-SC), CharityTracker and many trainings. We partner with organizations, offer services and help simplify complex processes to move people from crisis to self-sustainability. Learn more by visiting www.scthrive.org. **Melanie Colclough** is the Deputy Director of SC Thrive (SCT). She earned an MPA from CUNY and a BA from the University of South Carolina. She holds certifications in grant writing from USC and NSORH. Melanie is also a facilitator for Financial Peace University, a financial wellness program.

SAFE HISTORY STILL DRIVES TODAY

SUMTER--In 1955, 15 civilian employees at Shaw Air Force Base, pooled their money to charter SAFE Federal Credit Union. Since then, SAFE has grown to more than 108,000 members and more than \$874 million in assets. SAFE is the largest Midlands based credit union with 20 branches in 8 counties in South Carolina. Although our size, membership, and services have increased dramatically since 1955, at SAFE, your membership matters. Whether you are saving for college tuition, borrowing for a new home or car, or planning for retirement, SAFE Federal Credit Union has the services you need. While our services rival those of any bank or savings and loan, our goals set us apart. SAFE exists only to serve our members, and when you join, you also become a member/owner. Our not-for-profit structure allows our members to enjoy generally higher dividends on savings, lower loan interest rates, and fewer fees. And you can be sure your money is safe with us, as the National Credit Union Administration insures all deposits up to \$250,000. Find out more today at safefed.org.

Life insurance
FOR KIDS –
unwrapped

Discover the benefits of Modern Woodmen membership for your little loves

Damion Miller, Goshen, Ind., is 4 years old. He likes trucks, football and running, running, running. And – like any kid – he loves unwrapping presents. But Damion is unaware of just how many presents he received when he became a Modern Woodmen member. When his parents purchased his life insurance certificate, they did so much more than protect against the unimaginable. They gave him a host of living benefits – some that could last a lifetime. Go ahead ... sneak a peek!

Members Ryan and Crystal Miller, Goshen, Ind., protect themselves and their son, Damion, with Modern Woodmen life insurance coverage.

Your Money. Your Life.
Your Decision.

Keep it
LOCAL
safefed.org

Mortgages | Auto Loans | Credit Cards
Personal Loans | Financial Counseling
Online Banking | Youth Accounts | Mobile App

SAFE
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

NCUA

CC-OP
SHARES
INSURANCE

Federally Insured by NCUA.

EARLY LESSONS NEED REPEATING

By Susan F. Grant, Compliance/Marketing Officer

Most of us were taught from a young age to save our money for a rainy day. As children we may not have known what that really meant, but as adults we all have those unexpected expenses or plans for our future that our parents were trying to prepare us for. In all stages of life we need to have a savings plan for our success and happiness. As a young adult we need to save for our future, may it be a car, a house or new business startup. We have to prepare in some way or another for these life events. If you are looking to buy a new car, house or start a business you will need good credit and good savings preparation. As a growing family we need to save for our children's future, college education or weddings. There are a number of savings plans out there to help you save for those growing college expenses. Some are as simple as a saving account that you make regular deposits to or 529 savings plans that are tied to mutual funds or stock markets. As the empty nester, our children have grown up and started their own path; we may be saving for that second home or vacation of a life time. Then there is retirement that we so look forward to. There are numerous options for that such as 401K, IRA's and Pension plans. One such life event we do not often think of but at some point become necessary is for our long term health care. This is for the day that we may no longer be able to stay in our own home or take care of ourselves. This savings often comes in a different form such as a long-term

care insurance policy or from the equity we have built up in our homes. A bank is the safest place for you to keep your money and begin saving for future life events. Here are a few reasons to keep your money in a bank; safety - from theft, loss or fire, convenience-for quick and easy access, cost - is cheaper than check cashing services or payday loans, security - FDIC insured, financial future - by building a relationship with a bank. There are many services and account types to fit your personal needs in a bank.



Susan F. Grant



Financial Literacy is the ability to understand how money works in the world: how someone manages to earn or make it, how that person manages it, how he/she invests it (turn it into more) and how that person donates it to help others. More specifically, it refers to the set of skills and knowledge that allows an individual to make informed and effective decisions with all of their financial resources.

Easy ways to save on everyday expenses

- Use coupons at the supermarket. Some good resources are: RetailMeNot.com, CouponMom.com, CouponCabin.com, and Coupons.com
- Buying store-brand products will also help you save and they're often just as good as name brands.
- Consider skipping the daily lattes, reduce eating take out, brown bag it or cook at

home more often.

- Call your cable company to downgrade or bundle or get rid of cable altogether.
- Ditch your land line if you don't need it.
- Keep your eye on mortgage rates and consider refinancing if they're lower than your current rate.
- Look around the house: turn off lights, get a programmable thermostat and perform an energy audit at www.energystar.gov.
- Car pool and take public transportation to save big on gas/car maintenance; calculate how much you could save by using the free calculator at ridesearch.com.

Create a safety net for life's unexpected Events

- Life is unpredictable and unexpected expenses happen; a safety net can help you pay for them without going into debt.
- A good rule of thumb for how much to have in your safety net is to multiply your total monthly expenses by 3 and use that figure as your initial goal. If that's more than you can sock away, remember that having some money saved is better than

REWARDS CHECKING.



You've earned it.

At Anderson Brothers Bank, we know you work hard for your money. With Rewards Checking, there are no points to redeem, no miles to expire - just cash back in your account when you use your debit card.

Rewards Checking Features:

- Cash-Back Rewards on Debit Card Swipes
- FREE Online Banking & Bill Pay
- Mobile Banking
- FREE Personalized Debit Card (limited time only)
- Rebate up to \$10 on Non-ABB ATM fees
- Low NSF/Overdraft Fee of \$25
- No Minimum Balance Required
- No Monthly Service Charge



Alex Anderson, 4th generation ABB leadership



Visit us at abbank.com or one of our 20 locations.

Mobile Consumer Accounts: Minimum opening deposit \$100.00. A minimum of 10 debit card transactions in any amount (ATM transactions do not count) to qualify for rewards during Rewards Period. \$0.05 cash reward will be paid on each qualifying Rewards Checking debit card transaction of \$10.00 or more. An additional \$0.25 cash reward will be paid on each qualifying Rewards Checking debit card transaction of \$10.00 or more if account is set up to receive eStatements, for a total of \$1.10. Receive up to \$10.00 rebate of foreign & ABB ATM Fees if qualifications for rewards are met. Rewards Period is the first business day of the month through the last business day of the month. The cash rewards and ATM Fee rebates will be paid on or before the 5th day of the month. Overdraft Item fee of \$25.00 (assess if a traditional paper-based check, a teller withdrawal, an automatic payment (ACH) transaction or a recurring debit card payment). We may also authorize ATM transfers or withdrawals and everyday debit card purchases if you have requested us to. We typically do not pay overdrafts if your account is not in good standing, you are not making regular deposits to bring your account to positive end of day balance within 30 calendar days or have excessive overdrafts.



none.

- Put together a budget to figure out your monthly expenses, then figure out how much you can save once you've paid for your necessities.
- Think about keeping your safety net in a savings account or a money market savings account. Just be sure that it's in an account that's separate from your everyday savings or checking account — that will make it harder for you to tap into it for non-emergencies.
- Think about setting up automatic deposits to help you save without having to think about it too much.

Earning Compound Interest

What's great about compound interest is that it helps your money grow faster by allowing you to earn interest on your interest. Start saving early — the longer you have your money in a savings account, the more beneficial it is.



NEW YORK LIFE

The Company You Keep[®]

Since 1845 New York Life has served the insurance and financial needs of individuals, families, and businesses.

PERSONAL PLANNING FOR:

Life Insurance needs
Estate Conservation
College Funding
Mortgage Protection
Charitable Giving
IRA Funding

BUSINESS PLANNING FOR:

Buy-Sell Funding
Deferred Compensation
Executive Bonus
Key Person Protection
Voluntary Payroll Deduction Programs



Julie A. Cord, MBA, MIM
Financial Services Professional*
Agent, New York Life Insurance Company
1312 Professional Dr., Ste. 200
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
Bus. 843.497.3317
Cell 317.289.3010

*Registered Representative offering securities through NYLIFE Securities through NYLIFE Securities LLC, Member FINRA/SIPC, A Licensed Insurance Agency

ENSURING THAT YOUR WEDDING DREAMS COME TRUE

Marriage changes things. There are decisions to make, compromises to reach, and families to bring together. With all the excitement and joy of an upcoming wedding, it can be easy to overlook the many financial responsibilities that you and your spouse will confront. Taking care of certain financial matters early can help you start your married life on the right foot.

Wedding and honeymoon expenses --Weddings can be expensive. When you and your spouse return from your honeymoon, sit down and discuss a plan to pay off any remaining expenses for your wedding. Try to pick a clear timeframe and stick with it.

Changing beneficiaries --It's important to dig out any old insurance policies and paperwork for your 401(K) and/or other retirement and investment plans. Then, check the accuracy of the information and update your contact card beneficiary information if necessary.

Bank accounts --You and your spouse may choose to consolidate your finances. Review the terms of your existing bank accounts. Should you keep them? Close them? Open a joint account at the same bank? These are all questions you should bear in mind when planning your new life together.

Health and auto insurance --Assess your existing health and auto insurance. In many cases, obtaining joint coverage will save you and your spouse a significant amount of money.

Name changes --If you or your spouse plan to change a last name, make sure it's done on your credit cards, tax forms, driver's license, passport, Social Security card, voter registration card, as well as on bank accounts and insurance policies.

Homeowners' or renters' insurance --If you haven't already done so, make sure you've protected your home and other valuables with homeowners' or renters' insurance. In addition, you may want to extend coverage to the wedding gifts you received, and for your engagement and wedding rings.

Student loans and credit card debts --Assess how much money you and your spouse owe. Consolidating assets can also mean consolidating liabilities. Plan a budget to manage any debts you and your spouse may have.

Mortgages and other loans --Always make sure you've saved enough so that your mortgage, car payments, and/or other loan payments fit into your household budget.

Life insurance policies --Getting married greatly increases your need for life insurance. Make sure both you and your spouse have appropriate coverage. --In preparing for your financial future as a married couple, you will have to reevaluate some old things, prepare for some new things, and maybe even return a few borrowed things. But, being proactive about your finances may help you avoid dealing with money-related wedding blues.

This educational third-party article is provided as a courtesy by Julie A Cord Agent, New York Life Insurance Company. To learn more about the information or topics discussed, please contact Julie A Cord at 317.289.3010.

Helping the next generation for nearly 100 years.



ARBORONE
FARM CREDIT

800.741.7332 • ArborOne.com

Lending support to rural America[™]

HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH

BIGGEST LOSER WILL BE TRUE WINNER

By Stephanie Navarro, Community Resource Manager United Way of Florence County

When Kevin Goodwin saw an ad for Florence's Biggest Loser, he saw potential. For himself, a man who just last summer had difficulty keeping up with his son while playing football, he saw the potential to get fit and healthy. Says Goodwin, "I was getting a little winded as we were out in the yard and I thought 'I'm too young to get winded!' I knew I had to make a change." By joining Florence's Biggest Loser, Kevin found a way to begin that change.

That wasn't enough for Kevin, however. Kevin, as a Branch Manager for SPC Credit Union, also saw an opportunity to promote his company and their community involvement. Kevin decided to broker a deal. In return for their sponsorship, Kevin would wear a special SPC Credit Union t-shirt at all Biggest Loser events and would donate the proceeds, if he wins, to the SPC Credit Union's Cares 2 Share fund which distributes grants to local area nonprofits. "I just figured it would be a win-win for both of us," explains Kevin, adding coyly, "For instance, I've lost 11 lbs. so far and did you know that SPC Credit Union has a 2.49% car loan rate right now?"

Finally, Kevin saw potential to positively impact his family, particularly his children, 10-year-old Kevin and 6-year-old Bryant. Kevin

explains that his wife Dawn has started incorporating tips from Biggest Loser nutritionist, Kitty Finklea. "Dawn has started to prepare more vegetables. Instead of eating out, we cook more so we can watch how much salt we use and things like that," says Kevin. "We have been trying to see how far we can go with the kids." After several ultra-healthy dinners in a row, however, 6-year-old Bryant had finally had enough, exclaiming in frustration, "Where is the butter?" Kevin explains that the whole family had to laugh and, despite this minor rebellion, everyone in the Goodwin family has been enjoying their healthier diet.

The progress for Kevin is evident. He has lost 3.87% of his body weight since the contest began, but the results go well beyond the numbers. Says Kevin, "I'm sleeping better; I have more energy. Personally, it's made a big difference. I encourage those who haven't done it to get on board and try it. It will make a difference in your life." To begin your weight-loss, healthy lifestyle journey today, visit www.BurnandLearnFlorence.com. Review the blogs for tips about fitness and nutrition from our partners and don't forget to vote for your favorite contestants by buying them Brownie Points, low-fat, of course! Florence's Biggest Loser is a healthy lifestyle, weight-loss competition and is part of a

larger effort called Burn & Learn. Burn & Learn is an initiative to promote healthy lifestyle choices in the Pee Dee community in an effort to combat high rates of obesity and related health issues. Burn & Learn is made possible through a partnership between United Way of Florence County, McLeod Health & Fitness Center, HillSouth, the Morning News and Miller Communication.



Kevin Goodwin (second from left) stands with his Biggest Loser fitness team and trainer from R-L: Caranda Cribb, McLeod Health & Fitness Center personal trainer and Biggest Loser contestants Michelle Greene, Decar Brown, Gail Waiters and Launa Brown. Kevin and his team work out on Wednesdays at 6 a.m. "Caranda is wonderful," says Kevin. "She answers questions, she pushes us. And that's the best part about it because it causes us to push ourselves a little more too."

GE Healthcare



JOIN OUR TEAM!

GE supports Diversity and Inclusiveness

GE is renowned for hiring exceptional people and giving them unparalleled opportunities to build their careers and capabilities. We are always looking for highly skilled diverse individuals with a strong interest in helping to save lives.

3001 W. Radio Drive

Florence, S.C. 29501-7801

www.gehealthcare.com/usen



imagination at work



In today's economic climate we all have to look for value when we are feeding our family. Your hometown IGA food store should be your first stop when looking to stretch your food budget.



IGA's exclusive TableRite beef is hand selected for quality, value and flavor. We only buy USDA inspected meat and our trained meat cutters can cut and wrap your purchases just the way you want it, in most cases at no extra cost.

Don't forget, at IGA, all our customers are special. We offer everyday guaranteed low prices with no games, gimmicks or frequent shopper cards all so we can save you time and money. Since 1956 IGA has brought quality and value to South Carolina shoppers and during these trying times, it's nice to know you can count on IGA.

Visit us online at www.igaguy.com to learn more.

CHRONIC ILLNESS IS CONTROLLABLE

By Diane Davis, Marketing Coordinator

Chronic Disease is defined as a long-lasting condition that can be controlled but not cured. According to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, chronic diseases are among the leading causes of deaths and hospitalizations. Statistics from 2012 indicate that there were more than 800 deaths in Florence County due to chronic health conditions. Providers and staff at HopeHealth emphasize the importance of chronic disease management and prevention by providing education, medication and other tools necessary for patients to work toward a healthy lifestyle. Further steps have been taken by HopeHealth to ensure that the community is educated on chronic diseases.


Better Choices, Better Health, a Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP), was developed by Stanford University to help people manage chronic health conditions, such as arthritis, asthma, depression, diabetes, heart disease and high blood pressure. Staff at HopeHealth was trained to teach the program. Training was offered through a sponsorship with the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. The Better Choices, Better Health workshop teaches individuals to manage chronic diseases by using a Self-Management Tool Box. Some of the topics in the Tool Box are physical activity, action planning, breathing techniques, sleep, communication, healthy eating and weight management. Workshop activities include brainstorming, group assignments, meeting personal goals, reading/understanding food labels and making weekly action plans. The trainers of the program held the first session of the workshop the evening of January 16th in the waiting room of HopeHealth Pediatrics. The workshop was held once a week for six consecutive weeks. Each session of the workshop highlighted topics in the Self-Management Tool Box.

In the second and third session of the workshop, the trainers discussed in detail the benefits of exercise when dealing with a chronic disease. The group participants were asked to make an action plan about a goal he or she wished to accomplish. It had to be achievable within a week, and the majority decided that they would begin exercising. They had to be specific with their action plans such as giving the type of exercise, the amount/time/length of exercise that would be done, when and how often. They also had to express their confidence levels of completing the exercises on a scale of zero to ten, with ten being the highest. Results of action plans were discussed the following week. "If I didn't accomplish my action plan, I didn't feel as though it was a setback," said Chris Thomason. "I felt that the next time would be better. I learned not to set my goals too high. It is more rewarding to take baby steps." Peggy Thomas became an avid walker during the workshop. "Another workshop participant and I are getting together to walk during the summer months," said Thomas. "When I started the class, I used my cane every day because of a bad knee. Now, I only use it when my knee bothers me. I convinced myself to keep pushing forward."


Sylvia Lane continues to walk in her neighborhood. When the weather is bad, she goes to the gym with Faye Lane who also attended the workshop. Session four of the workshop contained information about healthy eating. The leaders discussed portion sizes, the importance of fruits and vegetables, using the plate method and reading/understanding food labels. This was an important piece because an unhealthy diet can contribute to or aggravate a chronic disease. For this week's action plan, Renell Fryer decided that she would use salt when cooking and not add additional salt to her plate. "Making an action plan each week was encouraging," said Fryer. "I stopped adding salt to my plate and do not miss it." Successful stories were revealed in each session of the workshop. The participants encouraged, motivated and inspired one another. "I enjoyed meeting so many people with different backgrounds and issues," said Thomason. "We all bonded, had a few laughs and enjoyed the class. Two thumbs up!"

"It was great to be able to express issues I have with my chronic disease," said Thomas. "I am not one to talk a lot around people I don't know but felt very comfortable with those in the workshop. I didn't miss a class." To inquire about future Better Choices, Better Health workshops contact Diane Davis at didavis@hope-health.org or Anita Longan at alongan@hope-health.org. HopeHealth believes everyone deserves a health care home and works hard to give their patients a good quality of life. Establishing a relationship with a primary care physician is an important step in maintaining your health. To become a new patient at HopeHealth, call 843-667-9414 or fill out the new patient request form at hope-health.org.







One




Dr. Beryl Bachus-Keith
Medical Director




Dr. Eileen Brown




Dr. Nadia Carey




Dr. Michael K. Foxworth II




Dr. Reynald Garma




Dr. Sandra Hussey




Child




Dr. Michael K. Foxworth II




Dr. Reynald Garma




Dr. Sandra Hussey




At a Time



Dr. Reynald Garma



Dr. Sandra Hussey

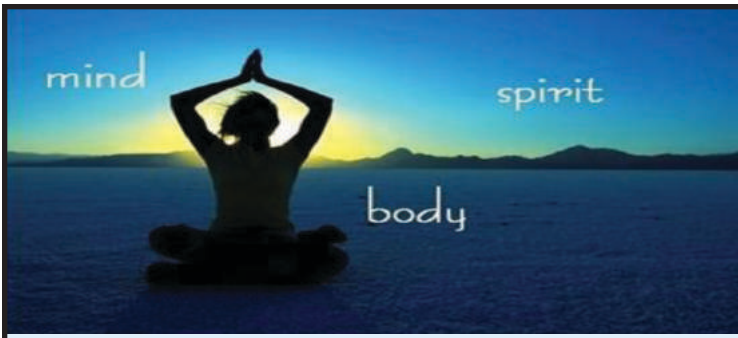


Manning Pediatrics
12 West South Street
Manning, SC
803.433.4124

Florence Pediatrics
506 East Cheves Street
Florence, SC
843.664.3660

Hablo Español: 843.664.3609

hope-health.org



If you are looking for **just** pain relief, then this is **not** the place for you. However, if you are **serious** about restoring or maintaining your health, **NO ONE** does it like we do.

Call today to make an appointment at Gittens Health and Wellness where your health and wellness is our first priority.

333 West Palmetto Street
Florence, South Carolina 29501

www.GittensHealthClinic.com

David A. Gittens, D.C.
843-678-9394

Underage Drinking

ARE YOU
WILLING TO
PAY THE PRICE \$



843-665-9349
www.circlepark.com



This public service announcement was prepared by Circle Park BHS under award number 1U795P015586-01 from SAMHSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of SAMHSA or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Free. Confidential. Fast.
Rapid HIV & Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)

HOPEHEALTH

Walk-in testing hours
Monday – Thursday | 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
and Fridays | 9 a.m. to noon

Evening testing hours
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
(By Appointment Only)

RESULTS IN JUST 20 MINUTES

Finger-stick testing

Call 843.667.9414 or 1.888.841.5855
for an appointment or more information



Visit us at 600 East Palmetto Street in Florence
or at hope-health.org

CAROLINAS HOSPITAL SYSTEM CELEBRATES CERTIFIED NURSES DAY BY HONORING THE 56 BOARD CERTIFIED NURSES ON ITS STAFF

By Kim Harrington, Director of Marketing/Media

Recently, Carolinas Hospital System celebrated Certified Nurses Day by honoring its board certified nurses. Fifty-six nurses were recognized for their professionalism, leadership, and commitment to excellence in patient care. Board Certification of nurses plays an increasingly important role in the assurance of high standards of care for patients and their loved ones. Nursing, like health care in general, has become increasingly complex. While a registered nurse (RN) license provides entry to general nursing practice, the knowledge-intensive requirements of modern nursing require extensive education, as well as a strong personal commitment to excellence by the nurse.

"I am so proud of our nurses for their leadership and professionalism in earning and maintaining national board certification in their nursing specialty. This takes personal dedication and persistence and not only validates their knowledge but demonstrates their commitment to nursing excellence and to the patients we serve," said Costa Cockfield, Chief Nursing Officer of Carolinas Hospital System. Carolinas Hospital System encourages national board certification for all its nurses. There are many nursing certification specialties such as medical-surgical, pediatric, pain management, cardiac vascular, oncology, hospice, case management, emergency nursing, critical care and many others. Many nursing certification bodies exist to serve the full range of specialized nursing care offered in the contemporary health care



system; national nurse-certifying bodies should be accredited by either the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC) or the National Organization for Competence Assurance (NOCA), or both. Please join Carolinas Hospital System and the national nursing certification organizations in honoring those hardworking, dedicated nurses for their professionalism, and a job well done!

McLeod

2014 Distinguished Hospital Award

— *Clinical Excellence*[™] —

Recognized Among the Top 5% in the Nation for Clinical Excellence

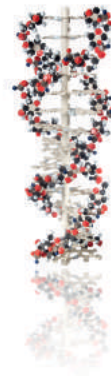
As a recipient of the 2014 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence[™] by Healthgrades[®], the leading online resource for comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals, McLeod is rated among the top 5% of more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide for its clinical performance.

Being singled out as one of the top hospitals in the nation for our clinical excellence is quite an honor. The credit for this honor belongs to our dedicated and experienced physicians who use their knowledge and skills to provide the highest quality care for our patients. And to the nurses and other healthcare professionals who also put our patients first every day. Together, our nationally recognized team continues to provide medical excellence with one goal: your good health and well-being.

healthgrades

McLeod
McLeodHonors.org

It gives us new ideas
every day.



The knowledge we need to find cures is hidden
in this molecule.

Our innovations help millions of people by
alleviating their suffering and improving their quality of life.
We give them hope.



We Innovate Healthcare

HER PASSION AND CARE RIVAL HER INTENSIVE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

By Jenafer Wenteler

Dr. Cecilia D. B. Aduako, and her husband, Dr. Samuel K. O. Okoh believed coming to Florence was the right choice for them -- both as physicians and as a family.

When they moved to the area last summer, Dr. Aduako said, "I had a feeling that it was the right decision because of the friendly people here and the excellent hospital," said Dr. Aduako. "I also felt that I could make a difference to the patients here." Dr. Aduako is an Epidemiology and Infection Disease Specialist with McLeod Regional Medical Center.

Dr. Aduako was born in Ghana, West Africa. The youngest of five siblings, she chose medicine because of her concern for the high mortality rate in Ghana. Due to circumstances beyond her control, Dr. Aduako explains that she lost her brother to yellow fever. Dr. Aduako attended medical school in Ghana where she met her husband, and during that time she had the opportunity to travel to London and the United States. On these trips, she discovered many of the opportunities that the United States had to offer. She eventually moved to the U.S.

with her husband.

Once in the United States, Dr. Aduako completed an Internal Medicine Residency at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in Cleveland, OH and an Infectious Diseases Fellowship at Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, CT. Now, Dr. Aduako enjoys clinical work, spending time with her family, and jumps rope for fun and exercise.

On a daily basis, Dr. Aduako treats infectious disease by providing both inpatient and outpatient services. She cares for acutely



Cecilia D. B. Aduako, MD
Epidemiology and Infection Prevention,
McLeod Regional Medical Center

ill patients as well as HIV patients, and helps coordinate their plan of care during their hospitalization. Her outpatient work includes prolonged follow-up after patients are released from the hospital.

In order for an international physician to

practice medicine in the United States, one must become ECFMG (Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates) certified. You must pass three exams in order to obtain that certification. Both Dr. Aduako and her husband selected the practice of internal medicine, and becoming board certified.

Dr. Aduako chose medicine as a profession, motivated by the poor health care that was offered where she grew up, and a strong passion for helping others. Her family was also a large influence on her decision as well.

Dr. Aduako enjoys serving patients. She says that assisting them in their struggles and providing treatment is very fulfilling, by offering tender care and moral support, not just medications as part of her treatment. Dr. Aduako adds, "In every patient, I think I see myself... a mother, a father... I can always relate a relative to that particular patient."

Her advice to those interested in pursuing this profession is to love what you do. She states, "Passion keeps you going. As long as you have the passion to care for patients, the education and time will come easily."

OKOH NOW LIVING HIS DREAM

By Jenafer Wenteler

Dr. Samuel K. O. Okoh always wanted to follow in his father's footsteps, including growing up to be a physician just like him. Dr. Okoh, a Nephrologist with Pee Dee Nephrology, is the second of six siblings. He grew up in Ghana, West Africa, where he completed most of his education.

Dr. Okoh attended medical school in Ghana with his wife, Cecilia D. B. Aduako, MD, who is an Epidemiology Infectious Disease physician at McLeod Regional Medical Center. They moved to the United States in 2004, where he completed his residency and a fellowship at Dartmouth. Both he and Dr. Aduako now care for patients in Florence, SC. Dr. Okoh and Dr. Aduako have been married for ten years and have two sons. They enjoy spending family time together at home. Dr. Okoh's primary specialty is Nephrology, which is the

study of kidney disease and management of hypertension, or high blood pressure. Dr. Okoh's typical day involves treating patients in the hospital with various stages of kidney disease. He is also considered a primary care physician for dialysis patients. Dr. Okoh accepts referrals from other physicians as well.

The decision for Dr. Okoh to choose medicine as his profession was made easier because he enjoyed chemistry so much, which was one of his favorite subjects to study. Initially when Dr. Okoh began his residency, he was unsure of exactly which specialty he wanted to focus on, until he trained in Nephrology. Being able to provide education, medication, and treatment to ill patients is very satisfying to both Dr. Okoh and Dr. Aduako. Dr. Okoh says that seeing the results of the education and treatment that he

provides to patients helps fulfill his calling to medicine. He also strives to educate not just his patients, but their family and friends as well, about the different diseases and illnesses in order to promote prevention and protect their health.

His advice to those seeking this profession is that it is a needed career choice, because there will always be a need for health care providers. He says that being a physician requires a lot of time and drive. However, he says, in the end if you have a strong passion for caring for patients, you can make a real impact in the lives of many.



Samuel K. O. Okoh, MD
Nephrologist at Pee Dee
Nephrology, Florence

EXCEPTIONAL PHYSICIAN WEARS MANY HATS

By Diane Davis, Marketing Coordinator

As we celebrate World Health Day, we were privileged to interview one exceptional healthcare provider: Dr. Otis Cosby, MD, MBA, MSPH, Physician Chief for Health and Well-Being at Palmetto Health. Dr. Cosby boasts quite an impressive academic and professional background. He earned a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree in Natural Sciences from Towson University, a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) Degree and Master of Science in Public Health (M.S.P.H) Degree from Meharry Medical College, and a Masters of Business Administration (M.B.A) degree from University of Tennessee-Knoxville. In addition, Dr. Cosby is board-certified in Occupational Medicine, and currently holds medical licenses to practice in the states of Tennessee and South Carolina.

Dr. Cosby began his career as an assistant professor in the Occupational Medicine division and the M.S.P.H degree program at Meharry Medical College. In addition, while at Meharry, he served as the residency program director for physician trainees in Occupational and Environmental Medicine. As Residency Program Director, Dr. Cosby consulted with other companies, including the Metro Nashville Public Health Department and Metro Hospital, General Electric Motors Plant (Murfreesboro, TN), General Motors Corvette Plant (Bowling Green, KY), and the Alvin C. York V.A. Medical Center

(Murfreesboro, TN), among other duties. After serving in that capacity for ten years, Dr. Cosby then worked as Medical Director for the U.S. Department of Energy's Y-12 plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee for eight years, before accepting his current position at Palmetto Health.

As Physician Chief for Health and Wellness, Dr. Cosby is required to provide the primary clinical and operational leadership and oversight for the Health and Well-being service line, which brings together programs at Palmetto Health in employee health, corporate occupational health and wellness, disease management, and population health management. This position is crucial, as it will drive the clinical integration strategy and build the evidence-based business case for improving health to produce gains in productivity, performance, and health outcomes. In fact, services within his department are targeted for almost 10,000 Palmetto Health employees and over 400 client companies.

Dr. Cosby enjoys having an opportunity to develop new programs for addressing health concerns in a defined employee population, and to establish a model that can be utilized by other employers and the community at-large. However, no job is void of challenges. Some of these challenges involve convincing others of the need to have such a broad vision for improving the health care delivery system and

securing the resources necessary to make it a reality. Says Dr. Cosby: "We must have a greater customer-focus than in the past if we are going to truly make a difference in the lives of the people we serve."

Nevertheless Dr. Cosby believes that this is a really exciting time in the field of health care. He advises those interested in entering the healthcare field to have a balanced approach. Says Dr. Cosby: "Work very hard as a student and enjoy the process of learning, yet be sure to have a personal life outside of school and work." He further advises, "Consider many options in the health care field before deciding on one area, and volunteer, if necessary, in a health care setting to get that exposure. In addition, consider not only training as a practitioner but also as a manager. The field needs more well-trained leaders who can help improve health systems and not just individual patient concerns." Great advice, indeed! Dr. Cosby can be reached at Otis.Cosby@palmettohealth.org.



Dr. Otis Cosby,
MD, MBA, MSPH

We are

Proud of Our
diverse
Team Members

Palmetto Health is nationally recognized for our diverse and caring workforce, including physicians and volunteers, who strive to be remembered as providing the care and compassion we want for our families and ourselves. Thank you for making a difference every day in the lives of patients and fellow team members.

PalmettoHealth.org



CAROLINAS HOSPITAL SYSTEM NURSES RECEIVE PALMETTO GOLD AWARD

By Kim Harrington, Director of Marketing/Media

A coalition of South Carolina nursing organizations has named the state's top 100 nurses, designating them Palmetto Gold. Five of those nurses are from Carolinas Hospital System: Costa Cockfield, Chief Nursing Officer; Cassie Britt, Nurse Leader Unit 5; Meloney Munn, OR; April Collins, CVICU and Tricia Robinson, SICU. Palmetto Gold is the premier statewide nurse recognition program that salutes registered nurses for exceptional nursing practice and commitment to the profession. Nominations are received from nursing employers and peers from a variety of nursing education and health care facilities across the state. One hundred nurses are selected from the nominations received and honored during a formal gala with a specially-designed Palmetto Gold pin and certificate. "We are so pleased to honor these five exemplary nurses whose work embodies the true spirit of nursing. They are true champions of healthcare whose core values include caring, compassion, altruism and a sincere desire

to make a difference. Admired among their colleagues, they positively impact the lives of our patients daily and bring honor not only to Carolinas Hospital System, but to the nursing profession," said Darcy Craven, CEO. The criteria for selection of the award winners includes:

- Promotes and advances the profession of nursing in a positive way in the practice setting or in the community;
- Displays caring and commitment to patients, families and colleagues;
- Demonstrates leadership and assists others to grow and develop;
- Contributes to overall outcomes in the practice settings.

Award recipients display characteristics that go beyond the call of duty. They are exceptional role models that inspire their peers and bring honor to the profession. Net proceeds from the gala are used to endow scholarships for students in state-approved registered nursing programs in South Carolina, thereby continuing the legacy of excellence in

nursing practice for South Carolina citizens. The Palmetto Gold Scholarships will be managed by the South Carolina Nurses Foundation, a 501-C 3 organization, whose mission is to promote high standards of health care by insuring the advancement of the nursing profession through awards, grants and scholarships.



Pictured (l-r): Meloney Munn, OR; April Collins, CVICU; Costa Cockfield, Chief Nursing Officer; Cassie Britt, Nurse Leader Unit 5 and Tricia Robinson, SICU.

MEDICINE MAN MEETS EXPECTATIONS

By Jenafer Wenteler

Dr. Daniel Owens grew up in a medical family, so it was only natural that he chose to become a doctor. However, that wasn't always his plan. Dr. Owens' father was a pathologist and his mother was a professor of nursing. When Dr. Owens was in middle school, he would walk to his father's office across the street from his school, and watch his father work while he did his homework. By the



Daniel Owens, MD

time he entered college, he considered becoming a scientist. "I always loved science. However, I did research one summer, and quickly found that it didn't allow for much interaction with people, and I'm a social person. Because of that experience and my exposure to the medical field as a child, I decided

to apply for medical school and was accepted." Dr. Owens received his medical degree from the University of Arkansas in Little Rock, Arkansas and completed his residency at Idaho State University Family Medicine Residency in Pocatello, Idaho. Dr. Owens finds the influence of digital technology in the medical field fascinating. "Medicine has been one of the last areas of scientific research and development to switch over to a digital system rather than relying solely on papers and files. Digital technology allows us to have access to medical research, at any time, which affects the way we practice medicine. The field of family medicine is constantly evolving, which I find it challenging." Passionate about his specialty, he treats his patients like family; the ability to connect and build relationships with his patients and their families is what he loves most about being a physician.

Common health problems that Dr. Owens sees in his senior patients are heart disease and diabetes. The most challenging and devastating issues are age-specific such as dementia and gradual loss of daily

functions. In order to stay in optimal health, he advises his patients to exercise and maintain a healthy diet. Also, a yearly check-up with your physician serves as a good monitor to keeping your body on a healthy track and to detect potential health problems at an early stage. Dr. Owens and his wife, Erin, have two sons, Parker (4) and Greyson (2). They are looking forward to being active in the community and are excited to call Florence their home. When he's not working, Dr. Owens enjoys spending time with his family, watching sports - especially football and traveling. His favorite place he and his family visited was Chicago. His oldest son, Parker, is interested in science as well and enjoyed the opportunity to visit the Shedd Aquarium and Adler Planetarium in Chicago. Dr. Owens is board certified in family medicine. He is associated with Pee Dee Family Physicians and is a member of the medical staff at Carolinas Hospital System. He is accepting new patients. To schedule an appointment, please call 664-9696.

CHS' PACK EMULATING HIS FATHER

By Jenafer Wenteler

Dr. Mark Pack knew at a young age that he wanted to be a physician. His father was an OBGYN physician, and watching his father while growing up had a great impact on him and his sister. They both chose to enter the medical field. He decided to become a general surgeon and his sister, a chiropractor. Dr. Pack attended Ohio State University, where he met his wife Dru at a Baptist college retreat in Ridgecrest, N.C. He received his medical degree from Wright State University School of Medicine in Dayton, Ohio. He completed his general surgery internship at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco, CA. and his residency at Eisenhower Army Medical Center in Fort Gordon, GA.

"Medical school and residencies were much more challenging then", said Dr. Pack. "There were not as many work restrictions and regulations. Current medical students and interns have time restrictions, but back then we were limited by the fact that there were only 24 hours in a day." Though the hours were long and hard, his parents instilled in him a great work ethic which motivated him to continue pushing himself harder. Dr. Pack served in the Army Medical Corps, as a general surgeon, achieving the rank of

Major. After completing his military service he moved back to his home town, Ironton, OH, and opened a private surgery practice in Ashland, KY.

Dr. Pack specializes in general surgery and minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery. Two of the most common surgeries he encounters are gallbladder and hernia surgeries. He enjoys the opportunity to work hands-on with his patients and to make a difference in their lives. His most memorable surgery was with a young male patient who had advanced colon cancer that had spread to his liver. The diagnosis didn't look good, and the young man was not expected to live. However, after surgery to remove the cancer and chemotherapy, the patient made a complete recovery. "Instances like that make my job even more rewarding," said Dr. Pack. Dr. Pack's goal as a general surgeon is to always treat his patients like family. "I believe my patients deserve the same treatment I would expect if it was one of my family members or me that was in need of surgery," he said. The compassionate, personalized care he gives to his patients creates a warm and caring atmosphere. His wife, Dru, is a stay-at-home mom who keeps a busy schedule volunteering with her

son's school and helping in their church and community. His son, Evan, is entering his sophomore year of high school. His daughter, Rebecca, is married and currently pursuing a double major in voice and music education at Coastal Carolina University. During his free time,



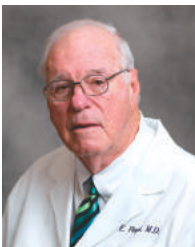
Mark S. Pack, MD, FACS, General Surgeon

Dr. Pack enjoys playing golf, biking, running marathons and traveling with his wife. Dr. Pack is board certified in general surgery. He is associated with The Floyd Medical Group and is a member of the medical staff at Carolinas Hospital System. He is accepting new patients. For more information, please call The Floyd Medical Group at 843-669-1220.

Commitment.

Every day, these skilled surgeons help people from all over the Pee Dee Region get back to their lives. They provide a wide range of minimally invasive and general surgical services. Their patients have convenient access to everything from diagnosis through treatment, right here in Florence, because our board-certified physicians are members of the medical staff at Carolinas Hospital System. They are now accepting new patients, often with same- or next-day appointments. **For more information, please call 843-669-1220.**

The Floyd Medical Group | Medical Mall A, Suite 230 | 805 Pamplico Hwy., Florence



C. Edward Floyd, MD, FACS



Frank B. Lee, Jr., MD, FACS



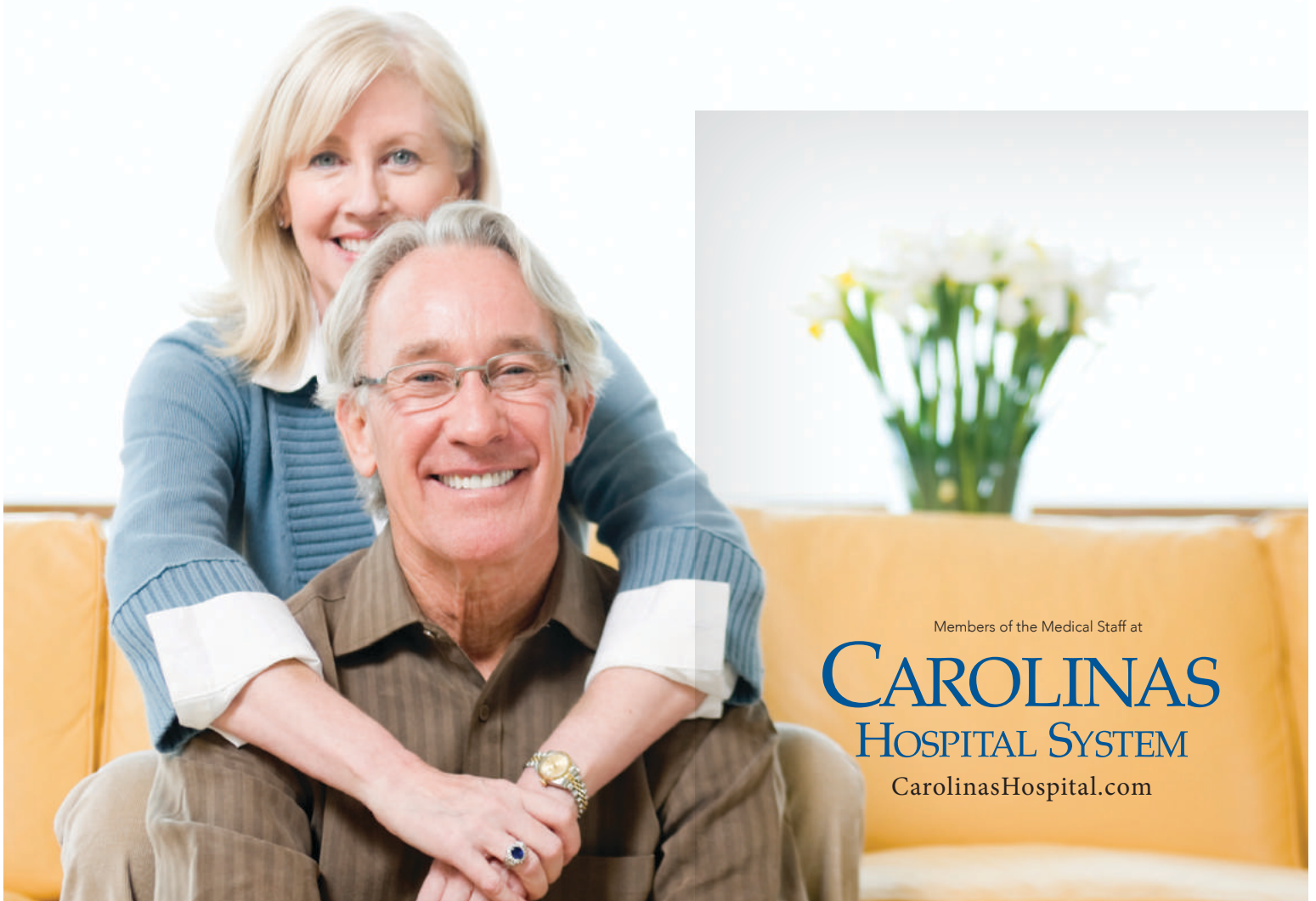
J. Mark Harris, MD, FACS



Jonathan W. Schilling, MD, FACS



Mark S. Pack, MD, FACS



Members of the Medical Staff at

CAROLINAS
HOSPITAL SYSTEM

CarolinasHospital.com

**IT'S GOOD TO SAVE
MONEY WITHOUT
HAVING TO
HUNT AROUND.**

That's just **my two cents.**

