Five High School Seniors Receive SCAC Scholarships

SCAC recently awarded scholarships to five high school students who plan to attend a South Carolina university in the fall.

SCAC’s 2016 Presidential Scholarship

Marion County

The South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC) 2016 Presidential Scholarship has been awarded to Sara K. King of Marion.

Each year, SCAC awards one $2,500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who lives in the same county as the current association president. This year’s scholarship is presented in honor of Marion County Council Member and SCAC President John Q. Atkinson, Jr.

King is an honors student and is ranked among the top five members of Marion High School’s senior class. She is the daughter of Alicia Shelley and John Sawyer, and plans to attend the University of South Carolina to major in nursing.

King received the 2015 Wendy’s High School Heisman Award for athletic, academic and community leadership. She is captain of the varsity softball team and earned varsity letters in three sports—softball, volleyball and cross country. King is also a member of the Reedy Creek Baptist Church youth group and the Marion Baptist Association’s summer mission team.

SCAC’s 2016 Board of Directors Scholarship Winners

Berkeley County

Julie M. Rowland of Hanahan High School received the Board of Directors Scholarship for Berkeley County.

Rowland is ranked third in her graduating class and plans to attend the University of South Carolina to study marketing. She is a College Board Advanced Placement Scholar, a Duke University Talent Identification Program Scholar and a S.C. Junior

At A Glance ...

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Scholar.

Rowland is also treasurer of the Hanahan High School Student Council and the National Honor Society. She mentors children as a dance teacher at Happy Feet Dance Studio and is a member of the Happy Feet Dancers Competition Company.

Her community service activities include performing at nursing homes and senior care facilities, serving as head crucifer at the Church of the Good Shepherd and participating in the church youth program. She is the daughter of Jackie Rowland of Hanahan and Edward Rowland of Tracy, Calif.

**Dillon High School**

Nathan T. Carter of Dillon High School received the Board of Directors Scholarship for Dillon County.

Carter is the president of Dillon High School’s student body and the salutatorian of his graduating class. He is also a member of the National Honor Society, the Interact Club and the yearbook committee. He plans to study biology and physics at the University of South Carolina.

Carter attends Dillon Church of God with his family, Renee and Carlos Juarez of Hamer. He mentors young children through its Extreme Kids Ministry and is also a member of the Redemption youth group, the church choir, the drama team and the youth media team.

**Lee County**

Hartley A. Craven of Robert E. Lee Academy received the Board of Directors Scholarship for Lee County.

Craven is the valedictorian and the senior class president at Robert E. Lee Academy. She is also a member of the varsity golf and tennis teams, the Anchor Club and the Beta Club.

Craven plans to attend Clemson University to study health science. She is the daughter of Walby and Charlene Craven of Bishopville and is employed at the S.C. Cotton Museum. Her family attends Hebron United Methodist Church where she is a member of the Salkehatchie Summer Service team, participates in community mission activities and provides the trinity chime for worship services.

**Oconee County**

Whitney R. Oakley, the daughter of Bill and Kim Oakley of Seneca, received the Board of Directors Scholarship for Oconee County.

Oakley will attend the Calhoun Honors College at Clemson University to major in microbiology. She is Oconee Christian Academy’s (OCA) valedictorian and has been the top student for her grade level since first grade. She has also completed eight college-level courses for 26 credit hours through Southern Wesleyan University and Tri-County Technical College.

Oakley is president of OCA’s Beta Club, co-editor of the yearbook and a student government representative. She captained the girls varsity basketball and volleyball teams for two years and lettered in both sports. She was also selected for the S.C. Association of Christian Schools All-Conference Volleyball Team and The Journal’s All-Mountain Lakes Volleyball Team. Her community activities include volunteer service for Belvedere Commons assisted living facility, Foothills Pregnancy Care Center, Golden Corner Food Pantry and local Special Olympics.

SCAC’s Scholarship Selection Committees (See p. 3) met in the spring to evaluate applicants for these awards. Applicants were required to submit application forms and write essays on their aspirations and goals. The scholarship selections were based on their essays, grades, school activities and community involvement.
2016 SCAC Scholarship Selection Committees

Presidential Scholarship Selection Committee

MARION COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP—L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Richland County Council Vice Chairman (Chairman); Julie J. Armstrong, Charleston County Clerk of Court; and Joseph R. Branham, Chester County Council Vice Chairman

Board of Directors Scholarship Selection Committees

BERKELEY COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP—Waymon Mumford, Florence County Council (Chairman); Henry E. “Sel” Hemingway, Jr., Georgetown County Administrator; and Claude Thomas, Abbeville County Council

DILLON COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP—Diane B. Anderson, Laurens County Council (Chairman); Dwight L. Stewart, Jr., Clarendon County Council Chairman; and Ronald Young, Aiken County Council Chairman

LEE COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP—Belinda D. Copeland, Darlington County Treasurer (Chairman); Charles T. Edens, Sumter County Council; and W.B. Wilson, Williamsburg County Council

OCONEE COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP—F. Pickens Williams, Jr., Barnwell County Administrator (Chairman); Donald E. Hancock, Saluda County Council Chairman; and Johnnie Wright, Sr., Orangeburg County Council Chairman

Program at a Glance for SCAC’s 49th Annual Conference

Sunday, July 31, 2016
Worship Service 8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m. Bayleys Baroney
Registration 10:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Ballroom Foyer
Exhibit Area Open 10:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Ballroom J and West Hall
J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore 12 noon–4:00 p.m. Sabal Palm Room
Memorial Awards Competition 2:00–5:00 p.m. Ballroom A
Clerks to Council 3:00 p.m. Capt. Jack Stoney Room
Nominating Committee 3:30 p.m. Bayleys Baroney Room
Constitution, Resolutions and Bylaws Committee 6:00–7:00 p.m. Grand Ballroom
Exhibitors’ Reception 12 noon–1:30 p.m. Conroy’s Restaurant

Monday, August 1, 2016
Exhibit Area Open 8:30 a.m.–12 noon Ballroom J and West Hall
Registration 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Ballroom Foyer
Clerks to Council 9:00 a.m.–12 noon Ballroom D
Managers, Administrators and Supervisors 9:00 a.m.–12 noon Ballrooms E–F
County Council Coalition 9:00 a.m.–12 noon Ballrooms A–C
Betty T. Roper Elected Women Officials’ Luncheon (Ticket Required) 12 noon–1:30 p.m. Conroy’s Restaurant
WORKSHOPS: (See Concurrent Workshops, P.4)
• Fraud: Is Your County at Risk?
• Law Enforcement Liability
• Overview of the 2016 Legislative Session
• The Emergency Management Playbook: What’s Your Role?
President’s Reception 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 2, 2016
Registration 8:30 a.m.–12 noon Ballroom Foyer
General Session 9:30 a.m. Ballroom B
Annual Conference Banquet (Ticket Required) 6:45–9:00 p.m. Ballrooms A–F
Dance 9:00 p.m.–12 midnight Grand Ballroom

July 2016
The following workshops will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. and repeated from 3 to 4 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 1 at SCAC’s 49th Annual Conference:

**Fraud: Is Your County at Risk? (Ballroom A)**

As stewards of public resources, it is important for county officials to understand how their counties may be exposed to financial fraud risks. What steps can your county take to mitigate these risks? Does the annual audit uncover all fraudulent activities? During this workshop, participants will learn about the factors that contribute to fraud and possible warning signs. Examples of fraud and corrective actions will also be shared.

**Presenters:** Elizabeth W. Latham, Former County Treasurer/Finance Director; Kevin R. Madden, CPA, Greene Finney & Horton, LLP

**Law Enforcement Liability (Ballroom B)**

Recent court decisions and increased media attention on law enforcement conduct have brought the issue of legal liability to the forefront. Is your county prepared to handle the negative press and legal complexities of a law enforcement lawsuit? What liability does your county have for detention centers and officers? Are you up-to-date with state and federal laws involving civil actions against law enforcement officers? Workshop presenters will discuss the role of the county governing body, the sheriff, and county law enforcement personnel in avoiding claims of excessive law enforcement activities.

**Presenters:** John K. DeLoache, Staff Attorney, SCAC; Robert Benfield, Risk Manager, SCAC

**Overview of the 2016 Legislative Session (Ballroom C)**

During this workshop, SCAC staff will provide an overview of the 2016 legislative session and discuss bills that are on the horizon for next year. Participants will learn about the status of roads funding, the Local Government Fund, the Freedom of Information Act and the ethics act.

**Presenters:** Timothy C. Winslow, Assistant General Counsel, SCAC; Joshua C. Rhodes, Staff Attorney, SCAC

**The Emergency Management Playbook: What’s Your Role? (Ballroom D)**

Emergency management is a diverse field tasked with disaster planning and response to help communities recover in an expeditious manner. Success is dependent upon the cooperation of various stakeholders. Critical decisions, often involving significant costs, are made by the counties’ leaders to guide response and recovery efforts in the right direction. In this session, experienced county administrators will discuss the roles and responsibilities of the council members, chief administrative officers, and emergency managers.

**Presenters:** Rose N. Dobson-Elliott, Administrator, Hampton County; Henry E. “Sel” Hemingway, Jr., Administrator, Georgetown County; James E. Hipp, Deputy Administrator, Spartanburg County; and Jason L. Ward, Administrator, Dorchester County

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**Courses to be Offered at Institute of Government for County Officials**

In conjunction with SCAC’s 49th Annual Conference, the Institute of Government for County Officials will offer the following courses:

**Saturday, July 30, 2016**

**Level I:**

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Public Budgeting [R]**

During this course, participants will learn about county financial planning and policies, budget preparation and control, capital budgeting and debt administration, financing tools for local government, and how to interact most effectively with the county’s “financial” people. Various types of budgets, the meaning of budgetary basis, “fund accounting” and why it is used in government will also be addressed. Through class discussion, participants will learn how to estimate and track real and personal property taxes, discuss assessment ratios and millage, and calculate the value of a mil. New or pending legislation that will impact county finances will also be discussed.

**Instructor:** James E. Kirk, Executive Director, Institute Budget Planning and Administration, Georgia Institute of Technology

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Orientation II [R]**

This course takes a closer look at the wide array of government-provided services that impact the everyday lives of county residents. Service areas that will be discussed include economic development, health and human services, law enforcement and public safety, parks and recreation, and public works. Laws and
regulations, intergovernmental relationships, availability of resources, and other issues that shape the provision of various services will be explored.

**Instructor:** Jon B. Pierce, Ph.D., Senior Fellow, Institute for Public Service and Policy Research, University of South Carolina

**Developing Good Leadership Skills [E]**
This course will cover the various styles of leadership, the differences between management and leadership, and the complex interactive system in which county leaders must function. Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on their own personal leadership style and to consider the impact of this style on county citizens and staff.

**Instructor:** William E. Tomes, Fellow, Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities, College of Charleston

**Current Issues Facing County Government: Engines of Economic Growth**
Counties play an integral role in the state and national economy. During this session, experienced panelists will discuss key indicators of county economic growth and where counties should consider investing resources. Participants will learn about the state’s demographic trends and related job growth areas. Other topics will include economic diversification, development patterns of key industry clusters, and the role of county council and economic development staff.

**Moderator:** Anna B. Berger, Director of Research and Training, SCAC

**Panelists:** Matthew D. Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Counties; Vivian Fleming-McGhaney, Chairman, Sumter County Council; Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director, S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office; Jay Schwedler, President & CEO, Sumter Economic Development; Ann Marie Stieritz, President and CEO, S.C. Council on Competitiveness

**Planning and Land Use [R]**
During this session, participants will review the requirements of the Comprehensive Planning Act of 1994, and the roles and relationships of county council, the planning commission, and the zoning board of appeals. Topics will include legal issues impacting local land use actions, as well as constitutional standards that apply to county programs. Recruitment for members of the planning commission and zoning board of appeals, the importance of rules of procedure and bylaws, and the value of long-term community planning will also be discussed.

**Instructor:** Mark W. Tollison, Attorney, Greenville County

**Employment Law: What Counties Need to Know [E]**
County officials should have a basic understanding of the state and federal laws that affect personnel administration in counties. Topics discussed during this class will include employment-at-will, employee handbooks, drug testing, wage and hour issues, discrimination, and grievance procedures. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Family Medical Leave Act, military leave, E-verify, political activity, and the new federal overtime rule will also be addressed.

**Instructor:** Linda Pearce Edwards, Attorney, Gignilliat, Savitz & Bettis, LLP

**Taking Your Civility Pulse**
At times, policy debate can become very challenging. How is the decorum of your council meetings portrayed in the media or described by your citizens? What role do council members and citizens who attend council meetings play? How do council members interact with each other outside of council meetings? During this session, participants will explore techniques for having civil discourse while discussing difficult issues.

**Instructor:** C. Walton McBride, Jr., Senior Public Service Associate, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, The University of Georgia

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*Approved for three hours of continuing education credit for planning/zoning officials and employees.*
South Carolina Association of Counties
P.O. Box 8207
Columbia, S.C. 29202-8207

Attend SCAC’s 2016 Awards Competition

Make plans to attend one of the best educational opportunities offered during SCAC’s Annual Conference—The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award Competition.

This year’s competition, which promises to offer a treasure trove of ideas, will take place on Sunday, July 31, from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Hilton Head Marriott Hotel. The competition is the first event of SCAC’s 49th Annual Conference, and all conference participants are encouraged to attend. Don’t miss this opportunity to learn new ideas and solutions from your peers.

The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award recognizes counties that address community challenges, implement operational improvements, or enhance their citizens’ quality of life in a unique way. The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award honors those counties that work collaboratively with other jurisdictions to solve community problems.

SCAC Announces Funding for Local Governments

The S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) has announced the availability of $25 million in competitive grants for the program year beginning July 1.

The funding is available to local governments and public utilities statewide through two competitive grant program categories—Basic Infrastructure and Economic Infrastructure.

The application deadlines are Sept. 12, 2016, and March 13, 2017. For more information, please visit www.ria.sc.gov

A free application workshop is scheduled to be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on July 19 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln St., Columbia. But you must register by July 12 by contacting Pamela Williams (803) 737-0390 or info@ria.sc.gov.