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Newsletter of the South Carolina Association of Counties

**July 2017** 

# SCAC Awards Scholarships to Five High School Seniors

## SCAC's 2017 Presidential Scholarship Winner



Nicole E. Foscolos Bishop England High School CHARLESTON COUNTY

#### SCAC's 2017 Board of Directors Scholarship Winners



Claire H. Manuel
Patrick Henry Academy
ALLENDALE COUNTY



Haley N. Sherbert

Gaffney Senior High School
CHEROKEE COUNTY



Emily W. Ouyang
Wilson High School
FLORENCE COUNTY



Chandini M. Patel Easley High School PICKENS COUNTY

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

SCAC's Scholarship Selection Committees met in the spring to evaluate students who submitted scholarship applications, and selected recipients based on their essays, grades, school activities and community involvement.

Scholarship applicants must plan to attend a South Carolina college/university or two-year technical college in the fall.

#### **SCAC's 2017 Presidential Scholarship**

#### **Charleston County**

SCAC awarded its 2017 Presidential Scholarship to Nicole E. Foscolos of Bishop England High School.

Each year, SCAC awards one \$2,500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who is a resident of the same county as that year's SCAC president. This year's scholarship was presented in honor of Charleston County Clerk of Court and SCAC President Julie J. Armstrong.

Foscolos, the daughter of John and Mary Foscolos of Charleston, plans to study nursing at Anderson University. She was secretary of Bishop England High School's student government and served two terms as class president. She was a member of the National Honor Society and worked as an attendant at James Island County Park.

Foscolos and her family attend Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, where she is a peer team leader. She is also a member of the Catholic Diocese of Charleston Youth Evangelization Team.

#### **SCAC's 2017 Board of Directors Scholarship Winners**

Each year, SCAC awards four \$2,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are residents of counties chosen by lot. Selected in the 2017 draw were Allendale, Cherokee, Florence and Pickens counties.

#### **Allendale County**

Claire H. Manuel of Patrick Henry Academy received a Board of Directors Scholarship for Allendale County.

Manuel attended Palmetto Girls State and the USC Salkehatchie Junior Leadership Program. Ranked fourth in her class, (Continued on next page)





she served as senior class president and yearbook editor. A former member of the Patriots' softball team and varsity cheerleading squad, she was also named a South Carolina Independent School Association Scholar Athlete for four consecutive years.

Manuel, the daughter of Larry and Lynn Manuel of Fairfax, plans to study graphic design at Lander University. Her family attends First Baptist Church of Fairfax where she participated in missions, served in the community soup kitchen and assisted with vacation bible school.

#### **Cherokee County**

Haley N. Sherbert of Gaffney Senior High School received a Board of Directors Scholarship for Cherokee County.

Sherbert was ranked among the top 5 percent of her graduating class and plans to attend Lander University to study biology. A former member of the Beta Club and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, she served as vice president of the Green Teens environmental advocacy club. Sherbert also captained the varsity soccer team for two years and was a two-time recipient of the tennis coach's award.

Her community service activities include volunteering for Meals on Wheels, the Salvation Army, the Boys and Girls Club, and Street Reach Ministry of Memphis, Tenn. The daughter of Robert and Marsha Sherbert of Cowpens, she is an active member of Oakdale Baptist Church where she serves on the children's and baptismal committees.



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SCAC PRESIDENT
Julie J. Armstrong
Charleston County Clerk of Court

Executive Director Michael B. Cone

Editor & Photographer W. Stuart Morgan III

#### **Florence County**

Emily W. Ouyang of Wilson High School received a Board of Directors Scholarship for Florence County.

Ouyang, ranked among the top 5 percent of her graduating class, is pursuing an International Baccalaureate diploma. The daughter of Amy C. Ouyang of Florence, she plans to attend the University of South Carolina to major in biology sciences. Ouyang attended Palmetto Girls State and captained Wilson High School's varsity swim team. She also served as president of the Science National Honor Society and the Civinettes.

Ouyang, an accomplished musician, served as an instructor for the Jack J. Hanna Jr. Academy Strings Project and Florence County's String Camp. She is a concert mistress for the Fleur-de-Lis Strings Orchestra. She was a member of the Wilson High School Orchestra, and the Honors All-State and All-Region orchestras.

#### **Pickens County**

Chandini M. Patel of Easley High School received a Board of Directors Scholarship for Pickens County.

Patel, the daughter of Gita and Mahesh Patel, was ranked second in her graduating class. She plans to study biochemistry at the University of South Carolina. A three-time recipient of the Easley Rotary Club Scholastic Achievement Award, Patel was a member of the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta.

Patel's community service activities include volunteering at the Pickens County Habitat for Humanity Restore and gardening at Baptist Easley Hospital. She served as vice president of the Environmental Club and was a member of the Interact Club, the Spanish Club and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



# GASB Issues 2Q GASB Outlook e-newsletter

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued its second quarter issue (2Q) of the *GASB Outlook* enewsletter on June 6. To view the 2Q 2017 issue, please **visit www.gasb.org/gasboutlook**. To subscribe to the e-newsletter, click on the News & Media navigation button at the top of the page. Then, scroll down and select the "click here" hyperlink in the "Subscribe" section bottom-left.







# 2017 SCAC Scholarship Selection Committees

#### **Presidential Scholarship Selection Committee**

**CHARLESTON COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP: CHAIR**—L. Gregory Pearce Jr., Richland County Council Member; Joseph R. Branham, Chester County Council Vice Chairman; and Johnnie Wright Sr., Orangeburg County Council Chairman

#### **Board of Directors Scholarship Selection Committees**

**ALLENDALE COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP: CHAIR**—Waymon Mumford, Florence County Council Member; Henry E. "Sel" Hemingway Jr., Georgetown County Administrator; and Debra B. Summers, Lexington County Council Vice Chairman

CHEROKEE COUNTY: CHAIR—Diane B. Anderson, Laurens County Council Member; Dwight L. Stewart Jr., Clarendon County Council Chairman; and Ronald Young, Aiken County Council Chairman

**FLORENCE COUNTY: CHAIR**—F. Pickens Williams Jr., Barnwell County Administrator; Julie J. Armstrong, Charleston County Clerk of Court; and Donald E. Hancock, Saluda County Council Chairman

**PICKENS COUNTY: CHAIR**—Belinda D. Copeland, Darlington County Treasurer; Charles T. Edens, Sumter County Council Member; and W.B. Wilson, Williamsburg County Council Member

### **Program at a Glance for SCAC's 50th Annual Conference**

July 30 – Aug. 2, 2017 Hilton Head Marriott, Hilton Head Island

#### Sunday, July 30, 2017

Worship Service

Registration
Exhibit Area Open
J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore
Memorial Awards Competition
Clerks to Council
Nominating Committee
Constitution, Resolutions and Bylaws Committee
Exhibitors' Reception

#### Monday, July 31, 2017

Exhibit Area Open
Registration
County Official Group Meetings
County Council Coalition
Betty T. Roper Elected Women Officials'
Luncheon (Ticket Required)

#### WORKSHOPS

• Getting the Most Out of Your 2020 Census • Improving Quality of Life through Nuisance Abatement

Legislative Update

•Combatting Mental Illness in County Jails

President's Reception

#### Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Registration
General Session
Annual Conference Banquet (Ticket Required)
Dance

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 12 noon – 3:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon 12 noon – 1:30 p.m.

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

8:30 a.m. – 12 noon 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon 6:45 p.m.– 9:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. – 12:00 midnight Ballroom F Ballroom Foyer Ballroom J and West Hall Sabal Palm Room

Ballroom A Capt. Jack Stoney Room Bayleys Barony Room Grand Ballroom

Ballroom J and West Hall Ballroom Foyer

Ballrooms A–C Conroy's Restaurant

Ballroom A
Ballroom B
Ballroom C
Ballroom D
Grand Ballroom

Ballroom Foyer Ballrooms A–F Grand Ballroom Grand Ballroom





# Changes to the Freedom of Information Act

By M. Kent Lesesgne, SCAC Senior Staff Attorney

The S.C. General Assembly made some significant changes to the Freedom of Information Act, or FOIA as it's commonly referred to. The changes are found in Act 67 of 2017, which became immediately effective when the Governor signed the legislation into law on May 19, 2017.

This article, which highlights some of the major changes, is intended for general information on this topic. Please consult your attorney for specific issues affecting your county. SCAC staff has recorded an online webinar that outlines in more detail the legislative changes made to FOIA. The webinar can be found on the SCAC website at **www.SCCounties.org.** Under the site's Services tab, click on the Education and Training Webinars tab. SCAC also published a Technical Bulletin, dated June 7, 2017, that documents the changes.

The Act changes the response time to a FOIA request and adds a time frame for the documents to be produced. For documents that are two years old or less, a public body has 10 days to respond to a FOIA request. Prior to the law change, a public body had 15 days to respond.

In addition, the public body has 30 days from the response date to actually produce the documents. Under the old law, there was no time frame for documents to be produced. If the documents requested are older than two years, a public body has 20 days to respond, and 35 days from the response date to produce the documents.

The Act requires public bodies to post their fee schedules online and sets a threshold for hourly charges. A deposit can be required for large or time-consuming FOIA requests, and the public body can withhold the documents until they receive full

payment. The Act also makes dash cam videos and recordings public documents, but allows law enforcement to bring an action in circuit court to withhold the recordings if they meet certain requirements.

A person can bring an action in circuit court for violation of FOIA and a public body can bring an action for unduly burdensome or improper FOIA requests. Criminal penalties, formerly under the FOIA, are replaced with a civil penalty. Finally, the Act makes it a crime to obtain personal information from a county or other political subdivision for commercial solicitation.



# Use SCAC's Mobile App at This Year's Annual Conference!



This useful app contains the annual conference's schedule, speaker information, exhibitor information, and maps of the venue. It updates automatically, making sure users al-

ways have the most current information right at their fingertips.

The app is free and is available for download from the App Store or Google Play by searching for "SCAC." Users may need to know their App Store or Google Play password in order to download the app. For users who want to use the app on a Windows phone, on a Blackberry, or even from a desktop, the web app is available online at www.scacapp.com.

Visit **www.SCCounties.org** for more information.

Announcing SCAC's
2017 Awards Competition

Is your county looking for innovative ideas? Make plans to attend one of the best educational opportunities offered during SCAC's Annual Conference—the J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Competition.

This year's competition will take place on Sunday, July 30, beginning at noon at the Hilton Head Marriott Hotel. The competition is the first event of SCAC's 50th 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.





# SC RIA to Hold Application Workshop on July 19th

The SC Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) Office of Grant Programs is holding an application workshop to provide interested applicants with information on the grant programs available and how to apply for funds.

TOPICS: Eligible applicants, maximum grant amounts, match requirements, eligible activities, application due dates and other program information.

WHO: Representatives of local governments, special purpose districts, public service districts, public works commissions, engineers and other interested persons are invited to attend.

There is no cost to participate, but you must register by July 14, 2017, by contacting Pamela Williams at (803) 737-0390 or pwilliams@ria.sc.gov.

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ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

**Advocacy. Education. Collaboration.** 



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#### **WEBCASTS & WEBINARS FOR 2017**

Webcasts and webinars will be published on this calendar when scheduled.

For more information, please contact Leslie Christy-Jennings, SCAC, at (803) 252-7255 or ljennings@scac.sc. Or visit SCAC's webcast page at: http://www.sccounties.org/webcast-training

### **SCAC's 2017 Conference Calendar**

July 29-30 **Institute of Government** July 30-Aug. 2 **Annual Conference** Hilton Head Marriott Aug. 15 Setoff Debt/Gear Embassy Suites, Columbia Sept. 13-14 **Policy Steering Committee Meetings** SCAC Office, Columbia **Continuing Education Update for Risk Managers** Sept. 14 Embassy Suites, Columbia Oct. 18 **Institute of Government** Oct. 19 **County Council Coalition** Embassy Suites, Columbia Nov. 7-8 **Policy Steering Committee Meetings** SCAC Office, Columbia Nov. 30-Dec. 2 Legislative Conference Renaissance Charleston S.C. Local Government Attorneys' Institute Dec. 8 DoubleTree by Hilton, Columbia

You can register and pay online for SCAC conferences at www.sccounties.org/meetings.



### NACo's 2017 Conference Calendar

July 21-24

**Annual Conference and Exposition** *Columbus, Ohio* 

YEARS 1967-2017

SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

# Purpose of the SCAC

- To promote more efficient county governments
- To study, discuss and recommend improvements in government
- To investigate and provide means for the exchange of ideas and experiences between county officials
- To promote and encourage education of county officials
- To collect, analyze and distribute information about county government
- To cooperate with other organizations
- To promote legislation which supports efficient administration of local government in South Carolina
  - ♦ For more information about the SCAC, please contact SCAC'S public information office at (803) 252-7255 or smorgan@scac.sc.