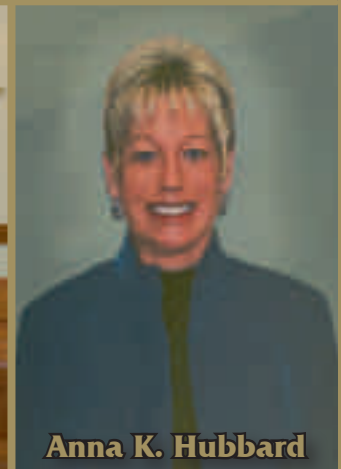


COUNTY FOCUS

South Carolina Association of Counties

Volume 27

Number 1



Anna K. Hubbard

York County's New Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center



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COVER PHOTOS: Top Photo—York County's new Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center. (See story, P. 6); Center Photo—YORK COUNTY COUNCIL—Council Chairman Britt Blackwell; Council Members Bruce Henderson, William "Bump" Roddey, Christi Cox, Chad Williams and Robert Winkler; and Council Vice-Chairman Michael Johnson. (Photo courtesy of Rakiya Burkett, Timeless Arts Photography); Center-Right Photo—Portrait of the late Anna K. Hubbard, former York County assistant manager; and Bottom Photo—Moments before pushing York County's newest fire engine into the maintenance and fabrication shop to christen the new fire training center during the ceremony, firefighters, officials and some of their children gather for a group photo in front of the vehicle. (Photos by Stuart Morgan)



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W. Stuart Morgan III, Editor

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Updates on Four Issues in D.C.: The Budget, Puerto Rico, Zika Virus, and Apple

*By U.S. Congressman Mark Sanford
(R-S.C., 1st District)*

Thomas Jefferson believed that the government closest to the people was the one that governed best, and having seen government from both D.C. and S.C. perspectives, I know how right he was! In that vein, may I start with a simple thank you for all you do as county leaders in making South Carolina a better place to call home. The county really is the front line when it comes to not talking about government service ... but performing it.

This is not to say that there aren't a few things happening in D.C., and accordingly, I write with a brief update on four issues.

Show Me the Money ...

The front row seat of what happens in any political year lies in how much are you spending and what are you spending it on. In that regard, the budget is once again a hot button issue.

The debate that broke down the budget this year was a debate over \$30 billion. In the scope of a \$4 trillion budget, this is beyond a rounding error. But directionally, that small difference was significant, and accordingly, we find ourselves without a budget.

In fact, the real number was \$1.04 billion versus \$1.07 billion. Ten months ago, 228 of 245 House Republicans voted for a budget at the lower number. After this, there was pressure to raise spending, so a bipartisan budget deal was struck between then Speaker of the House, John Boehner, and the President. It raised



U.S. Congressman Mark Sanford

spending by \$80 billion. Last year, in December in the so-called omnibus bill, the first installment of \$50 billion was spent. In January of this year, the Congressional Budget Office came out with a revised economic forecast that lowered projected economic growth. For every one tenth of 1 percent of change in economic growth, federal revenue goes up or down by \$300 billion. In this case, the forecast was down two tenths of 1 percent, which meant \$600 billion less to the federal government over the next decade.

If your county budget was projected to go down by \$600 billion, would you in turn not spend the extra \$30 billion of proposed budget increase? That's ultimately what the budget tug-of-war in Washington

has been about over the last two months, and at this point, I don't believe there will be a budget.

What Happens in Puerto Rico Won't Stay in Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico has about the same population as South Carolina. Somehow they've accumulated more than \$70 billion in debt and as a consequence are seeking help. Here's the problem though, the privileges afforded the island will not be limited to the island. What's at play here is the sanctity of the rule of law in our country and what it means to say "full faith and credit."

The municipal bond market is \$3.7 trillion in size and a lot of retirees in South Carolina depend on municipal bonds to pay for their retirement. Congress should be very careful about its tinkering here because states like Illinois or California that have racked up significant debts are sure to be watching.

In the debate that has ensued, Democrats on the Hill have joined with the administration in pushing for a bailout. Republicans have proposed a form of expedited bankruptcy. It strikes me that two things are in order. One, let the judicial branch work through bankruptcy law as it stands rather than creating a new venue for Puerto Rico that has far-reaching implications in both our municipal market and what other debt-laden states do next. Two, look for ways to make Puerto Rico
(See **Four Issues**, P. 4)



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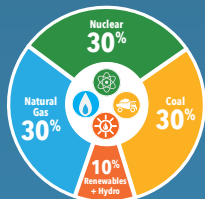
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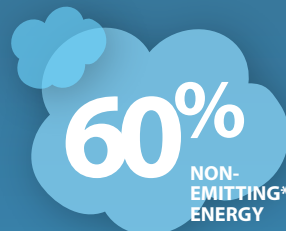
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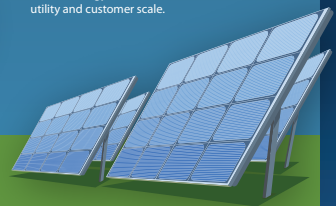


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Four Issues ...

(Continued from P. 2)

more competitive. This would include alterations to things like the Jones Act, which makes shipping costs much more expensive to that island than neighboring islands in the Caribbean.

We should also look for things that will help drive the Puerto Rican economy. It's for this reason that I introduced the Puerto Rico Minimum Wage Improvement Act, which would allow for Puerto Rico to modify its minimum wage as other U.S. territories have done. In short, it's going to take a lot more than a bailout or new bankruptcy laws.

We Have Mosquitos Here, Too

Cases of the Zika virus have been reported in almost all the states by now, including South Carolina. Zika is rarely lethal, but if a pregnant woman contracts it, it can have serious consequences for the baby. Given that there are about 60,000 babies born each year in our state,

it seems that the stakes of this disease are very high. So, it strikes me that a speedy and proportional response to the threat posed is necessary.

In that vein, I voted for a bill that passed the House this month, the Zika Response Appropriations Act, which would provide \$622 million in funding toward mosquito control and researching a vaccine. This goes hand-in-hand with the administration transferring almost \$600 million from the Ebola fund to fight the Zika virus. Moving old spending that's no longer needed toward new problems is how government programs should work ... but so rarely do.

Snowden May Have Blown the Whistle, but Government Is Still Watching

Last time I checked, it was not the job of private enterprise in America to work for the federal government. It's one thing to cooperate with government; it's another to be told what they should do. Apple is not simply a ward of the state.

In this vein, if you are one of the

101 million iPhone users in the U.S., you may have noticed an email a few months ago regarding the FBI's demands that Apple create a "back door" to unlock one of the San Bernardino shooter's phones. In the email, Apple CEO Tim Cook explained that while the FBI may use different words to describe this tool, building a version of iOS that bypasses Apple's security would in essence create a back-door to looking at your phone. The government may argue that its use

would be limited to this case, but there is no way to guarantee that, and herein lies the problem.

All this reopens a several thousand-year-old debate across the pages of history on the properly constrained role of government—and the constant tension between freedom and security. The Greeks and Romans once had these same debates ... not on the phone but on government's role in accessing your stuff!

It was Benjamin Franklin who said: "Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither." But I think that the words of Apple CEO Tim Cook are a little more appropriate: "Americans shouldn't have to choose between privacy and national security. We're America. We should have both."

It seems the Founding Fathers would agree, which is why they so deliberately included the Fourth Amendment in our Constitution.

The House addressed this issue last month by passing the Email Privacy Act, which would require law enforcement to get a search warrant before they can look at private emails—a privacy standard long held for conventional mail.

I was an original cosponsor for this bill because I agree with the original reasoning behind our Fourth Amendment: there needs to be a zone of privacy around our personal property and private lives. With probable cause, this zone can and should be pierced, but until then, government shouldn't be able to interfere with no restrictions.

On that front, as our world continues to evolve, I believe it is important that our privacy laws keep pace. This is especially true in terms of technology as more and more of our interactions are conducted through electronic rather than paper means.

So, there you have it. A quick update from Washington. Four issues down ... many more to be covered, but in the meantime, I hope your summer goes well.



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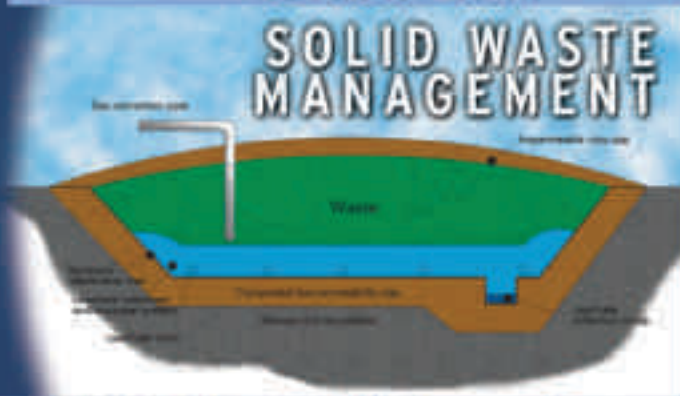
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York County's New Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center

By W. Stuart Morgan III

York County hosted a grand opening ceremony on Saturday, February 6 for the county's new Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center, located about five miles southeast of York.

Approximately 300 persons—including York County leaders, dozens of firefighters and many guests—attended the impressive ceremony, which was almost as impressive as the new training center. (See Pp. 8–11)

The fire training center was dedicated and named in honor of the late Anna K. Hubbard, who served as York County assistant manager from 2006 to 2015 and interim county manager from 2013 to 2014. Ms. Hubbard was slain on July 5, 2015, about mid-way through the project.

"Our county needed this state-of-the-art fire training center," said Dr. Britt Blackwell, York County Council Chairman. "We rented a fire training facility from the City of Rock Hill, but it was outdated and ill-equipped."

Construction of the new \$6 million fire training center was funded by a \$45 million bond referendum York County residents voted for in October 2008. Built between 2014 and 2016, the center was designed primarily to train professional and volunteer firefighters who work for fire departments and agencies in York County and surrounding counties. However, it also offers training to firefighters everywhere.

"We dedicated our new facility to Ms. Anna Hubbard, who accepted any job responsibility as assistant county manager with a can do smile," Dr. Blackwell said. "Ms. Hubbard was the



administration's liaison with our county's firefighters, and she was the main person credited with convincing York County Council of the county's need for the facility."

William P. Shanahan, Jr., York County Manager, said Ms. Hubbard, whose many responsibilities included the county's fire safety operations, worked



Anna K. Hubbard
Feb. 12, 1965 – July 5, 2015
(From a portrait.
See P. 8)

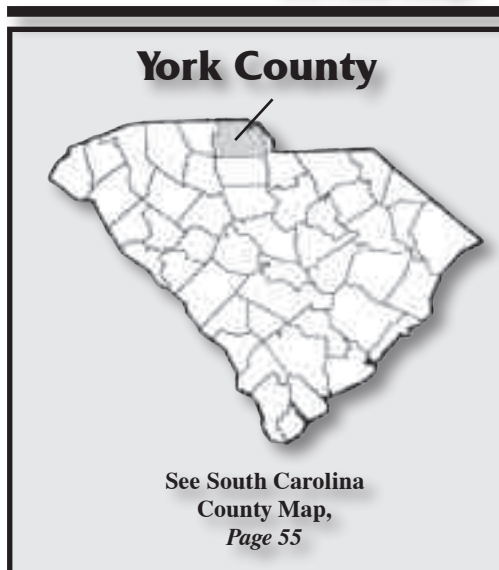
Ms. Hubbard worked hard to assist firefighters in every way. The project "was just a sample of how she put her heart and soul into the fire service."

— William P. Shannahan, Jr.
York County Manager

hard to assist firefighters in every way. He also said that the project to build the new fire training center "was just a sample of how she put her heart into the fire service." Because York County's firefighters work with firefighters from surrounding counties and local industries in times of need, he explained, it made sense to design the facility where firefighters could train together.

Billy Weatherford, Director, York County Department of Fire Safety, serves as a liaison between the county's fire chiefs, and the Board of Rural Control and county management. He said York County's fire department responds to mutual aid calls outside the state as well as outside the county, and agreed with Shanahan that firefighters who work together need to train together.

The fire training facility allows local firefighters to receive training without having to travel elsewhere. Because it has sufficient facilities and space, up to 600 firefighters can take a two-day



course at the same time. Courses do not need to be held two to three times.

In addition, separate fire crews can simultaneously receive different types of training.

The Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center

The Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center, located on a 50-acre site at 2500 McFarland Road, includes additional acreage for future expansion and the addition of new county offices.

The facility features a 14,000-square-foot administration building that includes:

- Offices for the fire director, senior marshal and five fire inspectors;
- Two offices for the Region 2 Headquarters of the S.C. Fire Academy serving Cherokee, Chester, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Newberry and York counties;
- A large indoor classroom capable of seating a total of 100 persons that can be converted to three smaller classrooms;
- An eight-bay, 10,400-square-foot maintenance and fabrication shop for fire trucks and other emergency vehicles;
- A library;
- A canteen;
- A kitchen;
- A laundry with an extractor to clean turn-out gear;
- Two shower rooms;
- Storage areas, including rooms where visiting firefighters can store their gear when training;
- A large storage area for equipment; and
- Several restrooms.

The eight-bay maintenance and fabrication shop is used to maintain fire trucks and other vehicles.

But it is also used to construct fire trucks.

“Except for fire engines, we can construct all types of fire trucks—including tankers, service trucks and four-wheel grass trucks,” Weatherford explained. “We’ll buy a truck chassis, for example, and equip it with tanks, hoses and electronics—including a radio—to serve a fire tanker.

“So, a vehicle that would have cost our county about \$225,000,” he added, “only costs our county about \$175,000.”

The fire training center also includes:

- A separate four-story drill tower with an elevator shaft for rescue training;
- A separate two-story burn house that includes six rooms (including four burn rooms) and a fire place for training firefighters to attack fires; and
- A six-bay truck storage building for a training engine, tanker and ladder truck.

York County’s 9/11 Memorial, previously located at the county’s old training center in Rock Hill, has been placed in front of the center. The memorial features a beam from the World Trade Center.

The new fire training center’s classrooms include state-of-the-art projection equipment and sound systems.

The fire training center offers courses for professional and volunteer firefighters, taught by the S.C. Fire

Academy, including: fundamentals of firefighting; leadership and tactics; emergency vehicle driving; pumping; HazMat; and auto extrication. The center also offers courses in trench rescue, high angle rescue and confined space rescue.

These and other courses will be offered 24/7 whenever fire department chiefs ask them to be offered, according to Weatherford.



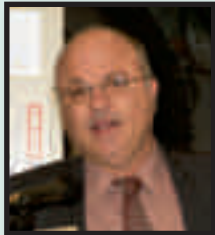
Aerial view of York County’s new Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center. Four new fire engines, the latest additions to York County’s fleet of fire vehicles, are parked in front. (Photo by Gary Starnes, using a drone)

"Sorely Needed"

Shanahan (York County Manager) said his county sorely needed the new fire training center.

"The 30-year-old fire training facility that we rented for 30 years on Ogden Road in Rock Hill had a two-bay shop and only one classroom and one restroom," he added. "Besides, it's never a bad investment to fund your fighters. They do a heck of a job

Grand Opening Ceremony for the New Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center



Charles (Chad) C. Williams
York County
Council Member

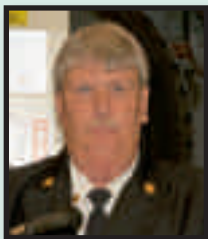
The grand opening ceremony for the new Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center on February 6 included a presentation by the Flint Hill Honor Guard and Sharon Honor Guard, and a performance by the Loch Norman Pipe Band. It also included several other fire-fighting traditions, some of which are shown on these two pages.



Robert Winkler
York County
Council Member



William P. Shanahan, Jr.
York County Manager



Billy Weatherford
Director, York County
Department of Fire Safety



David Hord
Chairman,
York County Board of
Rural Fire Control

Photos by
Stuart Morgan



Plaque, memorializing the dedication ceremony for the new fire training center, located inside the facility's front entrance.



Standing in front of a portrait of the late Anna K. Hubbard, displayed in the new fire training center, are: Ms. Hubbard's mother, Kathryn Hubbard, and daughter, Sara Golden, holding a helmet and shovel used at the facility's groundbreaking ceremony in 2014.



Grand opening ceremony, held in the fire training center's maintenance and fabrication shop.



YORK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE SAFETY—(First row, 1 to r) Jimmy Caulder, Mechanic; Mike Laws, Technician; Rickey Wilson, Senior Technician; Martha Simpson, Office Manager; Sharon Gregory, Inspector/Fire Marshal; Brad Bolin, Mechanic; (second row, 1 to r) Benji Fairfax, Mechanic; Mike Burns, Maintenance and Shop Supervisor; Andrew Rollins, Inspector/Fire Marshal; Charles Williamson and Lou Jarvis, Inspectors and Fire Marshals; (third row, 1 to r) Billy Weatherford, Director, York County Department of Fire Safety; D.J. Funderburk, Mechanic; Donnie Helms, Inspector/Fire Marshal; Allen Tice, Senior Inspector/Fire Marshal; and Gary Starnes, Training Officer. Not shown is Ricky Hoyle, Welder/Fabricator.

for our county and its citizens.”

The Board of Rural Fire Control, set up by York County Council, oversees the operations of the Rural Fire Department that is responsible for the county’s 16 rural fire districts. The

Board distributes funds for the fire department’s operations, sets policies and oversees the maintenance of equipment.

Between 2012 and 2013, the Board appointed a building
(See **York County**, P. 11)



The Loch Norman Pipe Band performs at the ceremony.



FIRE HOSE UNCOUPLING—The “uncoupling of the hose” is a 100-year-old fire fighting tradition that is used when opening a new facility. Three large groups, stretching from one end of the maintenance and fabrication shop to the other, uncoupled three sections of a fire hose during the ceremony. Shown uncoupling the middle section of the hose are: (l to r) Bill Dunlap, Chief, Oakdale Fire Department; Kenny Gilfillan, Chief, Hickory Grove Fire Department; Tommy Carroll, Member, York County Board of Rural Fire Control; Carl Faulk, Chief, Newport Fire Department; David Jennings, Chief, Flint Hill Fire Department; David Hord, Chairman, York County Board of Rural Fire Control; and York County leaders William P. Shanahan, Jr., County Manager; Charles (Chad) C. Williams, Robert Winkler, Christi Cox and Bruce Henderson, Council Members. Not shown are Dr. Britt Blackwell,

Council Chairman; Michael Johnson, Council Vice Chairman; and William “Bump” Roddey, Council Member.



Moments before pushing York County’s newest fire engine into the maintenance and fabrication shop to christen the new fire training center during the ceremony, firefighters, officials and some of their children gather for a group photo in front of the vehicle.



Front view of the new Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center



Sign posted at the entrance to the new Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center

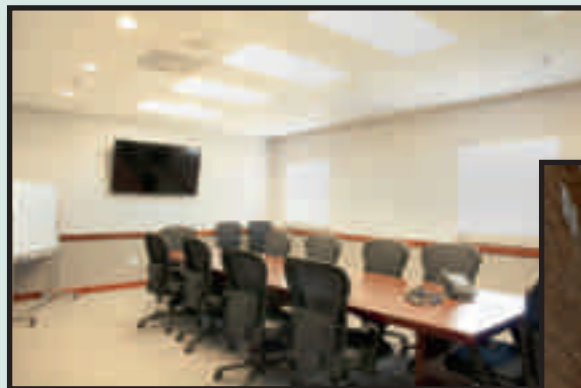


The large indoor classroom, capable of seating a total of 100 people, that can be converted to three smaller classrooms.

Inside the fire training center's eight-bay, 10,400-square-foot maintenance and fabrication shop.



Library



One of two meeting rooms for Region 2 of the S.C. Fire Training Academy.



York County's 9/11 Memorial, located in front of the new facility.



Immediately outside the canteen (out of view at left), this large pavilion in the middle of the new facility includes picnic tables and benches.

York County ...

(Continued from P. 9)

committee that played an instrumental role in the design and layout of the new fire training center. According to Shanahan, this committee actually created the greatest challenge in the project to design and construct the fire training center.

“Firefighters, who formed the committee,” he explained, “had so many great ideas for the new fire training facility that

it seemed like every day another good idea came in. So, it was difficult to finalize drawings for the facility.”

But soliciting input from firefighters helped.

Shanahan said he is happy with the new training center and described it as “very impressive.”

Designed to Accommodate Growth

David Hord, Chairman of York County’s Board of Rural Fire Control, said he is very pleased with the fire training center



YORK COUNTY COUNCIL—(L to r) Council Chairman Britt Blackwell; Council Members Bruce Henderson, William “Bump” Roddey, Christi Cox, Chad Williams and Robert Winkler; and Council Vice-Chairman Michael Johnson. *(Photo courtesy of Rakiya Burkett, Timeless Arts Photography)*

The view, looking from the top of the four-story drill tower toward the rear of the fire training center.



The separate six-bay truck storage building for a training engine, tanker and ladder truck.



Rear view of the new Anna K. Hubbard Fire Training Center. The administration section, which includes the large classroom, is shown at left. The separate four-story drill tower (tallest building), which includes an elevator shaft for rescue training, is shown center-right. Located at right is a separate two-story burn house that includes an outside stairway, six rooms (including four burn rooms) and a fire place for training firefighters to attack fires.

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which was constructed to accommodate the county's growth over the next 50 years.

"We needed this new fire training center because York County has grown and continues to grow," Hord explained. "We can now better serve the needs of the fire service—not only for York County but for surrounding counties. We can also serve as a regional training facility for the South Carolina Fire Academy, located in Columbia, and partner with many emergency brigades of many industries."

York County is located in the Upstate, one of the fastest growing regions of South Carolina. Due to the county's close proximity to Charlotte, N.C., the county is facing a housing boom. With key interstates and railways, the county has already attracted major industries.

"As a result," Hord said, "the Board of Rural Fire Control asked York County Council for support and received council's help in making this fire training center come to life.

"This new fire training facility," he added, "will improve our firefighters' level of knowledge and enable them to provide better service to everyone in our county and surrounding counties.

"We train the way we fight fires, and fight fires the way we train."



Montgomery and Associates of York was the facility's architect. Patrick Williamson of Southern Builders in Rock Hill was the contractor. The Cummings Group, an international project management consulting firm, managed the project.

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McCormick County Kicks Off Year-Long Centennial Celebration

By W. Stuart Morgan III

McCormick County hosted a ceremony on Friday, February 19 to kick off a year-long celebration of the county's centennial. Approximately 150 local residents joined dignitaries at the ceremony, held on the front steps of the county's historic courthouse in McCormick.

"It's important to celebrate McCormick County's centennial in such a big way because we need to educate the county's citizens on the county's colorful history," said McCormick County

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— Charles Jennings
McCormick County Council Chairman



Council Chairman Charles Jennings. "We need to recognize the struggles we faced in the beginning, and how we've progressed over the years. We also need to learn to take pride in our great county.

Our county is 100 years old and still going strong!"

Guest speakers included: Sen. Shane Massey (District 25), Sen. Floyd Nicholson (District 10); Rep. Anne Parks (District 12); and McCormick's Mayor Roy Smith and former Mayor John Robert McMillan.

McCormick County



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McCormick County showcased the county, local Chamber of Commerce, town officials and several local residents who participated.

Anna Laura Gebauer, 97, representing McCormick County's older population, spoke and provided some insight into the county's past and one of its founders. Her father, M.L.B. Sturkey, was a member of the committee that advocated for the formation of McCormick County a little more than a century ago.

"I have been living almost as long as this county has been formed," Gebauer



McCormick County High School JROTC presents the colors. (Photo by Stuart Morgan)

said. "My father would have been proud to see that McCormick County has existed this long, and that it will continue to exist. I lived in Florida for about 50 years, but I came back to live near my home. Today, I can say that it's great to see the progress that McCormick County has made."

De'Marcus Moore, 17, a McCormick High School student, representing the county's younger population and educational institutions, spoke about the county's future.

"I see a brighter future, a broader perspective and a deeper pride for the town and county I call home," Moore predicted. "As a family-oriented county," he added, "continue to show your support and love for the youth of today, because they'll be your voice tomorrow."

McCormick County Clerk to Council Crystal Barnes read the proclamation for the county's celebration and presented the document to McCormick County Council Chairman Charles Jennings.

"Our county's centennial celebration," said Council Chairman Jennings, "brought together both old and young residents because of the varied activities

we made available—from art appreciation to African-American heritage and discussion of the railroad that passes through the county to the gold mines that were the county's foundation."

McCormick County unveiled a new logo for the county's centennial celebration with the slogan, "McCormick County, The Natural Pace of Life." The same slogan is also used in the county's new logo.

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— Charles Jennings

"Our new centennial celebration logo and new county logo represent the county's progress," Jennings explained. "Citizens no longer have to drive 25 to 30 miles to shop for groceries, eat at chain restaurants or shop at discount stores. We now have resort-style lake front communities, championship golf courses and enough acreage available to create opportunities for various businesses."

McCormick County is celebrating its centennial at a time when it is also advancing the county's economic development.

"McCormick County is special because of its low crime rate, natural beauty in terms of lakes and forestry, year-round mild climate and low cost of living," Jennings said. "Our county isn't overpopulated. It has a very attractive geographical location in that it is within 30 to 40 miles

of large metropolitan areas. It is within 25 miles of Interstate 20 and within 40 miles of Interstate 85, and it's an excellent place to raise a family."

McCormick County has three state parks, hiking and biking trails and golf courses. With Lake Thurmond, it also has boat launches and fishing piers. In fact, the county is upgrading its recreational facilities.

A Brief History of the Town and County of McCormick

The Town of McCormick owes its existence to William B. Dorn, who discovered gold in the area and extracted gold ore between 1847 and 1852 valued between \$900,000 and \$2 million. The



McCormick County kicks off year-long centennial celebration at the county's courthouse on February 19. (Photo by Stuart Morgan)

settlement around the mine became known as the Dorn's Gold Mine or Dorn Mine Post Office.

But the Town of McCormick was named for Cyrus Hall McCormick, who invented and manufactured the reaper used to harvest wheat. McCormick, a native of Virginia, purchased Dorn's Gold Mine in 1871. He also had the area surveyed and attracted a spur of the Augusta and Knoxville railroad. The S.C. General Assembly incorporated the Town of McCormick in 1882. That same year, McCormick donated several parcels of land in town for civic, educational and religious purposes.

The Greenwood and Augusta Railroad also constructed the town's first depot in 1882. Between 1886 and 1911, the Charleston and Western Carolina Railroad constructed two more stations there. The intersection of the two railroads and the construction of the three depots, which made the Town of McCormick a stopping point, boosted the development of the area. It also sparked a 21-year-long movement that led to the founding of McCormick County on Feb. 19, 1916.

McCormick County, located beside the Savannah River and formed from Abbeville, Edgefield and Greenwood counties, became the 45th county in South Carolina. Like the Town of McCormick, which became the county seat, the county was also named for Cyrus McCormick. The county's courthouse was constructed around 1923. (By the way, until the 1930s gold would be extracted occasionally from the mine that Cyrus McCormick purchased from Dorn in 1871.)

Bobby Edmonds, a local historian who said he was only 16 years younger than McCormick County, recounted the county's history in greater detail during the ceremony. After a train passing thundered past an old train station across the street and drowned out some of the speakers and forced other speakers to pause, Edmunds seized the opportunity to explain the significance of the train to the county's development.

"Don't knock that train," he reminded everyone gathered in front of the courthouse. "Except for the railroad, we wouldn't be here."

McCormick County's Year-Long Celebration

Thessa G. Smith, McCormick County's economic development director, said the county originally planned to host a one-day event to celebrate the county's

centennial.

But the county decided to make it a year-long celebration after the county's economic development department hosted a series of roundtable discussions for local citizens and others to voice their views on how to celebrate. Local residents and other local stakeholders, who expressed their interest in promoting the county and sharing its history, provided many wonderful ideas on how the county could do so.

Kick-Off Ceremony for McCormick County's Year-Long Centennial Celebration

These are some of the photos that were taken at the kick-off ceremony for McCormick County's year-long centennial celebration, held on February 19.



Sen. Shane Massey
(District 25)



Columbus Stephens
McCormick County
Administrator



Charles Jennings
McCormick County
Council Chairman



Sen. Floyd Nicholson
(District 10)



Roy Smith, Jr.
Mayor of McCormick

Thessa Smith
McCormick County
Economic Development
Director

*Photos by
Stuart Morgan*



Bobby Edmonds
McCormick County Historian



Anna Laura Sturkey Gebaurer



De'Marcus Moore

“Our county’s year-long celebration now includes activities for everyone, and provides opportunities for them to participate in planning an event in their area,” Smith said. “All of the activities are designed for the community to come together during the year to enjoy and appreciate what we share as a county.”

Future monthly events will include:

- **Monday, July 4**—A Patriotic Centennial Celebration Weekend, to be hosted by the Plum Branch Yacht

Club;

- **Saturday, July 9**—100 Years of History, focusing on African-American heritage, including reenactments, gospel music and a quilt expo in “Book Town,” to be hosted by Willington on the Way;
- **Tuesday, July 19**—A county council meeting at Clark’s Hill (verses a meeting in McCormick, the county seat);
- **Friday, August 19**—An Endless Sum-

mer Centennial Concert, featuring local artists, in downtown McCormick;

- **Saturday, Sept. 17**—A Gold Rush Festival: Centennial Celebration, which will allow everyone to search for gold in the county’s historic gold mine;
- **Wednesday, Oct. 19**—A Plum Branch Event, featuring the Season Steppers, a dance group of residents 60 years of age and older;
- **Saturday, Nov. 19**—A McCormick County Centennial Banquet at the McCormick Middle School Complex; and
- **Tuesday, Dec. 20**—A county council meeting and Holiday Open House, which will officially end the county’s year-long celebration.

Smith said the county’s year-long celebration will include the rail towns of Mt. Carmel, Willington, Plum Branch, Parkville, Modoc, Clarks Hill and McCormick; a diverse collection of communities along the Savannah Valley Rail Trail; and newer communities, like Savannah Lakes Village.

“The celebration,” she added, “will allow everyone to appreciate the rich heritage and rediscover McCormick County as ‘the Natural Pace of Life,’ and use all of our resources to continue the legacy and move forward, utilizing available opportunities. It will also capture and touch all of the communities within McCormick County.”

Columbus Stephens, McCormick County Administrator, described the county’s kick-off ceremony as a great success because so many elected and appointed state and local officials, county employees, local residents and friends attended.

“Our year-long centennial celebration,” Stephens said, “will provide citizens of McCormick County with a period of reflection upon the past, an appreciation of the present and prepare them to plan for the future. It will also provide an opportunity for the pathfinders, seniors, baby boomers and millennials to share the history of McCormick County.”



Bernard Hamby
McCormick County
Council Vice Chairman

John McMillian
Mayor of Parkville

Chrystal Barnes
McCormick County
Clerk to Council

Charlotte Tallent
Director, McCormick
Chamber of Commerce



PROCLAMATION AND NEW LOGO—At the conclusion of McCormick County’s kick-off celebration for the county’s year-long centennial celebration, county and municipal officials and others gather for a photo with a proclamation and new logo for the celebration. Shown (bottom, l to r) are: Thessa Smith, Director, McCormick County Economic Development; Rhonda McDaniel; Annie Laura Sturkey Gebauer; Crystal Barnes (holding proclamation), Clerk to Council; Roy Smith, Mayor, Town of McCormick; Donald Moss, Veterans Affairs Officer, McCormick County; James Kinsler, Pastor; (second row, l to r) the Rev. Sarah Robertson; Charlotte Tallent, Executive Director, McCormick Chamber of Commerce; De’Marcus Moore; and (third row, l to r) the Rev. Dr. Danny Webb; Earl Coleman, McCormick County Council Member; Columbus Stephens, County Administrator; Charles Jennings, Council Chairman; Bernard Hamby, Council Vice Chairman; and Henry Banks and Bryon Thompson, Council Members.

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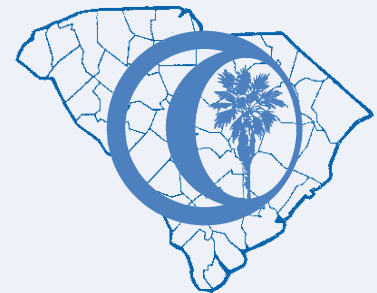
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- To promote more efficient county governments
- To study, discuss and recommend improvements in government
- To investigate and provide means for the exchange of ideas and experiences between county officials
- To promote and encourage education of 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:

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The South Carolina Association of Counties' website is the primary Internet resource for information about South Carolina's counties and issues affecting county government. The website is a dynamic tool that provides access to information about services such as education and training opportunities, research capabilities, and legal assistance.

Visitors to sccounties.org will find conference schedules, legislative initiatives, and numerous Association publications. The website has information on key financial programs offered by SCAC, unique county-specific publications, legislative monitoring, and ad hoc surveys.

The site provides general information for all 46 counties—including contact information for county officials, links to county websites, and job postings. Sccounties.org is also a conduit to a number of other resources such as the National Association of Counties, the S.C. General Assembly, U.S. Congress, federal agencies, as well as national and state associations.

The SCAC staff remains ready to receive and assist with any special requests. To facilitate this communication, please refer to the SCAC staff list on page 25 or SCAC's website to obtain respective email addresses.

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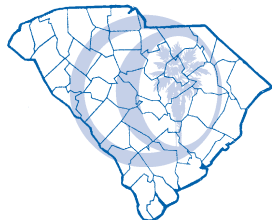
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WHAT IS THE SCAC?

South Carolina Association of Counties, chartered on June 22, 1967, is the only organization dedicated to statewide representation of county government in South Carolina.



A nonpartisan, non-profit organization with a full-time staff in Columbia, SCAC is governed by a 29-member Board of Directors selected by county officials at the Association's Annual Conference.

Counties have made tremendous progress since the enactment of the Home Rule Act in 1975. A lot has changed, and so has county government. As county government becomes more important to the quality of life in the state, SCAC is committed to preparing county officials for tomorrow.

CONFERENCES

■ SCAC provides many opportunities for county officials to meet and learn, among them:

★ Mid-Year Conference — Held in late winter in Columbia, this conference enables all county officials to become better informed about the Association's legislative program. The Association also hosts a reception for all members of the Legislature during this conference.

★ Annual Conference — Held in August, this conference is open to all elected and appointed officials. The conference includes a business session, general session, workshops, group meetings, and exhibits of county products and services.

★ Legislative Conference — Held in December, this conference allows members of the Legislative Committee to discuss and adopt a legislative program for the upcoming year. The committee is composed of each Council Chairman along with the Association's Board of Directors.

EDUCATION

■ The Association, in cooperation with the Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Center for Livable Communities, College of Charleston, and the Strom Thurmond Institute at Clemson University, conducts the Institute of Government (Level I, Level II and Advanced Level) for County Officials.

This certificate program helps county officials enhance their skills and abilities. Courses are offered at the Annual and Mid-Year Conferences and at the County Council Coalition Meeting in the fall.

SCAC also sponsors a number of continuing education webcasts for county officials and employees throughout the year at no charge to counties. Within a few weeks after the web-based training is broadcast live, county officials and employees are able to access the session as a video on demand from the webcast library on the SCAC website at <http://www.sccounties.org>.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

■ SCAC offers a number of financial services to its member counties. SCAC sponsors three self-funded insurance Trusts designed specifically to meet the needs and requirements of local government agencies, including the Workers' Compensation Trust, the Property and Liability Trust, and OPEB Trust. SCAC offers a program for the internet auction of surplus equipment through GovDeals and property tax audit services via Tax Management Associates, Inc. The Association also offers purchasing discounts in line with state government contract pricing for office supplies through Forms and Supply.

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■ SCAC provides legal assistance to county governments by rendering legal opinions, preparing *Amicus* briefs, drafting ordinances, and consulting with other county officials.

The Association provides support to counties involved in litigation that might affect other counties. It also sponsors the Local Government Attorneys' Institute, which provides six hours of continuing legal education for local government attorneys.

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■ South Carolina counties are able to collect delinquent emergency medical services debts, magistrate and family court fines, hospital debts as well as other fees owed to the counties through SCAC's Setoff Debt Collection Program.

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■ The South Carolina General Assembly convenes each January in Columbia and adjourns sine die in June. One in every four bills introduced affects county governments.

SCAC monitors each bill as it is introduced and keeps its members up-to-date on all legislative activity with a weekly *Friday Report*. The Association also dispatches Legislative Action Alerts and publishes *Acts That Affect Counties* each year.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

■ SCAC publishes an annual *Directory of County Officials* listing addresses and telephone numbers of county offices and their elected and appointed officials. The Association also publishes *Carolina Counties Newsletter* five times a year to keep the Association's membership informed about legislation and various county news. *County Focus Magazine* is published four times a year and features articles on county trends, innovations, and various other subjects of interest to county officials. The magazine includes a section called "County Update."

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■ SCAC provides research and technical assistance in many areas to those counties that request it. The Association staff annually responds to hundreds of inquiries from county officials ranging from simple requests for a sample ordinance to more complex questions requiring considerable research. The Association also develops technical research bulletins and conducts surveys on a variety of subjects. Regular publications such as the *Wage and Salary Report*, *Home Rule Handbook*, *A Handbook for County Governments in South Carolina*, and *Case Law Affecting Local Government* are made available to county officials.

SCAC's website address is:

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The site provides county officials with the latest information on SCAC programs, services and meetings as well as legislative information, research and survey results and links to other local government resources.

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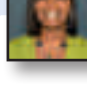
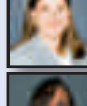
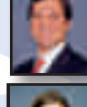
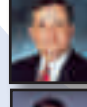
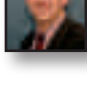
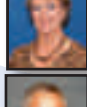
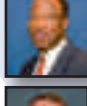
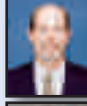
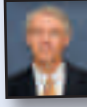
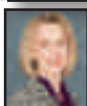
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SCAC-Sponsored Insurance Trusts



History of the Trusts

The S.C. Workers' Compensation Trust (SCCWCT) dates back to Nov. 1, 1984, when 11 counties began the fund with less than a half million dollars. More than 30 years later, the SCCWCT has grown to include 42 counties plus 47 additional agencies with ties to county government. The Property & Liability Trust (SCCP<) began on Aug. 1, 1995, with four members. The membership has grown to include 16 counties and 9 county-related agencies.

Boards of Trustees

The Trusts were designed by and for county government with the goal of providing insurance to counties at the lowest rates possible, while providing services uniquely tailored to the needs of county governments. The Boards of Trustees are made up of county officials who are elected by the SCAC's Board of Directors. Although not a requirement, both boards currently share the same membership.

Risk Management

Because member contributions (premiums) are based both on the accident histories of the individual counties (experience modifiers) and on the membership as a whole, both Trusts employ very aggressive risk management strategies. The philosophy adopted by the Trusts is that, if accidents are caused, they can be prevented. Risk Management services are provided by the SCAC staff. The payoff is lower premiums and a safer working environment.

Claims Administration and Management

Ariel Third Party Administrators provides workers' compensation claims administration for the Workers' Compensation Trust. The SCAC staff provides claims administration for the Property & Liability Trust and provides the administration of both Trusts. ■

BOARDS OF TRUSTEES for South Carolina Counties Workers' Compensation Trust and Property & Liability Trust



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Calhoun County
Council Chairman



VICE CHAIRMAN
Waymon Mumford
Florence County
Council Member



Gonza L. Bryant
Greenwood County
Council Member

SCCWCT and SCCP< Hold 2016 Annual Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting

*By John D. Henderson, ARM, ALCM
Director of Risk Management Services, SCAC*

The S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust and the S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust held the annual Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting on Jan. 27 & 28 in Myrtle Beach. The 117 county officials heard from several speakers on a variety of risk management topics. At the conclusion of the meeting, risk management awards were presented to several counties.

Robert Collins, SCAC, began the meeting with a discussion of cyber insurance coverage provided to members of the South Carolina Counties Property & Liability Trust (SCCP<). Collins informed the attendees of the policy limits for the coverages provided to Trust members. In keeping with the topic of cyber insurance exposures and coverages, Alex Smith, SCAC, briefed the audience on cyber and data security best practices for the Set-off Debt Collection Program and the Governmental Enterprise Accounts Receivable (GEAR) Program administered by SCAC. Both programs contain personally identifiable information which is protected by statute. Cyber security breaches are becoming increasingly more common. Recent research has shown that the average breach resulted in an average cost of \$3.8 million or \$154 per record compromised. All "reasonable and appropriate" action must be taken to safeguard sensitive data. Attendees were encouraged to "create a plan to protect data, train on the plan and follow it." Data should be encrypted in order to provide a basic layer of security. If an organization thinks they may have had a breach, they should contact their insurer and their attorney promptly.

Next, Linda Edwards, Gignilliat Savitz & Bettis Law Firm, gave a legal update on employment law issues. Edwards outlined

steps needed to minimize potential litigation for employers during the hiring process and during disciplinary actions and termination. A key point during hiring was "do not ask a question unless you have a specific reason to know the answer." During the disciplinary process, Edwards advised employers to "treat similarly situated persons the same," use disclaimers and require signatures "on all documentation."

A roundtable discussion was held regarding risk management best practices. Participants in this popular segment included; Linda Edwards, Gignilliat Savitz & Bettis Law Firm, Van Henson, South Carolina LLR and John Deloache, SCAC. This segment opened the discussion to a wide range of topics of interest to risk managers, administrators and county council members.

On the second day of the meeting, Robert Benfield and John Henderson gave an update on areas of risk management on which members of the Trust should focus. All risk managers were thanked for their continuing efforts to manage risk in their counties. The average experience modification factor for the S.C. Counties Worker's Compensation Trust (SCCWCT) is the lowest it has been in several years. Henderson and Benfield reviewed techniques that should be used to achieve effective accident investigations so that the potential for similar future accidents is reduced. The value of using transitional work for injured workers was stressed as an effective means to reduce costs and recovery time.

Next Van Henson, SC OSHA, gave an update on recent OSHA developments.

(See Trusts Meeting P. 28)



Donald E. Hancock
Saluda County
Council Chairman



Clyde B. Livingston
Orangeburg County
Council Member



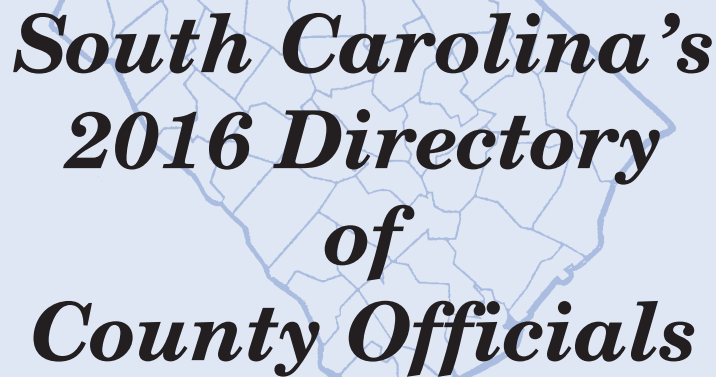
F. Pickens Williams, Jr.
Barnwell County
Administrator



Steve Willis
Lancaster County
Administrator



**SECRETARY/
TREASURER**
Michael B. Cone
Executive Director, SCAC



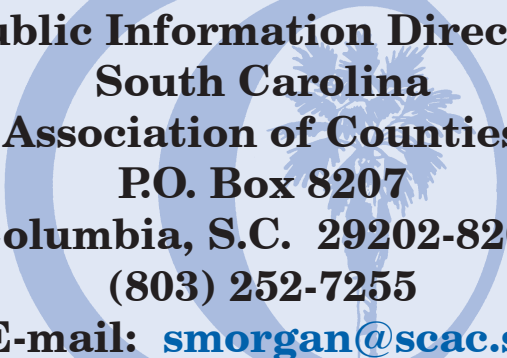
South Carolina's 2016 Directory of County Officials

South Carolina's *2016 Directory of County Officials* will be published and distributed in February. So, order a copy if you want to know "Who's Who" in South Carolina county government.

The *Directory* identifies all elected and appointed county officials in the state. This popular, award-winning publication also identifies SCAC's Officers, Board of Directors and Corporate Supporters; Regional Councils of Government; Federal and State Officials; and State Senators and Representatives. Addresses and telephone numbers are included for all county officials, state officials and members of the S.C. General Assembly.

Cost: \$25.00 per copy (including tax, postage, shipping and handling).

● To order your copy of the *2016 Directory of County Officials*, please contact:



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E-mail: smorgan@scac.sc**

Trusts Meeting ...

(Continued from P. 27)

The final segment of the meeting was devoted to the presentation of risk management awards. County governments have long recognized that investment in risk management and safety programs is good stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Many counties were recognized for their successful efforts to preserve county assets.

The complete listing of risk management awards follows on Pp. 31 to 34.



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Risk Management Award Winners

See photos, Pp. 32-34

Abbeville County _____	★1st Place (Property & Liability Claims Reporting)
Anderson County _____	★3rd Place (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting)
Bamberg County _____	★2nd Runner-Up (Tie) Best Experience Modifier
Barnwell County _____	★Service Award – Roger Riley
Beaufort County _____	★Outstanding Safety Achievement
Berkeley County Water & Sanitation _____	★Sustained Excellence in Risk Management
	★1st Place Award (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting)
	★Outstanding Safety Achievement
Chester County _____	★Runner-Up Best Experience Modifier
Dorchester County _____	★Sustained Excellence in Risk Management
	★Outstanding Safety Achievement
	★Service Award
Greenwood County _____	★3rd Place (Property & Liability Claims Reporting)
Horry County _____	★Outstanding Safety Achievement
Horry County Solid Waste Authority _____	★3rd Place (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting)
Kershaw County _____	★Outstanding Safety Achievement
	★Service Award – Barry Catoe
Lancaster County _____	★Sustained Excellence in Risk Management
	★1st Place (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting)
Marion County _____	★1st Place Best Experience Modifier
Oconee County _____	★2nd Runner-Up (Tie) Best Experience Modifier
Old Fort Fire _____	★2nd Place (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting)
Saluda County _____	★2nd Place (Property & Liability Claims Reporting)
Spartanburg County _____	★Sustained Excellence in Risk Management
	★2nd Place (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting)
	★Service Award

SCAC Hosts 2016 Annual Trusts Membership Meeting



Florence County Council Member Waymon Mumford (Board Member, SCCWCT and SCCP<) welcomes county officials to the 2016 Annual Trusts Membership Meeting, held on Jan. 27 at the Myrtle Beach Marriott and Grande Dunes, Myrtle Beach.



SCAC's Insurance Staff Members Provide Risk Management Update



Robert C. Collins, CPCU, CIC
SCAC Director of Insurance Services



Alex Smith
SCAC Staff Attorney



John D. Henderson, ARM, ALCM
Director of Risk Management Services



John DeLoache
SCAC Staff Attorney



Robert E. Benfield, ARM
*Risk Manager
SCCWCT and SCCP<*



John Jervey, AIC
SCCP< Claims Manager

Panel Discussion



Participating in a panel discussion on Wednesday, Jan. 27, are (l to r) Lang Kohel, Claims Manager, SCCWCT; John K. DeLoache, SCAC Staff Attorney; Linda Edwards, Attorney, Gignilliat, Savitz & Bettis, LLP; and Van Hensen, Training Supervisor, S.C. LLR/S.C. OSHA.

Speakers Provide Updates on OSHA Developments and Employment Laws



Van Henson
Training Supervisor
S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, S.C. Occupational Safety and Health Administration



Linda Edwards
Attorney
Gignilliat, Savitz & Bettis, LLP

County Officials Speak and Ask Questions

Shown below and on the next page are photos of some the county officials who spoke and asked questions during the Association's 2016 Annual Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting.



◀ **Holland Belue**,
Cherokee County Administrator



▶ **Linwood Vereen**,
Horry County Risk Manager



Barbara Clark, *Jasper County Council Member*



Brian McKenna, *Greenwood County Purchasing Agent/Risk Manager*



Nannette Powell, *Human Resources Manager/Safety Coordinator, Horry County Solid Waste Authority*



Dan Evatt, Abbeville County Fire Marshal



▲ Steve Willis, Lancaster County Administrator



◀ Ed Salyer, Lexington County Safety and Training Manager



Steve Jarvis, Orangeburg County Human Resources Director



Shelly Moore, Horry County Safety Manager

Risk Management Award Presentations



Accepting a 1st Place Award (Property & Liability Claims Reporting) for Abbeville County are (l to r) Barry Devore, Finance Director; Dan Evatt, Fire Marshal; and David Porter, County Director.



Accepting a 3rd Place Award (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting) for Anderson County is Charles Pinson, Safety Accreditation Coordinator/Transportation Director.



Accepting a 2nd Runner Up Best Experience Modifier for Bamberg County are Isaiah Odom, Council Chairman, and Doretta Elliott, Assessor/Risk Manager, Bamberg County.



Accepting a Service Award for Barnwell County is Roger Riley, Emergency Management Director/Risk Manager.



Accepting a 1st Runner Up Best Experience Modifier for Chester County is Robert Hall, Maintenance Director.



Accepting an Outstanding Safety Achievement Award for the Beaufort County Detention Center are (l to r) Miriam Mitchell, Risk Manager/Safety Officer, and Paul Sommerville, Council Chairman.



Accepting an Outstanding Safety Achievement Award for Berkeley County Water & Sanitation are (l to r) Angela Pinson, Director of Administration, and Jerry Crolley, Safety Superintendent. For the same entity, they also accepted 1st Place Award, Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting, and Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Award.



Accepting an Outstanding Safety Achievement Award for Dorchester County is Joe House, Risk Manager. He also accepted a Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Award and Service Award for the county.



Accepting a 3rd Place Award (Property & Liability Claims Reporting) for Greenwood County is Brian McKenna, Purchasing Agent/Risk Manager.



Accepting an Outstanding Safety Award for Horry County is Linwood Vereen, Risk Manager, and Chris Eldridge, County Administrator.



Accepting a 3rd Place Award (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting) for the Horry County Solid Waste Authority is Nannette Powell, Human Resources Manager/Safety Coordinator.



Accepting an Outstanding Safety Achievement Award for Kershaw County is Barry Catoe, Risk Manager. He also accepted a Service Award for the county.



Accepting a Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Award for Lancaster County is Ryan Whitaker, Risk Manager. He also accepted a 1st Place (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting) and 2nd Place Award (Property and Liability Claims Reporting) for the county.



Accepting a 2nd Runner-Up Best Experience Modifier Award for Oconee County is Audrey Wilson, Risk Manager.



Accepting a 1st Place Experience Modifier Award for Marion County are (l to r) Jerry Williams; Katherine G. Bell, Personnel Manager; and G. Timothy Harper, County Administrator.



Accepting a Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Award for Spartanburg County is Terry Booker, Risk Manager. He also accepted a 2nd Place Award (Workers' Compensation Claims Reporting) and Service Award for the county.



Accepting a 2nd Place Award (Property & Liability Claims Reporting) for Saluda County is Michael D. Berry, Risk Manager.





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Zika Virus at a Glance

By Robert Cartner
S.C. Mosquito Control Association

Discovered during a yellow fever study in 1947, Zika virus (ZIKV) was named for the Zika forest in Uganda where the virus was first isolated from a rhesus monkey. Until 2007, no major ZIKV outbreaks were known to have occurred. Researchers suggest that the disease may have been underreported because ZIKV causes symptoms similar to dengue virus and chikungunya virus, which were much more common mosquito-borne illnesses.

By 2007, Zika virus had spread from Africa to Asia causing a large outbreak on the Yap Island in Micronesia. Prior to this, only 14 cases of Zika virus in humans had been documented worldwide. In all, 49 people on Yap Island were confirmed to have Zika virus, with 59 people listed as probable cases.

The largest outbreak prior to the current epidemic occurred in French Polynesia from 2013-2014. During this outbreak, Zika was first thought to

be associated with fetal development issues and the neurological disorder, Guillain-Barré syndrome. Before the French Polynesian outbreak, little was understood about the effects of Zika virus on humans.

Zika virus is an arbovirus, which is an acronym for arthropod-borne virus (ARthropod-BORne Virus). ZIKV is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected with Zika by biting an infected human. Humans and primates are a reservoir host for Zika virus meaning that they are capable of sustaining the virus in nature.

The incubation period (the time from infection to symptoms) can be from three to twelve days after the bite of an infected

mosquito. During the first seven days after the onset of symptoms (or longer in some people), a person is capable of spreading the virus to a biting mosquito. An estimated 80 percent of people who are bitten by an infected mosquito will not have any symptoms. Symptoms for most healthy individuals are usually mild and include fever, rash, joint pain, or conjunctivitis (red eyes). Symptoms can last for several days to a week.

Currently, more than 600 imported cases of Zika virus have been detected in the U.S. Imported, in this sense, means that the patient was outside of



Aedes aegypti



Aedes albopictus



the United States when they were bitten by the infected mosquito. As of June 10, 2016, there has been one confirmed imported case of Zika virus in South Carolina. No locally acquired cases have occurred in the U.S. as of June 1, 2016, excluding Puerto Rico, which has seen many cases of local transmission.

The bite of an infected mosquito is the most common mode of transmission for Zika virus, but there are other possibilities being examined. ZIKV can be passed from mother to child during pregnancy or around the time of birth. Breastfeeding has not been implicated as a mode of transmission. Zika virus can be spread sexually from a man to his partners before, during or after he has symptoms.

Zika virus is similar to dengue and chikungunya, which are transmitted by the same species and cause similar

symptoms in infected humans. What makes ZIKV more of a concern is that it has been shown to cause microcephaly in fetuses and is potentially linked to Guillain-Barré syndrome.

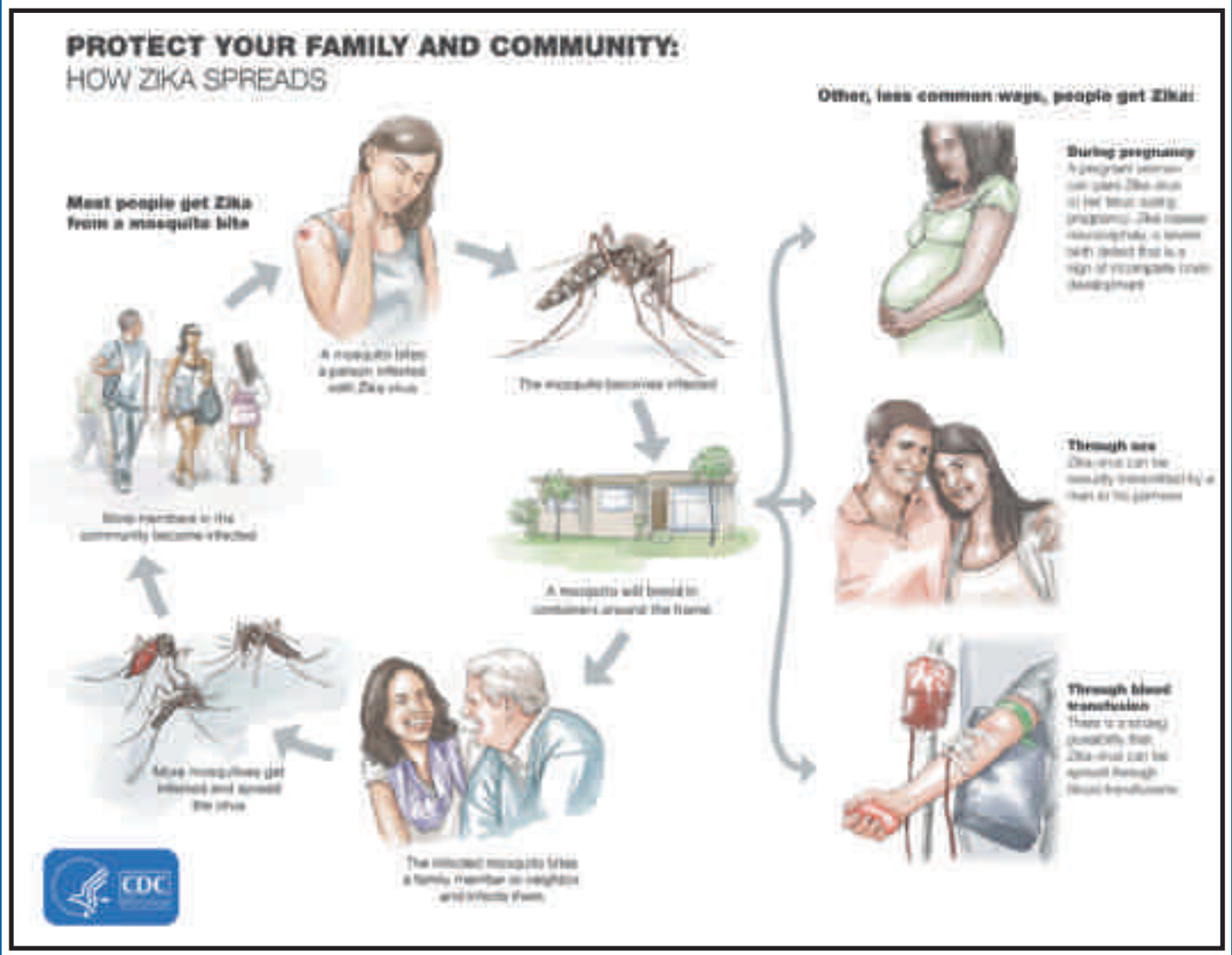
Microcephaly is a condition where a baby's head is much smaller than expected. While a baby is developing, its head grows because its brain grows. Microcephaly can occur because a baby's brain doesn't develop properly during pregnancy. Other problems can occur as a result of microcephaly such as seizures, developmental delays, hearing loss, vision problems, etc. According to the CDC, microcephaly is not a common condition, affecting two babies per 10,000 live births in the U.S.

Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) is an uncommon illness of the nervous system where a person's own immune system

damages the nerve cells, causing muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis. GBS is not typically a permanent illness, but it can cause permanent damage. The cause of GBS is not fully understood, but CDC scientists believe that the link between GBS and Zika virus is strong.

Zika virus is transmitted mainly by *Aedes aegypti*, the yellow fever mosquito. This mosquito is mainly found in urban areas in tropical and sub-tropical regions. *Aedes albopictus*, the Asian tiger mosquito, is also capable of transmitting the virus and it was the primary vector of Zika virus in Gabon, Africa in 2007. The most important question that we do not currently have an answer to is whether or not the mosquitoes in South Carolina will transmit Zika virus.


By 1962, 18 countries in South
(See **Zika Virus**, P. 39)



Mosquito Bite Prevention (United States)




Not all mosquitoes are the same. Different mosquitoes spread different viruses and bite at different times of the day.

Type of Mosquito	Viruses spread	Biting habits
 <i>Aedes aegypti</i> , <i>Aedes albopictus</i>	Chikungunya, Dengue, Zika	Primarily daytime, but can also bite at night
 <i>Culex</i> species	West Nile	Evening to morning

Protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites

Use insect repellent

Use an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellent with one of the following active ingredients. When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Active ingredient		Some brand name examples*
Higher percentages of active ingredient provide longer protection		
DEET		Off!, Cutter, Sawyer, Ultrathon
Picaridin , also known as KBR 3023 , Bayrepel , and icaridin		Cutter Advanced, Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus, Autan (outside the United States)
Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD)		Repel
IR3535		Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus Expedition, SkinSmart

* Insect repellent brand names are provided for your information only. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services cannot recommend or endorse any name brand products.



1020144a | February 11, 2014

Zika Virus ...

(Continued from P. 37)

and Central America had successfully eradicated the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito in urban areas. This painstaking process involved spraying insecticide to kill adult mosquitoes and visiting millions of homes to remove larval breeding habitats. Once the mosquito was effectively gone, public interest dissipated, as did the funding. Without persistent removal of container-breeding habitats, it didn't take long for the species to make a come-back.

Aedes aegypti and *Aedes albopictus* are container-breeding mosquitoes, which means that they generally prefer artificial containers to lay their eggs, but will occasionally be found in tree holes or leaf axils containing water.

Currently in the U.S., large populations of *Aedes aegypti* are restricted mostly to the southern states, but *Aedes albopictus* is found in large numbers in the eastern U.S. One of the cheapest forms of mosquito control these days is education. Mosquito control programs have begun to focus on the importance of educating people in their community on preventing and eliminating mosquito breeding habitats. The most important thing a person can do to prevent mosquito breeding is to clean up their yard and remove all traces of standing water. SC DHEC has a list of informative resources on the agency's website at www.scdhec.gov/mosquitoes.

Although Zika virus is new to the western hemisphere, it is not a new arbovirus. People can protect themselves from Zika and other mosquito-borne illnesses simply by protecting themselves from mosquito bites and eliminating mosquito-breeding sources. For more detailed information on mosquitoes, contact the South Carolina Mosquito Control Association (SCMCA) or visit the association's website at www.scmta.net. You can also visit the website of the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) at www.mosquito.org to find a host of information under the Mosquito Info tab.

Zika virus, like all mosquito-borne viruses, is a serious concern and in

South Carolina, organizations have been working closely together to ensure that everyone has an effective response

plan. It is important for the counties without a mosquito control program to contact neighboring counties to form

Zika Virus at a Glance

The following photos illustrate how mosquitoes, which can carry Zika virus, breed in containers. The photo (right) shows larvae in a bottle cap, the photo (lower-left) shows a variety of places where the Zikas virus can be found, and the photo (lower-right) shows larvae in a birdbath. Most people do not realize that the "little worm-looking things" that they see in birdbath are mosquito larvae. The photo (bottom) shows larvae and adult mosquitoes.



intergovernmental agreements in the event of an outbreak, whether that be from a mosquito-borne disease or any other devastating disaster. Even counties with no program can do their part to prevent the spread of Zika virus by encouraging citizens to eliminate

mosquito-breeding habitats in their yards.

We can keep South Carolina safe, one yard at a time.



Robert Cartner is on the board of directors for the S.C. Mosquito Control

Association and works in the Medical Entomology laboratory at SC DHEC, where they perform mosquito-borne disease surveillance throughout South Carolina.

For more information, contact Robert at CARTNERL@dhec.sc.gov.

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What we know

Zika can be passed from a pregnant woman to her fetus

Infection during pregnancy can cause certain birth defects

Zika is spread mostly by the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito

There is evidence for human-to-human spread. This can occur at birth

Zika is not currently found in the continental U.S. The mosquitoes that carry Zika are found in some areas of the U.S.

Because the mosquitoes that spread Zika virus are found throughout the tropics, outbreaks will likely continue

There is no specific medicine for Zika

What we don't know

It remains unclear how long your pregnancy is at risk to an issue with Zika

If you do travel and are bitten:

- How long you would get Zika
- How likely it is that you could get Zika
- How likely it is that you could pass Zika on to your baby

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

For more information:
www.cdc.gov/zika

The IMLA Report

By Charles W. Thompson, Jr.
Executive Director and General Counsel, IMLA

Eminent Domain 10 years Since *Kelo vs. New London*

In *Kelo vs. Town of New London*, 545 U.S. 469 (2005), the U.S. Supreme Court concluded that a governmental entity having the authority to exercise eminent domain for a public purpose could use that power to condemn private property and include that property in a plan that benefitted another private entity so long as the overarching purpose in exercising that power had a public purpose.

The decision rested upon a substantial foundation of jurisprudence and while not a surprise to those of us who represent local governments, the decision came as quite a shock to the public at large with indignation inflamed by a media that cried "outrage." The response to *Kelo* came quickly in legislatures across the country and in Congress. Laws were passed limiting the powers of governmental entities to exercise eminent domain. Some legislation directly rejected the use of the power to aid a private entity while other legislation sought to limit the power even more strictly. Each state chose a different path to respond to *Kelo* and today a crazy patchwork quilt of legislation authorizing and limiting the use of eminent domain exists.

For those experienced in representing local government, the response to *Kelo* surprised them and for those charged by the electorate with improving their communities, the response makes their



jobs much more difficult. When in the past a community faced with helping a business expand or trying desperately to keep a major employer in town could offer to help obtain adjacent land or a small extension to a right of way, those communities are often blocked in helping the business acquire the land at a fair price. To be sure, from the standpoint of the neighbor's property rights, those rights are more greatly protected, but at what cost to the community? The idea that government often requires individuals to subordinate their interests to the greater interest of the community lost some of its muscle as people and their elected officials responded to what the *Kelo* decision seemed to allow.

Undoubtedly, there were cases where the exercise of eminent domain stretched the limits of both the law and reasonable protections of property interests with at least one instance where a community sought to exercise eminent domain to acquire a single family property along the lakeshore to support a multiuse condominium and commercial structure for the sole public purpose of increasing

the community's property tax base. Yet other situations describe more nuanced uses of the power to further public interests that include building stadiums for sport franchises, acquiring land for factories, turning slums into treasures and the like. Indeed, at a time when the Baltimore Colts were considering a move to Indianapolis, the City of Baltimore attempted to use its powers of eminent domain to acquire the franchise, albeit too late.

In over 40 years of working for and with local governments, I believe few elected leaders see eminent domain as their first choice when faced with a situation where the power might be used. Most of the leaders that I dealt with saw eminent domain as a last resort to be exercised only when they felt they were left with no other choice. Indeed, in most situations those officials offered to pay more than "just compensation" to avoid having to exercise the power. In an era where property rights lawyers and journalists describe the process as seizing property, few can quarrel with a choice to limit the exercise of eminent domain. Before *Kelo*, however, the choice offered a bargaining position that in many situations, post *Kelo* no longer exists and comes at the expense of taxpayers who must shoulder the burden of over-paying for property. And where eminent domain no longer exists a property owner who recognizes that a business must relocate or buy the owner's property can surely hold out for a much

higher price than where the power of eminent domain limits the price to “just compensation.” When that happens, the economic balance may cause the business to pull up stakes and take its employment and tax base elsewhere.

While the image of *Kelo* still appears in our rearview mirror, in front of us are two significant issues involving the law of “takings.” One involves the issue of whether inaction by a governmental entity can amount to what is called “inverse condemnation” or, in other words, whether failing to act in a way that devalues a property can amount to a “taking” of the property for purposes of the Just Compensation Clause of the Fifth Amendment. The other raises the question of what should be considered the “parcel as a whole” when determining if a regulatory taking occurs. The latter issue involves two cases before the Supreme Court; one, *Murr vs Wisconsin* has been set for argument on the merits this fall, while the other, *U.S. vs Lost Tree Village Corporation* is waiting for a decision by the Court to grant review.

The issue involving the “parcel as a whole” calls into question how a court should measure what property must be considered when deciding if it has been “taken” through regulation; the parcel of land as it may currently exist or the parcel of land plus tracts from which it was divided? In *Murr*,

the property owners inherited two properties: one owned by their parents and the other titled to their parents’ company. At least one of the properties was non-conforming under the county’s subdivision and state’s regulations. Another subdivision regulation applicable to them, and similar to regulations throughout the United States, required merger of non-conforming lots for further subdivision and development when those lots came into common ownership. So, when the properties became titled in the childrens’ names, the subdivision regulations merged the lots for future development and the lots could no longer be sold for development individually. The owners sued, claiming that the regulation amounted to a taking because before coming into common ownership the lots each could have been built upon as pre-existing non-conforming lots. The Supreme Court of Wisconsin concluded that the regulation did not violate the owners’ property rights and did not require compensation under the Fifth Amendment. In *Lost Tree Village* the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit concluded that wetlands regulations effectively “took” the company’s land when a piece of land it owned could not be developed under the regulations.

As explained by the Solicitor General in the United States’ reply brief at the

Supreme Court, the facts in *Lost Tree* involve a very successful development project with some modest remaining pieces affected by the regulations:

Respondent purchased 1300 acres of contiguous coastal property, including the 4.99 acres of wetlands and submerged lands now known as Plat 57, and profitably developed the 1300-acre area into a gated residential community, with home sites made more valuable because of their proximity to undeveloped wetlands. Those facts should have prompted the court of appeals to treat the entire 1300-acre tract as the “parcel as a whole” when assessing whether the denial of a permit to fill Plat 57 effected a taking. At the very least, the court should have considered Plat 57 together with Plat 55, an “undoubtedly contiguous” parcel that respondent still owned and held for a comparable “usage objective [].” Pet. App. 115a. The court erred by instead holding that Plat 57 should be severed from the rest of the community and alone treated as the relevant parcel, solely because respondent lacked any expectation of developing the wetlands on that tract when it developed the surrounding area. The court then magnified its error by holding that respondent’s lack of reasonable, investment-backed expectations for Plat 57 when it developed the rest of the 1300 acres had no bearing on whether a taking occurred.

An adverse decision in these cases can greatly muddle the subdivision process and affect many communities where pre-regulation plats are recorded that create lots that cannot conform to current regulations. Many of these regulations are based on health regulations regarding required septic field areas and distances.

In a Maryland case, *Litz v. Md. Department of the Environment*, Maryland’s highest court concluded that both the State and the Town of Goldsboro could be held liable for inverse condemnation for failing to prevent the pollution of a recreational lake by failing septic systems in the surrounding area.

(See **The IMLA Report**, P. 44)



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The IMLA Report ...

(Continued from P. 42)

The decision claims to have a base in decisions from Minnesota, Florida and California, but the analysis seems flawed. Nevertheless, the case reflects trends by courts to find ways to shift loss from individuals to the government and to shift liability as well. The facts of the case portray both the State and the town in a pretty bad light, as both knew about the problems, entered into a consent order to correct the problems, but did little by way of correction. The lake owner lost the use of the lake as a recreational property and subsequently lost the property to foreclosure which the court concluded amounted to an inverse condemnation under the Maryland Constitution. Prior to *Litz*, the lake owner could have sued the septic system owners for nuisance, possibly for trespass and likely could have sued the Town or County as the septic systems emptied into the public drainage system that dumped into the tributary of the lake. However, the property owner could not sue to enforce the consent order entered between the State and the Town, nor claim to be a third party beneficiary of that Order with a right to sue for damages. Now, communities must weigh carefully whether to enter a consent order for fear that failure to act or act sufficiently may amount to an "inverse condemnation."

While IMLA anticipates that most states will not jump at the opportunity to follow Maryland in what is an extremely flawed analysis of its constitution, we hope that member communities faced with a suit for inverse condemnation based on a failure to act will reach out to us so that we can participate as an amicus in trying to prevent further expansion of this doctrine.



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A Roadside Guide to York, County Seat of York County

By Alexia Jones Helsley
www.historyismybag.com



York, the county seat of York County, is a historic city in South Carolina's Upstate. Originally known as Fergus' Crossroads, the town was an important trade and transportation nexus for two stagecoach lines. One connected Camden with Ruthersfordton, N.C., and the other conveyed traffic from Charlotte, N.C., to Augusta, Ga.

According to Michael Reynolds, members of the Fergus family ran a tavern there, but William Hill owned the site. Hill operated an iron manufacturing facility.

The County Court Act of 1785 created, among other counties, the new county of York and necessitated the development of a county seat. Consequently, in 1786 surveyors laid out the town of Yorkville—near the center of the new county. The two stage lines became Liberty and Congress Streets.

Residents also built a court house and jail. The jail, constructed in 1828 by Thomas B. Hoover, still stands on Congress Street. Converted into a residence, the building also housed Ku Klux Klan prisoners during Reconstruction.

Other historic properties in York from the 1820s include the Witherspoon-Hunter House. Local attorney Isaac D. Witherspoon bought the house in 1831. Witherspoon served in the S.C. Senate and as lieutenant governor of the State of South Carolina.

Later, in 1880, John Jackson

Hunter acquired the house. Hunter was a businessman and also served as mayor of Yorkville.

In addition, in 1824, William Cassaway and Joseph Holmes organized Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest Methodist Episcopal church in York County. William Cassaway was the church's first minister.


In 1829, James Jeffreys organized the first Sunday School in York County at the church. In the 1820s, the county seat had 451 residents, houses, stores, taverns, and schools for men and women. In addition, Yorkville had lawyers, doctors and a lone

clergyman!

Nevertheless, the S.C. Legislature did not incorporate the town of Yorkville until 1841. The new town's first mayor was I.W. Clawson.

The antebellum years were ones of growth. Planters produced cotton and the railroad delivered the crop to market. In 1852, Dr. E.A. Crenshaw opened the elegantly appointed Rose Hotel—a favorite destination for travelers especially from the lowcountry.

The 1850s also saw other changes. For example, in 1853, the long-running
(See York, P. 48)



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 OF
GREENVILLE COUNTY
 ALEXIA JONES HELSLEY

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Historically, Greenville County owes much to its natural advantages of scenery, location and abundant water, but it has also benefited from its colorful characters, such as Richard Pearis, Vardry McBee and the Earle family. *Hidden History of Greenville County* details the personalities, places and events that have given Greenville its progressive, diverse environment. Join archivist and history professor Alexia Helsley as she explores some of these individuals and their contributions, as well as little-known events in the area and the ever-fascinating "Dark Corner." From mansions to murders, learn things about Greenville County history that you've never encountered before.

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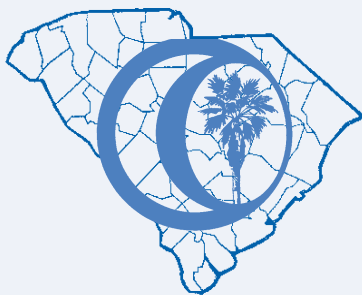
We invite you to learn more about PalmettoPride, Keep South Carolina Beautiful, Adopt-a-Highway, Palmetto Prideways and all of our programs at www.palmettopride.org.



York ...

(Continued from P. 46)

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:

**South Carolina
Association of Counties**
P.O. Box 8207
1919 Thurmond Mall
Columbia, SC 29202-8207
(803) 252-7255
smorgan@scac.sc

Yorkville Enquirer began operations, and in 1854, the Yorkville Female Academy opened. Later the building was part of McCelvey Elementary School, now the McCelvey Center.

Another educational institution opened in 1855 when Micah Jenkins and Asbury Coward established the King's Mountain Military Academy. Both founders later served in the Civil War, but only one survived the conflict—Coward. After the war ended, he returned to Yorkville and reopened the school.

The 1850s were also a time of residential building. Among these was the Hart House built by David Gordon and owned by James Franklin Hart during the 1860s and 1870s.

In 1860, Yorkville became the first backcountry town with gas-lit streets. By 1861, 1500 people lived in York and the town's economy was booming.

When South Carolina seceded, York supported the war effort and sent 16 companies to serve in the Confederate Army. Fleeing the fall of Richmond, Confederate President Jefferson Davis spent the night of April 27, 1865 at the

Bratton House (which unfortunately no longer survives) in York.

After the war ended, York became a center of Ku Klux Klan activity and the focus of federal efforts to destroy the Klan. As a result, for a time, federal troops were stationed in York.

But by 1880, York, with a population of 1600, was recovering from the war years. The county seat reported five churches (Episcopal, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, and Associate Reform), numerous schools, saw and grist mills, cotton gins, two hotels and its noted newspaper, *The Yorkville Enquirer*.

Also during the 1880s, textile mills opened in York. For example, the Springs and Cannon Mills spurred economic development in the county seat.

In the early 20th century, residents voted to shorten the name of the town to York. And in 1914 the county had its fourth courthouse. Designed by William Augustus Edwards, the new courthouse replaced one possibly designed by noted architect Robert Mills who also designed the Washington Monument.

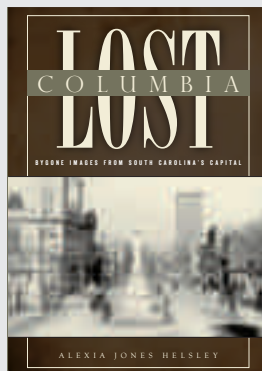
The York Historic District, created in 1979, celebrates the town's rich architectural and historic heritage. In 2000, the town had a population of 6,985.

Today, York offers the "intimate character of a small friendly community."



Lost Columbia: Bygone Images of South Carolina's Capital City (Charleston: the History Press, 2008)

Lost Columbia combines an overview of the turbulent history of Columbia with rare and little seen images of the city's destruction in 1865, the Assembly Street farmers' market, the changing face of Main Street and lost institutions and neighborhoods.



Lost Columbia is available in bookstores such as Barnes & Noble, from Amazon.com, or by mail from AJH Historical Enterprises, P.O. Box 3683, Irmo, SC 29063.



The Palmetto Directory

*Businesses selling products and services
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Also see advertising index, page 55



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Dorchester	Saluda
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Fairfield	Sumter
Florence	Union
★ Georgetown	Williamsburg
Greenville	York

County Update



See South Carolina
County Map,
Page 55

*Keeping you informed
about what's happening in
South Carolina's counties.*

COUNTY FOCUS

This section of *County Focus Magazine* provides South Carolina county officials an opportunity to submit newsworthy items that may be of interest to the magazine's readers. For more information, please contact SCAC's Public Information Office at 1-800-922-6081.

Bamberg County

● Forty-five Bamberg County employees recently received National Safety Council Driver Safety Training, required to operate county-owned vehicles.

"The county Defensive Driving Course was a success," said **Doretta Elliott**, Bamberg County Risk Manager. "We want the employees of Bamberg County to have every



SCAC Presidents

2015	John Q. Atkinson, Jr. <i>Marion County</i>	1999	Polly C. Jackson <i>Lancaster County</i>	1983	James P. Whitlock <i>Pickens County</i>
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2007	K.G. "Rusty" Smith, Jr. <i>Florence County</i>	1991	James R. McGee <i>Orangeburg County</i>	1975	Jack Q. Gerrald <i>Horry County</i>
2006	Belinda D. Copeland <i>Darlington County</i>	1990	Kenneth R. Huckaby <i>Spartanburg County</i>	1974	Arthur H. Burton <i>Charleston County</i>
2004-05	Waymon Mumford <i>Florence County</i>	1989	Lowell C. (Butch) Spires <i>Lexington County</i>	1973	James O. Thomason <i>Spartanburg County</i>
2004	Barrett S. Lawrimore <i>Charleston County</i>	1988	David K. Summers, Jr. <i>Calhoun County</i>	1972	J. Hugh McCutchen <i>Williamsburg County</i>
2003	Gonza L. Bryant <i>Greenwood County</i>	1987	Danny E. Allen <i>Spartanburg County</i>	1971	John L. Greer <i>Union County</i>
2002	James A. Coleman <i>Laurens County</i>	1986	O.V. Player, Jr. <i>Sumter County</i>	1969-70	J. Mitchell Graham <i>Charleston County</i>
2001	Steve S. Kelly, Jr. <i>Kershaw County</i>	1985	Sue H. Roe <i>Aiken County</i>	1967-68	Charles W. Lawrimore <i>Georgetown County</i>
2000	James H. Rozier, Jr. <i>Berkeley County</i>	1984	Charlie I. Crews <i>Hampton County</i>		

opportunity to get the training necessary to ensure their safety. We would like to thank the SCAC for having these resources available to all South Carolina counties.”

● External Auditor **Dawn L. Strickland**, CPA, of McGregor and Company, LLP, announced on April 4 at Bamberg County Council’s meeting that the county had recently merited an unmodified (clean) audit opinion for the 2015 fiscal year. The clean audit report follows the county’s three-year effort to correct findings that had adversely affected the county’s audit opinions since 2009.

Beaufort County

● The Beaufort County Library System announced on April 19 that Library Director **Ray McBride** had received the Friends of S.C. Libraries (FOSCL) Outstanding Individual Award for 2016. McBride, nominated by the Friends of the Bluffton Branch Library, received the award at FOSCL’s Annual Meeting, held on April 19 at the Lexington County Public Library.

FOSCL, a statewide organization, was created in the late 1980s to help foster, create, and support local Friends of the Library groups, and to provide networking opportunities for these groups to work together for the support of library services throughout the State of South Carolina.

● The Bluffton Branch of the Beaufort County Library System recently added a new Media Lab. The new space is designed for the public to learn and create projects that they might not otherwise be able to do at home. It is equipped with computers that feature a range of free and open-source software to design and edit various audio-visual files. Other equipment includes sound gear for recording podcasts, video cameras to produce films and the latest 3D printer.

● Beaufort County hosted the 2016 Association of Public Library Administrators Annual Retreat on March 17 and 18 at the St. Helena Branch Library. Each year, South Carolina library directors meet to discuss state-wide library topics.

● The Beaufort County Library is now offering 30 new educational tablets for young library customers to borrow at its Beaufort Branch Library as part of a pilot project funded by the Public Library Foundation of Beaufort County. A library card is required to check out the device. Some devices are available for use in the library, and most are available for week-long checkouts. If the pilot project is successful, the library plans to expand circulation of the devices to all branches.

Charleston County

● Charleston County recently hired **Andrew Quigley** as the new director for the Environmental Management Department. Quigley has been employed for the past nine years as the Director of the City of Tucson’s Environmental Services Department. He also served as the city’s Interim Assistant City Manager.

● The Charleston County Treasurer’s Office is offering direct assistance to citizens eligible to collect unclaimed funds under South Carolina’s Unclaimed Property Program.

Staff will provide information and resources to help citizens search for available funds and the county website will have a direct link to the State Treasurer’s Unclaimed Property website.

Annually, close to \$20 million is returned to the S.C. State Treasurer’s Office through a number of sources including uncashed paychecks, dividend checks, dormant bank accounts, life insurance settlements, etc. The money is held until the legal owner is found or comes forward to claim the funds.

● The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation on April 12 announced a \$2.25



SCAC’S 2016 WEBCAST CALENDAR

Thursday, Oct. 6
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Taking Charge of Change

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 2016 Conference Calendar

July 31–Aug. 3
July 30–31

Annual Conference
Institute of Government
Hilton Head Marriott, Hilton Head Island

Aug. 16

Setoff Debt/GEAR
Embassy Suites, Columbia

TBD

Continuing Education Update for Risk Managers
(Location TBD)

Oct. 19
Oct. 20

Institute of Government
County Council Coalition Meeting
Embassy Suites, Columbia

Nov. 18

S.C. Local Government Attorneys’ Institute
Embassy Suites, Columbia

Dec. 1-2

Legislative Conference
The Mills House Wyndham Grand Hotel, Charleston

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



July 22–25

NACo’s 2016 Conference Calendar

Annual Conference and Exposition
Los Angeles County (Long Beach), Calif.

million grant to Charleston County's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to implement reforms to reduce the jail population and create a more effective local criminal justice system.

With the award, the CJCC will implement reforms to address the main drivers of the county's jail population, including: increased community engagement; refined policing practices; alternatives to jail for those suffering from mental illness, substance abuse and homelessness; improving the pretrial process; and an emphasis on collecting and analyzing data to continue advancing progress and accountability. The goal is to reduce the jail population by 25 percent in the next three years.

The CJCC, a collaboration of elected and appointed officials, law enforcement leaders, judicial and court leadership, behavioral health professionals, various community leaders and many more, has developed a transformation plan in order to safely drive down jail usage, address racial and ethnic disproportionality and/or disparity, and continually improve the local justice system.

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including over-incarceration, global climate change, nuclear risk, and significantly increasing capital for the social sector.

● Charleston County is one of 20 local governments competing for this year's National Civic League (NCL) All-America City Award. The NCL, which has already announced the finalists, will select 10 winners from this year's group. Staff completed the application process and will make a formal presentation in June to a panel during the 67th All-America City Awards in Denver, Colorado. This highly competitive award is given to communities that are innovative, work with partners on a regional level and take on difficult challenges.

● In an effort to provide better access to court services, the North Area Magistrate Court 3, located in North Charleston, has started a pilot program in which the court will operate during night hours once a month. In addition, the McClellanville Magistrate Court, located in McClellanville, will add another day to its services.

The changes for the North Area Magistrate, presided over by Magistrate **Joanna Summey-Fuller**, include the addition of night hours of court the third Thursday of every month from 6 – 9 p.m. Services during night court include traffic court, taking payments

and allowing citizens to file civil complaints.

The pilot program was launched in January and its duration is for six months, when it will be evaluated.

The changes for the McClellanville Magistrate Court, presided over by Magistrate **Frances Cain-Lofton**, include extended hours on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

● Charleston County Clerk of Court **Julie Armstrong** has launched a new convenient payment method for citizens making child and spousal support payments. Individuals can now make credit card or debit card payments to Charleston County Family Court through the GovPayNet payment system. Adding this new service required no additional costs for taxpayers.

Georgetown County

● Mercom, a premier technology firm in Georgetown County, recently announced that it will expand its existing operations, investing nearly \$6 million and creating more than 150 jobs over the next five years. As part of the expansion, the company will construct a new headquarters facility across the street from its existing complex in Pawleys Island. The technology park is a direct result of the economic development focus and support of Santee Cooper in Georgetown County, along with efforts by the county's economic development staff.

● A Bassmaster Elite Series tournament, hosted by Georgetown County April 7–10, was one of the best attended Elite events in the series' history. With more than 27,500 fans taking part in activities throughout the four-day event, Bassmaster said attendance was easily in the top five.

Spectators came from all over South Carolina and beyond to watch the daily weigh-ins live at the county's Carroll A. Campbell Marine Complex. The tournament was held in conjunction with the Winyah Bay Heritage Festival, an event sponsored by the Georgetown County Museum. The Georgetown Business Association also hosted a series of free celebrity concerts as an added attraction on tournament days.

● Georgetown County officials and residents gathered for a ribbon-cutting celebration on April 1 at the newly-renovated Howard Center in Georgetown's West End.

Exterior work at the facility is scheduled for completion later in the spring, but with two events already scheduled in the Howard Center's auditorium in April, county council members wanted to ensure local residents got to have the first look.

● **David Bromberg**, head of Georgetown

County's tennis programming at Stables Park, has been named the S.C. Tennis Professional of the Year by the U.S. Professional Tennis Association (USPTA). The award is given to USPTA members based on contributions to their local tennis organizations and the USPTA, as well as volunteer work, career development, playing record and professional rating.

● After 16 years with the Georgetown County Building Department, **Mike Young** has been named the county's new building official. He was named to the position on an interim basis in December after the retirement of Robert Cox. Young has since been named to the position on a permanent basis.

● **Jennifer Dirks**, an administrative assistant with Georgetown County's Public Services Department, was selected as Georgetown County's Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2016. The Employee of the Quarter Award was designed to recognize outstanding full- and part-time employees at non-managerial levels.

● Georgetown County officials recognized longtime employees, including two with 40 years of service, on March 16. Employees are recognized upon achieving five years of service and every five years thereafter.

This year, 66 employees were recognized in all. **Cynthia Howard** and **Ricky Rowe** were the employees with the most years of service in this year's group of honorees. They both achieved 40 years of service to the county in 2015. Howard works in the Clerk of Court's office, while Rowe works in park maintenance.

Three employees were recognized for 35 years of service. They are **Carlethia Rudolph** of the library; **Wanda Prevatte**, register of deeds office; and **Robert Medlin** of the Sheriff's Office.

Judge **Isaac Pyatt Sr.** of Summary Court and **Chip Bathis** of GIS were both recognized for 30 years of Service.

Achieving 25 years of service in 2015 were four employees: **Jeanette Alston** of the assessor's office, **Sam Hodge** of emergency management; **Sharon Moultrie** of public works; and **John Reed** of solid waste collection.

Other employees recognized were: **20 years of service**—**Priscilla Johnson**, building department; **Deborah Johnson**, County Fire/EMS; **Todd Blomdahl**, Midway Fire Rescue; and **Mary Hezekiah**, solid waste collection; **15 years of service**—**Russell Flack** and **Michael Young**, building department; **Paulette Radcliffe**, coroner's office; **Annie Bowers** and **Tony Hucks**, County Fire/EMS; **Lydella Washington**, library; **Joshua Carney**, Midway Fire Rescue; **Holley Causey**, personnel; **Rhonda Stone** and **Wade Wilder**, parks and
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County Update ...

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recreation; and **Sheila Gardner** and **Michael Thacker**, Sheriff's Office; **10 years of service**—**Ryan Allen**, **Adam Porter** and **Steven Richards**, County Fire/ EMS; **Cindy Lynch**, delinquent tax office; **Pete Copeland** and **Henry Hulit**, Midway Fire Rescue; **Amanda Stirgwoit**, mosquito control; **Boyd Johnson** and **Holly Richardson**, planning and zoning; **Harrison Walker**, public works; **Mark Cox**, recycling; **Helen Black**, Sheriff's Office communications; **Joanne Clarey**, detention center; **Angela Carter**, **Dustin Morris** and **Stephen Smith**, enforcement; **Tanya Cumbee**, **Deborah Huggins** and **Pamela Pope**, summary court; and **Samantha Point**, treasurer's office; **5 years of service**—**Jennifer Lawrence**, **Jessica Smith** and **Susanna Wilson**, Clerk of Court's office; **Michael Derenzo** and **Alexander Roman**, County Fire/EMS; **Rosemarie Lewis**, library; **James Crawford** and **Kevin McLaughlin**, Midway Fire Rescue; **Eric DeLuca** and **Jeremiah Stafford**, mosquito control; **Adam Payne**, parks and recreation; **Adrienne Higgins**, Sheriff's Office communications; **Henry Betts**, **John Bryant**, **Bryan McKay**, **Alma Sierra** and **Brandon Stokes**, enforcement; **Tanisha Stanley**, Summary Court; and **Patricia Wynn**, treasurer's office.

● One longtime and one new volunteer with Georgetown County were recognized by County Council recently as Volunteers of the Year. The volunteers were **Mack Reed**, chief

at Georgetown County Fire/EMS, who is a dedicated volunteer coach with Georgetown County Parks and Recreation, and **Wil Keith**, volunteer chaplain for Midway Fire Rescue. Georgetown County recognizes one volunteer and one employee volunteer each year for their service.

● Firefighter **Luke Vogler** of Midway Fire Rescue was named Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2015 for the Georgetown County Emergency Services Department.

Vogler was recently involved in a rescue of an individual from a residential structure fire. For this extraordinary act of bravery directly resulting in the saving of life, he was recently honored with a Meritorious Action Award.

Horry County

● The Horry County Board of Architectural Review and Historic Preservation held its annual Historic Preservation Awards on May 17 at the McCown Auditorium, Horry County Museum, in Conway. The awards ceremony showcased historic preservation efforts across Horry County during the last year.

A presentation was made on the Ark Plantation archaeology dig, as well as the Rosenwald Schools of Horry County. All properties, which were designated as historic between May 2015 and April 2016, received certificates acknowledging the honor.

Also recognized were: **Ben Burroughs** for years of historic preservation activities in

Horry County; **Herbert Riley** for telling the story of Charlie's Place in Myrtle Beach; **Jack Thompson** for historic photographic coverage of Horry County; **Nye's Pharmacy** for preserving an icon in the community; students for their participation in the annual High School Historic Sites & Structures Video Contest; and businesses that have been honored by the Legacy Business Recognition Program.

● After serving a distinguished career in law enforcement with the Horry County Police Department since 1993, Police Chief **Sandra Rhodes** announced her retirement in April. May 6 was her last day serving as Chief of Police. Horry County Administrator **Chris Eldridge** has appointed Deputy Chief **Kelvin Waites** as Interim Chief.

Rhodes was named Chief of Police for Horry County in September 2012 after working up the chain-of-command as sergeant, lieutenant and captain.

● The Horry County Solid Waste Authority (SWA) has recognized Murrells Inlet area resident **Beth Carraway** as the "Caught Green Handed" recipient for the month of February. Carraway is a regular recycler at the Scipio Lane Recycling Center.

The Horry County SWA has recognized Loris area resident **W.P. McLeod**, as the "Caught Green Handed" recipient for the month of January. McLeod is a regular recycler at the Sarvis Recycling Center.

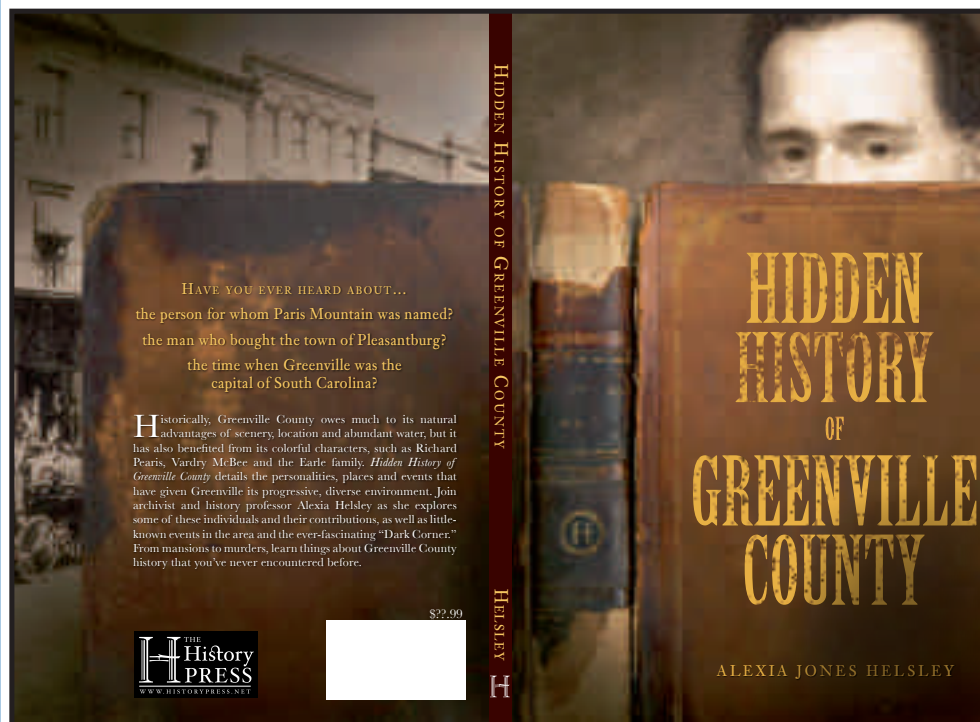
The Caught Green Handed recognition is presented monthly to a Horry County resident caught in the act of recycling.

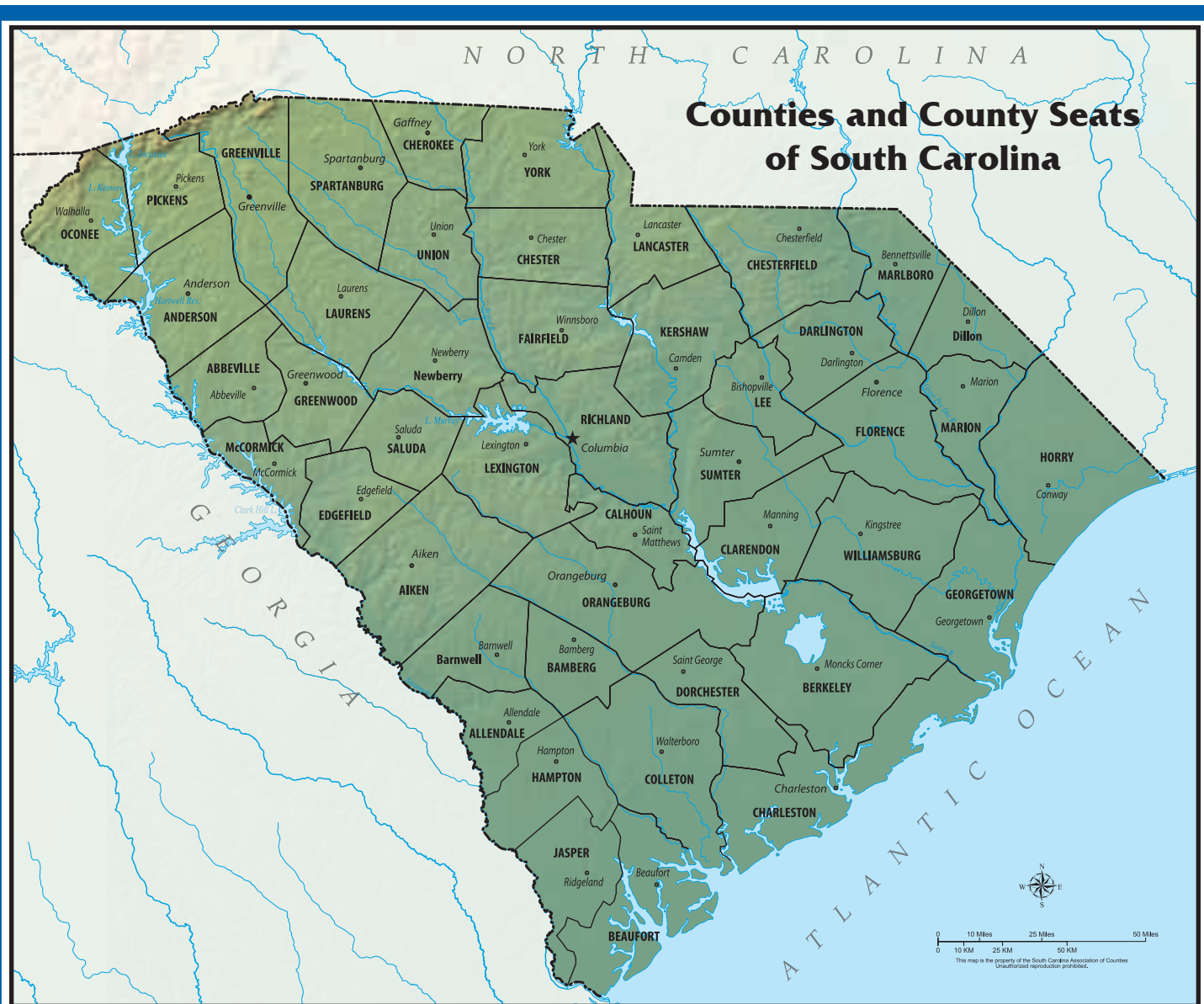
● Horry County announced in April that its Finance Department had received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The award represents a significant achievement by the Horry County Finance Department's Budget Manager and reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. This is Horry County's 27th consecutive award.

● **Randy Webster**, Horry County Emergency Management Director, was named Director of the Year during the annual S.C. Emergency Management Association workshop, held in March in the Myrtle Beach area. Nominees for the annual award are judged by their emergency management peers.

● The Horry County Board of Architectural Review's Legacy Business Recognition Program recognized Norman's Cleaners and Ocean Fish Market on March 11.

The Horry County Legacy Business





Recognition Program pays tribute to local businesses that have contributed to the economic heritage of Horry County for more than 50 continuous years.

● Horry County announced on March 3 the winner and two honorable mentions for the Randy Faulk Employee of the Year Award, given in memory of **Randy Faulk** who received the very first Employee of the Year award in 2006.

Horry County awarded the following three employees at J. Reuben Long Detention Center with the award: Lt. **Scott Bower**, Corrections Officers **Donnell Hargrove** and **James “Jake” Thompkins** for a life-saving water rescue during the October flooding.

Two honorable mentions were also awarded to previous Employee of the Quarter winners: **Kenneth Urban**, a security control technician with the Department of Airports;

and members of the Horry County Technology Team, including **Lt. John Harrelson** and Officers **Catina Hipp** and **Olaf Jonasson**. Each received a check for \$500.

● Horry County Planning and Zoning received a Palmetto Pride “Community Pride” grant for \$4,000 that will be used to purchase and install interpretive signage at five area boat landings and parks. The signs will be installed next to already existing environmental sculptures and will explain how litter affects fish and other wildlife.

The Keep Horry County Beautiful Committee (KHCB) also received a Palmetto Pride “Keep South Carolina Beautiful” grant for \$8,000 which will provide funds for the purchase of supplies that volunteers use at cleanup events held countywide.

Palmetto Pride has awarded more than \$32,000 in Palmetto Pride funds to help beau-

tify Horry County.

Richland County

● Richland County Floodplain Manager **Andrea Bolling** was honored in April by the S.C. Association for Hazard Mitigation (SCAHM). Six months after the October 2015 flood devastated parts of Richland County, the organization recognized Bolling for demonstrating excellence in the field of floodplain management, which is helping residents and officials navigate the post-flood recovery.

● Richland County Court-Appointed Special Advocate volunteer **Deirdre “Dee” Stodgill** was named the National CASA Volunteer of the Year. Stodgill has been a RC CASA volunteer, known as a Guardian ad Litem, for 17 years. During this time, she has advocated on behalf of 45 children from

Richland County. Stogdill accepted the award in June at the National CASA conference.

● Richland County and Columbia achieved dramatic drops in Insurance Service Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification (PPC) ratings. The county received a Class 2 ISO rating, improving from a previous rating of Class 4. Columbia improved from a Class 2 to a Class 1.

● Richland County will receive \$23.5 million for flood recovery efforts, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

(HUD) announced in February. The CDBG-Disaster Recovery funding is part of \$157 million awarded to South Carolina to assist with unmet housing, economic development and infrastructure needs following the devastating October 2015 floods.

● The grounds at the Richland County Administration Building soon will feature a monument with replicas of the nation's most revered documents—the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Richland County Council voted to accept a gift from Foundation Forward, Inc., to receive South Carolina's first Charters of Freedom Monument. Construction on Richland County's Charters of Freedom Monument began in April. A dedication ceremony was held on May 26.

● Richland County is waiving building permit fees and business license fees for individuals and volunteer organizations working to repair structures damaged by the October flooding. Building permits and business licenses still are required, but County Council approved waiving the fees until June 30, 2017.

● The County's Community Development Department purchased a \$422,000 fire truck with federal Community Development Block

Grant (CDBG) funds to improve fire services in a large, rural part of the county.

● Richland County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was recognized as the 2015 EMS Large Service of the Year by the S.C. Emergency Medical Services Network. The County's EMS staff, part of the Emergency Services Division, was cited for its programs to assist and educate residents, its collaboration with local hospitals and its heroic response during the October flood event.

● The Richland Soil and Water Conservation District was named the 2015 Outstanding Conservation District of the Year by the S.C. Association of Conservation Districts.

● For the 29th consecutive year, the Richland County Finance Department won the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), which cited the staff for producing a budget document that is easy for the general public to understand.

● The S.C. Department of Natural Resources recognized Richland County's Emergency Services Division in an online interactive journal that outlines the October 2015 historic rain and flooding. The Richland County Weather Information Network Data System was cited for providing data from its network of observation weather stations, which helped state climatologists accurately document rainfall in the Midlands.



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