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Vol. 31, No. 4

Newsletter of the South Carolina Association of Counties

**July 2019** 

# **SCAC Awards Scholarships to Five High School Seniors**

### SCAC's 2019 Presidential **Scholarship Winner**



T'Laysha C. Creswell McCormick High School **MCCORMICK COUNTY** 

### SCAC's 2019 Board of Directors Scholarship Winners



Genna K. Rivers Central High School **CHESTERFIELD COUNTY** 



S. Grier Hensley Richard Winn Academy **FAIRFIELD** COUNTY



Taryn L. Sparkman Georgetown High School **GEORGETOWN** COUNTY



Takavla A. Hart High School for Health Professionals **ORANGEBURG COUNTY** 

SCAC recently awarded scholarships to five high school seniors planning to attend a South Carolina college or university, or two-year technical college in the fall.

Each year, SCAC awards a \$2,500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who is a resident of the same county as that year's SCAC president.

SCAC also awards four \$2,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are residents of counties chosen by lot. Counties selected in the 2019 draw were Chesterfield, Fairfield, Georgetown and Orangeburg.

### **SCAC'S 2019 Presidential Scholarship Winner**

### **McCormick County**

SCAC awarded its 2019 Presidential Scholarship to T'Laysha C. Creswell of McCormick High School in honor of SCAC President Charles T. Jennings (McCormick County Council Chairman). The daughter of Sojourner Jennings and Ernest Norman of McCormick, she was ranked first in her class and plans to study engineering at Clemson University.

Creswell, a South Carolina Junior Scholar, was president of the National Honor Society, and served as student ambassador for the South Carolina High School League for the past three years.

She received the Matt Hardy's Foundation All-Around Student Award and Augusta University's African-American Achievement Award. She also served as captain of the varsity baskeball team and as a JROTC officer.

Her volunteer service includes working with the Backpack Blessings and Rise Against Hunger programs, as well as the Mc-Cormick County Voter Registration and Elections Office.

### **SCAC's 2019 Board of Directors Scholarship Winners**

### **Chesterfield County**

SCAC awarded a 2019 Board of Directors Scholarship to Genna K. Rivers of Central High School. The daughter of Anthony and Rhonda Rivers of Pageland, she plans to study nursing at the University of South Carolina.

Ranked first in her class, she served as secretary of the Fellow-

(Continued on next page)







ship of Christian Athletes and as captain of Central High School's Academic Math, Social Studies and General Knowledge Teams.

Rivers volunteers with Union Symphony Society and is first violin in the Union Symphony Youth Orchestra. She also assists with Allegro Strings.

#### **Fairfield County**

SCAC has awarded a 2019 Board of Directors Scholarship to S. Grier Hensley of Richard Winn Academy. The daughter of Guerry and Kay Hensley of Winnsboro, she plans to study civil engineerng at Trident Technical College and The Citadel.

# **Program at a Glance for SCAC's 52nd Annual Conference**

Hilton Marriott Hotel, Hilton Head Island NOTE: Meeting room locations will be announced once confirmed.

August 4 - 7, 2019

### Sunday, August 4, 2019

Worship Service 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Registration 10:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Exhibit Area Open 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.

J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore

Memorial Awards Competition

Clerks to Council 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Nominating Committee 3:00 p.m. Constitution, Resolutions and 3:30 p.m.

**Bylaws Committee** 

President's/Exhibitors' Reception 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

#### Monday, August 5, 2019

Exhibit Area Open 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 8:45 a.m. – 12:00 noon Registration Probate Judges 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Clerks to Council 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon County Council Coalition 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Managers, Administrators and Supervisors

Regional Councils of Government 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon Betty T. Roper Elected Women Officials' 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m. Luncheon (Ticket Required)

#### **CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS** 2:00 - 3:00 and 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

- Strengthening the Local Response to the Opioid Epidemic
- Building Resilient Communities: Lessons from the Field
- Overview of the 2019 Legislative Session
- The Power of Public Corruption How Do We Recover From It and How Can We Prevent It

Evening will be open for networking opportunities.

### Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Organizing Your County-Wide 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Litter Cleanup

Registration 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon General Session 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon S.C. Coalition of Black County Officials 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Banquet (Ticket Required) 9:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Entertainment by Deas-Guyz

Ranked first in her class, Hensley was Student Government President and an active member of the Beta Club. She also served as the Student Government Secretary and as a member of the school's varsity volleyball team.

She is the owner of Sunflower Sweets and Treats Bakery, and a member of Greenbrier Methodist Church.

Her community service includes volunteering for Lake Wateree State Park and Bethel Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Winnsboro.

#### **Georgetown County**

SCAC awarded a 2019 Board of Directors Scholarship to Taryn L. Sparkman of Georgetown High School. The daughter of Johnell and Tarsha Sparkman of Georgetown, she plans to study biology at Winthrop University.

Sparkman was Student Council Senior President and an active member of the Health Occupations Students of America, Mu Alpha Theta, and Interact Club. She was also a section leader for the Georgetown High School Gospel Choir, co-captain of the school's cheerleading squad, and a member of the track and field team.

Sparkman volunteers with Special Olympics. She also participates in the Bethel A.M.E. Youth Choir and the Prem1er Community Drumline.

### **Orangeburg County**

SCAC awarded a 2019 Board of Directors Scholarship to Takayla A. Hart of the High School for Health Profes-



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SCAC PRESIDENT **Charles T. Jennings** McCormick County Council Chairman

> EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Michael B. Cone

EDITOR & PHOTOGRAPHER W. Stuart Morgan III







sionals. The daughter of Craig and Lakeska Hart of Orangeburg, she plans to study nursing at the University of South Carolina Upstate.

Hart was active in Future Business Leaders of America, and a member of Health Occupations Students of America, the National Society of Black Engineers, the NAQT/Quiz Bowl and Debate Team, and the National Honor Society. She also participated in Palmetto Girls State and served as a Student Ambassador.

Hart received the 2018 Orangeburg Consolidated Schools and Calhoun County Consortium of the Arts Outstanding Artist award. She volunteers helping those in need at the Samaritan House, the Fill-In Station, the Back to School Bash, and ASCEND.

SCAC's Scholarship Selection Committees met in the spring to evaluate applicants for the Presidential Scholarship and the four Board of Directors scholarships. Each applicant was required to complete and submit an application, and to write an essay on his/her aspirations and goals. Scholarships were awarded based on essays, grades, school activities and community involvement.

# SC RIA Approves Grants to Strengthen Water, Sewer and Stormwater Infrastructure

The S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) has approved grant assistance for 26 communities, totaling more than \$12 million, to strengthen water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure. This brings the number of projects awarded to 54 in Fiscal Year 2019, totaling \$25.7 million.

Whether it's upgrading aged water or sewer lines, rehabilitating elevated storage tanks, improving a downtown's drainage infrastructure or extending water and sewer lines to industrial parks in an effort to attract new industry, these grant awards will have a significant impact on the 58,102 residents and businesses that they serve.

### **Grant Application Deadlines**

RIA grants are awarded twice a year through a competitive process that considers the need for improved public health, environmental protection, community sustainability and economic development. Grant application deadlines are: Sept. 9, 2019, for Round 1, and March 16, 2020, for Round 2.

Applications are selected by the RIA board based on criteria, including: severity of the problem, expected impact and project feasibility. Recipients share in the cost of projects by paying for non-construction activities and, often times, providing additional funds for construction.

To learn more about RIA or how to apply for grant assistance, visit www.ria.sc.gov.

# 2019 SCAC Scholarship Selection Committees

### **Presidential Scholarship Selection Committee**

Chair – Charles T. Edens, Sumter County Council Roy Costner III, Pickens County Council Chairman William E. Robinson, Allendale County Council

### Board of Directors Scholarship Selection Committee, Chesterfield County

Chair – Diane B. Anderson, Laurens County Council J. Frank Hart, Union County Supervisor/Chairman Henry E. "Sel" Hemingway, Jr., Georgetown County Administrator

### Board of Directors Scholarship Selection Committee, Fairfield County

Chair – Belinda D. Copeland, Darlington County Cam Crawford, Horry County Council Steve Willis, Lancaster County Administrator

### Board of Directors Scholarship Selection Committee, Georgetown County

Chair – Julie J. Armstrong, Charleston County Clerk of Court Joseph R. Branham, Chester County Council Vice Chairman Charles T. Jennings, McCormick County Council Chairman

### Board of Directors Scholarship Selection Committee, Orangeburg County

Chair – Waymon Mumford, Florence County Council Mary D. Anderson, Chesterfield County Council J. Clay Killian, Aiken County Administrator

## SCAC's 52nd Annual Conference

Aug. 4 - 7, 2019

### **Institute of Government**

Aug. 3 – 4, 2019

### **Hilton Head Marriott**

Additional information on SCAC's 52nd Annual Conference—including hotel accommodations and registration fees—can be found on the Association's website at SCCounties.org.

Register and pay online!

**South Carolina Association of Counties** P.O. Box 8207 Columbia, S.C. 29202-8207

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### **Webcasts & Webinars**

Webcasts and webinars will be published here when scheduled. So, please check this schedule whenever you receive Carolina Counties Newsletter.

For more information, please contact Susan Turkopuls, SCAC, at (803) 252-7255 or sturkopuls@scac.sc. Or visit SCAC's website at: http://www.sccounties.org/education-training

# **SCAC's 2019 Conference Calendar**

| Aug. 3 – 4 | <b>Institute of Government</b>                |
|------------|---|
| Aug. 4 – 7 | Annual Conference                             |
|            | Hilton Head Marriott                          |
|            | All Marie Control                             |
| Aug. 22    | SetOff Debt/GEAR                              |
|            | Embassy Suites, Columbia                      |
|            |   |
| Sept. 18   | Continuing Education Update for Risk Managers |
|            | Doubletree by Hilton, Columbia                |
|            |   |
| Oct. 23    | Institute of Government                       |
| Oct. 24    | <b>County Council Coalition</b>               |
|            | Embassy Suites, Columbia                      |
|            |   |
| Nov. 22    | S.C. Local Government Attorneys' Institute    |
|            | DoubleTree by Hilton, Columbia                |
|            |   |
| Dec. 5 – 7 | <b>Legislative Conference</b>                 |
|            | Renaissance, Charleston                       |
|            | ,   |

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



## **NACo's 2020 Conference Calendar**

Feb. 29 - March 4

**Legislative Conference** 

Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C.

July 16 - 20

**Annual Conference** Orlando, Florida

**South Carolina State Ethics Commission:** 

# Did You Know?



Did you know that complaints filed with the State Ethics Commission are confidential unless and until probable cause is found by the Commission?

Should you choose to file a complaint, you are not permitted to discuss the existence of the complaint until you are notified by mail that probable cause has been established. Should a complaint be filed against you, you are not allowed to discuss the complaint until you are notified by mail that probable cause has been established or you waive confidentiality in writing to the Commission.

You can learn more at Section 8-13-540 of the Ethics Reform Act.

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