

# COUNTY FOCUS

South Carolina Association of Counties

Volume 30

Number 1

**Michael B. Cone**  
*SCAC Executive Director*



**New Executive Director to Lead SCAC, Long-Time Leader to Retire**



**Timothy C. Winslow**  
*SCAC Executive Director-Elect*



**Beaufort County's New Animal Campus**





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W. Stuart Morgan III, Editor

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# South Carolina Needs Infrastructure Investment With a Mind Toward Resiliency

By U.S. Congressman Joe Cunningham (SC-01)

**T**he last four months have been some of the most rewarding and challenging of my life, and I am humbled by the opportunity to serve as South Carolina's Lowcountry representative in Congress. When I ran for office, I based much of my campaign on putting the people over politics. I promised to fight for the Lowcountry, and break through the political tribalism and gridlock to accomplish real results. My task was complicated by the circumstances I inherited. I entered Congress smack dab in the middle of the longest government shutdown in American history. Folks on both sides of the aisle were entrenched in their corners and unwilling to compromise.

I am a member of a group of centrist and pragmatic Democrats known as the Blue Dog Coalition, and we sent a letter to leadership in both the House and Senate calling for President Trump to reopen the government and then have Congress hold a substantive, bipartisan and bicameral negotiation on border security legislation. A few days after we sent that letter, the President announced he would move forward with our proposed solution, which eventually ended the shutdown, and produced a bipartisan

border security and government funding bill. This proved to me that no problem is too deeply-rooted to solve if a few members on both sides are willing to compromise. I have continued to bridge the partisan divide

*"... no problem is too deeply-rooted to solve if a few members of both sides are willing to compromise. I have continued to bridge the partisan divide because I believe Congress can only be productive if we work together."*

— U.S. Congressman Joe Cunningham (SC-01)

because I believe Congress can only be productive if we work together. Nearly 70 percent of the bills I've cosponsored have been bipartisan. I'm proud to also be a member

of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, a group of moderate Republicans and Democrats who meet weekly to discuss common-sense policies and issues we can work on together.

Right now, I believe infrastructure investment has the most room for bipartisanship. There's very little that is more important to the future of our nation than fixing our crumbling infrastructure—and that's particularly true in the Lowcountry. We need all sorts of infrastructure investment in the Lowcountry to fix our roads and bridges, evacuation routes, traffic and flooding problems. One of my top priorities is infrastructure resiliency. If we are going to adequately prepare ourselves for



U.S. Congressman Joe Cunningham

the challenges that lay ahead, we need a strong vision and long-term infrastructure strategy. We need to build and invest with a mind toward what our community will look like in decades, not just tomorrow. In the last few years, historic flooding has inundated South Carolina, from the Lowcountry to the Upstate, because of unprecedented high tides, erosion and harsher storm surges and hurricanes. As we continue to face the impacts of climate change, we know these problems will only get worse.

This has profound economic rami-



fications. South Carolina is fifth in the nation for the most homes at risk by the end of the century and ranks fourth for most property value at risk within 30 years. Indeed, operating under climate scientists' worst case scenario in which the sea level rises by 2 feet by 2045, nearly 8,000 homes in Charleston County could flood at least 26 times a year, the threshold for chronic flooding. By 2045, roughly \$8.6 billion-worth of residential property in the state is at risk of chronic flooding. Even worse, the South Carolina homes that would face this tier of flooding by the end of the century are currently worth roughly \$52.7 billion.

In Charleston, flooding threatens to compromise our medical district. During hurricanes and heavy rains, access to our hospitals, including Ralph Johnson VA Medical Center, can be cut off when the community needs them the most. First responders are forced to grapple with flooded facilities and streets as they make rescues. During Hurricanes Michael and Irma, the National Guard was needed to transport patients and doctors. Sea level rise and recurrent flooding also threaten nearly every military installation in the district. Parris Island, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Joint Base Charleston, and Coast Guard Sector Charleston are not only critical to our national security but are also indispensable to our local economy.

To build a flood-resistant South Carolina we first need enhanced collaboration and partnership. One solution I am exploring is a partnership with the VA, the Department of Defense, and the Coast Guard to secure military installments and the surrounding communities. Our flooding problems do not have jurisdictional bounds, so we must work together to solve this problem on a municipal, regional, state and federal level. I was honored to be appointed to the South Carolina Flooding Commission by Governor Henry McMaster. I'm also a member of the American Flooding Coalition, a group of nonpartisan political, business, military and local leaders dedicated to creating flooding policies that strengthen our economy, invest in our cities and towns, and safeguard our national security.

In Congress, I serve as Vice Chair of the Blue Dog Caucus' Middle Class Jobs and Infrastructure Task Force, where I am working alongside other fiscally responsible moderate colleagues to bring infrastructure priorities affecting the Lowcountry—particularly flooding—to the forefront as congressional leadership continues to work on a series of infrastructure bills. In April, I invited Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett (D-VI), co-chair of the New Democrat Coalition's Infrastructure Task Force, to Charleston for a tour of vital infrastructure in our district. We toured the Port of Charleston, stormwater tunnels and the medical district in Charleston, and held a roundtable on extreme weather and infrastructure resiliency with Mayor John Tecklenburg.

Leadership in both parties has expressed eagerness to work with each other to create a robust infrastructure package for the 21st century. It is far past time we turn words into action. Congress must start working on infrastructure legislation that addresses the urgent problems we are facing now and mitigates the crises we will face in the future. This will require real compromise in an era of divided government and unprecedented dysfunction but I'm confident that there are enough like-minded, pragmatic people in the halls of Congress to make this happen.



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# New Executive Director to Lead SCAC, Long-time Leader to Retire

*Michael B. Cone, Executive Director, to Wrap Up 48-Year Career*

*By W. Stuart Morgan III*

**T**imothy C. Winslow will lead the South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC) as executive director when Michael B. Cone, the Association's long-time executive director, retires on Jan. 1, 2020.

Cone served as deputy executive director of the Municipal Association of South Carolina from 1971 to 1973 before SCAC Executive Director Bo Shetterly hired him as assistant director in 1973. Cone then replaced Shetterly as executive director when he left the SCAC in 1987.

"Let me say this," said Bo Shetterly, when asked about Winslow taking over the helm of the SCAC when Cone retires, "Mike—a visionary and a builder—was loyal, compassionate and extremely fair. He and I discussed everything, and he knew the SCAC needed its own building, that it needed to grow and diversify by offering a broad range of programs and services, and that it couldn't survive on county dues alone.

"He also knew how to do it," added Shetterly, who led the Association as executive director for about 16 of its first 18 years. "So, Mike really was, by far and above, the very best executive director the Association could have had during his long tenure. He has done a remarkable job, and I believe everybody realizes that. Mike has set the SCAC on a solid footing, and he's going to leave a legacy as having been a great executive director—the best."



Michael B. Cone  
SCAC Executive Director



Timothy C. Winslow  
SCAC Executive Director-Elect

***"(Mike) has done a remarkable job. ... and he's going to leave a legacy as having been a great executive director—the best."***

— Russell B. Shetterly  
SCAC's Previous Executive Director (Retired)

James "Jim" C. Shipman served as executive director of the SCAC from its founding in 1967 until Shetterly, then assistant director, was appointed to replace him in 1970.

Only 33 of the state's 46 counties supported the SCAC as members. So, Shetterly's main goal as executive director from 1970 to 1987 was to take a fractured Association, to get elected and appointed county officials to talk to each other, and to help them fight for Home Rule. With Cone's help, he also focused on setting up a common system of county government that would authorize counties to operate

and provide needed services. Next, they focused on defending county government's authority to do so.

"I wanted to give such powers to county government and keep them because legislators were approving county budgets," Shetterly explained. "But Mike understood that the SCAC had a lot more reach, he had a lot more vision, and he knew that the Association could do more than it was doing. So, he gets all the credit for that."

Shetterly said SCAC's executive director-elect, Winslow, is an excellent choice to be the Association's next executive director.

"Like Mike, Tim has also shown talent as a visionary," Shetterly explained. "Tim is smart, he understands the work of the Association, he understands the legislature, he understands how to get things done, and he understands how to work with the SCAC Board.

"But he's also a really good person with a good personality, he's well-grounded, and people like him. I like him, too," he added. "I believe he's real fun to work with, that all of SCAC's board members will appreciate his hard work, and that he's going to continue adding to Mike's legacy of building and doing good things for the SCAC."

Rarely does the leader of a half-century-old organization witness his successor retire and his successor's successor take its helm. In fact, some leaders rarely speak highly of their predecessors or suc-



cessors if they say anything about them at all.

Obviously, this is not the case here.

Shetterly, who returned to work as Of Counsel for the SCAC from 2003 until retiring in 2012, is confident that Winslow will successfully lead the SCAC, work hard to strengthen county government, and continue to fight for Home Rule and defend it just as he and Cone did for many years.

Cone is just as confident that he is leaving the SCAC in good shape and good hands. After all, the Association has a permanent home at 1919 Thurmond Mall in Columbia, and the Association's many programs and services are stronger than ever.

"Timothy Winslow," Cone said, "is an extremely bright attorney who possesses the experience and leadership skills required to steer the SCAC staff to provide superior service to our South Carolina county officials. Tim's sharp intellect, humility and ability to work well with others have earned him great respect. Thus, Tim has the ability to bring county and state officials together as Team South Carolina. After my 46 years at SCAC, I leave knowing that SCAC has a great future in the capable hands of Tim Winslow and his executive staff."

***"After my 46 years at SCAC, I leave knowing that SCAC has a great future in the capable hands of Tim Winslow and his executive staff."***

— Michael B. Cone  
SCAC Executive Director

Cone said he is grateful that Shetterly hired him in 1973. He said he also appreciates SCAC's Board of Directors and the Association's great staff for building the SCAC into one of the largest and most financially-stable associations in South Carolina.

Appointed as SCAC Executive-Elect on Nov. 29, 2018, Winslow has worked for the Association since he was hired as SCAC Staff Attorney in January 1998. He was promoted to Senior Staff Attorney in June 2004, Assistant Director, Legal/Legislative Affairs in November 2008,

Assistant General Counsel in March 2012 and Deputy General Counsel in October 2016.

Winslow received his B.A. in Political Science from The Citadel in 1992 and JD from the University of South Carolina in 1995.

### ***Building Stronger Counties for Tomorrow***

SCAC used the slogan, "Building Stronger Counties for Tomorrow," during its first 50 years, of which Cone served all but its first six. So, some individuals credit Cone for building the SCAC during his 46-year-tenure at the Association.

But Winslow, like Shetterly, believes Cone was much more than the Association's "builder."

"Mike Cone, perhaps more than anyone in South Carolina history," Winslow explained, "promoted the concept of Home Rule through stronger counties, and his accomplishments at the State House and the SCAC Office speak for themselves. There, despite pushback from entrenched state legislators, Mike managed to successfully promote county government and local leaders to the forefront."

"He not only won over legislators, but managed to make Home Rule a watchword for good government," he added. "The people of South Carolina and county leadership owe Mike a debt of gratitude for what he has done for this state and its governance."

SCAC has significantly broadened its range of programs and services since its founding in 1967.

"Like Bo Shetterly said, Mike managed to diversify the services that the SCAC is able to provide counties," Winslow explained. "The various programs that the SCAC offers, and the education we provide county officials and staff not only lead to good government but also save taxpayers money. Thanks to Mike,

SCAC is without question the premier local government association in the nation. He leaves an indelible mark on SCAC and on county government as a whole."

### ***Local Leaders. Statewide Strength.®***

The slogan, "Local Leaders. Statewide Strength," which the SCAC adopted to celebrate SCAC's 50th Anniversary in 2017, is appropriate. After all, Winslow takes the helm of the SCAC at a point in its history when local leaders—specifically county leaders—have proven the strength of Home Rule statewide.

He is prepared to lead the SCAC, and looking forward to leading the organization his predecessor led for so long.

"There are certain truths inherent in government," Winslow said. "One is that the power to govern originates with the people. Therefore, the best government is the general government closest to the people, county government."

"With this said," he added, "I believe the mission of SCAC is more relevant now than ever. Strong counties, under Home Rule, is the key to a successful South Carolina. Local officials know what will serve their communities better than anyone else, and they are responsive to their neighbors, friends and families. County

government is the leader in protecting, preserving and enriching the lives of the people of this state."

Winslow's goal, and that of SCAC's Board of Directors is to enhance the services that SCAC already provides and to further di-

versify such services by offering more programs to benefit county government and its constituents.

"I look forward to leading SCAC in the next chapter of its existence," Winslow said, "and ensuring that the Association continues to be the preeminent advocate for county government—the cornerstone of governance in South Carolina."





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# Beaufort County's New Animal Campus

*A Unique Public/Private Partnership Making  
Significant Changes and Providing Impressive Results!*

By W. Stuart Morgan III

**B**eaufort County held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 30, 2019, officially opening its new state-of-the-art Animal Campus.

The 21,000-square-foot facility is located on a 10-acre site on 10 Pritcher Point Road a few miles north of the inter-



**RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY**—(Left to right) Stu Rodman, Beaufort County Council Chairman, and Chuck Laine, Chairman of the Hilton Head Humane Association Board, moments after cutting the ribbon at a ceremony on March 30, officially opening the new Beaufort County Animal Campus. (Photo by Laura Fanelli, Beaufort County Communications Manager)



section of routes 278 and 170 near Okatie. Centrally located in Beaufort County, the campus houses under one roof:

- Animal Services Department
- Hilton Head Humane Spay and Neuter Clinic, and
- Hilton Head Humane Adoption Center.

The facility includes exercise yards, a dog bone-shaped pond with walking trails and more. Each of the facility's three sections has its own main entrance, and all three sections are connected by a long, spacious hallway.

"I'm happy with our new animal shelter, and it's long overdue for the animals who need it and the staff who run it," said

## Beaufort County ...



See South Carolina  
County Map,  
P. 59



Philip Foot, Beaufort County Assistant Administrator for the Public Safety Division, which oversees Animal Services. "This has put our county on the map for looking out for the animal population that has no voice to tell us they are abused, alone and hurt. Our new animal shelter provides services to any animal in need, even wild animals."

The facility replaces the county's old animal shelter, located on 23 Shelter Church Road near the entrance to the Marine Corps Air Station in Beaufort.



The new facility is designed to create a more efficient, environmentally sound and healthy environment to help Beaufort County Animal Services promote responsible pet ownership, prevent the spread of animal-borne diseases and protect the public by seizing nuisance animals in the county.

Animal Services focuses primarily on giving stray, abused and unwanted domestic animals like dogs and cats a second chance by providing safe shelter that separates different types of animals

***"This has put our county on the map for looking out for the animal population that has no voice to tell us they are abused, alone and hurt. Our new animal shelter provides services to any animal in need, even wild animals."***

— Philip Foot  
Beaufort County Assistant Administrator  
for the Public Safety Division

and provides a healthy environment for them until they can be adopted. It also runs an adoption program, which includes health screening, vaccinations, microchipping and mandatory spay or neutering for dogs and cats.

But the department also receives snakes, pigs, horses, rats, gerbils, fish and birds and helps control feral cat colonies. In fact, Animal Services goes out of its way to help injured birds of prey by driving them to Charleston's bird of prey (See Beaufort County, P. 11)



Above, an aerial view of the new Beaufort County Animal Campus. (Photo by Robert Gecy, Beaufort County Applications Programmer) Below, photo of the facility as seen when approaching the entrance leading to the facility. Inset-right are the signs posted at the entrance to each of the facility's three sections: Beaufort County Animal Services, and the Hilton Head Humane Association Spay/Neuter Clinic, and Adoption Center. (Photos by Stuart Morgan)uart Morgan)





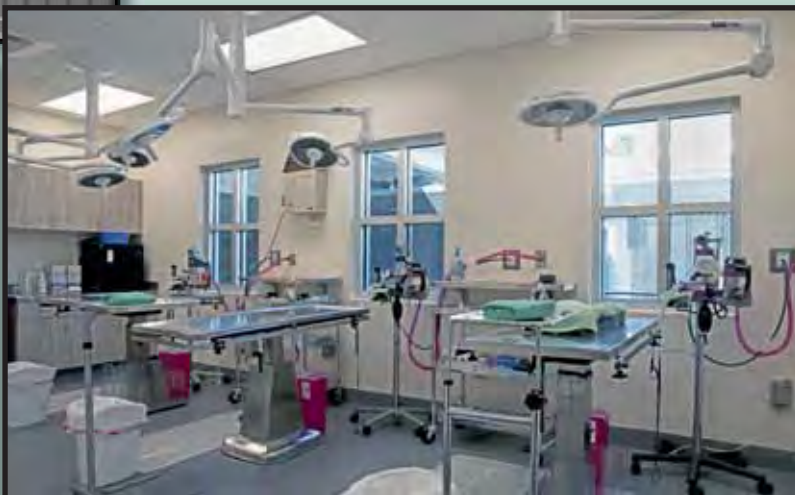
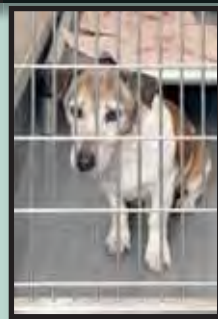
# Key Features of Beaufort County's New Animal Campus



Photos by Stuart Morgan



WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP ANIMALS—Staff members of Beaufort County Animal Services (BCAS) and Hilton Head Humane Association (HHHA) work together to provide safe shelter and a healthy environment for stray, abused and unwanted domestic animals like dogs, puppies and cats and kittens until they can be adopted. Shown (left to right) are: BCAS Administrative Technicians Stephanie Brumley and Lindsey Edwards and Animal Care Technician Pagan McLemore, and HHHa Kennel Care Technicians Alicia Windisch, and Carole Bogle, and Adoption Facilitators Katie Leasure and Megan Rader.



The Hilton Head Humane Spay and Neuter Clinic provides health screenings, vaccinations, microchipping and mandatory spay or neutering for dogs and cats.



Beaufort County Animal Services separates dogs, puppies, cats and kittens and takes significant steps to provide a safe and healthy environment for them as they arrive at the shelter until the Hilton Head Humane Association Adoption Center can find homes for them.





# Beaufort County ...

(Continued from P. 9)

sanctuary. The department also helps raccoons, opossums, deer, alligators, squirrels, ducks, geese, turtles and more.

The goal of Animal Services is to reduce—with the goal of someday eliminating—the use of euthanasia as a way to control the county's unwanted animal population.

## A Unique Partnership

Funding for construction of the \$8.5 million Beaufort County Animal Campus is as unique as the funding required to operate it.

In a public/private partnership, Beaufort County paid \$6.5 million to fund the facility's construction between May 2018 and March 2019. The Hilton Head Human Association (HHHA) paid \$2 million.

Now, the county funds the operation of one of the facility's sections—the county's Animal Services Department. The HHHA funds the operation of the other two sections—the Spay and Neuter Clinic, and Adoption Center.

The HHHA's mission is to improve the lives of homeless dogs and cats in the Lowcountry while working to substantially lower the number of animals reproduced or relinquished. Funded entirely by membership dues, private donations and bequests, this organization cares for abandoned, injured, abused animals and feral cats.

The HHHA also provides low-cost spaying and neutering for dogs and cats that Animal Services officers bring in, emergency veterinarian care and adoptions services for animals. The adoption center includes enough space to individually house many dogs and cats.

## Forming the Partnership

The partnership between Beaufort County Animal Services and the Hilton Head Humane Association was not formed overnight.

Foot said no government project is easy before explaining why he believed this public/private partnership succeeded despite the obstacles it faced.

"When pursuing a project like this, you receive as much scrutiny from citizens as you do from the staff you work with," he explained. "But if you believe in a project, you don't give up easily if you know in your heart it's the right thing to do. It took us seven years to complete this project and to form a partnership between our county and the Hilton Head Humane Association.

"The government doesn't always know the best way to do everything," Foot admitted. "Sometimes you must get expert help from the private sector,

(Continued on next page)

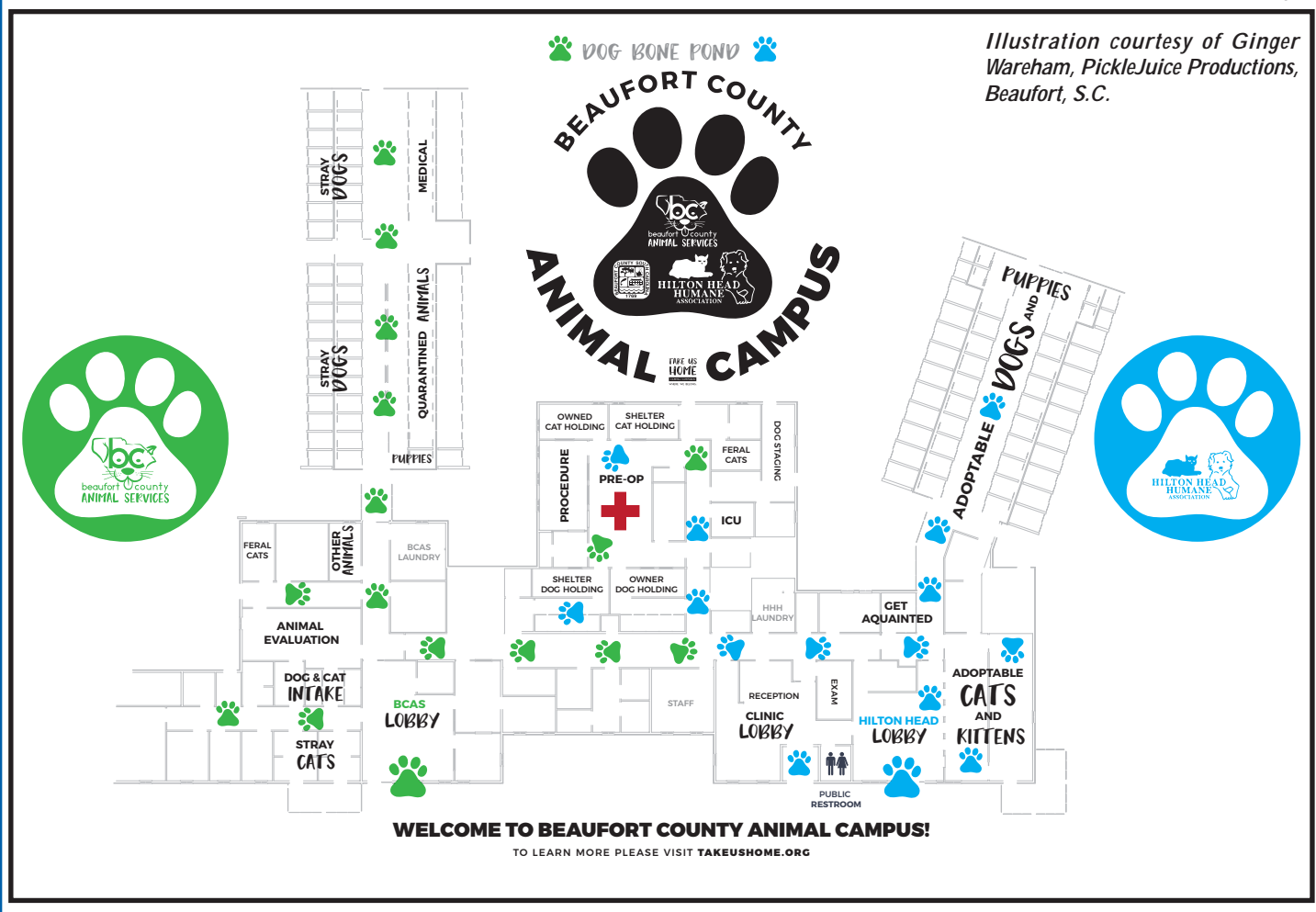


Illustration courtesy of Ginger Wareham, PickleJuice Productions, Beaufort, S.C.

and that's what we did with the Hilton Head Humane Association. Without their help, guidance and help with funding, this project would have never happened."

Efforts to change how Beaufort County handled unwanted animals began to change about 12 years ago.

Rick Caporale, a former Beaufort County Council Member, said he was astonished as a council member when he learned in 2007 that the county was euthanizing as much as 75 to 80 percent of the stray, homeless, feral and abandoned animals that ended up in the county's previous animal shelter—as many as 400 animals per month.

After talking to people—mostly women who were leading rescue groups, including Tallulah McGee (now Director of Beaufort County Animal Services)—Caporale said he was convinced that there were better ways to deal with animals that ended up at the animal shelter.

The HHHA, other rescue groups and small groups of animal lovers were trying their best to deal with approximately 8,500 homeless, abandoned, stray and fe-

ral animals—mostly feral cats, who could breed two or three litters a year—that were roaming the county. Some groups

*"... if you believe in a project, you don't give up easily if you know in your heart it's the right thing to do. It took us seven years to complete this project and to form a partnership between (Beaufort County) and the Hilton Head Humane Association."*

— Philip Foot

*Beaufort County Assistant Administrator for the Public Safety Division, which oversees Animal Services*

were trapping feral cats, neutering and releasing them back into their habitat or establishing feral cat colonies around the county. Beaufort County was trapping and euthanizing them.

"To make a long story short," Caporale said, "I spent two years getting to

know the players, writing every veterinarian practicing in Beaufort County and explaining the problem of using euthanasia and soliciting their input. But no more than three or four veterinarians ever responded.

"I then visited the county's animal shelter, which was more than 40 years old and in poor shape, and talked to the shelter's director and veterinarian," he added. "I began to see the other side of the problem. People were just doing what they had always done and really couldn't imagine doing anything differently. They simply didn't believe they could house the hundreds of animals they received each month if they did not euthanize many of them."

Caporale soon launched a campaign to transform the way the county handled animals and to build a cutting-edge facility that would make that transformation possible. He credited Chuck Laine, HHHA Chairman, and Gary Kubic (previous Beaufort County administrator) and Bryan Hill (previous deputy county administrator) for providing crucial sup-



BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL—(Left to right) Council Members Chris Hervochon, Larry McElynn, Mike Covert, York Glover, Mark Lawson, Council Vice Chairman Paul Sommerville, Council Chairman Stu Rodman and Council Members Alice Howard and Joe Passiment. Council Members Brian Flewelling and Gerald Dawson were unavailable for this photo. (Photo by Laura Fanelli, Beaufort County Communications Manager)



port required to make that campaign succeed.

### **"It Was Never Really About the Building"**

The campaign was never really about the building, according to Caporale.

"It was—first and foremost, and still is—about reducing euthanasia," he insisted. "We had to change the thinking and culture of the people in charge.

"Ironically," he added, "as I began to make inroads with some of the local rescue groups, I found that some of them did not seem to like or trust each other much more than they liked or trusted Beaufort County Animal Services at the time. They were competing for donations and acted like competitors instead of saviors on a common mission. In fact, sadly, some rescue groups had no regard whatso-

***"We had to change the thinking and culture of the people in charge. (Rescue groups) were competing for donations and acted like competitors instead of saviors on a common mission. ... The problem was bigger than I thought."***

— Rick Caporale  
Former Beaufort County Council Member

ever for the way the county was doing the job of handling animals. The problem was bigger than I thought."

Caporale recognized the importance of convincing the HHA that he was not a "voice in the wilderness," and that Beaufort County Council was serious about changing the way the county dealt with animals. As he worked with Chuck Laine, HHA Chairman, and as Beaufort County council members began listening, news of these efforts spread across the county.

"The community began to take notice," Caporale recalled, "and residents began to speak up on behalf of saving animal lives and reducing euthanasia."



Showing one of the signs used to direct everyone to the ribbon-cutting ceremony opening the new Beaufort County Animal Campus on March 30 are (left to right): Philip Foot, Beaufort County Assistant Administrator, and Director of Public Safety, and Tallulah McGee, Director of the Beaufort County Animal Services. (Photo by Stuart Morgan)

### **Igniting Change**

Franny Gerthoffer, HHA Executive Director, said the Hilton Head Humane Association is 100 percent committed to homeless dogs and cats. The organization is also equally committed to helping lower the reproduction and relinquishment rates of animals, and especially eliminating the euthanasia of animals due to medical issues that could be treated or due to lack of space.

Gerthoffer said the biggest move Beaufort County made in handling animals was when it hired Tallulah McGee as Director of Beaufort County Animal Services. The HHA began to seriously discuss partnering with Beaufort County once Beaufort County hired Tallulah and made other changes required to transform the way they handled stray, unwanted or homeless animals.

"Tallulah (McGee) ignited change," Gerthoffer said. "She captured the spirit of the county, which had been missing on behalf of the animals for so many years. Working with her has been a positive experience from the day she started.

"We worked together and adopted an attitude of 'stick-to-it-iveness,'" she added, "that has resulted in the largest public/private partnership in Beaufort

County and a state-of-the-art facility that will serve as a flagship model for other counties to emulate. We couldn't be more proud of this seven year project and what it means for the future of animals in our county."

McGee said Beaufort County and the HHA understand that they are more effective working together.

"We understand that it's critical to emphasize aggressive spay and neuter programs to reduce the intake of animals and the use of euthanasia," she explained. "This is why it was so important to combine under one roof Beaufort County Animals Services, and the Hilton Head Humane Spay/Neuter Clinic and Adoption Center. Residents no longer have to travel from one location to another for animal services because we now offer all services under one roof. We've moved from 'highways to hallways.'"

Stu Rodman, Chairman of Beaufort County Council, said on behalf of all council members—past and present—

***"Tallulah ignited change. She captured the spirit of the county, which had been missing on behalf of the animals for so many years."***

— Franny Gerthoffer  
Hilton Head Humane Association  
Executive Director

that he is proud of the partnership between Beaufort County and the HHA, and that he looks forward to improving services and achieving the goals that Animal Services has set.

Rodman credited Caporale for leading the campaign to change how the county handled unwanted animals and the project to construct the Beaufort County Animal Campus.

Chuck Laine said the construction of Beaufort County's new Animal Services facility is a great story *not* because of the facility, but because of the successful efforts to reduce the use of euthanasia that began seven years ago, which led to the facility's construction.

"A handful of people," Laine said,  
(Continued on next page)



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"changed the path and turned it into something exceptional."

Figures confirm this.

Since 2011, Animal Services has:

- Dramatically reduced the use of euthanasia to 50 percent from a high of 90 percent.
- Achieved an 83 percent live release rate, a significant improvement over a 33 percent release rate. (Live release includes returning animals to owners, and relocating animals to other organizations or finding homes for adoption.)
- Spayed and neutered 4,000 animals, increasing by more than 600 percent the rate of spays/neuters.

*"We understand that it's critical to emphasize aggressive spay and neuter programs to reduce the intake of animals and the use of euthanasia. This is why it was so important to combine under one roof Beaufort County Animal Services, and the Hilton Head Humane Association Spay/Neuter Clinic and Adoption Center."*

— Tallulah McGee

*Beaufort County Animal Services Director*

The HHA's Spay/Neuter Animal Clinic is also microchipping 63 percent more dogs and cats than it did five years ago.

In fact, in 2018, alone, the organization microchipped 2,743 animals. This has significantly increased the return-to-owner rate for dogs from 22 percent five years ago to 52 percent in 2018. It has also increased the return-to-owner rate for cats from 2 percent five years ago to greater than 38 percent in 2018.

Foot was the driving force behind efforts to change the way Beaufort County handled animals and the construction of the new Animal Campus.

Yet, he credits one of the individuals who is almost always mentioned anytime someone talks about the positive changes that have occurred since Beaufort County began partnering with the HHA years ago.

"Sometimes you must think outside the box to get things done," Foot said. "When people said Beaufort County couldn't transform the way we handled unwanted animals, Tallulah proved them wrong! She was supported, of course, by Beaufort County Council, the Hilton Head Humane Association, the staff of the county's Animal Services Department and many other groups and individuals, including Rick Caporale, who cared about the treatment of animals in Beaufort County."



*The new Beaufort County Animal Campus is open and operational, but additional funding is still needed for equipment, food and other necessities. For this purpose, Beaufort County Animal Services continues to run its #TAKEUSHOME Beaufort County Animal Campus Capital Campaign.*

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# York County's New Government Center

*A "State-of-the-Art One-Stop-Shop" Designed to Enhance Government Services Today and Tomorrow*

*By W. Stuart Morgan III*

**Y**ork County has constructed a new \$24.2 million Government Center that replaces the Agricultural Building, once located at the corner of South Congress and West Jefferson streets in downtown York.

The old Ag Building, as it was often called, was built in 1955 and served as the county government building since 1977 before it was demolished and removed in March. York County is one of several counties in the Upstate experiencing significant growth and economic development, and county government long ago outgrew its previous home.

"York County needed a professional facility," said Bill Shanahan, York County Manager, "to efficiently manage the growth that the county is experiencing



now, as well as the growth it will experience in the future. When county council members decided to construct the facility, they focused on enhancing services for residents instead of only meeting current demands. They wanted to construct a building that would serve residents well into the future.

"We're very happy with our new

Government Center," he added. "With surging growth and booming economic development, the facility was designed to



York County Government Center (Photo by Stuart Morgan)



follow the county's vision statement—to help serve residents, developers, builders, contractors as well as others. It provides an environment that helps all residents and members of the business community to thrive and succeed."

The York County Government Center has four floors, three of which are visible from the front due to the site's topography that descends from the front to the rear of the building.

The building's façade and roof were designed to emulate that of the county's historic courthouse, which it now faces. Its exterior has a cast-stone base, brick mid-section, and it is topped with a cast-stone cornice. The roof was designed to hide rooftop mechanical equipment.

"It was important to county council and the county's residents," Shanahan said, "that the Government Center have the historic feel within its modern design to mirror the architecture of the historic courthouse and structures in historic downtown York."

He then described the Government Center as a "state-of-the-art one-stop-shop," and identified the county departments that it houses:

- County Council Chambers
- County Manager
- Treasurer
- Assessor
- Finance
- Auditor
- Veterans Affairs
- Register of Deeds
- Voter Registration and Elections
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Procurement
- Engineering

The building's interior features bright-colored walls and fabrics and attractive furniture. It has 80,000 square feet of floor space (20,000 square feet per floor), plenty of room to house 133 county employees

who work there.

A large parking lot, located where the previous county administration building

***"When county council members decided to construct the facility, they focused on enhancing services for residents instead of only meeting current demands. They wanted to construct a building that would serve residents well into the future."***

— Bill Shanahan  
York County Manager

existed for 64 years, is under construction between the new Government Center and historic courthouse. Plenty of green space remains at the new facility's site.

While most of the trees were spared in the area as the building was constructed, new plantings now supplement them.

County offices were moved smoothly in stages from the Ag Building to the new Government Center without interrupting county services and inconveniencing residents. This was accomplished due to pre-planning and coordination by the staff of building maintenance, information technology and the Cumming Project Management Firm.

"An impressive feature in our new building is that it enhances the quality of life at work for our county employees," Shanahan said. "The facility provides a cutting-edge, modern work environment. It includes a contemporary-styled break-room and a terrace on the third floor, complete with tables and chairs, which

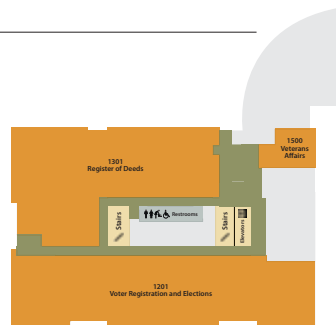
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**YORK COUNTY COUNCIL—** (Left to right) York County Council Members Robert Winkler, Dr. J. Britt Blackwell, Council Vice Chairwoman Christi Cox; Council Chairman Michael Johnson; Council Members William "Bump" Roddey, Allison Love and Joel Hamilton. *(Photo by Stuart Morgan)*

## YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

### LEVEL 1



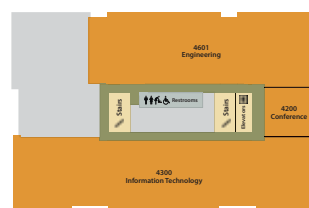
### LEVEL 2



### LEVEL 3



### LEVEL 4



#### DEPARTMENT SUITES

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
1201 - Voter Registration and Elections 1301 - Register of Deeds 1500 - Veterans Affairs	2200 - Auditor 2300 - Treasurer 2405 - Assessor 2501 - County Council 2600 - Council Chambers	3201 - County Manager 3401 - Conference 3501 - Procurement 3701 - Human Resources 3801 - Conference	4200 - Conference 4300 - Information Technology 4601 - Engineering

#### LEGEND

DEPARTMENTS		PUBLIC AREAS	
ELEVATORS	RESTROOMS	STAIRS	

allows employees to enjoy their lunches on warm, sunny days. We're providing ways for employees to connect and get to know each other, which helps to enhance employee morale and promote team building."

Shanahan said the project to construct the new Government Center was successful due to local support and residents' trust in county council.

"Residents take great pride in this new building as they should," he said. "It's their building."

David Harmon, York County Assistant Manager and Project Manager, described the project as a "total team effort."

He said York County began the process of designing and constructing the new Government Center in 2013 because county council had the foresight to direct staff to conduct a building needs assessment and space needs analysis. This allowed the county to determine the county's building and space needs for the next 20 years.

Conducted between December 2013 and April 2014, the comprehensive study assessed all county departments and 30 county facilities, including the county's new Government Center and the county's Public Works facilities (*see story, P. 24*), and each county department.

"Council insisted in not only providing adequate facilities for today, but also directed staff to look to the future," Harmon said. "Therefore, the Government Center includes additional unfinished space that will provide for future expansion. This will provide huge dividends as the county grows and develops.

"County offices previously located in the Ag Building were overcrowded and inadequate to serve residents for many years," he added. "Now, the new Government Center offers ample space to conduct county business. It also provides easy access for residents, and direct access to those services most used."

Council Chambers has been constructed on the second floor, the same level as the Government Center's front entrance. The large public room, capable of seating 150 individuals, provides more effective and efficient communication between council and the public.



The new Council Chambers is a substantial improvement over the previous one that could only seat 49 individuals, including county council and staff. Because council can now hold its executive sessions in a conference room adjacent to Council Chambers, the public no longer has to exit council chambers and remain outside during executive sessions.

"This new Government Center," Harmon said, "is a huge improvement

*"This new government center is a huge improvement compared to the Agricultural building, and we welcome our citizens to come and tour it."*

— David Harmon  
York County Assistant Manager and  
Project Manager

compared to the Agricultural building, and we welcome our citizens to come and tour it."

Michael Johnson, York County Council Chairman, said construction of the county's Government Center was a significant undertaking for county government and its residents, and demonstrates county council's commitment to its residents, stakeholders and business  
(Continued on next page)



## Key Features of York County's New County Government Center



Photos by Stuart Morgan



▲ York County Government Center

▼ Council Chambers



The view entering ▲ and leaving ▼ the facility





Conference room in the county manager's office on the third floor



Treasurer and Auditor offices



◀Conference room, located on third floor, mostly used by procurement staff when reviewing bids that businesses and organizations submit for county purchases and projects. County Council also meets in this room, but uses a similar room on the second floor for executive sessions.



Large conference room, which can be used for training classes



Break area for county employees, located on the third floor terrace

community.

"York County Council and residents recognized the growth the county was experiencing and would continue to experience," Johnson explained. "With support of the community, county council is strategically building sustainable infrastructure to support the county's growth in the present and future. Overall, these projects incorporate modern designs with advanced technologies that enhance the county's delivery of services to our residents today and tomorrow."

***"With support of the community, county council is strategically building sustainable infrastructure to support the county's growth in the present and future."***

— Michael Johnson

*York County Council Chairman*

"The York County Government Center is not only a place we conduct business, but it is also a source of civic pride," he added. "It displays a new identity for York County while reflecting council's commitment to the county's mission and vision statements. Overall, the new building provides a higher level of functionality and efficiency."



*York County's \$24.2 million Government Center was funded by the issuance of General Obligation Bonds.*

*The county hired Stevens and Wilkinson Architects of Columbia and Clancey and Theys Construction of Charlotte, N.C., to design and build the new York County Government Center. The county hired the national Cumming Project Management Firm to manage the project.*





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# York County Opens Public Works Facilities

*County Renovates and Expands One Building, and  
Builds Three New Ones*

*By W. Stuart Morgan III*

**Y**ork County completed a two-part, \$21.1 million Public Works facility project in York on November 28, 2018, officially opening the new facilities in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on January 12.

One part of the project, which began on June 27, 2017, focused on the county's 11-acre Public Works campus at 220 Public Works Road, located adjacent to the county's Moss Justice Center.

It included:

- Renovating and building an addition to the existing Public Works administration building.
- Demolishing the old Fleet Maintenance facility and constructing a new one; and
- Constructing a new Road Maintenance facility.

Another part of the project, which began on May 9, 2017, focused on waste management efforts at 320 Recycle Center Road, adjacent to the Public Works campus.

It included:

- Constructing a new Material Recovery Facility (MRF) for the Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Department.



York County's MRF is one of only two single-county-owned and operated MRF facilities in South Carolina. Anderson County has the other. There are three



**RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY FOR YORK COUNTY'S PUBLIC WORKS BUILDINGS**—(Left to right) Eric Rekitt, Public Works Director, York County Public Works Department, and York County Manager Bill Shanahan join York County Council members when they participate in the ribbon-cutting officially on January 12, ending the county's project to renovate, expand and build new public works facilities. Shown (third from left to right) are: York County Council Members Robert Winkler, Allison Love, Council Chairman Michael Johnson, Council Vice Chairwoman Christi Cox, Sen. Mike Fanning (District 17) and Assistant County Manager David Harmon. *(Photo by Stuart Morgan)*



other government processing facilities, but they are owned and operated through an Authority.

"Building these new facilities and renovating and adding an addition to our Public Works administration building, provides the resources and tools that our staff needs to keep up with the infrastructure and support facilities necessary for vital citizen resources," said Bill Shanahan, York County Manager. "For 20 years, Public Works has been housed in a facility that initially served as a temporary prison facility until the construction of the Moss Justice Center. At the time, it was a huge improvement for Public Works which was housed in a small house on the site."

Shanahan credited York County Council for having the foresight to direct staff to conduct a building needs assessment and space needs analysis in 2013.

"That comprehensive study, conducted from December 2013 to April 2014," he explained, "assessed all county departments and 30 county facilities. The county's public works facilities and new

government center (*see story, P. 18*) were included in the process."

York County's Public Works Department has 189 full-time employees, 131 of whom work in or out of these facilities. The department's facilities, which have been used more than 30 years, had become too small to safely and efficiently house their public works functions, according to Shanahan.

#### **Public Works Administration Building**

This newly-renovated and expanded building houses: administrative offices for water and sewer utilities, solid waste collection and recycling, road maintenance and building maintenance. It now has 23,443 square feet of space, including 18,050 feet of renovated space and 5,393 feet of additional space.

Equipped with cameras and a card access system for security, the building features: a public entrance, modern conference room, large employee training room, building maintenance shop area and procurement warehouse. It also in-

cludes workrooms, file storage and room for future growth.

#### **Fleet Management Building**

This new 24,445-square-foot building is more than twice the size of the building that it replaced, providing the space needed to maintain equipment and more than 520 vehicles in the county's fleet, including Sheriff's Office vehicles. It includes a large parts warehouse, which has an overhead mezzanine for additional storage.

It also includes: eight heavy duty maintenance bays with one heavy duty five-ton overhead lift for easier engine, transmission or body removal, and one oil change pit; seven light duty maintenance bays, equipped with six in-ground lifts; and a fabrication bay, light duty car wash, tire storage area and an external 1,636-square-foot vehicle wash bay.

The facility, which provides a clean and bright work environment, is equipped with a central lube/fluids system that (*See York County, P. 27*)



Aerial photo taken in November of the York County Public Works Campus shows (counter-clockwise, starting at left) the newly renovated Public Works administration building; new fleet maintenance facility (bottom) and new road maintenance building (right). The new vehicle wash building is the small structure located upper-center. The county's new material recovery facility is located at 320 Recycle Road on the opposite side of the trees in the upper-right corner of this photo and out of view. (*Aerial photo courtesy of the Hogan Construction Group*)



▲ York County's newly-renovated 23,443-square-foot Public Works administration building includes 18,050 square feet of renovated space and 5,393-square-feet of additional space. It also includes a training room (left) and a conference room (above).



◀ The county's new 24,445-square-foot fleet maintenance facility is more than twice the size of the building that it replaces, and provides space needed to maintain equipment and more than 520 vehicles in the county's fleet, including Sheriff's Office vehicles. It also includes eight heavy duty maintenance bays, two of which are shown (inset below-left and below-right).



◀ The 1,636-square-foot vehicle wash bay.



◀ The new 16,404-square-foot road maintenance facility provides covered storage for equipment and 15 large vehicles, and secure storage for materials and small equipment. It also includes a fully-functional sign shop (shown above) for the fabrication and installation of road signage.



# York County ...

*(Continued from P. 25)*

provides the direct, controlled delivery of lubricants and other fluids to each maintenance bay.

It is also equipped with a SafeAir ventilation system, designed to provide

a safe work environment by monitoring and controlling the buildup of toxic fumes and gases. Because York County has five Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) heavy duty vehicles, the facility was designed to be CNG maintenance-compliant to permit the indoor maintenance of such vehicles.

## Road Maintenance Building

This new 16,404-square-foot building—equipped with cameras and card access for security—provides for the maintenance of county roads and special projects throughout the county, and includes a fully functional sign shop that fabricates and installs road signage across

*(Continued on next page)*



The material recycling facility includes a large classroom and mezzanine for educational presentations and activities. The mezzanine (shown above) allows visitors to watch as automated processing equipment processes and bales recyclable material.

York County's new state-of-the-art 39,291-square-foot Material Recycling Facility collects recyclable material from the county's 16 collection and recycling centers, and is equipped with \$3.5 million in automated processing equipment that allows it to process 10,000 to 15,000 tons of recyclables per year. All material—including aluminum, cardboard and plastic (shown below)—is processed and baled at the facility

for efficient transportation to appropriate markets. Since July 2018, York County has received approximately \$35,000 per month for such material.



Value of one 1,500-pound-bale of plastic bottles (polyethylene terephthalate or PET plastic) bottles—\$270



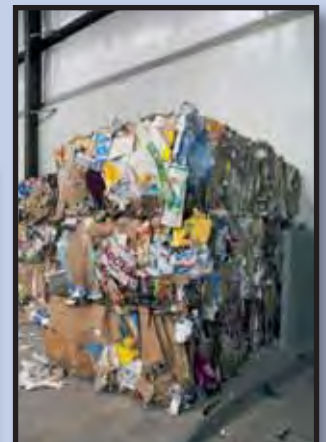
Value of one 1,100-pound-bale of aluminum—\$1,100



An inside view of the material recycling facility



Value of one 1,300-pound-bale of high density color polyethylene plastic (HDPE)—\$195



Value of one 1,800-pound-bale of cardboard—\$50



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the county.

It also includes: covered storage for equipment and 15 large vehicles, and secure storage for materials and small equipment.

"Building these three new facilities (including the vehicle wash bay in the fleet management building), and renovating and expanding the other," said David Harmon, York County Assistant Manager, "provides the resources and tools that our staff needs to keep up with the infrastructure and support necessary for vital citizen services.

"Lastly, it also improves safety and security and provides much-needed space," he added. "The previous facilities had become too small to safely and efficiently house all of the functions of the Public Works Department. Most notably, the fleet management facility was too small to maintain the county's large fleet of vehicles, which required staff to work on vehicles outside in the parking lot. The administration building also didn't have an adequate size training room to conduct required staff training. Road maintenance equipment and materials were stored outside and unsecured."

### **Material Recovery Facility (MRF)**

This new 39,291-square-foot building replaces a 9,000-square-foot facility, constructed in phases beginning in 1997 as the recycling industry evolved, that was extremely labor intensive and did not provide adequate storage for pre-processed

and processed materials.

The new state-of-the-art MRF features \$3.5 million in automated processing equipment: a MACH double-check OCC screen for cardboard sorting that reduces wrapping and improves cardboard recovery; and a MACH Ballistic Separator that separates fiber from containers much more efficiently. It also features a robust, automated container-sorting line, which includes a PET optical sorter, a magnet and eddy current separator and a Machinex 2-ram baler that streamlines operations and allows the processing of high-quality material for the marketplace.

This allows the facility to collect recyclable material—including aluminum, cardboard and plastic from the county's 16 collection and recycling centers, and to process and bale 10,000 to 15,000 tons of such material per year for efficient transportation to appropriate markets. Since July 2018, York County has received approximately \$35,000 per month for such material.

The MRF includes a large classroom and mezzanine for educational presentations and activities. Presentations and tours, open to schools and civic groups, cover the following topics: recycling basics, food waste prevention, waste reduction and proper recycling. The mezzanine provides a wide overhead view of the processing equipment while it is operating.

Harmon said the "Public Works facilities provide the functionality that the public works staff needed." Having all divisions of public works in one centralized location, including all equipment and materials, greatly improves the department's efficiency. New security measures protect county assets, and new safety measures provide a safer work environment.

He said the completion of this project has created a work environment that is "clean, bright, safe and overall, aesthetically pleasing" that affects employees in a positive manner.

"Employees had the opportunity to provide input regarding each building project from beginning to end, and they're pleased with the overall project," Harmon noted. "They're proud to be working in an environment that they helped create, and this has increased the overall morale

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of the entire Public Works Department.”

Michael Johnson, York County Council Chairman, said county council insisted on providing adequate facilities for today and the future, especially for the Public Works Department, because the department provides critical services for York County's citizens.

“These facilities will provide the resources necessary to accommodate future trends and growth in the county,” he explained. “They will benefit residents by housing the most advanced technology systems to automate and streamline work productivity.

“This,” Johnson added, “will provide efficient and effective delivery of services to the county and its citizens today and for many years to come.”



*York County passed an \$89 million bond referendum in November 2015 for multiple building projects, including the project to renovate, expand and build the county's public works facilities, including the construction of the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF).*

*York County hired DP3 Architects and Hogan Construction Group for part of the project involving the Public Works support facilities, and the part of the project to construct the new MRF. The county hired HDR Engineering and Beam Construction Co., Inc. to design and construct the Materials Recycling Facility, located nearby.*

*The county also hired the national Cumming Project Management Firm to manage the project.*



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ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

## Purpose of the SCAC

- *To promote more efficient county governments*
- *To study, discuss and recommend improvements in government*
- *To investigate and provide means for the exchange of ideas and experiences between county officials*
- *To promote and encourage education of county officials*
- *To collect, analyze and distribute information about county government*
- *To cooperate with other organizations*
- *To promote legislation which support efficient administration of local government in South Carolina*

✦ For more information about the SCAC, please contact:

**South Carolina  
Association of Counties**  
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1919 Thurmond Mall  
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[smorgan@scac.sc](mailto:smorgan@scac.sc)

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Need Information? Visit [www.SCCounties.org](http://www.SCCounties.org)

[SCCounties.org](http://www.SCCounties.org) is the primary resource for information about South Carolina's counties and issues affecting county government. It's a dynamic tool that provides access to information about services such as education and training opportunities, research capabilities, and legal assistance.

Visitors to the site will find conference schedules, legislative initiatives, and numerous Association publications, as well as information on key financial programs offered by SCAC, unique county-specific publications, legislative monitoring, and ad hoc surveys.

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

Visit [SCCounties.org](http://www.SCCounties.org) during the legislative session to view the most current *Friday Report* or *Legislative Alerts*. You'll also find articles relevant to the positions of the Association and information on how to reach out to your legislative delegation.



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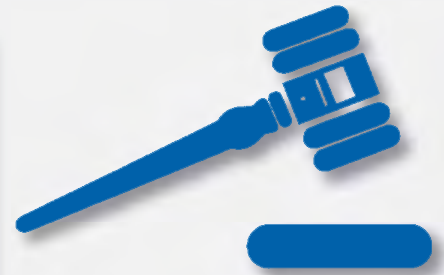
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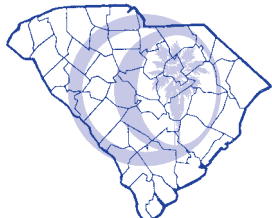


Robert Winkler  
York County  
Council Member



## 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, nonprofit 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. County government has also become more diverse in order to meet the increasing needs of its citizens. SCAC is dedicated to providing programs and services that equip county officials with the tools to govern effectively.**

## 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 S.C. General Assembly 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 at the College of Charleston and the Strom Thurmond Institute at Clemson University, conducts the Institute of Government for County Officials (Level I, Level II, and Advanced levels).

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 and webinars for county officials and employees throughout the year at no charge to counties. Within a few weeks after the live broadcast, county officials and employees are able to access the session as a video on demand via [SCCounties.org](http://SCCounties.org).

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

■ SCAC offers a number of financial services to its member counties. The Association sponsors two self-funded insurance trusts to provide workers' compensation and property and liability coverage. The trusts are designed specifically to meet the unique needs of local governments.

SCAC also offers the following services through affiliate organizations: GovDeals internet auction of surplus assets; and competitive purchasing discounts through Forms and Supply, Inc. and the U.S. Communities purchasing cooperative.

## LEGAL ASSISTANCE

■ 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.

## SETOFF DEBT PROGRAM

■ 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.

Debts are submitted through the Association to the S.C. Department of Revenue to be matched with income tax refunds. The debt is deducted from a refund and returned through SCAC to the claimant.

## LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

■ The S.C. General Assembly convenes each January in Columbia and adjourns sine die in May. 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 Alerts and publishes *Acts That Affect Counties* each year.



SOUTH CAROLINA  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

## 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, innovation, and other subjects of interest to county officials—including a "County Update" section.

## RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

■ 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 Government*

*in South Carolina*, and *Case Law Affecting Local Government* are made available to county officials.

SCAC's website address is:

[SCCounties.org](http://SCCounties.org)

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.

*Advocacy. Education. Collaboration.*





## SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

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# SCAC-Sponsored Insurance Trusts



## *History of the Trusts*

The S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust (SCCWCT) was formed in 1984 with only 11 counties. Today, the membership consists of 41 of South Carolina's 46 counties and an additional 47 county-related entities. SCCWCT is approved as a self-insured trust by the S.C. Workers' Compensation Commission in accordance with South Carolina statutes. It provides statutory workers' compensation coverage for its members.

The S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust (SCCP&LT) was formed in 1995 due largely to the success of the Workers' Compensation Trust. SCCP&LT started with only four members and now has 24 members, including 16 counties.

## *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 Chairman



Joseph R. Branham  
Chester County  
Council Vice Chairman



# S.C. Insurance Trusts Hold 2019 Annual Membership Meeting

The S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust (SCCWCT) and the S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust (SCCP&LT) held its 2019 Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting on January 30 and 31 in Myrtle Beach.

The purpose of the annual meeting, which was attended by 94 county officials, was to promote risk management education and brief members on the Insurance Trusts. Attendees heard from several speakers on a variety of risk management topics.

This year is the 35th anniversary of the formation of the SCCWCT.

Lang Kelly, Workers' Compensation Claims Manager, introduced Corporal Kimber Gist, Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. Gist, who suffered multiple gunshot wounds while investigating a suspicious vehicle parked behind a store, provided a very moving presentation that detailed her long journey to return to work.

Linda Edwards of Gignil-liat Savitz & Bettis, LLP, gave



her always-popular Employment Law Update.

A roundtable discussion was held on both days that allowed attendees to ask questions on multiple topics of concern for risk managers. Participating on the roundtable panel were: Charles Pinson, Anderson County; Rachel Stephenson, Ariel TPA; Linda Edwards and Harold Hainey, Chesterfield County. Also presenting were SCAC's Robert Benfield and Van Henson.

The final segment was the presentation of risk management awards. Photos of award winners are shown on pages 41 and 42, and listed on page 40.

*(Continued on next page)*

Corporal Kimber Gist, Berkeley County Sheriff's Office, described her long journey back to work after she was shot while on duty.



S.C. Insurance Trusts' 2019 Annual Membership Meeting, Marriott Grande Dunes, Myrtle Beach, Jan. 30



Henry H. Livingston III  
Newberry County  
Council Chairman



Gary M. Mixon  
Sumter County  
Administrator



Debra B. Summers  
Lexington County  
Council Member



Steve Willis  
Lancaster County  
Administrator



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

# Speakers Brief Members on the South Carolina Counties Insurance Trusts and Address Variety of Risk Management Issues



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Joshua C. Rhodes  
Deputy General Counsel  
SCAC



John D. Henderson, ARM, ALCM  
Director of Insurance Services  
SCCWCT and SCCP&LT



Lang C. Kelly, ARM, AIC  
Claims Manager  
SCCWCT



Van Henson, CPM  
Risk Manager



*Photos by  
Stuart Morgan*

Rachel Stephenson, Ariel TPA;  
and Angela Pinson, Director of  
Safety and Risk Management  
Berkeley County



Robert E. Benfield, ARM  
Director of Risk Management Services  
SCCWCT and SCCP&LT



Linda Edwards  
Gignilliat Savitz & Bettis, LLP



While seated at the front of the room during the roundtable discussion, John V. Jervey, AIC, Claims Manager, SCCP&LT, also answers questions.



## Roundtable Discussion Allows Panelists to Answer Broad Range of Topics Related to Risk Management



A roundtable discussion was held on January 30 and 31 that allowed conference attendees to ask questions on a broad range of topics related to risk management. Participating on the roundtable panel were: (left to right) Charles Pinson, Anderson County; Rachel Stephenson, Ariel TPA; Harold Hailey, Chesterfield County; and Linda Edwards of Gignilliat Savitz & Bettis, LLP,

### County Officials Speak Up and Answer Questions



Katherine Bell, Marion County Personnel Director



Chris Eldridge, Horry County Administrator



Nannette Powell, Horry County SWA Human Resource Manager/Safety



Terry Booker, Spartanburg County Risk Manager



Shelly Moore, Horry County Safety Manager



◀ Barbara B. Clark, Jasper County Council Member



Roger Riley, Barnwell County Emergency Management Director/Risk Manager

# 2018 Risk Management Award Winners

## Outstanding Safety Achievement Awards



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Berkeley County  
Horry County  
Kershaw County  
Lancaster County  
Oconee County  
Saluda County  
Spartanburg County



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## Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Awards

Berkeley County  
Horry County  
Lancaster County  
Spartanburg County

## Service Award

Terry Booker (Spartanburg County)  
Ryan Whitaker (Lancaster County)

County governments have long recognized that investment in risk management and safety programs is an effective stewardship of tax payer dollars. Risk management also supports a healthy and safe workplace.



## **County Officials Explain What Works**

When accepting awards, county officials had the opportunity to explain what works in their counties to limit risks and report claims more quickly and accurately. At left, Horry County Risk Manager Linwood Vereen shared some of the lessons he and his fellow coworkers have learned when they accepted the 2018 Outstanding Safety Achievement Award for Horry County. (See photo top of next page)





Accepting Berkeley County's 2018 Outstanding Safety Achievement Award from the S.C. Workers' Compensation Trust are Safety Superintendent Jerry Crolley and Safety Specialist Bidd Smith. They also accepted the county's 2018 Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Award from the SCCWCT.



Accepting Lancaster County's 2018 Outstanding Safety Achievement Award are Risk Management Coordinator Melissa Fraunfelter and Risk Manager Ryan Whitaker. Later, they accepted the county's 2018 Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Award and SCCWCT's First Place Award for Prompt Reporting for the county. Whitaker also accepted a 2018 Service Award from the SCCWCT.



Spartanburg County Risk Manager Terry Booker accepts a 2018 Service Award, and Spartanburg County's Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Award from the S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust.

➤ Accepting Saluda County's 2018 Outstanding Safety Achievement Award from the S.C. Workers' Compensation Trust is Risk Management Director Hardee Horne.



Accepting Oconee County's 2018 Outstanding Safety Achievement Award from the S.C. Workers' Compensation Trust is Oconee County Risk Manager Debbie Smith.





Accepting Florence County's 2018 Second Runner Up Best Experience Modifier Award from the S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust are Miranda Barber and Tony Lewis.



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Abbeville and Greenville counties tied for the S.C. Workers' Compensation Trust 2018 First Runner-Up Best Experience Modifier Award. Greenwood County Risk Manager Anita Baylor accepted the award for Greenwood County, and Abbeville County Finance Director/Risk Manager Barry Devore accepted the award for Abbeville County. Baylor also accepted Greenwood County's 2018 First Place in Prompt Reporting of Property and Liability Claims Award. Devore also accepted Abbeville County's 2018 Prompt Reporting of Property and Liability Claims Award.



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Accepting Sumter County's 2018 Second Place Award for Prompt Reporting of Property and Liability Claims are: (left to right) Sumter County Administrator Gary M. Mixon, Executive Secretary Donna Dew, Emergency Management Director Erik Hayes and Council Chairman James T. McCain.



Accepting Horry County Solid Waste Authority's First Place Award for Prompt Reporting from the Workers' Compensation Claims is Horry County Human Resources Manager/Safety Coordinator Nannette Powell.



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# The IMLA Report

## *Searches, Seizures and Parking Violations*

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

**T**he news media have reported extensively on a recent decision from the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals holding that chalking tires violates the 4th Amendment, *Taylor vs. Saginaw*. While that decision applies only in those states in that circuit (Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee), the potential for other courts adopting its reasoning argues forcefully that counties and cities around the country evaluate their approach to parking enforcement.

As with most local governments where parking spaces are limited, the City of Saginaw, Michigan, posted signs to limit the time that anyone could park on its streets or in its lots. Some local governments regulate parking duration by setting up a metered system, where people must pay to park using a meter that has a timer or they may use a system that requires the driver to put a sticker in the car window that reflects where, when and for how long the car can be parked at a specific location. But, like Saginaw, many local governments do not have meters or pay to park and prefer to allow drivers to share the limited resources available for parking by limiting the duration of how long they can park there. These durational restrictions vary by neighborhood, by demand and by need and are backed by an ordinance that makes it unlawful to park for longer than the time limits that are posted on the signs that regulate parking in that area.

The biggest challenge for local



governments that don't want to require a pay-to-park system involves measuring when the time begins and ends on the vehicle's stay. Clearly, chalking tires seems the most inexpensive system. Some larger urban communities use "echalking" systems that use photo enforcement to capture the time of day, a vehicle's registration plate, GPS data and then use computer technology to determine if the vehicle has overstayed its time. This system can also alert police to stolen cars, scofflaws and other violations associated with a specific registration plate. That system can be expensive and, because the information becomes a database, the ACLU complains that it violates privacy rights.

Chalking tires involves the very low-tech process of an enforcement officer placing a mark on a tire of a car or truck using chalk so the mark will not deface the vehicle. Upon returning to the location later after the durational limit has expired, the officer will issue a ticket to a vehicle that has not moved. Because the chalk marks are placed at specific locations on the tires, the officer makes

the reasonable assumption that if the mark has not changed, then the vehicle has not moved justifying the citation. Clearly, chalking tires involves touching another person's property.

In 2012, the United States Supreme Court was asked whether the 4th Amendment was violated when police officers placed a GPS device on a drug dealer's car without a warrant. In that case, the Court concluded that a violation occurred. In *United States v. Jones*, 565 U.S. 400 (2012), the Supreme Court reiterated that under the 4th Amendment searches can be proscribed if they violate a person's reasonable expectation of privacy or if they constitute a trespass. In the context of placing a GPS device on the drug dealer's car, the Court concluded that doing so amounted to a trespass. In reaching its decision to hold that chalking tires violated the 4th Amendment, the 6th Circuit based its decision on the Supreme Court's reasoning in *Jones*. It held that chalking tires amounted to a trespass and was therefore a search.

Under *Jones*, when governmental invasions are accompanied by physical intrusions, a search occurs when the government: (1) trespasses upon a constitutionally protected area, (2) to obtain information . . . .

The 4th Amendment provides people protection against the government conducting unreasonable searches and



seizures:

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Over time, the Supreme Court and other courts have mentioned that in certain circumstances a search or seizure without a warrant must be considered presumptively unreasonable absent some exceptions. Exceptions have included, exigency, the community caretaking function and plain view among others. In the *Saginaw* case, the court felt it could not find any of the exceptions applied. Whether it reached the correct conclusion, however, seems questionable.

While legal scholars will likely debate over the results in *Saginaw*, most people in this country, if asked, would likely say that chalking tires is a reasonable low-tech way to enforce the parking laws. For some reason, the 6th Circuit believed that the city's parking enforcement measures were intended to raise revenue, saying:

Because the purpose of chalking is to raise revenue, and not to mitigate public hazard, the City was not acting in its "role as [a] community caretaker[.]" . . . .

The discussion in the court's decision offers no clue as to how this conclusion could be true. As most of us know, finding a parking space can be difficult in many cities. Indeed, there are multiple apps that have been developed for your smart phone to find a parking space in some cities. Some even involve a person who's leaving a space alerting others and taking payment to hold the space until a bidder arrives. Others are not so extortionate. But the local governments are not selling those spaces, nor were they in *Saginaw*. Instead, the local

government was attempting to ration the limited space available in a reasonable and orderly fashion.

Regardless of whether the court reached the correct decision, local governments can address the problem without buying expensive metering equipment and charging people to park. Certainly, the equipment and the "echalking" systems are easy solutions and should be considered. But, there may be value in adopting an ordinance that makes parking at unmetered spots consent to chalking by enforcement officials. The City of Santa Barbara, California adopted what might provide enough basis to support a chalking system legally:

#### **10.48.021 Removal of Chalk Marks.**

A. The owner or operator of any motor vehicle exercising the privilege of parking a vehicle on any street or portion thereof where regulations are in effect restricting the length of time vehicles may be parked on a street or portion thereof does so on the condition that the Police Officers or Vehicle Control Specialists of the City may place chalk or other removable marks on the tire of the vehicle for the purpose of enforcing such parking regulations. (*Italics supplied for emphasis.*)

B. It is unlawful for any person to erase, rub out, conceal or otherwise remove, any chalk or other mark so placed by a Police Officer or Vehicle Control Specialist while the marked vehicle remains parked on the said street or portion thereof. For the purpose of this section, the movement of a previously marked vehicle in such a manner as to cause the tire marking to be concealed or removed, and without leaving the parking space or the block where such vehicle was parked when its tires were previously marked shall be deemed to be an erasure or removal of such chalk or other marking.

As local governments consider their regulatory systems, adopting a provision like Santa Barbara's makes sense. One other example that comes to mind from parking enforcement involves the "Denver Boot." If putting a chalk mark on a tire violates the 4th Amendment Warrant requirement, I'm fairly certain that applying a device to the wheel that immobilizes a vehicle will as well. Local governments need to look at all their regulations on a regular basis to ensure that their regulations comply with recent case decisions.

#### **IMLA Offers Podcasts and Longer, More-In-Depth Programming**

*IMLA recently began offering podcasts. During the week, short programs discuss some interesting facts, news items or cases that local government leaders will find relevant and interesting.*

*IMLA also offers longer, more in-depth programming on topics associated with local government policy and legal issues. IMLA podcasts can be accessed through iTunes or SoundCloud. In addition, IMLA has formed an Opioid Litigation Work Group that regularly discusses ongoing developments.*

*If you or your county are not members of IMLA, consider joining. IMLA offers a number of low-cost programs each year to help attorneys and city/county managers keep abreast of emerging issues or to refresh their knowledge of local government law.*

*For more information on membership, programs or getting involved with IMLA, contact Chuck Thompson at:*

**[cthompson@imla.org](mailto:cthompson@imla.org)**

*Or call him at (202) 742-1016.*

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# A Roadside Guide to Charleston County

## *The County's Role in the American War for Independence*

### Part 2 of 2

(Continued from Previous Issue)

By Alexia Jones Helsley  
[www.historyismybag.com](http://www.historyismybag.com)

#### Charleston County



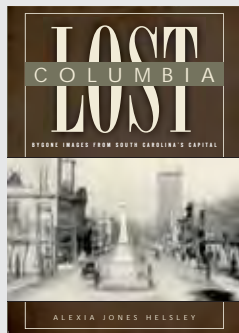
See South Carolina  
 County Map,  
 P. 59

The year 1776 ended with South Carolina an independent state. South Carolinians were euphoric—a palmetto log fort had defeated the greatest navy in the world.

The euphoria translated into apathy. The state had difficulty raising volunteers for its Continental Army regiments and turnout for the General Assembly election in 1778 was light. The new General Assembly drafted South Carolina's second constitution in March 1778. That year citizens celebrated Palmetto Day in honor of the Battle of Sullivan's Island and the Fourth of July.

**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.



1778-79

After two years of relative calm, the Revolution returned to South Carolina. The British, pursuing their Southern Strategy, landed in Georgia and captured Savannah. They then turned their focus on South Carolina and in 1779 occupied the Sea Islands and Augusta. By June, the British army was at the walls of Charlestown but backed down when the French fleet arrived.

1780

The Patriot effort to retake Savannah was a disastrous failure on land and at sea. As a result, a seriously depleted Continental Army under Major General Benjamin Lincoln was all that stood between the port city and another British attack. Lincoln made a number of mistakes. Perhaps the most serious was his decision to move his army behind the wall of Charlestown. Sir Henry Clinton, the British commander, did not want another Sullivan's Island. With 11,000 men, he landed south of Charlestown and in March began a coordinated land and sea attack on South Carolina's capital. Lincoln tried to negoti-

ate. He wanted to surrender the city if Clinton would permit his army to withdraw. Clinton refused and South Carolina leaders were irate. With the British noose tightening around the doomed city, on April 13, Governor John Rutledge and several other state leaders slipped out of the city. Rutledge wanted to guarantee that, regardless of the outcome of the siege, state government would continue.

On May 12, 1780, a dark day in South Carolina history, Lincoln surrendered the city and an army of more than 5,500 men to the British. According to Historian Walter Edgar, the British now controlled "an opulent, populous and very important colony." The victorious British paroled many South Carolinians, arrested others and confiscated the estates of leading revolutionaries. Rather than restoring civilian government, the British instead placed South Carolina's capital under military control and established.

In August, British troops arrested Christopher Gadsden and other prominent Charleston patriots. Later, they were taken to St. Augustine and imprisoned. On September 19, Loyalists in Charlestown composed a letter of congratulations to Sir Henry Clinton on the British





victory. The Loyalists presented the letter to Cornwallis and the editor of the Royal Gazette published it. As a result, when the South Carolina legislature finally met in 1782, one of its first official actions was to confiscate the property of those who signed.

Clinton moved northward and left Charles, Lord Cornwallis in charge of British operations in Charlestown. Using Charlestown as a base, Cornwallis worked to extend British control over all of South Carolina. British troops burned homes and churches and executed Patriots while trying to raise Loyalists troops to fight for the King.

## 1781

Patriot Partisans attacked British supply lines and outposts, and General Nathanael Greene's Continental Army scored a major victory at Cowpens. British control hung in the balance. Cornwallis moved his operations into North Carolina. Although technically successful at Guilford's Courthouse, Cornwallis suffered many casualties and ran low on supplies. As a result, he moved toward Yorktown hoping to be reinforced and resupplied there.

Meanwhile, Lord Francis Rawdon was in charge of military operations in South Carolina. Faced with Patriot victories and angered by paroled Patriot officers refusing to serve in the British army, Rawdon focused his frustration and rage on paroled officers who returned to South Carolina service.

The successful victor at the Battle of Hobkirk's Hill, Rawdon nevertheless evacuated Ninety Six and destroyed the town there. The British then focused all their efforts on Charlestown and Rawdon found a target for his rage—Colonel Isaac Hayne. Hayne, for family reasons, had accepted a British parole with the understanding that he would not be asked to fight against his countrymen. Hayne considered the British demand that he accept a royal army commission a violation of the terms of his parole. Consequently, he returned to Patriot service. Unfortunately, during a raid, British troops captured Hayne and on July 8, 1781 took him to Charlestown.

There, British officials debated Hayne's citizenship—British or American. Regardless, although a prisoner of war, without a trial, British officials convicted Hayne of treason and on August 4, 1781, hanged him. Hanging was an added insult, as officers were normally executed by firing squad. As a result of Hayne's execution, thousands joined the Patriot cause in South Carolina.

In July, prior to Hayne's execution, Rawdon suffering from poor health left Charlestown for England. En route, the French fleet captured and later exchanged him.

By the end of 1781, the British had withdrawn all their forces to Charlestown. The challenge of feeding the regular army and the Loyalists in the city required frequent forays into the surrounding country side.

## 1782

On January 12, Lt. Colonel John Laurens and Lt. Colonel Henry Lee led a Patriot expedition to push British forces off John's Island in order to eliminate the last threat to Jacksonboro. With the British contained, the South Carolina General Assembly convened at Jacksonboro to re-establish civil government in the state. In addition to confiscating Loyalist estates,

they also elected a new governor—John Mathews, after Christopher Gadsden declined the honor.

The Lowcountry continued to see a series of skirmishes such as Fuller's Plantation and Edisto Island between British foragers and Patriot forces trying to limit their depredations and hasten their departure. On November 14, Dill's Bluff on James Island was the site of the last Revolutionary skirmish in South Carolina. Eventually, on September 6, a British fleet sailed into Charlestown harbor to evacuate British troops, Loyalists and their slaves, and many of the slaves who had sought British protection in exchange for the promise of freedom.

On December 14, British forces finally withdrew from the beleaguered city. According to General William Moultrie, Brig. General Anthony Wayne led an orderly force of Americans into the city and advanced slowly as General Alexander Leslie carefully withdrew his British troops to Gadsden's Wharf. In addition to British, Hessian and Loyalist troops, more than 3,000 Loyalists and 5,000 slaves sailed away to new lives in Canada, England, the Caribbean and elsewhere. By 11 a.m., Wayne and his Continentals occupied South Carolina's capital.

The Revolutionary War was finally  
(Continued on next page)

# South Carolina's 2019 Directory of County Officials

South Carolina's *2019 Directory of County Officials* is scheduled to 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 *2019 Directory of County Officials*, please contact:

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over for Charlestown and South Carolina was a free state in a free nation. As Moultrie noted, December 14 was "the real day of our deliverance and independence and ought never to be forgotten."

On September 23, 1783, the Peace of Paris officially ended the Revolutionary War.



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# The Palmetto Directory

*Businesses selling products and services  
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*Also see advertising index, page 60*



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# County Update



See South Carolina  
County Map,  
Page 59

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

## Bamberg County

● Wilson Law Group, LLC, which has become a Keep Bamberg County Beautiful (KBCB) Green Business, sent several employee volunteers to support KBCB's Make a Difference Monday cleanups on March 25 and April 1. KBCB, which hosts Make a Difference Monday cleanups on weekly or bi-weekly basis throughout the year, initiated the Green Business and Green Faith Community program in early 2019. To date, several businesses have committed to the program. KBCB is seeking additional participants, including church and community groups. For more information, contact: Mary Tilton at (803) 245-7970, ext. 2 or at [tiltonmk@bamberg-county.sc.gov](mailto:tiltonmk@bamberg-county.sc.gov).

## ★ *Counties Reporting in This Issue of County Update:*

Abbeville	Greenwood
Aiken	Hampton
Allendale	★ Horry
Anderson	Jasper
★ Bamberg	Kershaw
★ Barnwell	Lancaster
★ Beaufort	Laurens
Berkeley	Lee
★ Calhoun	Lexington
★ Charleston	Marion
Cherokee	Marlboro
Chester	McCormick
Chesterfield	Newberry
Clarendon	Oconee
Colleton	Orangeburg
Darlington	Pickens
Dillon	★ Richland
★ Dorchester	Saluda
Edgefield	Spartanburg
Fairfield	Sumter
Florence	Union
★ Georgetown	Williamsburg
Greenville	★ York

● On February 20, **Brittany Barnwell** and **Tiffany Kemmerlin** of the Bamberg County Emergency Services Department received certificates after successful completing the S.C. Certified Emergency Manager Program.

Barnwell, the county's Emergency Services Director, has served as the Director of Bamberg County Emergency Management since 2016. A graduate of South Carolina State University, she is enrolled in a master's degree program at Lander University.

Kemmerlin, the department's administrative assistant, has worked for Bamberg County Emergency Services since 2016. A graduate of Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School, she is currently studying Business Administration at Orangeburg Technical College.

The S.C. Certified Emergency Manager Program is a joint program between the S.C. Emergency Management Division and the S.C. Emergency Management Association.

● On February 21, the S.C. Litter Control Association recognized Bamberg County Director of Operations **Bill Johnson** with the Lower Region Individual Leadership Award during SCLCA's annual conference in Myrtle Beach. The award recognizes outstanding leadership to the cause of litter awareness, enforcement, and pickup programs in South Carolina.

Johnson, who began working for Bamberg County in 2004, was assigned to start a Litter Control department in 2015. He supervises one full-time litter control of-

## 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.

ficer and works litter cases in addition to his other county responsibilities. As a Bamberg County's Litter Enforcement officer, he enforces the county's litter control ordinance through public awareness, investigation, and corrective action.

The S.C. Litter Control Association promotes litter enforcement, protects the environment, and helps to increase public awareness of the problems associated with litter.

## Barnwell County

● A grand opening ceremony, including a ribbon-cutting event and reception, was held on April 1 for the new RMC Bamberg-Barnwell Emergency Medical Center. The new medical facility, located on Highway 70 between Denmark and Barnwell, returns emergency care to the Greater Salkehatchie Region.

## Beaufort County

● Beaufort County Council hired **Ashley M. Jacobs** as Beaufort County Administrator on February 25. She started on April 15.

Jacobs has more than 20 years of local government experience in the state and previously served as an Assistant County Administrator for Aiken County. Her background in county government management includes community development, economic development, emergency management, disaster preparedness and mitigation, parks and recreation, and public safety. Jacobs previously served as the Executive Director for the Greater Lake City Community Development Office in Lake City; Deputy County Administrator for Dorchester County; Assistant County Administrator for Richland County; and Senior Environmental Planner for the Central Midlands Council of Governments in Columbia.

● The Beaufort County Treasurer's Office recently announced that by developing and implementing a new investment strategy, the office recorded earnings of \$2,976,382 for fiscal year 2018—an investment revenue increase of 699 percent since fiscal year 2016. The Treasurer's Office is responsible in part for investing County funds not needed for immediate expenditures.

● Hilton Head Airport held a press conference on April 15 to welcome United Airlines and the newly-launched, twice-daily nonstop service between Hilton Head Island (HHI) and Washington Dulles International Airport. The first flight to Hilton Head Island Airport arrived at approximately 2:20 p.m. on March 31, officially marking the start of flights be-



tween the two communities. The Washington Dulles route is one of three new United Airlines routes for Hilton Head Island Airport. Beginning April 6, United will inaugurate twice weekly service to Chicago O'Hare International Airport and weekly service to New York/Newark Liberty International Airport from HHI.

#### Calhoun County

● Calhoun County Council hired **Theodore Baskin Felder (Ted)** as County Administrator on March 11. He has almost 25 years of experience in Public Service, Administration and Economic Development.

After graduating from the University of South Carolina in 1994, he worked six-and-a-half years as a lobbyist with Ogburn & Associates in Columbia. When State **Senator Joe Wilson** was elected to replace the late Congressman Floyd Spence in December 2001, he hired Felder as a staff member for the Orangeburg Congressional District Office.

Felder was promoted that summer to direct the congressman's Lowcountry District Office in Beaufort. In January 2007, he left to become the City of Hardeeville's economic development director. Felder worked there for four years, and was eventually named City Manager. After leaving Hardeeville and working as a Project Consultant for two years in Jasper County, he directed Congressman Wilson's District Office in Aiken. In June 2014, Felder became Calhoun County's deputy administrator. On January 1, he was then named Acting County Administrator.

#### Charleston County

● The Charleston County Consolidated 9-1-1 Center, elected officials and the Consolidated Dispatch Board, consisting of public safety agency officials, honored service excellence at its annual Telecommunicator Awards Ceremony on April 30. The event, held at the Consolidated 9-1-1 Center in North Charleston, also celebrated 10 years since the initial establishment of the county's Consolidated 9-1-1 Center.

Speakers included: **J. Elliott Summey**, Charleston County Council Chairman; **Jennifer Miller**, County Administrator; **Chief Greg Bulanow**, Chairman of the Consolidated Dispatch Board; **Jim Lake**, Consolidated 9-1-1 Center Director; **Joe McKeown**, Former County Council Member/Vice-Chair; and **Sen. Tim Scott** (by video).

● Charleston County recognized the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships

(HOME) Program during National Community Development Week (April 22-26). Both programs are administered locally by the Charleston County Community Development Department. These programs are needed more than ever to help our most vulnerable citizens and improve the overall condition of our neighborhoods.

The week-long celebration brought together citizens, program staff, partnering organizations and beneficiaries through events that recognized and showcased local programs supported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The coun-

ty highlighted both programs at the following locations: South Santee Senior/Community Center (April 22), Charleston County Public Services Building (April 23), North Charleston City Hall (April 24), Johns Island Regional Library (April 25) and Wadmalaw Island Senior Community Center (April 26).

● Charleston County Government's Contracts and Procurement Department and NASA teamed-up to host several workshops celebrating Small Business Week from April 22-25. The workshops, held at the Lonnie Hamilton III Public Services Building in

*(Continued on next page)*



### Webcasts & Webinars

We'll always post future webcasts and webinars here when they're scheduled. So, please check this schedule whenever you receive *County Focus Magazine*.

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

## SCAC's 2019 Conference Calendar

Aug. 3 - 4  
Aug. 4 - 7

Institute of Government  
Annual Conference  
*Hilton Head Marriott*

Aug. 22

SetOff Debt/GEAR  
*Embassy Suites, Columbia*

Oct. 23  
Oct. 24

Institute of Government  
County Council Coalition  
*Embassy Suites, Columbia*

Nov. 22

S.C. Local Government Attorneys' Institute  
*DoubleTree by Hilton, Columbia*

Dec. 5 - 7

Legislative Conference  
*Renaissance, Charleston*

You can register and pay online for SCAC conferences at [www.sccounties.org/meetings](http://www.sccounties.org/meetings).



July 11 - 15

Annual Conference  
*Clark County/Las Vegas, Nev.*

## NACo's 2019 Conference Calendar



**SOUTH CAROLINA  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

## Purpose of the SCAC

- *To promote more efficient county governments*
- *To study, discuss and recommend improvements in government*
- *To investigate and provide means for the exchange of ideas and experiences between county officials*
- *To promote and encourage education of county officials*
- *To collect, analyze and distribute information about county government*
- *To cooperate with other organizations*
- *To promote legislation which support efficient administration of local government in South Carolina*

✦ For more information about the SCAC, please contact:

**South Carolina  
Association of Counties**  
PO Box 8207  
1919 Thurmond Mall  
Columbia, SC 29202-8207  
803-252-7255  
smorgan@scac.sc  
SCCounties.org

North Charleston, provided: information on funding your business, getting access to capital and grants, doing business with government and marketing strategies. The goal was to help businesses discover opportunities and connect with local resources to grow and develop their business. The workshops were sponsored by NASA's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.

● The S.C. Department of Social Services officially implemented the federally mandated State Disbursement Unit in Charleston County, effective April 2. After this date, citizens currently making support payments to Charleston County Clerk of Court will mail payments to the S.C. State Disbursement Unit, P.O. Box 100302, Columbia, SC 29202-3302.

● In October, the S.C. Department of Social Services and Clerks of Court started a 10-month process towards a new child support system. Implementation of the new system started with four counties and will expand statewide during 2019.

### Dorchester County

● On March 16, Dorchester County Paramedics **Mandy Reeves** and **Justin Wolfe** were named State Paramedic Champions at the closing ceremony of the Annual Emergency Care Symposium in Myrtle Beach.

● The S.C. EMS Network named Dorchester County Emergency Medical Services (DCEMS) Large System of the Year. DCEMS was recognized for its superior service to the residents and visitors of Dorchester County while also participating in community events and spearheading outreach initiative.

● On March 11, S&P Global Ratings raised its long-term rating on Dorchester County's outstanding waterworks and sewer system revenue bonds to 'AA' from 'AA-'.

● On April 3, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada awarded Dorchester County the Distinguished Budget Award for the 13th consecutive year.

● On April 11, the S.C. Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America announced that the Dorchester County Public Information Office had received the Silver Wing Award for its Online Newsroom. Dorchester County was the only local government to receive the Silver Wing Award from the South Carolina Chapter for 2018.

● On April 15, Moody's Investors Service upgraded Dorchester County's rating to Aa1 for the County's Series 2019 General Obligation (GO) Refunding and Improvement Bonds.

● On April 22, county council formally

recognized and celebrated **Melanie Hay**, Budget Analyst with the Business Services Department, as Employee of the Quarter. Hay has been instrumental in creating and implementing best practices, policies, and procedures in many areas including revenue, business license, and Hospitality Tax.

● On April 22, the S.C. Police Accreditation Coalition presented Sheriff **L.C. Knight** and the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office a certificate for the South Carolina Law Enforcement Re-Accreditation.

● On April 26, the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office collected 96.4 pounds of prescription medication during the 17th DEA National Drug Take Back Day Event.

### Georgetown County

● **Daniel Mark Roy**, a firefighter and EMT with Mid-way Fire Rescue, and a member of Midway's C-Shift, died March 22 from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident several days earlier. He was 29. Roy, known as a "Firefighter's firefighter," was studying to become a paramedic.

Roy is survived by his parents, **Mark and Susan (Piper) Roy** of Griffin, Ga.; a sister, **Samantha Roy (Andrew Leung)** of Philadelphia; and his girlfriend, **Ashley Gerhardt**. A memorial service was held on March 23 at Holy Cross Faith Memorial Church. The service was conducted by Midway's Chaplain, the **Rev. Wil Keith**. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Daniel's honor to Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church, 113 Baskerville Drive, Pawleys Island, S.C. 29585.

● Residents of the Sampit, North Santee and neighboring communities and library supporters from across Georgetown County met to break ground for the new Southern Georgetown Community Branch Library, the county's fifth branch which will serve the rural area south of the City of Georgetown. The new library, to be located at 4187 Powell Road, will have approximately 9,000 square feet of floor space.

Georgetown County Council Member **Everett Carolina**, who spoke, recognized residents of the community who dreamed and fought for the new branch, and named the late **Daniel Bratcher**, **Reuben Davis**, **Edna Wright** and **Emma Strafford**, for whom rooms within the new branch will be named. Loved ones of those individuals spoke on their behalf about what a blessing this facility will be for the community. **Jean Cross**, chairwoman of the Georgetown County Library, and Library Director **Dwight McInvaill** also spoke.

The new library will have a full collection of books thanks to one of its sister



branches. The Friends of the Waccamaw Library raised money last year to name an area of their branch after the Chandler and Peterkin families of Murrells Inlet. When it had funds left over, it decided to use them to help a new library get started and to help another community see the same benefits from a local library as the Waccamaw Neck has. The group donated \$15,000 for books for the Southern Georgetown Branch, with the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation agreeing to match the funds.

● Georgetown County Parks and Recreation's 12U Girls All-Star Basketball team placed runner-up in the Eastern District Tournament, held in March in Latta. The team posted impressive wins against Marion and Myrtle Beach, but fell short to Latta in the championship game.

● On February 27, library advocates from Georgetown County made their annual trip to the State House in Columbia to talk with state legislators about the need for increases in state aid to help fund books and technology. This aid currently lags considerably behind 2008 levels, and library advocates encouraged members of the Georgetown County delegation to support a \$2 per capita increase, with a \$100,000 per county minimum. Advocating for the county's libraries

were: Librarian **Silvana Collins**, Georgetown County Library Director **Dwight McInvaill**, Assistant Library Director **Trudy Bazemore**, and **Bob Willey**, president of the Friends of the Georgetown Library. They met with Rep. **Carl L. Anderson (District 103)**, Senators **Stephen L. Goldfinch, Jr. (District 34)** and **Ronnie A. Sabb (District 32)**, and Rep. **Lee Hewitt (District 108)**.

● Construction of a new bridge over Yauhannah Lake, near the Georgetown/Horry County line on Highway 701, was completed on March 14, according to officials with the S.C. Department of Transportation. During the next several weeks, as the new bridge is prepared for opening to traffic, motorists should expect to encounter flaggers directing traffic during lane closures.

● Every year, Georgetown County has a ceremony to recognize employees celebrating milestone anniversaries. Employees are honored with a luncheon and recognized by the County Administrator and County Council members for their service. Recognized were: this year's longest serving employee, **Betty A. Bowens**, Georgetown County Library system, who celebrated 40 years of service; **Matthew Grayson**, Georgetown County Sheriff's Office, 35 years; **David A. Geney**, Georgetown County Fire/EMS, and **Kimberly S. Tuck**,

Central Dispatch, 30 years; **Niceau M. Fulmore**, Clerk of Court's Office, and **Ernest A. Hampton**, Sheriff's Office, 25 years; **Karis Langston**, Finance Department; **Marilynn Lance Robb**, Library, 20 years; and **James Falkenhagen**, Georgetown County Fire/EMS, and **Martin Harper** and **Eddie Parsons**, Public Works, 20 years. Also recognized were: former County Council Chairman **Johnny Morant**; and **James Gilmore**, Midway Fire Rescue.

● **Marilyn Murphy Fore**, president of Horry-Georgetown Technical College, addressed Georgetown County Council in February to thank council for supporting construction of the new advanced manufacturing training facility on the Georgetown campus. The county will fund a portion of the 30,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility, which is under construction on the campus' south side bordering the Georgetown Airport. The facility, expected to open in August, will offer training for traditional college-age students needed to provide a skilled workforce for existing and future businesses. The facility may also provide training for 11th- and 12th-grade students.

*(Continued on next page)*

# PROVAL



## Property Valuation & Analytics

### Available Services

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Litigation/Mediation Support  
Surplus Property Disposition

Rick Callaham  
Greenville, South Carolina  
803/457-5009  
[rick.proval@gmail.com](mailto:rick.proval@gmail.com)

#### Right of Way Services

ROW Scoping & Appraisal Review  
Value Engineering/Quantifying Impacts  
Providing Alternative Strategies  
Cost Estimates/Appraisal Management

Debi Wilcox, MAI, CCIM  
Murrells Inlet, South Carolina  
866/429-8931 Toll Free  
843/685-9180 Local  
[wilcox.L.debi@gmail.com](mailto:wilcox.L.debi@gmail.com)

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- Recognition in SCAC's *County Focus Magazine*, annual *Directory of County Officials* and *Annual Conference Program*
- An invitation to register at the group rate to attend SCAC's Annual Conference each year, and
- An exhibitors' notice around April 1 each year that provides an opportunity on a "first-come, first-served" basis to lease exhibit space at SCAC's Annual Conference.

## As a Patron (\$1,000 per year), you will also receive:

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- Two complimentary tickets to attend the Association's Annual Conference Banquet, and
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For more information about the SCAC or to join, please contact:

## SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

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## Horry County

● The Horry County Solid Waste Authority (SWA) recognized Little River area resident **Peter Webster** as the "Caught Green Handed" recipient for March. Webster is a regular recycler at the Brooksville Recycling Center.

The SWA recognized Conway area resident **Claire Ferrill** as the "Caught Green Handed" recipient for the month of February. Ferrill, a regular recycler at the Jackson Bluff Recycling Center, was surprised and honored to receive this recognition.

The Caught Green Handed recognition is presented monthly to a Horry County resident caught in the act of recycling. It is the Solid Waste Authority's way of recognizing and thanking citizens who have made the effort to recycle. Through their recycling efforts, natural resources are saved and the amount of waste being landfilled is reduced.

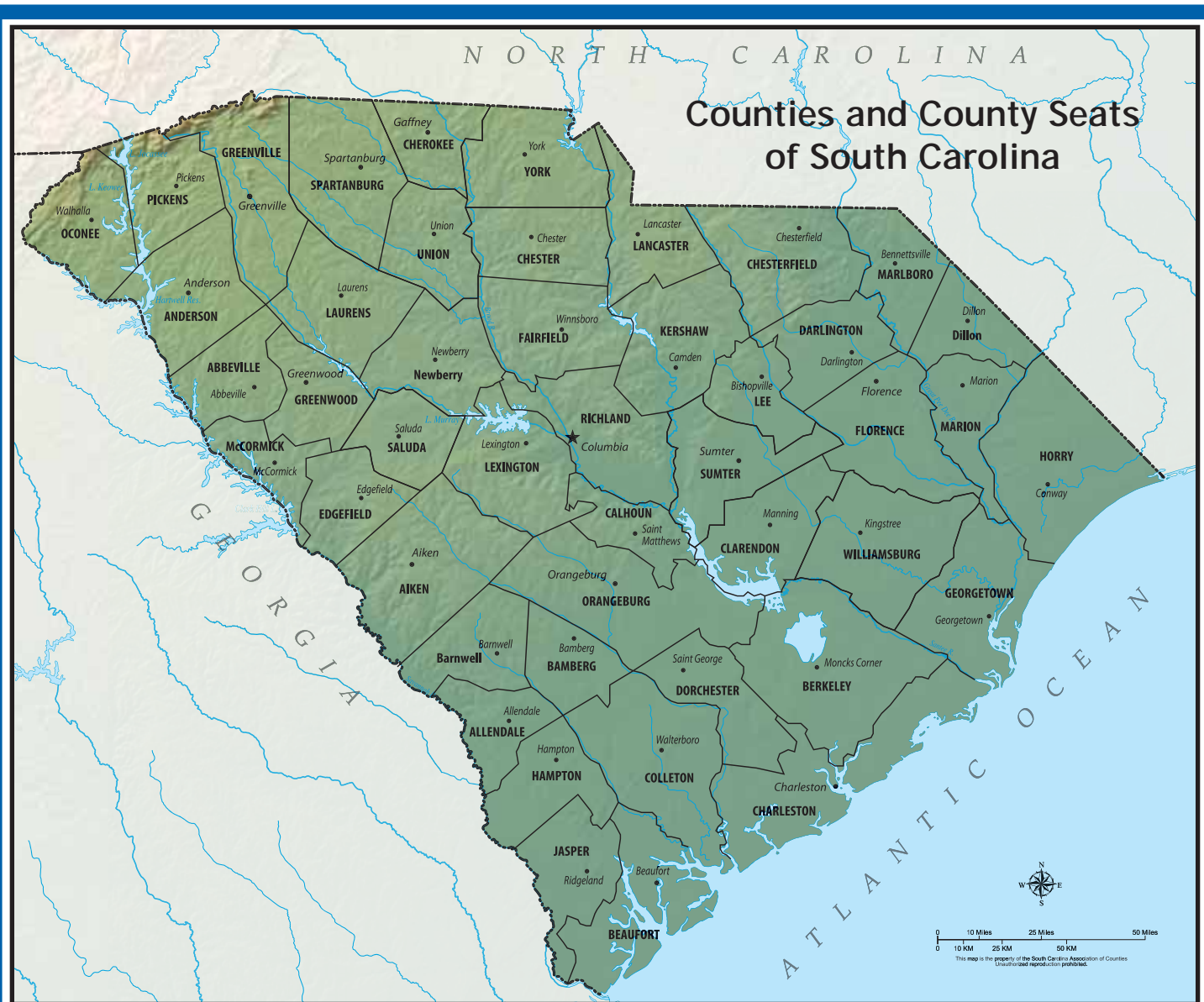
● Mercy Baptist CDC, the City of Conway and the Conway Chamber of Commerce celebrated a change of directors with a ribbon-cutting ceremony performed by the Conway Chamber of Commerce on April 25. Mercy Baptist CDC is a Conway-based Christian childcare facility, which serves children from six weeks to after school age.

● Horry County Council Chairman **Johnny Gardner** announced on April 17 that **Steve Gosnell** will serve as the Interim Administrator for Horry County Government, effective April 18. Gosnell, a professional engineer, most recently served as the Assistant County Administrator for the Infrastructure and Regulation division. He has served the county for 26 years and previously served as Interim Administrator in 2011.

● On April 9, Horry County 911 announced the implementation of a Police Priority Dispatch System™ PPDS™ to better serve the citizens of Horry County in emergency situations. Dispatchers using the newly implemented protocol system: will follow nationally recognized standards; give universal, consistent care and service to every caller; gather critical emergency call information for responders; identify life-threatening situations; safely prioritize calls for appropriate and fast response; and provide "Zero Minute" Dispatch Life Support using Pre-Arrival and Post-Dispatch Instructions.

Horry County 911 successfully implemented the Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Priority Dispatch System™ in 2014. Implementing the Police protocol enables dispatchers to accurately assess each emergency situation and send the best response possible while safeguarding valuable and limited emergency services resources and increasing safety for both citizens and re-





sponders. One key benefit is a constant stream of crucial and updated scene information to field responders en route. This information will better prepare responders to give precise assistance when they arrive at the scene.

All dispatchers who work on the new system are certified by the National Academies of Emergency Dispatch® (NAED) and must recertify every two years, completing 24 hours of continuing dispatch education and passing all requirements for NAED recertification. Horry County 911 had 13 employees pass their certification with honors. The constantly evolving Priority Dispatch System will help provide the highest standard of care to the community, allowing Emergency Police Dispatchers to better manage limited resources and increase the accuracy and efficiency of the dispatching process. Horry County 911 dispatches for a number of surrounding law

enforcement agencies including Horry County Police Department, Horry County Sheriff's Office, City of Conway Police Department, Atlantic Beach Police Department, Town of Aynor Police Department, Briarcliffe Acres Police Department, and City of Loris Police Department.

● In an effort to recognize the many U.S. military veterans in Horry County, the Horry County Veteran's Affairs Office has started a monthly recognition program called, "Horry's Heroes," which features a veteran on the county's social media platforms each month. All honorably discharged veterans (active duty, reserve, retired and/or deceased) from 1900 to present are eligible to be featured.

The first veteran featured was **Larry James Devlin**, who served with the U.S. Navy at Groton Longpoint Naval Station in Groton, Conn., from 1965 to 1969 aboard the

submarines the *USS Angler* and the *USS Becuna* (Becky B). Devlin retired to the Myrtle Beach area where he lived with his wife and dogs until his passing in 2014.

The veteran of the month for April was U.S. Army Specialist **Shirl F. Willard** of Horry County. Having previously served in Powidz, Poland, Willard is currently stationed in Georgia. She is a recipient of the Army Achievement Medal and believes that the U.S. Army was a moving force in teaching her discipline and helping her achieve her goals. She made lifelong friendships with a diverse group of individuals and values their comradery and fellowship.

● The Horry County Register of Deeds Department moved to new recording software on April 1. This project had its genesis in the fall of 2015 with preliminary budget  
(Continued on next page)

requests. The new updated software replaces a system that has been in use since 2006. This update is part of a larger Capitol Improvement Project (CIP) adopted by county council to modernize the Register of Deeds office. In addition to the new software, a digitization and imaging project was also approved. The initial imaging has been completed and the database of images are having final improvements made with indexing of the images to commence after. When those images are added to our existing database of images, the county's entire registry of deeds and plats back to 1801 will be available to the public.

Currently, images are only available back to a certain date and users must utilize records in formats like hard copy books, microfilm,

and microfiche. These formats are becoming more expensive to provide and must be accessed in person at the office in Conway. Like the existing digital database, the newly digitized records will be available remotely via the internet and the county website, which will allow for much wider access to land records.

The new software is named Acclaim and is a product of Harris Recording Solutions. It is more compatible with new computers and is built to include an improved web version for clients. The new software is also streamlined to save time for Register of Deeds staff and to work more efficiently with e-recording software, allowing for the recording of documents without the need to visit the office in person. To prepare for the rollout, the software vendor conducted training classes.

● The Socastee Library, a branch of the Horry County Memorial Library System, has been awarded a \$10,000 American Dream Literacy Initiative Grant by the American Library Association and the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. The grant will be used to establish an English Language Learners (ELL) program at the Socastee Library to assist various communities to learn English. The grant is one of 16 that have been awarded across the United States through a competitive, peer-reviewed application process for which 98 libraries applied.

The library will host small group instruction Mondays and Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., one-on-one conversation instruction, where students will need make an appointment during library hours, and "Let's Speak English", a conversational session that will be held Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. The

grant money will be also be used to purchase technology such as iPads and a mobile Smart Board. This technology will enable staff and volunteers to interact with students while conducting the programs and will allow students to learn or improve their English speaking, reading, and writing skills.

The Socastee Library will continue to partner with Horry County Adult Education to improve lives in our community and advocate for literacy. The library is also in the planning stages of partnering with the Horry County Literacy Council to create additional support for the community and to offer tailored assistance to attendees of the offered programs.

#### Richland County

● Miwon Specialty Chemical Co. USA, a specialty chemical manufacturer of raw materials and subsidiary of Miwon Specialty Chemical Co. Ltd., announced plans on January 18 to locate new production operations in Richland County. The company's \$19.5 million investment is projected to create 25 new jobs.

#### York County

● Eclipse Automation, a provider of automated systems for a variety of industries, today announced plans on January 23 to locate new operations in York County. The company's \$4.6 million investment is projected to create 90 new jobs over the next five years.



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