



SCNA

SOUTH CONVERSE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

President: **Tommy Richardson (582-7383)** Secretary: **Carolyn Brewer (585-8114)** Treasurer: **J. Wayne Rookard (864-345-2171)**
J. Ruth Littlejohn: Editor/Vice Pres. **Theron Moore: Co-Editor** **Horace Littlejohn: Co-Editor** **June/July 2015**

Amazing Grace

We have all been touched by the tragic lost in Charleston, SC, with nine precious lives being lost to an evil act. Our hearts go out to the families of **Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church** and the Charleston Community.

We have grieved and often found ourselves walking in a daze wondering how someone so young could be filled with such hate. But one thing for sure, what the devil meant for harm has brought out the best in South Carolina. An act of love, compassion, grace, and a forgiving spirit was echoed by the grieving families. Charleston set the tone. May we all learn to love and forgive as we have been commanded.

Working the Roses



Carolyn Brewer and President Tommy Richardson pruning the roses. Not pictured are Frances Richardson & J. Ruth Littlejohn.

Sparkle City Grant!!!

The South Converse Community is grateful to be among the neighborhoods that qualified to receive a recent Community Development Block Grant of \$2500. The funds will be used for application of new mulch in nine locations throughout the neighborhood, to replace dead roses, to fertilize all areas and to have three new signs made. One sign will be placed near the horse shoe pits, one will pay tribute to the Mary Black Foundation and another a tribute to the City of Spartanburg. The balance will go to help pay for Community Newsletters. All projects must be completed by June 30, 2016. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

National Night Out

Mark your calendar!! Tuesday, August 4, 2015 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., we will celebrate our 9th NNO at the S. Converse St. Park. Last year's event was very successful with nearly two hundred people participating. So make plans to come out and meet your neighbors, visit with friends and enjoy good food, music and activities. **You can win a bike!!!** See details on page 4. This year's chairperson is **Willie Mae Thacker**.

City Wins \$1M Bloomberg Grant

Bloomberg Philanthropies will award Spartanburg up to \$1 million that will go toward a public art project and shed some artistic light in Spartanburg neighborhoods. Spartanburg is among four cities selected nationwide to receive these funds. An additional \$20,000 grant will come from the Mary Black Foundation and crowd funding.

Residents, Spartanburg Police Department officers and digital artist Erwin Redi will work together to design the special lighting for five neighborhoods in Spartanburg. The project will have its official launch during National Night Out Aug 4, and the installations will be constructed in summer 2016. The lights will be turned on during NNO August 2, 2016, said Jennifer Evins, President/CEO of the Cultural Center. *(taken from SHJ 6/23/15)*



On May 7, J. Ruth Littlejohn gave local officials & members of the Bloomberg Philanthropies committee an update on the S. Converse Park. Pictured are the following: Chief of Police Alonzo Thompson, Deputy Chief Jennifer Kindall, Major Art Littlejohn, Arts Partnership CEO/ Pres. Jennifer Evins & Comm. Relations Dir. Mitch Kennedy.

Big Day At The Park!!!

A great time was had by all on June 27 at the South Converse Park! We started with a neighborhood clean-up from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Those working with the clean-up were *Dana McKnight, P.K. Garmon, Tommy & Frances Richardson, Theron Moore, M.B. Bates, Aiden Bates, Beatrice Hill, Horace & J. Ruth Littlejohn, C.J. & Casey Nvnnemaker, Ruth Davis, Joseph Broadus, Jr., Joseph Broadus III, Travis Berry, Robert Brewton, Taj Mack Pete, Jacob Ramirez, Noah Banks, Marvin Banks, Joseph Arthur, Shirley Jeter, Carolyn A. Brewer, J. Wayne Rookard, Jalen Smith, Michele Harris, Rita Gilmer, Rozner Gibbs and Jerry Ferguson.*



Boy Scout Unit 106 of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church: From back row are *Joseph Broadus, Jr. & Jacob Ramirez. Tai Mack Pete, Aiden Bates, Joseph Broadus III., & Roy Williams. Noah Banks, Travis Berry & Robert Brewton.*



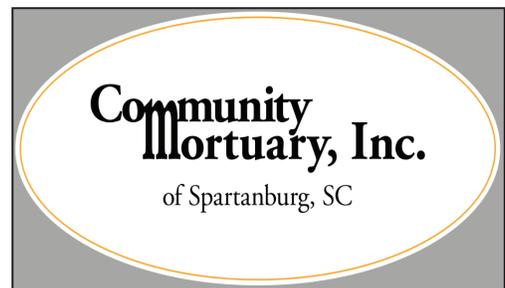
From back: *P.K. Garmon, Horace Littlejohn, Theron Moore, Frances Richardson, Rozner Gibbs, Dana McKnight, M.B. Bates, J. Ruth Littlejohn, Marvin Banks, Ruth Davis, C. J. & Casey Nvnnemaker.*

Following the cleanup, we enjoyed great food & refreshments, especially the hotdogs from the grill, rocking music, Playmobil with lots of games, basketball, and horse shoe competitions, with a strong challenge between **Horace Littlejohn, Mitch Kennedy, Harold Murphy & Richard Wheeler.** Can you guess who the winner was?!! There were also drawings for three basketballs and one football. Many thanks to Representative Harold Mitchell for stopping by.

Thanks to **Kim Moultrie**, Director of Parks and Recreation and **Wanda Cheeks** for providing the Playmobil, and to **Desiree Gomez** and **Jamiah Fowler** for their help with all the games.



Shirley Jeter of Unit 106 (green shirt), is pictured with some of the Big Day in the Park Committee members. From left is Tommy Richardson, Rita Gilmer, Bernice Lewis, Carolyn Brewer, Richard Wheeler & Dorothy Blackley. Not pictured is Crystal Thomas, Rozner Gibbs, Beatrice Hill, Horace & J. Ruth Littlejohn, Frances Richardson and Barbara Rutledge.



New Member

We welcome our new member **Attorney Hattie Boyce**, P.O. Box 3144, Spartanburg, S.C. 29304.



Yards of Month

Congratulations to our May Yards of the Month: **121 Princeton St.** (M.B. & Fannie Bates), **172 Collins Ave.** (John & Barbara Rutledge) and **267 Alexander Ave.** (Carolyn Littlejohn). Yards for the month of June were **328 Marion Ave.** (Raymond Hall & Karen Hill), **108 Pyle Ct.** (Mary Ann Miller) and **131 Collins Ave.** (Carolyn Brewer). Congratulations

Garbage & Recycle Schedules

If you have a recycle bin (blue bin), it is collected on the **1st and 3rd** Mondays of the month, even on holidays (except for Christmas & New Years). Regardless of how many Mondays fall in the month, it is only collected twice. The regular garbage pick-up day (gray bins) for the South Converse Community is Thursday. If a holiday falls on this day, pickup will be the following day - a one day delay.

"No one is beyond the reach of God's forgiveness"

Getting to Know You!!!



Carolyn Brewer has two children (James & Nekia), and six grandchildren. She is a South Carolina native and has lived at **131 Collins Ave** for 38 years. Carolyn attended Carver High School until schools were integrated, graduating in 1974 from Spartanburg High School. After working at Beaumont Mills for 14 yrs as a Weaver Tech, Carolyn received her certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). She later worked at Intrim Health Care as a Health Specialist for 9.5 years. After working 14.5 yrs at Summer Hill Retirement as a CNA and Certified Med Tech, the high point of her career, she retired in 2012. Carolyn is a 50 year member of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, serves as secretary of the SCNA, is very active in the community and loves gardening and dancing.



Willie Beatrice Wilson Hill, better known as **Bea Hill**, has lived at **503 South Converse St.** for 43 years. Bea was married to Bennie Hill for 28 years until his death. From this marriage are two sons, Bennie James & Gregory Lewis Hill, and eight grandchildren. Bea is a S.C. native, graduated from Carver High School in 1962 and attended USC Upstate. She worked for a total of 35 yrs at Spartanburg Regional, Hoechst Fibers and Michelin, where she retired. She has been working for more than 12 yrs. as a Teacher's Assistant for District 7 Schools. Bea is also the publisher of South of Main and has a passion for local history. She is a 50 year member of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, member of the SCNA and very active in the community.

Litter Control

On May 30 the Citizen Advisory Council, in conjunction with the City of Spartanburg, teamed up for a litter control project. The two neighborhoods that we worked on were Highland and Beaumont. Some of the workers included **Ed Memmott, Mitch Kennedy, James Ledlow, Sidney Ferguson, Tim Akins, Kathy Hill, Rhonda Porter, Tommy Richardson, J. Ruth Littlejohn, Kathy Ronson, Leroy Jeter, Lewis Settles, Johnny Brown, William Headley, Daniel Humuski, Harold Smith and Jammie Abernathy**. Many of the residents also got involved with the cleanup. The CAC will meet soon to determine where the next projects will take place.



From left **Harold Smith, Tommy Richardson, Leroy Jeter, Rhonda Porter, Sidney Ferguson and Jammie Abernathy**.

WHITE'S

Pine Street Exxon

2165 S. Pine Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302-3350

Phone: 585-1226

JUNIE WHITE- Owner

Keeping Safe from Fraud & Abuse

Members of the Law Enforcement, Department of Social Services and the Business Community are working together to protect Spartanburg's Senior Citizens from fraud and abuse. **On August 10, from 6:30 - 8:00 P.M.**, there will be a presentation at the Spartanburg County Library. The admission is free. Please call Comfort Keepers at **864-573-2353** to reserve your seat.



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"He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else." Benjamin Franklin

Tidbits

Neighborhood clean-up, Saturday, July 25th @ 8:00 a.m.
Meet at the South Converse St. Park. Our next clean-up will be August 22nd.

Win a Bike during National Night Out! To qualify you must be 7-12 years of age, must be a City of Spartanburg resident and the essay must be at least one page or 2 paragraphs. The deadline to submit your essay is Monday, **July 27 by 5:00 PM.** Two bikes (one girl and one boy) available for top two essays. Submit your essay to khill@cityofspartanburg.org or take to City Hall to the Community Services Office, Room 103.

As many residents as possible are asked to attend the City Council Meeting on **July 27 at 5:30** in the Council Chambers. A Proclamation will be read by Mayor Junie White for the kick-off of National Night Out.

The SCNA's Next meeting is scheduled for **August 3 @ 5:30 pm.** Due to Labor Day, September's meeting will be held on the 1st Tuesday, **September 1 @ 5:30 p.m.'** All meetings are held at the CC Woodson Center.

In late September to early October, the Boy Scouts will be going door to door, selling popcorn to support the boys toward their camping funds for 2016. Let's try and make this a very successful occasion for them.

The South Converse Community continually thank the City of Spartanburg, especially **Public Works, Community Relations and Police Department** for all they do to help make our community a better place to live. **We also thank all residents who have taken an interest in their community to help keep it free of litter. Thank you!**

SAIYL Students Visit S. Converse Park



Students visiting Park were encouraged to learn how to do good work by putting forth effort into every tasks, regardless of how small it is. They were also encouraged to take stock in their community by getting involved. Pictured with **Ms. Littlejohn** are the 2015 participants: **Destini Black, Andrea Copeland, Jerry Ferguson, Marco Garcia, Nic Glover, Carlos Lacunza, Daffne Miquel-Martinez, Sarah Moss, India Shippy, Jalen Smith and Jessica Xayasane.**

The Wellville Community Pride Task Force, held a breakfast meeting in the South Converse Street Park on June 16, 2015. They were given an update on the park by Mrs. Littlejohn.



Pictured from left to right are: **Jennifer Evins, Pres./CEO (The Arts Partnership), Allen Smith (Pres./CEO Area Chamber of Commerce), Alonzo Thompson (Chief of Police), Crystal Thomas (Marriott), Tim Farrell (White Elephant Productions), Kim Moultrie (Parks and Recreation Superintendent), Larry Riley (Herald Journal), Kathy Dunleavy (Pres./CEO Mary Black Foundation), Elizabeth Bass (Spartanburg County Library), Janet Kagan and Charles Refshauge (A Line Interactive).**

Lifelong Learning At Wofford

Wofford College is offering continuing education opportunities for adult learners. Courses will meet once a week for 8 weeks beginning Sept. 21. You are invited to join the program to take interactive classes from local experts on a variety of topics including history, science, cooking, birds, writing, pop culture, religion, current events, gardening and more.

There is an annual \$50 membership fee, and each course will cost \$40. To participate go to graych@wofford.edu for an application or contact Charlie Gray, Direct of Continuing Education at **864-641-8378** to discuss course topics or ways you can get involved as a resident expert and teacher.

The schedules are: Fall, **September 21-November 20**; Winter, **January 19-May 20** and Spring, **March 28-May 20.** Make checks payable to Wofford College, ATTN: Charlie Gray, Wofford College, 429 North Church Street, Spartanburg, SC 29303-3663.

"God has a way of turning our treatment of others into a boomerang. So we must be careful in our judgment of others" Matthew 7:1,2

"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in life you will have been all of these."
George Washington Carver

Love Where You Live!!!