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March 2019

Beautiful Addition!

It was a very, very cold morning however, on February 9, 2019, a large crowd came out to celebrate the Grand Opening of the new additions and improvements to the **Mary H. Wright Greenway Trail**. The trail runs along Hudson Barksdale Blvd, in the South Converse Community. The Greenway Trail runs from Pricilla Rumley Park, that connects to the South Converse Trail to Union Street, which connects to the Mary Black Rail Trail. Many thanks to the City of Spartanburg for the hours put into these improvements. None of this would have been possible without the \$200,000 grant awarded to the City of Spartanburg by the **South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism**, and the **Spartanburg County Delegation**. We thank you!

Taking part in the ceremony, that was held at the Mary H. Wright Memorial were **Kim Moultrie** (Director of Parks & Recreation), **J. Ruth Littlejohn** (City Council District 3), **Alan Jenkins** (City Council Mayor Pro Tem), **Laura Ringo** (Executive Director Partners for Active Living), **Senator Glenn Reese**, **Tommy Richardson** (President SCNA) & **Rosalyn Henderson Myers** (State Representative). Among those in attendance were City Manager **Chris Story**, former State Representatives **Harold Mitchell & Brenda Lee Pryce**, City Councilman **Jerome Rice**, Commissioners of Public Works **Horace Littlejohn & Angela Viney**, **Martin Livingston** (City of Spartanburg), **Captain Tim Suber & Lt. Lee Rains** (Spartanburg Police Department) & **Kathy Hill** (Community Relations). Many of the Park and Recreation staff were on hand, including **Liz Walker**, **Wanda Cheeks Holmes**, **Tracy Ballew**, **Scott Page**, **Yuriy Karpik**, **Deborah McClary**, **James Rice** and **Devin Stewart**. Partner's for Active Living Board member **Matt Roos** and past board member **Muffet Chapman** were among the attendees. SCNA members **Caveril Pryce & Frances Richardson** served as greeters for the occasion.



L-R: **Laura Ringo**, **Chris Story**, **Harold Mitchell**, **Alan Jenkins**, **Jerome Rice**, **Ruth Littlejohn**, **Horace Littlejohn**, **Dexter Cleveland**, **Brenda Lee Pryce**, **Rosalyn Henderson Myers** & **Glenn Reese**. (See additional photos on page 2)

"If you're the recipient of effective criticism, leave your defensiveness at the door and embrace learning. It means the other person cares about you."
Scott Cochran, President of Spartanburg Methodist College

South Converse Election!!!

According to the South Converse Neighborhood Association (SCNA) by laws, "The President and all officers of the Association shall be elected from the membership by simple majority vote. However, due to the fact that there were no challenges to the nominees that volunteered to run for office, there is no need for an election/vote. Therefore, no ballots will be mailed out to the Homebound and out of area members.

Fit & Fun Day!!!

Come join us on **Saturday, April 6, 2019**, from **9 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.** at the C.C. Woodson Center for a Fit & Fun Day to promote health! The event starts with a walk, and there will be games for kids, teen-agers and adults, including basketball, dance, and a fitness expert who'll demonstrate exercises for the youth and adults. There will also be food and healthy snacks. Thanks to the **Mary Black Foundation** for making this possible.

Earth Day Festival

The Spartanburg Earth Day Festival will be held on **May 4, 2019 from 10:00 am - 3:00pm**, at the Unitarian Universalist Church 210 Henry Place. The focus is on building community, celebrating earth's beauty & gifts, and inspiring our citizens to care for our planet.

Little Free Library

The Little Free Library that was donated by the **Riley Institute of Diversity & Inclusion Group**, will soon be placed at the South Converse Park, according to Parks & Recreation Director, **Kim Moultrie**. We are grateful to Ms. Moultrie for her help in making this possible.

The Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world. **When you visit the park, we encourage you to read to your children, and let them read to you.**

New Members

While they are not new, we welcome back the **Porter Family**, 284 Alexander Ave., **Jacqueline Tate** 645 S. Converse Street and **Fannie Richie**, 303 Georgia St.

Spartanburg's First STEAM Garden!!!

Daniel Zongrone says Spartanburg's 1st STEAM Garden program is searching for an extraordinary individual or organization that is interested in helping this program succeed! The STEAM Garden Program began a year ago in cooperation with School District 7. He states they have built vegetable, fruit and flower garden beds for the students of Mary H. Wright and Carver Middle Schools. If you are interested or would like more information about this program, please contact **Daniel Zongrone** at 864-497-3550 or *email at zongroned@yahoo.com*



L-R: Christy Barrett, Muffet Chapman, Kim Moultrie & Laura Ringo



L-R: Captain Tim Suber, Martin Livingston & Lt. Lee Raines



Tommy Richardson and Horace Littlejohn mingles with guests.

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Happy Easter!!!

Congratulations

During the Unity Week Celebration, member **Luther Norman**, from the **Church of the Epiphany**, was recognized by the City of Spartanburg for his work with the Youth Sports Bureau. The Youth Sports Bureau is an organization began by **Luther Norman** in 1984. It steps in where schools and community are unable to provide opportunities for children. The Youth Sports Bureau started as an outreach effort into the poor and underserved communities, and was traditionally minority. Mr. Norman quickly realized that sports and service to others transcended racial and gender lines. The activities developed for children are attractive to all walks of life. It offers two distinct programs. The 1st component is sports centric with an emphasis on literacy, character development, athletic skills and includes up to 2,000 children. The second aspect of the program is focused on apprenticeships which include agriculture and construction and has about 35 teenagers involved. Ages range from 3 to 18 for both programs. Thank you Mr. Norman for all the good you do!

Community Cleanup

We are grateful to the few volunteers who faithfully shows up to pick up litter that is needlessly thrown out of vehicles or by persons walking through the neighborhood. It is important that we continue to remove litter, but it should not be up to just a few volunteers to do it. Study has shown where there's excessive amount of litter, more crime exist, and this alone can affect your property values. This should prompt all of us to want to get involved. Try getting up each day and checking in front of your home, and make sure your block is free of litter. This is a way of showing you care about your community. Those participating in the cleanup on March 2 were: **Horace & J. Ruth Littlejohn, Jerry Sanders, Kate Kraft, Shelia Dawkins & Tommy Richardson**. Participating on March 23 were: **Ruth Stanton, Rick Hahenburg, Josi Buano, Marie Day, Judy Allen & Alice (all from the Unitarian Church), and Tommy Richardson, Sheila Dawkins, Rita Gilmer & J. Ruth Littlejohn**.



Updates

Next SCNA Meeting is **April 1 @ 5:30 pm**. If you have not paid your 2019 dues, please forward to **SCNA, P.O. Box 6541, Spartanburg, SC 29304**

Sympathy is extended to **Johnny & Shirley Elmore** in the passing of their daughter, **Bridgette Elmore**.

April 28, 2019 - Men's Day @ Mt. Moriah Baptist Church.

April - June - Music on Main (Thursdays @ 5:30pm)

April - July - Jazz on the Square (Friday's @ 5:30pm.

April 13 - Spartanburg Soaring Kite Festival

April 13 - Cribb's Burger Cookoff

April 26, 27 & 28 - Spring Fling Weekend (including Friday's Regional Criterium Bike Race)

June 1 - Sparkle City Rhythm & Ribs Festival

"Majority opinion is not an accurate measure of right and wrong."