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August / September 2019

SAV-A-LOT

Everyone should know by now, the only grocery store located on the South Side of town, Save-A-Lot, closed its doors on August 24, 2019. There was no notice given. However, it is the City's understanding that Houchens Food Group's decision to close the store was based on declining sales and a corporate decision to exit the South Carolina market. As far as we know, three other Save-A-Lot locations have closed recently in Greenville, Columbia and Inman.

While much of this is beyond the city's control, the city intends to do all it can to encourage another grocery operator to reoccupy the space. It is among the City's highest economic development priorities and will remain so until there is a successful outcome. There will be transparency throughout the process.

We need and encourage the engagement and assistance of community leaders and partners to be successful. It took an extensive team effort to get Save-A-Lot to open originally, it may take similar cooperation to replace them.

National Night Out

National Night Out will be held Tuesday **October 1, 2019 from 5pm - 8pm** at our South Converse park, located 417 S. Converse Street. There will be food, an awesome DJ and a drawing for a gift card giveaway. Please come out for food, fun and fellowship with your neighbors.

New Members

We welcome our newest members: **The Project Hope Foundaton**, 200 Elford Court, Spartanburg, 29306 & **Brenda Moss**, 116 LaSalle Court, Spartanburg

"To escape criticism - do nothing, say nothing, be nothing" Elbert Hubbard

Hub City Farmer's Mobile Market

To help make life a little less stressful for residents, who are lacking transportation to get healthier foods, the Hub City Farmer's Market started bringing their truck to the **Southside** (416 S. Church) on **Fridays** from **1:30-2:30 p.m.**, beginning September 6, 2019. Their first customers were **County Councilman Michael Brown** and **City Councilwoman Ruth Littlejohn**.

We are hopeful that if demand exists, the hours will increase at least until a grocer comes to this side of town. The City is committed and will continue working on solutions to our current situation.

The Mobile Market has a Double SNAP program to help customers paying with SNAP to get the biggest bang for their buck. They have a partnership, a grant through the United Way, that allows them to match SNAP benefits dollar for dollar, that allows them to double the SNAP benefits for customers. For example, a customer can buy \$5 worth of food using SNAP for only \$2.50.

We are grateful to **Ms. Jordan Wolfe** (Executive Director of Hub City Farmer's Market) for helping make this possible. Thanks goes out to **Dr. Benjamin Snoddy** and **Mt. Moriah Baptist Church** for providing the space, and to the **City of Spartanburg**.

We are getting interest from other grocers, however until we can get another grocery, **Ingles** off Pine Street and **Walmart** off Southport Rd and Union Street are our nearest grocers. Walmart will deliver grocery items to your home for a fee.

"If parents make all the decisions for their children, they leave their children without the skills for wise decision making when they are on their own." 2 Chronicles

General Election

Friday, October 4, 2019 is the last day to register to be able to vote in the **November 5, 2019** General Election.

Anyone wishing to vote by mail can make their request now by calling their local Registration & Elections office at **864-596-2549** or go to **www.scvotes.org**, print and sign an application and mail to **Voter Registration & Election at P.O. Box 1287, Spartanburg, SC 29304**.

In-person absentee voting begins October 14 thru **November 4, 2019. Hours are 8:30-5:00 pm Monday - Friday.** If you have moved or made a name change, you must contact your Voter Registration Office and make those changes before you can vote. Remember there are 17 reasons to vote In-Person absentee, *including being age 65 years of age or older, having to work on election day, going to be out of town, in the Military, have to attend school, a Caretaker for someone, scheduled for surgery, court duty, etc.*

New Voting Machines

The state of South Carolina has new voting machines. There are a few more steps to the new machines and can be a little intimidating at first glance. The voter, votes on one machine, then the voter inserts the paper ballot into the second machine to cast the ballot and places it in the slot provided. If the voter walks away with their paper ballot, their vote is not counted. Anyone with access to a computer, can go online to **www.scvotes.org** and see how the machines operates.

The League of Women Voters are suggesting as many people as possible request an Absentee Ballot by calling **864-596-2549**. You may also stop by the Voter Registration & Election Office before October 14 & practice on the machine.



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"Although the way we serve may change over time, we are never called to retire and do nothing."

Duke Energy's 2nd Phase

Duke Energy held a dinner/meeting at C.C. Woodson on September 24, 2019 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.. If you were not able to attend and you live in the second phase of their program and received a post card and or letter, just call the number listed **(1-855-231-5273)** and make an appointment. You may still qualify for the program, if you live in the second phase boundaries.

The 2nd phase of the program covers the South Converse Neighborhood from Union/Henry Street to Caulder Ave., Marion Avenue north to Hudson Barksdale. The program also covers parts of Hampton Heights.

Make sure to always ask for identification prior to letting anyone into your home.

New Signs in South Converse



Have you noticed that there are a few new signs in the S. Converse Neighborhood? The top sign, located at the corner of Henry Street & Hudson Barksdale, was placed by Partners for Active Living. Also, the City has placed stop signs & stationary garbage bins at the MHW Greenway Trail.

The City of Spartanburg has also placed "Love Where you Live" signs in all neighborhoods throughout the City. Hopefully these signs will motivate us all to do our part in keeping our city clean.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted." AESP

Teens in Crisis

The Spartanburg Police Department & the Spartanburg Clergy Initiative are sponsoring a **Youth & Young Adult Support Summit** on **Saturday, October 5, 2019** at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church. Registration is **8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.** & the Summit is from **9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** The cost per person was \$15 by September 21 and \$20 per person after September 21, 2019. Some of the issues being addressed are **bullying, school violence, dropout, internet hazards, gang violence, hatred, gun violence, poverty, community violence, depression, PTSD and self-harm.** For more information and/or to pre-register or help out, contact spdehaplains@gmail.com (864-506-2376), scclergyinitiative@gmail.com (302-922-2636) or spaulmckee@gmail.com (864-582-8330)

WHITE'S

Pine Street Exxon

2165 S. Pine Street
Spartanburg, SC 29302-3350

Phone: 585-1226

JUNIE WHITE- Owner

Recycle & Garbage Schedules

Recycle bins (blue bins) are collected on the **1st & 3rd Mondays, even on holidays** (except for Christmas and New Years). If Christmas or New Years fall on the 1st or 3rd Monday, there is no makeup day.

The **garbage bins** (gray) are collected on Thursdays, as early as 8:00 a.m. If a holiday falls on this day, pickup will be the following day - a one day delay.



Mary H. Wright Elementary School, celebrated Mrs. **Mary Honor Farrow Wright's** 157th birthday on August 29, 2019. SCNA members **Horace & Ruth Littlejohn & Kenneth Myers** joined **Dr. Russell Booker, Staff, Teachers** and members of the Heritage Committee, to celebrate the birthday with the 4th & 5th Graders.

First Day of School

The children at Mary H. Wright Elementary School appeared to be very excited entering their first day of school. There were plenty of smiles, hugs and high-fives. Some of Spartanburg's finest Police Officers; **Major Art Littlejohn, Sgt. Justin Colegrove, MPO Chris Banks, Officers Arrowood, Hayes, Z. Smith, Clontz, Lt. Daniel Gordon and Deputy Chief Jennifer Kindall** were there to greet the children, which seem to have brought more smiles. Other greeters included **Norma Pitts** and SCNA Members; former **Rep. Brenda L. Pryce, Commissioner Horace Littlejohn, Councilwoman Ruth Littlejohn, Rep. Rosalyn Myers and Kenneth Myers.**



Horace & Ruth join officers greeting children at MHW on first day of school.



L-R: Horace & Ruth Littlejohn, Brenda L. Pryce, Savariya Richardson (student at MHW, who made the Welcome sign), Rosalyn & Kenneth Myers.

"The world becomes a better place, when we listen & talk to young people & not about them."

County Wide Cleanup

Keep OneSpartanburg Beautiful is hosting a **county wide clean up** on **October 19th**. They are looking for interested volunteer groups and municipalities who would like to be involved. If you would like to volunteer for Clean Up Spartanburg contact **Christy Snow** at csnow@spartanburgcounty.org or **(864) 562-4083**. As of now the group will be in City of Spartanburg, Town of Chesnee, Town of Cowpens and City of Woodruff.

Community Cleanups

Community Cleanups will now take place on the **3rd** Saturday of the month, to make it more convenient for residents to who wish to participate. We are always grateful to those who take time from their busy schedules to come out and participate in the neighborhood cleanups. Those participating in July 27th Cleanup were: **Toni Sutton, Elijah Sutton, Janell Sutton, Ruth Staton, Horace Littlejohn, Rick Hahnenberg, Bernie Kakukse, Jesi Buono, Jeanette Keepers, Alice Sutton, Ruth Littlejohn, Joseph Broadus Jr., Joyce Harrison & Kenneth Myers**. Participants in August 24th cleanup were: **Toni Sutton, Horace Littlejohn, Ruth Littlejohn, Sheila Dawkins, Joyce Harrison, Alice Sutton, Tommy Richardson, Jeanette Keepers & Bernie Kakuske**. Participants on September 21 were: **Naomi Richardson, Josh Buomo, Ruth Christian, Rick Hahnenberg, Jeanette Keepers, Joyce Harrison, Sheila Dawkins & Toni Sutton**. Thank you!

A special thanks is extended to **Morris Edwards & Johnny Brown**, from Public Works, who lent a hand taking away debris after our July 27th Cleanup.

South Converse Park

Please keep in mind the hours for the South Converse Park are from dawn to dusk. Rules and hours are posted at the park, No activities are to take place in the park after dusk. This is the communities park! If you see people in the park or activities going on after dusk, you are encouraged to call **864-596-2076** or **596-2222**.

If you want to make a reservation to use the park, call **864-596-3105**.

Never, if possible lie down at night without being able to say "I have made one human being at least a little wiser, or a little better this day" Charles Kingsley

New Neighborhood Association

Liberty Heights Neighborhood Association is the newest neighborhood to form in the City of Spartanburg. The association is located in the oldest historically Black residential section of the City, running from E. Carolina Street to League Street, bordered by S. Liberty and S. Church streets. Its membership is comprised of homeowners, renters and businesses operating in the area. Their main focus is to preserve and honor their history while building a lasting future for their community. They meet on the **4th Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.**

Yards of the Month

Congratulation to our **July Yards: 114 Pyles Court** (Sheila Dawkins); **131 Collins Avenue** (Carolyn Brewer) & **349 Marion Avenue** (Kenneth & Julie Goins); and to our **August Yards: 106 Pyle Court** (Jennifer Rice), **335 Marion Avenue** (Charles & Polly Goins) and **282 Alexander Ave.** (Kenneth & Catherine Tillison).

Tidbits

The next **SCNA meeting is October 7**. Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month (except July & Sept.) at **5:30 p.m.** at the C.C. Woodson Center, unless notified otherwise. All residents, including businesses located within the community are invited to join the association. Dues are \$25 per year (Jan.-Dec.). If you would like to be a member but not able to attend the meetings, we welcome your membership. **Please mail all dues to: SCNA, P.O. Box 6541, Spartanburg, SC 29304.**

Thanks to our **President Toni Sutton** for writing our Keep One Spartanburg Beautiful grant! We are hoping to receive the grant, which a part will be used to honor **Newt Hardie**. Thank you **President Sutton** for all the work you do to keep us moving forward.

Meet The World! The International Festival will take place at Barnet Park on **October 5, from 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.** Make plans to attend!

Deepest sympathy is extended to Board Member **Wayne Rookard**, on the passing of his brother & sister.

Congratulations are extended to **Victoria Means**, on her graduation from Claflin University. Victoria is the granddaughter of member **Delores Means**.

Believer's Fellowship's new Sunday Worship hour now begins at **9:00 a.m.** **Rev. Allen Dawkins** is Pastor.