

South Carolina Public Radio Community Issues List

(First Quarter 2023 - January, February, March)

South Carolina News Stories

WRJA/WJWJ/WLJK/WHMC/WNSC/WLTR/WEPR/WSCI

Mondays 6:45 a.m., 8:45 a.m., Tuesdays 1:33 p.m., Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. (WNSC-FM, WRJA-FM, WJWJ-FM, WHMC-FM, WLJK-FM) 2:30 p.m. (WEPR-FM, WSCI-FM, WLTR-FM), Thursdays 5:44 p.m.; Saturdays 8:35 a.m., Sundays 5:35 p.m.

Shows listed in reverse play order.

All stories 4:00 (Four Minutes) in length.

[SC News](#)

[Major bills vying for passage in SC General Assembly](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

March 31, 2023

April will be the last full month for this year's session of the General Assembly, and as the final weeks approach many of the session's major bills are still pending.

[Podcasts](#)

[InDebted: What if payday loans came with warning labels?](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 30, 2023

A USC finance professor discusses one solution he'd like to try for short-term loans.

[Podcasts](#)

[InDebted: Episode 5 — Debt as a Public Health Hazard](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 29, 2023

In parts of South Carolina, residents without access to traditional financial institutions have to rely on alternative services such as payday loans, rent-to-own services, and auto title loans. On this episode of InDebted, we hear from the unbanked and underbanked, and learn why some economic experts view debt as a public health crisis.

[Podcasts](#)

[The lenders, the lobbies, and the fight for a 36% rate cap in South Carolina](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 23, 2023

South Carolina has a bad rep when it comes to short-term, small-dollar lending. It's leading to a push to cap interest rates to federal military lending limits.

[Music](#)

[Parker Quartet brings a Beethoven marathon to Columbia](#)

March 22, 2023

Marking 10 years of its artistic residency at the USC School of Music, the chamber group is partnering with Historic Columbia to perform all 16 of Ludwig van Beethoven's string quartets—and the composer's visionary Grosse Fuge—across six venues in the capital city.

[Podcasts](#)

[InDebted: Episode 4 — The Insiders](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 22, 2023

Driven by the fear of insufficient funds or unexpected life events, payday borrowers are forced to pay the loan fees before they pay basic living expenses. In this episode of InDebted, Scott Morgan takes an inside look at the short-term lender business.

[SC News](#)

['Indebted' podcast explores high cost of personal debt in South Carolina](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 16, 2023

Barnwell County is a microcosm of South Carolina's rural debt and poverty troubles. It's also the story of rural America in the 21st century.

[SC News](#)

[Senate panel recommends removing Comptroller General Eckstrom from office](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

March 16, 2023

In an un-precedented move Wednesday, March 15, a special committee of the State Senate recommended that the General Assembly remove from office Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom for "willful neglect" of duty.

[Podcasts](#)

[InDebted: Barnwell — A love story](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 16, 2023

Barnwell County is a microcosm of South Carolina's rural debt and poverty troubles. It's also the story of rural America in the 21st century.

[SC News](#)

[South Carolina has an abundance of state symbols](#)

[Tut Underwood](#)

The Palmetto State has so many icons that sometimes there are more than one in a single category.

March 15, 2023

[Podcasts](#)

[InDebted: Episode 3 — Barnwell](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 15, 2023

Barnwell County, SC is a place of timeless beauty, but for many residents it's also a place with no future for growth or work. On the third episode of InDebted, we explore how a lack of opportunities passed down through generations is the backdrop for one of the worst places for debt in the United States and how for many the only way to get ahead is to go somewhere else.

[Music](#)

[20 teenage pianists from around the world to compete on Hilton Head](#)

[Bradley Fuller](#)

March 10, 2023

"It really is staggering," new Hilton Head International Piano Competition Director Steve Shaiman says of the competitors' talent, "and it makes me grateful that I'm not a judge."

[Podcasts](#)

[Women and students of color pay more for college in SC \(and white borrowers aren't doing so hot to begin with\)](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 9, 2023

White student loan borrowers in South Carolina have it bad. Borrowers of color have it worse. Women borrowers of color have it worse yet.

[Podcasts](#)

[InDebted: Episode 2 — Degrees of Debt](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 8, 2023

For decades, a college education was the "golden ticket" to the American Dream. On this episode of InDebted, host Scott Morgan looks at student loan debt in SC, especially how it disproportionately affects African American students.

[SC News](#)

[Renewed push for disability housing communities in SC amid limited options](#)

[Finn Carlin](#)

March 7, 2023

As housing costs continue ballooning nationwide with consumer prices staying high, the gap between affordable options and South Carolina's 1.2 million adults with disabilities is growing wider.

[Podcasts](#)

[So, South Carolina is the worst place for debt in the United States, you say?](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 2, 2023

South Carolina Public Radio's podcast InDebted is a deep dive into the ecosystem of debt in the Palmetto State. What are the factors that make the state one of the worst places for personal debt in the country?

[Podcasts](#)

[InDebted: Episode 1 — Let's Get Into Debt](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

March 1, 2023

South Carolina has some of the worst personal debt numbers per capita in the country. On the series premiere of InDebted, we begin our dive into the factors that have led to this with the way many people first experience debt: credit cards.

[SC News](#)

[SC House passes open carry bill](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

February 24, 2023

State lawmakers have a long list of Public Safety bills on their agenda for this legislative session. That list includes cracking down on violent offenders being chronically released on bond, stemming the fentanyl epidemic, allowing capital punishment to resume, and pay increases for law enforcement officers. All those bills advanced through the General Assembly this week. So did a controversial gun bill that opponents claim will make the state less safe.

[SC News](#)

[South Carolina leads the U.S. in Black homeownership, but there are still a few gaps to close](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

February 22, 2023

Rates of homeownership among African-Americans is highest in the South in general, and in South Carolina in particular. But rates still trail white ownership rates by double digits.

[SC News](#)

[Alex Murdaugh exchanges smiles with surviving son as Buster testifies in double murder trial](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

February 22, 2023

Buster Murdaugh testifies in his father's murder trial. The 26-year-old lost his mother and brother in the 2021 killings in which his father, Alex Murdaugh, is charged.

[SC News](#)

[Prosecution shows Alex Murdaugh lies, but did he kill his wife and son?](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

February 20, 2023

Prosecution in Alex Murdaugh double murder trial points to multiple lies in his other alleged crimes as defense prepares to argue the disgraced attorney did not murder his wife and son.

[SC News](#)

[SC on verge of enacting school voucher program](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

February 17, 2023

For the last twenty years, school choice advocates have been pushing to enact a law that would allow parents to use state tax dollars to send their children to private or religious schools. Public school supporters have long resisted the idea claiming such a program would hurt public schools. This year the Republican controlled General Assembly appears to be on the verge of establishing a school-voucher program.

[SC News](#)

[Jurors in Alex Murdaugh's murder trial hear confession to another alleged crime, along a roadside](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

February 16, 2023

Prosecutors present testimony about a staged roadside shooting to show a pattern of lying and violence in Alex Murdaugh's double murder trial.

[SC News](#)

[Fusion experiment's success portends abundant, clean energy in future](#)

[Tut Underwood](#)

February 15, 2023

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory recently achieved the first nuclear fusion reaction that generated more energy than it took to produce the reaction.

[SC News](#)

[Alex Murdaugh's sister-in-law recalls strange conversations with defendant following murders](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

February 15, 2023

Walterboro, S.C.- It was just a normal day for Marian Proctor when she got a call from her sister Maggie Murdaugh during the late afternoon of June 7, 2021. The two frequently spoke by phone.

[SC News](#)

[What sick sea turtles tell us about our environment and climate change](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

February 14, 2023

Warmer ocean temperatures are luring sea turtles farther north, leaving them stranded and hypothermic during winter months.

[SC News](#)

[Colleagues and caregivers detail dark side of Alex Murdaugh during week three of double murder trial](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

February 11, 2023

Looking back, colleagues see a "different" Alex Murdaugh as two caregivers testify the former attorney tried to choreograph stories in the days following his wife and son's murders.

[SC News](#)

[GOP passes new abortion bills and teaching restrictions in General Assembly](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

February 10, 2023

The Republican controlled legislature's conservative agenda was front and center at the Statehouse this week. Lawmakers advanced new, but not so new abortion bills, a bill that would restrict what teachers can teach in their classrooms and elected a new Supreme Court justice that will leave the court without a female justice for the first time in 35 years.

[SC News](#)

[Guns, cell phone video and a fight over potential witnesses wrap up week two of Murdaugh trial](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

February 5, 2023

The second week of Alex Murdaugh's murder trial tracks family's final moments through cell phones while friends identify the 54-year old's voice at crime scene.

[Music](#)

[USC guitar professor a Grammy nominee for second year in a row](#)

[Bradley Fuller](#)

February 3, 2023

Mak Grgic brings impeccable technique and a deeply personal touch to his playing. Both are on full display in his Grammy-nominated albums Mak Bach and A Night in Upper Town: The Music of Zoran Krajacic.

[SC News](#)

[Tears, first responders didn't see, flow during week one of Alex Murdaugh murder trial](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

January 28, 2023

Week one testimony details gruesome crime scene and Murdaugh's behavior through police video.

[Music](#)

[Colour of Music Festival celebrates 10th anniversary](#)

[Bradley Fuller](#)

January 27, 2023

Founder and Artistic Director Lee Pringle reflects on the growth of the performing arts organization that has platformed Black classical musicians since 2013 and previews the festival's February concerts being given in Charleston.

[SC News](#)

[Recent SC Supreme Court ruling on abortion reverberates through State House](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

January 27, 2023

The State Supreme Court's overturning of the state's six-week, heartbeat abortion law earlier this month is still reverberating through the week Gov. Henry McMaster again criticized the court's decision as did some conservative legislators, and a proposed new abortion law has already advanced in the House of Representatives.

[SC News](#)

[Revolutionary War soldiers' remains discovered in Camden](#)

[Tut Underwood](#)

January 26, 2023

Scientists are studying the remains of 14 Revolutionary War soldiers found in shallow graves at the site of the Battle of Camden. They soon will be properly re-buried.

[SC News](#)

[SC House GOP super-majority roiled by House Freedom Caucus](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

January 25, 2023

Republicans have controlled the South Carolina House of Representatives for almost thirty years. Following last November's election, they achieved a super-majority with 88 of the 124 house seats held by Republicans. Ever since last year's Republican Primaries a deep rift has been developing between members of the Freedom Caucus and many members of the

mainline Republican Caucus leading to most Freedom Caucus members refusing to agree to sign-on to a set of G-O-P rules that they feel is aimed at muzzling them.

[SC News](#)

[Murdaugh murder trial begins Monday](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

January 20, 2023

54-year-old Alex Murdaugh stands trial in Colleton County beginning Monday charged with the shooting deaths of his wife Maggie and son Paul.

[SC News](#)

[In 'After Action,' a South Carolina combat vet tackles the humanity of life after service](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

January 19, 2023

Ret. U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Stacy Pearsall did not leave her military career by choice. a chance meeting with a WWII vet and an eye for humanity led her to produce a show she hopes will connect veterans, their families, and those pesky elephants in the room.

[SC News](#)

[Cheer sex abuse lawsuits span seven states, including West Coast](#)

[Victoria Hansen](#)

January 17, 2023

Federal, civil lawsuits first filed in South Carolina alleging sexual abuse at competitive cheerleading gyms now include California.

[SC News](#)

[Greenville's downtown rebirth is coming at a high price for historically Black neighborhoods](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

January 16, 2023

The city's lightning growth over the past decade is bringing white residents back to downtown. But they're moving into historically Black neighborhoods, and Black households are getting priced out.

[SC News](#)

[SC Supreme Court abortion ruling dominates opening week of General Assembly](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

January 13, 2023

Last week the SC Supreme Court ruled the state's six-week Fetal Heartbeat Law unconstitutional stating that it violated a woman's right to privacy as provided by the state constitution. That left the previous 20-week abortion law in effect. The court's decision didn't sit well with the state's conservative

Republican leadership opening the door for another abortion debate, and lawmakers signaling they may also begin something they have long avoided, closer scrutiny of the judicial philosophy of potential Supreme Court justices.

[SC News](#)

[Anderson County is addressing its jail issues with mental health care](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

January 11, 2023

An out-of-date jail and siloed thinking are giving way to holistic attention on the mental health of those who pass through the county's criminal justice system.

[SC News](#)

[Henry McMaster to begin second full term as SC Governor](#)

[Russ McKinney](#)

January 10, 2023

When Henry McMaster takes the oath of office as Governor this week, he'll become the first person in state history to be formally sworn into office for a third time. His new four-year term will, in all likelihood, be the capstone of a public service career that will span almost a half century.

[SC News](#)

[U.S. Rep. Ralph Norman backs McCarthy, following 'written proposal'](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

January 6, 2023

Norman and other Freedom Caucus members who'd been holding out against McCarthy now support him. Norman's support unifies South Carolina's Republican House coalition for McCarthy.

[SC News](#)

[Severe weather affects bomb threat evacuation in Barnwell County; juvenile arrested](#)

[Scott Morgan](#)

January 4, 2023

Wednesday morning's storms briefly halted the pickups of children evacuated from Williston-Elko High School, following a bomb threat. A juvenile has been arrested in connection with making the threat.

[SC News](#)

[Ralph Norman joins far-right dissent against prospective House Speaker](#)

[Kevin McCarthy](#)

January 3, 2023

Norman voted to name Arizona GOP Congressman Andy Biggs and, later, Rep. Jim Jordan as Speaker of the House. He was the only South Carolina Republican to not vote for McCarthy.

[SC News](#)

[State senator cited for intoxication while in parked car](#)

January 2, 2023

A South Carolina state senator says he was cited for public intoxication early New Year's Day while sitting in his parked car after realizing he drank too much and shouldn't be driving. Republican Sen. Tom Davis said in a statement from his law firm that he had sat in his parked car for over an hour before a Lexington Police officer approached him and eventually issued a ticket for public intoxication. Davis says he cooperated immediately and fully with the officer, and his statement emphasized he was not charged with driving while intoxicated. Davis has been in the state Senate since 2009.

South Carolina Business Review

WLTR/WSCI/WEPR/WRJA/WJWJ/WLJK/WHMC/WNSC

@ 7:51 a.m., Monday thru Friday

All shows 5:50 in length.

Shows listed in reverse.

Mar 31, 2023

[Biomedical waste facility opens in Lowcountry](#)

As the population continues to age and the healthcare economy continues to grow, so does the need to properly dispose of medical waste. Which is why our next guest's company decided to invest over \$3 million to build a 13,000 sq ft facility in the Lowcountry. Mike Switzer interviews David Squalli, chief operating officer at EcoSteris in Summerville, SC.

Mar 31, 2023

[RBC Heritage economic impact expected to grow this year](#)

In 1969, Hilton Head Island was a little-known place in our state's Lowcountry when a local developer announced that a PGA-level golf tournament would be played there that year. It's still held there every year and has recently been elevated to the status of a top tour event with a purse of \$20 million and a commitment to play from the tour's top players. This will also undoubtedly have an elevated impact on our state's economy. Mike Switzer interviews Steve Wilmot, director of the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing coming for its 55th year April 10-16.

Mar 30, 2023

[Developing more effective policing strategies](#)

Guns, crime, questionable police tactics...are all issues on the forefront of criminal law these days. One institution of higher learning in our state has decided to provide a new resource for these topics. Mike Switzer interviews Dr. Michele Covington, director of the new Crime Analysis Center in Greenville, SC, part of the University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, SC. She is also the author of the new book: Guns in America: An introduction and Overview.

Mar 29, 2023

[Disabled and special needs person face many career challenges](#)

Disabled and special needs individuals want careers as much as anyone. But, as you would expect, many challenges stand in the way. Our next guest's organization is working hard to help. Mike Switzer interviews Dee DiCarlo,

director of business & employment development for Thrive Upstate, formerly known as the Greenville County Disability and Special Needs Board.

Mar 28, 2023

[Tax savings from the Inflation Reduction Act](#)

It's no secret that the Inflation Reduction Act is going to make an impact on our country's sustainability efforts. But just how much of an impact will depend on several variables. One of which is how many consumers will take advantage of the tax incentives offered by the legislation. Mike Switzer interviews Jared Crawford, a certified financial planner in North Myrtle Beach, SC.

Mar 27, 2023

[SC Business News Update from Alan Cooper](#)

An update of the news, events and issues that are trending right now across South Carolina's business community. Mike Switzer interviews Alan Cooper, founder and editor of three online business news websites in South Carolina: MidlandsBiz, UpstateBizSC, and LowCountryBizSC. Disclaimer: Alan Cooper's company has a business relationship with Voterheads.com, an affiliate of Magnolia Media, which is the producer of the South Carolina Business Review.

Mar 24, 2023

[SC legal software firm raising millions in funding](#)

Off the shelf, customer service software has been around for a long time. Lately, some software companies are building it more specifically tailored to certain markets. Such as our next guest's company which is having some success targeting the lawyer industry and as a result, raising significant funding. Mike Switzer interviews Andy Seavers, CEO of Case Status in North Charleston, SC.

Mar 23, 2023

[Careers post criminal life](#)

We keep hearing about companies having a really hard time finding qualified employees. There simply are lots of job openings all across the country. Our next guest is trying to help with this situation by working with the business community to find careers for former prison inmates. Mike Switzer interviews Bryan Stirling, director of the South Carolina Department of Corrections in Columbia.

Mar 22, 2023

[Women's professional tennis returning to Charleston for 51st year](#)

One of the largest professional women's sporting events is returning to the Lowcountry soon and will be sure to once again generate significant economic activity for our state. Mike Switzer interviews Bob Moran,

tournament director of the Credit One Charleston Open coming April 1-9 to Daniel Island, SC.

Mar 21, 2023

[Cutting through the investment noise](#)

When you listen to the news today, there's no shortage of things to worry about. Both domestically and abroad investors have much to process right now and a lot of it is conflicting. Economic growth is up and down. Job growth has stayed strong though. But both consumer and business confidence are down—until recently. And, of course, the generationally-high inflation rates have been reversing —until recently, when they started higher again. What's an investor to make of all this? Mike Switzer interviews Rob DeHollander, a certified financial planner in Greenville, SC.

Mar 20, 2023

[Spending money to attract industry](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John talks about the recent announcement by the state of South Carolina that they will spend about \$1.3 billion to assist Scout Motors, a subsidiary of Volkswagen, to locate their headquarters here.

Mar 17, 2023

[Upstate biotech company wins award](#)

Our state's research universities are continuously discovering new technologies that are making their way into the commercial marketplace. Our next guest's company licensed research from Clemson and has used it to develop a new process that could improve the efficiency of diagnostic tests such as biopsies. It also won them the most recent Technology Development award from Innovision. Mike Switzer interviews Terri Bruce, founder and CEO of Victory ExoFibres in Central, SC.

Mar 16, 2023

[New brewery launched in Columbia](#)

We recently attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for one of our state's newest breweries located in a historic building in an area of the Midlands that is undergoing a serious revival. Mike Switzer interviews Sara Middleton Styles, co-owner of Peak Drift Brewing in Columbia, SC.

Mar 15, 2023

[Midlands sensor company wins small business award](#)

It's just a fact that the older we get the more we fall. And of course, the population continues to age so more people are falling and sometimes they not only can't get up, but are also unable to let anyone know. Our next guest's company is using sensors to detect when a person falls and that technology led them to receiving the most recent small business award from

Innovision. Mike Switzer interviews Victor Hirth, co-founder and chief medical officer of Asset, LLC in Columbia, SC.

Mar 14, 2023

[2022 Social Security annual report released](#)

Social Security recently released its annual report for last year and with all the talk recently about the program's longevity and funding issues we thought it might be a good idea to talk to one of our resident financial planners to discuss the report's implications for retirement planning. Mike Switzer interviews John Cooper, a certified financial planner with Greenwood Capital in Greenwood, SC.

Mar 13, 2023

[Charleston clean energy company receiving mega-funding](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John talks about Palmetto Clean Technology and the significant sums of money they are raising.

Mar 10, 2023

[Expanding intellectual property understanding through education](#)

As a minority in the legal profession, our next guest found it easy to understand the challenges faced by minorities, especially in her particular area of expertise, intellectual property law, where she encountered many creators who had no idea what the topic even meant. Shontavia Johnson is now using her skills to actively change the entrepreneurial landscape of our state and the world in her position as the associate vice president of Entrepreneurship & Innovation at Clemson University.

Mar 9, 2023

[Reversing military suicide trends](#)

Suicide continues to be a very serious problem within our military community but there is a crisis mapping program available now in one county in our state that hopes to turn that tide. Mike Switzer interviews Jessica Varney, a collaboration manager with Pickens County, which recently won the community service award from Innovision.

Mar 8, 2023

[Upstate lubricant company winning awards](#)

Our next guest's company has been receiving accolades and monetary awards because of their development of biodegradable, nontoxic lubricants, including receiving the most recent Sustainability Award from Innovision. Mike Switzer interviews Jeff DiMaio, CEO at VBase Oil Company, a subsidiary of Tetramer in Pendleton, SC.

Mar 7, 2023

[Preparing for the rest of your life at age 50](#)

There are approximately 21 million people in our country who are in their early 50s. Our next guest says that if that's you and you haven't prepared yourself for the next 50 years, you may be in trouble. Mike Switzer interviews Jeremy Finger, a certified financial planner and CEO at Riverbend Wealth Management in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Mar 6, 2023

[Clemson professor receives \\$20 million grant](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John tells us about a Clemson professor who has received a \$20 million grant to conduct cybersecurity research for our country's transportation network, in particular for electric and autonomous vehicles.

Mar 3, 2023

[Innovating drug delivery wins Upstate company award](#)

Improvements in drug delivery technology have resulted in our next guest's company winning the most recent technology application award from Innovision. Mike Switzer interviews Scott Pancoast, CEO of Zyllo Therapeutics in Greenville, SC.

Mar 2, 2023

[SCRA releases impressive annual numbers](#)

Our next guest's organization recently released their annual report showing some pretty impressive contributions to our state's economy. Mike Switzer interviews Bob Quinn, executive director of the South Carolina Research Authority in Summerville.

Mar 1, 2023

[SC-based executive assistant company raises \\$2.6 million seed money](#)

Women in tech is certainly not a new thing anymore and they continue to show up in larger numbers at the top as founders and CEOs. Our next guest is one such example. After founding an executive-to-assistant matching service, she has launched what she claims to be the first-ever office management platform for executive assistants. Mike Switzer interviews Paige McPheely, founder and CEO of Base, in Greenville, SC.

Feb 28, 2023

[The confusing economic direction of 2023](#)

The latest economic trends continue to confuse. One day inflation is cooling, housing starts are down, and the next day shows consumer demand on the rise, fueling those inflation fears again. Is this going to be 2023's way of life for your favorite local economist? Mike Switzer interviews Frank Hefner, Director Office of Economic Analysis and Professor of Economics at the College of Charleston.

Feb 27, 2023

[SC Business News Update from SCBiznews](#)

An update of the news, events and issues that are trending right now across South Carolina's business community. Mike Switzer interviews Jason Thomas, executive editor of SCBizNews, the company that publishes the Columbia Regional Business Report, Charleston Regional Business Journal, GSA Business and SCBizNews magazine.

Feb 24, 2023

[Letting frustrations “rip” constructively and artistically](#)

Most of us would probably agree that there is a lot of frustration and anger going on in America these days that didn't start with the pandemic but certainly was exacerbated by it. Our next guest is a working artist that has decided to address this situation with a participatory art project entitled “Just Let It Rip”. Mike Switzer interviews Melinda Hoffman, an artist who works and lives in Mauldin, SC.

Feb 23, 2023

[How to obtain disaster relief from the SBA](#)

Welcome to the first episode in a quarterly series we are presenting this year featuring the South Carolina office of the US Small Business Administration. We'll be taking a deeper dive into all of their services available to our state's small business community, starting today with disaster relief. Mike Switzer interviews Gregg White, the SBA's SC district director.

Feb 22, 2023

[GE spinoff locates in Greenville, SC](#)

You might be aware that General Electric has been spinning off its many businesses lately. One of those has decided to establish its headquarters in our Upstate. Mike Switzer interviews Manish Bhandari, president and CEO of Current in Greenville, SC.

Feb 21, 2023

[Financial markets outlook could be improving](#)

2022 was a bad year for the financial markets, in fact it was one of those rare years when both stocks and bonds experienced negative returns. But our next guest says that this year should be the exact opposite. Mike Switzer interviews Doug English, a certified financial planner and our resident market prognosticator with ACT Advisors in Charleston, SC.

Feb 20, 2023

[Luring a hot industry to SC](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John discusses our state's efforts to attract the electric vehicle industry: SC Powers EV

Feb 17, 2023

[Viral video brings fame to Upstate production company](#)

Released in July of 2020, our next guest's short film now has more than 112 million views, spawned sequels, and has launched his small upstate production company into stardom. Mike Switzer interviews Sam Wickert, co-founder of SOKRISPYMEDIA in Greenville, SC, the company behind the viral video: Chalk Warfare.

Feb 16, 2023

[Culinary event brings big economic impact to SC's Lowcountry](#)

Next month, our next guest's organization will celebrate the 17th edition of its annual food and wine festival, bringing more than 100 events to locations throughout the Lowcountry. And an annual economic impact exceeding \$25 million. Mike Switzer interviews Alyssa Maute Smith, executive director of the Charleston Wine and Food Festival, coming March 1-5.

Feb 15, 2023

[Greenville kicks off film festival season](#)

Film festival season has begun and in our state, the first one is just around the corner. Mike Switzer interviews Ken Seay, co-founder of the Reedy Reels Film Festival in Greenville, SC.

Feb 14, 2023

[Understanding the latest debt ceiling standoff](#)

Once again, our country is facing the uncertainty caused by our national debt ceiling. How will it affect our personal financial lives? Mike Switzer interviews Chris Cabri, a certified financial planner with Wells Fargo Advisors in Greenwood, SC.

Feb 13, 2023

[Flying car company chooses SC for HQ](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John talks about why it's important that SkyDrive, Inc. chose SC for its headquarters.

Feb 10, 2023

[Capitalizing on SC's English heritage](#)

You may have noticed that our state has several cities, towns, and counties named after places in England. And a lot of them are concentrated between Columbia and Charlotte. Over the past several years, this area has been developing an economic identity all its own. Mike Switzer interviews Jenny Parrish, executive director of our state's Olde English District in Fort Lawn, SC.

Feb 9, 2023

[International films featured in Beaufort, SC](#)

Our next guest's Lowcountry film festival is curated by an advisory board with a pretty distinguished list of names, including Blythe Danner, Andie Macdowell, and Gary Sinise. We've been attending this event for over a decade and as they enter their 17th year, the featured films continue to improve and impress. Mike Switzer interviews Ron Tucker, president and CEO of the Beaufort Film Society, the organization behind the Beaufort International Film Festival.

Feb 8, 2023

[Keeping the best and brightest local](#)

During one of our recent Monday morning conversations with entrepreneurial advocate, John Warner, we talked about a Midlands organization that is working to keep the area's college graduates in the area by exposing them to employers and opportunities they may not have been aware of. Kelsey Bickley is the board chair at Columbia Opportunity Resource, in Columbia, SC.

Feb 7, 2023

[Are you taking a shortcut in your financial life?](#)

Most everybody appreciates a good shortcut from time to time. However, our next guest, who has 33 years experience advising people about their finances, says shortcuts rarely work when it comes to your money. Mike Switzer interviews Bobby Cummings, a certified financial planner in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

Feb 6, 2023

[SC population changes impacting income levels](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John talks about state population demographics and their importance to income levels and the state economy and educational attainment. Census data by city and county in SC can be found here: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/SC/DIS010221>

Feb 3, 2023

[The power of service](#)

Our next guest believes that doing good through service is the key to success not only for individuals but for companies, as well. Mike Switzer interviews Dan Hoppe, executive director of Multiplying Good in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Feb 2, 2023

[The unique SC problem of bad traffic safety](#)

Did you know that our country has one of the worst traffic safety records in the world? If you do, you would probably not be surprised to also learn that South Carolina drivers cause the most traffic accidents in the country, which gives our state the highest traffic fatality rate, as well. And this statistic

keeps our next guest very busy. Mike Switzer interviews Amy Johnson Ely, executive director of the Palmetto Cycling Coalition in Columbia. Disclaimer: Mike Switzer is a member of the PCC.

Feb 1, 2023

[Solving long distance wine challenges](#)

Our next guest once had a thriving career in the hospitality industry working as a sommelier and growing the wine program at an Upstate resort into a multi-million-dollar business. Now he's a tech entrepreneur helping the wine industry preserve taste. Mike Switzer interviews Eric Cooperman, founder of Bottle Titan, in Greenville, SC.

Jan 31, 2023

[Where is our economy headed next?](#)

At about this time each year, we hear economic forecasts from the Davos World Economic Forum in Switzerland. That event has concluded and our next guest says he'd like to share his thoughts on those prognostications. Mike Switzer interviews Bruce Yandle, Dean Emeritus at the College of Business & Behavioral Science and Alumni Professor of Economics Emeritus, both at Clemson University. He is also the Distinguished Professor of Economics at George Mason University's Mercatus Center which publishes his Economic Situation Report.

Jan 30, 2023

[A review of the SC Governor's State of the State address](#)

Mike Switzer interviews Alan Cooper, founder and editor of three online business news websites in South Carolina: MidlandsBiz, UpstateBizSC, and LowCountryBizSC. Disclaimer: Alan Cooper's company has a business relationship with Voterheads.com, an affiliate of Magnolia Media, which is the producer of the South Carolina Business Review.

Jan 27, 2023

[Mobile app vs web app](#)

Not too long ago, most companies wanted a mobile app for their business. But today, the mobile app vs web app choice is not always a clear decision. If you survey startup founders, you will hear strong opinions on either side. The reason for the disparity is that the answer really depends on your business and the nature of your app. Joining us today to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of both choices is Katie Iannace, a business analyst with Designli in Greenville, SC.

Jan 26, 2023

[German companies continue to have big impact in SC](#)

The 7th annual German-American Business Summit is coming to the College of Charleston on February 8th and here to tell us more about the event is

Knudt Flor, the former CEO of BMW and the current senior vice president for Innovation and Industry Engagement at the College of Charleston.

Jan 25, 2023

[Creating a climate smart lumber industry](#)

Timber is big business in our state and, in fact, is our largest cash crop. But as most people are aware, trees are also a big part of the climate change equation. Which is why our next guest is leading an effort to create a climate smart lumber industry. Mike Switzer interviews Rob Baldwin, a professor and the Margaret H. Lloyd Endowed Chair of Conservation in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Conservation at Clemson University.

Jan 24, 2023

[Retirement planning changes again](#)

Nearly three years after the SECURE Act was passed in December 2019, another retirement bill was enacted known as SECURE Act 2.0, which has brought another wave of changes to retirement planning. Mike Switzer interviews Ann Beckwith, certified financial planner with Abacus Planning Group in Columbia, SC.

Jan 23, 2023

[EV industry growing in SC](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John updates us on the growing electric vehicle industry in SC.

Jan 20, 2023

[Lowcountry company developing vision loss treatments](#)

Our next guest's company became an SC Launch member company in 2019, receiving a \$25,000 academic startup grant. Three years later, they became an SC Launch portfolio company with a \$200,000 investment. And all because of treatments they are developing to address vision loss. Mike Switzer interviews Michael Voevodsky, president and CEO of MitoChem Therapeutics in Charleston, SC.

Jan 19, 2023

[Textile innovations continue in SC](#)

Over the past several years, our next guest's small manufacturing company has continued to win awards and recognition for their innovations and growth, most recently the 2022 Emerging Manufacturer of the Year award from the South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership. Mike Switzer interviews Donna Brin, president and CEO of bFIVE40 in Little River, SC.

Jan 18, 2023

[Grilling pellet trend expands into nuts](#)

One of the biggest trends in smoking and grilling over the past several years is the use of wood pellets instead of charcoal. Our next guest's company is seeking to capitalize on that trend but with a twist: theirs are made from peanut and pecan shells. Mike Switzer interviews Jared Jester, president of [Hull and Husk](#) in Bluffton, SC.

Jan 17, 2023

[Higher interest rates are bad and good](#)

Rising interest rates have obviously created challenges for home buyers and other borrowers. However, for investors this situation is creating an opportunity that has not been seen in decades. Mike Switzer interviews Roy Janse, a certified financial planner at Goldfinch Wealth Management in Greenville, SC.

Jan 16, 2023

[Greenville gets new venture fund](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, our resident serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John tells us about a new \$6 million venture capital fund recently started in Greenville.

Jan 13, 2023

[Healthcare staffing in demand](#)

SCBizNews recently named our next guest's healthcare staffing company not only one of the fastest growing for 2022 but also one of the best places to work in our state, as well. Mike Switzer interviews Natasha Lee, founder and CEO of Floyd Lee Locums in North Charleston, SC.

Jan 12, 2023

[SC biofuel company recognized for growth](#)

Our next guest's company keeps showing up on our radar. They started over a decade ago as a pretty small operation in a pretty small town in the Midlands of our state and have since expanded their operations to several states and most recently were named #1 high-growth small company by SCBizNews. Mike Switzer interviews "Bio" Joe Renwick, founder of Green Energy Biofuel in Winnsboro, SC.

Jan 11, 2023

[USC Greenville med school celebrates ten years](#)

According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, our country could see a significant shortage of physicians over the next decade. Over the past decade, our next guest's institution has been working hard to keep that from happening in our state. Mike Switzer interviews Marjorie Jenkins, dean of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in Greenville, SC.

Jan 10, 2023

[Five ways to spend unused 529 Plan funds](#)

The main vehicle parents use these days to save money for their children's education is the 529 plan. But what happens to the money in that plan if your child decides not to go to college? Or maybe they go to a less expensive college than you had anticipated and some money is left over in the plan? Mike Switzer interviews Laird Green, a certified financial planner with Abacus Planning Group in Greenville, SC.

Jan 9, 2023

[Greenville-Anderson #1 on national Innovation Hubs Index](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John tells us about how the CHIPS Act is putting the Upstate on the map for innovation.

Jan 6, 2023

[Small business issues grab early 2023 headlines](#)

If you can believe it, the first week of 2023 is wrapping up fast. Our next guest says that before the year gets away from us, he has a few things he believes small businesses should be aware of. Mike Switzer interviews Frank Knapp, President and CEO of the SC Small Business Chamber of Commerce in Columbia.

Jan 5, 2023

[Mattress industry highly competitive](#)

The mattress market in this country is big business with more than 16 million mattresses sold each year at an estimated overall value of over \$17 billion. For over 90 years, our next guest's Upstate company has been a part of that industry. Mike Switzer interviews Jay Orders, CEO of Engineered Sleep Mattress Company in Greenville, SC.

Jan 4, 2023

[Upstate city named a best place to raise a family](#)

Fortune magazine recently named our next guest's Upstate city as one of the top 25 places in the country to raise a family, the only one on the list from South Carolina. Mike Switzer interviews JR Charles, community development director for the city of Mauldin, SC.

Jan 3, 2023

[Cryptocurrency in divorce](#)

Cryptocurrency continues to gain acceptance into investor portfolios. But because it has more complications than standard investments, it also introduces more complications into asset negotiations when a divorce arises. Mike Switzer interviews Stephanie Vokral, a certified financial planner and a certified divorce financial analyst with The Financial Knot, in Columbia, SC.

Jan 2, 2023

[SC's largest economic development project potential impact](#)

Mike Switzer interviews John Warner, a serial entrepreneur and founder of Innoventure in Greenville, S.C. John discusses the potential impact of the largest economic development project in SC history recently announced by the SC Dept. of Commerce: Redwood Materials.

Health Focus

WRJA/WJWJ/WLJK/WHMC/WNSC/WLTR/WEPR/WSCI

**Mondays 6:45 a.m., 8:45 a.m., Tuesdays 1:33 p.m.,
Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. (WNSC-FM, WRJA-FM, WJWJ-FM,
WHMC-FM, WLJK-FM) 2:30 p.m. (WEPR-FM, WSCI-FM,
WLTR-FM), Thursdays 5:44 p.m.; Saturdays 8:35 a.m.,
Sundays 5:35 p.m.**

Shows listed in reverse play order.

All shows 4:00 (Four Minutes) in length.

[Health](#)

[Preventing common pickleball injuries](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

March 27, 2023

[Health](#)

[Vision screening for all children](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

March 21, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Millicent Peterseim about regular vision screening for children, starting in the newborn stage and throughout childhood. Dr. Peterseim is a Professor of Ophthalmology and the Chair for International Ophthalmology at Storm Eye Institute at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Colon cancer screening starting at age 45](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

March 20, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Brenda Hoffman about recent increases in colon cancer in adults in the 40's and younger, plus new recommendations for colon cancer screening starting at age 45. Dr. Hoffman is a gastroenterologist and interim director of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Preventing common golf injuries](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

March 14, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Louis Gerena about preventing common golf injuries. Dr. Gerena is an Assistant Professor in the Department

of Orthopaedics & Physical Medicine and he is a non-surgical orthopaedic and sports medicine physician at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Tips for quitting smoking](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

March 13, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Stephanie Stansell about tips and support to help quit smoking. Dr. Stansell is the Senior In-Patient Tobacco Treatment Specialist at MUSC Health.

[Health](#)

[Transportation insecurity & cancer patients](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

March 7, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Evan Graboyes about how lack of access to transportation profoundly impacts outcomes for cancer patients. Dr. Graboyes is a head and neck surgical oncologist and the Director of Survivorship and Cancer Outcomes Research at Hollings Cancer Center at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Understanding the human microbiome](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

March 6, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Michael Schmidt about the role of the human microbiome in keeping us healthy. Dr. Schmidt is a Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Special needs dentistry](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 28, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Michelle Ziegler about the challenges of finding routine dental care for patients with special health care needs. Dr. Ziegler is the Director of the Pamela Kaminsky Clinic for Adolescents and Adults with Special Health Care Needs at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Rare diseases in SC](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 27, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Patrick Flume about efforts to better understand and address the needs of patients with rare diseases in South Carolina. Dr. Flume is a Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics and he's

Director of the Cystic Fibrosis Center at MUSC. Dr. Flume is also the Chair of the SC Rare Disease Advisory Council.

[Health](#)

[Behavioral interventions for children with ADHD](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 21, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Rosmary Ros-Demarize about behavioral strategies that parents, and teachers can use to help children who have ADHD. Dr. Ros-Demarize is a clinical psychologist and an Assistant Professor in the Division of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Keeping up with preventive health care for men](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 20, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Skip Schumann about the specifics of keeping up with preventive health care for men during the young adult, middle adult and older adult years. Dr. Schumann is an Assistant Professor of Medicine and a general internist at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Kidney health](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 14, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Ruth Campbell about what we can do to keep our kidneys healthy. Dr. Campbell is a Professor of Internal Medicine and Nephrology and she's a kidney disease specialist at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Clemson/MUSC AI Hub for biomedical research](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 13, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Hamilton Baker about the Clemson/MUSC AI Hub, focused on expanding and refining the use of artificial intelligence in biomedical research. Dr. Baker is a pediatric cardiologist at MUSC Health, and he is the co-founder and lead for the Clemson/MUSC AI Hub.

[Health](#)

[Lung cancer screening update](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 7, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Nichole Tanner about lung cancer screening for people at increased risk for this disease. Dr. Tanner is a

Professor in the College of Medicine and she is Co-Director of the Lung Cancer Screening Program at Hollings Cancer Center at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Coronary artery disease](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

February 6, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Arasi Maran about the diagnosis and treatment of coronary artery disease. Dr. Maran is an Associate Professor of Medicine and she's an interventional cardiologist at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Behavioral parenting interventions for young children with autism](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 31, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Rosmary Ros-Demarize about behavioral parenting interventions for young children with autism. Dr. Ros-Demarize is a clinical psychologist and an Assistant Professor in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Addressing mental health concerns in primary care](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 30, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. John Freedy about addressing mental health concerns during primary care visits. Dr. Freedy is a Professor of Family Medicine and he's a family medicine physician at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Managing asthma and severe asthma](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 24, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. John Cox about managing asthma and new treatment options for severe asthma. Dr. Cox is a Clinical Professor of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and he's a pulmonologist specializing in asthma at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Healthy, wholesome foods to reduce risk of chronic disease](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 23, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Jameela Goudarzi about choosing healthy, wholesome foods to reduce risk of chronic disease. Jameela is a Doctor of Nursing Practice and a family nurse practitioner at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Vocal health in the older adult years](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 17, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Lucinda Halstead about vocal health in the older years. Dr. Halstead is an ear, nose and throat physician specializing in voice and swallowing disorders. She is also the Medical Director of the Evelyn Trammell Institute for Voice and Swallowing at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Including diverse populations in genetic research](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 16, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Marvella Ford about including diverse populations in the In Our DNA SC research project. Dr. Ford is a Professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences and Associate Director of Population Sciences at Hollings Cancer Center at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Mindfulness to help cancer survivors manage stress](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 10, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Wendy Balliet about mindfulness, as a tool to help cancer survivors deal with stress or worry. Dr. Balliet is a psychologist who works with patients with chronic health problems, through the Division of Bio-behavioral Medicine at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Lifestyle choices to help reduce risk of dementia](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 9, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Christine Cooper about research suggesting that certain healthy lifestyle choices can help reduce risk of dementia. Dr. Cooper is an Assistant Professor in the College of Medicine and she's a neurologist at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Early intervention for young children with autism](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 3, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Catherine Bradley about the importance of early intervention for young children with autism. Dr. Bradley is a clinical psychologist and Associate Professor in the Division of Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics at MUSC.

[Health](#)

[Finding healthy ways to manage stress](#)

[Bobbi Conner](#)

January 2, 2023

This week Bobbi Conner talks with Dr. Christopher Sege about finding healthy ways to deal with stress. Dr. Sege is a psychologist and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at MUSC.

Walter Edgar's Journal

WLTR/WSCI/WEPR/WRJA/WJWJ/WLJK/WHMC/WNSC

Fridays at 12noon

WLTR/WSCI/WEPR

Saturdays at 7am

WRJA/WJWJ/WLJK/WHMC/WNSC

Sundays at 4 p.m.

All shows 58:30 in length.

Shows listed in reverse order.

[History](#)

[The Liberty Trail: The trail to independence](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

March 31, 2023

America's independence was secured in South Carolina, across its swamps, fields, woods and mountains. These events of 1779-1782 directly led to victory in the Revolutionary War. The Liberty Trail - developed through a partnership between the American Battlefield Trust and the South Carolina Battleground Trust - connects battlefields across South Carolina and tells the stories of this transformative chapter of American history. On this week's episode of Walter Edgar's Journal Dr. Edgar talks with Doug Bostick, Exec. Dir and CEO of the South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust, and Catherine Noyes, Liberty Trail Program Director for the American Battlefield Trust.

[History](#)

[Drayton Hall stories: A place and its people](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

March 24, 2023

George McDaniel served as the Executive Director of Drayton Hall; a mid-18th-century plantation located on the Ashley River near Charleston for more than 25 years. His new book, Drayton Hall Stories: A Place and Its People (2022, Evening Post Books) focuses on this historic site's recent history, using interviews with descendants (both White and Black), board members, staff, donors, architects, historians, preservationists, tourism leaders, and

more to create an engaging picture of this one place. McDaniel talks with Walter Edgar about the never-before-shared family moments, major decisions in preservation and site stewardship, and pioneering efforts to transform a Southern plantation into a site for racial conciliation.

[History](#)

[History and horticulture at Historic Columbia's Hampton-Preston Mansion site](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

March 17, 2023

Historic Columbia's Boyd Foundation Horticultural Center located on the grounds of the Hampton-Preston Mansion & Gardens on Blanding Street opened in 2022. Its greenhouse allows the historic site to serve as a hub for horticultural research and plant propagation, alongside ongoing interpretation, and programming. And the facility serves as a space to interpret the role that an extensive workforce of gardeners and horticulturists - Black, white, enslaved, and free - have played in shaping this site for over 200 years. John Sherrer, Director of Cultural Resources for Historic Columbia, and Keith Mearns, Director of Grounds, talk with Walter Edgar about planning and building the Horticultural Center and about the ways it enriches the mansion's grounds.

[History](#)

[Brookgreen Gardens - its history and its expanding mission](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

March 10, 2023

In 2022, USC Press published Brookgreen Gardens: Ever Changing, Simply Amazing. More than just a beautiful coffee table book highlighting the art and fauna of Brookgreen, the volume tells the story of the creation and growth of Brookgreen Gardens, as well as stories of the peoples who lived on and worked the land in the past. Walter Edgar talks with President and CEO Page Kiniry and Ron Daise, VP of Creative Education about the history and mission of Brookgreen Gardens.

[History](#)

[War stuff: the struggle between armies and civilians during the American Civil War](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

March 3, 2023

In War Stuff: The Struggle for Human and Environmental Resources in the American Civil War, her path-breaking work on the American Civil War, Joan E. Cashin explores the struggle between armies and civilians over the resources necessary to wage war. This war 'stuff' included the skills of white Southern civilians, as well as such material resources as food, timber, and housing. At first, civilians were willing to help Confederate or Union forces, but the war took such a toll that all civilians, regardless of politics, began focusing on their own survival. Dr. Cashin talks about this history with Walter

Edgar, and about the efforts of historians to establish a precedent for the study of material objects as a way to shed new light on the social, economic, and cultural history of the conflict.

[History](#)

[Origins of "The Wheel of Time"](#)

February 24, 2023

In his latest book, *Origins of The Wheel of Time: The Legends and Mythologies that Inspired Robert Jordan* (2022, Tor), author Michael Livingston, a professor of medieval literature at The Citadel, takes a deep dive into the real-world history and mythology that inspired the world of the late Robert Jordan's *The Wheel of Time*. This series of books has sold over 100 million copies worldwide and has been adapted as a streaming television series for Prime Video, with season one released in 2021. James Oliver Rigney Jr., whose pen name was Robert Jordan, was a native of Charleston, graduated from The Citadel with a degree in physics. He served two tours in Vietnam with the U.S. Army and received multiple decorations for his service. Michael Livingston's book is a companion to Jordan's internationally bestselling series, and it delves into the creation of his masterpiece, drawing from interviews and an unprecedented examination of his unpublished notes. Michael Livingston joins Walter Edgar to talk about The Wheel of Time universe and Robert Jordan's life.

[History](#)

[Stolen dreams: the 1955 Cannon Street YMCA All-Stars](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

February 17, 2023

When the 11- and 12-year-olds on the Cannon Street YMCA all-star team registered for a baseball tournament in Charleston, South Carolina, in July 1955, it put the team and the forces of integration on a collision. White teams refused to take the field with the Cannon Street all-stars, the first Black Little League team in South Carolina. The Cannon Street team won two tournaments by forfeit. If they won the regional tournament in Rome, Georgia, they would have advanced to the Little League World Series. But Little League officials ruled the team ineligible to play in the tournament because they had advanced by winning on forfeit and not on the field, denying the boys their dream. This became a national story for a few weeks but then faded and disappeared altogether as Americans read of other civil rights stories, including the horrific killing of 14-year-old Emmett Till. Chris Lamb, author of *The 1955 Cannon Street YMCA All-Stars and Little League Baseball's Civil War* (2022, University of Nebraska Press), and John Rivers, who played shortstop on the All-Stars, join Walter Edgar to tell the story of the Cannon Street all-stars.

[History](#)

[Lincoln's unfinished work - the new birth of Freedom from generation to generation](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

February 10, 2023

In his Gettysburg Address, Abraham Lincoln promised that the nation's sacrifices during the Civil War would lead to a "new birth of freedom." Lincoln's Unfinished Work: The New Birth of Freedom from Generation to Generation (2022, LSU Press) analyzes how the United States has attempted to realize—or subvert—that promise over the past century and a half. The volume is not solely about Lincoln, or the immediate unfinished work of Reconstruction, or the broader unfinished work of America coming to terms with its tangled history of race; it investigates all three topics. Editors Vernon Burton and Peter Eisenstadt talk with Walter Edgar about the wide-ranging ideas explored in this volume.

[History](#)

[How the Blinding of Sergeant Isaac Woodard Changed the Course of America's Civil Rights History](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

February 3, 2023

In this week's episode of Walter Edgar's Journal, Richard Gergel details the impact of the 1946 blinding of Sergeant Isaac Woodard on both President Harry S. Truman and Judge J. Waties Waring and traces their influential roles in changing the course of America's civil rights history. Woodard, a returning, decorated African American veteran of World War II, was removed from a Greyhound bus in Batesburg, South Carolina, after he challenged the bus driver's disrespectful treatment of him. Woodard, in uniform, was arrested by the local police chief, Lynwood Shull, and beaten and blinded while in custody.

[History](#)

[Charleston Patriots in Exile During the Revolution](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

January 27, 2023

In the months following the May 1780 capture of Charleston, South Carolina, by combined British and loyalist forces, British soldiers arrested sixty-three paroled American prisoners and transported them to the borderland town of St. Augustine, East Florida—territory under British control since the French and Indian War. In their new book, Patriots in Exile: Charleston Rebels in St. Augustine during The American Revolution (2020, USC Press), James Waring McCrady and C. L. Bragg chronicle the banishment of these elite southerners, the hardships endured by their families, and the plight of the enslaved men and women who accompanied them, as well as the motives of their British captors. Bragg joins Walter Edgar to talk about this little known chapter of the Revolution.

[History](#)

[C. Vann Woodward: America's historian](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

January 20, 2023

With an epic career that spanned two-thirds of the twentieth century, C. Vann Woodward (1908–1999) was a historian of singular importance. A brilliant writer, his work captivated both academic and public audiences. He also figured prominently in the major intellectual conflicts between left and right during the last half of the twentieth century. In his fresh and revealing biography, *C. Vann Woodward: America's Historian* (2022, UNC Press), James Cobb shows, explores how Woodward displayed a rare genius and enthusiasm for crafting lessons from the past that seemed directly applicable to the concerns of the present—a practice that more than once cast doubt on his scholarship. Dr. Cobb talks with Walter Edgar about Woodward and the changing interpretations of Southern history.

[History](#)

[Carolina's lost colony: Stuarts Town and the struggle for survival in early South Carolina](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

January 13, 2023

In his new book, *Carolina's Lost Colony: Stuarts Town and the Struggle for Survival in Early South Carolina* (2022, USC Press), historian Peter N. Moore examines the dual colonization of Port Royal at the end of the seventeenth century. From the east came Scottish Covenanters, who established the small outpost of Stuarts Town. Meanwhile, the Yamasee arrived from the south and west. These European and Indigenous colonizers made common cause as they sought to rival the English settlement of Charles Town to the north and the Spanish settlement of St. Augustine to the south. Also present were smaller Indigenous communities that had long populated the Atlantic sea islands. It is a global story whose particulars played out along a small piece of the Carolina coast. However, as Moore tells Walter Edgar, religious idealism and commercial realities came to a head as the Scottish settlers made informal alliances with the Yamasee and helped to reinvigorate the Indian slave trade—setting in motion a series of events that transformed the region into a powder keg of colonial ambitions, unleashing a chain of hostilities, realignments, displacement, and destruction that forever altered the region.

[History](#)

[The South of the mind: American imaginings of White Southernness](#)

[Walter Edgar](#)

January 6, 2023

How did conceptions of a tradition-bound, "timeless" South shape Americans' views of themselves and their society's political and cultural fragmentations, following the turbulent 1960s? In his book, *The South of the Mind: American*

Imaginings of White Southernness, 1960–1980 (2018, UGA Press), Zachary J. Lechner bridges the fields of southern studies and southern history in an effort to answer that question. Wide-ranging chapters detail the iconography of the white South during the civil rights movement; hippies' fascination with white southern life; the Masculine South of George Wallace, *Walking Tall*, and *Deliverance*; the differing southern rock stylings of the Allman Brothers Band and Lynyrd Skynyrd; and the healing southerners of Jimmy Carter. Zachary Lechner talks with Walter Edgar about how one cannot hope to understand recent U.S. history without exploring how people have conceived the South, as well as what those conceptualizations have omitted.