

# **Community Issues Report**

*FOURTH QUARTER 2014*

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*1/1/15*

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*COMMUNITY ISSUES*

10/01/14 – 12/31/14

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**Consumer, Health & Safety**

An interest in knowing about events that impact our daily lives. A need for information about how to be wise shoppers of goods and services and how to live healthy and safe lives.

**Crime**

A need to know about crime and law enforcement activities and a concern for personal safety.

**Education**

A concern about the money and skills needed to improve schools and an interest in improving student's quality of education.

**Environment**

A concern for how the environment is affected by human activity.

**Government**

An interest in how government affects our personal lives

**Jobs/Economy/Growth**

An interest in the local and national economic outlook and the impact growth has on our communities

**Quality of Life**

An interest in things that improve one's satisfaction with life.

The following pages list representative samples of program segments from The Ten O'clock Newscast and The Morning Newscast during this quarter that respond to our ascertained issues. Each segment was 20 seconds to 3 minutes in length (except as otherwise reported).

The following pages also identify issue-responsive episodes of programs, which are listed under the appropriate issue.

WHNS also broadcasts public service announcements, news and weather cut-ins as needed to inform local community of breaking news and emergencies.

## *Attachments*



## *Consumer, Health & Safety*

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED  
THRID QUARTER 2014**

Problem/Need: **CONSUMER, HEALTH & SAFETY**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
Saturdays (airs weekly)	6:30am	TODAY'S HOMEOWNER

Description: A half-hour weekly television show that features information on how to maintain and improve your home, both inside and out. The approach to home improvement helps everyone from the experienced do-it-yourselfer to the first time homeowner. Projects are taken from start to finish in each weekly episode. (30:00)

Oct. 15, 2014

The South Carolina Board of Health and Environmental Control announced on Wednesday they had issued a public health order to create a preparedness health network. The network will "provide for essential email communications to a central database of key individuals and facilities who are on the front lines of South Carolina's preparedness capabilities when dealing with potentially serious health threats like the Ebola virus," DHEC said in a statement. "The creation of the HPN is intended to enhance the state's existing ability to maintain open and active communications with essential individuals and facilities, to prevent against the spread of Ebola and any similar threat, to avoid imminent peril to the public, and to promote early identification and prevent potential for an outbreak," DHEC said. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26797967/dhec-issues-public-health-order-to-create-preparedness-network#ixzz3OGAIHLGk>

Oct. 17, 2014

Sunday and Monday mark the 25th anniversary of Hurricane Hugo hitting South Carolina. The Category 4 storm made landfall near Charleston in the very late hours of Sept. 21, 1989, and continued through the state. The eye of the storm passed east of Columbia around 3 a.m. on Sept. 22. By sunrise Sept. 22, Hugo was downgraded to a tropical storm and made its way near Charlotte. Hugo remains the costliest hurricane in South Carolina history. Wind gusts were recorded up to 137 mph in Charleston while the storm surge caused significant damage along the coastal areas from Charleston to Myrtle Beach. The American Red Cross reported 79 hurricane-related deaths across the Carolinas. Before, during and after Hugo hit, the American Red cross was there. An estimated 46,000 people were housed safely in Red Cross shelters. FOX Carolina is proud to team up with the Red Cross to make sure the organization and South Carolina is prepared if another storm hits. On Sunday and Monday, we're holding a text-a-thon.

By texting "REDCROSS" to 90999 on those days, you can donate \$10 to the Red Cross. You can also donate online at [redcross.org/PREPARESC](http://redcross.org/PREPARESC). In order to participate, you must be 18 or older. Note, charges may apply and the donation will appear on your next phone bill. The Red Cross plans to use the money raised to increase the number of people trained in preparedness from 19,000 to 38,000, train 100,000 people in CPR and AED, increase the number of trained volunteers from 3,000 to 7,000 and to increase the capacity to distribute meals from 150,000 per day to 300,000 per day.

Oct. 25, 2014

The J.C. Stroble Glaucoma Awareness Foundation offered free eye exams and health screenings to the Spartanburg community on Saturday. On Saturday, the JCGAF partnered with Duke Medical University Ophthalmologists, Carolina Vision, Healthy Smiles, Robertson Optical and the Beacon Drive-In to offer the free vision and health exams at Cornerstone Baptist Church. The foundation's namesake was a local legend who worked at the Beacon Drive-In for more than five decades. J.C. Stroble, who lost his vision due to Glaucoma, died in September 2013. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26643539/group-offers-eye-health-exams-in-honor-of-beacon-legend#ixzz3OG9P2WfQ>

Oct. 29, 2014

Mission Health broke ground Wednesday on a new medical office building in Clyde. The new building, which will sit on 23 acres of land at 368 Hospital Dr., will house expanded primary care, specialty care, and imaging and lab services. Mission Health said the 30,000-square-foot building will also feature new virtual care capabilities and provide convenient access for residents of Haywood County. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27158802/mission-health-breaks-ground-on-new-medical-office-building#ixzz3OGB9ceC0>

Nov. 20, 2014

A North Carolina board has suspended the license of a contractor who did faulty work on a pool heater later found to be the source of leaking carbon monoxide that killed three Boone hotel guests. The Charlotte Observer reports Thursday the State Board of Examiners of Plumbing, Heating & Fire Sprinkler Contractors made that determination in the case of Thomas Miller. The board found the Independence Oil & Gas contractor converted the pool heater from propane to natural gas in violation of the manufacturer's instructions. Carbon monoxide from the heating system infiltrated a room on the floor above at the Boone Best Western and killed Daryl and Shirley Jenkins of Longview, Washington, in April 2013 and 11-year-old Jeffrey Williams of Rock Hill, South Carolina, about a month later.

Dec. 10, 2014

Rutherford County deputies said a local man who was reported missing after he was involved in a car crash was found dead three days later. Sgt. Jamie Keever said Aaron Crawford was involved in a wreck on Chase High Road and left the scene of the wreck after crashing into a power pole on Sunday. Witnesses reported that Crawford left on foot and went into the woods behind Chase High School after the wreck. Crawford's family filed a missing person's report Monday evening and rallied together to search for him. Deputies said they began searching once the report was filed. "We got the report late Monday, so we gathered up resources when we were looking at it, later on Tuesday wanted to make sure we had a good search team," said Sheriff Chris Francis. Deputies said they brought in search dogs and a helicopter, finding Crawford's body on Wednesday about a mile away from the crash site around noon on Wednesday. They said he was found between the high school and Harris-Henrietta Road. But Crawford's family said they believe investigators were too slow to act. "He was found within hollering distance of where he hit the truck into the power pole," said Ashley Crawford, Aaron's sister. "That's where he laid for three days...it makes no sense." Crawford's family is upset the search did not start sooner, right after the crash. "If they would have looked for him they would have found him, he would be alive today!" said Aaron's uncle, Ricky Crawford. The North Carolina Highway Patrol is the agency investigating the crash. Deputies said Crawford's cause of death is unknown at this time and the state medical examiner will conduct an autopsy. Family have created an online fundraiser to help pay for Crawford's funeral expenses.

Dec. 11, 2014

Greenville police are on the scene of an accident where a station wagon appears to have crashed into a doctor's office. Police are on scene of the wreck at 890 S. Pleasantburg Dr. Police said a woman got out of her station wagon about 8 a.m. and thought she put it into park, but the vehicle ran into the building. There was a child in the car, but no one was injured, police said. According to Greenville Health System, The Children's Clinic is located at that address. No other details about the accident have been released.

Dec. 13, 2014

South Carolinians have until Monday to sign up for health insurance through the federal exchange if they want coverage to start Jan. 1. The deadline applies to both the uninsured and current Healthcare.gov customers. The second year of enrollment continues through Feb. 15. But the deadline is important for people who want insurance -- or a new plan -- to take effect on New Year's Day. South Carolinians have more choices for 2015. One additional company is selling policies through the exchange. And the state's largest insurer, BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, has doubled its offerings and expanded plans' provider network. On average, premiums in South Carolina have risen

less than 1 percent, but the swings in individual policies vary from a 39 percent increase to a 35 percent decrease. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27620411/deadline-approaching-for-jan-1-health-coverage#ixzz3OG7HtFyl>

Dec. 16, 2014

The coroner said the fatal shooting of a 3-year-old boy at a home in Simpsonville was an accident. Police were called to the Garfield Lane home about 2 p.m. on Monday. Deputy Coroner Kent Dill identified the child as Michael Kyron Boyles. He said Michael was shot in the head and ruled his death an accident after an autopsy. Simpsonville police said they don't know exactly what happened yet, but they do not expect foul play. "We're investigating the crime scene, looking at all physical evidence, interviewing any of the witnesses, trying to piece together what happened," said Deputy Chief Steve Moore. Moore said the child's mother and a 2-year-old sibling were at home at the time of the shooting. Police said Michael was found alone in a bedroom with the gun nearby. "You know, I'm a father of three children, so any time that we have a deceased child, it's a sad circumstance altogether," Police Chief Keith Grounsell said. "It's a sad day for the family. My heart goes out to them. They're going to be in our thoughts and prayers." For family friends, they said it was enough tragedy dealt to the Boyles family. Police and neighbors said that Michael's father, Richard Boyles Jr., passed away from cancer in May.

Dec. 16, 2014

Firefighters said two people were taken to the hospital after a crash partially shut down US 25 in Greenville County on Tuesday. The wreck happened near Highway 183 about 10:30 a.m. Firefighters at the scene said a USPS mail truck and a SUV were involved, sending two people to the hospital by way of EMS. Deputies had to help direct traffic in the area until the scene was cleared. A spokesperson for the postal service said the mail was not damaged in the wreck and would be delivered by 6 p.m. on Tuesday. No other details about the collision have been released.

Dec. 17, 2014

Federal prosecutors say the indictment of 14 people in connection with a meningitis outbreak that killed 64 people nationwide is the largest criminal case ever brought in the U.S. over contaminated medicine. During a news conference Wednesday to announce the indictments, prosecutors said some employees of the New England Compounding Pharmacy showed an "extreme and appalling indifference to human life." Barry Cadden, a co-founder of the pharmacy, and Glenn Adam Chin, a pharmacist, were hit with the most serious charges in a racketeering indictment, accused of causing the deaths of patients in several states. More than 750 people in 20 states were sickened and 64 died after they contracted meningitis and other infections from tainted steroids made by the company.

Dec. 22, 2014

The mother of the two young boys killed in the Spartanburg apartment fire still can't believe her children are gone. Amber Painter said her sons Israel Smith, 8, and Nehemiah Smith, 6, died in the fire at the Southern pines Apartments on Bryant Road while spending the weekend with their father.

"I haven't even been able to go back home because their Christmas stuff is there, their clothes are there and everything," Painter said. "I just can't, I can't be there." The fire broke out in an apartment building around midnight Friday night and by the time firefighters arrived, they said the building was burning from end to end. Firefighters were able to save the boy's father and the boys' baby step-brother from a burning apartment. The boys' stepmother and another child were also able to make it out of the burning building, Painter said. She was hopeful that someone had saved the boys, but she said she learned otherwise. "I was just hoping that someone pulled them out for me," Painter said. "It's just heartbreaking. I would never wish this on anyone." She's left with many questions, and wonders if the children suffered. "I'm wondering were they burned? I'm hoping they just inhaled the smoke and died that way." Painter described Nehemiah as a prankster who lied to make everyone laugh.

"And Israel, he was always on the go, doing something, and he's very smart," the grieving mother said. Painter says the boys were staying with their father while she cared for her father in the ICU. Her father also passed away on Sunday. She's praying and said she's trying to remind herself that God has a plan in all this. "I just have to give it to God, cause he took my dad (Sunday) and I'm just saying it's God's plan for him to be there with them," Painter said. "That's the only that I can do. That's the only thing that's keeping me sane right now." Three others were killed in the deadly fire. An entire apartment building at the apartment complex on Bryant Road was destroyed and dozens were left homeless.

## *Attachments*



## *Jobs, Economy, Growth*

**PROGRAM ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED  
THIRD QUARTER 2014**

Problem/Need: **JOBS, ECONOMY, GROWTH**

Oct. 8, 2014

SC Works Greenville is hosting a recruitment event Monday to search for forklift operators. The forklift operator positions are available with MAU Work Force Solutions at "Kimura Inc." The recruitment event will be from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at SC Works McAlister Square, 225 South Pleasantburg Drive, suite E-1. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26246703/job-fair-monday-for-forklift-operators#ixzz3OGPIYIU>

Oct. 13, 2014

Here is a look at some of the scheduled hiring events across the Upstate this week. Monday, July 21 Kelly Services: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SC Works McAlister Square at 225 South Pleasantburg Dr. Suite E-1 in Greenville. Hiring for packaging, clean room machine operator and part-time production associates (Job orders 586275, 586277, 586265). More information on job requirements are online at [jobs.scworks.org](http://jobs.scworks.org). SMX Staffing: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 133 Wilmac Rd. in Gaffney. Hiring for warehouse associates (Job order 579534). Applicants must have high school diploma or GED and register in advance at [scworks.org](http://scworks.org). Corporate Staffing: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at SC Works Spartanburg Office at 220 East Kennedy St. Hiring for industrial cleaners in Greer and machine operators in Duncan (Job order 584227, 586272). Visit [scworks.org](http://scworks.org) for job requirements and register in advance. Tuesday, July 22 Mancan Recruitment Event: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 133 Wilmac Rd. in Gaffney. Interviews will be held at event for electrician technicians, open-end spinning operators and yarn services/can haulers (Job orders 586837, 586843, 585477). Applicants must register in advance at [scworks.org](http://scworks.org). Positions have varying pre-requisites. Contingent Resource Solutions: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at SC Works McAlister Square at 225 South Pleasantburg Dr. Suite E-1 in Greenville. Hiring for concrete set-up/assembly and dry form stripping crew (Job orders 587727, 587729). More information on job requirements are online at [jobs.scworks.org](http://jobs.scworks.org). Orian Rugs: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Anderson Civic Center at 3027 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Anderson. Hiring for several types of operator and technician positions. Apply online at [orianrugs.com](http://orianrugs.com). GCA Services Group: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at SC Works Office at 133 Main St. in Newberry. Taking applications for general cleaners/floor techs (Job order 586928). Must have a high school diploma or GED. Travers Tool Co.: 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at SC Works Office at 220 East Kennedy St. in Spartanburg. Hiring for call center representatives and warehouse associates (Job orders 587804, 584279). Get more info on requirements and register for event in advance at [scworks.org](http://scworks.org). Wednesday, July 23 American Services, Inc: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at SC Works McAlister Square at 225 South Pleasantburg Dr. Suite E-1 in Greenville. Hiring event is for security guards (Job order 5801277). More

information on job requirements are online at [jobs.scworks.org](http://jobs.scworks.org). Circle of Angels: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at SC Works McAlister Square at 225 South Pleasantburg Dr. Suite E-1 in Greenville. Recruiting for CNA/RN/LPNs (Job orders 586716, 586718). More information on job requirements are online at [jobs.scworks.org](http://jobs.scworks.org). StaffMasters, Inc.: 10 a.m. at SC Works Office at 133 Main St. in Newberry. Taking applications for manufacturing production techs (Job order 587970). Applicants must arrive by 10 a.m. and have high school diploma or GED. Sodexo Dining Services: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Greenville Dining Hall, 401 S. Holland St. in Clinton. Hiring for various dining hall staff at Presbyterian College. More info at [sodexo.com](http://sodexo.com) and [presbydining.com](http://presbydining.com). Thursday, July 24 R&W's Fish House: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at SC Works Office at 133 Main St. in Newberry to hire restaurant staff for new restaurant. Positions require high school diploma/GED and one year experience. Sodexo at USC Upstate: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Campus Life Center at USC Upstate. Hiring for several positions including catering positions, line servers, cooks, and more. Applicants should come interview ready and are subject to a background check. Applicants may go to [uscupstatedining.com](http://uscupstatedining.com) or call 864-503-5900 for more information. \*\*SC Works events provided by SC Works. Contact your local SC Works office for more information on the events and jobs.

Oct. 16, 2014

Days after receiving news that a plant would leave nearly 600 workers without a job, city officials in Seneca were eager to announce plans for a new hotel. Seneca Mayor Pro Tempore Ronnie O'Kelly said a four-story Hampton Inn and Suites will open in the fall of 2013, creating 38 jobs. Construction on the 100-room hotel is set to begin on Oct. 1 at the East North First Street location. The new tourism addition to town will bring in an estimated \$10 million. City leaders made the announcement Tuesday morning at City Hall. Covidien announced on Sept. 12 that the company plans to close its Seneca facility, impacting 595 full-time and temporary employees by the closure. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/19573348/new-hotel-will-create-jobs-invest-12m-in-seneca#ixzz3O4g90mkA>

Oct. 17, 2014

A security alarm went off when a man tried to walk out of Priscilla McCall's with an adult toy without paying on Thursday, according to police. Spartanburg police were called to the North Pine Street store after an employee detained an accused shoplifter. The employee recognized 22-year-old Shane Gregory because he had previously applied for a job at the store and he came in to ask questions about some of the products, but was acting strange, according to the police report. When he tried to walk out, a security device activated the front door alarm so she stopped him and asked him to empty his pockets, the report stated. Police said Gregory had a condom and adult toy in his pocket. Gregory was arrested and charged with shoplifting.

Oct. 19, 2014

University of South Carolina Athletics Director Eric Hyman said he will not be leaving Columbia for a job at his alma mater in Chapel Hill. The University of North Carolina had expressed interest in Hyman becoming the next athletic director after Dick Baddour retired. "I am honored to be considered by my alma mater, North Carolina, but my work here has not been finished and I love being a Gamecock," Hyman said in a statement released by the school Wednesday night. Hyman has been athletics director at USC since 2005. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/15520251/usc-ad-not-leaving-for-unc-job#ixzz3O4irOpqD>

Oct. 26, 2014

The SC Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services wants to help people with criminal records find jobs. The department will host a job fair on Monday from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 108 Broadcast Dr. in Spartanburg. The event will feature more than 20 employers at the Spartanburg Reentry Center. People who attend will receive employment and life skills training and information on how to access government and non-profit services. Employers in attendance will include: Cracker Barrel, Waffle House, Lowe's, Wendy's, and SMX staffing. There will also be 23 employers hiring for construction, landscaping, and manufacturing. A spokesperson for the SCDPPPS said probationers, parolees and ex-offenders or any individual with criminal challenges in their background are encouraged to attend and should come prepared for interviews. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26641057/job-fair-to-help-people-with-criminal-records#ixzz3OGRVi24e>

Oct. 30, 2014

The Department of Social Services is looking for social workers and is holding job fairs across the state on Thursday, including in Greenville. DSS is looking to fill human services workers in child welfare services, where positions pay between \$29,983 and \$36,520 a year. They said they have 15 open positions in Upstate. Thursday's hiring event is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at McAlister Square's SC Works Center on South Pleasantburg Drive. DSS and South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce representatives will be on hand to answer questions about the positions and the application process. For more information on job requirements, visit [jobs.scworks.org](http://jobs.scworks.org) and enter the key word "human services specialist II." Level 2 positions require a bachelor's degree while Level 1 jobs require a high school diploma. Hiring events are also being held in Florence, Charleston and Columbia on Thursday. Applicants are encouraged to apply online in advance at [jobs.sc.gov](http://jobs.sc.gov). Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27161984/dss-hiring-hosting-job-fair-in-greenville#ixzz3OGQ6la8p>

Nov. 13, 2014

When you see police in your neighborhood, it isn't always a good thing. "You're coming too right?" Tony Taylor asked a young man he saw in a Williamston neighborhood. He's the Williamston police chief and said he wants to change that negative stigma by informing those who don't have a job about a program that could help them get one. "It's going to be at town hall," Taylor said. "I believe that you never give up on people and I believe they can become productive." He talked to two men who said they wanted to attend the job fair, which was held inside Williamston Town Hall Thursday afternoon. "I was an aircraft mechanic at Lockheed for 10 years," Bobby Mattison said. "Things I did in the past really messed me up," Mattison's friend, Robert Edwards admitted.

They both said they didn't know if their applications would be received well because of their prior arrest records. "If I had a job, I would have something I can call my own then," Edwards said. MOREAdditional LinksPoll "When they see your record, they label you," Mattison chimed in. "Once you go to jail, they say 'no', you know." However, at Williamston City Hall organizers with the job fair and the H.O.P.E. program said they wanted to help. "H.O.P.E. stands for helping others pursue excellence," said Cindy Robertson, the coordinator of H.O.P.E. "We have a lot of people that have lost jobs." More than a dozen companies and organizations like Tri-County Technical College, worked together to offer training and assistance to those looking for work. "Tri-County has grants where they will do the training for forklifts drivers," Robertson said. Organizers said there were nourishing jobs and mechanical positions too. They say more than 50 percent of those who live in the area are considered low to moderate income. "Basically if you give someone the power to change their life, then they can change their future," Robertson said. And it's an opportunity both Edwards and Mattison say they want to be a part of. "You get a job then you have something to show that you work for your money," Edwards said. The job fair is part of Williamston Mayor Mack Durham's community initiative. Some of the companies offered positions where applicants could make anywhere from \$12 to \$18 an hour. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27380740/job-fair-offers-positions-second-chances-for-everyone#ixzz3OGTVD7U1>

Nov. 18, 2014

U.S. Tim Scott wants to help some South Carolina veterans🔗 get prepared for jobs in the civilian world. This week, the Republican is putting on a series of workshops he hopes will help veterans learn how to properly showcase the skills they learned in the military🔗 when applying for civilian jobs. Scott says many military members have very marketable skills but are unsure how they'll fit🔗 into civilian jobs. Scott's events began on Monday with a workshop🔗 in Columbia. Other sessions are scheduled throughout this week in Myrtle Beach, Greer and North Charleston. More sessions anticipated for December and January will be focused on teaching veterans about available educational and entrepreneurial resources, as well as resume writing and interviewing skills. Job fairs for veterans are planned for early next year. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26838780/sen-scott-launches-vet-job-training-sessions#ixzz3OGOk7IGk>

Nov. 20, 2014

Michelin announced their new Piedmont facility on Griffin Road created 100 jobs at the official opening for the plant. The manufacturing facility opened its doors on Thursday with a media event attended by Pete Selleck, chairman and president, Michelin North America; Ralph Dimenna, vice president, Michelin Tweel Technologies; Greenville County officials and a video message Gov. Nikki Haley. The plant will be dedicated to building the Tweel tire - an airless tire for wide commercial use in the United States, according to Michelin. It will be the first plant in the world devoted to building that type of tire. It is Michelin's 16th plant in the United States and the 10th in South Carolina. *Copyright 2014 FOX Carolina (Meredith Corporation). All rights reserved.*

Read <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27438488/michelin-opens-new-upstate-tweel-plant-creating-100-jobs#ixzz3JdHVyMD3>

Nov. 26, 2014

Gov. Nikki Haley says she's confident her trip to India will lead to job announcements in South Carolina. Haley talked to reporters Wednesday via teleconference from Mumbai. The state's 10-day economic development trip concludes Friday. The recently re-elected Republican governor says she'll return with hundreds of contacts. But Haley says it's also been an emotional trip for her personally. She had no memories of her last visit to India at age 2 and says it's been overwhelming to see places her parents talked about. Haley is among eight people in the delegation whose costs are paid by taxpayers. It's the first time Haley took a spokesman for her office on a trade trip. Due to her celebrity status in India, Haley says she needed someone to handle "overly enthusiastic" reporters. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27432738/haley-confident-trip-to-india-will-produce-jobs#ixzz3OGVBPzN5>

Nov. 27, 2014

The Department of Social Services is looking for social workers and is holding job fairs across the state on Thursday, including in Greenville. DSS is looking to fill human services workers in child welfare services, where positions pay between \$29,983 and \$36,520 a year. They said they have 15 open positions in Upstate. Thursday's hiring event is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at McAlister Square's SC Works Center on South Pleasantburg Drive. DSS and South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce representatives will be on hand to answer questions about the positions and the application process. For more information on job requirements, visit [jobs.scworks.org](http://jobs.scworks.org) and enter the key word "human services specialist II." Level 2 positions require a bachelor's degree while Level 1 jobs require a high school diploma. Hiring events are also being held in Florence, Charleston and Columbia on Thursday. Applicants are encouraged to apply online in advance at [jobs.sc.gov](http://jobs.sc.gov)

Dec. 10, 2014

Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal says a German manufacturer of auto components is building its first U.S. facility in northeast Georgia. Deal said in a statement Wednesday that HSRing is planning to create 800 new jobs by 2025 and will invest \$54 million over five years to develop the facility in Hartwell -- near the South Carolina border. Deal says the company is building a 196,000 square-foot facility and a training center to better reach customers in the Southeast. Deal says employees at the facility will make fuel injection parts and other precision components. Deal says some of the positions will also require learning German at the company's headquarters in Bubsheim, Germany.

Dec. 16, 2014

A Portuguese paper company is investing \$110 million in a new Greenwood plant that will make wood pellets from material left over from timber production. The company, Portucel, S.A., announced Monday that the new plant is expected to create 70 new jobs. The wood pellets are used in generating power. The plant is expected to have a capacity of 460 thousand tons of pellets per year once it is operational. The state Department of Commerce said that hiring for new jobs at the plant is expected to begin next month.

Dec. 18, 2014

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Dec. 17, 2014

The latest results released by the Winthrop poll show jobs and unemployment are high on the minds of South Carolina residents along with discrimination against women. The November poll conducted by Winthrop University surveyed 852 residents in South Carolina by phone, asking them questions on topics ranging from holiday shopping to women's issues. With the holiday season upon us, the poll found more than half of those surveyed think they will spend about the same as 2013 on gifts. Nearly

16 percent said they would spend more while more than 26 percent said they would spend less. And while holiday shopping may not be increasing for everyone, a little more than half see national economic conditions getting better and were also optimistic about South Carolina's economic conditions, with 67.6 percent saying things are getting better for the state and 60.1 saying personal finances are improving. But jobs and unemployment are still on the forefront of poll takers' minds. They said it is the most important problem facing the state (16.7 percent), followed by education, economy, politicians/government and moral values. Other major topics of the November poll included women's issues, politics and sea level change. Residents agreed overwhelmingly 87 percent that women face discrimination in South Carolina, with nearly half (men and women equally) said women face some discrimination and 12.5 percent said there is a lot of discrimination, while 26.7 percent said women face a little discrimination. Only one in 10 people said South Carolina women face no discrimination. When asked of how residents approve of the politicians in charge, the approval ratings came in at: 40.6 percent for President Barack Obama, 53.5 percent for Governor Nikki Haley, 45.4 percent for the SC State Legislature, 49.5 percent for U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-SC, and 58.1 percent for U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, R-SC. Click here to see more results and the questions asked in the poll, conducted from Nov. 9 to Nov. 16. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27424562/poll-jobs-high-on-sc-residents-minds-heading-into-holidays#ixzz3OGb1BbXE>

Dec. 22, 2014

BMW has agreed to demands from the government to replace driver's-side air bags across the entire U.S. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has been pushing companies to recall older cars with air bag inflators made by Takata Corp. They can explode with too much force and spew shrapnel at drivers and passengers. At least five deaths have been blamed on Takata inflators. The decision affects 140,000 BMW 3 Series cars made between January 2004 and August 2006. It says no problems with BMW vehicles have been reported. Earlier this year the company took about 574,000 cars off the market in the U.S. Several automakers have been slow to expand the recall. Ford Motor Co. joined the list last week, and was quickly followed by Chrysler. BMW is the last automaker to agree to replace air bags in all affected cars nationwide. About 15 million cars have been recalled in the U.S. in total. Initial recalls were limited to states with high levels of humidity, as the NHTSA says the air bag inflator propellant, ammonium nitrate, can burn faster than designed if exposed to prolonged airborne moisture. When that happens, the propellant can blow apart a metal canister meant to contain the explosion. Takata has refused the agency's request for a nationwide recall of driver's side inflators, about 8 million in total, and it says it has tested more than 1,000 air bag inflators from other regions without a single failure. But the company will still make replacement parts for the automakers that are expanding their recalls. It hasn't been decided whether Takata or the automakers will pay the extra costs involved. In total, 10 automakers have models with Takata driver and passenger air bags. There could be as many as 30 million with the air bags nationwide.

Dec. 28, 2014

Clemson coach Chad Morris says he has spoken with SMU representatives about its head coaching job, but no deal has been reached. Morris is a Texas native who attended Texas A&M and was a longtime high school coach in the Lone Star state before making the jump to college. He was asked about media reports that he is expected to become the new coach at SMU after Clemson beat South Carolina on Saturday. "I've spoken with them, yes. Haven't agreed to anything," Morris said. SMU athletic director Rick Hart said in a text to the AP the school is still working through the hiring process and has no agreement with anyone. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27509002/clemsons-morris-spoken-to-smu-about-coaching-job#ixzz3OGdlZMb3>

*Attachments*



*Government*

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM OR NEED  
THIRD QUARTER 2014**

Problem/Need: **GOVERNMENT**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
Sundays	10:00 am	FOX NEWS SUNDAY

Description:

Fox News Sunday is a national weekly program with current events and political issues. (60:00)

Oct. 4, 2014

The federal government's newly released estimate of consumer spending in South Carolina shows residents are spending more since the Great Recession officially ended five years ago. The figures come from a new report by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis released Thursday. The figures are not adjusted for inflation. According to the report, per capita personal spending by South Carolina residents rose almost 9 percent between 2007 and 2012, the last year figures were available. Economists say the recession began in late 2007 and ended in mid-2009. South Carolina's per-person spending increased by 2.5 percent between 2011 and 2012, tied for fifth-lowest increase in the country. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26227364/us-report-sc-consumer-spending-up-since-recession#ixzz3OGeXhxEw>

Oct. 6, 2014

Registered voters with certain qualifications can cast in-person absentee ballots if they will not be in town Nov. 4 to vote in the General Election. According to the South Carolina State Election Commission, voters have until 5 p.m. Nov. 3 to cast their ballot by absentee in person. Voters can also cast absentee ballots by mail. To vote in-person, registered voters must visit their county election office. By mail, voters must request an application from their county office or download one from [scvotes.org](http://scvotes.org). The forms must be received at the respective election office by 5 p.m. Oct. 31 via mail, email, fax or personal delivery. To find your local election office's location and hours, click [here](#). Voters in Greenville County can visit the Voter Registration Office at 301 University Ridge, Conference Room H, located just inside the lobby door nearest the Veterans War Memorial. The office will be open for absentee voting from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Saturday hours will be available Oct. 25 and Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. There will also be extended hours until 7 p.m. on Oct. 29 and 31. In-person absentee voting is available at the Spartanburg County Voter Registration & Elections office at 366 North Church Street from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until November 3.

Spartanburg County Elections Manager Henry Laye says people who wish to vote absentee in person must show a valid photo ID and meet at least one of the following qualifications: 1. Students attending school outside their county of residence and their spouses and dependents residing with them. 2. Members of the Armed Forces or Merchant Marine serving outside their county of residence and their spouses and dependents residing with them (click here for additional information). 3. Persons serving with the American Red Cross or with the United Service Organizations (USO) who are attached to and serving with the Armed Forces outside their county of residence and their spouses and dependents residing with them. 4. Persons who, for reasons of employment, will not be able to vote on election day. 5. Physically disabled persons. 6. Government employees serving outside their county of residence on Election Day and their spouses and dependents residing with them. 7. Persons with a death or funeral in the family within three days before the election. 8. Persons who plan to be on vacation outside their county of residence on Election Day. 9. Certified poll watchers, poll managers and county election officials working on Election Day. 10. Overseas Citizens (click here for additional information). 11. Persons attending sick or physically disabled persons. 12. Persons admitted to the hospital as emergency patients on Election Day or within a four-day period before the election. 13. Persons serving as a juror in state or federal court on Election Day. 14. Persons 65 years of age or older. 15. Persons confined to a jail or pre-trial facility pending disposition of arrest or trial. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26711850/in-person-absentee-voting-available-in-spartanburg#ixzz3OGnByhZc>

Oct. 7, 2014

A Greenville man said he needed to do something radical to get the attention of potential donors for his struggling community center, so he's living on a roof for five days. The Phillis Wheatley Association has been around for 96 years, and in the last few months, leaders of the non-profit center realized they need a lot more money to keep its doors open. Association Executive Director and Pastor Darian Blue said wind, rain or shine, he'll be waving from the roof of the Phillis Wheatley Community Center until he hits his \$100,000 goal. Blue's all set up for a week-long, roof-top camp out. Cabela's donated a tent, cot, sleeping bag and other camping supplies. Dunkin' Donuts and others are bringing him food, but he's trying to keep things minimal for his mission. "I think that sometimes love is extreme, and sometimes you have to do extreme stuff to show people how much you love 'em, how much you care," said Blue. Blue said it was about a month ago that he started planning after realizing he needed to take drastic measures to get his fundraising needs met. He said each month it costs between \$7,500 and \$10,000 to keep up with electric, water and gas bills for the center. Staff volunteer their time, serving meals on Sundays and looking out for about 200 kids, seven days a week. They have an after-school program for younger kids, plus the Repertory Theater program for middle and high school aged singers and dancers. Before rehearsal, though, kids get help with homework and real-world skills, the kind that many may not have otherwise. "For some, this is an outlet for them. This is like a home away from home," said Repertory artistic director Samuel Dotson. "And so there are so many things that they could get themselves into - one would love to hope they would be doing the right thing, but of course it doesn't always work out that way. So we're glad that they're here." "Operation Rooftop" surprised and impressed the young dancers who said they wouldn't be able to camp out for days. Blue said he isn't thinking of this as a "final option," but rather, a first step in long-term funding. "Phillis Wheatley

[Association] is a 96-year-old organization that has served thousands of people. And we really need those people to come back and support what we're doing here," said Blue. He's inviting local leaders to join him for rooftop dining, and lunch each day. He said he wants to strengthen partnerships in the community and make sure everyone knows what Phillis Wheatley Center is doing for the surrounding community. Even on its first day, people walked by and gave cash, in small increments. The association has a Go FundMe website set up, where people can donate online at [gofundme.com/pwauupstate](http://gofundme.com/pwauupstate). Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26720370/greenville-pastor-camps-on-the-roof-all-week-to-raise-money-for-the-phillis-wheatley-center#ixzz3OGjQcTcN>

Oct. 9, 2014

Lyman's mayor pro tem spoke following the town council meeting Monday night about the recent resignations and terminations of town employees. Mayor Pro Tem Tony Wyatt said Lyman's police chief Terry Richards resigned due to personal reasons and allegations against him that are being investigated by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. There have also been other changes involving turnover within the police and streets departments. Wyatt said a streets department worker resigned for personal reasons and two police officers were also terminated during the consolidation of that department. The town government is in the process of restructuring after voters recently approved changing from a strong mayor to a council controlled form of government. "Obviously we wouldn't expect to have this amount of turnover, but with changes we're making, this is unavoidable," Wyatt said. Wyatt said Lt. Jay Hays has been named as acting police chief. Wyatt said he was unable to speak further about the governmental changes because of employee privacy. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26480757/lyman-officials-speak-about-resignations-terminations#ixzz3OGfJHC1B>

Oct. 18, 2014

An Upstate martial arts club is hosting a tournament to kick up funds for the Collins Children's Home in Seneca. KickFEST will be held Saturday at the First Baptist Church of Clemson from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by sponsored by KukSool Won of Clemson and will feature competitors in the discipline from across the state of South Carolina. KukSool Won is a Korean study of martial arts, body conditioning, mental development and weapons training. Participants will be competing in several martial arts categories, including sparring, board breaking, and self-defense techniques. The Collins Children's Home & Family Ministries provides care to needy children and families through residential home care, counseling and family outreach. KickFEST is free to attend. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26583136/kickfest-to-raise-money-for-childrens-home#ixzz3OGhy6tFN>

Oct. 20, 2014

The president of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce says his group will push for an increase in the state's gas tax as part of a comprehensive plan to get more money for roads. Otis Rawl told a business group pushing to improve the state's roads that he thinks South Carolina's leaders have talked enough about poorly maintained roads and bridges and it is time for action. Rawl told the South Carolina Alliance to Fix Our Roads that a poll of Republican voters shows a majority would support the gas tax increase of one cent a year for 10 years if it was carefully presented. He said that any increase likely needs the backing of the next governor. Neither major party candidate for governor has backed a gas tax increase. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26597337/sc-chamber-wants-gas-tax-to-bring-more-road-money#ixzz3OGiKHV4j>

Nov. 2, 2014

A South Carolina man serving a 30-year prison sentence for manslaughter wants inmates to have access to Facebook and other social media sites. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports Frenchis Abraham is looking online for supporters who will pressure the state government. He wants to be allowed to keep up with family and friends on social media. The 29-year-old Florence man hopes to stop a South Carolina proposal that would make it a crime for inmates to have online social media accounts. It's now a misdemeanor crime for prisoners to harass or intimidate crime victims via social media sites. State Rep. Wendell Gilliard of Charleston wants to keep inmates off social media because he worries prisoners could use it for criminal gain. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26708484/sc-inmate-wants-access-to-facebook-social-media#ixzz3OGhXUfP6>

Nov. 9, 2014

Texas Gov. Rick Perry is planning a visit to South Carolina in the coming days with several stops along the coast. The Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce says it's holding a luncheon on Tuesday with Perry at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach. The chamber says in a news release that it frequently invites national and statewide political figures to speak to area business leaders. The Greater Bluffton Republican club says on its website it will have an event with Perry on Wednesday at the Rose Hill Golf Club. The Island Packet of Hilton Head also reports that he'll be at a lunch Wednesday at the Crazy Crab on Hilton Head Island. Perry is considered a possible Republican candidate in the 2016 presidential race. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27336910/texas-gov-rick-perry-to-visit-sc-coast-this-week#ixzz3OB0DaKUM>

Nov. 20, 2014

The first same-sex couples applied for marriage licenses on Thursday after the U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday said they will not stop them from being issued in South Carolina, per the request of the state's attorney general. The high court denied the request from South Carolina's Attorney General Alan Wilson to issue a stay, ruling in a 7-2 decision. Justices Scalia and Thomas voted to give the stay. Probate courts across the state had been waiting to see if the Supreme Court would act after two rulings on Tuesday made the way for same-sex marriage licenses becoming legal in the state. U.S. District Judge Richard Mark Gergel's ruled a week ago that the state's ban on same-sex marriage was unconstitutional, but gave a temporary stay until noon on Thursday. Several Upstate judges are expected to begin giving out applications when that stay expires. Probate judges in Charleston and Columbia who had already given out same-sex marriage applications in October began issuing the licenses on Wednesday and Thursday. Greenville County Probate Judge Debora Faulkner's office posted a sign saying they were accepting applications as of 10:30 a.m. on Thursday. Spartanburg County said they would accept applications starting at noon. South Carolina has a 24-hour waiting period for marriage licenses so couples will have to wait a day before they receive a license. Read the Supreme Court's full order here. Wilson issued a statement in response to the court's decision saying: *"Despite today's refusal to grant our motion, the U.S. Supreme Court has not yet resolved conflicting rulings by federal appeals courts on the issue of same-sex marriage. When the U.S. Supreme Court decides to consider the case, our office will be supporting the position of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, which is more consistent with South Carolina State law, which upholds the unique status of traditional marriage."* Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27438807/scotus-says-it-wont-stop-same-sex-marriage-in-sc#ixzz3JdH0aEGa>

Nov. 28, 2014

Tri-County Technical College in Pendleton will be sponsoring a job fair for veterans. The college said on Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to noon, 25 companies will be at the Veterans' Job Fair. Tri-County student veterans will get priority admission between 9 and 10 a.m., but the event will open to the public at 10 a.m. The following companies will be at the Veteran's Job Fair: AFCO; Anderson County Disabilities and Special Needs Board; BorgWarner; Clemson Area Transit (CAT bus); Clemson University; Columbia Mobile Vet Center (Dept. of Veterans Affairs); Defender Services; First Quality Tissue; HTI Employment Solutions; Johnson Controls; Kudzu Medical; Lowes; New Horizon Family Health Services; Ortec, Inc.; Phillips Staffing; Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Co.; RL Enterprise & Associates; Sam's Club of Anderson; School District of Pickens County; Shaw Industries Inc.; St. Jude Medical; StaffMasters; Tamasee DAR School; Upstate Staffing and Walgreens Distribution. A spokesperson for Patriots' Place, a veterans center on Tri-County Technical College's campus, said the purpose of the event is to help student veterans find part-time jobs to cover gaps in benefits or earn extra money for holidays. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27177962/job-fair-held-in-pendleton-for-student-veterans#ixzz3OGox0QRf>

Dec. 10, 2014

CIA Director John Brennan is defending his agency from accusations in a Senate report that it used inhumane interrogation techniques against terrorist suspect with no security benefits to the nation. Brennan opened a rare news conference Thursday by recounting the horrors of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, his agency's determination to prevent another such assault and the fact that CIA officers were the first to fight and early to die in the Afghanistan war. He conceded unauthorized and in some cases abhorrent methods were used against captives. But Brennan asserted the CIA "did a lot of things right" in a time when there were "no easy answers."

Dec. 16, 2014

An Associated Press investigation has found that soon after taking office, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory and U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford of South Carolina accepted six-figure stock payouts from Tree.com, the corporate parent of the online mortgage broker LendingTree. The two Republicans served as directors at the Charlotte, North Carolina, company, which regulators have accused of deceiving its customers. Both resigned from Tree.com's board after winning election, which would have rendered their unvested stock worthless had the board not taken special action to provide them early payouts. Ethics experts tell the AP that the early vesting of shares for elected officials is uncommon and raises significant concerns, though it remains unclear whether it breaks the law. McCrory and Sanford deny doing anything improper.

Dec. 17, 2014

A North Myrtle Beach lawmaker has pre-filed a bill in the General Assembly to encourage utilities to invest in offshore wind energy. Area media outlets report the bill would not require utilities to make such investments. But state Sen. Greg Hembree says it would give utilities the option to do by requiring the Public Service Commission to draft rules allowing offshore wind farms. He sees the measure as another step toward market-based energy independence. A similar bill was blocked from coming to a floor vote last session because of concerns it required government financial support of offshore wind projects. Hembree says that is not the case.

Dec. 22, 2014

New York's mayor on Monday called for protests and political debate to pause until after funerals are held for two officers shot and killed inside their patrol car this weekend by a man vowing retaliation for the deaths of black men at the hands of white police. "I think it's important that regardless of people's viewpoints that everyone step back," Mayor Bill de Blasio said in a speech at the Police Athletic League. "I think it's a time for everyone to put aside political debates, put aside protests, put aside all of the

things that we will talk about in all due time." Officers Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos were ambushed Saturday afternoon by a 28-year-old who wrote in an Instagram post that he would put "wings on pigs." The suspect, Ishmaaiyl Brinsley was black; the slain New York Police Department officers were Hispanic and Asian. The killings came at a tense time as police nationwide are being criticized following Eric Garner's death in a New York officer's chokehold and 18-year-old Michael Brown's fatal shooting in Ferguson, Missouri. Protests erupted in recent weeks after grand juries declined to charge the officers involved. On Monday, a prosecutor said a white Milwaukee police officer who was fired after he fatally shot a mentally ill black man in April won't face criminal charges. De Blasio said it was time to focus on the grieving families of the officers. He and Police Commissioner William Bratton met with the families on Monday. "There's a lot of pain. It's so hard to make sense of it - how one deeply troubled, violent individual could do this to these good families," de Blasio said. "And I think it's a time for everyone to take stock that there are things that unite us, there are things that we hold dear as new Yorkers, as Americans." New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo also urged people on both sides to tone down their rhetoric, calling in a WNYC-AM radio interview for "rational, sober conversation" later to consider reforms. Meanwhile, big-city police departments and union leaders around the country were warning the rank and file to wear bulletproof vests and avoid making inflammatory posts on social media. A union-generated message at the 35,000-officer NYPD warned officers that they should respond to every radio call with two cars - "no matter what the opinion of the patrol supervisor" - and not make arrests "unless absolutely necessary." The president of the detectives' union told members in a letter to work in threes when out on the street, wear bulletproof vests and keep aware of their surroundings. Another directive warned officers in Newark, New Jersey, not to patrol alone and to avoid people looking for confrontations. At the same time, a memo from an NYPD chief asked officers to limit their comments "via all venues, including social media, to expressions of sorrow and condolence." In Philadelphia, Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey urged the leaders of protests over the deaths of Garner and Brown to "call for calm and not let this escalate any further." In Boston, Police Commissioner William Evans said police issued an alert warning officers about the New York City killings and added that the department had issued several alerts following the Ferguson grand jury's decision.

Dec. 22, 2014

North Korea is experiencing widespread Internet outages. One expert says the country's online access is "totally down." It's not immediately clear if the Internet connectivity problems were an act of retribution for a major intrusion at Sony Pictures Entertainment that the FBI last week linked to North Korea. President Barack Obama on Friday said the U.S. government would respond but didn't say how. The White House declined to comment Monday. State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf told reporters that of the federal government responses, "some will be seen, some may not be seen." Doug Madory, director of Internet analysis at Dyn Research, said the Internet connectivity problems were discovered in the last 24 hours and have gotten progressively worse to the point that "North Korea's totally down." Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27688265/north-korea-experiencing-severe-internet-outages#ixzz3OGg5nPwh>

Dec. 31, 2014

North Carolina government leaders are encouraging parents to talk sooner to their children -- particularly middle-school students -- about the dangers of underage drinking. Parents are getting new resources to assist them. Gov. Pat McCrory, Lt. Gov. Dan Forest and state Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Chairman Jim Gardner unveiled a website Wednesday outlining the negative results of youth drinking called [talkitoutnc.org](http://talkitoutnc.org). The site gives tips to parents on how to speak plainly to kids about why underage drinking is dangerous. An ABC Commission initiative surveyed North Carolina students and parents over the summer. It found more than one-third of eighth-graders had drunk alcohol at least once. There will be two television ads airing on the topic, along with social media and public events across the state. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27536369/nc-officials-parents-key-to-stop-youth-drinking#ixzz3OGgu0xRo>

*Attachments*



*Environment*

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED**  
**THIRD QUARTER 2014**

Problem/Need: **ENVIRONMENT**

Oct. 1, 2014

A second lawsuit was filed against the Boys Home of the South within 14 months, accusing the southern Greenville County foster home of neglecting the handling or reporting of an alleged sexual abuse case involving a child in their care. According to a press release issued by the law firms of Hite and Stone and Camden Law Firm, the lawsuit names the South Carolina Department of Social Services, the home, along with supervisors, the accused suspect and staff at BHOTS. The lawsuit states the alleged victim was a foster child in the custody of DSS, placed at the home for about a year when the abuse took place. The suit says the boy was 12 at the time when a house parent sexually assaulted and sexually tortured him, who complained to supervisors and staff, but no actions were taken. In an unrelated lawsuit filed against the home last year, one child was accused of sexually assaulting another while both were in the care of the home. That case was settled earlier in 2014. According to a lawyer representing the alleged victim, an investigation into his claims was opened in Greenville County but fell flat and the suspect was not charged. FOX Carolina is working to get in touch with those accused in the suit. DSS released the following statement when asked for comment on the lawsuit: "There is nothing more important at the Department of Social Services than working to respond to families in crisis and the tragedies that result from abuse and neglect. Making sure our foster children are placed in the best situations possible and in safe and loving environments will always be one of our top priorities. The allegations made in this recently filed lawsuit are said to have occurred almost a decade ago and DSS will release its official response when it is completed and submitted to the court. As always, we will never stop fighting to protect the at-risk children of our state and will continue our constant efforts to secure safe and nurturing placements for the most vulnerable among us." Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26203177/new-lawsUIT-filed-against-dss-boys-home-of-south-after-sexual-abuse-claims#ixzz3OL9ACUkd>

Oct. 2, 2014

Per documentation from SLED and his attorney, Frank Eppes, Mason Bird's arrest record was cleared after he completed a pre-trial intervention program, restoring him to "the status he occupied before the arrest." he son of Blue Ridge Christian Academy's principal turned himself in to Greenville County deputies after authorities said he threatened his classmates last month. Deputy Jonathan Smith, public information officer for the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, said 17-year-old Mason Bird got into an argument with a fellow student during class on Dec. 19. He said that during the argument Bird said he

would come into the school with a gun and shoot his classmates. Smith said the statement caught the attention of other students who became quiet. He said that a teacher told Bird the statement was inappropriate and informed the school's administration about it. Bird was charged with disturbing school and turned himself in to authorities last Thursday, Smith said. Smith said Bird was not allowed to return to school after making the statement. Bird's attorney, Frank Eppes, said the school is conducting an investigation to determine whether the facts of the case warrant Bird's dismissal from school.

Oct. 3, 2014

UPDATE: Daniel Fahey's charges were later dismissed following pretrial intervention and they were expunged from his record, according to court documents. It's been called a strange coincidence - a drug testing policy being considered just as two school employees stand accused of selling pot. "The superintendent would like for every employee in the district, if we legally can, to be randomly drug tested," said School District of Pickens County spokesman John Eby. The arrests of Kimberly Anthony, 43, and Daniel Fahey, 48, have only made the discussion louder. Fahey was a coordinator for the district, and Anthony was a teacher at Gettys Middle School. Eby said Fahey is no longer with the district and Anthony remains on suspension since their arrests on Sept. 28. But just days before Easley police arrested the couple, there was some intense discussion within the school district on the drug testing policy for teachers and students. "About three weeks ago, the school board sent to the policy committee the student and drug policies for a rewrite," said Alex Saitta, chairman of the Pickens County School Board. Officials said the only thing that could hold up the new policy is whether or not teachers will be a part of it. Eby told FOX Carolina that district lawyers are looking over contracts to see if the new policy would be legal. Saitta said he's all for it, and he's surprised there wasn't a policy already. "All this stuff is spilling into our public schools that we have to deal with. And today, public education isn't just about academics, it's about academics and dealing with social issues," said Saitta. "There's a lot more awareness in the public because of those arrests (of Anthony and Fahey)," said Eby. "But this is something we already wanted, and continue to want." The new policy is still being worked out with lawyers for the school district, but Saitta said the policy currently in the books doesn't take into account newer drugs, like bath salts. Saitta also said any random drug testing in the school district will be like any done in the private sector. "I think that given what happened over the weekend, we're moving in the direction. So I expect that if there was any reticence to it, it's probably gone away," said Saitta. The school board is due to take up the new drug testing policy on Oct. 22.

Oct. 5, 2014

A federal agency is accusing a hotel chain of breaking the law by subjecting minority employees in New Mexico, Texas and South Carolina to a hostile work environment and firing those who complained. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission announced Friday that it had filed suit against four Whitten Inn hotels and is seeking back pay, lost benefits and damages for workers. Federal officials say employees endured racial slurs and derogatory comments. Businessman Larry Whitten created a firestorm in 2009 when workers at his Taos hotel say they were forbidden to speak Spanish and told to change their Spanish first names. A receptionist at the Taos inn said Sunday that Whitten was no longer the owner. Representatives at an Abilene, Texas, Whitten Inn declined to comment when reached by telephone. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26709300/hotel-group-sued-by-us-for-racial-discrimination#ixzz3OGqDmIX7>

Oct. 13, 2014

We're looking at a severe weather set-up that is not unfamiliar to us meteorologists in the western Carolinas and northeast Georgia! There will be strong upper level winds and turning of those winds with height, which helps storms to organize and persist. This also promotes the development of rotating storms and tornadoes. However, the energy for the storms to ingest and work with will be limited. We call this a low CAPE/high shear environment. These situations can end up producing small tornadoes, but rarely large, long-lived ones. Tomorrow's cold front will bring a heavy rain threat, along with the potential for an isolated tornado and damaging wind. We could see upwards of 3" of rain along the blue ridge, while 1-2 inches will be possible for Upstate and northeast GA spots. Here's a timeline for our inclement weather: Tuesday morning: Scattered showers, isolated storms. Severe weather threat will be fairly low. Tuesday afternoon: Rain will become more widespread, with embedded t-storms. A line of storms will form along the front and make a run at our area from the west during the late afternoon. Tuesday after 6pm: A line of showers and storms will push through, mainly before midnight. Severe weather threat will be greatest around 5-9pm as it looks now. Overnight Tuesday: Rain will slowly clear out from west to east. Strong winds will persist overnight and into Wednesday. Once the rain is out on Wednesday morning it will become sunny and windy! We'll see gusts up to 40 mph out of the southwest ahead of the front on Tuesday, especially in the mountains, then strong winds out of the northwest will take over. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26775395/strong-storms-push-in-tuesday#ixzz3OGuNVtG1>

Nov. 2, 2014

A federal agency is accusing a hotel chain of breaking the law by subjecting minority employees in New Mexico, Texas and South Carolina to a hostile work environment and firing those who complained. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission announced Friday that it had filed suit against four Whitten Inn hotels and is seeking back pay, lost benefits and damages for workers. Federal officials say employees endured racial slurs and derogatory comments. Businessman Larry Whitten created a

firestorm in 2009 when workers at his Taos hotel say they were forbidden to speak Spanish and told to change their Spanish first names. A receptionist at the Taos inn said Sunday that Whitten was no longer the owner. Representatives at an Abilene, Texas, Whitten Inn declined to comment when reached by telephone. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26709300/hotel-group-sued-by-us-for-racial-discrimination#ixzz3OGqy7b4Z>

Nov. 6, 2014

As the weekend approaches, we will continue to see temperatures slightly above normal. Scattered rain showers will likely plague the weekend as well as the start of the following work week. As Tuesday approaches, we will look to see a deep trough develop across the central United States and push eastward. Cooler Canadian air will funnel down into the Midwest and form a cold front that will stretch from the great lakes down through the Florida panhandle and into the Gulf of Mexico. Moisture from the Gulf of Mexico will be funneled into the southeast as an area of low pressure develops over Tennessee. As the cool air moves into the warmer and more humid environment, we can see a line of showers and thunderstorms develop. This line will likely make its way into northeast Georgia and the western Carolinas late Tuesday afternoon into Tuesday evening. Strong thunderstorms can develop along this line as it continues to push across the southeast. Models at this time are calling for anywhere between an inch to two inches of rain though it is still too early to say for sure. The main threat we will be looking to see will be the possibility of severe thunderstorms producing brief periods of heavy downpours, frequent lightning, large hail, strong winds and an isolated threat of a tornado cannot be ruled out as well. We will be watching this system closely as it develops and more model data comes into the Fox Carolina Weather Center. Keep it locked with Fox Carolina for the latest! Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26748360/strong-thunderstorms-forecasted-for-this-tuesday#ixzz3OL9p19WN>

Nov. 20, 2014

Chilly temperatures are on the way for Thursday morning, but not quite as cold as the past couple of nights. Temperatures dropped to the high-20s and low-30s in the Upstate and 20s in the mountains. Thursday will be sunny with highs in the mid-50's for the Upstate and around 48 in western North Carolina. Friday will be sunny and cool, with temperatures a lot like Thursday in the 50s area-wide. Saturday will bring more sunshine and pleasant temperatures, but things will change for Sunday. Heavy rain will push in by midday Sunday, with a threat of a few t-storms during the afternoon. Highs will reach the low 60s. Rain will stick around, off and on, through Monday and Tuesday. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27427727/wednesday-remains-cold-warmer-temps-to-return-later-in-week#ixzz3JdNVQ2j4>

Dec. 9, 2014

A spokesman for Plantation Pipeline said a cleanup is underway in Belton after dead vegetation led to the discovery of a gasoline leak. Spokesman Richard Wheatley said the leak is in a rural area, near a pasture off Lewis Drive. The company said in a statement that the leak was discovered around 7:20 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8 and the lines were shut down and company personnel were sent out to investigate. Wheatley said there is no time frame for the cleanup and no estimate on the size of the leak. The site has been secured and Lewis Drive is closed. Generators with lights, a tractor and portable toilets were seen in the area. Wheatley said there is no danger to the public. DHEC officials said the local drinking water utility is on scene to identify nearby lines and ensure they are not impacted. "The responsible party has a second environmental contractor who is submitting a plan to DHEC [and the] EPA to address any soil contamination," according to DHEC. The plan will include several sample sites to assess the width and depth of the contamination. DHEC officials said they "will continue to monitor the situation and work with the responsible party for long term remediation."

Dec. 10, 2014

Next week, Roper Mountain Science Center will be unveiling a new solar energy installation☑. Representatives from Roper Mountain Science☑ Center Association said they will be partnering with Greenville County Schools, Duke Energy, and Lockheed Martin to host an event unveiling their new solar-powered exhibit. The exhibit is a solar☑ project that will allow students, teachers and the general public to learn about solar energy in a hands-on environment. The unveiling of the new exhibit where they will flip the switch to start up the solar panels will take place at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at Roper Mountain's Symmes Hall of Science. Read more:  
<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27367634/roper-mtn-science-center-to-flip-switch-on-solar-exhibit#ixzz3OLCWvoQR>

Dec. 17, 2014

Officials in Anderson County held a mass casualty incident exercise, simulating a disaster at a small community college to test the county's preparedness. On Nov. 17 and 18, two 4-hour exercise sessions were held, simulating multiple IED explosions at a small community college campus. Victims were dressed in realistic wounds via liquid latex, makeup and fake blood. Blasting sirens and flashing emergency lights added to the intensity of the exercise, creating a realistic environment. Anderson County EMS and Special Operations Division Director Scott Stoller said, "this functional exercise was designed to measure the county's ability to respond to a [mass casualty incident], determine gaps, and determine how to establish the incident command structure." Emergency service providers that participated in the exercise included: Belton EMS Honea Path EMS Williamston EMS Pelzer Rescue Squad Iva Rescue Squad Pendleton Rescue Squad Fork Rescue Squad MedShore Ambulance Anderson

County EMS Center Rock FD Anderson City FD Williford FD Anderson County FD Upstate Incident Management Team Piedmont FD Anderson County Sheriff's Office Anderson County Emergency Services Division Townville FD Michelin FD Three & Twenty FD Anderson County Public Works/Roads & Bridges Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27432039/mass-casualty-exercise-held-in-anderson-co#ixzz3OLBCYOEG>

Dec. 19, 2014

In the game of life, you never know what can be tossed your way. "My wife Keasha grew up here in the Greenville area; she was diagnosed with lung cancer December 2010," Chris Draft said. Draft is a former NFL player, but lung cancer is one of the most difficult challengers he's ever had to tackle. "The most important fact about lung cancer is that anyone can get it," Draft said. His wife, Keasha, a non-smoker died back in December 2011. However, before her death they formed Team Draft. An organization that raises awareness and money for lung cancer research. "It's not just fighting to have more research, it's not just to have more treatment but neat really you're fighting to give people life," Draft said. And by doing that, Team Draft is sponsoring a Super Bowl Challenge for lung cancer survivors. Dan Powell is one of them. "I had some shortness of breath and went to the doctor," Powell said. Back in January, doctors diagnosed him with stage 4 lung cancer, he's also a non-smoker. He's fighting the disease and competing to win tickets to Super Bowl XLIX in Arizona on Sunday, Feb. 1. "Sports is a great way to get out of your element and not have to worry about being sick," Powell said. He said support is most important and he got a lot of it from his long-time friend, Rick Owens. "I didn't realize is that as I'm going through this with him that I would actually become a lung cancer survivor myself," Owens said. In October, doctors told him, he too had lung cancer and was in shock because he has never smoked. "It's just something that's a mutation of the environment and trying to tell others that it could happen to you," Owens said. Both Owens and Powell are competing against other lung cancer survivors throughout the country to get to the Super Bowl and you can support them by donating online. You can log onto [www.teamdraft.org](http://www.teamdraft.org). "This is the time of giving and we'd like you to help us save some other people's lives," Owens said. Powell who you just heard from started the only lung cancer support group in the Upstate. They meet every third Tuesday of the month at the Saint Francis Cancer Center in Greenville. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27674010/vote-to-send-upstate-lung-cancer-survivors-to-super-bowl-xlix#ixzz3OLaBW4>

Dec. 22, 2014

Belton police said several blocks along Main and Thompson Streets remained closed Monday morning as hazmat crews clean up a fuel spill after a fuel tanker overturned. The incident happened around 8:45 a.m. Sunday at the intersection of Main and Thompson Streets. Dispatchers said no injuries were reported. Police chief Tommy Clamp said officers closed Main Street between Blake and River Street. The entrance to Thompson street was also closed. As of 11 a.m. Clamp said fire and hazmat crews had managed to stop the fuel leak but still had a "substantial" cleanup process to complete. Clamp said the

truck was carrying approximately 8,200 gallons of fuel. Crews suspect around half that amount spilled from the tanker. Clamp said crews would have to safely drain the tanker before the truck could be towed from the scene. Clamp expected the process to continue into late Sunday night or Monday morning. Anderson County Emergency Services said there was no immediate threat to the public but responders evacuated one residence and a small assisted living facility nearby as a precaution. DHEC, police, several fire departments, the Anderson County Hazmat team, the Anderson County Sheriff's Office and Anderson County Emergency Management were all working to clean the spill and keep people in the area safe, Clamp said. FOX Carolina's crew at the scene said businesses and restaurants were closed along that area of Main Street. Entrances to the Belton Church of God and city park were also blocked.

Dec. 23, 2014

A fire ripped through the Southern Pines apartment complex in Spartanburg, killing five people Saturday. So far, the coroner has identified four of the five victims, including 19-year-old Martina Curcio and her 10-year-old little brother, Martin. Curcio's boyfriend, Brent Nickels and her best friend, Lindsey Christopher, said they believe the fifth victim was Martin and Martina's mother, Libby. "There are three apartments upstairs right beside hers and then there's 3 more downstairs. All of them were vacant, so there's nobody else. I mean, I can't say how many were living in the apartment below her, but if it wasn't her, I'm sure we would have heard something by now," Nickels said. Nickels and Christopher say the Curcio's were like family and news of their passing was devastating. So, together with another friend, they've set-up a GoFundMe page to raise money to properly bury the family. "We just want to have the best burial and funeral service that we can give them," Nickels said. Nickels said he and Martina were in love. "She took the best care me that anyone ever has. She was so caring," Nickels said. So now this tight-knit group of friends say it's their turn to take care of the Curcios. As of right now, they say the next of kin is Martina's father who they claim was never really in her life. They say that's the reason they're stepping up, to do what they can to help. "We're trying everything we can to do this and any donations, even if it's just a penny, it helps," Christopher said. They say they aren't sure just how much money they'll need right now, as they're still trying to figure out the arrangements, but they say they won't stop trying to come up with enough.

*Attachments*



*Education*

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED**  
**THIRD QUARTER 2014**

Problem/Need: **EDUCATION**

Oct. 3, 2014

Fort Bragg is honoring late U.S. Army Capt. Kimberly Hampton, a native of Easley, with their newest school. The base's newest primary school has been named Kimberly Hampton Primary School and was dedicated Thursday. PHOTOS: School dedicated for fallen Upstate soldier Hampton was the first female military pilot in U.S. history to be shot down and killed by the enemy. She was in command of Delta Troop, 1st Squadron, 82nd Airborne division. Hampton's helicopter went down Jan. 2, 2004, after it was hit by enemy rocket fire while flying at a low altitude above the outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq, while on a mission to support a raid on an illicit weapons marketplace. On Thursday, Hampton's parents attended the ceremony and toured the new school. The school has 10 education neighborhoods, each consisting of four learning studios that surround a shared learning hub. Hampton was an ROTC graduate of Presbyterian College in Clinton and was a distinguished hero in the Iraq War. Representatives from Presbyterian were also at Thursday's dedication for the school, which is the first 21st century school for the Defense Department's Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools Office. The school includes computer labs, a video production studio and information center. The school also uses renewable energy systems for electrical, wind and hot water, which are incorporated into curriculum as an educational tool. The goal is to reach 40 percent energy savings.

Oct. 22, 2014

A South Carolina Board of Education member says students' report cards should include conduct grades. Currently, districts can choose to grade students' conduct. It's unclear how many do. Attorney Larry Kobrovsky proposed Wednesday requiring students to receive a letter grade for their effort, punctuality and neatness. The former Charleston County School Board member says such skills are necessary for students' success in life, and the only way to stress expectations of personal responsibility is to put a grade on it. Chairwoman-elect Traci Young Cooper is adamantly opposed. The former state teacher of the year says report cards include a place for teachers to provide parents

information on students' conduct. She says students' classroom grades already reflect their personal character skills. The subcommittee postponed further discussion until next month's meeting.

Oct. 26, 2014

State Sen. Vincent Sheheen's plan for improving South Carolina's public schools includes further expanding access to 4-year-old kindergarten, increasing teacher salaries and reducing class sizes. The Democratic gubernatorial candidate released his education initiative Monday, ahead of several weeks of meetings he plans to hold with teachers and parents. Sheheen has successfully pushed for the last two years expanding state-paid, full-day 4-year-old kindergarten to more districts. That program is specifically for at-risk students. Sheheen wants to eventually open it up to all 4-year-olds statewide whose parents want them to attend. He says increasing teacher salaries to the national average will help attract students into the field and keep high-quality teachers. Sheheen did not provide cost estimates. He says he realizes those ideas would need to be phased in over several years.

Oct. 30, 2014

The state Board of Education has approved a timeline that calls for final approval next March of new math and reading benchmarks for South Carolina students. The tight turnaround for replacing Common Core standards relies on panels writing the standards to turn in drafts by mid-October. Wednesday's vote followed hours of debate over whether the panels received from state Department of Education officials abide by state law. That law calls for new math and reading standards next school year following a review of current standards, which are Common Core. Board Chairman Barry Bolen contends that means the process must begin with Common Core. Superintendent Mick Zais says there will be no simple tweaking of Common Core standards, but they will be among those considered.

Nov. 8, 2014

Greenville Open Studios is an annual event held on the first weekend in November. This year, Open Studios will be held on Nov. 8 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Nov. 9 from noon to 6 p.m. During these hours, the public can get an inside look at the studios of local visual artists. The Open Studios tour is self-guided, and this year it features 129 artists in downtown Greenville, Easley, Greer, Travelers Rest and Dacusville. According to the Metropolitan Arts Council, the objective of Open Studios is "to provide an educational experience to the entire community by inviting the general public to experience the life of local artists at work in the studio environment." For more information on the studios participating in the 2014 Greenville Open Studios, visit the Metropolitan Arts Council website. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27334996/129-upstate-artists-open-their-doors-for-open-studios#ixzz3OB0eBlfA>

Nov. 13, 2014

Two teen girls have been charged as adults following a fight at Gaffney High School. According to incident reports, Shawanna Camp and Tronika Davidson, both 17, got involved in a fight between a 14-year-old and 15-year-old girl at the high school on Monday. Gaffney police reported that the fight began with an argument over name calling that escalated when the 14-year-old threw a drink on the other girl and began to attack her. Reports state that Camp, Davidson, and another 14-year-old got involved in the fight. Camp and Davidson were charged with third-degree assault and battery, police said. Camp is out of jail but Davidson is still being held at the Cherokee County Detention Center on a \$1,092 bond. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26804918/two-teens-charged-in-gaffney-high-school-fight#ixzz3OLHvgg6n>

Nov. 14, 2014

A video of a fight is being played throughout the halls of Gaffney High School and is now on social media sites. And even though Shannon Wylie didn't witness it, she says she lives it every day. "It's an emotional roller coaster. It has been from day one," Wylie said. That's because two of the girls in the video are her daughters. Investigators with the Gaffney Police Department said one of them was beaten by four girls. "She didn't know what had happened." She never knew these girls and never met them before," she said. However, Wylie said that didn't stop the girls from jumping her 15-year-old daughter. "They were pulling her hair and spitting in their faces," she said. She said the incident happened after school. She said the four girls approached her daughters, they exchanged words and then started beating her daughter. "Eventually came up to them and threw a Mountain Dew all over them and threw the bottle at the them," Wylie said. "Next thing she knew, she was on the ground and had these girls all over her fighting her." She says she remembers the frantic phone call from her 15-year-old. "She said 'momma, I was screaming- no one would help me, no one would.' You know she just felt helpless," she said. A student recorded the incident from his cellphone, which is now part of evidence in the case. "She ended up having to go to the emergency room, just because she was so banged up," Wylie said. Police arrested 17-year-old Shawanna Camp and 17-year-old Tronika Davidson and charged them with assault and battery. "They decided to expel all four girls. I just feel like someone should've been there to protect my child," Wylie said. Incident reports show the two other girls who were arrested are juveniles. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26810039/school-fight-caught-on-camera#ixzz3OLDyz5Ya>

Nov. 20, 2014

The person who shot several students on Florida State University's campus Thursday night was identified as a graduate who was also a lawyer. Read <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27434623/gunman-on-fsu-campus-leaves-3-injured-suspect-killed-by-police#ixzz3JdOBgxF3> Myron May graduated the school before earning his law degree at Texas Tech, according to the Associated Press, which cited an unnamed official providing the information. The AP also interviewed a woman, Abigail Taunton, who said she rented a house to May. The gunman injured three students on the campus Thursday and was killed by university police after failing to drop his weapon, police said. Tallahassee police spokesman David Northway said at a news conference that officers were still working to clear the scene, but they believe there is no other threat. They did not release the identity of the male suspect. "At approximately 12:30 this morning, FSU PD received a call about an armed suspect near the Strozier Library, and officers were called to the scene," Northway said. "As they were driving to the scene, they were notified an outside victim - an innocent victim, if you will - was also injured as occurrence from the shooter." Northway said, according to the report, they met the suspect outside the library and ordered him to drop his handgun. "The suspect did not comply with the commands and actually shot at one of the officers," he said. "They returned fire and the suspect was killed." Two victims were receiving treatment at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. CNN reported at least one victim is in critical condition. The third victim was treated at the scene and released. Sarah Evans was inside the library and saw a man who had been shot. She recorded cell phone video of the chaos. "You're just not really prepared for something like that," Evans said. "So he just looked so shocked, and I just didn't know what to do. I was just like, 'Oh my gosh, are you OK?' And, you know, we just wanted to get him help, but he was wounded laying on the ground. So that's when we really freaked out." Tallahassee Mayor-elect Andrew Gillum called for people to "unite in collective prayer" for the victims, and he said it was also a traumatic day for everyone on campus. "We know that for the Tallahassee community that feels so strongly connected to this university that they will have some impact," Gillum said. "It is one thing to read about these incidents in the newspaper or on the national news, but it's another thing to experience it right here in your very own community." Florida State University had issued an alert telling students to "seek shelter immediately" amid reports of a gunman on campus. Police also said the library had been "packed with students" when the shooting happened, with many studying for final exams. They estimated 300 to 400 people inside Strozier. Photos posted on Twitter showed a heavy police presence around the library. Video reportedly taken inside the library shows students huddled in aisle as an announcer says, "There has been a shooting in the library." The announcement told students to call 911 if they know someone who has been shot. Students in the library at the time of the shooting reported being escorted out safely by police. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27434623/gunman-on-fsu-campus-leaves-3-injured-suspect-killed-by-police#ixzz3JdOEUXjl>

Dec. 3, 2014

North Carolina school officials are close to approving nearly a dozen new charter schools as the state continues expanding beyond traditional public classrooms. The State Board of Education holds its monthly meeting Wednesday and Thursday in Raleigh and will discuss final approval for charter schools expected to open next August. There are almost 150 charter schools statewide. They are run by independent boards rather than the local school district and have much more flexibility in focus, hiring and student experience. The expansion would include three more charter schools in Mecklenburg County, two more in Durham, two more in Pitt, and one each in Wake, Guilford, Haywood and Franklin counties. State officials say there were 71 applicants that started out aiming to open and operate a charter school starting next year.

Dec. 4, 2014

No students were injured when a Greenville County school bus was evacuated after flames were seen Thursday morning. Greenville County School District officials said the bus was en route to Greenville High School when the bus' brakes started smoking and flames were seen. The bus stopped near Academy and Calhoun Streets around 8:20 a.m. The 56 students on board were evacuated and taken to school on another bus. The Greenville City Fire Department was called to the scene to inspect the bus. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27309919/school-bus-evacuated-after-smoke-flames-seen#ixzz3OLGbpjtW>

Dec. 11, 2014

After a two-year investigation into how Bob Jones University handled sexual abuse and assault complaints, a third party released its final report, prompting the university's president to apologize to victims. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27595150/bju-president-apologizes-to-abuse-victims-in-wake-of-grace-report#ixzz3Lcro1g3y> GRACE (Godly Response to Abuse in the Christian Environment) was contracted in November 2012 by the university to look into past incidents of abuse at BJU, and whether the university's response was adequate. Earlier in 2014 the university temporarily ended the investigation saying it was not satisfied with how it was being handled by GRACE, but then began working again with them a few weeks later. According to a press release issued on behalf of BJU President Steve Pettit on Wednesday, the 300-page report focuses on the experiences of about 20 former students out of more than 90,000. Pettit said the report identified a number of instances where BJU's response was inadequate, where students were not satisfied with the help they received, and a number of specific areas requiring improvement. "I would like to sincerely and humbly apologize to those who felt they did not receive from us genuine love, compassion, understanding and support after suffering sexual abuse or assault ... To them I would say - we have carefully listened to your voice," Pettit said to victims, faculty and staff on Wednesday. "We take your testimony in this report to our hearts. We intend to thoroughly review every aspect and concern outlined in the investigation and

respond appropriately.” Pettit said in response, the university will create a committee to review the findings and generate recommendations in the next 90 days. Click here to watch Pettit's full apology, see a timeline of the investigation and more of BJU's response. The full report was made available at 11 a.m. on Thursday. Click here to read the report (*Warning: Some may find the report graphic, painful for abuse victims*). Read the press releases issued by BJU and GRACE on Wednesday here. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27595150/bju-president-apologizes-to-abuse-victims-in-wake-of-grace-report#ixzz3Lcrs40CL>

Dec. 17, 2014

North Carolina's statewide school board could decide next month whether it's time to launch the state's first online charter schools run by companies and depending heavily on parents or other adults to guide students. A committee appointed by the State Board of Education on Wednesday cleared applications by a pair of proposed charter schools that will hire online education giants K12 Inc. and Connections Education. State lawmakers last summer ordered a test involving two online charter schools, which could operate under fewer rules than other public schools. The online schools could enroll more than 6,000 students and cost taxpayers \$66 million a year by 2020. Thirty states operate fully online charters. North Carolina is among more than two dozen to offer online courses that supplement but don't replace neighborhood schools. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27652781/nc-school-board-looks-at-virtual-charter-schools#ixzz3OLDfQfZE>

Dec. 29, 2014

President Barack Obama apologized to a couple after his golf game in Hawaii forced the bride and groom to relocate their wedding Sunday. According to a report out from Bloomberg, the couple -- both captains in the Army -- had previously invited Obama to their wedding, knowing that he'd likely return to his family's vacation spot for the holidays. The couple, Natalie Heimel and Edward Mallue Jr., received an RSVP on Saturday from the President declining the invitation but sending them good wishes. Later on Saturday they were told they'd have to relocate their wedding venue away from the golf course, which is located on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, because the President was planning to play golf. "It was emotional, especially for her," Jamie McCarthy, the groom's sister, told Bloomberg. "She's the bride and in less than 24 hours they had to change everything they had planned." Obama regularly plays on the course, and anyone planning an event there is told ahead of time that plans may be reshuffled at the last minute when the President is in town, according to a manager from the company that handled logistics for the wedding. Naile Brenna, the manager, said they had alternative options on stand-by, and the couple ended up having their wedding at a "much prettier and much nicer venue" near the home of the base's commanding officer, which has a view near the 16th hole. After Bloomberg asked for a response from the administration, the President called the bride. McCarthy said

Obama apologized and congratulated the couple, and the phone call "made their day." The White House declined to comment on the story Monday after it was published. It wasn't the first time Obama's plans interfered with a wedding this year. In October, a bride was late to her wedding in Chicago thanks to stalled traffic from the president's motorcade. CNN's Maeve Reston contributed to this report.

*Attachments*



*Quality of Life*

**ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED  
THIRD QUARTER 2014**

Problem/Need: **QUALITY OF LIFE**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
Sundays	6:00am	MOUNT MORIAH BAPTIST CHURCH
Description:	A church service airing Sunday mornings. (1-hour)	
Sundays	8:30am	MUD CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Description:	A church service that airs every Sunday morning. (30:00)	
Sundays	10:30am	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Description:	A church service that airs every Sunday morning and Saturday night. (30:00)	

Oct. 12, 2014

Upstate Pride March and Festival. "There are so many that hear a narrative that is not supportive of LGBT people. So what we are trying to do is let them know that we are just ordinary citizens, just like everybody else," said Sally McClellan, secretary of the Upstate Pride Board. Saturday that message was met with a protest. Several people stood along the streets sending a different message. "We're here because we care about their soul☑, and our church cares about the souls of all sinners. We want everyone to go to heaven, but the fact is they can't go to heaven until they repent and be born again," said the Rev. Travis Blackwell, Westside Baptist Church. Members of Upstate Pride don't believe that is a universal belief but say regardless of beliefs, the message of Upstate Pride's event☑ is not just about who you love. "It's about the diversity within the population, and whenever I say the population I don't mean just the gay population, but the population of the Spartanburg community☑," said Tanna Thompson, Upstate Pride. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26526323/upstate-prides-message-of-equality-met-by-protest#ixzz3OLJO743o>

Oct. 16, 2014

Officials from Anderson County Sheriff's Office, local fire departments and EMS will be at the 2014 National Night Out in Anderson. The Night Out event will be held Thursday, Oct. 23 for the public to meet officers, firefighters and EMS workers in their community. Starting at 6 p.m., the night will include giveaways from Target, Halloween costume contests for children up to 16 years old, an up close look at emergency vehicles and equipment, and music provided by Hot 98.1 and 107.3 Jamz. The event will be free of charge and open to the public at the Civic Center of Anderson on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26807735/anderson-co-first-responders-host-2014-national-night-out#ixzz3OM3AOWrq>

Nov. 4, 2014

The roster for the 2014 Shrine Bowl has been released, and 16 players from Upstate teams are slated to take to the field. The Dec. 20 game scheduled to take place at Gibbs Stadium at Wofford College in Spartanburg will have players representing 12 area schools. The Upstate players are Boiling Springs quarterback Daniel Thompson and offensive lineman Noah Green, Broomline linebacker Bavueir Jackson, Byrnes defensive back Lyrics Klugh and receiver Tavin Richardson, Christ Church receiver Rudy Johnstone, Daniel defensive back Amir Trapp, Dorman receiver J.J. Arcega-Whiteside and defensive back Aron Spann, Greenwood receiver Markeyvious Adams and defensive back Kaleb Chalmers, Ninety Six running back Rod Johnson, Powdersville linebacker Brandon Burger, Seneca offensive lineman Zack Darst, Spartanburg defensive back Cedarius Rookard, and Wren quarterback Kelly Bryant. Pendleton defensive line coach Paul Sutherland, Christ Church offensive coordinator/wide receivers coach Robert Williams and Belton-Honea Path offensive line coach Steve Williams have also been selected to coach the team. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26719278/16-upstate-players-named-to-2014-sc-shrine-bowl-team#ixzz3OM3pZuWa>

Nov. 10, 2014

An iconic grocery store across the street from Sirmine Stadium in downtown Greenville was demolished Monday to make way for a condo development. The 8 O'Clock Superette on Cleveland Street opened in the 1960s. Bobby And Judy Langley owned the store from 1971 to 2008 when it closed, serving the Alta Vista area as a neighborhood market and deli. SLIDESHOW: See photos from demolition, plans for condos. New developers plan to build Alta Vista Place on the property, saying it will complement the local architecture and character of the neighborhood. The four-story luxury development will feature 15 condominiums from Renaissance Development. Crews began demolishing the building at 11 a.m. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27342251/historic-superette-to-be-demolished-in-downtown-greenville#ixzz3OAzq8IUe>

Nov. 14, 2014

Simpsonville police announced street closures on Friday in preparation for weekend events. Captain Jay Owens said East Curtis Street was closed between Hedge Street and Main Street to accommodate the Oktoberfest/Sippin' in Simpsonville event at the SAFi Art Center on Academy Street. Beginning at 5 a.m. Saturday, Owens said officers would close off streets for the Upstate Harvest Moon Festival, which will be held throughout downtown Simpsonville. Owens said Southeast and Northeast Main streets will be closed from College Street to Fernwood Drive. North and South Main streets will be closed from Trade Street to College Street. West Curtis Street will be closed at North Maple. Owens said drivers can bypass festival traffic by using Hedge Street if heading east and by using North Maple and South Street to head west. The closures will remain in effect until Saturday night at midnight. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26813374/simpsonville-police-begin-road-closures-ahead-of-weekend-festivals#ixzz3OLc0JXqa>

Nov. 20, 2014

A little girl in South Carolina with a rare disease is living life in a quarantine while her family is fighting to raise almost \$2 million along the way. Eliza O'Neill, 5, has Sanfilippo syndrome, causing her family to live in quarantine for several months in Columbia in an effort to save her life. Sanfilippo can cause disabilities, brain damage and could end Eliza's life. Right now, her family is trying to raise \$1.8 million so Eliza can participate in clinical trials that take place in 2015. Eliza's parents said they are living in quarantine for her benefit. "We're in quarantine because we want to keep our daughter from getting any sickness that might or potentially further speed up the loss of her skills," the O'Neills said. They said the medicine being used in the clinical trial is delivered via virus, so they don't want her to build an immunity. The family is about \$12,000 short of their goal. You can follow her story and donate online here.

Nov. 21, 2014

Many can look back and remember what happened on the Union County courthouse steps 20 years ago, when former Union County Sheriff Howard Wells told stunned media and onlookers the truth. They know what downtown Union looks like, because it was a media circus. And the reason for it laid on one woman, Susan Smith. "It very well could've been a transient," Union Mayor Harold Thompson said. "But we didn't believe anybody that's from Union would have done something like that." Thompson wasn't mayor in 1994, but he was there for it all, working as a news photographer. "A reporter called and said that two kids had been kidnapped," Thompson said. Smith, 23 at the time, reported her children missing on Oct. 25, 1994. What followed was nine days of looking for Smith's two children, Michael and Alex. "The emotion wasn't there for a person who had their kids kidnapped. The tears weren't there, it just didn't make sense," Thompson remembered. Ultimately, Smith admitted to driving a car into the waters of John D. Long Lake with her two children inside, killing them. And 20 years later, it's still a dark subject in the town. "It's something that people try to forget," Thompson said. "But it's a part of history now, so it'll never be forgotten." Many of the people involved in the case have had varying paths in their lives. Now 43, Smith remains in prison, serving two life sentences for

the deaths of her two children. The Dept. of Corrections said she is not up for parole until 2024. Her ex-husband, David, has since remarried and has once again become a father. Sheriff Wells, who is best known for telling the world about Smith's admission of guilt, served time for a public corruption scandal in Union County in 2010. Thompson said Union is wiser for what happened and added that, with the anniversary approaching, the town won't dwell on history. "We got the strength and the audacity to fight back and move on and make this town better," he said. Read more:  
<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/26880313/remembering-the-20th-anniversary-of-susan-smith-case#ixzz3OLjzxKP>

Dec. 11, 2014

The Salvation Army has red kettle stations set up across the area with volunteers ringing bells to raise money during the Christmas season and the FOX Carolina team is joining in. Read more:  
<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27592062/fox-carolina-team-rings-bells-for-salvation-army#ixzz3Lcsl1LBz> To help raise money, members of the FOX Carolina News and Weather team will be manning the red kettle outside of the food court at Haywood Mall on Thursday. Stop by to say hello and help support The Salvation Army. We will be out at the following times: 10 a.m. – Noon: Ben Hill, Chris Scott & Nicole Papay 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Lauren Elise, Joe Gagnon, & Ashley Minelli Noon – 2 p.m.: Diana Watson & Andrew Reeser 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.: Derek Dellinger, Ted Phaeton & Aaron Cheslock 3 .p.m. – 6 p.m.: Kendra Kent & Rebecca Atkins 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.: Cody Alcorn, Adrian Acosta & Jen Phillips PHOTOS: FOX Carolina rings the red kettle bells If you can't stop by, there are other ways to help this holiday season. The Salvation Army is looking for bell ringers at locations across the Upstate. Find out how to volunteer here. FOX Carolina and The Salvation Army are also working to make sure children in need across the area have a bright Christmas through the Angel Tree program. Find out how to adopt an angel and donate gifts in time for the Christmas here. Read more:  
<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27592062/fox-carolina-team-rings-bells-for-salvation-army#ixzz3LcsKFrlj>

Dec. 16, 2014

To ensure every angel has a bright Christmas, the Salvation Army is still accepting last-minute donations of gifts for the Angel Tree program. Anyone who still has an angel tag and gifts but has yet to drop them off is asked to turn them in immediately. The Salvation Army said they still have a need for general toy donations to make sure children who were not adopted get a gift. People wanting to donate gifts need to take them to the TD Convention Center by Wednesday. The Salvation Army said they really need girls toys for ages 8 to 12. The TD Convention Center is located at 1 Exposition Dr. in Greenville. Gifts need to be turned in immediately as volunteers will be passing them out to families on Thursday and Friday. If people want to help distribute gifts, they can contact The Salvation Army. Find out more about the Angel Tree program here.

Dec. 16, 2014

If there's one hallmark of any Christmas dinner, it's the inevitable and often times heated political conversations that happen between relatives you haven't seen probably since last Christmas. So while you're watching Uncle Bill and Cousin Frank almost come to blows over about the nation's healthcare law and trying to use the turkey wishbone as a shiv, know this: you're not the only one. One mom is hoping her two children -- both of whom are political operatives operating on the opposite sides of the aisle -- keep that nonsense away from the gift exchange. Meet Brad and Dallas Woodhouse, a pair of brothers from Raleigh, North Carolina. Brad works for American Bridge -- a left-leaning super PAC -- and Dallas works for Carolina Rising -- a right-leaning political group. Both appeared on C-SPAN's Washington Journal on Tuesday morning while the host took phone calls. They just probably didn't expect their mother, Joy Woodhouse, to be one of the callers. "Well, you're right I'm from down south, and I'm you're mother," Joy said. Dallas immediately recognizes the voice and collapses into his hands. "Oh God, it's mom," Dallas said. Brad responds as well, covering his face with his hand before coming back with a big smile and a laugh. Joy continues, and laments about how normally peaceful holiday dinners have devolved into shouting matches between the two over politics. "And I disagree that all families are like ours," Joy said. "I don't know many families that are fighting at Thanksgiving. I was very glad that this Thanksgiving was a year that you two were supposed to go to your in-laws. And I'm hoping you'll have some of this out of your system when you come here for Christmas. I would really like a peaceful Christmas." I think plenty of us wouldn't mind that this year either, Joy.

Dec. 17, 2014

A food bank is getting a \$75,000 donation that it says will help them feed people in 20 South Carolina counties. Harvest Hope Food Bank will announce the gift from Wal-Mart on Wednesday morning at its Florence location. Leaders at the food bank say the money will not only help counties in the Pee Dee, but also areas covered by Harvest Hope's locations in Columbia and Greenville.

Dec. 17, 2014

Seventy years after he was convicted of murder and executed by the state of South Carolina, a 14-year-old Alcolu boy was exonerated by a circuit court judge on Wednesday. Judge Carmen Mullins vacated the decision against George Stinney, who was convicted of beating Mary Emma Thames and Betty June Binnicker to death in 1944. Judge Mullins' ruling effectively clears Stinney's name. "Given the particularized circumstances of Stinney's case, I find by a preponderance of the evidence standard, that a violation of the Defendant's procedural due process rights tainted his prosecution," Mullins said in the ruling. Stinney's family and judicial advocates have spent the past several years doggedly trying to get the case re-opened because they believe Stinney was forced into a confession by police. Stinney's trial

lasted about 3 hours. According to reports, the defense presented no witnesses, no physical evidence, and did not file an appeal. It took a jury of 12 white men 10 minutes to decide Stinney's fate.

Dec. 31, 2014

Expect plenty of sunshine for New Year's Eve on Wednesday with highs on the chilly side - only getting into the upper 40s for the Upstate and low 40s in the mountains. New Year's Eve night will be cold, so be sure to dress warmly for any evening plans to ring in 2015. Overnight lows will drop to 28 in the Upstate and 23 in the mountains. New Year's Day will be sunny and seasonably cool. Highs will reach the low 50s for the Upstate and upper 40s in the mountains. Rain pushes in Friday and will stick around for much of the weekend.

*Attachments*



*Crime*

**PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED  
THIRD QUARTER 2014**

Problem/Need: **CRIME**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>PROGRAM</b>
Monday – Friday	12:00pm	COPS RELOADED

Description: COPS follows law enforcement officers as they answer calls and deal with the subjects and victims involved in the complaints and crimes. (30:00)

Monday – Sunday	10:00 pm	FOX CAROLINA’S MOST WANTED
Monday – Friday	5:00a-9:00am	

Description: The FOX Carolina’s Most Wanted airs during the Ten O’clock News on various nights Monday thru Sunday and The Morning News Monday thru Friday. Each segment profiles locally wanted criminals and gives viewers a phone number to call to provide information. Each segment is 45 seconds.

Oct. 2, 2014

Per documentation from SLED and his attorney, Frank Eppes, Mason Bird's arrest record was cleared after he completed a pre-trial intervention program, restoring him to "the status he occupied before the arrest." The son of Blue Ridge Christian Academy's principal turned himself in to Greenville County deputies after authorities said he threatened his classmates last month. Deputy Jonathan Smith, public information officer for the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, said 17-year-old Mason Bird got into an argument with a fellow student during class on Dec. 19. He said that during the argument Bird said he would come into the school with a gun and shoot his classmates. Smith said the statement caught the attention of other students who became quiet. He said that a teacher told Bird the statement was inappropriate and informed the school's administration about it. Bird was charged with disturbing school and turned himself in to authorities last Thursday, Smith said. Smith said Bird was not allowed to return to school after making the statement. Bird's attorney, Frank Eppes, said the school is conducting an investigation to determine whether the facts of the case warrant Bird's dismissal from school.

Oct. 8, 2014

Statistics from the State Bureau of Investigation show overall crime in North Carolina fell by 7 percent from 2012, continuing a six-year downward trend. The report issued Wednesday showed the overall crime rate per 100,000 people in North Carolina is the state's lowest since 1974. The violent crime rate per 100,000 North Carolinians declined by 5.4 percent in 2013. Among violent crime rates, rape decreased 10.2 percent, robbery dropped 1.9 percent and murder decreased 3.8 percent, while aggravated assault fell 6.4 percent. Juvenile arrests for index crime offenses are down 11 percent, while adult arrests for those offenses decreased 5.0 percent. Juvenile arrests for all crimes are also down 12 percent, while adult arrests for all crimes are down 8 percent.

Oct. 14, 2014

The Anderson County Sheriff's Office has arrested nine people they say were involved in a crime ring in the Belton/Honea Path area of the county. Lt. Sheila Cole said the suspects were involved in at least 14 separate criminal incidents and netted more than \$43,000 in stolen goods between July and August. Cole said the suspects hung out together and looked for "targets of opportunity" to support their drug habit. The suspects were arrested over a three-week period starting Aug. 21. The sheriff's office identified the suspects arrested and charged as: McKenzie Lauren Bell, 19, of Belton - receiving stolen goods Heather Rene Bratcher, 32, of Belton - possession of stolen goods Christopher Adam Brown, 19, of Belton - auto breaking, second-degree burglary, petit larceny, grand larceny Brandon Lee Burns, 24, of Anderson - receiving stolen goods and possession of stolen goods Misty Nicole Clamp, 24, of Honea Path - second-degree burglary Gavin Dakotah McCaleb, 20, of Williamston - auto breaking, second-degree burglary, petit larceny and grand larceny Austin Christopher Pickens, 22, of Anderson - grand larceny Christopher Channing Presley, 23, of Honea Path - grand larceny Jonathan Andrew Wood, 28, of Williamston - grand larceny. Cole said Bell, Burns and Bratcher have been released on bond while the others are currently incarcerated at the Anderson County Detention Center.

Oct. 16, 2014

A shooting at a Greenville County mobile home park is the latest in a list of crimes there this year. Wednesday, a man went to the hospital; he was shot in the leg during an argument. Greenville County deputies said, though, that violence has gone down in the Dixie Circle area. But neighbors think it's still a problem. Deputies said the shooting was between two men who used to know each other through criminal activity, so it's not something they think is part of a violent trend in the neighborhood. Master Deputy Jonathan Smith said the call came in around 12:45 p.m. He said two guys worked on a car on Inez Lane when a third walked up to them and got into an argument with the victim. During the fight, Smith said the suspect walked to his car, got a gun and shot the victim in the leg. The suspect walked away, but came back and went for the gun again. "The victim told him, man you've already shot me one time, you don't need to shoot me again," Smith said. Neighbors said they heard one shot fired. Others, like the man who took cell phone video of the scene, just saw the crime tape. It's a sight too familiar to many of the people who live at Dixie Estates. This year alone, deputies showed up to the

mobile home park nearly 300 times, not always for violent crimes, though. Sometimes the calls were medical, welfare checks, serving warrants, or for even towing cars away. Records show there were seven armed robberies, 10 times weapons discharged, 16 domestics, and 39 disturbances, plus multiple break-ins and robberies. Earlier this year, FOX Carolina reported two deaths from shootings in the area on Luke Lane in February and Dixie Circle in March. Smith said the issues have been "addressed." He said they increased patrols worked with neighbors and now he doesn't see violent crime to be as big of a problem there. "It's that community partnership that we need and we strive to get. Go out and ask them what their problems are and what they want our help with and we will make sure that we take care of that," Smith said. Neighbors, though, think that more needs to be done to keep guns away from their young people. Investigators say they do know who fired the gun, but as they look for him, they hope anyone who may have seen anything will call Crimestoppers, at 23-CRIME.

Nov. 17, 2014

The Greenville County Sheriff's Office said it has arrested a woman accused of receiving money for Clemson and University of South Carolina tickets but never sending them. Deputy Drew Pinciario said the sheriff's office has been investigating reports from five victims since April. Pinciario said 51-year-old Melissa McAfee Grey was advertising Clemson and USC tickets and parking passes for sale. He said Grey would receive the money for them, but the victims never received the tickets. He said, once law enforcement got involved, Grey returned the victims' money. Matt Gregg said he ordered tickets for the South Carolina game back in July and paid \$900 online. He said he bought tickets the from Grey and deputies helped him get his refund back in September, but he feels solicitor Sylvia Harrison is the reason Grey was charged. "I think it took people like Sylvia Harrison... stepping up to seek justice for the wrong that was done to people," Gregg said. Gamecock fan Dave Hemmingsen said he tried to buy a parking pass from Grey. "She called me while I was in route and said just stop by the ticket office... and they're going to reprint you the parking pass," Hemmingsen said. But he said there was no pass waiting for him. "My position on that is if I rob the bank, and I give the money back, once I get caught am I guilty, or did I commit a crime? Yea you committed a crime," Hemmingsen said. Grey was charged with second-degree computer crime. She was given a \$10,000 bond. Deputies said they only investigated claims from the five victims who contacted them. Investigators ask anyone else who may have been a victim to contact the sheriff's office at 864-271-5210.

Nov. 20, 2014

Crime doesn't pay but calling Crime Stoppers might, according to advertising by Union County Sheriff's Office. Flyers advertising a reward for reporting crimes to Crime Stoppers have made their way around Union County. The flyer poses the question, "Do you need money for the fair?" and says if anyone knows the whereabouts of any of more than 150 wanted persons in Union County, they could receive a reward for sharing the tip with Crime Stoppers. Union County Chief Deputy Perry Haney said this campaign, along with others, have led to record arrests in Union County. In 2013 Crime Stoppers paid

out more than \$4,500 in rewards for tips that led to 120 arrests, Haney said. If anyone has information regarding wanted persons in Union County, they can call Crime Stoppers at 864-427-0800. Deputies said tipsters who contact Crime Stoppers will always remain anonymous.

Dec. 12, 2014

A teenager accused of killing a woman at a home on Echols Drive in Greenville turned himself in on Wednesday. Greenville County deputies said they received a 911 call from the residence around 2:30 a.m. Sunday in which the caller reported that someone had been shot. Deputies arrived on the scene within five minutes and said they found a female victim dead inside the house. Coroner Parks Evans identified the victim as 20-year-old Tiffany Yvette Ford. Ford lived at the home where the shooting occurred, according to the coroner's report. Evans said Ford died from a gunshot wound, classifying her death as a homicide. Several people were inside the home at the time of the shooting and were taken to the Law Enforcement Center to speak with investigators, deputies said. On Monday, deputies said they were looking for Guy Robert Mitchell III, 17, in connection with the homicide. Deputies said he shot Ford with a handgun. Deputies said he was wanted on charges of murder and possession of a weapon during a violent crime. FOX Carolina's Adrian Acosta was there when Guy Mitchell turned himself in on Wednesday afternoon to a bail bondsman and spoke, saying why he needed to come forward. "Get everything over with, let them know what really happened, instead of them thinking that it was something out of hate," Guy Mitchell said. Guy Mitchell's family and community activists urged him to come forward and turn himself in. They also said the shooting was an accident. "We loved her, and this was just a terrible accident," Guy Mitchell's mother, Sheila Mitchell, said. "And definitely I want my son to be able to tell his side of the story." Sheila Mitchell also said the shooting was an accident. The sheriff's office said they are still looking into the events leading up to the shooting. But at Guy Mitchell's bond hearing on Wednesday, Ford's mother spoke directly to him saying, "I just want to know why you didn't call 911. You are the biggest coward I've ever seen. I hope you get life. I can't eat; I can't sleep. That's because of you." At the hearing, a judge denied Guy Mitchell bond for his involvement in the shooting.

Dec. 11, 2014

A Greenville man faces 15 charges as part of ongoing allegations that he sexually abused three children, according to deputies. Greenville County deputies said they arrested James Baldwin, 53, on Dec. 9 in connection with two victims and during their investigation, discovered there was a third victim. Charges against Baldwin include multiple counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, second-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor and third-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor. According to

warrants, the victims ranged from ages 8 to 11 when the assaults happened and date as far back as 1979. Warrants state Baldwin inappropriately touched and sexually assaulted the victims against their will. Deputies said investigators are looking into other allegations involving Baldwin and ask if anyone has information regarding these incidents to call Investigator Robert J. Perry at 864-467-4141. Read more: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/27606472/greenville-man-faces-15-charges-in-sex-abuse-case-involving-minors#ixzz3Lczie0PM>

Dec. 11, 2014

The Asheville Police Department is advising residents to use extra care as package thefts rise during the holiday season. Police recommended some theft prevention tips as package thefts from doorsteps and front porches increase between the months of October and January. Encourage family and neighbors to pick up packages as soon as possible as after they are delivered. Track your packages. Many mail carriers allow you to track your shipment online. Try to be present at the time of delivery. Asheville police said to report suspicious activity immediately to police. They said to call 911 for emergencies, and their non-emergency number is 828-252-1110.

Dec. 16, 2014

A Taliban group killed at least 137, many of them children, in an attack on a military school in northwest Pakistan on The Pakistani military said it has killed all of the militants involved in carrying out the siege at the Army Public School and Degree College. It was one of the deadliest attacks seen in the violence-plagued city of Peshawar, located about 75 miles from the country's capital of Islamabad. Two explosions were also heard. By 3 p.m. Tuesday, it was unclear how many of the hundreds of students were still inside the school. The death toll has steadily risen, and officials fear it will climb higher. The number of injured was upwards of 100. Most of those who died were between the ages of 12 and 16, said Pervez Khattak, chief minister of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, where Peshawar is located. Scaling the walls The Pakistan Taliban - Tehreek e Taliban Pakistan (TTP) - said six suicide bombers scaled the walls of the school with orders to kill older students about 10 a.m. The Taliban reported that "300 to 400 people are under the custody of the suicide bombers" shortly after the attack. The military had earlier said most students and teachers had been evacuated. Revenge attack Mohammed Khurrassani, the TTP spokesman, said the attack was revenge for the killing of hundreds of innocent tribesmen during repeated army operations in provinces including South Waziristan, North Waziristan and the Khyber Agency - all restive regions along Pakistan's border with Afghanistan. For the past few months, the Pakistan military has been conducting a ground offensive aimed at clearing out militants in these areas. The campaign has displaced tens of thousands of people. Northwestern Pakistan is home to loosely governed tribal areas. It's also a base for foreign fighters and a refuge for members of the Taliban and other militant groups. Violent past The military offensive in the region has spurred deadly retaliations. In September, choir members and children attending Sunday school were among 81 people killed in a suicide bombing at the Protestant All Saints Church of Pakistan. A splinter group of the Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the church attack, blaming the U.S. program of drone strikes

in tribal areas of the country. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif rushed to Peshawar, declared three days of mourning, and said he would personally oversee the operation to flush out the militants. Peace falters As recently as last spring, the Taliban and the Pakistani government were involved in peace talks. The government released 19 Taliban noncombatants in a goodwill gesture. But talks broke down under a wave of attacks by the Taliban and mounting political pressure to bring the violence under control.

Dec. 17, 2014

Gaffney police are trying to identify five women they say stole several bags of clothes from a local outlet store. Police posted on their Facebook page surveillance photos and video of the theft from the Polo Ralph Lauren Factory store on Dec. 12. According to police, at approximately 5:50 p.m. five women entered the store and were seen fleeing with several bags of clothes. The video shows the suspects knock over a sign and nearly knock down a woman at the entrance in their getaway. PHOTOS: Shoplifters caught on camera Police said they were seen leaving in a silver or gray Dodge Charger. Anyone with information on this case is asked to call investigators at 864-206-3334.

Dec. 22, 2014

Deputies said they have received three tips since announcing a Crime Stoppers reward for information about the death of Tucker Hipps. Hipps, 19, was a Clemson University sophomore reported missing Sep. 22. Deputies said Hipps fell behind on a morning activity run with fellow members of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and that was the last time he was seen. His body was discovered later that day below the Highway 93 bridge in Lake Hartwell. Since Hipps' death, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and the Oconee County Sheriff's Office have been investigating the incident. After an autopsy was completed, Coroner Karl Addis said the cause of death was due to a head injury consistent with an unsupported fall. In a post on the Crime Stoppers of Greenville Facebook page, the group said it is offering a \$2,000 reward for any information directly related to the death of Tucker Hipps. Oconee County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Jimmy Watt said they have received two tips on Sunday and a third on Monday since the announcement was released.

Dec. 24, 2014

The Greenville County Sheriff's Office is asking for the public's help in identifying two suspects they said were recorded using a stolen credit card. Deputies said on Dec. 16, two unknown individuals were captured on security footage at a local business on East Butler and Woodruff roads. They said the two suspects were using a stolen credit card. The victim in the case was still in possession of the credit card at the time it was compromised, deputies said. Anyone with information regarding the suspects or the incident is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 23-CRIME.

Dec. 28, 2014

The Laurens County Sheriff's Office is investigating after a vandalism was reported at a church Sunday morning. Deputies said church members arrived at Princeton Baptist Church to find black paint sprayed on the front door and on the columns at the front of the building, three basement-level windows broken, and the baby Jesus icon missing from the nativity scene. Deputies said the vandals spray painted symbols, words and phrases from biblical scriptures on the doors, columns and some windows of the church. Church members were working to clean up the mess and repair the damage Sunday afternoon. Members we spoke with said the vandalism was unfortunate but it would not affect church operations or morale. Deputies have not identified any suspects in the case. Anyone with information is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-888-CRIME-SC.