



Photo by Judith Brown

HONORING MS. EMILY — Following a ribbon cutting for Our Little Shop’s grand reopening Thursday, volunteers and staff from both the Safe Home and its charitable store gathered to honor the late Emily E. Terrell, who inspired the design improvements but passed away last May. The store is located at 1500 West Main, Laurens.

Grand re-opening points to store’s visionary, ‘Ms. Emily’

By Judith Brown
Staff Writer

A grand reopening for Our Little Shop on Thursday morning, complete with a Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting, served as a chance for the non-profit to show off its new design. It also paid tribute to the late Emily Terrell, affectionately called “Ms. Emily,” who was the visionary behind the store’s many changes and improvements.

“There were times in the past when the board actually considered closing the store, because we struggled to cover expenses,” said Dawn Ardel, the director for the Laurens County Safe Home. “But when Ms. Emily came, she always encouraged us that we needed to get our name out more, and that presentation was key. But it’s a process so she didn’t live to see it all come about.”

Along with the ribbon cutting to reintroduce the store, a plaque was presented that honors Terrell, who



Emily E. Terrell

passed away from cancer in May of 2017. She had worked at Our Little Shop only about three years, Ardel explained, but her influence was immense in a very quiet way. The plaque at the front of the store includes a Proverbs 31 scripture, “When she speaks, her words are wise, and kindness is the rule of everything she says,” which perfectly suited Terrell.

As the only paid employee aside from the manager, Terrell was often the face of the Safe Home for those who understood that Our Little Shop was under the umbrella of the shelter for abused women, but might want to know more about the services.

“We help many more women than just those who stay in the shelter and this is a safe place to come and ask questions,” Ardel said. “Many victims have come in here shopping and asked, ‘So what does the Safe Home do? How does it work?’ and they end up calling us for help.”

That help for abused women is among the reasons the store’s vol-

unteers are so loyal, and many come from two to four mornings every week to help sort items in one of the back rooms. One volunteer, Rosemarie, takes skeins of yarn, which might bring the store one dollar, and knits baby blankets and hats that bring in significantly more.

“Ms. Emily encouraged us every day,” Ardel said. “She had the heart for what we were doing and inspired us to make the store profitable.”

This last year has also brought other volunteers from Walmart Distribution, which has helped the store design and build a better donation box and provided other higher-end donations. Donations are also accepted at the store during store hours, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday - Thursday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To make an appointment for the truck to pick up larger donations, call the store at 864-681-0672.

Our Little Shop is located at 1500 West Main Street in Western Plaza of Laurens.

Debate to address District 55/56 consolidation

By John Clayton
Editor

The first of three debates on a proposed consolidation of Laurens County School Districts 55 and 56 is scheduled for Tuesday night at Laurens District High School.

The debate, which will be held in the commons area at the main entrance of the school, will begin at 7 p.m. and is scheduled to end at 8:30 p.m.

State Rep. Mike Pitts (R-Laurens), who introduced a bill in the legislature seeking to consolidate the two districts this past April, and local GOP leader Keith Tripp will participate in the debate.

Pitts said he introduced the bill, which passed a floor vote on the house after being introduced as local legislation, but received quick backlash from county residents and school administrators who felt blindsided by the bill. Pitts has since pulled the bill and said he would not re-introduce it without the support of the local delegation of Rep. Mark Willis and Sen. Danny Verdin, both Republicans.

“I still believe it is the right thing to do,” said Pitts at a June meeting of local government and civic leaders.

Willis and Verdin said at that meeting that they would not support a consolidation effort unless it received clear support from their constituencies.

During the debate, Tripp will argue in favor of autonomy for the two districts.

“If we do our jobs right (in the debate), the winners will be the citizens of Laurens County,” Tripp said in a letter to the editor published in Wednesday’s edition of *The Laurens County Advertiser*.

Representatives from neither District 55 nor District 56 will be participating in the event.

REPUBLICAN ICE

Wednesday - Saturday • 11 a.m - 6 p.m.

- *SMOOTHIES
- *ITALIAN ICE
- *SNOW CONES

200-1453

Come See Us For A Cool Treat To Beat The Heat!

Located in Verdin's Too Parking Lot in Laurens

“It’s wonderful to have her close by.”

“At 91 years old, Mom moved from Philadelphia into assisted living at The Clinton Presbyterian Community to be near my wife and me. She quickly found kind friends, a compassionate and caring staff, and helpful Physical Therapy. It’s wonderful to have her close by, and we are now able to visit easily, join her for meals, and take her to church and local events. And Mom says, ‘I love my apartment here.’ ”

- Dr. Sam Wilson and his mother, Lois

- ✓ Move-in Ready Apartments Available!
- ✓ Meals, Housekeeping and Maintenance-free Living
- ✓ All Levels of Care in One Location
- ✓ Serving Seniors of all Faiths since 1975

Contact Dina at Dina.Hair@prescomm.org or call (864) 939-0590

THE CLINTON PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY

Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina

801 Musgrove St., Clinton, SC 29325

PRESCOMMUNITIES.ORG

— New Station —

(Continued from page 1)

“Finding the time (is tough),” Rice said. “Truthfully, the medical part is my least favorite, but it comes with the job.”

Rice was working his 24-hour shift along with Capt. Deborah Waldrop, who has worked as a professional firefighter with Laurens County for some 16 years and was a volunteer with Ekom prior to starting her professional career.

“When I got into it, I wanted to help my community,” Waldrop said. “I guess I wanted to make the world a better place for the community and my kids.”



Photo by John Clayton

SIGNS DELIVERED — Signs identifying the new Saxon Station on Thompson Road are ready to be hung.

The new station is averaging two to four calls per day, and the vast majority of those have been medically related, Thackston said.

While the Saxon Station sits in a large rural area, it is only two minutes from I-385. It is also strategically placed to help cover the growing city of Fountain Inn and other areas in northern Laurens County.

Laurens County Administrator Jon Caime said the staffing plan for the station is more of an “urban model,” but the county is looking ahead for substantial residential and industrial growth in the area that

would require professional firefighters/EMTs to be on duty.

“Years ago, it was all community based,” Thackston said. “Now, it takes so much to be a fireman, you can’t do your job and make the time.”

The Saxon Station is currently equipped with a pumper truck, a utility truck and a “quick-response vehicle” (QRV), which is a pickup

outfitted with medical and other equipment.

Crews from the Laurens County Parks & Recreation Department recently completed landscaping and a ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned.

“We wanted this station to fit in and be a part of the community. We didn’t want it to be just a metal building,” Lindley said.

— Russian —

(Continued from page 1)

Judicial Complex is just getting under way. An extensive renovation project for the historic Laurens County Courthouse on the square is in its initial stages.

The search for Russian’s replacement has already begun. In a related move Tuesday night, council members voted to promote Billy Wilson, who currently oversees purchasing for the county, to assistant director of public works.



Rob Russian

The Best One . . .
The Laurens County Advertiser

We’re more than just a great rate

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

2.35 %

\$1000
1-year

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 07/09/2018 . CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.

Gary S Davis, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
107 E Pitts St
Clinton, SC 29325
864-833-0414

www.edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Dr. McCarthy & Dr. McClary ORTHODONTICS

Specializing in Braces and Invisalign for Children, Adolescents, Adults

Temporomandibular Joint Treatment

FOR FREE CONSULTATION CALL 833-4343

Conveniently located behind Laurens County Hospital
www.mccortho.com



Laurens County School District 55 Congratulates the Class of 2018 and the Faculty and Guidance Counselors at Laurens District High School!	
2017-2018 LCSD 55 Scholarship Summary	
Source	Amount
Palmetto Fellows	\$ 682,500
Life/Hope Scholarships	\$ 2,200,400
PTC/Laurens County Scholarship	\$ 369,600
McAlister Scholarship	\$ 126,000
CHAMPS Scholarship	\$ 204,000
NJROTC Scholarship	\$ 275,816
Newberry College Music Scholarships	\$ 312,000
Collected Small Scholarships	\$ 86,750
Top Ten Student Scholar Total	\$ 2,236,251
Raise Me Scholarships	\$ 635,844
Academic/Athletic Scholarships	\$ 1,743,450
Partial Individual Scholarships	\$ 1,797,433
Pell Grant	\$ 225,600
Total!!!	\$ 10,895,644