



Photo by Judith Brown

**HISTORY AND IMPACT** — Rev. Steven Evans gave an update on the M.S. Bailey project development to the community in attendance and council at Monday's Clinton City Council. He warned that the projects will need to be for empowering the community through skills classes as well as recreation options.

## Evans presents Clinton council, community with M.S. Bailey update

By Judith Brown  
Staff Writer

Rev. Steven Evans said in spite of the fact that he was relocated to another church and is no longer in Clinton, he is still overseeing the potential usage of the historic M.S. Bailey property, and he encouraged people to consider its purposes for the broader community.

Evans was at Monday night's Clinton City Council meeting and was asked by City Manager Bill Ed Cannon to speak about the project.

"If you look at the origin of that property, it was put there by the AME church and when the historical group was working with it, I was working with it behind the scene," Evans said.

Taking ideas presented earlier this year, Evans has begun to develop the early stages of a plan that will include various phases, including the use of the facility for youth and adults while incorporating the historic aspect of the property in the community.

"My concern is that it can't just be a rec center. Pardon if it sounds racist," Evans said, "but within the African American community we have to get tired of people giving us basketball courts and athletic facilities. We need more than that."

Evans said the community's needs include the youth, the elderly and "the whole family dynamic. It needs to be more than a community center but an empowerment center."

A total youth facility would not be practical because children are in school, he said.

Evans was grateful for the greenspace grant funds, which were mentioned by Clinton Canopy's Susan Galloway, explaining that greenspace plantings would be important in the early phases of the project development.

"You need tangible proof that progress is taking place," Evans said. "There's been vandalism so it's going to take a while."

Evans said he sees the needs in the community as not just for

recreation for youth but also for skills-building classes, where young people could gain certification under mentors and teachers. They could then combine those skills with business degrees and return to Clinton to impact the community's economic stability.

Evans said he is developing a report which would encourage the work to be done in phases.

"It's become a political pawn and it needs to stop because you don't play politics with people's lives," he said.

He added that encouraging the development of alumni associations from Bell Street and Martha Dendy could increase the volunteer base once the project gets underway.

"We can gather all that information for future generations to see. That's important because the historical marker is there, so we can't go in there and do anything we want to do," Evans said. "The first phase is sustainability and have a solid presence that can last at least 50 years."

## PalmettoPride releases 2018 litter control report numbers

PalmettoPride announced today the 2018 Litter Control Enforcement Grant ticket numbers. From the 24 enforcement agencies that received a 2017-2018 Enforcement Grant, reports indicate that a total of \$341,306.73 in fines were collected from 898 successfully prosecuted cases.

Many of the reporting agencies utilize both state statutes and local ordinances when addressing littering and illegal dumping. As reported, 279 state tickets were issued for littering violations, 65 state tickets issued for a secondary violation and 123 warnings handed out. Reports also show that of the 344 State tickets issued, 277 were successfully adjudicated.

**State Level**  
 •Litter violation tickets - 279  
 •Litter violation tickets successfully prosecuted - 223  
 •Litter violation tickets pending - 53  
 •Secondary violation tickets - 65  
 •Secondary violation tickets successfully prosecuted - 54  
 •Secondary violation tickets pending - 10  
 •Warnings issued - 123  
 State level fines collected - \$119,549.98

Agencies also reported 579 local summons for littering violations and 509 secondary violation summons were issued; of the 1,088 summons issued, 914 were successfully adjudicated.

**County Level**  
 •Litter violation tickets - 579  
 •Litter violation tickets successfully prosecuted - 506  
 •Litter violation tickets pending - 60  
 •Secondary violation tickets - 509  
 •Secondary violation tickets successfully prosecuted - 408  
 •Secondary violation tickets pending - 89  
 •Warnings issued - 649  
 County level fines collected \$202,281.75

Reporting Agencies also indicated that there were 2,811 total complaints, 1,075 violations were caught on camera, and 53 violations were sent to DHEC.

"Enforcing our state and local litter laws is crucial to behavior change. We are encouraged to see so many tickets being written and upheld at the court level," said Sarah Lyles, Executive Director of PalmettoPride.

This report does not represent all 47 South Carolina

counties litter control numbers but only the 24 reporting agencies comprised of city and county agencies. All law enforcement officers can write tickets for litter and illegal dumping, not just the code and litter control enforcement officers.

Jamie Nelson, Director of Spartanburg County's Environmental Enforcement Department stated, "That it's time for all Law Enforcement Officers and their respected agencies to light up a litterbug." Director Nelson also mentioned how encouraged he was; that during the past year great strides were made in this battle of trying to keep our great state beautiful and litter free.

"We encourage law enforcement to not overlook litter and illegal dumping violations as they are important to the overall health of our communities and often an indicator of more serious criminal activity," said Lyles.

PalmettoPride works closely with the South Carolina Litter Control Association on furthering the mission of litter control. Litter and illegal dumping are significant issues across the state and violators will not stop unless they are successfully prosecuted.

## AgSouth announces photo contest

AgSouth Farm Credit Marketing Director Christy Smith says that the association is accepting entries for its 2019 "mAGnificent" Photo Contest. The contest is open to anyone residing in the 34 South Carolina counties served by AgSouth.

"As the name of the contest reflects," says Smith, "we want to focus on the importance of

agriculture and rural living in our territory. We're looking for photos that showcase our hard working farmers, the beauty of our fields and livestock and the day-to-day goings on of living a life out in the country."

The contest will run through June 1, 2019, and voting from the public will run June 2-20.

Thirteen photos will be declared winners and will be

showcased in the association's annual calendar, Out in the County magazine and social media. The grand prize winner will be featured on the cover and will receive \$300. In all, 13 winners will receive cash prizes totaling \$1,000.

For official rules and to enter online, visit AgSouthFC.com under the News & Events tab.

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