

# Diverse Solutions applauded at LCDSNB breakfast

By Judith Brown  
Staff Writer

On Tuesday community members gathered to learn more about and to applaud the work of the Laurens County Disabilities and Special Needs Board, which serves employees who are working to best assist those served by the agency.

LCDSNB executive director Jason Tavener praised the 300 employees who handle programs, the direct services staff and others, but the annual meeting this year highlighted the success of Diverse Solutions, the new program which has increased the numbers of people with disabilities who have found fulfilling work this year.

Tavener also presented the 2019 Von Sinclair Award for Advocacy and Service to Benefitfocus. Through efforts led by Benefitfocus employee and Laurens native David Finley, the company and its employees have been instrumental for many years in providing funding and donations for LCDSNB initiatives such as the collection of Christmas gifts and helping to fund summer camps.

A video offered glimpses of

just a few of those served by LCDSNB who have been able to find work, and employers spoke about the positive impact their new LCDSNB employees have already made to their workforce.

“Project Hope had teamed up with our Woodruff store, and I began to think we could do something positive like

that at the Laurens store,” said Michael Buhrmaster, a manager of the Robertson’s Ace Hardware in Laurens.

Employment Specialist Cortni Motes teamed the store up with a 27-year-old employee, who has proved to do a great job in shelving properly and remembering where everything goes, Buhrmaster

said. “I think as much as he helps us, it’s benefiting him because he’s able to interact with others about his own age,” Buhrmaster said, “and I think that’s really the most positive benefit.”

Karla Gray with Renfro said the sock distribution company has already hired six employees and it plans to add to that number through Diverse Solutions.

Jake Cooper of Riverside

Garage and Tires in Laurens also gave a positive report.

“We’ve already had an employee through Voc Rehab and this is our third year with him. We hired an employee with Laurens County Disability in September,” Cooper said.

Formerly American Wheel and Tire, the family-owned business has been positively impressed by the work of their employee, Cooper said.

The same sentiment was

expressed by Kelly Holdway, the director of Pet Commander kennels in Gray Court, who has already hired three people through LCDSNB, and she said she learns important lessons from them. “It’s hard to be mad about the small things when everyone around you is happy,” Holdway said.

For more information about hiring employees through Diverse Solutions, contact Motes at 864-715-2165.



Photo by Judith Brown

**ADVOCATE** — Laurens County Disabilities and Special Needs Board executive director Jason Tavener, right, presents the 2019 Von Sinclair Award for Advocacy and Service to Jason Eary, a leader with Benefitfocus.

## OBITUARIES

### James L. Campbell

James Larry “Clyde” Campbell of 1208 Compton Road, Clinton, went home to be with his Savior on Jan. 3, 2019, after an extended illness. He is survived by his widow, Mary Anne Campbell; two sons, Jay Earl Campbell of Waterloo and James Lewis Campbell (Karrame) of Clinton and their children, Willow Campbell and Gage Campbell. He is also survived by his brother, Jerry M. Campbell (Pat) of Laurens; a sister in law, Melba Campbell of Laurens; and numerous

nieces and nephews. Services were held Jan. 17, at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Laurens, with the Rev. David Bonner officiating. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to: Hospice of Laurens County or the Laurens County Animal Shelter.



James L. Campbell

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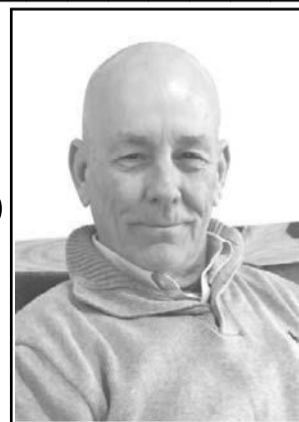
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# PRIMARIES

**TUESDAY, FEB. 19**

Lines will be Shortest  
10 a.m.-Noon & 2 p.m.-5 p.m.

Lines Are Longest at 7 a.m.

Eligible voters must be residents of House District 14

**EVERY VOTE MATTERS. EVERY VOTE COUNTS.**

Dear Fellow Residents of SC House District 14,

As a farmer, I know the wisdom and knowledge that comes from managing a successful farm operation. Experience matters and there is only one candidate running for South Carolina House District 14 that has the necessary experience to represent the people of District 14. That candidate is Stewart Jones.

Stewart Jones is the only candidate who has been elected to serve the people at the county council level and he has represented the people with the passion and commitment most people talk about, but few actually exhibit in their personal actions. The experience he has gained on county council will be a tremendous benefit to Laurens and Greenwood Counties in Columbia.

I've known Stewart for many years, he's a man of character and integrity. He's a husband, a father, a successful business owner, and county councilman. His success and accomplishments to-date are a result of hard work, commitment, professional maturity and passion for serving others.

His success serving on county council has been so well received that he was recently unopposed in his re-election to a second term.

Stewart Jones is an advocate for the people he serves. He has tirelessly fought to reduce government waste, prevent tax increases, and defend our property rights. His efforts in the telephone audit or “line to nowhere” and the credit card audit have resulted in thousands of dollars in savings for the taxpayers of Laurens County!

Do you want less wasteful spending and more accountability in Columbia? Do you want a Representative who will work with others to promote District 14? Then, please join me on February 19th in electing Stewart Jones as our next South Carolina House Representative because experience, character and integrity matter!

Sincerely,

Rick Shealy  
Cross Hill, SC

Paid Advertisement

# Better Health Together

GHS & Palmetto Health are now Prisma Health!

### Yoga Basics

Saturday, Feb. 23 • 8:30-9:45 a.m. • Life Center® Health & Conditioning Club, Greenville  
This workshop-style class will introduce the basics of yoga and help beginners feel more comfortable and confident attending yoga classes. Free for Prisma HealthSM Life Center members; \$10 for guests. No registration required.

### Spring and Summer Vegetable Gardening

Monday, Feb. 25 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Life Center, Greenville  
Learn how to produce a bountiful harvest in your backyard garden at this session led by a Master Gardener. Preregistration required; register at the Life Center front desk or call 864-455-4231.

### Diabetes Support Group

Tuesday, March 26 • 8-9 a.m. • Fountain Inn Activity Center, Community Room  
Those with diabetes can get basic information along with tips and ideas for simple meal and lifestyle changes to help manage this disease. Free; no registration needed. Please call 864-455-4003 to find out more.

### Welcome, Dr. Bruce Marshall!

Bruce Marshall, MD, has joined Prisma Health General Surgery, located at 1012 Medical Ridge Road in Clinton. He can be reached at 864-833-3852.

Unless noted otherwise, registration is required for each event. To register, learn more or see a schedule of events, visit [prismahealth.org/upstateevents](http://prismahealth.org/upstateevents).

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