

SPOTLIGHT ON AGRICULTURE



AG SCHOLARS — Laurens County Clemson Extension Advisory Council Scholarship finalists included, from left, Julia Kerber, winner of \$1,000 scholarship; and finalists Matthew Brownlee, Morgan Marlett and Nicholas Smith.

Photo by Judith Brown



FOR THE YOUTH — Representing Laurens County Family and Community Leaders, Linda Finley, left, and Doris Taylor, right, presented a check to Clemson Extension Agent and 4-H coordinator Ashley McCall for 4-H youth work in Laurens County.

Photo by Judith Brown



TOPS IN BROILERS — Todd Rackley, left, presented Broiler Producer of the Year to Tim Faulkner, center and his father, Bobby Faulkner, right. The Faulkner's had the best production cost for 2018 in the Amick Farm Complex, which includes 19 different growers.

Photo by Judith Brown

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

The Staff of The Laurens County Advertiser is hosting a

SUPPLY DRIVE For The SAFE HOME

- ITEMS NEEDED:**
- SIZE 4 DIAPERS
 - HEALTHY SNACKS
 - SIZE 3T & LARGER NIGHTTIMEPULL-UPS
 - JUICE BOXES
 - PAPER PLATES (no styrofoam)
 - SIDEWALK CHALK
 - PAPER TOWELS
 - BUBBLES
 - OUTDOOR TOYS
 - BALLS

Donations will be accepted until May 1, 2019, at: The Advertiser 226 W. Laurens St. Laurens, SC Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday 8 a.m.-noon

The Laurens County Safe Home is a non-profit organization and the only abused women's shelter in Laurens County.

Rows presents program on the history of pearls

India Rows gave the April program for the Ann Pamela Garden Club at the Laurens County Museum. The subject was, "The History of Pearls." Ms. Rows began her shop, "The Pearl Girls" in 2006, in Athens, Ga. She holds a degree in Pearl Gemology and travels the world to procure pearls for the shop. She employs mothers with young children and provides an on-site daycare program. The shop will repair and re-string your "Grandmothers' Pearls" if they need attention.

An interesting fact: Columbus came to America looking for gold but found pearls instead. Some of the old European royalty's jewels contained pearls from America.

Oysters and other mollusk are the producers of pearls. Pearls were an original salt water product. As irritants enter the oyster shell, the oyster produces nacre to cover the irritant and a pearl is formed. Natural pearls were very expensive and the quantity was small. Human divers were the early way of acquiring the pearls.

After World War II, Micky Moto from Japan perfected a plan to produce pearls in fresh water mollusk. Now the procedure of humans placing an irritant inside oyster and mollusk shells is considered, cultured pearls. The color of the pearls is determined by the color of the shell. Oysters cannot survive in dirty water. They must be in clean water. The value of pearls is determined by seven rules. The pearl that is closest to being perfectly round, is a large size, has good luster, the color, and has good surface quality will have the most value.

Nine members and five guests attended. Hostess Joye Kirby incorporated pearls into the delicious refreshments. "Chocolate Pearls" are very good!

President Bill Patterson gave the Horticultural Moment on Roses. There are about 27 classes of roses. The Korde Collection of repeat blooming roses can be found at Roses Unlimited located on Highway 49. The Korde Collection is very disease resistant. The blooms are full of petals and some are very fragrant.

The May meeting will be the annual porch picnic.

NO JOKING!!!

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