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It's about time

Special clock salvaged by museum's Whitmore

By John Clayton
Editor

It's not at all unusual for local antiques expert and history buff Robert Whitmore to find himself rummaging for lost treasures, and a trip Tuesday morning to the former Laurens Glass Plant turned up a timely gem.

Whitmore said he was asked to go to the plant by a member of the Laurens County Museum Association to retrieve a large clock. So, he dug it out of a "dark, dingy" storage room that was flooded only to find that it was not really a clock at all.

"It was a prop that was on a POP Jubilee Parade float," Whitmore said. "You should've seen the people looking at it in



BIG TIME — Robert Whitmore delivers a prop from a parade float to the Laurens County Museum. The clock had been used as part of a POP Jubilee parade float sponsored by Ball-Incon, which operated the former Laurens Glass plant in the 1980s and 1990s.

the back of the truck. I should've rode around the square a few times."

With a radius of around five to six feet, the clock face towered out of Whitmore's pickup as he made his way to the

museum's new location in the Witherspoon Building on the Laurens Historic Square.

The "clock" has no clock-work inside and was covered in an outdoor carpet, which helped preserve its bright green

paint finish. It had remained on its pedestal from the parade float, which kept it out of the water that flooded the storage room.

Photo by John Clayton

Pitts among new magistrates confirmed for Laurens County

By Judith Brown
Staff Writer

Former South Carolina House District 14 Rep. Mike Pitts and Mountville's Bill Wham have been appointed to fill vacancies in the short-handed Laurens County Magistrate's Office.

The two are to be sworn in along with Assistant Chief Magistrate D.J. Bron Monday morning at the county's Hillcrest Judicial Complex. Bron was re-appointed by the state Senate and confirmed by Gov. Henry McMaster this past week after serving two years of an unexpired term.

Once they complete training, the new judges will fill out the open magistrate slots for Laurens County, which was left with only two judges after the sudden death May 31 of Chief Magistrate Leesa Inabinet. Another new magistrate, Tracy Richards, was sworn in on May 31, but is completing her training. Judge

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