

**Sandy Grove United Methodist Church, located in Kershaw County invites**

**anyone interested to join us for Worship Service by phone on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am, Sunday school lessons taught on Wednesdays at 11:00 am and with prayer at 12 noon on Wednesdays. The phone number for both of these are 1-712 451-1103 access code 376149 #**



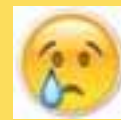
**To the Barnes Family at Comporium.**

**We just got a 32% rate increase on our personal Comporium bill and it looks like you suddenly dropped a bundle off the bill. However, on your website, you have that same bundle advertised cheaper than what we were paying before we got whacked the 82% more than what you have on your website -- all this in a zero inflation environment!!!!!! The bill was an exorbitant \$221, it is now \$292, and your ad has it for \$161 (Triple Play Offer). Plus, you flunked the speed test on the internet as well. Since calling your staff doesn't seem to get any response, we are forced to address you through the front page of the newspaper. As you know we serve Lancaster County, and our other papers serve the following counties: Aiken, Edgefield, Orangeburg, Saluda, Lexington and Calhoun counties.**

**If this how we get treated, how goes it for our readers? Expecting to hear a positive response from Comporium soon!!!! You can respond to our/your \$70 per month email address:**

**newsra@comporium.net**

**Feeling Very Abused, a small local business owner, just like you folks. Sincerely Yours, Andrew O'Byrne, Sr. - Publisher**



**Kershaw THE NEWS-ERA**

For News, Ads, Events, more ---- email: newsra@comporium.net

VOL. 74 NO. 1 Wednesday, September 16, 2020 50 cents COPY

**Tragic accident claims lives of Kershaw mother and child; co-workers, community and first responders show care and concern**



521 Filling Station "Home of the 16oz Ribeye" posted --- Heather's family has setup a GOFUNDME page. The 521 Filling station will be making a monetary donation to Baker Funeral home for funeral expenses as well. If any of our customers would like to donate directly you can make checks out to Baker Funeral home C/O Heather & Ares Martin and mail to Baker Funeral Home, 210 E Hilton St, Kershaw, SC 29067 You can also drop off at 521 Filling station or mail to 608 S Hampton St, Kershaw, SC 29067 They had no insurance so any donations are appreciated. Thank you all for your continued prayers

On Saturday, September 12 at 3:45 pm, Kershaw resident Heather Martin, who worked at 521 Filling Station and her 3 year old son were killed in a single vehicle accident on Hwy 341 in Kershaw. Reports have said the car hydroplaned in the heavy rains that occurred in the area over the weekend. The car traveled off the right side of the road, hitting an embankment, overturning, striking a utility pole and a tree. The 30 year old driver and her 3 year old son passed away. Her other 2 children, also in the vehicle, were airlifted to a hospital in Columbia from the scene and have since been treated and released. The incident is being investigated by SC Highway Patrol and Lancaster County Coroner's Office. Hundreds of locals posted condolences on the 521 Filling Station and the Lancaster County Coroner's Facebook pages.

**Lancaster County Coroner's Office---posted Sunday and Monday**

As many of you are aware, yesterday the Coroner's office, along with numerous other agencies, responded to a single vehicle collision. The vehicle's occupants were a mother and her three children. The mother and her three year old child did not survive the accident, but her other two children did. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families, friends, and co-workers in the difficult days ahead. What you may not know is what goes on behind the scenes; particularly, in accidents when multiple children are involved, there are many highs and lows. I want to take time to give you a glimpse into the "behind the scenes" process and provide you with a powerful testament to the dedication of all agencies involved and illustrate, for you, the amazing work ethic and genuine love and respect for fellow mankind, displayed by all involved. ...from witnesses to responders. There are multiple segments to this story, so I will be putting out several posts, in order to complete the story. Below is the first. When we arrived on scene, we waded through the numerous personnel, collecting data and information as we went along; literally working our way toward the actual site. We knew there were, at least, two witnesses to the event. The first witnesses actually watched the entire collision unfold, from the vehicle hydroplaning to leaving the roadway and crashing. The second witness arrived just seconds afterward. All the witnesses immediately went to the vehicle, where they discovered two children, walking around, from the other side of the overturned vehicle. We interviewed the second witness and when I asked him about what he saw, his words were precise and piercing. He simply said "I pulled up, went over to the car, and when I saw kids standing there.....My Dad instinct just kicked in and I ran to them and just held them and shielded them from what they were seeing". Before the next segment, let me ask that you keep them all in your thoughts and prayers. They were witnesses to something horrible and traumatic, to say the least. What happened in seconds, will likely be carried with them for the rest of their lives. As we continued to make contact with all the personnel on scene, our next encounter was with several members of the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office. While Highway Patrol was the primary agency investigating the accident, the Sheriff's Office is also notified for first response; to begin securing and assessing the scene, offering assistance, and initiate any aid needing to be rendered while awaiting the other agencies to arrive. As we began to talk with them, they told us many details of what they saw, they provided timelines, and also asked if they could help us in any way (which is common among all of us, on every scene). Sounds pretty routine, right? But here's something you don't know. Some of them told us these details with watery eyes and some had to look away and gather their emotions. Because there was a little more to it. As they arrived on scene and rushed to the vehicle, they immediately began desperately searching for all the occupants. You see, the vehicle was on its side, among downed power lines, and nearly every glass was shattered, but an officer, who is also a Dad, didn't hesitate when he spotted a car seat, among the wreckage. His adrenaline kicked in and he climbed into the back hatch window, through debris and glass, with no regard to his well-being, but with the sole mission to make sure there was not a child or another person trapped inside. Luckily, there was not. But their journey didn't end there. They stayed for the duration of the day; to protect and serve.....to save a life. Again, this speaks volumes to the dedication and love of fellow mankind. (Also reported as an update: the 2 surviving children are home with relatives.) All of us at the Kershaw News-Era send our prayers and condolences to the family, friends and co-workers at 521 Filling Station.

**Kershaw Town Council Special Election Q&A Election Tuesday, September 29th**



**Jim Timmons**

**The News-Era asked the 2 candidates 5 questions and here are their responses.**



**Danny Williams**

**KNE -- 1) What is your favorite thing about Kershaw?**

**Danny Williams:** I like living in a small town environment and the people here make this Town a special place to live.

**Jim Timmons:** That's easy.. The people of Kershaw. They excel at caring for one another and that makes them very special people.

**KNE -- 2) What in your mind are the biggest challenges facing the Town of Kershaw?**

**Jim Timmons:** How to maintain small town viability with limited financial resources.

**Danny Williams:** Infrastructure for water and sewer is an ongoing concern. Cleaning up the Town and litter control is vital.

**KNE -- 3) What do you hope to accomplish in your time on Council?**

**Danny Williams:** Work together as a Council for the betterment of Kershaw. Try to attract more businesses.

**Jim Timmons:** My goal is to improve communication between the citizens and the council and involve more people in the vision and action plans as expressed through the Community Heart and Soul initiative.

**KNE -- 4) Do you think our main street/downtown is healthy and successful? If not, what would you do to change that?**

**Jim Timmons:** Downtown is rebounding to some extent with new businesses, the coming library and a First Steps program. I would love to see the town support downtown shopping and more social events like the Christmas On Main event several years ago.

**Danny Williams:** In the future it will be more successful with the addition of the library and First Steps Educational Building located down Town which is economic development.

**KNE -- 5) If the town was awarded a grant for \$1 million and you could choose the projects it went towards what project or projects would you choose?**

**Danny Williams:** I would like to see paving streets and sidewalks if we received a million dollar grant.

**Jim Timmons:** \$1 million sounds like a lot but that amount would not go that far in large projects. I would use it to encourage decent affordable housing, community and recreational activities, and economic development that provides more jobs for our young people.

I believe the following points

would make me the best choice to fill the position of an at large representative for the Kershaw Town Council.

- my experience as a physician and a business owner in Kershaw for 40 years

- my involvement in our community ---- such as helping build both playgrounds, the amphitheater stage, hiking trails and others at Stevens Park: serving at Youth Serve each summer for the past 26 years, and supporting athletics by helping develop the first soccer program in Kershaw.

- My leadership experience evidenced by serving as President of KARE, a Director of both the Kershaw Community Park Council (KCPC) and Youth Serve, and as a member of the Kershaw Community Heart and Soul team.

- My faith in, and commitment to Christ, hopefully shown by concern and fairness in my medical practice, leadership in the church, and work to help grow better race relations.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of me to represent you in the Town leadership. Please vote in the special Town election on Tuesday, September 29th!



**VOLLEYBALL STARTED AT AJHS**

**AJ vs YORK PREP (left) THE TEAM CELEBRATING A BLOCK BY GRACE MCKITTRICK AJ vs LEGION COLLEGIATE ACADEMY VOLLEYBALL GAME (right) AJ #10 CAROLINE WRENN HITTING THE BALL BACK OVER THE NET TO LEGION COLLEGIATE ACADEMY - photos by Gwynn Leaird**

