

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Note: this page -blast from past - is a picture, so you will not see the story continued from here elsewhere in this 2022 paper. It is a snapshot of a page 1 from this same week but many, many years ago in the News-Era.....you can always go to kershawnewsera.com and go to Archives at the top left for papers in the 2000's. For the 90's and earlier, a trip to the library and microfiche would be your option.



Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family. The News-Era will be closed Thurs. and Fri. in observance of the holiday. An envelope will be provided for Football Contest entries.

Kershaw THE NEWS-ERA

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Company exploring potential gold site

By Jim McKeown Jr.
Editor/Publisher

A Canada-based company has started exploration for possible gold deposits on approximately 2,200 acres in the Midway area between Haile Gold Mine and the former Brewer Mine west of Jefferson just across the Chesterfield County Line.

Strongbow Exploration Inc. has purchased options from 17 property owners on the tract, which lies between Romarco Miner-

al's Haile Gold Mine site and its Buzzard property. Strongbow spokesman David Gale said the success of Romarco's testing results at Haile, sparked his company's interest in the area.

"With the success Romarco is having and the price of gold trending up, I think you will see a growth in interest from companies in areas across the Carolina slate belt," Gale said.

According to Gale, Strongbow is in the process of performing sur-

face sampling and inspection of cuts along streambeds that reveal some of the geology under the thick layer of sand that blankets the area and makes exploration for more difficult.

"The gold is not in the sand. It's in the older rock. We have to try and look through the sand," Gale said.

If the company finds enough evidence that gold may be found in the rocks under the sand, Gale said it plans to bring in drills

for further testing starting in February.

If the company confirms viable gold deposits on the property, it plans to either purchase it outright or enter into long-term mining leases with the owners. It is doubtful Strongbow will start its own mining operation, however.

"We're an exploratory company and operate no producing mines in the US or Canada," Gale said. "Our focus is to find the gold. It's hard to tell what happens after that."

He said that Strongbow plans to investigate other areas in South Carolina that are located along the Carolina slate belt, which includes the sites of formerly productive mines in the Brewer Mines, Haile Mine, and the Ridgeway Mine.

"I think we'll have a presence here for the foreseeable future," Gales said.

David Thomas of Romarco's Haile Gold Mine said his company will continue

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Joe Faulkenberry and Joanne Williams will retire December 31 from Joe's Florist. Faulkenberry has owned and operated the

shop for 37 years while Williams has worked with him for 21 years. Photo by Joseph Garris Jr.

Local florist to retire after 37 years of service to town

By Joseph Garris Jr.
News Editor

For the better part of four decades, Kershaw residents have visited Joe's Florist looking for floral arrangements for their special event. On Dec 31, owner Joe Faulkenberry will sell his last arrangement after recently deciding to retire from the business that has served Kershaw for 37 years.

It hasn't been an easy decision and that last day certainly won't be easy either, says Faulkenberry, but his health as a result of diabetes has become too troublesome to continue the work. He smiled fondly on memories of getting the business off the ground.

"I started this from scratch but I was nice to everybody. It wasn't long before I had a shop full," Faulkenberry said.

A graduate of Palmer

College, which eventually became Midlands Technical College, Faulkenberry majored in marketing and distribution. Shortly after college Faulkenberry became interested in opening the flower shop, which was formerly located at the current Trendsetters building.

Faulkenberry, who grew up here, said he never considered opening a business elsewhere.

"I love Kershaw people. They've always been good to me," he said.

For Faulkenberry, it's always been about the design aspect of the business. But aside from that, doing funeral arrangements for families during the tough time of having lost a loved one has also been fulfilling.

"I've enjoyed doing the last things for our loved ones," he said.

Since recently putting the building and business up for sale,

Faulkenberry said he has had several interested buyers. One individual is local and could be letting Faulkenberry know soon whether they intend to move forward with the purchase.

Faulkenberry has tried to ensure anyone interested in buying the building is looking to continue operating a florist in town.

"So people would have somewhere to buy their flowers," he said about the decision.

But don't expect Faulkenberry to lay around and get lazy. He is considering a return to another passion of his - music. For 14 years, Faulkenberry taught piano and pipe organ lessons out of his home.

He participated in the chorus group at Palmer College and has always enjoyed playing music. After college, he was instructed by his college professor to continue

playing. He is the owner of a nice, South African piano that he often plays.

Over the years, Faulkenberry has seen great change in Kershaw and one of the town's longest running businesses. One of the major changes, he said, has been one that has been harmful to the community.

Since opening his business years ago, Faulkenberry said increasingly residents are leaving Kershaw in favor of shopping elsewhere. The result has made it difficult for the small businesses in town to survive but he is thankful he was able to operate for as long as he has.

"People are going out of town and end up paying more. We are not looking at quality anymore. We are looking at price," he said.

Faulkenberry has long

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Arrests made in Sheriff's Department alcohol checks

The Lancaster County Sheriff's Department made a number of arrests in the Kershaw area following a Nov. 13 crime suppression/alcohol license compliance sweep.

The operation was ordered by Sheriff Barry S. Faile and was conducted in cooperation with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, the Lancaster Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. One reason for the development of this operation was the increasing number of complaints that the Sheriff has received concerning the sale of alcohol to people underage.

The compliance checks were conducted at local retail stores where alcohol is sold using a documented underage confidential informant and to conduct compliance checks at establishments with on-premise alcohol consumption licenses. The following is a summation of the criminal charges, administrative charges, and arrests made during the operation.

During the under-

age compliance checks portion of the operation, seven convenience stores sold to the underage informant. The following locations received administrative charges for selling beer to the underage informant:

Lucky 99, 2779 Pageland Highway, Lancaster, South Carolina

Dixie Food Mart, 3586 Pageland Highway, Lancaster, South Carolina

Hinson's Trading Post, 4457 Taxahaw Road, Lancaster, South Carolina

B & J Mini Mart, 7673 Kershaw Camden Highway, Kershaw, South Carolina

Swami Mart, 309 South Main Street, Heath Springs, South Carolina

The Forks, 1594 Memorial Park Road, Lancaster, South Carolina

The Southern Store, 1200 North Main Street, Lancaster, South Carolina

In addition, one location with an on-premise license sold to the underage informant:

Hell and Back Tap Room, 1618 Memorial

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Duke to cut power in town Friday AM

By Joseph Garris Jr.
News Editor

Residents of Kershaw city limits can expect their electricity to be turned off for about an hour early Friday morning, according to a Duke Energy spokesperson.

Jason Wall of Duke Energy said Monday the company will be making improvements to the local electrical system Friday morning about 7 a.m. Wall said a transformer near Kershaw Elementary needs repairs.

He said he doesn't expect the repairs to

take longer than an hour.

"We know what we need to go in and fix so it shouldn't be a problem," he said.

Should there be a problem making the repairs on Friday, the work will reportedly be rescheduled to Saturday at 7 a.m.

"It's fairly common with equipment of this age so we need to go in and make a little repairs," Wall said.

For any questions about the repairs or your service, contact Duke Energy Customer Service, at 1-800-777-9898.