

# Obituaries

## Eloise Denise "Punkin" Battle

McCORMICK- Eloise Denise "Punkin" Battle, 69, of 210 Gilchrist Heights, McCormick, died Feb. 23, 2022 at Self Regional Hospital. She was a daughter of the late James and Annie Mae Morris Battle. She was a member of Pine Grove A.M.E. Church and a 1970 graduate of Mims High School. She was employed as an administrative assistant for Regency Finance.

She leaves to cherish her memories two daughters, Tashun Battle and LaQuencey (James Ray Jr.) Johnson; seven grandchildren; three great-grands; four sisters, Barbara Barker, Mildred Payton, Ophelia (Reginald) Leverette and Georgia Graham; one sister-in-law, Barbara Graham Battle; and many other family members.

Graveside services were held Friday, March 4 at noon in the Pine Grove A.M.E. Church cemetery, where the Rev. Dr. Hanning Milling officiated. Visitation was Thursday, March 3, from 1-7 p.m. at Walker Funeral Home.

## Sharon "Fennie" White Deale

McCORMICK - Sharon "Fennie" White Deale, 62, of Church St. extension entered into rest after an extended illness on March 4, 2022. Fennie was born in McCormick as the daughter of the late Rassie Maude Holcombe and Robert Owens White. She was a retired county mapper for McCormick County.

She is survived by one daughter, Sabrina Broome (Mark); two grandchildren, Mason and Emily Broome; and two sisters, Rhonda Wilkie and Donna Trantham.

No services are planned at this time. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Edgefield Mercantile Funeral Home.



The AAMC Foundation Benefit Bash will be held virtually March 4 - 12. One of the more unique auction packages is "A Day with the Rockhound," Amos Cunningham, who is renowned for his amazing gemstone finds. Pictured above, Amos recently visited the Tucson, Ariz. Gem Show.

## Abbeville Area Medical Center Foundation's Benefit Bash Auction goes virtual

The Abbeville Area Medical Center Foundation will host its annual Benefit Bash virtually again this year. "With the uncertainty of COVID-19, we still weren't comfortable bringing together a large group of people for our usual dinner and auction," stated Meg Davis, AAMC Foundation director. "Keeping our volunteers, staff and guests safe is our main concern."

The event is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Foundation. The 2021 event raised more than \$26,000, which is used to support a variety of equipment purchases, healthcare career scholarships and the Foundation's Endowment.

The secure site can be found at [www.AAMCFBenefitBash.com](http://www.AAMCFBenefitBash.com). Auction items are being added daily. Anyone can view the auction items, but in order to place a bid, visitors to the site will have to register. The site offers many benefits, including texting bidders when they are outbid and the ability to set a maximum "auto" bid.

Bidding for the silent auction items begins on March 4 and will continue through 9 p.m. on March 12. There is something for everyone, including jewelry, home and garden items, original artwork, travel, items for your furry friends and more.

One of the event's more unique silent auction packages is "A Day with the Rockhound." The winning bidder and a friend will spend the day searching for gems at the Diamond Hill Mine with Abbeville's own Rockhound, Amos Cunningham, who is renowned for his amazing finds. A personal tour of his shop in the Level Land community of Due West to learn about gems that can be found in Abbeville County is also included. There are also several crystal cluster auction items donated by his friend, Bryan Major, the Crystal Collector. You can find many of Amos' and Bryan's adventures on [www.thecrystalclubhouse.com](http://www.thecrystalclubhouse.com), including Amos' visit to the Tucson, Ariz. 2022 Gem Show. Amos has been featured in many publications, including the Index Journal and WCTEL Connections magazine.

A fun-filled live feed will be held on March 12 from 7 - 8 p.m. and will feature some amazing live auction items. Each will only be available for bid for a limited time during the feed, and guests can tune in on their mobile device, tablet, smart TV or desktop computer. The feed can be watched on the auction website.

Live auction items include a one-day fishing trip with Pro Angler Casey Ashley, a week stay at Wild Dunes, a \$500 Badcock of Abbeville shopping spree and a show package that includes season tickets to the Abbeville Opera House!

You also won't want to miss purchasing a chance to win a beautiful 2.41 ct. lab-grown padparadscha sapphire set in rose gold with diamond accents donated by the Jeweler's Bench located on the square in Abbeville! The padparadscha sapphire is a pink orange color and is the rarest color of sapphire in nature. Chances are \$5 each or three for \$10 and can be purchased on the auction site. The ring is valued at \$1,800.

"We are hopeful that the auction will be the most successful yet," stated Davis. "Online auctions are tons of fun, and we encourage everyone to visit the site and bid high and often."

For more information, contact the Foundation Office at 366-3364 or [mdavis@AbbevilleAreaMC.com](mailto:mdavis@AbbevilleAreaMC.com).

## Law Enforcement, from page 1

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Deputies were dispatched to the area of Mill Creek and highway 7 for a call of a found handgun. They met with the caller who stated while he was fishing, he noticed a bag in the water on the bottom of the creek. He reported he picked up the bag, and through a tear, noticed what he thought to be a handgun.

Deputies confirmed that it was indeed a firearm, a Hi-Point C9, 9mm pistol. The pistol was completely covered in rust with no serial number visible. Deputies took possession of the firearm and secured it in their vehicle.

Deputies conducted a search of the area for other possible firearms, but none were found. The pistol will be examined by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) for a possible serial number.

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Deputies were dispatched to a structure fire in the Collier Street area of Plum Branch. The house was cleared of residents, and there were no injuries. Deputies contacted the SC Law Enforcement Division Arson Unit to assist in investigating the incident, and the case remains open at this time.

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Deputies responded to a possible violent domestic incident in the 9,000 block of highway 28 south, arrived on the scene and separated both parties, husband and wife. Deputies talked to the wife who indicated her husband had physically assaulted her. Her clothing was torn, there was broken furniture inside of the home and decorative wall hangings were scattered throughout.

She stated the altercation started in the kitchen, which had a broken table in the middle of the floor, and spilled into the living room. She showed deputies where he had scratched her on her neck and arms and claimed he had choked her. She stated the incident occurred over money.

The husband, who appeared to be under the influence of some sort of substance, reported to deputies his wife had come home and assaulted him. His shirt had a tear in the sleeve.

Deputies escorted the husband toward their vehicle. As he was told he was going to be arrested, he punched one of the deputies in the head. Deputies took the subject to the ground and handcuffed him.

He was arrested and transported to the detention center and charged with domestic violence, second degree, and assault on a law enforcement officer. The wife was provided victim's notification forms and transported to a family member's house after she declined medical services.

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Deputies were dispatched to the Callison Hwy area in reference to a missing child. Dispatch advised deputies the child had been missing for about 10 minutes and that there were creeks in the area.

Deputies arrived on the scene and spoke with the caller who stated he had been in the back yard working on his truck with the three-year-old grandchild. He said he turned around, and the child was gone. He stated he checked the residence, the child wasn't there, and he called law enforcement.

The caller stated he found the child playing in a mud puddle in the driveway just prior to law enforcement arriving on the scene. A report was completed for informational purposes.

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Deputies conducted a traffic stop for defective equipment on highway 378 west near highway 7. They identified the driver and observed he had slurred speech and glossy bloodshot eyes and was unable to tell them where he lived.

Deputies detected the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the driver. The driver was asked if he had anything to drink, and he stated one beer earlier. Deputies asked the driver if he would submit to Standard Field Sobriety Tests, and he indicated he would.

Deputies performed a set of SFSTs, which he failed. The driver was arrested for DUI and transported to the detention center for booking and processing.

Once at the detention center, the driver submitted to a Data Master breath test. The results of the test indicated he had a blood alcohol count (BAC) of 0.13. The subject's driver's license was administratively suspended on the scene.


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**LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Beginning October 2021

GLEAMNS will be providing water and waste water assistance. For information, please contact the McCormick County GLEAMNS Community Services Department at 864-852-2662.

Obituaries may be faxed to  
864-852-3528 or emailed to  
[mccmess@wctel.net](mailto:mccmess@wctel.net)

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