

# State Superintendent of Education Candidates Forum to be Saturday, April 1

Republican candidates for SC State Superintendent of Education will face off at a forum on Saturday, April 1 at 6 p.m. at the Talmadge Center. Dinner tickets are \$20 and are available from Republican precinct committeemen and at the Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Mick Zais decided not to run for reelection. The following candidates will participate in the forum.

Sheri Few is an educator and former reading teacher and lives in Kershaw County. She founded South Carolina Parents Involved in Education (SCPIE) and is a leading opponent of the federal Common Core Standards in South Carolina schools. In a Jan. 21 press conference, she said: "Over the last year, I volunteered hundreds of hours to travel the state and have invested personal resources to educate parents and other education stakeholders about the problems with the federal Common Core Standards. Parents feel hopeless because the system ignores their pleas and teachers are afraid to speak up, and this has moved me to offer myself for the office of Superintendent of Education to be the voice of parents and teachers – the most important ingredients in a child's education."

Dr. Kizzi Stanley Gibson is an educator, public servant, and community leader who currently resides in Lexington. She has taught and served as a Visual Arts Educator, Truancy Interventionist, Teacher Mentor, Teacher Evaluator, Educator Team Lead and student mentor at numerous public schools throughout the state of South Carolina for over 18 years. She was elected and has served as an executive board member operating as an Education Sector Representative on the Board of Directors for the largest virtual public charter school in the state of South Carolina. She currently serves as President of the Board of Directors for the newly chartered public virtual school in the low country of South Carolina. In addition, she served as Technology Education Director & Instructional Designer for a Professional Continual Education company.

Lynda Leventis-Wells serves on the Board of Trustees for the Greenville County School District. According to



Sheri Few

the website, her "focus is for all students to receive a great education in order to be successful in all areas of their lives." Lynda's background in law enforcement and education are the foundations that have strengthened and balanced the way she approaches her Board service. She was the Deputy Psychologist and Investigator for the Richland County Sheriff's Dept. and taught Ethics, Dispatching, Problem Solving, Gangs, Felony Car Stops, and more at the SC Criminal Justice Academy. She also taught Physical Education, Resource and ESL at the Saudi Arabian International School in Riyadh, then returned to the Greenville, where she was a Guidance Counselor/Physical Education teacher and coach at JL Mann High.

Kathy Maness has been a member of the Lexington town council since 2004. According to the Lexington website, her "daily career focuses on South Carolina teachers and the many roles they fulfill each day while teaching our children in the classroom or virtually. She is the Executive Director of Palmetto State Teachers Association where she joined as a staff member in 1993. Prior to that she was a third-grade teacher at Erwin Elementary in Lancaster County. Kathy has received many prestigious awards for the positive impact she has made to teachers. In November 2020 Kathy was elected as the President of the National League of Cities, the first person from South Carolina to serve in this position.

Ellen Weaver is a native of South Carolina. From her website: "I know first-hand that a great education is the front door of the American Dream...and I believe that we have a responsibility to throw open this door of opportunity for every child in South Carolina. After college, she worked for U.S. Senator Jim DeMint for 12 years. In 2013, alongside Senator DeMint, they launched Palmetto Promise Institute, South Carolina's premier free-market public policy research and solutions organization. "Over the last 9 years, I have worked every day to improve the lives of South Carolinians by fighting for smaller government, less regulation, and conservative policies that enhance our freedoms."



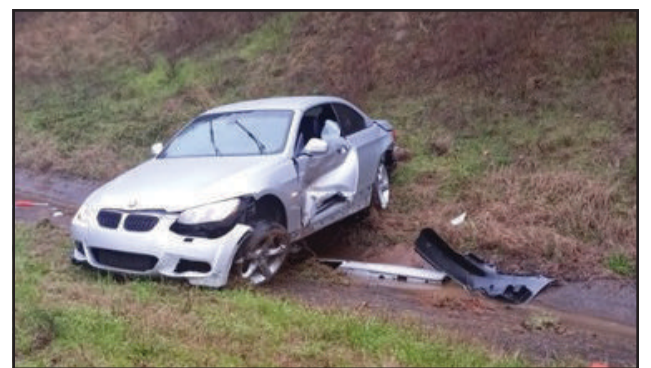
Lynda Leventis-Wells



Kathy Maness



Ellen Weaver



Deputies were dispatched to a single vehicle accident on highway 28 south in Clarks Hill. A vehicle traveling south bound hydroplaned on water, left the roadway, clipped a guardrail and came to rest in a storm drain in the median area of the highway. The driver was belted in and suffered minor injuries, and SC Highway Patrol was contacted to work the accident. Highway 28 remained open in both directions during the investigation of the wreck. -Sheriff's Dept. photo

## Deputies respond to thefts, vehicle incidents & accident

By Bob Stockton

Burglaries and vehicle incidents top recent events for the McCormick County Sheriff's Office.

Deputies were dispatched to highway 378 west area in reference to a break-in that had occurred earlier. Deputies met with the complainant who reported sometime after Thursday, March 17 someone had kicked in the door to the business storage building.

The complainant showed deputies the door where they could clearly see three boot prints and the door latch that was broken. The complainant stated that he couldn't tell if anything had been taken due to the amount of miscellaneous building supplies onsite. A report was generated for informational purposes.

\*\*\*

Deputies responded to a trespassing call at the recycle center on highway 81 and conducted a protective sweep of the area. They observed vehicle tire tracks in the grassy area behind the property.

There was no one or any vehicles present at the time and a report was generated for informational purposes. It should be noted that scrap metal has been stolen from the recycle center in the past.

\*\*\*

Deputies were patrolling highway 378 west when they observed a vehicle traveling toward them at 80 miles per hour in a 45 mph speed zone. They stopped the vehicle and approached the driver noting there appeared to be vomit on the driver's side door and window.

Deputies observed the driver to be nervous and sweating profusely. They detected the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the driver. Deputies asked the driver to step out of the vehicle and if he would submit to standard field sobriety Tests (SFST).

Deputies conducted the SFST's which the driver failed, and he was arrested for DUI and written a citation for speeding. He was transported to the detention center for booking and processing

\*\*\*

Deputies were traveling north bound on highway 28 south in Plum Branch, when they noted a white van approaching them at a high rate of speed. The van was traveling 66 miles per hour in a 40 mph speed zone.

Deputies initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and approached the driver who provided them with a driver's license from Honduras. The driver indicated he did not speak English.

Deputies were able to speak through a translator to explain the reason for the stop. During conversation with the driver, deputies observed two citations on the dashboard of the van.

Deputies asked to see the citations and noted the driver had been stopped in Greenwood County 50 minutes earlier and issued citations from Greenwood for speeding and no valid SC license.

Deputies arrested the driver and transported him to the detention center for booking and processing charged with additional counts of speeding 25 miles per hour over the limit and no valid SC license.

\*\*\*

Deputies were dispatched to a call for a scam, and the victim reported his cell phone and computer had been hacked. The victim stated he received a call from a bank which informed him he had been hacked.

He stated he was told to purchase \$2,000 in gift cards and send the gift card information to the bank. After sending the information, he realized he had been scammed.

He was instructed to contact his financial institutions to report possible fraud. A report was generated for informational purposes.

## How to reach age 90

By Bob Edmonds

Love God, trust in Jesus, pray a lot, listen to the Holy Spirit.

Love your spouse, your family, your neighbors, your Country.

Abstain from alcohol in any form and never smoke.

Set high goals in life for yourself and work your fanny off reaching them.

Keep your eye on the ball and work, work, work.

Smile a lot, laugh a lot, take one day at a time.

Don't worry, most of things you worry about never happen.

II Timothy 4:7

## Birthdays/Wedding Anniversaries

April 1 - Mary Louise Drennon, Garland Pierce, Gail M. Schumpert, Rennie Wideman II, Roytarya Bussey, Frank Love, Angela Rosby, Dick Kvale, Wendy Kvale, Benetra Calhoun.

April 2 - Bridgette S. Morgan, Jamie Peeler, Michael Golden, Diane Rogers, Ida Boyd, Jeremy Brown, Elvis Huges, Bill Crowell, Jennifer Stacco, Shirley Letman, Al Baglyos, Marian Maurer.

April 3 - Mary Aycock, Milton Self, Johnny Lee Talbert, Stacey Wall, Donna Deason, Mr. and Mrs. Scotty Callan, Shirlene Blackwell, Lt. Marty Hanks, Tiffany Long, Claire Pursley-Watson, Shirley Moffett, Tiffany Sauder, Herbert Lampkins.

April 4 - Terry Bowick, Roderick F. Chiles, Cornelia Jones, Lindsey White, Roy Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Suggs, Charles Jennings Jr., Jessie L. Milton, Lisa E. Daniel, Marsha Cannady, Michael Talbert, China Shanell Hickingbotton, Barbara Shelley.

April 5 - Wade Long, Marilyn L. Lutche, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Smith, George H. Young III, James Pearson, Laurie Jo Jennings, Bob Bailey, Harry Lee, Wes and Angel McAlister, Madeleine Toland, Debra Jones.

April 6 - Bob Edmonds, George Long Jr., Michael E. Wideman, Mitchell E. Wideman, Virginia C. Smith, Glenn Wright, Neil V. Evans, Mary Lee Jennings, Kenny and Sandra Lindley, Peg Baumeister, Flo King, Lauren McRee, Jeffrey Wayne Dukes, Oshen T. Bland, Lela Mae Perrin, Caroline Steverson, Jeff and Gwen Sibert, Justin Tatum, Andrew Robert Briggs.

April 7 - Robert T. Gilchrist, Thomas McKinney III, Terri Patterson, Toni Letman, Elvis Williams, Tiffany Brunner, Nathan Ernest Leverette, Zachary McDuffie, Howard and Denise Terry, Darlene Ehmke, Elizabeth Hunter.

## Imagination Library

Would you like to receive free books for your preschool child(ren)? McCormick County First Steps and Dolly Parton extend the invitation for you and your preschool aged child to enroll in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. To be eligible the child must be preschool age (birth to age 5) and must be a resident of McCormick County. If you are interested, contact NaToya Cartledge at McCormick County First Steps (located at McCormick Elementary School Room 133) 864-443-5382.



## Know what I heard?

Forest View Manor  
is the place to be!

FOREST VIEW MANOR  
ASSISTED LIVING

141 Callison Hwy, McCormick

864-443-5857

www.forestviewmanor.org

**Happy Retirement**

*Please join us to celebrate the retirement of*

**Leila B. Jackson**  
and  
**Eatherine B. Lewis**

*A drop-in in their honor will be held*

**Sunday, April 10 from 2 - 5 p.m.**

**Dorn's Flour and Grist Mill**  
**206 North Main Street, McCormick, SC**

*Please bring a written note in reference to your first appointment (how, when, etc.) and a special memory that took place at her shop. A picture would be nice too.*