

**Cody Mitchell**

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help limit screen addiction and safeguard the well-being of South Carolina's youth.

**Protecting Life & Women's Safety**

Protecting life remains a top priority for House Republicans.

Last week, the House passed legislation addressing chemically induced abortions. The bill closes a loophole that has allowed abortion pills to be sent into South Carolina with little accountability and stops bad out-of-state actors from flooding our state with dangerous abortion drugs. It classifies mifepristone as a Schedule IV drug, ensuring proper oversight, and patient safety. This legislation puts women's health and safety first, not the profits of out-of-state providers and makes clear that South Carolina will not back down from protecting life.

**Watch Representative Melissa Oremus defend women and life at the well**

**Other Bills Advancing Through the Legislative Process**

In addition to the work highlighted above, several other important pieces of legislation continued moving through the General Assembly last week.

□ A bipartisan bill advancing last week, (S.405) strengthens South Carolina's child abuse homicide statute by increasing the age covered under the crime from under 11 to under 18. This change ensures harsher penalties and greater accountability for those whose abusive or neglectful actions result in the death of an older child — reflecting our shared commitment to protecting all South Carolina children. The bill passed the House with unanimous support and now continues through the legislative process.

□□ House Republicans continue to stand with parents by advancing legislation that protects parental rights (H.4757), affirming that moms and dads — not the government, are best equipped to make decisions about their children's upbringing, education, and well-being.

□ Legislation strengthening workforce readiness (H. 3197) continues advancing, helping ensure students graduate with the skills needed to succeed in today's economy and meet the needs of South Carolina employers. This effort supports job growth, economic competitiveness, and a stronger pipeline between education and the workforce.

□ The House is advancing legislation recognizing the U.S. Space Force (H.4586) under South Carolina law. This update ensures Space Force members and their families receive the same legal protections and benefits as other service members — including military leave, voting rights, and family-related

**Animal Control**

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Deputies and investigators with the sheriff's office will assist the county animal control officers when necessary. According to Sheriff Barry Faile, "The county has a good animal control ordinance that covers most routine animal complaints, but state law also contains a good number of statutes covering topics such as cruelty to animals and animal fighting. When more serious incidents like these occur, Public Safety Communications will also dispatch our deputies, and we will investigate and make appropriate charges under state law. This change in enforcement fits the missions of both the county and the sheriff's office but will not result in reduced animal control enforcement. Appropriate action will be taken on all calls whether by county animal control officers or our deputies."

Anyone with information about any case should call the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office at 803-283-3388 and select Option 4 or submit a tip in one of the following ways: use the link [www.p3tips.com/983](http://www.p3tips.com/983) or download the P3Tips mobile app available for both Apple and Android devices. Crime tips may be made anonymously.

matters.

□□ Legislation expanding certificate-of-need exemptions for veterans' homes (H.4799) also moved forward, cutting red tape to make it easier to provide care for the men and women who have served our country. This commonsense reform helps ensure veterans have access to the facilities and services they deserve.

House Republicans remain focused on delivering thoughtful, conservative solutions, moving good policy forward step by step to strengthen families, protect freedoms, and keep South Carolina moving in the right direction. As always, I appreciate the opportunity to represent you and to keep you informed about the work being done in Columbia. I welcome your feedback and encourage you to reach out if you have any questions or would like more information on these or other issues before the General Assembly.

To keep up with my legislative updates: Facebook Link: <https://www.facebook.com/ElectCodyTMitchell> Website: <https://www.codytmitchell.com/> Email: [ctmitchellsc@gmail.com](mailto:ctmitchellsc@gmail.com) Phone #: (843) 332-5050

To keep up with the SC House Republican Caucus: SCHouseGOP Facebook SCHouseGOP Instagram SCHouseGOP X / Twitter SCHouseGOP Website

# AJ VS NORTH CENTRAL GIRLS BASKETBALL



AJ #35 Dream Jones eyes the basket.....AJ GIRLS WON 75-16 (photo by Gwynn Leaird)

# AJ VS BUFORD GIRLS BASKETBALL

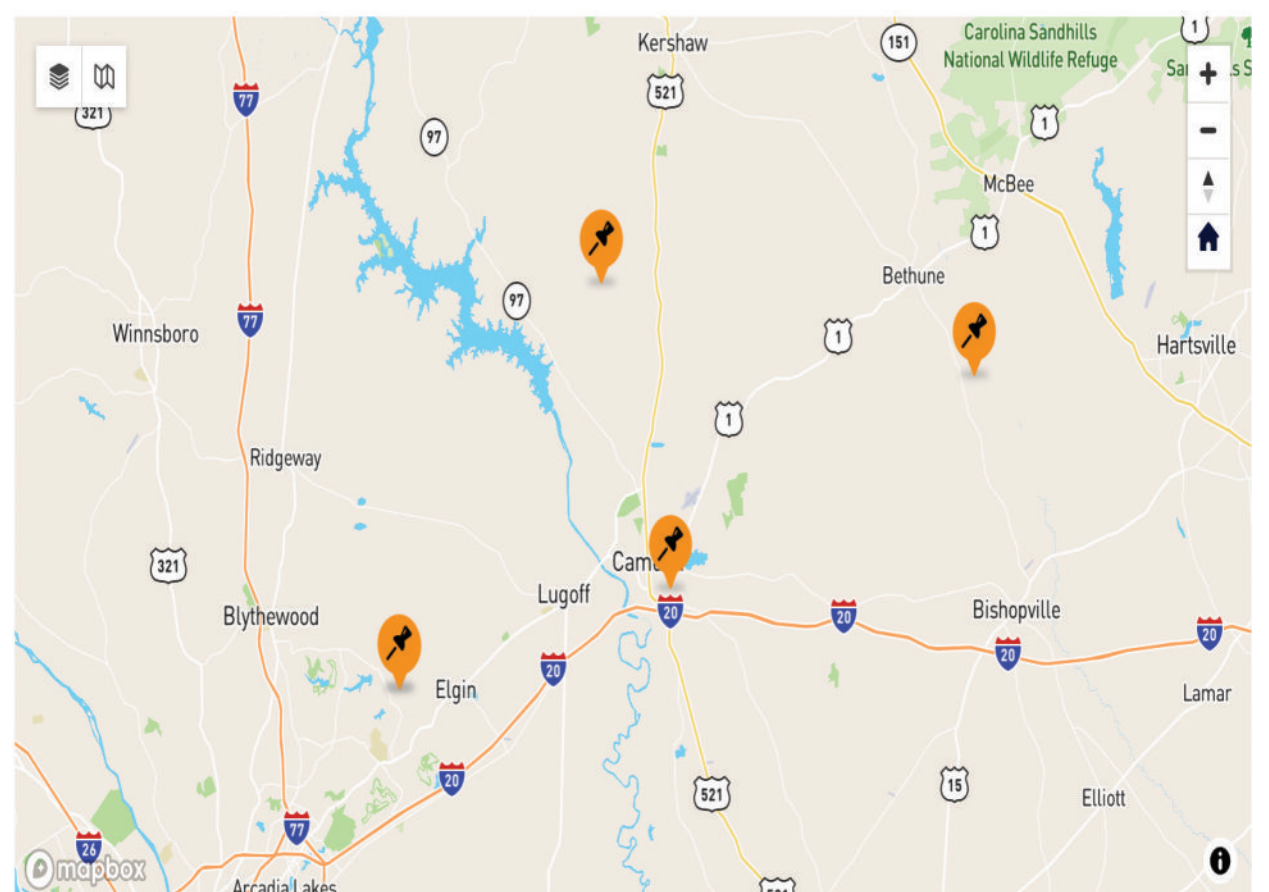


AJ #2 Trinity Delly goes up for two points for The Volunteers.....AJ GIRLS WIN 75-24 (photo by Gwynn Leaird)

## In Kershaw County, Expect Upcoming Bridge Repairs

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is proposing to replace 18 bridges in Aiken, Bamberg, Kershaw, Lexington, Orangeburg, Richland, and Sumter counties. These bridges make up Package 24 and are part of the SCDOT's Closed and Load Restricted Bridge (CLRB) Program.

- Kershaw County S-53 (Cherokee Blvd) over Twenty Five Mile Creek #1
- S-58 (Flat Rock Rd) over Little Flat Rock Creek
- S-15 (Old Stagecoach Rd) over LYNCHES RIVER
- S-53 (Cherokee Blvd) over Twenty Five Mile Creek #2
- S-45 (York St) over Big Pine Tree Creek



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