



Kershaw THE NEWS-ERA

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Proudly Serving Lancaster and Kershaw Counties, and Town of Kershaw - Published in the Interest of the People of South Carolina

VOL. 79 NO. 28 THWTB Wednesday, March 4, 2026 803-475-6096 75 cents and worth more

A Night Among the Stars!

KERSHAW, SC — The 2026 edition of the Lancaster County Dancing with the Stars is in full swing! You are cordially invited to attend the Focus Arts Program Fundraiser, a premier showcase of talent and creativity hosted by Andrew Jackson Middle School. Event At-A-Glance
WHAT: Focus Arts Program Fundraiser
WHEN: Saturday, March 7, 2026, at 7:00 PM
WHERE: Andrew Jackson Visual and Performing Arts Center, Kershaw, SC
TICKETS: \$20.00 (Available now at Preppy Pineapple or Genelles in Lancaster or Andrew Jackson Middle School in Kershaw (803-475-6021))



Help make this a Winning Team! Bring your \$'s and your ticket to support them on March 7th!

The slate of dancers is dynamite and you will appreciate both their dance moves and their significant contributions to Lancaster County. The following Celebrity Community dancers will be in

the show:
-Carla Stamets, Fayette Waldrop and Eric Grace
-Christina Sims, Ashley Pate

and Bryson Whaley
-Dr. Norris Williams and Denise Lloyd
-Sam Plyler and Cassie

Jenkins

Dancing with the Stars
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South Carolina Hands-Free and Distracted Driving Act

Beginning Monday, September 1, 2025, it will be illegal to have a cell phone in your hand while you're driving a vehicle on a public road in South Carolina. Governor Henry McMaster signed the law in May. Although it's effective Monday, between then and February 28, 2026, only warnings will be issued for violations.

The law makes it illegal "while operating a motor vehicle on any public highway of this State... to hold or support, with any part of the body, a mobile electronic device" or to "read, compose, or transmit any text including, but not limited to, a text message, email, application interaction, or website information on a mobile electronic device" or "watch motion including, but not limited to, a video, movie, game, or video call on a mobile electronic device." Although most of us think of cell phones, the act also covers portable computers, GPS receivers, electronic games, and other devices used to communicate, display, or record digital content. The new law does not apply to

Distracted Driving
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FFA Section
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Kershaw Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet
Tuesday, March 31st at 6 PM
at the Kershaw Country Club
301 Club House Dr., Kershaw, SC 29067
Call Sheila Hinson (803) 243-0195 or Kelley Boone (803) 427-3838 about tickets.

Glen Ward - Motivational Speaker
Semi-Formal Dress Code

AJ VS BLACKSBURG GIRLS BASKETBALL (3RD PLAYOFF GAME)

AJ #3 Ni'Yonna Asbelle goes up for two points for The VolunteersAJ GIRLS WIN 52-36 (Gwynn Leaird Photography)



Week Seven: Legislative Update

WEEK 7 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Fighting for South Carolina Values, Strong Schools, and Public Safety

Last week in Columbia, we made meaningful progress on legislation focused on public safety, strengthening our schools, and putting South Carolina families first! Every vote and every committee hearing is centered on protecting your family, your freedoms, and your future. Here's an update on the work we accomplished and how it impacts you.

South Carolina Jobs First
Finally, the Buy American Iron & Steel Act (H.4709) passed the House unanimously this week. This important legislation ensures taxpayer dollars prioritize American-made iron and steel in state-funded projects, strengthening domestic manufacturing and supporting South Carolina jobs. We are putting America First — right here in South Carolina!

We also advanced the Workforce Readiness bill (H.3197), focused on better preparing South Carolina students for success after graduation. This legislation strengthens pathways



Cody Mitchell

to industry credentials and postsecondary education while aligning high school outcomes with real workforce needs. By raising standards and expanding opportunity, we are building a stronger workforce and a stronger future for our state.

Fighting for Our Students
On Wednesday, the House passed the Historic Displays & Chaplains in Schools Act (H.4762). This legislation ensures schools display foundational historical documents — including the Ten Commandments, as part of an educational presentation

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