

Legal notices

NOTICE OF ELECTION

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF LANCASTER

The Democratic and Republican parties will hold primaries on Tuesday, June 9, 2026. Any necessary runoffs will be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2026. Any person wishing to vote in the primaries and runoffs must register no later than Sunday, May 10, 2026. Voter registration forms received by mail will be accepted if postmarked by Monday, May 11, 2026.

The early voting period for these primaries begins on Tuesday, May 26th and ends on Friday, June 5th. The following early voting centers will be open during the early voting period from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (closed Saturdays and Sundays).

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
101 NORTH MAIN ST
LANCASTER, SC 29720

INDIAN LAND ANNEX
8286 CHARLOTTE HWY
INDIAN LAND, SC 29707

DEL WEBB LIBRARY
7641 CHARLOTTE HWY
INDIAN LAND SC, 29707

KERSHAW SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH
7737 KERSHAW CAMDEN HWY
KERSHAW, SC 29067

Voters will be asked to provide one of the following Photo IDs at their polling place:

- S.C. Driver's License
- ID Card issued by S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles
- S.C. Voter Registration Card with Photo
- Federal Military ID
- U.S. Passport

Voters should remember to bring one of these IDs with them to the polling place. Voters without Photo ID can get one free of charge from their county voter registration office or the Department of Motor Vehicles. For more information on Photo ID, visit scVOTES.gov or contact your county board of voter registration and elections.

At 10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 8, 2026, the County Board of Voter Registration and Elections may begin its examination of the absentee ballot return envelopes at County Administration Building, lower level, 101 N Main St, Lancaster SC 29720. 803-285-2969.

At 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2026, the county board of canvassers will hold a hearing to determine the validity of all provisional ballots cast in the primaries. At 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026, the county board of canvassers will hold a hearing to determine the validity of all provisional ballots cast in any necessary runoffs. These hearings will be held at County Administration Building, lower level, 101 N Main St, Lancaster SC 29720. 803-285-2969

The following precincts and polling places will be open during the primaries and runoffs from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Polling places are subject to change under certain conditions. Voters can check their assigned polling place at scVOTES.gov before going to the polls on election day.

Precincts

521 North
Antioch
Black Horse Run
Buford
Camp Creek
Chesterfield Ave.
College Park
Douglas
Elgin
Erwin Farm
Flat Creek
Gold Hill
Harrisburg
Heath Springs
Hyde Park
Jim Wilson
Kershaw
McIlwain
Osceola
Pleasant Hill
Pleasant Valley
Possum Hollow
Rich Hill
River Road
Riverside
Six Mile Creek
Springdale
Sun City Carolina Lakes
Tradesville
Unity
Van Wyck

KNE2x 0408, 042226

Polling Places

Taylor's Grove Baptist Church
Antioch Baptist Church
Transformation Church
Bethlehem Baptist Church
Camp Creek Baptist Church
First Baptist Church
Carol Ray Dowling Center
Douglas Presbyterian Church
St. Luke's Leisure Center
Grace Presbyterian Church
Flat Creek Fire Dept.
Gold Hill AME Zion Church
Harrisburg Elementary School
Heath Springs Senior Complex
Hyde Park Baptist Church
Church of Christ
Kershaw Second Baptist Church
Sherwood Baptist Church Family Life Center
Osceola Methodist Church
Bright Light Baptist Church
Pleasant Hill Methodist Church
Indian Land Intermediate School
Rich Hill Fire Dept.
Indian Land Middle School
Catawba Baptist Church
Faith Presbyterian Church
Springdell Baptist Church
Sun City Lodge
Spring Hill Baptist Church
Unity ARP Church
Van Wyck Community Center

Cody Mitchell

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law enforcement. These animals are not just companions, they are highly trained officers that track dangerous criminals, protect their handlers, and help keep our communities safe every day. Originally inspired by Fargo, a K9 officer and partner to Officer Warren Cavanagh, this legislation reflects years of advocacy to ensure these brave animals are properly protected under the law. It increases penalties for those who harm or kill a police animal, making these offenses felonies punishable by up to 15 years in prison, along with significant fines and full restitution for the cost of replacing and training the animal. This bill now heads to the Senate, another step toward ensuring South Carolina stands firmly with law enforcement and protects those who protect us.

□ In addition, the House passed H.4804, strengthening penalties for the sexual exploitation of a minor. This bill closes dangerous loopholes, increases minimum sentences, and ensures repeat offenders face mandatory prison time. Protecting children is not optional, it is our responsibility, and we are making sure those who exploit minors are held fully accountable.

We also continued advancing legislation to protect South

Carolina land and security (H.3408) by preventing foreign adversaries from purchasing or controlling property in our state. This is about safeguarding our farmland, our infrastructure, and our future from those who do not have our best interests at heart.

Protecting Children & Putting Students First

□ We also made important progress in education and protecting our students. The House unanimously passed the Tenure Accountability Act (H.4761), bringing consistent, commonsense standards to our public colleges and universities. This legislation requires annual faculty evaluations and regular post-tenure reviews, ensuring a stronger focus on teaching, performance, and results. By increasing transparency and accountability, this bill helps ensure students receive a high-quality education and taxpayers can have confidence in how their dollars are being used.

□ We also passed H.4591, the Stop Harm from Addictive Social Media (SHASM) Act, putting new safeguards in place to protect children online. This legislation targets the addictive features that keep kids glued to their screens, like endless scrolling, autoplay videos, and late-night notifications, while requiring age verification and strengthening default protec-

tions for minors. Just as importantly, it puts parents back in control by giving them tools like screen time limits and the ability to restrict algorithm-driven content.

Lowering Costs & Supporting Families

□ This week, we also took meaningful steps to make life more affordable and improve our state's infrastructure. The House passed the Insurance Rate Reduction and Policyholder Protection Act (H.4817) a major step toward lowering insurance costs. This bill cracks down on fraud and abuse that drive up premiums, increases transparency and accountability for insurance companies, and helps homeowners take steps to reduce risk and lower costs. The goal is simple: fair, affordable insurance for all South Carolinians.

□ Finally, the House Ways and Means Committee advanced the Pregnancy Care Tax Credit (S.32), which encourages donations to pregnancy resource centers, maternity homes, and organizations that support expecting mothers. These groups provide real, on-the-ground help, from counseling to essential supplies, and this legislation ensures they have the resources to continue supporting women and families across our state. It's about strengthening communities and making sure no one walks through pregnan-

A Bishop's Appeal to the Crown: An Open Letter To HM King Charles III His Majesty, Charles III,

King of the United Kingdom and the Realms,

Supreme Governor of the Church of England,

Bearer of the ancient title Defender of the Faith.

Your Majesty,

I write to you neither as a politician nor as a commentator, but as one of your loyal subjects who, as a bishop of Christ's Church, cannot remain silent while the Christian foundations of this kingdom are steadily dismantled.

Sir, there are moments in the life of a nation when silence becomes a form of betrayal. If I refused to speak to Your Majesty now, this would be such a moment.

For more than a thousand years the Crown of this realm has stood in solemn covenant with the Christian faith.

The laws of this land were shaped by it.

The liberties of our people were nurtured by it.

The conscience of our civilisation was formed by it.

From the abbeys of medieval England to the parish churches of our villages, from the preaching of the Reformers to the missionary zeal that carried the Gospel to the ends of the earth, the Christian faith has not merely influenced Britain — it has defined her.

Yet today that inheritance is being quietly but deliberately eroded. Across the institutions of this nation there is a growing hostility toward the faith that built them.

Christian belief is mocked in the public square. Christian morality is dismissed as intolerance. Christian institutions are pressured to surrender doctrine in order to conform to the ideology of the age.

Within the very Church that bears the name of England, voices have arisen that appear more eager to mirror the spirit of the age than to proclaim the eternal truth of the Gospel.

Meanwhile, beyond the walls of our churches, powerful political movements openly speak of removing Christianity from its historic place within the life of this nation.

What would once have been whispered is now proclaimed openly: that Britain must become a post-Christian state.

It is in this context that I write to you, Your Majesty. For the British Crown does not stand apart from this crisis.

Kershaw County Fire earns Fire Safe Community Designation

Kershaw County Fire Service earned its 6th Consecutive Fire Safe Community Designation through Fire Safe South Carolina, a Division of the SC State Fire Marshal's Office.

"We are very proud of the work our men and women have put in to join the other 241 departments across the state who have earned this designation. They have spent countless hours completing classes, installing smoke alarms, and attending community events," said Matthew Bullard, Fire Chief for Kershaw County Fire Service. "This is all in an effort to better educate the citizens of Kershaw County. While I am extremely proud of our men and women of Kershaw County Fire Service, I would also like to mention that all three Fire agencies in Kershaw County received this designation: Camden Fire Department, Kershaw County Fire Service and Lugoff Fire Rescue."

Battalion Chief Blake Stokes oversees the Community Risk Reduction Division and has a team of paid and volunteer members who help drive this safe community designation.

"I am very proud of the efforts that Battalion Chief Stokes and his team make for Kershaw County to keep this designation continuous, and I fully support all the efforts that the men and women of this department do every day to keep the citizens of Kershaw County Fire Safe." -- W. Matthew Bullard, Kershaw County Fire Chief

cy alone.

This week was about results, real, meaningful progress that puts South Carolina first. We are working to keep our communities safe, protect our children, lower costs, and build a stronger future for our state. And while there is still more work to be done, we are continuing to move forward with a clear focus: delivering commonsense solutions that make a difference in your everyday

The Sovereign of this realm bears a title that is not merely historic but sacred in its origin and meaning: Defender of the Faith. Those words are not decorative. They are a charge.

They speak of a monarch whose duty is not merely to preside over the ceremonies of the Church, but to stand as a guardian of the Christian inheritance of the nation.

Yet many among your subjects now ask, with increasing anxiety: "Who will defend that inheritance today?"

They see a nation drifting from its foundations. And they ask whether the Crown will remain silent while that inheritance is dismantled.

Your Majesty, may I be so bold as to observe that your coronation oath was not a poetic formality. It was a solemn vow made before Almighty God to maintain and preserve the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law.

Those words bind the conscience of the sovereign. They remind the Crown that its authority is not merely constitutional but moral. The monarch is not merely a symbol of national continuity, but a custodian of the spiritual inheritance that shaped this realm.

History records moments when kings and emperors were confronted by the Church and reminded that their authority was accountable before God. In the fourth century Ambrose of Milan stood before the Emperor Theodosius I and reminded him that even the ruler of an empire must bow before the moral law of Christ.

That tradition of prophetic witness has never disappeared. Nor should it. For when rulers forget the foundations upon which their authority rests, the Church must speak — not with hostility, but with holy clarity.

And so, I write to say this, Your Majesty: The Christian character of this nation is under profound and accelerating assault.

If the Crown does not stand visibly and courageously in defence of that inheritance, history will record that the guardians of Britain's institutions watched in silence as the foundations were removed.

The issue before us is not nostalgia. It is civilisation. Remove Christianity from the story of Britain and you do not create a neutral society — you create a moral vacuum. And history teaches us that moral vacuums are never left empty for long.

Your Majesty now stands at a crossroads that few monarchs in modern history have faced.

For the erosion of Britain's Christian inheritance will not ultimately be judged by speeches made in Parliament or debates in the press. It will be judged by whether those entrusted with the guardianship of our ancient institutions chose to defend them — or merely preside over their quiet surrender.

You may preside over the quiet dissolution of Britain's Christian

identity. Or you may rise to the ancient responsibility entrusted to the Crown and speak with clarity about the faith that built this kingdom. The first path requires little courage. The second will require a great deal. But it is the path that history honours.

Your Majesty's subjects are not asking for religious coercion. They are asking for leadership. They are asking that the sovereign who bears the title Defender of the Faith remember what that title means.

They are asking that the Crown hear the growing cry of anguish from Christians across this land who feel that the spiritual inheritance of their nation is being surrendered without resistance. And they are asking whether the Crown will stand with them.

For the faith that shaped Britain is not merely a cultural ornament. It is the wellspring from which our laws, our liberties, and our moral imagination have flowed. If it is cast aside, the nation will discover — too late — that it has severed itself from the very roots that sustained it.

Your Majesty, to many the Crown is a symbol of authority. But before God it is also a symbol of stewardship. And stewardship carries with it the duty to defend what has been entrusted.

May Almighty God grant Your Majesty the wisdom to discern this hour, and the courage to fulfil the sacred duty entrusted to the Crown.

Yours faithfully,

Bishop Ceirion H. Dewar FSHC
Missionary Bishop

Chamber Banquet continued on page 5

for the mine, credited former Haile Gold Mine president David Thomas as an inspiration for his community involvement.

"The impact this community has had on me is immeasurable," Byrd said while accepting the award.

Byrd has played a role in several major local initiatives, including efforts to preserve the old schoolhouse and working with MUSC Lancaster to expand healthcare access in the area. However, presenter Beverly Adams noted it is often the smaller, less visible contributions that define Byrd's commitment — from assisting with everyday needs to simple acts like adjusting clocks during daylight saving time.

Williams Financial was named Business of the Year. Founded by Joe Williams on April 1, 1959, the business continues to serve the community under the leadership of his daughter, Wanda Gardner.

Kenny Catoe of KARE was honored as Citizen of the Year for his years of service and dedication to the organization and the broader Kershaw community.

Additional coverage of the banquet and its award winners will appear in the April 15 edition.

life.

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/ElectCodyT-Mitchell>

facebook.com/ElectCodyT-Mitchell
Website: <https://www.codytmitchell.com/>
Email: 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