

# Kershaw THE NEWS-ERA ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



**AJ GOLF**  
Banks Steele teeing off for The Volunteers.

Gwynn Leaird Photography

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**Armed Robbery**  
*continued from page 1*

tics Team to run with the K-9. A track was established and covered an area between Memorial Park Road and Grace Avenue before the track was ended near White Springs Baptist Church at 1249 Grace Avenue. The robber was not located.

The robber is a black male between 6'2" and 6'4" tall. He has a medium complex-

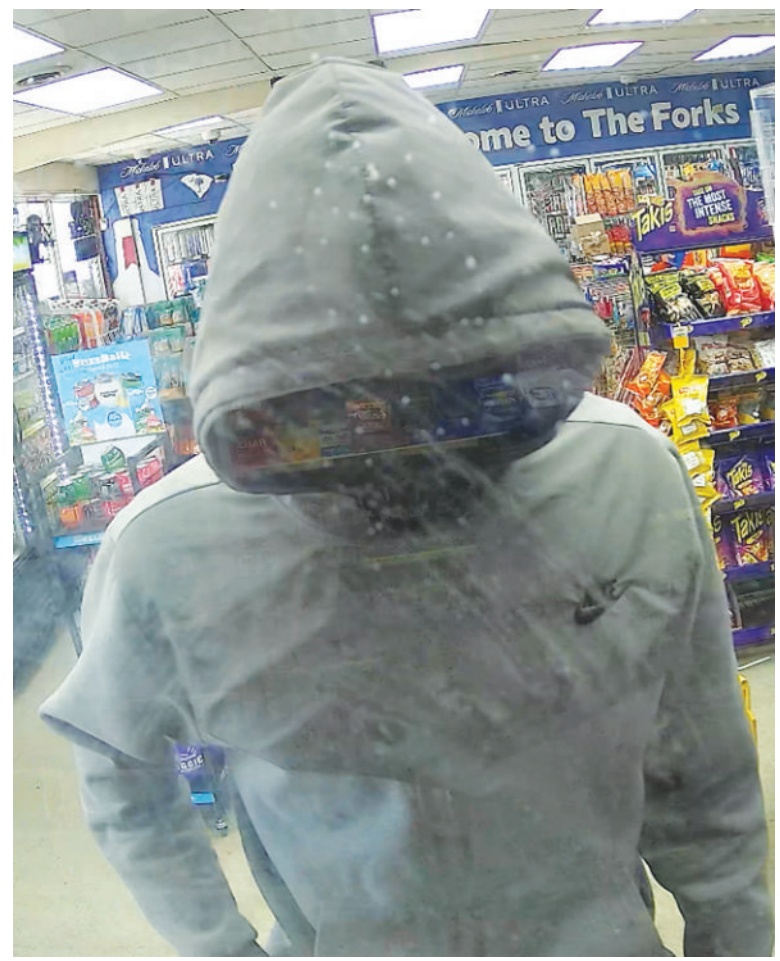
ion. He was wearing a two-tone gray Nike hoodie with the hood up, black pants, and black Nike Air Force One shoes. He had on black gloves and a black mask covering most of his face. The robber held the pistol in his right hand. Video surveillance showing the robber running from the scene shows he has a long gait. Attached are photos and a video showing the robber at the store and running away from the store.

"This robbery is a little

unusual in that it occurred at noon on a Saturday at a typically busy store," said Sheriff Barry Faile. "We know customers were present before the robbery, and we hope somebody saw this man and can provide information that will help us identify him. There are probably people out there who recognize the robber from his clothing. Finally, people who commit crimes often talk about it later or, in the case of a robbery like this, flash cash. I encourage anyone with any information that will help us identify this man to contact us. If you don't want to tell us who you are, you can provide information anonymously."

(All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.)

Anyone with information about this or any other 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.



## Kershaw County Guardian ad Litem Program Welcomes Newly Sworn-In Volunteers



Newly sworn-in Guardian ad Litem volunteers stand with The Honorable Michael S. Rankin following the Kershaw County swearing-in ceremony on March 31, 2026. Pictured are Felicia McCreary, Lavonia Johnson-Davis, and Della Robinson

The Cass Elias McCarter Guardian ad Litem (GAL) Program, a division of the South Carolina Department of Children's Advocacy, is proud to announce the swearing-in of new volunteer Guardian ad Litem (GAL) in Kershaw County.

During the swearing-in ceremony, Felicia McCreary, Lavonia Johnson-Davis, and Della Robinson took an oath to provide a voice for abused and neglected children involved in family court legal proceedings. The ceremony took place on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at the Kershaw County Family Court House and was presided over by the Honorable Michael S. Rankin.

These newly appointed GAL volunteers have completed the required training and now join other dedicated Kershaw County community members who are advocating for children in the family court system. Their role is to ensure that every child they serve has a voice and that their best interests are represented before the court.

"We're always looking for dedicated individuals who are passionate about advocating for children," says Richard Fowler, regional recruiter, and trainer for the GAL program. "If you are in-

terested in learning how you can change a child's story, we encourage you to visit [gal.sc.gov](http://gal.sc.gov) to learn more."

Volunteers should be at least 21 years old, have a clean criminal record, no previous DSS case history, and be able to contribute four to five hours a month of their time for a child. Free training is provided to all volunteers. The next training classes begin on Tuesday, April 28, 2026.

For more information on becoming a volunteer Guardian ad Litem, contact Richard Fowler at (803) 645-9956 or [Richard.Fowler@childadvocate.sc.gov](mailto:Richard.Fowler@childadvocate.sc.gov) or visit [gal.sc.gov](http://gal.sc.gov).

## Town of Heath Springs Councilmember Graduates From the Advanced Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government

Councilmember Vincent S. Webb of the Town of Heath Springs (Down-load photo). Councilmember Vincent S. Webb of the Town of Heath Springs has graduated from the Advanced Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government. Graduates received their certificates during the Municipal Association of South Carolina's Hometown Legislative Action Day on January 20, 2026.

The Municipal Association offers the Advanced Institute exclusively to graduates of the Municipal Elected Officials Institute of Government. Created in 2014, the Advanced Institute provides elected officials with continuing education through classroom instruction and interaction with experienced peers.

"The Advanced MEO Institute allows mayors and councilmembers to explore in depth many governance topics that can help them to be more effective leaders for their cities and towns," said Urica Floyd,

the Municipal Association's staff associate for training and learning solutions.

Graduating officials have participated in at least four of the six courses offered to graduate from the Advanced MEO Institute. Topics include public safety, budgeting, utilities, advocacy, economic development and governance.

The Advanced MEO Institute draws its faculty from South Carolina and across the country including recognized local government leaders, state officials, as well as college and university faculty.

Established in 1986, the MEO Institute is a program of the Municipal Association of South Carolina. It gives municipal officials a strong foundation in the operation of municipal government.



The MEO Institute and Advanced MEO Institute are two of the many educational and training opportunities that the Municipal Association offers for the elected officials and staff serving cities and towns. Learn more at [www.masc.sc](http://www.masc.sc) (keyword: education and training).

## Lugoff Fire-Rescue to hold free Community Lifesaver Training

Training provided on topics of bleeding control, CPR, LifeVac and Narcan

Lugoff, S.C. (April 1, 2026) Lugoff Fire-Rescue (LF-R) is excited to announce an opportunity for our community to get free training in the following topics:

- Bleeding control (Stop the Bleed)
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- LifeVac
- Narcan

LF-R will hold three sessions throughout 2026 at the Lugoff Fire Department Headquarters located at 892 Highway 1 South, Lugoff, SC 29078.

Training Sessions:

- Saturday April 18, 2026 9 am – noon
- Saturday July 18, 2026 9 am – noon
- Saturday October 17, 2026 9 am – noon

Space is limited so please sign up using the Google form at the following link (<https://bit.ly/lfdcp>). Once a session reaches the maximum enrollment, the form will be updated to only display dates with available slots. This training is made possible by the support of the Health Foundation of Kershaw County and the staff of LF-R. For more details, contact Captain Christi Catoe 803-438-2553.