

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Note: this page -blast from past - is a picture, so you will not see the story continued from here elsewhere in this 2026 paper. It is a snapshot of a page 1 from this same week (or close to) but many, many years ago in the News-Era.....you can always go to kershawnewsera.com and go to Archives at the top left for papers in the 2000's. For the 90's and earlier, a trip to the library and microfiche would be your option.

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Sub-committee tables disclosure bill

By Joseph Garris, Jr.
News Editor

A bill drafted and sponsored by state House Representatives Jimmy Neal, Jay Lucas, Deborah Long, and Greg Delaney that would require full public disclosure from county governments regarding agreements such as the Waste Management landfill issue was tabled recently by the House agricultural subcommittee.

The Bill, titled General Bill H.3615, requires county governments to detail information about any agreements made regarding proposed landfills. It

comes in response to serious opposition in Lancaster County earlier this year when Waste Management attempted to relocate a Spartanburg County operation to the Mining Road landfill off of S.C. Highway 903.

The Bill was first introduced in the House on Feb. 8 before it was referred to the agricultural subcommittee.

South Carolina House District 44 Rep. Jimmy Neal said Monday the four-member committee, made up of former county council members from across the state, decided to table the issue to allow more



Neal

time to speak with their respective county officials.

Neal said the intent was to get feedback on the impact the Bill would have while also determining if the issue could be solved with legislation already on the books.

Neal said the objective is to make sure should an issue come up like Lancaster Coun-

ty faced, county officials be required to be upfront with their information.

"We met with Jay [Lucas], since he's a lawyer, and wanted to come up with a Bill to prevent this from happening again," Neal said.

The proposed bill requires public notice with specific disclosure of the applicant's name, along with the location and reasoning behind a potential landfill project. The Bill also requires notification of upcoming public hearings.

Neal said he is unsure if the Bill will return before the agricultural subcommittee but

expects he and other bill sponsors will allow the group time to speak and receive input from their county officials.

Assuming the agricultural subcommittee supports the bill, it will go before the full agricultural committee for approval. Beyond that, it will be on the House floor for consideration before going before the Senate.

"We want to find a clear way to let people know exactly what's taking place. Hopefully, we can move forward and make the best effort we can to take care of this thing," he said.

Man shot when he walks in on burglary

By Joseph Garris, Jr.
News Editor

The Lancaster County Sheriff's Department is still investigating a Heath Springs break-in last Wednesday after 10 p.m. that resulted in the homeowner being shot in the face as he returned home.

According to Sheriff's Department release, the victim returned home and interrupted at least two men that were robbing his Hoke Road home. The victim told officers as he approached his front door, he heard voices from inside. Once he opened the door, the suspects began shooting.

The Sheriff's Department released a 911 recording of the victim in which he calmly told the operator that he had been shot in the face. He described to the operator that he heard four gunshots and was able to get out of the way of three before the final shot struck him in the mouth area.

"I've got something lodged in my tongue. I don't know if it's a tooth or the bullet," the victim told the operator.

He was asked several questions during the nine-minute call but was only able to tell the operator that the individuals may have been black males and that he could not tell what they looked like or what they were wearing because it was dark.

The suspects ran out of the

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Harbinger Of Spring...



This colorful monarch butterfly, shown here feeding on nectar from a flowering crab apple tree, is one of nature's most cheerful harbinger's of spring. Photo by Tim Deaton.

Teen found safe after getting lost in woods

By Joseph Garris, Jr.
News Editor

A North Central High School student missing since last Tuesday was found Friday evening after reportedly being lost in the woods.

Family, friends, and community members searched the North Central area for several days beginning Wednesday when news surfaced that 18-year-old Brandon Smith was not at the school when he was scheduled to be picked up Tuesday.

A Facebook page was created and text messages went out throughout the area requesting any information about the whereabouts of Smith. Search parties met at the school and were conducted various times throughout the week.

The Kershaw County Sheriff's Department was also involved in the search, which first started with an air and ground search. When Smith did not turn up, the scope of the search changed to a "be on the lookout".

Reportedly, Smith left the school Tuesday by foot attempting to walk to his home. He cut through the woods and became lost. Smith reached a friend's house Friday on Porter Road near Cassatt.

He was transported to KershawHealth where he was reportedly treated and released with leg and neck injuries.

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Memorial garden promotes cancer awareness

By Joseph Garris, Jr.
News Editor

In accordance with the National Garden Club's Plant it Pink project, the Kershaw Garden Club is launching efforts to develop a memorial garden at the site of the Steven's Foundation Building on Cleveland Street to promote awareness and fight against cancer.

Local garden club members were planting last week and will continue work there until

next week when a dedication will be held to celebrate the completion of the memorial garden. The dedication is scheduled for May 7 at 7 p.m.

The garden club has been working with Tommy Rivers, owner of Four-Seasons Nursery in Pageland. Rivers business has supplied the garden club with various flowers including pink velour crape myrtles, pink delight butterfly bush, pink azaleas, pink endless summer hydrangea, pink impa-

tiens, pink geraniums, and pink begonias.

"We're hoping it'll be a tranquil spot for everybody whether they're walking by or riding by," Patti Hinson said.

According to a release from the South Carolina Garden Club, Plant it Pink is a partnership between the National Garden Club and Susan G. Komen for the Cure. The project aims and expressing how a love of gardening can be trans-

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Joan Clyburn, Patti Hinson, Tommy Rivers. Photo by Joseph Garris Jr. and Rosemarie Baker, with