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MARCH 2026

MARCH
is
Women's
History
Month

BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS
IS
EVERY MONTH



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- *CLEAC Celebrated and Honored their Law Enforcement Officer of The Month*
- *Horry County Schools System Now Has Five Finalist for Teacher of the Year.*

Women's History Month: A Brief History

March 2026

Women's History Month is an annual declared month that highlights the contributions of women to events in history and contemporary society. It is celebrated during March in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia, corresponding with International Women's Day on March 8, and during October in Canada, corresponding with the celebration of Persons Day on October 18.

The commemoration began in 1978 as "Women's History day" in Sonoma County, California, and was championed by Gerda Lerner and the National Women's History Alliance to be recognized as a national week (1980) and then month (1987) in the United States, spreading internationally after that.

History

Women's History Week

In the United States, Women's History Month traces its beginnings back to the first International Women's Day in 1911. The holiday had been largely forgotten in the US until the late 1960s, when an activist calling herself **Laura X** organized a march in Berkeley, CA, on International Women's Day (March 8, 1969). The march led to the U.S. rediscovery of International Women's Day, and the creation of The Women's History Research Center, a central archive of the Women's movement from 1968 to 1974. Laura X thought it unfair for half the human race to have only one day a year and called for National Women's History Month to be built around International Women's Day.

In February 1980, **President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980**, as **National Women's History Week**. The proclamation stated,

"From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well. As

Dr. Gerda Lerner has noted, 'Women's History is Women's Right.' It is an essential and indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride, comfort, courage, and long-range vision. I ask my fellow Americans to recognize this heritage with appropriate activities during National Women's History Week, March 2–8, 1980. I urge libraries, schools, and community organizations to focus their observances on the leaders who struggled for equality –**Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, and Alice Paul**. Understanding the true history of our country will help us to comprehend the need for full equality under the law for all our people. This goal can be achieved by ratifying the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that 'Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.'" Carter was referring to the Equal Rights Amendment, which was never ratified, not to the amendment which did become the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution after his presidency.

In 1981, responding to the growing popularity of Women's History Week, **Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) and Rep Barbara Mikulski (D-Maryland)** co-sponsored the first Joint Congressional Resolution proclaiming a Women's History Week. Congress passed their resolution as Pub. L. 97-28, which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982, as "Women's History Week."

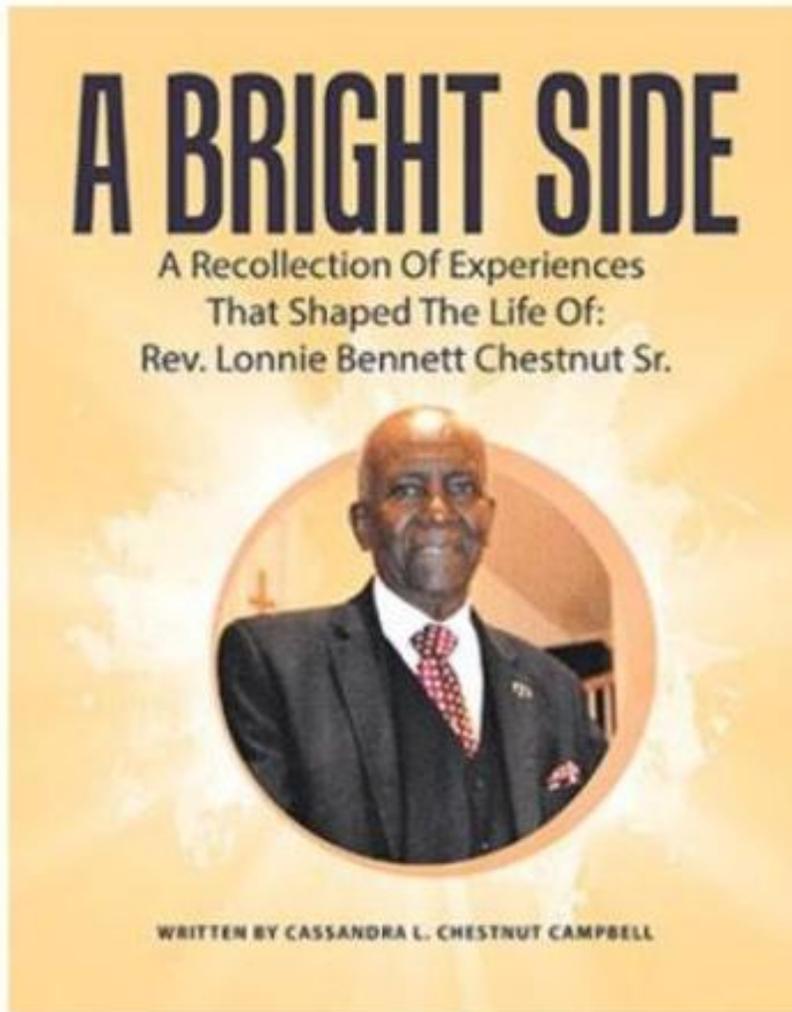


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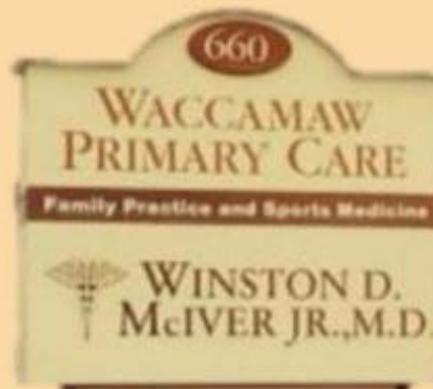
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What Neuroscience Says About Cognitive Resilience

By: Christian Newman, WC Magazine Health Editor



Christian Newman
WC Magazine Health Editor

Aging is commonly linked to memory loss, slowed thinking, and reduced attention. These changes are often accepted as unavoidable, yet neuroscience shows that many cognitive difficulties associated with aging are driven by injury, disease, or long-term physiological stress rather than age alone. The brain undergoes structural and functional changes across our lifespan, but these changes vary widely among individuals. Understanding brain anatomy, memory systems, and neurological disorders helps distinguish between normal aging and preventable decline. The brain is organized into interconnected regions that support specific cognitive functions. The frontal lobes regulate attention, working memory, judgment, and behavioral control. The temporal lobes support language comprehension and memory storage. The parietal lobes integrate sensory information and spatial awareness, while the occipital lobes process visual input. Healthy aging may involve subtle slowing in processing or small reductions in volume, but widespread dysfunction signals pathology.

Furthermore, memory relies on distinct brain networks. Working memory allows us to hold a phone number in mind long enough to dial it. Episodic memory lets us recall a birthday party or a family gathering from years ago. Semantic memory stores facts, such as historical dates or vocabulary. Procedural memory keeps us moving smoothly as we walk, ride a bike, or play an instrument. As we age, episodic memory might slow, but procedural and semantic memory often remain strong. When memory problems appear in a pattern that does not match normal aging, it may be an early sign of a neurological condition such as dementia. Dementia affects our memory, thinking, language, and ability to perform daily tasks. Alzheimer's disease is the most common type, beginning in the hippocampus and slowly affecting memory, problem-solving, and reasoning. Vascular dementia is caused by reduced blood flow or small strokes that damage white matter connections. Lewy body dementia affects attention, visual processing, and alertness. Each type of dementia leaves a distinct signature in the brain, and early recognition allows for interventions that can slow progression and preserve independence. Black Americans face higher rates of dementia and are more likely to receive late diagnoses, making education and access to care especially important.



Above info Courtesy of Neuroscience News

Brain tumors also affect cognition and can mimic or worsen symptoms of dementia. Glial tumors develop from the brain's support cells and may grow slowly or aggressively. Thus, early detection through neurological evaluation is critical. Modern brain imaging has transformed the understanding of aging, dementia, and tumors. Structural magnetic resonance imaging identifies regional atrophy and white matter damage. Functional imaging measures communication between brain regions during tasks.



Above Info Courtesy of Alzheimer's Disease International

Brain tumors also affect cognition and can mimic or worsen symptoms of dementia. Glial tumors develop from the brain's support cells and may grow slowly or aggressively. Thus, early detection through neurological evaluation is critical. Modern brain imaging has transformed the understanding of aging, dementia, and tumors. Structural magnetic resonance imaging identifies regional atrophy and white matter damage. Functional imaging measures communication between brain regions during tasks.

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What Neuroscience Says About Cognitive Resilience*By: Christian Newman, WC Magazine Health Editor**Cont'd from Page 6*

Christian Newman
WC Magazine
Health Editor

Positron emission tomography can detect abnormal protein accumulation years before symptoms occur. Imaging studies show that individuals who remain cognitively sharp often maintain functional connectivity even in the presence of structural changes. Efficient communication between brain regions is significant for cognitive resilience. Moreover, cognitive reserve explains why some individuals stay sharp even when disease-related changes are present. Cognitive reserve is the brain's ability to adapt by recruiting alternative pathways or strategies. Mentally challenging activities, lifelong learning, and problem-solving strengthen these networks. People with higher cognitive reserve can tolerate more damage to their brains without noticeable decline. This capacity continues into adulthood and is shaped by social determinants of health such as opportunity, access to education, and environmental

stimulation. Further, chronic medical conditions influence brain aging and dementia risk. Hypertension, diabetes, inflammation, untreated depression, and sensory impairments accelerate cognitive decline. Black Americans are disproportionately affected by these conditions due to social and structural inequities. Addressing these factors is crucial for maintaining brain health and resilience. Education about brain health is also critical. Many people dismiss memory concerns as just getting older, delaying assessment and treatment. Early neurological evaluation can identify reversible issues, distinguish normal aging from dementia or other brain disorders, and allow interventions that preserve brain function. Looking ahead, neuroscience is increasingly focused on understanding why brains age differently at the molecular and cellular level. Emerging research highlights the role of chronic inflammation, immune system signaling, and genetic expression in shaping cognitive aging. Epigenetics, the study of how life experiences influence gene activity without changing DNA, suggests that stress

exposure and long-term health conditions can alter brain functions across decades. This shift toward individualized brain assessment has the potential to tailor interventions more effectively. Ultimately, cognitive aging is often mistaken for an inevitable decline when it more accurately reflects the long-term effects of disease, injury, and access to care on the brain. Memory changes, shifts in behavior,

and difficulty with complex tasks follow recognizable neurological patterns that can be evaluated and monitored. Treatment may include medications that slow symptom progression, management of vascular and metabolic risk factors, cognitive rehabilitation, speech and occupational therapy, and, in some cases, surgical or radiation-based approaches for brain tumors. Protective cognitive health requires treatment of the brain as an organ that deserves routine assessment, informed advocacy, and equitable access to neurological care across the lifespan. Aging will change the brain, but the trajectory of those changes is shaped by knowledge, timely care, and action. **For more information:**



Above Info Courtesy of
Harvard Health



<https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/brain-health/cognitive-health-and-older-adults>.

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“Loving Jesus and Being Patriotic”



By Steve Williams, Formerly of The Georgetown Times

Lately, you may have noticed references to the number 250 and wondered about its significance. It marks the approach of the 250th anniversary of our nation’s founding in 1776. Numerous programs and events are planned to commemorate this historic milestone. With that in mind, I believe now is the perfect moment to reflect on the topic of “faith and flag”—the good, the bad, and the ugly. Many will take issue with what I have to say, but as Winston Churchill amply put it, “The truth is incontrovertible. Malice may attack it, ignorance may deride it, but in the end, there it is.”

The Good

Arguably more than any group in history, the Founding Fathers distilled the ideals of the Enlightenment into a new system of government—one designed to limit central power, safeguard individual rights, and guarantee government by the consent of the governed.

While the term "Founding Fathers" is broad, the most prominent figures who directly bridged the gap between the Revolutionary War and the formation of our constitutional government numbered fewer than ten. Seven of them are considered the principal Founding Fathers: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison. Several of the Founding Fathers worried that future generations might struggle to maintain American liberty. After the Constitution was completed, Benjamin Franklin was famously asked whether the framers had created a monarchy or a republic. He responded, “republic, if you can keep it.”

The Bad

Although the Founders established a government unprecedented in its pursuit of liberty, they were deeply flawed individuals. Nearly half owned slaves, and all benefited from the system of slavery that contradicted their ideals of freedom. The nation they built protected the rights of white, property-owning men, while it would take nearly two centuries of struggle for those same protections to reach all Americans.

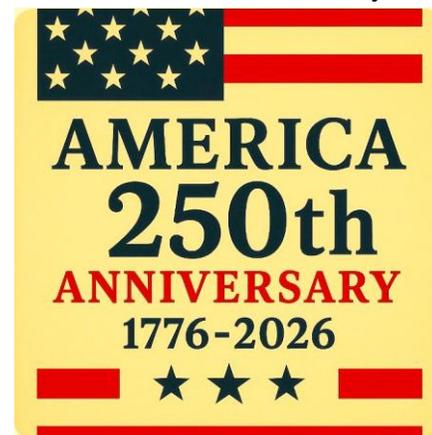
Thomas Jefferson, arguably the most intellectually gifted among the Founders, epitomizes their profound contradictions. While he famously declared that all men are created equal in the Declaration of Independence, he simultaneously denied hundreds of Black people any measure of equality or the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Sally Hemings was just 14 years old and enslaved when 44-year-old Jefferson began a sexual relationship with her—a disturbing but all-too-common reality of chattel slavery. Historians have often referred to Hemings as Jefferson’s concubine or mistress, yet such language obscures the brutal truth protecting the enslaver instead of the victim. She was not his mistress; she was his property.

The Ugly

Despite the explicit clause in the Constitution stating that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, today some Fundamentalist Christians are working overtime to convince the public that the Founders intended to establish the nation on “biblical principles.” This interpretation is contrary to historical fact. Many of the Founders were not Bible-believing Christians at all - they were deists.

Deists are believers in a supreme creator who established the universe based on natural laws but does not intervene in human affairs, miracles, or revelations. Emerging during the 17th-18th century Enlightenment, deists emphasized reason, logic, and nature over traditional religious dogma, rejecting scriptures, miracles, and the Trinity. Deists saw little purpose in reading the Bible, praying, attending church, or participating in rituals like baptism, Holy Communion, or the laying on of hands. Among the Founders, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Ethan Allen, James Madison, and James Monroe most closely embraced these Deist principles. In an 1814 letter, Jefferson wrote, “In every



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“Loving Jesus and Being Patriotic”

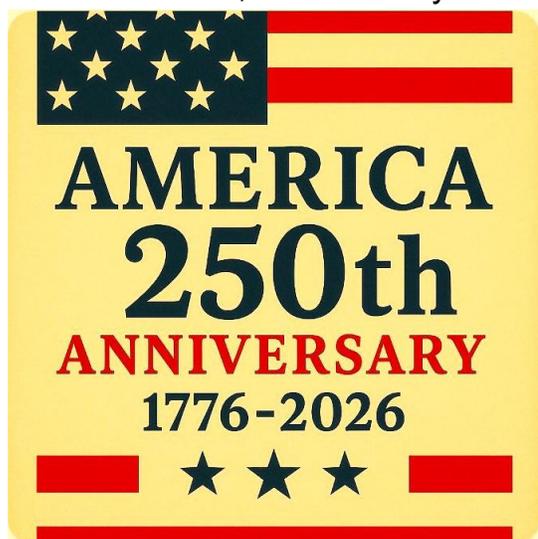


By Steve Williams, Formerly of The Georgetown Times

Cont'd from Page 10

country and every age, the priest has been hostile to liberty. It is our lives, and not from our words, that our religion must be read.” He went even further, declaring, “There is not one redeeming feature in our superstition of Christianity. It has made one half of the world fools, and the other half hypocrites.”

Rev. Bird Wilson, who lived not long after the Founding era, observed that none of the Founding Fathers who became president—Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, and Andrew Jackson—had professed belief in Christianity.



The debate over religion was intense at the Constitutional Convention. While some delegates pushed for Christianity to be formally recognized in the Constitution, the framers deliberately chose a different path, rejecting any endorsement of a particular faith. Instead, they enclosed the principle that Congress should "make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof," thereby constructing a wall of separation between church and state.

Today, however, the Christian Nationalist movement is playing fast and loose with this legacy, misrepresenting the Founders' original intent. Christian Nationalists believe the government should actively promote a Christian society and impose Christian values, asserting that God has called them to exercise dominion over every sphere of American life. Their movement is fundamentally political, cloaked in religious rhetoric.

Jesus never wrapped his faith around any flag, race, or nation. When the Pharisees sought to trap him with the question of paying taxes to Caesar, he responded, “Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar’s; and unto God the things that are God’s.” In doing so, he made clear that believers are to respect earthly authorities, but ultimate devotion, worship, and obedience belong to God alone.

It is entirely possible to be both a Christian and a patriot—loving one’s country and one’s faith are not mutually exclusive. The Founders established a religiously neutral nation to protect the freedom of all, regardless of personal creed. Practicing Christians should be wary of rhetoric such as, “If you don’t fight like hell, you’re not going to have a country anymore.”

Many Americans—Blacks, Jews, Asians, Latinos, Native Americans, women, LGBTQ individuals, and others—have contributed their blood, sweat, and tears to build a “more perfect union.” The Founders wisely left room in the Constitution for our nation to evolve. As we approach the 250th anniversary of our nation, let us honor both our civic and spiritual responsibilities and refuse to let anyone distort our faith by wrapping it around a flag.

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Corporate Storytelling: AI's Inception

By *Russell L. Dowley II, WCM Contributor*



Russell L. Dowley, II
WCM Contributor

Hello, my name is **Russell Dowley**, *Corporate Professional and Ministering Marketplace Entrepreneur*. From as long as history dates back, there has always been storytelling whether through hieroglyphics etched into ancient walls or cave paintings created by early Neanderthals. Storytelling is a part of who we are as the human race. It is how we make meaning of the world around us and how we connect with one another across time, culture, and circumstance.

What is fascinating is that every era, and possibly every eon, introduces an evolution in how storytelling is communicated. In a more modern context, there are several channels and outlets through which storytelling is expressed. Today, stories are communicated through television, social media platforms, email campaigns, podcasts, and even traditional radio. While the methods may change, one thing remains the same. It is all storytelling. I believe that this is where marketing is born.

I have often coined the phrase that marketing is the bridge between business and psychology. We would not have a reason to buy, subscribe, invest, or even feel a sense of belonging within a consumer driven community if it were not for a story being told. Every brand that we recognize has communicated a narrative about identity, value, or transformation that resonates with its intended audience. This may seem nuanced when discussing strategy or implementation, yet when we look around us, we see marketing attached to storytelling at an accelerated pace.



Photo Courtesy of Adobe Stock Photo

You, the reader, may be asking yourself what this has to do with you. My response would simply be everything. Whether you are a business owner, a community leader, a creative, or someone looking to earn additional income, you must learn the art of storytelling. Storytelling has the power to convert attention into trust and trust into opportunity. In today's digital economy, attention is the most valuable currency available.



Photo Courtesy of Istock

As mentioned earlier, the evolution of storytelling continues. Our current age is defined by Artificial Intelligence. AI has made it significantly easier to tell stories across various mediums, especially on platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn. These platforms allow everyday individuals to reach audiences that were once only accessible to large corporations or media conglomerates.

There are mixed emotions surrounding AI, many of which are rooted in fear. This fear often stems from a lack of understanding of such an innovative tool. Many individuals find it easier to demonize the technology rather than learn how to effectively implement and utilize it for their own advancement. However, AI is not replacing creativity. It is enhancing execution. Whether it is writing cold emails, developing video scripts, assisting with book writing, or automating marketing workflows, AI has become the name of the game for those who do not wish to fall behind.

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Thomas McMillan

January 2026

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"The 'Caught Green Handed' recognition is presented monthly to a Horry County resident caught in the act of recycling" stated **Esther Murphy**, Director of Recycling and Corporate Affairs for the Solid Waste Authority. "It's the Solid Waste Authority's way of recognizing and thanking citizens who have made the effort to recycle. Through their recycling efforts, natural resources are saved and the amount of waste being landfilled is reduced." **Mr. McMillan**, a regular recycler at the **Brooksville Recycling Convenience Center**, was surprised and honored to receive this recognition.

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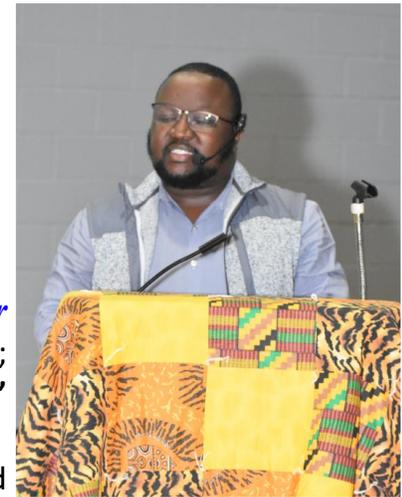
Horry County Council on Aging Hosts Black History Celebration Program



On Saturday, February 27, 2026, the **Mighty James Frazier Community Center** in Bucksport, SC had the enviable opportunity of hosting a fantastic Black History Celebration Program sponsored by the Horry County Council on Aging.

Our elderly from the Bucksport and surrounding Horry County area were delighted to take advantage of this occasion to obtain new knowledge and be entertained both spiritually and physically.

The occasion began with an opening Prayer by *Pastor John Barnett* of Bethel Seventh Day Adventist Church; this was followed by the "Negro National Anthem." *Mrs. Patricia Grissitt* gave a hearty Welcome to everyone; *Ms. Joyce GBenedio* of Bucksport followed with an eye-opening Poem."



Mrs. Jannett Aklin was overjoyed for the opportunity to introduce the Guest Speaker, her nephew, **Dr. Eugene Bellamy**. *Kudos to Ms. Debra Alston, Director of the Bucksport Senior Center, and her staff and Ms. Betty Gause, Director of the James Frazier Community Center for coordination this magnificent event !!*



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By Russell L. Dowley II, WCM Contributor

Cont'd from Page 13



Russell L. Dowley, II
WCM Contributor

For creatives and entrepreneurs alike, this presents an unprecedented opportunity to monetize their craft. Musicians can now use AI tools to assist in audio production and marketing. Photographers can automate client outreach and portfolio distribution. Coaches can create scalable digital courses and email funnels without hiring an entire marketing team. Storytelling combined with AI driven systems allows individuals to transform their passion into profit through structured automation and strategic distribution.

In closing, history has shown us that every new technological advancement comes with tradeoffs. The horse and buggy era was once criticized for excessive pollution caused by horse waste. Society shifted to automobiles, which introduced concerns about fossil fuels and environmental impact. AI may be viewed in a similar light today as it consumes significant resources such as water and energy to power data centers and computational infrastructure.

There is always a tradeoff between innovation and adaptation. The question becomes whether we choose to leverage these tools or risk being left behind by them. As monetization becomes increasingly accessible without the necessity of a traditional college degree, society is witnessing a shift. Fewer individuals are enrolling in higher education at the same rates as previous generations due to the rise of internet-based income streams driven by automation and AI enabled platforms.

The opportunity exists. The pie is available for the taking. However, participation requires action. Learning how to tell your story and using AI to distribute it effectively may be the defining factor between remaining stagnant and building something sustainable in the modern economy.

THE TIME TO BEGIN IS NOW.

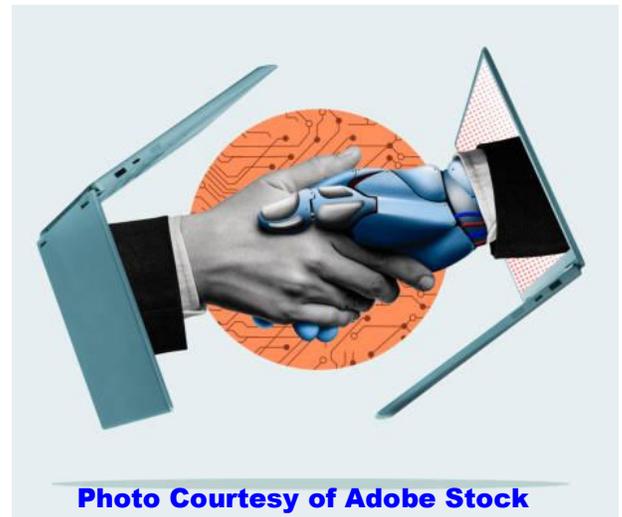


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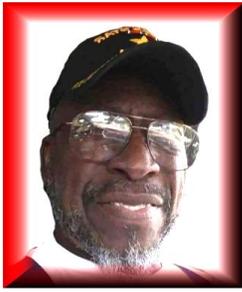
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On February 07, 2026, the **Horry County Coalition of Veterans (HCCV)** celebrated Black History Month by inviting everyone to the **Mary C. Canty Recreation Center in Myrtle Beach, SC** to help show appreciation to some well-deserved veterans and other members of the Horry County Community who made a difference in their communities.

The **HCCV** is a charitable organization headquartered in Myrtle Beach, SC. As it has been for the last four years, the HCCV took this opportunity to celebrate the late **US Army Vietnam Veteran, Sgt. Harold Blye, Sr.**



HCCV President William Pennington and Vice President Curtis Platt had the Harold Blye Family Members to Present the Awards to the Honorees.

During his tenure of service to the country, he was the recipient of 2 Silver Star Medals, 2 Bronze Star Medals, 5 Air Medals, Purple Heart Medal, Arm Commendation for Heroism in Action, Myrtle Beach Community Leader, and Myrtle Beach Community Historian.

This year the **Humanitarian Honorees** include; *Mr. Harvey Frierson; Mr. Richard James; Mr. Curtis Platt; Mr. Robert L. Williams; Mr. Ronald Williams; Mr. Joe Blain; Mr. Ralph Wilson; and Mr. Frank Burgess.*

The **Innovator Leadership Awards** went to: *Mr. Henry Ragin; Mr. Ralph Spivey; Mrs. Carolyn Graham; Ms. Fannie Lewis; Mrs. Lucille Moses; and Mr. Jimmy Washington.*



Cont'd From Page 20



Family Members of the Late Sgt. Harold Bly, Sr.



(Above) A Salute to All Veterans Present for This Ceremony

Kudos to HCCV President William Pennington, Vice President Curtis Platt and remaining members for continuing with this worthy endeavor for the Community.

The Historic Myrtle Beach Colored School Museum & Education Center 20th Anniversary Honors "The Triple 9"

On Saturday, February 28, 2026, the Mary C. Canty Recreation Center hosted a Celebration of Black History by The **H**istoric **M**yrrtle **B**each **C**olored **S**chool **M**useum & **E**ducation **C**enter (HMBCSMEC) with its 20th Anniversary of existence. The HMBCSMEC Education Committee celebrated its 20th anniversary by honoring "The Triple 9." Below is a depiction of what the Triple 9 is, which shows 3 categories encompassing 9 individuals and the names of each. The action of these individuals had a tremendous impact that shaped the Black History of Horry County.

This wonderfully coordinated program had **Mr. Michael Burgess** as the Master of Ceremony; **Pastor Spencer Gaither** of Calvary Fellowship Church gave the Invocation; a hearty welcome was dispensed by **The Honorable Mark Kruea**, Mayor of the City of Myrtle Beach; Greetings were by **Mr. Sylvester McCoy**; **Mr. Kelvin Waites**, Director of Community Engagement provided a History and Purpose; and **Minister Elizabeth Bowens** of Shields Chapel FBH Church gave the Blessings.



HONOREE HMBCSMEC 9 **HONOREE The Emanuel 9** **HONOREE The Horry County 9**

Accepting the award for the **HMBCSMEC 9** was **Mr. Wayne Gray**, Former MB City Councilman and HMBCSMEC Committee Member.

Accepting the award for the **Emanuel 9** was **Rev. Dr. Betty Deas Clark**, Presiding Elder, Santee District, AME Church.

Accepting the award for the **Horry County 9** was **Dr. Preston McKeever-Floyd** and **Dr. Veronica Gerald** both Coastal Carolina University Retired Professors and **Mrs. Mary "Cookie" Canty Goings**, Director of Neighborhood Services

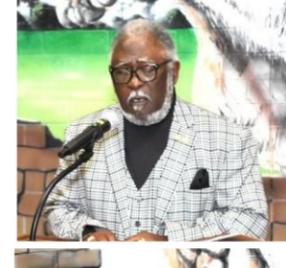


Conway High School's Cultural Celebration "Promoting UNITY in our Community and School"

On Friday February 27th, in celebration of Black History Month, Conway High honored **Rev. Dr. Kenneth Floyd, Ms. Gloria Bradshaw, and Ms. Verda Mae Knox** at their Annual Cultural Celebration. For the past 27 years, CHS has recognized individuals from the community who have made an impact on the lives of others in Conway and/or Horry County and for promoting Unity in our Community and Schools. Sophomore student, **Gage Dowley** gave the opening introduction and introduced the Principal of CHS, **Dr. Tanika McKissick** who welcomed everyone to the 28th Cultural Celebration formerly known as the Ethnic Buffet event. **Ms. Taniya Boatwright** performed a musical tribute with the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing." After **Chief Solomon Eagles** gave the blessing of the food, we enjoyed a delicious meal, catered by **Murphy's Catering Service, LLC** and had a wonderful fellowship with great performances by the **Conway Middle School Bucket Squad**. During the event, CHS students, **Caden Moore** read the bio of honoree, **Rev. Dr. Kenneth Floyd**, **Selina Batts** read the bio of honoree, **Mrs. Gloria Bradshaw** and **Sereniti Anderson** read the bio of honoree, **Ms. Verda Mae Knox**.

Mr. Christopher Hennigan did a musical tribute prior to the reading of **Rev. Dr. Kenneth Floyd's** bio; **Mr. Richard Williams** did a musical tribute prior to the reading of **Mrs. Gloria Bradshaw's** bio; and **Ms. Shana Cox-Woodberry** did a musical tribute prior to the reading of **Ms. Verda Cox's** bio.

Closing remarks were given by **Mrs. Claudine Lance-Schofield**, CHS Student Support Liaison.



The Black Airmen's Council & Afro-Cultural Workshop

A Black History Celebration Honoring **The Black Airmen's Council & Afro-Cultural Workshop** was held at the General Robert H. Reed recreation Center (Market Commons) on February 8, 2026.

A brief history of this organization tells us that During the early 1970s, many airmen returning from the Vietnam War and other overseas assignments encountered persistent racial discrimination both at Myrtle Beach Air Force Base and within the surrounding communities. In response to these injustices, Black airmen organized and established the Black Airmen's Council to address racial disparities and promote equality. As national media began to report on these conditions, higher headquarters initiated an investigation into Myrtle Beach AFB, leading to the implementation of corrective measures and institutional changes.

The Black Airmen's Council (BAC) later united with the Afro Culture Workshop (ACW), broadening the scope of its mission and deepening connections between the base and the local community. This collaboration gave rise to significant cultural and civic initiatives, including the Black Santa Claus Parade, summer youth enrichment programs, and the creation and development of Bathsheba Park. Through these efforts, the airmen's activism transcended the boundaries of the base, fostering community pride, empowerment, and cultural awareness. The struggles shared by the base and the surrounding Black community ultimately became one collective movement for justice and inclusion. The resulting bond between the airmen and the residents of Myrtle Beach stands as a powerful testament to (heir shared resilience, unity, and vision: for progress. The legacy of these leaders continues to inspire and reflects great pride upon all who contributed to this transformative chapter in local and military history.

The celebration was described as a "Salute Luncheon" magnificently coordinated by the Horry County NAACP. **Rev. Dr. Preston L. McKeever -Floyd** was the M.C., **Elder Cedric D. Blain-Spain**, President of the NAACP Conway Branch #5509 introduced the MC. On hand to confer greetings were **Tiffany Andrews**, NAACP Myrtle Beach Branch #5568, **City of Myrtle Beach Mayor, Mark Kruea**; **Councilman Mike Chestnut**, Myrtle Beach City Council and **Mary "Cookie" Canty-Goings**, Director of Myrtle Beach Neighborhood Services. **Mother Mary E. Moore**, **Widow of the Late Rev. Covel C. Moore** gave Special Remarks. Final reflections and remarks were by BAC Members, **Sgt. Robert "Bob" Manson**, **Founding Member & Chairman of BAC**; **1st Sgt. SMSgt. Donald "Don" R. Johnson**, **Founding Member & Vice Chairman of BAC**; **John Norris**, **Founder & First President of ACW**, and other representatives of the **MB Air Force Base Alumni**.



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In 1966 a white paper report, “Accidental Death and Disability: The Neglected Disease of Modern Society,” documented the lack of emergency medical care and health disparities across the U.S. It found that blacks had the least access to emergency medical care in the nation, resulting in a public health crisis. Pittsburgh’s largest black neighborhood, the Hill District, suffered more severely from this crisis. Out of this need, the first modern paramedics in the United States were created by a group of Black men from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In the late 1960’s, emergency medical care was very limited, and most ambulances were not equipped to provide advanced

treatment before reaching the hospital. Many ambulance workers at the time were not properly trained to handle serious medical emergencies. However, a new program in Pittsburgh helped change this system and improve emergency care across the country.

This groundbreaking program was started with the help of Dr. Peter Safar and community leader Freedom House director James McCoy. They created the Freedom House Ambulance Service, which trained young Black men from the Hill District to become highly skilled paramedics. These men learned advanced medical techniques such as CPR, airway management, and how to treat patients during transport. Their training was much more advanced than that of most ambulance workers at the time.



The Freedom House paramedics quickly proved how effective their work was. They responded to emergencies throughout Pittsburgh and saved many lives by providing treatment before patients reached the hospital. Doctors and researchers began to notice how successful the program was, and it became a model for modern emergency medical services. Because of their work, the idea of professionally trained paramedics began to spread across the United States.

Although the Freedom House paramedics faced racism and were eventually replaced when the city took over ambulance services, their impact remains important today. These Black pioneers helped create the foundation for the emergency medical systems that people rely on now. Their dedication and skill changed the way medical emergencies are handled and saved countless lives. The story of Pittsburgh’s first paramedics shows how innovation and determination can create lasting change.



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John Bonsignor
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Co-Chair

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Centenarians Daisy Rogers McDuffie and Timothy Jennings will celebrate birthdays over the next few days.

ORANGEBURG, S.C.- As South Carolina State University celebrates its 130th anniversary this year, two of its oldest alumni recently reflected on the opportunities the university provided to lead successful lives.

Both **Daisy Rogers McDuffie** and **Timothy Jennings** are centenarians with birthdays on the immediate horizon.



Daisy Rogers McDuffie (A Graduate of Whittemore High School) and Timothy Jennings with SC State memorabilia.

A lifetime in education

Mrs. McDuffie, of Rock Hill, S.C., earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from what was then Colored Normal, Industrial, Agricultural and Mechanical College of South Carolina in 1944. *She graduated from Whittemore High School in Conway, SC.*

McDuffie, who turned 104 on Sunday, Feb. 22, said she received a good education at SC State. After graduating, she influenced thousands of children across the state during her 35 years of classroom teaching and mentoring. "I enjoyed the children," she said.

McDuffie has received several honors over more than a century of life, including a proclamation from the state **House of Representatives in 1997 designating Feb. 22 as Daisy Rogers McDuffie Day** and having a street named in her honor in Rock Hill.

Her husband, Dock Cleveland McDuffie Jr., graduated from SC State in 1943. The couple's son also graduated from SC State, along with his wife and son.

Upon Mrs. McDuffie's retirement in 1981, she remained active in the Rock Hill community, including serving as a leader in her church and as a tourism commission member.

Her son, Dr. Dock McDuffie III, a dentist, said his mother did her practice teaching at the Penn Center in Beaufort, South Carolina, where the legacy lies in an enduring commitment to Black education.

Dr. McDuffie said he is elated that the university is celebrating its 130th anniversary this year. "I'm just so happy for the institution," he said.

Dr. McDuffie said he is fortunate to still have his loving, supportive mother still living. "I just feel so overly blessed, and I don't know what it is that I've done so well. I'm just blessed that she's been able to bring me through 26 years of military service and dental school," he said.

From SC State to World War II and back

Jennings, who will turn 101 on Thursday, March 5, is a native of rural Cope, South Carolina, and has lived in Philadelphia since the early 1950's. He is married to Ardella H. Jennings and is the father of five children, 15 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

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- ❖ Youth Employment Training Services (YETS)
- ❖ Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP)
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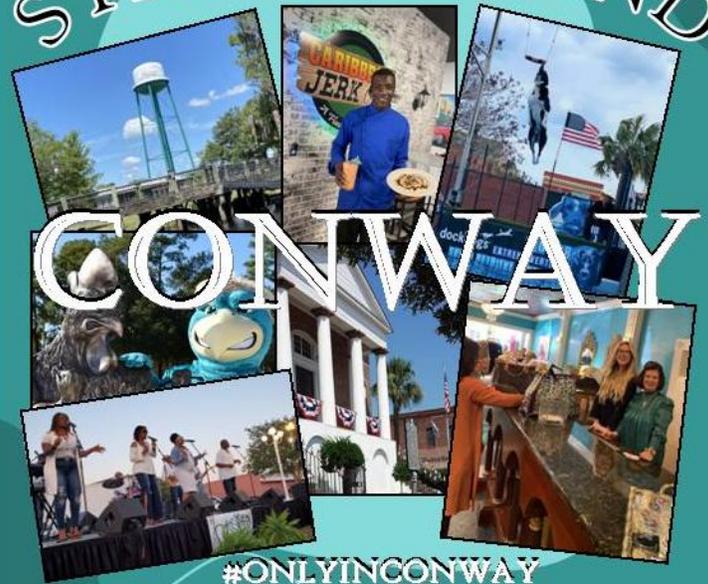
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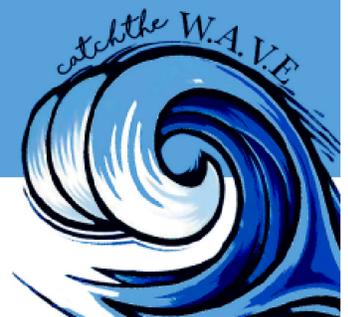
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CLEAC Recognizes Horry County Officers



John Bonsignor
Co-Chair

CLEAC (Community Law Enforcement Appreciation Committee) a multi-cultural group of individuals comprised of law enforcement, elected and public officials came together with civic activists and decided that it is better to get ahead of the problems than behind them. Their goal is to encourage support for law enforcement and strengthen communications and mutual respect between citizens and police. **CLEAC** also has a special purpose, which is to “bridge the gap between cops, kids, and the community.”



Reggie Dyson
Co-Chair

*Co-chairs of this respected Organization are **John Bonsignor** and **Reggie Dyson**.*

monthly program called, “To Honor an Officer.” Each month for an entire month, **CLEAC** will highlight and recognize an officer and his/her family for their contributions and excellence. Each precinct will choose one of its officers who will be honored and featured through several radio, TV, and online mediums.

On January 22, 2026, Maggie D’s Restaurant in Myrtle Beach, SC, hosted the **CLEAC Awards Presentation**.

On this occasion, Presentation of Officers of the Month for December was made by **Chief Deputy Tom Fox of the Horry County Sheriff’s Office**. Sheriff Thompson gave an inspirational talk on the merits of an Officer being so chosen to receive such a meritorious and noteworthy award.

Sgt. Bobby Brush of the Lorris Police department called upon **Corporal Kary Showers of the Lorris Police Department** to receive the Officer of the Month of December 2025.

Sgt. Brush recognized the outstanding dedication, professionalism, and exemplary service demonstrated exceptional leadership through active involvement in the field training of newly hired officers.

Prior to the Awards presentation, Tom and Theresa Gouler, Quilts of Valor Representatives, bestowed beautiful quilts to various policemen present, who were also veterans.

CLEAC presented a donation check for \$300 and the Horry County Sheriff’s Office donated a check for \$300 to the Quilts of Valor Organization.



Corporal Kary Showers Displays Plaque Awarded



Paul Juliano of CLEAC and Sheriff Thompson Present Donation to Tom and Theresa Gouler, Quilts of Valor Representatives.



Recipients of Quilts of Valor

Uniting With a Common Goal is the Only Way to Bring About change

By Priscilla Fuller, WCM Contributing Editor



Priscilla W. Fuller
Contributing Editor

Black History Month, as we know it now, or Black History Week in the 60's or 70's, has always been a special time for me. Although we, as people of color, were always mindful of our ancestors and their contributions, you could not find them documented in the schoolbooks that were used. 2025 has been a year that I will always remember. For many decades, People of color have fought for inclusion and equality, only to have it clearly wiped away by an Executive order.

Not only were programs dealing with inclusion and equality removed, but institutions who received federal funding from the federal government were threatened and, in some cases, discontinued if they continued the practice. Pictures or references to slavery were and are still being removed. Like many of my family and friends, I am shocked, frustrated, and disappointed in the actions in this country. Again, we talk about these actions and how it affects our lives, but what can we do about it? We talk about our struggles and the leaders, such as Martin Luther King, and local leaders, such as HH Singleton, who fought this battle. These were mighty leaders who continually got up even when they were knocked down. They had resilience and a strong faith in what they believed. This is where our memory of history kicks in. Uniting with a common goal is the only way to bring about change. In Horry County, we had countless churches, sororities, fraternities, and numerous nonprofits. Are we going to continue to talk, or are we going to put our differences aside and unite? This year is a crucial year, let us use our vote and unite with other groups to make it happen. Let us get people elected who are going to support our interests. Together, we are all powerful. Show up and make a change.

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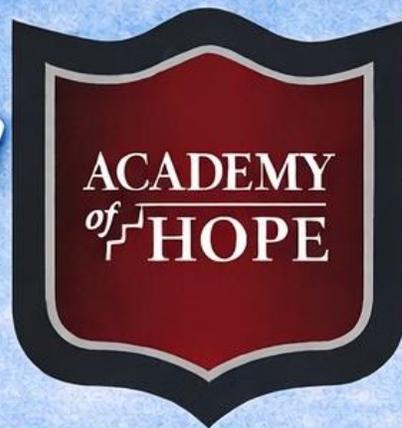
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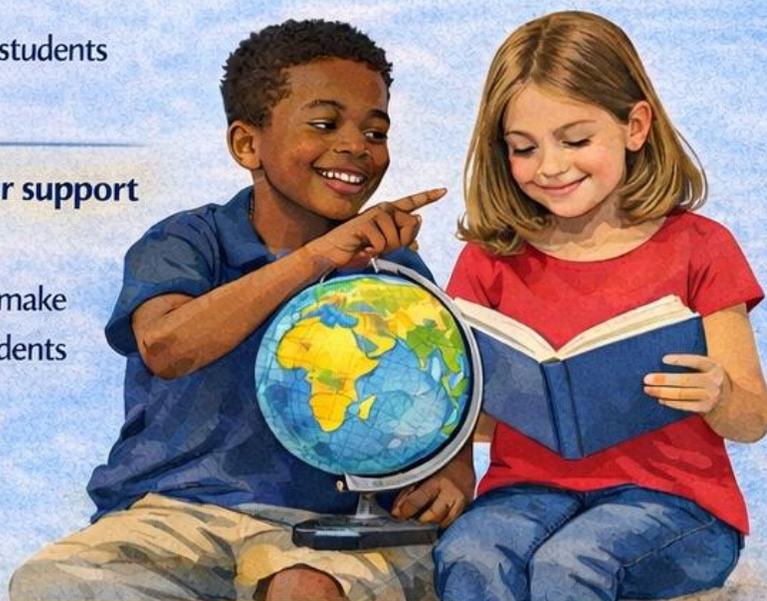
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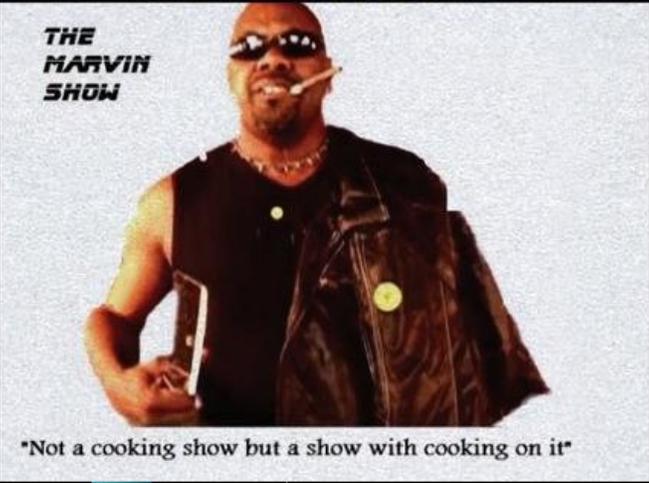
A Brief History

Cont'd from Page 2

Women's History Month

In 1987, after being petitioned by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed Pub. L. 100-9 which designated the month of March 1987 as Women's History Month. Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month. Since 1988, U.S. presidents have issued annual proclamations designating the month of March as Women's History Month on occasion.

In March 2011, the Obama administration released a report, *Women in America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being*, showing women's status in the U.S. in 2011 and how it had changed over time. This report was the first comprehensive federal report on women since the report produced by the Commission on the Status of Women in 1963.



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HCS Announces the Top Five Finalists for the 2027 Teacher of the Year!

The list of ten semi-finalists was narrowed to five when Horry County Schools named the top five finalists still being considered for the coveted title of the 2027 Teacher of the Year.

During the next step of the recognition program's process, members of the district's selection committee will visit finalists for classroom observations. A winner will be announced in May during the HCS Teacher of the Year Recognition Ceremony.



All Photos Courtesy of Lisa H. Bourcier, Horry County Schools Director of Strategic Communications & Community Engagement.



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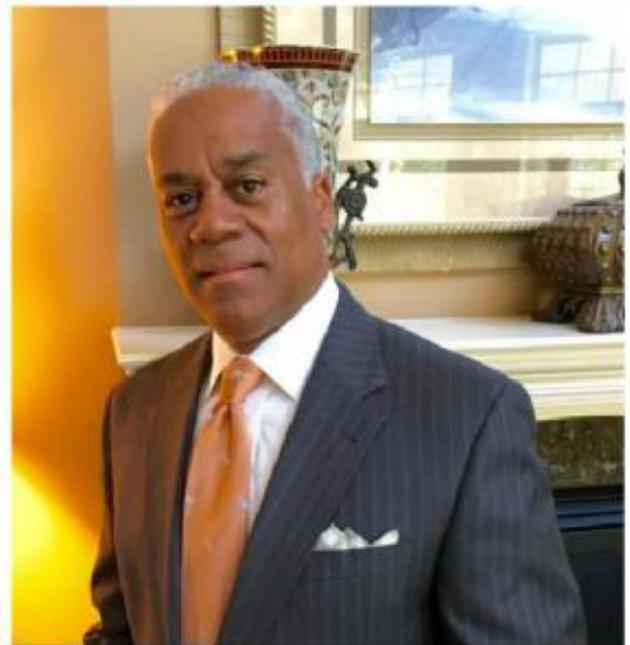


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**Popular AME Church - 8415 Hwy 90, Longs, SC
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Joyce Rhue-Williams

Joyce Lee Rhue Williams was born on **May 17, 1948**, in Baltimore, Maryland, to the late Mather and Beatrice Rhue. She departed this earthly life on **Thursday, February 12, 2026**. Joyce attended



1948 - 2026

Whittemore Schools.

In 1966, Joyce graduated from Mather School, a school for the gifted and talented. Mather School is located in Beaufort, SC, and today it is part of the Technical College of the Low Country. Joyce then matriculated at Clark College in Atlanta, Ga, where she was a graduate of the class of 1970 with a B.S. Degree in Speech Pathology. After graduating, Joyce taught in the Horry County School District for a while, then later moved to Washington, DC, to work for Federal City College, known today as the University of District of Columbia. Joyce loved everyone she encountered. She knew the importance of family, God, and she especially loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Joyce was known for kindness, her sense of humor, her acts of love, rather it be just calling to check on you or coming to aide a sick family member or friend. She was notorious for the nights she would spend with a loved one in the hospital; she would always say, "I got it". She loved to volunteer her time to others, nurture her plants, and getting to know anyone who crossed her path (she never met a stranger). Joyce was a woman who knew God for herself. In her spare time, she took pleasure in watching her tv shows, you would catch her reading her bible and making notes along the side. She attended several churches, including Mason Temple COGIC under the leadership of Superintendent James Lee, and St. Mary MB Church under the leadership of Rev. Woodrow Jones. In 2014, Joyce moved to Petersburg, Va. to join her brother Ronald and her sister in LOVE Florence, there she became a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church. There she met two dear friends, Nancy Crocker (now deceased) and Linda Gregory. She maintained her beautiful friendship with Linda even after she moved to Columbia, SC. Joyce was preceded in death by her brothers, Richie Rhue and MacArthur McCray, her sister Maxcine Long, and her grandson Atu Williams II. **Joyce leaves to cherish her fond memories, her 2 sons Atu, Sr. (Tammy) Williams of Conway SC and Raheem Williams of Columbia, SC.; her granddaughter, Journi Williams who she raised as her own; her siblings, Deacon Samuel (Deaconess Florence) Rhue of Petersburg, Va., Kathy Robinson of Richmond Va., Bernard Rhue of Conway, SC., Lisa Rhue Warren of Pittsburg, Pa., Terry (Regina) McCray of Conway, SC., Maxcine Woodbury of Dallas Ga., and Donna Faulk of Conway, SC; her grandchildren, Sherika Gore, Novien Gore, TaNaja Gattys, Chadwick Gore, Raheem Williams, Journi Williams and Nasir Williams; 13 great grandchildren; her Spivey Alley Family, and a host loving nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.**



Sarah Jane Scott

Ms. Sarah Jane Scott was born on **April 17, 1946**, in Conway, South Carolina, to the late Alex and Annie Mae Bember. She departed this earthly life on **Sunday, February 22, 2026**.



1946 - 2026

Sarah worked in the Hospitality industry many years ago and attended Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, which was then located on 16th Avenue in Conway, South Carolina. She also attended church regularly at the Oak View Rehabilitation Center, where she became a resident. Sarah was a mother, sister, daughter, and friend, but most of all, she was Sarah. Sadly, Sarah was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Rosemary Dewitt. **She leaves to cherish her witty spirit and funny demeanor her children, Kenny Woodbury (Maggie Shaw), Sarah Woodbury, Ruby Scott (Douglas Johnson), and William Scott; one sister, Alice Graham; five grandchildren, Kendrick Woodbury, Kenneth Woodbury, Jr., Fantasia Johnson, Jaheim Scott, and Joshua Keel; her nieces, Mary Ruth Graham-Spain, Alice (Munchie) Graham-Gopher, and Molly Keel; her nephews, Alexander (Teresa) Bember, Chris Graham (Carla Dozier), and Pete Bember; along with a host of great-grandchildren, great-nieces, great-nephews, special family members and friends.**



Julia Ann Bryant Smith

Julia Ann Bryant Smith entered this world on **December 14, 1948**, an early Christmas blessing to her parents, Lamar and Edna Bryant. She proudly graduated from Chestnut Consolidated High School in 1966. With heavy hearts, we bid farewell to our cherished mother, grandmother,



1948 - 2026

great-grandmother, great great-grandmother, sister, cousin, and friend. Julia leaves to cherish her memory a son, Collins II Gore Jr.; her granddaughter, Lavinsha Renee Antoine; her great-grandchildren, Tristian Bedford, Stacie Abraham, and Kingston Abraham; and her great-great grandchildren, Tyhlahnii and Tremaine. **She is also survived by her brothers, James O.R. (Frances) Bryant of Longs, SC, and Jimmy Bryant (of Tacoma, WA); her sisters, Carolyn (Leatha) Bryant, of Longs, SC Helen (Carver) Wright, Florence, SC and Brenda (Clifford) Bankhead of Little River, SC; one adopted sister, Vernell McDowell; one adopted brother, Joe Chestnut; her aunt, Carrie L. Hemingway, and uncle Charles (Rose) Greene; her dearest friend, Barbara Greene-Hall; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins. On February 5, 2026, Julia gained her eternal wings and joined her parents, L.R and Enda Bryant; her husband, Willie Johnson; her sister-in-law, Marie Bryant; and the rest of her beloved family who preceded her in death. were blessed to know her.**



Mary Alice Palmer Brooks

Mary Alice Palmer Brooks, daughter of the late Leroy Palmer and the late Willie Etheridge Palmer, was born in Radford, Virginia, on **August 13, 1931**. She was raised in Darlington County, South Carolina, and departed this life on **February 4,**



1931 - 2026

2026. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kent Early Brooks; her parents; her sisters, Lois Howard and Jean Williams; and her brothers, Roy Lester Palmer and Allen Martin Palmer. **Mother Mary's precious memories will be cherished by: nieces, Articlese Felder (Romeo), Rose Marie Palmer, Carol Palmer, Deborah Carol Jean (Roberson), Lisa Lanoria Williams Napper and Patricia Williams; nephews, Leon Howard, Roy Lester Palmer and Harold Williams; her two cousins (who were like sisters) Dorothy McClain Thomas and Cleopatra Smallwood and a host of friends, relatives, and Godchildren. She leaves her devoted and faithful cousin, Roxcella Brown, who provided love, encouragement, and healthcare services during her long-term medical journey.**



Louise Ellerbee

Ms. Louise Ellerbee was born on **August 13, 1932**. Having lived for 93 years, our heavenly Father whispered the name "Louise" on **Tuesday, February 3, 2026**.



1932 - 2026

Hearing the call, she answered, and her name was taken from the book of life, allowing her soul to rest in eternal peace. Louise was employed at the Myrtle Beach Pavilion Amusement Park, as well as K&W Cafeteria. She was a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and attended regularly when her health permitted. She was a faithful member of the Women's Missionary Society in the church. As her health began to fail, she would always call her Deacons to make sure they knew she would not be able to attend church services. Sadly, her son, Augus Ellerbee, her sister, Eloise Moody, and brother-in-law, Marvin Moody, all preceded her in death. **Louise leaves to cherish fond memories her grandson, Alex (Renee) Ellerbee of New Haven, Connecticut; four great-grandchildren, all of whom reside in New Haven, Connecticut; a nephew, Carlton Pelzer of Forestville, Maryland; along with her church family and a host of loving friends.**



Willia Mae Dixon-Simmons

Mrs. Willia Mae Dixon-Simmons, affectionately known as Butch, was the daughter of the late William (Buddy) and Bertha (Muh) Parker, born on **February 22, 1953**. She departed this life peacefully in her home on **Saturday, January 31, 2026**. She was the sister of Ulave, Frances Lee, Barleen, and William Jr. (Janice). Willia Mae is preceded in death by her parents, William and Bertha; and her son, Bobby Lee Dixon. *She leaves a legacy of unconditional love to her husband, Larry Simmons of Conway, SC; six daughters, Lasheryl (George) Riley of Stratford, CT, Ulave (Jemelle) Cabrera Pooler of GA, Alicia Dixon, Miranda Dixon, Jasmine Dixon of Conway, SC and Precious Dixon of NYC; one son, Messiah "Peewee" Dixon of Conway, SC; 6 stepchildren, 16 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren; three sisters, Ulave, Frances Lee, and Barleen; one brother, William Jr. (Janice); four aunts, one uncle, and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.*



1953 - 2026



Edward James

Edward James was born in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on **December 30, 1966**, to the late Mary Frances James and raised by the late Mrs. Mary P. Willard. He departed this life on **Thursday, January 29, 2026**, at Grand Strand Hospital. He attended the public schools of Horry County and graduated from Myrtle Beach High School in 1985. *Edward will forever be remembered by three brothers, Curtis James, Wilbur "Mickey" James, and Gregory James; one uncle, Johnny Hennigan; three aunts, Debra Scott, Gloria Scott, and Betty Jean Scott; special cousin's, Jennifer Dennison, Gail Dennison, and Renee Brown; two cousins who were raised like brothers, William Hennigan and Carlton Hennigan; one sister-in-law, Sherry James, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.*



1966 - 2026



Emma Neil Lewis

Emma Neil Lewis of Little River was born on **November 10, 1946**. She departed this life on **February 2, 2026**.



1946 - 2026



Willie Green, Jr.

Willie Green, Jr. of Bucksport was born on **June 29, 1956**. He departed this life on **February 17, 2026**.



1956 - 2026



Tolona Michelle Hunt

Tolona Michelle Hunt was born on **November 7, 1974**, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. She was a beloved daughter, sister, mother, aunt, and friend. Tolona attended Horry County schools.



1974 - 2026

After graduation, she attended Horry Technical College, enrolling in their pre-nursing classes. She departed this life after battling liver failure on **Friday, February 13, 2026**. She was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Woller Mae Hunt, and her oldest sister, Melonie Hunter. *Those left to cherish her memory are her son Jakari Breyon Hunt; sister, Tawanna April Hunt, both of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; her brother, Gerald Edward (Stacy) Hunt of Columbia, South Carolina; her brother-in-law, Deacon Christopher Hunter of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; her aunts, Olivia (Franklin) Bromell of Plantersville, South Carolina, Tommie Lane Vandross of West Palm Beach, Florida, and Helen Asbury of Trenton, New Jersey; her uncle, Joe Vandross of Loris South Carolina; her godmother, Annie B Futrell of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; special friends, Kelly (George) Edwards, Alfred Bellamy, Corry Woods, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.*



Edward Joseph Riha

Edward Joseph Riha (Eddie), age 63, passed away peacefully on **January 27th, 2026**. He was born on **September 5th, 1962**, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Eddie and Maureen. He married the love of his life, Suzanne, on August 11th, 1984. *Eddie is survived by his lovely wife of 42 years Suzanne; his daughters Jessica (Ian) and Jennifer (Michael) and his son Justin (Lee Anna); grandson Maxwell and his granddaughter, Allison; brother-in-law Robert; brother Michael (Laura) and many nieces, nephews, and friends.*



1962 - 2026



Frederick Eaddy

Mr. Frederick Eaddy entered this life on **September 9, 1964** to the late Mr. Heyward Eaddy and Mrs. Marie Owens Eaddy in Horry County, South Carolina. He was the eighth child born of eight children to this union. On **February 12, 2026**, at the age of 61, he peacefully transitioned at home. Frederick attended the public schools of Horry County. Frederick was preceded in death by his father, Heyward Eaddy and four brothers, Mr. Levearn Eaddy, Mr. Harvell Eaddy, Mr. Mike Eaddy, and Mr. Isaac Eaddy. *He leaves to cherish the memories of him a loving and strong mother, Ms. Marie Eaddy; two sisters, Carolyn (Sam) Moultrie and Sandra Pryor; and one brother, Mr. Willie Eaddy, all of Bucksville, South Carolina; three sisters-in-law, and a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, and friends.*



1964 - 2026



Gayle McCray Howard

Gayle Darnette McCray Howard was born on **July 25, 1960**, in Horry County, South Carolina, to the union of Willie James McCray and Mary Williams McCray Hicks. On **Friday, February 6, 2026**, she departed this life.



1960 - 2026

She received her early education Elementary School, Conway Junior High, and Conway High School. Her parents and seven siblings, James LeVester "Billy Boy" McCray, Cynthia McCray Jones, Sidney Lowell McCray, Gracie Bell McCray, Lottie (Ann) Hicks, Thomas Hicks, Jr., and Diane Hicks preceded her in death. *Surviving are her beloved son, Lathria Cortrell (Sheree) McCray, Sr. of the home; her former husband Claude Howard; her dear five grandchildren, Tyrek Weaver, Zikiem Weaver, Lathria McCray Jr., Tyrea McCray, and Nevaeh McCray; her dear great grandchildren, Jaylen Weaver and Alaia McCray; four brothers, Herbert (Lizzie) McCray of Bucksport, SC, Leslie McCray of Bucksport, SC, Larry (Kim) McCray of Conway, SC, and Reginald (Sharon) McCray of Bucksport, SC; three sisters, Jacqueline Weaver of Conway, SC, Carolyn Henry of Bucksport, SC, and Patrienna (Charlie) Greene of Jacksonville, FL; she leaves seven additional sisters, Dorothy Hicks, Gardenia (James) McCray, Theopia (Issac) Goss, Trudell (Tyrone) Dease, Vicky (Randy) Hunt, and Nichelle Tucker; two aunts, Celia Bell Nichols and Pearl Williams; one uncle, Matthew Holmes; along with a host of nieces, nephews, loving cousins, friends, Class of 78, and her long time best friend, Linda Days Moultrie.*



Craig Steven Hamm

Craig Steven Hamm, age 68, was born on **December 29, 1957**. He passed away peacefully on **February 15, 2026**, following a short battle with cancer. Following high school, Craig proudly served his country in the United States Army, carrying with him throughout life the values of duty, resilience, and humility that defined his character. He was the beloved son of Milton and Margaret Hamm. Craig was preceded in death by his son, Nicholas Hamm (2020), as well as his siblings, Susan Hamm, Mark Hamm, and James Hamm. *He leaves behind a loving family who will forever cherish his memory, including his daughter, Christina Stanley, and her husband, Joe; his daughter-in-law, Shirley; and his cherished grandchildren: Luke (11), Nevan Palmer (28), Nickson (18), Wesley (18), and Ella Nora (17). He is also survived by his longtime partner, Diane Wood, who was by his side at the time of his passing; his sister, Sharon Marion, and her husband, Donnie; his nieces, Blayne and Brynn; his nephew, Jonn; and many extended family members and dear friends whose lives were touched by his presence.*



1957 - 2026



Jessie Mae Graham

Jessie Mae Mishoe Graham was born on **July 9, 1944**, to the late Boston and Beulah Mishoe in Bucksport, South Carolina. She was the twelfth child of thirteen children, eleven of which preceded her in death. Mrs. Graham was called home to rest from her labor to be with her savior on **Friday, February 6, 2026**, in the comfort of her home, surrounded by her loving family. She attended the public schools of Horry County and was a 1961 graduate of Whittemore High School. She furthered her education by attending Greenville Technical College majoring in accounting. She was joined in holy matrimony to Mr. Lonzell Graham in 1963. This union was blessed with five children, grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and one great-great-grandchild. *She leaves to cherish her loving memories and loving husband, Lonzell Graham; four sons, Eric (Kathy) Graham, Hakim (Kimaka) Graham, of Greenville, South Carolina, Salaheddin (Felicia) Graham, and Abdel (Nicole) Graham of Georgia; one daughter, Jessica Graham of Greenville, South Carolina; nine grandchildren, ten great grandchildren; one great great-grandchild; one beloved sister, Helen Mishoe Hunt; four brothers-in law, Dock Hunt, Arthur Jones, Ali (Kareemah) Muhammad, and Glenn Graham; three sisters-in-law, Vivian Miller, Gwendolyn Sally Mishoe, and Mae (Alan) Sears; a host of loving nieces, nephews and friends.*

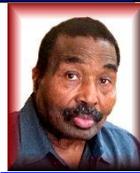


1944 - 2026



Charles Gibson

Charles Gibson was born on **July 8, 1956**. He departed this life on **January 30, 2026**.



1956 - 2026



Ronald Archell Cooper

Mr. Ronald Archell Cooper, age 53, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, peacefully entered eternal rest on **February 6, 2026**. Born on **February 12, 1972**, Ronald was known as a hardworking ambitious, and kindhearted man. He was preceded in death by his mother, Srah Cooper of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. *He leaves to cherish his memory; his father Ronnie Edward Long of North Carolina; two daughters, Elexia Wheeler and Taira Reese of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; his siblings, Shaun Long, Davon Long, and Latonya Long, all of North Carolina; a special friend, Yolanda Davis of South Carolina and a host of other relatives and friends.*



1972 - 2026



Senetta L. Parker

Senetta LaToya Parker was born **October 11, 1964**, in Conway, South Carolina to the late George and Albertha Parker. She entered into eternal rest on **February 16, 2026**, at Conway Medical Center. She attended Conway High School and was a 1982 graduate. She continued her education at Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia majoring in Psychology and received her bachelor's degree in 1996. She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Robert Parker. *She leaves to cherish her memories, two sisters, Vivian (Ralph) Simmons of Burgess, South Carolina and Frances E. Parker of Conway, SC and one brother, Bob Parker of Conway, South Carolina. She also leaves three nephews, Derrick Simmons of Texas, Ralph (Tonya) Simmons, Jr. of Florence, South Carolina and Carlos Parker of Spartanburg, South Carolina; two nieces, Juan (Samuel) Sindab of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and Heather Parker of Conway, South Carolina. three great-nieces, Ava and Jada Blocker of Conway, South Carolina and Rebecca Mixon of Florence, South Carolina; three great-nephews, Kendric and Kaison Sindab of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and Devonte Simmons of Hawaii; along with a host of extended family members, church family members, classmates and friends.*



1964 - 2026



James Hemingway

James Hemingway of Myrtle Beach was born on **December 23, 1968**. He departed this life on **February 6, 2026**.



1968 - 2026



Alfonso Guardado

Mr. Guardado died **Feb. 16, 2026**, following an illness. He was born on **March 10, 1969**. *He leaves to cherish memories: His wife, Mrs. Martha Mendoza and is children; Greydi Guardado, Edgardo Guardado, David Guardado and Ever Guardado.*



1969 - 2026



James Brown

James Brown was born on **March 23, 1943**, to the late Leroy and Vera Bollie Brown. He was born and raised in Holly Hill, South Carolina, where he attended Robert High School, part of the Orangeburg school District.



1943 - 2026

He departed this life on **February 7, 2026**. James was the third of eight children. James met his soulmate, Shirley Nash-Brown in Newark, New Jersey and reared one son, Mr. Curtis Lee Nash, Sr. James is preceded in death by his late wife, Shirley Nas-Brown; sisters, Katiemae Thompson and Leila Mae Jamison; and brothers, Leroy Brown (Charlotte Brown, deceased) Draker Brown, and Sam Brown (Gloria Brown, deceased). *He leaves to cherish his loving memories; his son, Curtis Lee (Jill) Nash, brother, Boilie Brown (Peggy Brown), and sister, Vera B. Gillard (Bobby Gaillard, deceased); Grandchildren, Terell Adams, Matthew Nash, Mya Nash, James Jr. Nash, and Skye Nash; along with a host of nephews, great-nephews, nieces, and great-nieces.*



James King, Jr.

James King, Jr. of Loris was born on **September 23, 1944**. He departed this life on **February 3, 2026**.



1944 - 2026



Helen Christine Williams

Ms. Helen Christine Williams of Conway, SC, was born on **May 24, 1938**. She departed this life on **January 30, 2026**.



1938 - 2026



Liston Randall

Mr. Liston Randall, age 81, died **February 3, 2026**, at McLeod SeaCoast Hospital, following an illness. Mr. Randall, affectionately known as "John Peter," was born **January 23, 1945**, to Herman and Geneva Randall in Brunswick County, North Carolina.



1945 - 2025



Noy Edward Bustion

Mr. Noy Edward Bustion was Born on **September 22, 1945**. He departed this life on **February 12, 2026**. *He leaves to cherish memories his wife Yollette Tappin-Bustion.*



1945 - 2026





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