

Rhythm on the River is super event

I hope you and yours had a great Memorial Day weekend and that you took time to say a prayer for all the families who are touched by our military. Whether it be a father, son, mother, daughter, cousin or friend, we thank you for their service. And for those

who have made the supreme sacrifice, may there be a special crown in glory for them.

MEMORIAL DAY, OF COURSE, is the "unofficial" start to summer; the official start is June 21. But, now is the perfect time for some outdoor activities, before humidity joins the heat of summer. A great opportunity comes this weekend as the West Metro Chamber of Commerce presents Brian Connor and His Amazing Friends at the Rhythm on the River series at the Riverwalk Amphitheatre. Great music, the sun setting on the banks of the Congaree, the city skyline just across the river; it doesn't get much better. And it's free. Go early and take your lawn chair or blanket.

B-C GRAMMAR SCHOOL NO. 1 and Springdale Elementary School are recipients of a Red Carpet award, which recognizes a schools' success at creating family-friendly school environments and providing excellent customer service. The schools will receive red carpets with the state seal to display in their lobbies. Winning schools maintain their recognition for three years.

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AROUND WEST COLUMBIA

THE STRINGS ENSEMBLE FROM Northside Middle School performed at the University of South Carolina's College of Engineering for the college's 100th anniversary on May 16. Kristy Gwyn is the director.

NOMINATIONS ARE BEING

ACCEPTED through June 30 for the Airport High School Athletic Hall of Fame, which was established by the Eagle Club in 2004 to recognize the accomplishments of former athletes and coaches. Nomination forms are available at Airport High School, 1315 Boston Ave. or www.ahs.lex2.groupfusion.net, or Lexington School District Two District Education Center 715 Ninth St., or www.lex2.org. Or call Airport High, 822-5600, or the District Education Center, 796-4708.

SPRINGDALE ELEMENTARY, FULMER MIDDLE and Airport High have been named Palmetto Gold and Silver Award recipients by the S.C. Department of Education. Springdale received the Palmetto Silver Award for Closing the Achievement Gap, Fulmer received the Palmetto Silver Award for General Performance, and Airport received the Gold Award for Closing the Achievement Gap and General Performance. The awards program recognizes the state's schools with the highest levels of student academic achievement and the fastest rates of improvement.

Choral group puts on premiere show

The Lexington County Choral Society presented the South Carolina premiere of "The Wedding Mass" last week at Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church in Lexington.

Hal McIntosh, founding conductor, introduced Dr. Timothy Michael Powell of the prestigious Davidson Fine Arts School in Augusta. He was the composer and conductor of this outstanding composition. Lexington was truly honored to have had this performance, which was so beautiful and inspiring.

The choral group was accompanied by the Lake Murray Symphony Strings and percussion, conducted by Dr. Einar Anderson, who was assisted by Kimberly Sullivan.

Other participants were Grayson Sarvis, Sharon Hudson Rattray, Susan Welch and Dr. Tina Stallard.

Recipient of the LCCS/Sylvia E. Looney piano scholarship was Ms. Ariel Ma.

McIntosh says the group will be back Dec. 4-5 for a Christmas concert, in March with a Dick Goodwin concert, and in May for a spring concert. Plan to attend!

A BIG CHAMBER BUSINESS After Hours was held last week by Resource Realty Group, the Law Offices of Andrew Farley, Ronald Lockhart CPA, Palmetto Home Team, and Young's Contracting and Development at their offices at 1 Gantt St. in Lexington.

THE BUILDING, FORMERLY KNOWN as the Harmon Building was once occupied by attorney H. Hugh Rogers and is over 100

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AROUND LEXINGTON COUNTY

years old. The late Mrs. Queenie Gantt once lived there. Marvin Hendrix commented that he used to have shoes repaired there at Amick's Shoe Shop. The building has a lot of history.

AMONG THOSE ATTENDING WERE Scott Wilhide, Nancy Hutto (this month's chamber ambassador), Buddy Smith,

Doris Rawl, Maro Rogers, J.R. Fennell, Zoe and Marvin Hendrix, Linda Gobbi, Lois Stankawich, Bunnie and Don Hagenlocher, Ron Bartlett, Brenda and Wayne Caughman, Tammy Gray, Sheri and Ralph Crafton, Art Mogan, Miriam Ford, Gail and Harry Deith, Jerry Howard, Suzanne and Kent Flowers, George Landers, Carol and Hugh Ryall, Sheila Grogan, Bobby Driggers, and Harley Oody.

A SPECIAL HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Lexington's first lady Angela Halfacre, who celebrated May 26.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO SHANNON Harman Sharpe, Lisa Cribb, Vive Wessel, Alice Richardson, Clarence Richardson, Delores Rucker, Gary Baker, Robert Herring, Larry Howell, E.B. Purcell Jr., Judith Fuller Wilson, Kurt Gerstenberger, Myrna Black, Sara Harper, Adam Mintz, Beulah Glover, Marie Davis, Dean Murry, Phil Reams, Rita Rodgers, Lauren Whiteside, Hailey Smith, Jack Gaylord, Stacy Westberry, Ginger Taylor, Anne Bliss, Sarah Cooper, Karen Giles, Stephanie Langford, Kori Lorick, Suzanne Mathis, Will Sanderson and Joanne Duncan.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Bearcat Chorus rated 'Excellent'

Seth Smith has reason to be proud. He is the music and chorus teacher at B-C Grammar School No. 1 and his Bearcat Chorus recently competed in the 2009 Carowinds Festival of Music and received an Excellent rating on their performance. Members of the chorus are Mitchell Amick, Alissa Ayers, Parker Baker, Haiden Bouknight, Dazia Barefoot, Robert Boyd, Gabe Caldwell, Shandora Cheeseboro, Abby Coats, Crystal Connor, DeAgea Daniels, Shakala Daniels, Bailey Epting, Ale Estrada, Zurick Feagins, Emily Garner, Jon Gates, Kayla Harrington, Drayton Heh, Quinckrick Holley, Kailey James, Armani Johnson, Zachary Jordan, J.D. Martin, Rebekah Mayson, Kayla Newell, Sage Phelps, Kayla Prevatte, Caycey Pound, Brooke Ragsdale, Titanique Rodriquez, Haleigh Scott, Qwvazijha Stanley, Rashaad Sulton, Anna-Leigh Taylor. If you happen to see any of these musical giants, give 'em a big shout-out "Congrats!"

ON THE OTHER HAND, if you happen to see Mike Hughes, don't bother to congratulate him. Just give him a big shout-out "Hello!" Watch him bat his eyes and wonder what you are up to. You know how some young Cayceites like to confuse old people.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRISTOPHER AND Stephanie Strauser on the birth of Aidan Christopher on May 12. Grandparents are J.C., and Rhonda Hyatt and Gary Shumpert. Great-grandparents are Richard and Lorine Crapps. And we can't fail to mention Caleb, his "big" brother.

VALIER MCALLISTER AND JANIE Thurston

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AROUND CAYCE & SPRINGDALE



have returned from a 10-day trip to Mississippi. "We went to visit relatives, but didn't miss a chance to tour some historic sites and some mighty-fine restaurants," McAllister said, "I think we both gained ten pounds."

CAYCE'S MAYOR ELISE PARTIN wanted to see what the public thought about the city's potential, its needs and what direction should the officials take. Gerald Cromer, a Cayce resident for 52-years didn't miss a session during the three-day give and take with Clemson urbanologists. "I heard a lot of concerns, but more importantly I feel that for the first time, I was heard." Her honor, Mayor Partin, said that's the purpose.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY MAY 28: Eddie and Terri Norris; Richard and Cindi Barton May 29; Vic and Sue Sakellarios May 30; Harold and Gayle Byrd.

BIRTHDAY CANDLES ARE BURNING May 28: Bob Nelson, Michael Henderson, Cindi Sharpe, Michael Rowe, Colie Berry, Jay Jeffcoat, Neil Williams, Pete Norris; May 29: Amanda Ragan, Laura Smith, Chris Roof, Garrison Gunter; May 30: Harold Byrd, Roy Elrod, Erin Conley, Richard Miles, Dee Blankenship, John Foster, Zachery Mattox, Ricky Coward Jr., Todd Coliphant, Jano Rucker; May 31: Lois Waites, Marshall Cook, Betty Mitchum, Mary Lambert, Hampton Rea, Dawn Hildebran, Mickey Walkup, Fred Gardner, Jason Weston Jones, Ernie Kyzer, Rebecca Kyzer Walker; June 2: Walter Slice; June 3: Jessica Gunter.

Dance recital honors local mother

Now is the time of year when teachers and students dance with joy at the prospect of summer vacation. But at Dance One Studio, the students are dancing for their parents, grandparents and friends. They have worked all year

to perfect their talent and it was evident May 16 at the Township Auditorium. The Dance Troupe presented "History Starts Now - Start With Me".

THE RECITAL WAS DEDICATED to Mrs. Tabitha Steele, one of the dance moms who passed away in September. She was remembered because she was always smiling and always with her children. Some of the neighborhood dancers were Hailey Clayborn, Hailey Wingard, Delaney Gilliam, Rebekah Wingard, Lauren Yandle, Lauren Sox, Russell Wingard, Tori Moye, Savannah Wingard, Katie Daniels, Nichole Yandle, Tegan Rogers, Stephanie Wingard, Vickie Bowers, Holly Gilliam, and India Bowers. I'm told that the last dance "I Will Change The World" brought the show to a close in a spectacular way.

ST. DAVID LUTHERAN CHURCH Junior Girl Scout Troop 240 received Bronze Awards May 12. The award is the highest award that a junior girl scout can earn. Alison Soderstrom, Bethany Frazier, Kayleigh Clonts, and Sydney Anderson all of Lexington, brainstormed

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AROUND OAK GROVE



for a Community project. They decided to make bags for walkers and wheelchairs so people would have a place to store their personal items.

The girls cut the patterns out of material donated by Helen Coffman. The bags were then assembled and delivered to

C.M. Tucker, Dowdy Gardner and the Heritage at Lowman Nursing Centers. The patients were delighted with their bags and to talk to the girls. With the assistance of the Girl Scout Leaders, Tabitha Soderstrom and Kresta Frazier, the girls spent several Saturdays and many hours completing the project.

CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK are Ronnie and Debbie Fulmer, Perry and Trudy Bouknight, Tommy and Dan Roof, Britt and Jamie Dooley, Nila and Wyman Keisler, and Melba and Bob Ivey. We wish you many more happy years together.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS ARE CHARLES Chavis, Jeannie Wingard, Frances Derrick, Gage Douglass, Chip Burn, Addison Ellis, Hugh Kyzer, Edward Corley, Kim Jolly, Molly McCombs, Wendy Nesmith, Stan McQuatters, Missy Addy, Jamie Allen, Herbert Bucknam, Joel Price, Jr., Ty Coker, Patricia Bachman, William Lee, Landrey Leagan, Manon Husman, Kristi Shull, Bethany Frazier, Lou Malejko, and Jere Peterson, Jr.

It's Literacy Night at Carolina Springs

It's Family Literacy Night tonight at Carolina Springs Middle School, beginning at 6 p.m. with an introduction to the PTSA for the 2009-2010 school year. The literacy night will have plenty of details on the summer reading plan and books, and the book peddler will have books at a buy one, get one free price.

SCHOOL'S ALMOST OUT, WHICH is plenty of reason to celebrate—as if kids need an excuse. The PTO at Carolina Springs Elementary will have its spring Carnival this Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. until noon.

RED BANK UNITED METHODIST dedicated its new Heritage Hall this past Sunday. The hall, just off the main sanctuary, now has a number of framed photos depicting the buildings and the congregation of the church in past years, from the original Union Church building to the 1939 sanctuary up through the current structure. The photos of members from the past

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AROUND RED BANK

sparked a number of memories Sunday for the seniors in attendance, I'm told.

MOTHER'S DAY MAY BE gone for another year, but the ladies of St. James Lutheran gathered recently to celebrate grandmothers, moms, daughters and sisters. The guest speaker, Ms.

Cristy Fossum, is the author of the series "Sunday by Sunday," a fictional tale about Lutheran women and their common spiritual questions, joys and sorrows throughout their lives of faith.

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY and friends of Luther Wiley "Luke" Harmon, a member of Red Bank Baptist Church, who passed away last Wednesday, May 20.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ZACH Huffines, Clay Spence, Gloria Clingan, Gladys Phillips, Katie Maner, and Lisa Hill.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S graduates, from high school on down to our littlest students. Tonight marks the "graduation" of the four-year old class at Sunshine Days preschool.

Realtors unite to help the homeless

SHELLY SIMS of Russell and Jeffcoat Realtors in Chapin says, "The Lord placed on my heart a real burden to help the homeless this year, in light of the recent foreclosures and the rising unemployment in our state. I shared this with the 37 agents who work out of our office."

They were anxious to unite in support of the cause, Sims says. All of them have donated time and money, and some have even agreed to give a portion of their check to the Oliver Gospel Mission, a homeless shelter in Columbia, which will benefit from Russell and Jeffcoat's "Realtors Helping The Homeless" all year long. Sims points out that statistics have shown there are 6,700 homeless people in South Carolina and only 18 homeless shelters.

LAST WEEK, THE CHAPIN office conducted a garage and bake sale and raised over \$1,000 for the cause. They also have initiated a Dime Drive, placing collection jars in businesses around town. In addition to raising money, they hope to increase awareness of the problem of homelessness in the nation and here at home.

The face of the homeless is changing, Sims says. It's not just single men. More and more families, and mothers with children, are becoming homeless.

THE CONGREGATION OF CHAPIN United Methodist Church also has taken up the cause. Pastor Jody Flowers has been delivering a series of sermons on living as though you only had one month to live. On May 17, he challenged to Congregation to respond to a critical need for shoes for homeless people, taking off his own shoes and offering them up for someone in need.

A lot of parishioners went home barefoot. CUMC delivered 1,500 pairs of shoes to the Oliver Gospel Mission for distribution to men, women and children

in need.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ON MAY 28 to: Chris Sox, Thelma Whitaker, Larry Martin, Harriet Wilson, Grayson Allen, Eliot Foster, Cameron Liles, Doug McDonald, Robin Neal, Logan Schumpert, Edward Burton, Mark Erikson, Michael Krochta, Cynthia LaCarbonara, "Shot" Shealy, Bill Bowen, Frances Dye, Paul Dye, Holt Dye, Leann Phillips, Allison Wilber, Leisha Huffstetler, Timmy Dominick, Katie Freels.

ON MAY 29 TO: Maria Bundrick, Mary Ann Beasley, Trey Bundrick, Abbie Derrick, Harold Hair, Andrew Kibler, "Sonny" Shealy, Karen Bishop, Daryl Harper, Ryan Scheerer, Beau Bonvillain, Crafton Dicus, Rob Drescher, Bob Johnson, Cindy Meetze, Bunny Williams, Steve Slice.

ON MAY 30 TO: Gabe Keister, Sadie Benton, Todd Amick, James David Chapman, Chip Stevenson, Colie Huffstetler, Austin Keller, Sandra Abstance, Terry Wessner, Dennis Fulmer, Hal Wilson, Reba Singley, Olivia Gabriel, Haylie Crocker.

ON MAY 31 TO: Ryan Fogle, George Xenakis, Walter T. Cox III, Sally Gladden, Barbara Proctor, Robert Redmond, Sara Rice, Thomas Holstein, Zach Krumrey, Shelley Frick, Harvey Draper, Brett Richardson, Kimberly Pickett, Richard Walters Jr., Kari Pepper, Elizabeth Teal, Sally Kreh.

ON JUNE 1 TO: Ann Elias, Bill Fielding, David Flannery, David Richardson, Angelo Velilla, Kathy S. Murray.

ON JUNE 2 TO: Frank James, Don Martin, Meg Rowe, Jamie Amick, Bobbie Slice, Joe Houser, Nick Atria, Katie Flannery, Michael Hutchison, Carl Jeffcoat, Josh Montoya, Kathy Parker, Jack Snedecor, Christopher Wilds.

ON JUNE 3 TO: Jenny Byrne, Brian Connelly, Aimee Lamkin, Morgan Lowman, Ann O'Neill, Aaron Smith, Brandi Graham, June Bowen, Jim Johnston.



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AROUND CHAPIN