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Spartan Weekly

Community news from Spartanburg and the surrounding upstate area
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AROUND TOWN

Wellford woman indicted for forged prescriptions

Columbia - United States Attorney Beth Drake stated recently that Felicia L. Prysock, age 41, of Wellford, was charged in a thirty-count Indictment by a Grand Jury in Columbia for Aggravated Identity Theft, False Statements Related to Health Care Matters, and Obtaining a Controlled Substance by Fraud.

The indictment alleges that Prysock filled ten different prescriptions forged in the names of her children and had Medicaid pay for them. The conduct occurred between July 2016 and April 2017. The investigation revealed that these prescriptions were for Schedule II opioids, such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, and Adderall.

The United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General, along with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, investigated the case. Assistant United States Attorney Winston David Holliday, Jr., of the Columbia office is prosecuting the case.

Phantom Nightlight: Spartanburg artist to exhibit at West Main Artists Co-op

"Phantom Nightlight," an exhibit of paintings by Spartanburg artist Jonathan Swift, will be featured at West Main Artists Co-op (WMAC) Oct. 19 - Nov. 11, asking the question: "Do we see better in the dark?"

A free opening reception will be held during the city's monthly ArtWalk, Thursday Oct. 19, 5-9 p.m. The exhibit will be open for free public viewing Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

West Main Artists Co-op is located at 578 West Main Street in Spartanburg. For more information visit WestMainArtists.org or on Facebook.

Former Converse President Betsy Fleming honored with Fleming Hall dedication

A permanent tribute to former Converse President Betsy Fleming was announced recently, as the College's new junior housing complex was formally dedicated and named Fleming Hall in her honor. The name was selected by alumna and Converse Trustee Ellen Lanford Asherman '85 and her husband, Philip, whose generous contributions to the College have had significant impact on the College's growth and success.

Spartanburg County Farm Bureau women "Shake, Rattle and Roll" at State Conference

Greenville - Spartanburg County residents Harriett Belue and Lynne Farr were among nearly 80 women from 22 counties across the state who gathered in Greenville September 25 - 26 for the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation's (SCFB) annual Women's Leadership Conference. The group of women took in upstate SC as they learned how agriculture embraces the "Shake, Rattle and Roll" of the industry. They participated in workshops that showcased local agriculture, offered personal development, and provided tools to promote agriculture in their counties.

Farm Bureau Women at county, state, and national levels coordinate agricultural education and promotional activities. Their work includes supporting important family and agricultural legislation, youth programs, educational activities, leadership development and commodity promotions.

SPO to kick off series October 6

Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra begins its 2017-2018 "Espresso" chamber concert series Friday, October 6, with Chaplin Au Lait. Tickets are \$26 each and can be purchased by telephone - (864) 542-2787 - or in person at Chapman's box office Monday-Friday afternoons. Tickets are also available anytime online at SpartanburgPhilharmonic.org.

A special presentation of Charlie Chaplin's 1921 silent film "The Kid," the concert will have live musical accompaniment by eight members of the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra. Doors open to the Chapman Cultural Center theatre at 5:30pm for a happy hour reception that will include coffee sponsored by Mozza Coffee, beer by Ciclops Cidery and Brewery, wine by the Marriott, and appetizers by Select Restaurant. Ticketholders will also be treated to a limited-edition stemless wine glass or pint glass to take home. After the show, the audience is invited to both neighboring establishments, the Marriott and the Hub City Tap House, for special deals on food and drink.

"The Kid" is widely considered one of the greatest films of the silent era and was written, produced and directed by Charlie Chaplin. The show will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. and will feature fun and eclectic musical selections from Chopin, Grieg, Joplin, Strauss, Satie and more.

Showing appreciation!

To honor Hope Center For Children staff who give so much of themselves all year long, the annual staff appreciation celebration was held September 25th. Award winners (below) were voted on by all HCFC staff and recognize those who are contributing outstanding service.

Team Hope Award - Michael Brown

Supervisor of the Excellence - Constance Keener

Practitioner of the Year - Jennifer Caldwell

Advocate of the Year - Melissa Keith

Administrative Excellence - Jessica Lollis

Practitioner of Excellence - Elvia Gutierrez

In the photo at right, India



Underwood, Vernon Chamlee Loscuito are shown celebrating Mr. Brown's award. Hayes, Michael Brown (Team Hope, HCFC's highest staff honor) and

Spartanburg Community College celebrates relocation of School of Business to Downtown Spartanburg

On Tuesday, September 26, Spartanburg Community College celebrated the relocation of the College's School of Business to the SCC Downtown Campus, welcoming community leaders, elected officials, SCC students and business graduates, to the new location to discuss the value of this strategic move to Spartanburg's thriving downtown.

"Today we celebrate a new page in the history of the Evans Academic Center - the move of our business programs in the heart of Spartanburg at our SCC Downtown Campus - so our students can benefit from studying and learning in a vibrant business district," explained Henry C. Giles, Jr., SCC president. "This facility is a special place for Spartanburg, and it is magnificent. But, more importantly, it has been a vital part of our community and produced many graduates who have been, and are, leaders in Spartanburg, South Carolina and our nation. I wonder if, 95 years ago, the founders of this grand building - Dr. J. Frank Evans, Spartanburg County superintendent, and Mr. Henry Jenkins, architect - visualized the impact this building would have on our community today?"

Giles added that moving the College's business programs - accounting administrative office, marketing and management - was at the request of the business faculty. "They are excited about opportunities to work with local businesses to ensure that our students are prepared for their future, and so they can continue their education at one of our great partner institutions - Converse College, Wofford College and "The George" at USC Upstate.

Renee Trammell, SCC's School of Business chair, said, "There are multiple business entities here - for-profit and non-profit organizations - so we are taking knowledge out of the confines of a textbook - the business, legal, medical, financial organizations that are here - and connecting all those facets that tie very closely into the programs we offer. Our move is the dichotomy of old

meets new - the historic meeting the innovative; beautiful, gothic architecture meeting busy, urban streets.

"Standing in these hallways it's easy to envision the past. Standing in our classrooms and computer labs, talking with our students and faculty, it's easy to envision the future," adds Trammell. "We are here to serve and partner with the community. Our goal is to provide well-equipped and well-prepared graduates to local employers. Most of our SCC graduates remain in the area, and keeping that talent local will benefit all of us. Talent retention perpetuates economic growth: some SCC graduates will choose to pursue their four-year degrees at some point in the future, so their dreams don't even stop with us."

Trammell adds that the new location will also make it easier for employers to visit the School of Business to meet students, and in turn, allow students to take advantage of internships and job shadowing opportunities with these employers.

Guest speakers at Tuesday's event included Max T. Hyde, Jr., attorney/owner of Hyde Law Firm and Spartanburg City Councilman-elect for District 4, and Ben Stubbs, SCC business graduate and the Outreach/Veteran Treatment Court Coordinator with Upstate Warrior Solutions.

Speaking to students, Hyde asked said, "We can write our own scripts for our lives. What do you want your life to look like? We have a choice. Who do you want to be? What do you want your life to look like? I'm reminded of people who have walked these halls, these last decades, people who have sat in these same places. We have a whole spectrum of people who have accomplished and achieved from the highest spectrum - SC supreme court justice, doctors, singer, philanthropists. But, we all have to look within to find the truth - you have to remember who you are. That's the essence of education - knowing who you are and being confident in your own skin.

"Why does it matter that the

business school has come downtown? This is a place where you can find yourself and know who you are," explained Hyde. "Even though we live in this digital age, people still matter, relationships matter. But, it's important to go where the jobs are. Now you are downtown, you can walk out these doors and cultivate relationships: you can have an internship; you can have a part-time job a few hundred yards away; you can go to lunch with a mentor. You are in the right place at the right time. Make it count."

Ben Stubbs, SCC graduate and the outreach/veteran treatment court coordinator with Upstate Warrior Solutions, shared his personal experiences of attending college after completing military service and SCC's influence on his educational pathway. When introducing Stubbs, Renee Trammell said, "Next summer Ben will have graduated with an associate degree, bachelor's degree and master's degree within four years - all while remaining debt free utilizing the Post 9/11 GI Bill."

Stubbs attended SCC and graduated in 2016 with an associate in arts degree, transferred to USC Upstate where he graduated in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in exercise science and business. In addition to working with Upstate Warrior Solutions, which is housed at the SCC Downtown Campus, Stubbs is also pursuing a master's of business administration degree with an emphasis in entrepreneurial innovation from Clemson University and will graduate in summer 2018.

"Moving the School of Business programs to our Downtown Campus has been a wonderful opportunity for our students, faculty and staff given the growth and synergy that's going on in the City of Spartanburg right now," explained Trammell. "Our faculty felt strongly that this move would be a natural fit for our programs, and so far, we have not been disappointed. Learning in the historic Evans Academic Center has really been motivating for our students."

Tragic events can affect us all

From the American Counseling Association

Were you aware that when you read about or hear about news reports of major tragedies, they may be impacting your own life beyond what you may realize?

The recent devastating hurricanes... reports of terrible earthquake damage... the threatening military actions in the far east... the too-numerous terror attacks occurring in Europe -- any and all of these, no matter how far removed from where you live, are events that can affect each of us in negative ways.

We all want to feel safe in our daily lives, but when we see and hear exhaustive news reports of tragic events on a regular basis, it can bring on very real physical and emotional reactions. It's called vicarious trauma. Such reactions are common and normal in the face of events too large and horrific for normal comprehension. They can make you wonder just how safe you are as you realize that whatever just happened, or something similar, could just as easily happen to you.

Real physical reactions can include chills, nausea, dizziness and headaches. You may find yourself more irritable, prone to anger or having sudden emotional outbursts. Some people experience confusion or nightmares, or may simply find it difficult to relax.

The problems that can arise are not in the emotions we feel, but in how we respond to them. When you deny such feelings, or try to hide from them by working longer hours, or by turning to alcohol or drugs, you aren't validating and accepting your very real, very normal feelings.

A good way to respond to such feelings is to go back to basics. Stick to a schedule. Be well rested. Eat healthy meals. Alternate exercise and relaxation.

If feeling overly anxious, try pampering yourself a little. Take a hot bath, listen to your favorite music, read a good novel, maybe even allow yourself to cry. It's also important to spend time with others and to talk about what you're feeling. In times of tragedy, you'll find others are experiencing similar feelings and reactions and are often eager to discuss them.

It's also a good time to start, or increase, volunteer work. Helping others also helps you as your work makes the world a little bit better.

Being affected by tragedies is a very normal human reaction. When it happens, acknowledge what you're feeling and take steps to help you feel better.

Counseling Corner is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to ACAcorner@counseling.org

Around the Upstate

Community Calendar

OCTOBER 6
Jazz on the Square, downtown Spartanburg at Morgan Square, 5:30 - 8 p.m.

Espresso no. 1: Chaplin au lait, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., presented by the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra at the Chapman Cultural Center. Purchase tickets at 864.542.ARTS or online at chapmanculturalcenter.org

OCTOBER 8
Sundays Unplugged at Chapman Cultural Center, 1 - 5 p.m. Several museums are open with free admission, and a free mini-concert is held 2 - 4 p.m. (864) 542-ARTS.

OCTOBER 7
Patti Labelle 'A Night to Remember' featuring The Manhattans, Oct. 7, 7:00 p.m. at the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium. Tickets are available at ticketmaster.com and by phone at 800-745-3000. Visit www.crowdpleaser.com for more information.

OCTOBER 11
Music Sandwiched In, presented by the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra, 12:15 - 1 p.m. in the Barrett Community Room at the main branch library, downtown Spartanburg.

OCTOBER 14
3rd Annual Hub City Brew Fest, downtown Spartanburg. This is a celebration of Carolina craft beer, featuring over 25 Carolina craft breweries, great live music, local favorite foods, prizes, slow ride, activities. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. hubcitybrewfest.com



1. Is the book of Colossians in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Whose first chapter begins, "Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month"? Ezra, Ezekiel, Micah, Malachi
3. From Exodus 10, what was blown out of Egypt by a strong west wind? Rivers, Locusts, Sinners, Nightness
4. In 1 Chronicles, who killed a 7 1/2-foot-tall Egyptian giant? Beniah, Gideon, Jannes, Baruch
5. From Genesis 28, what city was site of Jacob's famous dream? Lachish, Perga, Haran, Bethel
6. In Colossians 4, what city was home to Philemon? Berea, Shechem, Beersheba, Colossae

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Ezekiel; 3) Locusts; 4) Beniah; 5) Bethel; 6) Colossae

Wilson Casey's 2018 Fall Trivia box calendar, loaded with daily teasers, is now available in stores and online at RSVP.com

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Peace and serenity at Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home

The Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home was conceived as a peaceful place, surrounded by the beauty and serenity of nature. Patient suites have French doors that open to private patios facing the lawn and garden area behind the home. Patients and families can often be found getting fresh air, taking a break, or relaxing under the arbor.

The Spartanburg Regional Foundation is leading efforts to enhance the landscaping behind the hospice home. Grass will be planted, and there will be additional native flowers and shrubbery. Plans also call for upgrading existing structures and creating new tranquil areas for reflection.

"We believe this project is going to make our Hospice Home even more special and that families will really appreciate the added beauty of its surroundings," said Shelly Sinclair, director of philanthropy and hospice liaison for Spartanburg Regional Foundation.

David Church, vice president of oncology and support services at Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System, said that these improvements will help fulfill the original vision



The Spartanburg Regional Hospice Home was built with peace in mind. The hospice home is now working to expand the garden where patients and families can reflect and enjoy nature.

planners had in mind for the hospice home more than 10 years ago.

"We didn't want it to look institutional. We wanted a setting where there were birds and trees and flowers," said Church, who played a central role in the development of the hospice home.

Another key figure at that time was Spartanburg attorney Jim Thompson, who served alongside Marsha Gibbs and the late Katie Hodge as a tri-chair of the capital campaign to raise money for the project.

"It was envisioned from the beginning that we would create for patients and families an enclave where there could be peaceful and beautiful

serenity," Thompson said.

According to Thompson and Church, numerous sites around the county were considered for the facility.

"It was a requirement that we would have a connection to nature," Thompson said.

Leaders settled on a piece of property near Asheville Highway, a few miles north of Spartanburg Medical Center. It was heavily wooded and came with an added bonus: The property is adjacent to the Upper Chiquapin Greenway, owned and maintained by the Spartanburg Area Conservancy (SPACE).

The location of the greenway means that the Spartanburg Regional Hospice

Home will have a permanent buffer from I-585 and potential development. It also connects with a walking path on the Hospice Home property, giving families and other visitors access to an additional 1.6 mile walking trail.

SPACE executive director Andrew Waters said the adjoining properties make for a good partnership.

"Having had someone in my family in hospice, it's meaningful to me to be able to provide a place where family members can go to connect with nature," he said.

While the hospice home site turned out to be nearly ideal, it did require significant grading and a number of trees were cleared. The

area was landscaped and, as Church said, "we rebuilt the forest" with newly planted trees and other plants.

"We built (a setting) we could afford," Church said. "We put the bones of it in place with the idea that it could grow."

Now is the time to grow, said Kim Ross, director of Spartanburg Regional Hospice and Palliative Care.

"This will further enrich the exterior space surrounding our Hospice Home. The original design was thoughtfully planned to allow for enhancement and expansion," she said.

Horticulturalist Stewart Winslow, who serves on the Spartanburg Regional Foundation's Hospice Division board, is consulting on the project. He is working with planners to select plants and a landscape design that will be both attractive and sustainable.

"I am grateful to those who contribute time, talent and funding," Ross said. "We are thrilled to have the opportunity to make the space even better for our patients, families and associates."

AnMed Health agrees to pay \$7 million to settle False Claims Act allegations

Columbia - AnMed Health, a South Carolina hospital based in Anderson, has agreed to pay over \$7 million to resolve allegations that it violated the False Claims Act by submitting false Medicare claims. The settlement announced recently resolves allegations that AnMed Health knowingly disregarded the statutory conditions for submitting claims to the Medicare program for a variety of services, including radiation oncology services, emergency department services, and clinic services.

Specifically, the United States alleged that AnMed Health billed for radiation oncology services for Medicare patients when a qualified practitioner was not immediately available to provide assistance and direction throughout the radiation procedure, as required by Medicare regulations. The settlement also resolves allegations that AnMed Health systematically billed a minor care clinic as if it was an Emergency Department, and billed Emergency Department services as if they were provided by a physician when, in fact, the services were rendered by mid-level providers. Each of these billing practices resulted in higher reimbursements to AnMed Health.

"Our goal in pursuing Medicare fraud is not only to protect taxpayers, but also to ensure that Medicare benefici-

aries receive the quality care they deserve," said Barbara Bowers, Civil Chief for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of South Carolina.

"This is another example of how the False Claims Act whistleblower provisions help protect the public's interest," said U.S. Attorney John Horn. "It also reflects our ongoing commitment to safeguard our federal health care programs and the vital care that they provide."

"Protecting people with Medicare and guarding health resources are top priorities," said Derrick L. Jackson, Special Agent in Charge for the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Provider organizations seeking to increase profits at the expense of patients and taxpayers should expect such plans to be costly."

The allegations settled arose from a lawsuit filed in the Northern District of Georgia by a whistleblower formerly employed by AnMed Health, Linda Jaiminey, under the whistleblower provisions of the False Claims Act. Under the Act, private citizens can bring suit on behalf of the government for false claims and share in any recovery. The lawsuit is captioned United States ex rel. Jaiminey v. AnMed Health, et al., 1:12-cv-2941 (N.D. Ga.). Ms. Jaiminey will receive

\$1,202,500 of the United States' False Claims Act recovery. Ms. Jaiminey will also receive \$850,136.50 from AnMed Health to resolve her wrongful termination claims

under the False Claims Act.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of South

Carolina, and the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General.

26 BEGINNING TO END

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Nest item

4 Funny Mort

8 Casual top

14 Cape, e.g.

19 British lav

20 Jai —

21 Its capital is Roma

22 Berry of "The Call"

23 * Group for motorists

25 * Turn a profit, say

27 Jogging pace

28 Scheming

29 Drench

30 On the other side of

31 * "La Vie en Rose" singer

34 * Amass wealth

38 Aug. hours

39 Bonn "one"

40 Nail file materials

42 As dry as —

47 — Man defense

48 "Rugrats" father

49 Baddie's look

51 Son of Eve

52 * 2009 F. Kelly song

56 * Stay calm

58 10,000,000 ergs

59 Lend support

60 Tip sheet statistics

63 Compares

64 Askew

65 Guevara the guerrilla

66 Greek diner menu item

67 Lushes

68 * Fulfill, as a promise

71 * What you don't need a return ticket for

76 Only

77 Skew

79 Cat paw part

80 Speed test

81 Crucial arteries

84 — noire

85 D.C. VIP

86 Like tapestries

87 * "No noise allowed"

Amtrak area

89 * Kids' chemistry set, e.g.

92 Fed. of Brezhnev

93 Deliver an address

96 Walk- — (small parts)

97 Chemical ending

98 Nuclear trial, for short

100 Run-of-the-mill

102 "Inc." relative

103 Start for marital

106 * 13th-century pope

108 * General Mills cereal

111 Cascade Range peak

115 — kwon do

117 Squirmy fish

118 With 104-Down, cure concocted by Mom

119 * The mineral citrine, e.g.

123 What the first and last letters of 13 answers in this puzzle proceed through

125 Lowest point

126 Lift

127 Printer's unit

128 Chemical ending

129 Gives applause

130 Capital of 95-Down

131 Harper of Hollywood

132 Seaport of Scotland

DOWN

1 Highly happy

2 Pumpkins, e.g.

3 "Get busy!"

4 Body pouch

5 Pumpkin pie ingredient

6 Cart off to the jailhouse

7 Tripoli's land

8 Quirky mannerisms

9 Moe or Larry

10 Impedes

11 — du Diable

12 — de Oro

13 Frat letter

14 Mambo relative

15 Actor Bert

16 Roll topper

17 Sad cry

18 Adidas rival

24 Slugger Mel

26 Tic- — -toe

32 Fling

33 Regaled

35 Element #50

36 Smells nasty

37 "Ahh, OK"

41 Post-rain dirt

43 Swimming specialty

44 Woodwind instrument

45 Gas in lights

46 Pipe elbows

47 Leisure suit fabrics

48 Recolled (from)

50 Add ammo of India

52 Des Moines' state

53 Wait secretly

54 Western lake

55 Happiness

57 Feel for

58 Clog

61 Let go of

62 Put on

65 Big name in old video game

66 Itty-bitty biter

67 Football Hall of Famer

68 Lynn

69 Butting beast

70 Be in debt to

72 Foil relatives

73 Shankar with a sitar

74 "Law & Order: SVU" actor

75 Ballpoint, e.g.

78 In medias —

81 Blue-green

82 Force to go

83 Go skyward

84 "Well done, Royal Navy diva!"

85 Raw power

86 George of "Cheers"

88 Saudi, e.g.

90 Turning tooth

91 Bean trees of India

94 Fifth of fifty

95 African country

99 Teaches one-on-one

101 2009 James Cameron film

102 Sobieski of Hollywood

103 Great fear

104 See

108 New Hampshire prep school

107 Unedited beast

109 Bodily pump

110 "— ching!"

111 Align, briefly

112 Get well

113 Alan of TV and film

114 Tiny mistake

116 Poet Pound

120 Sine — non

121 Increases

122 Ulna's place

124 Royal Navy diva!

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5 home maintenance projects to tackle this fall

(StatePoint) Fall is the perfect time to complete those pesky home maintenance projects left on your to do list. If you've been putting off these chores, you're not alone, but it could cost you. In fact, a national survey from Erie Insurance shows many Americans are putting themselves and their homes at financial risk by delaying important home maintenance tasks.

Make sure you're protected by focusing on these five areas:

- **The Roof.** Twenty-three percent of homeowners admit they never inspect their roof or have it inspected unless there is a problem, according to the Erie Insurance survey. Unfortunately, replacing a roof is also one of the biggest expenses a homeowner may have if not maintained properly. Nationally, the average homeowner spends about \$6,600 to install a new roof, but prices can soar upwards of \$20,000.

Don't be stuck with a hefty roof repair bill. Have it inspected to see if any shingles are damaged and need to be replaced. The fall season is the optimal



time to do so, since roofing is best installed when temperatures are cooler. Plus, you'll catch any problems before winter weather kicks in.

- **The Gutters.** Make sure downspouts drain away from the foundation and are clear of debris. Clogged gutters can lead to major issues like uneven floors, cracks in walls and interior water damage.

This type of claim, also known as seepage, is a maintenance issue and often not covered under your home insurance policy. To prevent any major issues, clean gutters at least twice a year in fall and spring.

- **The Dryer Exhaust Duct.** Does it take you two to three cycles to dry a load of laundry? If so, you may need to clean your

dryer vent. One in five (21 percent) admit they never clean their clothes dryer ducts, unless they have a problem. But lint build-up can catch fire easily. Over 15,000 dryer fires occurred nationwide from 2010-2014, with the majority being ignited by dust, fiber and lint, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Avoid this disaster with a thorough cleaning at least once a

year.

- **The Fireplace Chimney.** Erie Insurance found nearly half (46 percent) of people who own a home with a fireplace never have their chimneys cleaned. However, uncleaned chimneys are a leading cause of structure fires, reports the National Fire Protection Association. So, get the chimney cleaned before the cold weather hits and

you find yourself tossing logs in the hearth to keep the house toasty, and then have it cleaned annually.

- **The Sump Pump and Pit.** Sump pumps remove excess water from homes that would otherwise cause property damage. It's important to clean a sump pump and its pit annually to keep basements dry and help prevent mold growth and water damage. Do this maintenance project in fall to help protect against heavy rainfalls and accumulated melting snow and ice of winter.

For more information on how you can protect your home through the seasons, visit www.ErieInsurance.com.

Now that you have your checklist, it's time to roll up your sleeves while it's still nice outside. Whether you're a DIYer or prefer hiring a professional, crossing these projects off your to-do list will help ensure you're safe and secure before temperatures drop.

PHOTO SOURCE: (c) gmcgill/stock.Adobe.com

Secretary of State files enforcement actions against veterans' charities

Columbia - Secretary of State Mark Hammond announced today that his office has filed a series of enforcement actions against charities raising money in the name of veterans. "Over the next year, our office will be taking a hard look at organizations that exploit the honor of the men and women who have sacrificed to protect our country and our freedoms," said Secretary Hammond. "This enforcement initiative will focus on so-called veterans' charities that take advantage of donors' generosity and patriotism."

As part of this initiative, the Secretary of State's Office has filed a series of petitions for injunctive relief for alleged violations of the Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act. The violations have included failure to file annual financial reports that provide transparency to donors, and, in one instance, failure to comply with an investigative subpoena.

On September 13th, the SC Administrative Law Court issued an order granting injunctive relief against the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, Inc. and Purple Heart Services, Inc. for failure to file financial reports and pay \$5,760.00 in administrative fines. "Not only do these organizations have a history of noncompliance with the filing requirements of the Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act, but they also have been named Scrooges in previous years for failing to devote a significant amount of their expenditures to charitable activities," said Secretary Hammond. The Secretary of State's Office recognized the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation as a Scrooge in 2012, and Purple Heart Services as a Scrooge in 2016. The Secretary of State's Office has also filed petitions for injunctive relief against the charitable organizations Heels for Combat Boots and Feed Our Veterans. Feed Our Veterans was recog-

nized as a Scrooge in 2013. "I look forward to using this initiative to educate the public on wise charitable giving and to promote transparency and accountability for charities that claim to help members of

the armed services," said Secretary Hammond. "In addition, I urge anyone to contact our office if they have any concerns about a charity, or if they receive any solicitations from the Military Order of the

Purple Heart Service Foundation or Purple Heart Services." Concerned citizens may file a confidential complaint by using the Online Charitable Solicitation Complaint Form that is avail-

able on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.sc.gov. Donors may inquire about the registration status of a charitable organization and review registered charities' financial information by

using the Charity Search feature on the website. The Secretary of State's Division of Public Charities may be reached by calling 1-888-CHARITI (242-7484).

FREE ADMISSION

City of SPARTANBURG

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

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DOWNTOWN SPARTANBURG

FINLAND

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Celebrating 100 years of independence.

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Suomi Finland 100

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11AM - 7PM

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Join in the fun & learn to play sports from many nations.

BOULEVARD OF FOODS

Tantalize your taste buds with flavors from around the world.

HEAVENLY MUSIC

THREE FESTIVAL STAGES

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AVENUE OF NATIONS

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE ZONE

Buy handcrafted items from the world's diverse cultures in a market place atmosphere.

PARADE OF NATIONS

See African drummers, bagpipers, dancers in colorful costumes & more. Don't miss this highlight of the festival - Parade starts at 2pm.

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MEET THE WORLD

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www.spartanburginternationalfestival.com

