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# Spartan Weekly

Community news from Spartanburg and the surrounding upstate area  
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## AROUND TOWN

### Secretary of State reminds charitable donors to give smart after back-to-back hurricanes

Columbia - In the wake of back-to-back hurricanes striking the United States, Secretary of State Mark Hammond is reminding South Carolinians to be extra vigilant when helping those in need.

Secretary Hammond not only encourages consumers to research any charitable organization before making a donation, but also asks them to contact the Secretary of State's Office if they have any concerns regarding a request for assistance.

The Online Charitable Solicitation Complaint Form is accessible at the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.sc.gov](http://www.sos.sc.gov). Donors may inquire about the status of a charitable organization by using the Charity Search feature on the website, and review registered charities' financial information including total revenue, total expenses, fundraising costs, and the percentage spent on charitable programs. The Division of Public Charities also may be reached by calling 1-888-CHARITI (242-7484).

In addition to asking donors to carefully research charities and contact his office if they have any questions or concerns, Secretary Hammond is reminding everyone to ask questions if they receive a direct solicitation and to safeguard their personal and financial information.

### Spartanburg man enters guilty plea in federal court on firearms charge

Columbia - United States Attorney Beth Drake stated recently that Tikita Foster, age 31, of Spartanburg, pled guilty in federal court in Greenville to a single-count indictment charging violations of felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition and possession of a firearm and ammunition after sustaining a conviction for a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. United States District Timothy M. Cain accepted the plea and will impose sentence after United States Probation prepares a presentence report. Foster has prior prohibiting convictions to include a conviction for domestic violence, and therefore, is prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition. He faces a maximum sentence of ten years in federal prison.

Evidence presented at the guilty plea hearing established that on May 13, 2016, officers with the Spartanburg Police Department (SPD) were dispatched to a Farley Street residence in reference to a fight outside involving weapons. Upon arrival, SPD made contact with Tikita Foster and another individual who were outside the residence arguing. When asked by SPD if either had any weapons on them, Foster stated that he had a weapon. SPD then recovered a loaded Smith and Wesson .40 caliber pistol from Foster. Foster later told SPD that the firearm belonged to his girlfriend but that he had it because someone was trying to fight his cousin.

The Spartanburg Police Department and ATF investigated the case. Seventh Circuit Assistant Solicitor Jennifer Wells, serving as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the U.S. Attorney's Office, is prosecuting the case.

### Science and Mathematics Governor's School welcomes three Spartanburg County students

Hartsville - Three students from Spartanburg County have been accepted to the South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics (GSSM) in Hartsville. They join students from across South Carolina to form the Class of 2019.

GSSM students moved onto campus in mid-August and classes started August 14. This year, the School celebrates 276 students representing 128 high schools and 35 counties.

Emily Fast, daughter of Amanda and Doug Fast of Boiling Springs, transferred to GSSM from Boiling Springs High School.

Tyler Taylor, son of Mameica and Christopher Wall of Spartanburg, transferred to GSSM from Gaffney High School.

Zayden Van Vleet, daughter of Tamara C. and Richard B. Van Vleet Jr. of Inman, transferred to GSSM from High Point Academy.

For nearly thirty years, GSSM has been one of the nation's top ranked residential high schools, serving the state's highest achieving juniors and seniors. It offers unique, college-level courses and a hands-on curriculum with a special focus on science, technology, engineering, math and research, along with concentrations in economics and entrepreneurship, as well as a full array of humanities courses.

### Two Spartanburg artists to exhibit at West Main Artists Co-Op

Local Spartanburg artists Beth Regula and Louisa Coburn will have a featured visual art exhibit - Lyrical Lines - at West Main Artists Co-Op through October 14. Both artists will have two-dimensional and three-dimensional works on display. A free public reception will be held during the community's monthly ArtWalk, Thursday, Sept. 21, 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.

For more information about the art exhibit Lyrical Lines, please visit online [WestMainArtists.org](http://WestMainArtists.org).

## Girl Scouts 'Fall into the Outdoors'



Girl Scouts of South Carolina Mountains to Midlands held their 'Fall into the Outdoors' event on Saturday, September 9th at Morgan Square in Spartanburg. The event was sponsored by Cabela's and The Local Hiker. An inflatable safe archery range (right), fly fishing demonstration and lure-making, campsite cooking, animal tracks, arts and crafts (left), dancing and other fun activities were enjoyed by the Girl Scouts and their families at the event. Photos and event information courtesy of Kathy Chandler and The Spartanburg Downtown Association.

## Getting school mornings under control

From the American Counseling Association

In too many homes, the average school day morning can best be described as chaos. Parents shouting, homework missing, favorite clothes suddenly hiding and a hundred other calamities that add stress to the morning and too often mean rushing to make school on time.

While there's no way to guarantee that bedlam will suddenly turn into calm, peaceful, well-organized mornings, there are ways to help reduce that school-morning frustration, stress and anger.

Start by letting the kids know you're not happy with how you're acting, rather than blaming it all on them. Tell them you want to change and get them involved by letting them see that you need their help to end early morning battles.

Then give your kids more time responsibility. For younger children, with little concept of time, try a kitchen timer to help them finish breakfast and get dressed in a timely manner.

For older kids, give them an alarm clock and let them choose the time they can wake up and still be ready for school without making everyone rush. Agree on a "no-snooze-alarm" rule.

Set consequences. Discuss ahead of time on a favorite something they'll give up if they dawdle over breakfast or don't get up on time. But also agree to your own consequence if you fall back into morning nagging and yelling to get them moving.

Some general changes can also speed things up. Turn off that morning TV. Whatever the show, it only slows things down. Instead, try background music, which actually helps some kids focus better.

Get things more organized. Give the kids a designated place for backpacks and books, and make sure they're in place before bedtime.

Having kids lay out the next day's clothes before bed avoids morning panic over that missing top or jeans. Make sure hats, mittens and shoes are also ready for the a.m.

Try an in-box for papers that need to be signed, and as a place to put lunch money envelopes. Make your child responsible for putting the needed papers there after school, and for remembering them in the morning. If he forgets, let him face the consequences.

Even with a good system, some mornings will still be a 3-ring circus. But help your kids take part in getting organized and you'll make most mornings more enjoyable, as well as give them skills that can help throughout life.

"Counseling Corner" is provided by the American Counseling Association. Comments and questions to [ACAcorner@counseling.org](mailto:ACAcorner@counseling.org)



Gwendolyn McBride, RN, shows off an AED.

## Hangar B to support AED donations

By Baker Maulsby for Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System

On Sunday mornings, Gwendolyn McBride, RN, sits about three-quarters of the way back in Free Chapel's auditorium-style sanctuary. She keeps an eye out to see if any members of the congregation have a health emergency.

She's thankful that just outside the sanctuary, at the entrance to the church, is an Automated External Defibrillator, or AED, that she can employ in case anyone suffers cardiac arrest. The church received the machine when they applied for a grant from the Spartanburg Regional Foundation. In May, the Foundation announced the investment of \$40,000 for the purpose of providing AEDs for 25 local churches, schools and non-profit organizations.

Hangar B, held on September 28, is an annual celebration held at the Spartanburg Downtown Airport, raises money to support heart health in the community. Proceeds from this year's event will go toward the purchase and donation of additional AEDs for community organizations.

"It's huge that we have this program," McBride said. "It's such a gift."



An AED works by scanning a person who may be experiencing sudden cardiac arrest and, if needed, delivering a shock to the person's cardiovascular system. The machines come with straightforward instructions on how to apply the equipment to the chest.

McBride said 10 church members attended CPR and AED training conducted by Spartanburg Regional Heart Center staff. Training was provided for all of the AED recipients.

McBride, too, is an SRHS associate. She has been a nurse for more than 30 years and continues to work at Spartanburg Medical Center on a part-time basis as an IV specialist.

She coordinates the first-response team at Free Chapel and takes part in Spartanburg Regional's congregational nursing

program, which supports faith communities with health-related education, consultation, networking, and other resources. That's how McBride learned about the Spartanburg Regional Foundation's AED donation program and applied.

Congregational nurses - and life-saving equipment like AEDs - are important. "People live life, and many people work, on church campuses. And sometimes things happen," she said.

She applauds the Spartanburg Regional Foundation's efforts to make AEDs more accessible throughout the community. "It's a great investment," she said. "We know that we can save lives with this machine."

For more information about Hangar B, or to buy tickets, please visit [regionalfoundation.com/events/hangar-b](http://regionalfoundation.com/events/hangar-b).

# Around the Upstate

## Community Calendar

**SEPTEMBER 21**  
ArtWalk, downtown Spartanburg, 3rd Thursday of each month, 5 - 9 p.m. in the Spartanburg Downtown Cultural District.

**SEPTEMBER 22**  
Jazz on the Square, downtown Spartanburg at Morgan Square, 5:30 - 8 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER 22-24**  
The Spartanburg Little Theatre presents *Legally Blonde* at Chapman Cultural Center, Sept. 22-23 at 8 p.m. and Sept. 24 at 3 p.m. Visit [chapmanculturalcenter.org](http://chapmanculturalcenter.org)

**SEPTEMBER 23**  
Big Time Wrestling returns to Spartanburg on Saturday, September 23 at the Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Call 1-800-745-3000 for tickets.

**SEPTEMBER 24**  
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.

**SEPTEMBER 26**  
New York Times columnist David Brooks will discuss today's political climate in a guest lecture at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26, at Wofford College. The event, to be held in Leonard Auditorium in Main Building, is free and open to the public.

**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](http://ticketmaster.com) and by phone at 800-745-3000. Visit [www.crowdpleaser.com](http://www.crowdpleaser.com) for more information.

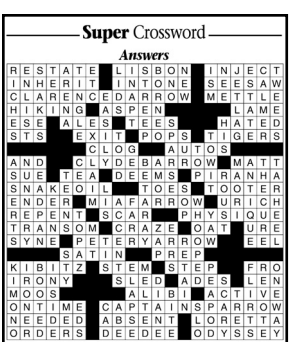


1. Is the book of Isaiah in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Whose first chapter begins, "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus"? Matthew, Luke, John, Acts
3. From Acts 9, where did Peter cure Aeneas? Tyre, Neapolis, Lydda, Gibeon
4. As found in Numbers 20, where did Aaron die? Mount of Olives, Pisgah, Mount Hor, Gilboa
5. From Acts 24, what was Felix's wife, Drusilla? Pharisee, Gentile, Greek, Jewess
6. In 2 Kings 1, what Philistine city worshipped Baalzebub? Ekron, Succoth, Gomorrah, Antipatris

**ANSWERS:** 1) Old; 2) Acts; 3) Lydda; 4) Mount Hor; 5) Jewess; 7) Ekron

Comments? More Trivia? Visit [www.TriviaGuy.com](http://www.TriviaGuy.com)

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## Greenville man pleads guilty in \$700,000 fraud scheme

Columbia - United States Attorney Beth Drake stated recently that Calvert J. Drummond, Jr., age 34, of Greenville, pled guilty in federal court in Greenville, to conspiracy to commit wire fraud. United States District Judge Timothy M. Cain, of Anderson, accepted the plea and will impose sentence after he has reviewed the presentence

report which will be prepared by the U.S. Probation Office.

Evidence presented at the change of plea hearing established that Drummond represented to clients that he could obtain alternative financing for various projects that required large amounts of capital. In exchange for a fee of several hundred thousand dol-

lars, Drummond promised to secure bank guarantees worth millions.

Drummond would create fraudulent financial documentation regarding the alternative financing and show them to the clients. When pushed by clients on the delay of the financing or for a return of the fee paid, Drummond would blame the delays and other

issues on various banks.

Drummond had no mechanism to obtain the alternative financing promised; this was a fictitious story created to persuade clients to pay fees that Drummond used to pay personal expenses. Agents estimate that Drummond stole over \$700,000 during the scheme.

Ms. Drake stated the

maximum penalty Drummond can receive is a fine of \$250,000 and/or imprisonment for no more than 20 years, plus a special assessment of \$100.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Bill Watkins of the Greenville office handled the case.

## Total eclipse provided Americans a welcome distraction

By Richard Eckstrom  
S.C. Comptroller

For a period of a few weeks, the news seemed like it couldn't get any worse. North Korean military exercises triggered new fears of nuclear war. Racism and violence in Virginia shook the country. Protests by so-called "anti-fascists" resulted in assaults on law enforcement officers. Statues and monuments were being destroyed. To top it off, the almost constant partisan bickering in Washington has been enough to make one wonder whether politicians are up to solving even routine issues - let alone our most daunting crises.

But for a moment on August 21, a rare heavenly occurrence provided welcome relief from the headlines.

It was a solar eclipse of a magnitude not seen in over a century. The sun, moon and earth lined up perfectly and, in about an hour and a half, the moon's shadow sped across the landscape of the United States. A narrow sliver of the country from Oregon to South Carolina experienced almost night-time darkness as the moon blotted out the mid-afternoon sun for a couple minutes. (And, importantly, there was a welcome drop in temperature!)

In a fleeting instant, Americans of all walks of life paused from their daily routines, looked skyward, and marveled at the cosmic performance. People gathered in parking lots, back yards and rooftops, and motorists pulled over to stop and view the phenomenon as it unfolded. Teens

looked up from their smart-gadgets. Even some who were initially lukewarm about the historical event admitted they found it awe-inspiring.

Those of us who are older may have recalled how the early days of space exploration captivated America. I thought back to the excitement from the Apollo 8 mission that orbited the moon in 1968, circling it on Christmas Eve while the crew members sent radio transmissions back to earth describing the incredible earthrise appearing before them above the moon's horizon, while they reverentially read from the first chapter of Genesis the account of God creating the heavens and the earth.

That mission was followed within months by our country's first moon landing during which Neil

Armstrong became the first person to step onto the lunar landscape. Events like these unleashed our imagination and stirred our quest to discover bigger things, while at the same time underscoring the enormity of the frontier we faced.

Like the early moon missions, the eclipse offered perspective. It was, as those missions were, a reminder of how tiny we are relative to the universe.

August 21 was a particularly special time for South Carolina. The "path of totality" - a 70-mile wide path in which the moon completely blocked the sun from our view - moved from the mountains to the sea across our state. Hundreds of thousands of visitors, some that I met from as far away as

Bulgaria, came to get

incredible seats to the solar system's impressive show. The once-in-a-lifetime chance to marvel at this sight attracted people of varied ages, races, and stations in life. For me, I'll never forget how amazed I felt realizing that I was observing immense heavenly bodies moving at courses and speeds that were set for them "in the beginning."

I'll also fondly remember August 21 as a welcome distraction from the current state of affairs. However briefly, we all gazed up at the same spot in the sky, shoulder-to-shoulder, filled with awe. It was an occasion that's easy to appreciate in a time when we're so often defined more by our differences than by our shared bonds.

## SCDOT launches website and project list for 'Rebuilding our Roads'

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has announced the launch of a website for its 10-Year Plan to begin the process of bringing back the condition of South Carolina's highway system from 30 years of underfunding.

The website will feature project lists for three of the four major programs that comprise SCDOT's 10-Year Plan:

- Highway Safety - We plan to address the "worst-of-the worst" roads in terms of highway safety by improving 100 miles per year with a customized plan to make these roads safer in ten-mile segments.
- Structurally Deficient Bridges - Approximately half of SCDOT's 750 structurally deficient bridges will be replaced.

• Interstate Widening - SCDOT plans to begin nearly a dozen interstate widening projects.

The 4th major program is road resurfacing. SCDOT intends to use a majority of the new revenue to begin resurfacing the state's highways. 80% of the state's 42,000 miles need resurfacing or rebuilding. The 10-year goal is to bring half of those roads up to a "good" rating. Specific projects will be added to the list on the website as the new revenue accumulates.

Secretary of Transportation Christy Hall notes SCDOT now has the means to make real progress in repairing the state's highway system, "For the first time in 30 years, SCDOT has been provided with an increased

and sustainable revenue stream. The Roads Bill passed by the General Assembly gives the agency the opportunity to

make gradual, but real and significant strides toward bringing the highway system back from three decades of neglect. We

appreciate what the lawmakers have done for the people of South Carolina," said Hall.

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### Super Crossword

THE POINTER BROTHERS (AND ONE SISTER)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20							21							22						
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114						115	116			117	118				119					
120										121					122					
123										124					125					

# Clemson MBAe grad Richie Parker embraces life

By Ken Scar, Clemson University Media Relations

Charlotte, N.C. - Richie Parker can't shake your hand, but that won't stop him from endearing himself to you the minute you meet. He's diminutive and handsome, with a stylish goatee, warm smile, and southern gentlemanly demeanor. Speaking with the crisp intelligence of an academic, he is instantly likable and any fear of awkwardness vanishes.

"I'm thankful that I don't have arms," he says matter-of-factly.

It might be unexpected to hear that, but he means it. When you hear him say it you believe it. In fact, when you get to know him and see the things he's accomplished in his young life, you can't imagine him being any other way.

Those accomplishments include baccalaureate and master's degrees from Clemson University in mechanical engineering and entrepreneurship, respectively, as well as a career that took him to the heights of automobile racing design. His story has touched people all over the world thanks to an Emmy Award-winning profile about him that was featured on ESPN in 2013. Now he plans to use his degrees and his experience to help others with disabilities steer through life.

"We have to be thankful for what we don't have because a lot of times that's what shapes us into what we are," he said, sitting in his large workshop among a dozen cars in various states of repair. Several engines are lined up on the floor and when asked if he dropped them out of the cars himself he replies with an incredulous "Yeah?" meaning, who else would have done it? Never mind that most people with two good arms wouldn't want to attempt pulling an engine out of a car by themselves.

Considering a person going through life without arms and hands – things that are so natural to the rest of us that we don't even give them a thought – raises a lot of questions: How does he drive? How does he answer his cell phone? The smallest tasks would be monumental to us. (The answers are he drives with a plate and pivot system he designs and installs in his cars himself that allows him to steer with his feet and shift with his shoulder. He answers his phone with his chin and lower lip.)

When he nonchalantly rolls a floor jack across the garage with his shoulder and lifts the front end of a Chevy Impala off the concrete, pumping the handle up and down with his torso, you start to understand: When Richie Parker wants to get something done it gets done, and there is nothing atypical about it.

"I want people to realize that point that they're ready to give up is usually a lot earlier than it should be," he said. "That's what I want people to learn from me."

Parker was born in May 1983 with bilateral amelia, an extremely rare birth defect marked by the absence of one or more limbs. His parents, Tracy and Lottie Parker, made sure his childhood in Beaufort, South Carolina, was as normal as possible. When his friends started riding bikes, Tracy modified a bike for Richie to ride right along with them. As a teenager, Richie took an interest in his dad's



Richie Parker in his garage in Charlotte, North Carolina (top). Above left, he tinkers with the engine of his 1963 Chevy Impala, while above right, grabs a tool from a wagon in the workshop of one of his garages. Image Credits: Ken Scar / Clemson University

hobby of wrenching on cars, so Tracy let him jump in on projects, sparking a passion for engineering in Richie that would carry him to the auto racing world in his adult life.

And, of course, in the Parker family, being a normal South Carolinian also meant growing up with dreams of being a Clemson Tiger.

"I grew up a die-hard Clemson fan," said Parker. "My uncle Thales Parker went to Clemson in the late '60s and early '70s, so that's where I got the bug, and of course growing up in South Carolina, if you want to go to engineering school, then Clemson is the choice. That was something that was a dream in middle school and high school. The day I got that acceptance letter was one of the best days of my life."

He'd long since accepted and overcome the social stigmas of not having arms by the time he walked into his first class at Clemson in 2001, so his anxieties and expectations were those of any other student.

"Stepping foot on campus for the first time – it was a little bit of a shocker for me because I'm from a small town and the campus is huge, or it seemed that way to me," he said. "It took me a few weeks to get used to being away from home, but when you get to Clemson everyone is so friendly and welcoming. It helped with my transition a lot. Within no time everything about Clemson felt like home."

Parker received his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 2005. His four years as an undergraduate, he said, cemented him as a life-long Clemson Tiger.

"If anybody is considering Clemson I would tell them, first and foremost, it doesn't matter what your major is or what you plan to major in. It's a family. After four years you'll have that orange blood like the rest of us do."

With his degree in hand Parker landed a 10-week internship at Hendrick Motorsports, the winningest organization in NASCAR with 12 championships to its credit.

He was totally green in the world of stock car racing, but as with everything else in his life he just needed that small crack in the door and he could take care of the rest. He threw himself into the work, designing parts on his laptop with his feet.

His first assignment was to design the scale model cars used in wind tunnel testing. He quickly transitioned to working on full-size chassis components and body components and steadily rose through the ranks of designers at the company.

"There are certain advantages to having a disability," he said. "I'm used to having to do things 10 times, 20 times, 30 times. That's an advantage in the workplace. I can't tell you how many people I've worked with who are ready to quit after something doesn't work the first time."

The 10-week internship was extended to 12 weeks and, ultimately, 12 years. For his last two years he was a vehicle design group manager, leading as many as 17 other engineers.

"Richie is a truly incredible person and a highly talented engineer," said the president of Hendrick Motorsports, Marshall Carlson. "He was a fantastic teammate who was universally respected throughout our company for his many contributions and the way he carried himself. Personally, I was inspired by Richie's dedication, knowledge and work ethic, and I certainly wasn't alone in feeling that way. We were lucky to have him with us for so long and we're proud of the great things he's doing now."

Parker looks back on his years at the company with the same fondness.

"I worked with Jimmie Johnson, Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr.... you name it," said Parker. "But more important were the people that I worked with every day that had a huge impact on my professional and personal growth. I was able to grow a lot as a young engineer and a young man at Hendrick Motorsports and I'm very thankful for all of

my years there."

Two years ago, despite being engulfed in the fast-paced world of NASCAR racing, he began feeling stagnant. He needed another challenge. After considering a few different options, he decided to return to his alma mater and enrolled in Clemson's Masters of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship and Innovation (MBAe) program. He'd been incubating an idea for a business for some time, and he knew the knowledge and experience gained in the MBAe program – which is designed to give students essential business knowledge with added emphasis on the needs of startup companies – would help him get it off the ground.

He received his master's degree on Aug. 11 after two years of taking classes while working full-time.

Parker credits the camaraderie fostered in the MBAe program with getting him through the grueling process.

"It was a tough road the last two years. The time management that's involved with getting your MBA while working full time is tough. It's something I had to experience with my classmates. We helped each other get through. There were several times I would have quit if they hadn't convinced me to keep going."

Likewise, Parker's MBAe classmates are happy to attest to his character:

"He is a wonderful person," said Jessica Cokins, who was a member of Parker's MBAe cohort. "We all spent a lot of time together during our in-residency weekends. One weekend, I came up to Greenville from Charleston alone. Typically, my husband and kids would come with me, but this round they didn't. Of course, that is the weekend that I got a flat tire and realized it at the end of the weekend when almost everyone had gone home. Luckily, Richie and another student were still there. Richie, being the car expert he is, helped change my tire and put on the

spare. But he didn't stop there, he followed me to a tire center and helped pick out a tire so I could get home safely."

Dr. Matt Ort, an account executive for startup company Mobile Rescue Systems and another fellow MBAe classmate, echoed Cokins' sentiments.

"I don't know if words can justify who Richie truly is and how blessed I am to have him in my life," said Ort. "He is one of the most genuinely kind-hearted individuals I have ever met. His drive, passion and willingness to assist others is unmatched. The word 'limitation' bears no meaning to Richie. He never ceases to amaze me with the many wonderful things he accomplishes and the many projects he has going on. Richie is a fellow tiger, but mostly, to me, he is a dear friend."

Moving forward, Parker plans to put his MBAe to good use.

"The program has opened my eyes to opportunities outside of what my career was," he said. "It has also given me the courage to take some risks in life. I was too comfortable in a lot of ways in the job that I was doing. My classmates have encouraged me to pursue things outside of my comfort zone. Watching my classmates who were professionals with good careers take that leap into entrepreneurship has helped me decide to step out and do something that will benefit me."

To that end, he is in the beginning phases of launching a consulting and design business. After a lifetime of fabricating tools and automobile parts for himself, he wants to do it for others.

Chris Fay, a 2004 Clemson graduate and vice president of TPM, a design and engineering technology company based in Greenville, caught wind of Parker's plan and set up a meeting.

"Although we were not far apart at Clemson, I originally learned about Richie watching the ESPN special on his life when he was working for Hendrick Motorsports, one of TPM's

customers. I was immediately drawn to his motivation and will to not allow anything in the way of achieving his goals," said Fay. "When my sales team contacted me about Richie and that he was getting ready to embark on a business of his own, I was not surprised. I also learned about his desire to help other children with physical disabilities which aligned perfectly with TPM's Cradle to Career Initiative. We met in Charlotte and the rest is history."

TPM and its vendor SOLIDWORKS made an investment in Parker's business, getting it off and running before the ink was dry on his MBAe diploma.

"Tools for people with disabilities is what I wanted to do from the beginning," Parker explained. "Some opportunities have arisen recently in the automotive industry that I believe will help support the initiative to design and manufacture tools for people in need and will ultimately help us grow into a larger and diverse company."

The potential for Parker's startup is through-the-roof, said Fay.

"What is so cool for me to see is the entrepreneurs that TPM has helped get started over the years and how their businesses have blossomed into thriving successful organizations," he said. "We expect Richie will do the same."

To prepare himself as he steps away from the grind of racing and grad school and into the next chapter of his remarkable story, Parker has given himself yet another challenge: getting into the best physical and mental shape of his life.

"Two years ago, I set a goal for myself to run a 5K," he said. "To do that I had to lose 50 pounds, and I did. I want to keep spending time on myself because I believe that's going to help me help others."

So he's been hitting the gym three to five times a week, and feeling great.

"I wish I had some eligibility left!" he laughs. "When I'm at the gym I feel like I'm a 6-2, 230-pound linebacker. That's my mentality. I'll have to call Dabo and see if he'll let me walk on."

Parker also plans to make use of the bit of fame that came to him from the ESPN profile.

"The ESPN feature has helped me come out of my shell and do motivational speaking. It's something I never planned on doing in the past, but it's something I feel like God wants me to do," he said. "I've had the opportunities to speak to everyone from people at NASA, Virginia Tech and Clemson's football teams, to local schools and churches. I'm thankful for that opportunity. I'm thankful for how God has allowed me to step out of my shell."

The speaking engagements have been an unexpected blessing, but he still struggles to believe that anything he does could inspire others.

"I just don't see it," he said. "To me I'm just me. I often don't realize the impact that I'm able to make on other people. I don't feel like I've accomplished that much in my life because I'm so consumed by what I need to do next. I don't really see myself as a hero – I'm a work in progress."























# Legal Notices

Ms. Renee L. Pierce  
602 Dovetail Court  
Spartanburg, SC 29303  
9-21, 28, 10-5

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES**

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Spartanburg County, the address of which is 180 Magnolia Street Room 302, Spartanburg, SC 29306, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.) or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statement on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as

to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Solomon J. Hagood  
AKA Solomon Hagood  
Date of Death: March 23, 2017  
Case Number: 2017ES4200814  
Personal Representative:  
Tarrsha Cain  
130 Pine Ridge Road  
Lyman, SC 29365  
Atty: Stephen M. Bingsman  
Post Office Box 2593  
Spartanburg, SC 29304  
9-21, 28, 10-5

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES**

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Spartanburg County, the address of which is 180 Magnolia Street Room 302, Spartanburg, SC 29306, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.) or

such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statement on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Marianne Eubanks  
Date of Death: August 22, 2017  
Case Number: 2017ES4201473  
Personal Representative:  
Richard M. Eubanks  
8717 Asheville Highway  
Boiling Springs, SC 29316  
Atty: Reginald L. Foster  
Post Office Box 3059  
Spartanburg, SC 29304  
9-21, 28, 10-5

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES**

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court

of Spartanburg County, the address of which is 180 Magnolia Street Room 302, Spartanburg, SC 29306, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.) or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statement on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Homer Edwin Reeves  
Date of Death: June 5, 2017  
Case Number: 2017ES4201481  
Personal Representative:  
Ann Townsend Reeves  
602 Weymouth Drive  
Spartanburg, SC 29302

Atty: S. Allan Hill  
819 E. North Street  
Greenville, SC 29601  
9-21, 28, 10-5

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF ESTATES**

All persons having claims against the following estates MUST file their claims on FORM #371ES with the Probate Court of Spartanburg County, the address of which is 180 Magnolia Street Room 302, Spartanburg, SC 29306, within eight (8) months after the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or within one (1) year from date of death, whichever is earlier (SCPC 62-3-801, et seq.) or such persons shall be forever barred as to their claims. All claims are required to be presented in written statement on the prescribed form (FORM #371ES) indicating the name and address of the claimant, the basis of the claim, the amount claimed, the date when the claim will become due, the nature of any uncertainty as

to the claim, and a description of any security as to the claim.

Estate: Jeanne Veronica Damoulin  
Date of Death: August 10, 2017  
Case Number: 2017ES4201456  
Personal Representative:  
Ronald A. Damoulin  
2460 S. Blackstock Road  
Landrum, SC 29356  
Atty: Jerry Allen Gaines  
Post Office Box 5504  
Spartanburg, SC 29304  
9-21, 28, 10-5

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
2017ES4201429

The Will of Donald Gerald Blackwelder, Deceased, was delivered to me and filed September 5th, 2017. No proceedings for the probate of said Will have begun.

PONDA A. CALDWELL  
Judge, Probate Court for Spartanburg County, S.C.  
9-21, 28, 10-5

## 10 ways to add colorful curb appeal to your home

(StatePoint) Want to give your home a dash of curb appeal? Focus on color, say experts.

"The home exterior is an open palette, and there's so much opportunity to add curb appeal with colorful accents," says color expert Kate Smith, chief color maven with Sensational Color.

Here are 10 ways to give your house a colorful facelift.

- No matter what style your home is, the roof is a major aspect of its curb appeal -- sometimes as much as 40 percent of the view. So think about it first. Use free online resources like the new Top Down Color visualizer from DaVinci Roofsapes to quickly visualize how different colors and products will look on your home.

- Make landscaping decisions with color top-of-mind. Either go for a vibrant and natural look, or create a stylized look with patterns and designs.

- Replace the numbers on your house or clean the old ones. Brass will certainly stand out on most housing materials; however, you may prefer to use large colorful accent numbers to contrast with your home exterior.

- Forget about your bland, boring garage door.



Use free online resources like HaasCreate, an online visualizer, to select one with color and distinction. Available at haascreate.com, the tool allows you to upload a photo of your home then select different garage door styles to see what will work best on your home.

- Give your mail carrier a warmer welcome. Spruce up your mailbox with a fresh coat of paint. Or, if it's rusty or splintered, replace it. There are many styles available, so consider selecting something with character.

- Add decorative glass windows for a distinctive accent to your home exterior. An assortment of square, geometric and oval shaped options are avail-

able in both fixed and operable styles from such brands as Hy-Lite. Certain windows feature black, satin or brass coming to offset beveled glass pieces and other privacy textured glass, while other windows boast silkscreened designs.

- Soft touches, such as adding new colorful pillows to a front porch swing, laying out a new welcome mat or hanging a flag, can give your home cozy, colorful curb appeal.

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A fundraising event to benefit the development of THE HUB CITY BIKE PARK

venience.

- For natural hues that

accent and add contrast to siding, consider applying mortarless stone veneer as full accent walls on your home's exterior or as a half wall/wainscot application. Check out easy-to-install products, available at manufacturers like ClipStone. Colors of their Ledgestone and ProStack styles include Ash, Poinset, Sand and Tan.

- Pressure wash and repaint where necessary to restore your home to its original colorful splendor.

Using color strategically, you can make your home more valuable to potential buyers or just more personalized for your own tastes.

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the musical

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LAURENCE O'KEEFE AND NELL BENJAMIN  
BOOK BY HEATHER HACH

Based on the movie by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture  
LEGALLY BLONDE is presented through special arrangement with Metro Theatrical International (MTI).  
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