

The Roaring Eagle



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Officials confirm invasive hornet species in York County

BY KAYA SPENCER, CHS SENIOR

PHOTOS FROM <https://blogs.clemson.edu/regulatory/hornet-herald-8/>

An invasive species known as the yellow-legged hornet has been confirmed in York County, raising concerns among state officials, beekeepers and environmental experts. The hornets, which are native to Southeast Asia, pose a serious threat to honeybee populations and local ecosystems.

Officials with the Clemson University Department of Plant Industry confirmed a yellow-legged hornet nest in McConnells, located in York County, in early December 2025. The discovery marked the first confirmed detection of the invasive species in South Carolina.

Yellow-legged hornets typically range in size from .07 of an inch to an inch in length. The head is mostly black, with some front-facing yellow or orange and black eyes. The thorax is black or dark brown.



Graphic by Caroline Oatley (Clemson University DPI)

It also has alternating bands of dark brown/black and yellow/orange on the abdomen. The most distinctive feature are the black-brown legs that become yellow on the ends.

The yellow-legged hornet was first identified in the

United States in November 2023, when it was discovered near Savannah, Georgia. Since then, the species has spread to other areas in the South-

east, prompting increased monitoring and response efforts from state and federal agencies.

While the hornets are not considered highly dangerous to humans, officials say their presence poses a significant risk to honeybees.

Yellow-legged hornets are known to prey on bees by hovering near beehives and attacking returning workers. Over time, repeated attacks can weaken or destroy entire colonies.

Bees play a critical role in pollination, which is essential for the growth of many crops, gardens and native plants.

A decline in bee populations can have widespread consequences, including reduced agricultural yields

and disruptions to local ecosystems.

"When bee populations decrease, the effects ripple throughout the environment," officials said. Reduced pollination can impact farmers, home gardeners and natural plant life, potentially leading to long-term ecological and economic consequences.

The discovery of the hornets in York County has prompted concern among local officials and agricultural

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Photo credit: Guillaume Souvan/AFP/Getty Images | Labeled by Kaelyn King (Clemson University DPI)

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2025 Year in Review

Car accident leads local man to ministry at 56

BY ANTHONY MATHIPANNHA, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, S.C. - Raymond Scott, widely known as Pastor Ray, is the leader of Greater Things Ministry, but his path to the pulpit was anything but ordinary. After years of resisting what he believed was God's calling, a life-changing car accident forced him to

outreach.

Through Greater Things Ministry, Scott has led multiple efforts to support communities in need. Following disasters in Western North Carolina, the ministry delivered 44 tons of food and more than 3,500 blankets to

residents in Asheville. In the Marshall area, Scott helped provide 485 toys to students at Bush Creek Elementary School.

Scott's story continues to inspire others who feel uncertain about pursuing a calling later in life. He

believes his journey shows that meaningful change can happen at any stage.

"It's never too late to answer God's calling," Scott said. "If you feel called, step out, even if you're unsure. You may make mistakes, but you learn and grow."

Through faith, service and perseverance, Pastor Ray's journey is a testament to the impact one person can have on a community when they choose to answer the call.



Pastor Raymond Scott

slow down and reflect on his purpose. Following the accident, Scott said he realized he could no longer ignore the direction he felt called to take.

"If I've got to move forward, it has to be in a way I feel like I'm being called to," he said.

Before answering that call, Scott spent years working in the auto industry, where he built lasting relationships with customers and coworkers. Although he retired at age 46, his journey into ministry was not immediate. He did not officially become a pastor until age 56, a decade marked by uncertainty, preparation and growth.

Throughout that time, Scott said his wife's unwavering support played a crucial role in helping him step into ministry. With her encouragement, he began taking classes, serving others and becoming more involved in community

World's first solar-powered Domino's opens in Clover

BY RYAN SCONZO, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, S.C. - In January, Clover made history with the opening of the world's first solar-powered Domino's at 119 Alden Oaks Street. Developed by Patterson Pizza, a family-owned Domino's franchise based in Charlotte, the location shows that Clover is poised to support sustainability and innovation.

The restaurant features solar panels on its roof and exterior cladding, solar-powered parking lot lights, and two electric vehicle charging stations.

The project was created in support of Domino's global environmental footprint initiative, a long-term plan running through 2050 that focuses on reducing carbon emissions, minimizing waste, and conserving water. Patterson Pizza chose Clover as the launch site to fully commit to these goals, making it the first Domino's building powered

entirely by solar energy.

Designing the location required balancing energy efficiency with aesthetics, especially due to the building's smaller size. Solar-powered cladding allowed the restaur-

ant to generate sufficient energy and still look attractive.

Additional technology helps regulate power usage, while York Electric works with the franchise to

manage supplementary energy and purchase the excess power produced.

The success of the solar-powered Domino's has encouraged Patterson Pizza to plan similar locations in the future, including one in Pageland, South Carolina.

The Clover store also plans to give back to the community through local fundraising efforts. If you have not tried a pizza cooked by solar power, now is your chance to try one.



Clover Domino's features EV charging stations.

Clover honors legacy of Stellie J. Jackson

BY ELI JACOBSON, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, S.C. - The Clover community lost an icon on Feb. 1, 2024. The family hosted his celebration of life on Feb 8, 2025.

Jackson's legacy includes his work in the world of education and his efforts to help the Clover community in multiple ways. He was a part

of The United Men's Club of Clover, a Life member of the NAACP, a member of the Olive Branch Masonic Lodge, and a part of the Roosevelt Community watch. Additionally, Jackson was a minister of Bynum Chapel AME Zion church, a member of Clovers Board of Trustees, and above

2025 year in review

all else was a role model.

In 2010, the Stellie J.

Jackson Enrichment Center was created with help from the YMCA. The Enrichment Center was created to be an after-school program for Clover youth.

Jackson helped students with scholarship opportunities and watched many of the schools in Clover start from a blueprint.

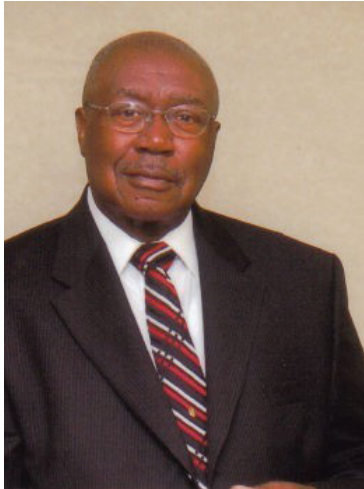
His passion for leading others on the right path and his faith in people truly shows

an example of how we could all strive to be.

Jackson was also the first African American member of the Clover Board of Trustees. He used his time on the board to aid in the building of schools.

Stellie J. Jackson was a husband, a father, and a shining example of the kindness

that a person can bring to a community. His impact on the Clover community will continue to be felt for years to come.



Reverend Stellie J. Jackson

Clover High celebrates two state champions

BY TYLER ALLEN, CHS JUNIOR

CLOVER, S.C. - Clover High school celebrated two state champions this past year. One was in wrestling, while the other was in track.

Kalliscya Gardner

Clover High School senior Kalliscya Gardner claimed her second state wrestling title on Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Florence Civic Center.

When asked about the match, she said, "Before my match, I wasn't nervous this

time. I felt confident, excited, and prepared. The best way to end a senior season, not only with my second state title but also with my 100th win."

Gardner, an athlete who has been outstanding throughout her high school career, expressed confidence leading up to her match. She was not nervous at all during this event; she only felt confident, excited, and prepared.



Kalliscya Gardner

Gardner plans to pursue wrestling in college while majoring in elementary education and minoring in business. Also in the future, she hopes to open her own gym.

Ella Nighbor

Clover High School junior Ella Nighbor won the 1,600-meter run at the SCHSL 5A Division I State Championships on Saturday, May 17. She dedicated her performance to her cousin, Will, following the emotional win.

The field passed 400 meters in 1 minute, 18 seconds and reached 800 meters in 2:39. Nighbor separated from compet-

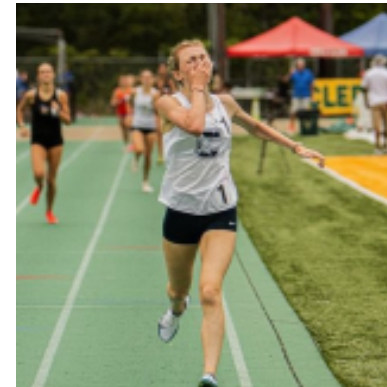
itors with a 68-second final 400 meters.

She also competed in the 3,200-meter run, finishing sixth.

Nighbor shared that she was racing in conditions that were hot and humid, which lead to conservative early pacing. However, she preserved.

In addition to the state championship, Nighbor set a facility record in the 1,600 at the Upper State qualifying meet earlier in the month.

The championship adds to what had been a breakthrough season for Clover's track and field program.



Ella Nighbor. Photo by Henry McKenna for MileSplit SC. @MSCarolinas_

Three principals appointed for new Clover schools

BY ANTHONY MATHIPANNHA, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, S.C. - The Clover School District Board of Trustees appointed principals to the new Lake Wylie High, Liberty Hill Elementary, and Roosevelt Middle. The three schools will open in August 2026.

Lake Wylie High School

Calub Courtwright was appointed as the first principal of the new high school.

He served as the Clover High's Ninth Grade Campus (NGC) principal during 2024-2025 school year, principal of Clover Middle 2013-2023, and he served as a teacher

and assistant principal in Crowders Creek Elementary.

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Calub Courtwright

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Courtwright shared that he is excited for this opportunity at Lake Wylie High and is ready to “set the standard for all high schools in the South-east.”

Roosevelt Middle School

Dr. Maurice Thomas was appointed as Roosevelt Middle School’s first principal. Roosevelt Middle will open where the current Ninth Grade Campus is located.



Maurice Thomas

Thomas has served as principal of Crowders Creek since 2022. Before Crowders, he spent three years as an assistant principal at Bethel Elementary, and was a counselor in 2013 at Southwest Middle in Gastonia. According to superintendent, Dr. Sheila Quinn. “He brings middle level experience as both counselor and coach to Roosevelt and understands the need to make school engaging to middle school students.”

River Hills EMS struggles with funding

BY BRODY WOOLBRIGHT, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, S.C. -River Hills/Lake Wylie EMS in northeastern York County is struggling with money and staffing,

Thomas shared that he is looking forward to returning to the middle school environment and “welcome the Roosevelt Tigers to Clover School District.”

Liberty Hill Elementary

Shavon O’Brien was appointed as the principal at the new elementary school.



Shavon O'Brien

O’Brien has been the principal of Bethel Elementary since 2018. Prior to that, she was an assistant principal at Mount Holly Middle and Southwest Middle, both in Gaston County. In addition to being an administrator, O’Brien has also served as an instructional facilitator and a first grade teacher.

O’Brien shared she is excited about being a part of this growing area. She also plans to “build strong relationships, foster a culture of trust, and create a learning environment where every student can thrive.”

making it harder to respond to emergency calls.

The nonprofit has served the community for 44 years

without any county or state

funding, but officials say

rising call volumes, a shortage of paramedics and a growing population have pushed the system to its limits.

“We hit stat zero most days,” said Mary Cobb, vice president of the agency, meaning there are times when no ambulances are available to answer 911 calls, which in some situations that could be life or death.

The service has about 20 employees, but low pay and limited benefits make it difficult to hire and keep workers. Leaders say they often cannot staff even one ambulance full time, and many employees

New agriculture arena breaks ground

BY KYLEE LOWE, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, S.C. - Western York County marked an important milestone with the official groundbreaking of a new agriculture arena designed to expand educational opportunities and strengthen community involvement. The event brought together local leaders, educators, students, and supporters who gathered to recognize the start of a project that has been years in the making.

The planned agriculture arena will provide a dedicated space for livestock exhibitions, agricultural events, and student competitions. It is intended to support students

are worn down by the workload.

When one ambulance is unavailable, others from other EMS services must cover the call, putting more strain on the system.

York County, unlike all other counties in SC, does not fund EMS services. Because of this, residents in the county rely on public funded services, like the River Hills EMS, and hospital funded services, like Piedmont EMS.

Cobb said the county needs to change how EMS is funded. “We have the passion. We have the people,” she said. “What we need is the support.”

involved in agricultural education programs by offering hands-on learning experiences beyond the classroom. Leaders emphasized that the facility will allow students to continue developing skills learned through FFA and other agricultural pathways while giving the community a centralized location for events.

Speakers at the ceremony highlighted the importance of investing in agriculture education and supporting students who have spent years participating in shows, competitions, and leadership

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River Hills EMS Truck

2025 year in review

activities.

The arena was described as a way to bring together schools, organizations, and families while honoring the county's strong

agricultural roots. Community involvement has played a key role in moving the project forward, with local supporters contributing through fundraising efforts tied directly to the construction of the arena.

Once completed, the

agriculture arena is expected to benefit students across

Western York County while promoting long-term growth in agricultural programs.

Officials expressed confidence

that the facility will have a lasting impact by encouraging youth involvement, strengthening educational partnerships, and reinforcing the value of agriculture within the community.



Rendering of new facility.

Clover Board Finalizes Attendance zones for 2026

BY KELLY CLARK, ROARING EAGLE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CLOVER, S.C. - Clover School District finalized new attendance zones on September 22, 2025, establishing school assignments for the 2026-27 school year to accommodate three new facilities opening in August of 2026.

The Board of Trustees approved the zones during its regular monthly business meeting, incorporating several adjustments based on community feedback gathered in August and September. District Chief Operations Officer Dr. Mark Hopkins assured the public that officials had examined every suggested line change, determining the approved zones would best serve current students and accommodate future growth.

Final zone changes included multiple neighborhood adjustments. Riddle Mill returned to its original attendance lines. North High-

way 321/Barrett Road was assigned to Kinard Elementary, Clover Middle School, and Clover High School. Old Cambridge Circle received a middle school-only change, moving to Roosevelt Middle School instead of maintaining its previous assignment. South Paraham Road was zoned for Bethel Elementary, Roosevelt Middle School, and Clover High School.

The board also expanded hardship policies beyond existing provisions for kindergarten through fifth-grade childcare and resident/non-resident situations. Siblings of Clover High School seniors may now remain at CHS with their older sibling for the 2026-27 school year.

Hopkins emphasized the importance of the approved zones, noting that attempting to satisfy all requests would push some schools to 100% capacity and necessitate another redistricting soon-

er than anticipated. Board members confirmed they had reviewed every possible version of the attendance lines before determining that the approved zones would serve CSD students best for the longest period.

Superintendent Dr. Sheila Quinn reinforced that,

York County okays \$8,000 impact fee

BY KELLY CLARK, ROARING EAGLE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CLOVER, S.C. - York County Council approves \$8,000 CSD impact fee
YORK COUNTY, S.C. - York County Council approved an \$8,000 impact fee for Clover School District in 2025, concluding a months-long process that saw multiple votes, deferrals, and shifting council positions.

The district requested \$15,035 per single-family home during the October 6 first reading—the same amount proposed in 2021, when council reduced it to \$4,000. Three people spoke against the increase during public comment, with none in favor. The council voted 5-2 to deny the request before District 4's William "Bump" Roddey successfully amended it to \$7,000.

Public engagement intensified for the second reading. The November 17 meeting required two overflow rooms to accommodate attendees. Over 90 minutes of public testimony included residents holding "Right the Wrong" signs. Of those speaking during public comment and the public hearing, the majority supported the full \$15,035 amount. The council unanimously approved restoring the original request, applying it within the Urban

regardless of school assignment, students would receive a quality education from highly qualified teachers. The district had conducted three community input sessions and reviewed 243 survey responses before reaching its final decisions.

Service Boundary in order to move the conversation forward.

The December 15 final vote brought changes. Following an executive session for legal advice, the council addressed concerns about the Urban Service Boundary limitation and its ability to be challenged in court. The ordinance was amended to apply district-wide, with the amount reduced to \$8,000 per single-family home and other dwelling types assessed pro rata. The measure passed 6-1, with Chairwoman Christi Cox casting the dissenting vote.

District 2's Andy Litten and District 6's Watts Huckabee supported higher fees, arguing that new development should fund infrastructure needed for growth. Opposition cited concerns about housing affordability, fairness for residents building on family land, and people paying fees for schools their children wouldn't attend. The \$8,000 fee falls between the council's initial \$7,000 proposal and the district's \$15,035 request, and below the approximately \$20,000 amount recommended by planning studies.

COMMUNITY

Clover High School band makes history, performs in Parade of Roses

BY CLOEY HARRIS, CHS SENIOR

PHOTOS FROM MUSIC TRAVEL CONSULTANTS' FACEBOOK PAGE

PASADENA, C.A. - The Clover High School Marching Band has made history by performing in the iconic Rose Bowl Parade, one of the most prestigious events in the world of marching arts. This rare honor places Clover among a select group of bands chosen to represent excellence, dedication, and musical achievement on a national stage.

Held annually on New Year's Day in Pasadena, California, the Rose Bowl Parade is a nationally televised tradition watched by millions across the country and around the world. The parade is internationally recognized for its elaborate floral floats, precision performances, and



rich history dating back to 1890. Participation in the parade is widely considered one of the highest honors a high school band program can receive.



A Clover band member is ready for the group photo.

Clover's representation extended beyond instrumentalists. The marching band was joined by Clover High School

dancers and members of the color guard, whose choreography and visual elements added movement, color, and energy to the performance.

Junior Brooke Ritter, a member of the Clover color guard, said performing alongside the dancers brought "another element" to the parade and made the experience even more memorable.

Ritter said she felt "really excited" when she learned Clover had been selected, calling it "so cool" to be part of such a major event. She added that marching in the Rose Bowl Parade meant a great deal to her, knowing she was "adding history to

the school, the band, and the town" while representing the Clover community on a national stage.

According to Ritter, the band spent months practicing, including rehearsals around the school and town, along with individual practice at home. For her, one of the most meaningful moments was seeing the crowd's reaction. "Being in the parade and seeing the crowd cheering for us really brought me such pride and joy," she said.

The performance also included Clover band alumni, who were allowed to return and march in the parade. Ritter described the experience as "super cool," saying it was fun to perform with former members and friends one last time. She shared that their presence made the group larger and brought positive energy that lifted everyone's spirits.

This achievement highlights the excellence of Clover High School's band program and brings national recognition to the school and community.



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Clover Harvest receives Rotary grant for community greenhouse

BY LILY BRODBECK, CHS JUNIOR

PHOTOS FROM ALISON KIM, CLOVER HARVEST CO-OWNER

CLOVER, S.C. - Clover Harvest's long-standing commitment to community care recently earned support from the Clover Rotary Club, which awarded the local restaurant a grant to help expand its mission of sustainability and food security.

Clover Rotary selected Clover Harvest as a grant recipient based on the organization's focus on projects located within town limits that provide lasting benefits to the community. The club awarded Clover Harvest a \$2,200 grant to fund the construction of a greenhouse on the restaurant's property.

Alison Kim, co-owner of Clover Harvest, said the greenhouse will be used to grow seedlings that will mature and be harvested by volunteers. The idea was inspired by a sustainable agriculture conference Kim attended in Pennsylvania several years ago, where speakers emphasized the role individuals and local businesses can play in combating food insecurity.

"The conference really highlighted everyone's ability to fight food insecurity and provide locally grown, pesticide-free produce," Kim said. "Since community is such a cornerstone of what we do, the greenhouse felt like the perfect addition to our home."

Once the grant was approved, construction on the greenhouse began immediately. Clover Rotary members John Lovsin and Marty Cotton played key roles in launching the project by



Rotary members and community members work together.

coordinating resources and connections between Clover Harvest, Clover Rotary and the Clover Area Assistance Center.

"They were gracious and quick to connect the dots," Kim said.

Many community members and Rotarians from both Clover and Lake Wylie also volunteered their time to

help build the structure. Mike Tucker and Alan Wallace served as building leaders, ensuring the project stayed on track. Volunteers were invited to sign one of the greenhouse posts, symbolizing the collective effort behind the project.

Lovsin said working with Clover Harvest was a rewarding experience. "They

are a great partner to work with on this project," he said. "They are very active in the community and are sincere in wanting to give back."

Clover Harvest echoed that appreciation, crediting Clover Rotary for its continued service and generosity. Kim said the project has strengthened the relationship between the two organizations and created a partnership that will continue to grow.

As of Dec. 30, Clover Harvest has begun growing arugula, beets and sweet alyssum in the greenhouse. The restaurant plans to donate surplus produce to the Clover Area Assistance Center. Volunteers will assist with greenhouse maintenance under the coordination of Diane Ingersoll.

Clover Harvest is also seeking volunteers and donations of nutrient-rich "Black Gold" soil to support the garden's growth.

Kim said the project would not have been possible without Rotary's support.

"Without Marty Cotton and John Lovsin, we would still be in the idea phase," she said. Clover Harvest now looks forward to its first blooms and "many harvests yet to come."

One can see the greenhouse and visit Clover Harvest at 1007 Old North Main St, Clover. In addition to their regular menu, diners can find special events and order online at <https://www.mycloverharvest.com/>.



Beautiful pic of the partially completed greenhouse.

Annual pancake breakfast held at Camp Thunderbird

BY LILY BRODBECK, CHS JUNIOR

PHOTOS BY CHAD CLARK, GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

CLOVER, S.C.- Pancakes and syrup are the best way to start the morning, and the River Hills/Lake Wylie Lion's Club did just that. Their annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser was held on December 13, 2025. This event was held as a fundraiser and to showcase the 28+ charities that they support.

At the event, there were 64 total sponsors that had a table or tent full of goodies for the community. There was also a combined sponsor

table that gave out coupons, menus, pens, and koozies for the guests.

Parents and children enjoyed taking pictures with Santa in the sleigh. Each family was given one free photo download and the option to purchase more.

The magic man who turned plans into real life is Kevin Naumann. Naumann is the committee chair for the Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast. He worked on all of the details and pulled everything



The dining hall at Camp Thunderbird was busy.

together to make this event a success for seven months.

In addition to the give-

aways, there were activities for the kids to participate in. Children were able to get balloon animals or balloon crowns and get their faces painted. They also could help decorate a tree with little lions,

and decorate their own cookie treat. Besides the pictures with Santa, helped by Mrs. Claus, kids got to play a ball throwing game.

Outside, children and

families could meet and pet a police horse. They could also go through the fire depart-



This whole family couldn't wait to join the fun.



This attendee sat patiently as her face was painted.

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Nursing counted as “not professional” by new bill

BY PIPER HAYCOCK, CHS SOPHOMORE

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) was signed by President Trump in July of 2025 declaring nursing, along with a list of other degrees, not professional. Although this legislation is just a minuscule section of the bill, it has impacts on countless college students.

Section 139 subtitle B “Loan Limits” uses the language “not professional” and “professional” to categorize college degrees and students. These categories refer to how much money a student may borrow from the government to pay for their schooling.

According to the Department of Education’s FAQ on the matter, this only refers to internal designations, not the nature of the profession. Data shows that 95% of nurses borrow below the current limit. The goal is to lower debt graduate students incur.

However, the negative tone of “not professional” has made nurses, and the other occupations included, feel degraded and overlooked, but the word is actually used as a category and limit.

The bill’s definition of not professional

The definition given in OBBBA is very broad and allows for a lot of interpretation, but it does refer to the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) chapter VI section 668.2.

This section reads “Professional degree: A degree that signifies both completion of the academic requirements for beginning practice in a given profession and a level

of professional skill beyond that normally required for a bachelor’s degree. Professional licensure is also generally required. Examples of a professional degree include but are not limited to Pharmacy, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Chiropractic, Law, Medicine, Optometry, Osteopathic Medicine, Podiatry, and Theology”. the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators also states that Clinical Psychology is included.

It must be noted that these are just examples, which leaves all degrees that are not included up for debate. To add, the CFR is updated annually, and was last updated Oct. 31, 2025, but was first written in 1938.

By giving a vague definition in the OBBBA and referring to a constantly changing document, the definition can change.

Impacts of being not professional

According to the Federal Student Loan Portfolio data provided by the FSA, as of the end of 2025, the quarter four report includes 42.8 million recipients with federal student loans totaling \$1.69 trillion. This rise in debt has sparked from the COVID-19 national emergency and inflation of college tuition.

The section title, “Loan Limits”, gives an indication that this bill will affect student loans. As an attempt to lower the national debt, loan limits will lower. The amount students are allowed to borrow for graduate programs such as doctorates

and masters is impacted by whether they are enrolled in a program that is considered professional or not professional.

As assumed, nonprofessionals will be allowed significantly less than professionals.

Under the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, a not professional graduate student may borrow up to \$20,500, while a professional student may borrow up to \$50,000 in an academic year.

Unsubsidized loans go to families that do not meet the criteria for need-based federal student loans.

The bill also fully terminates all Direct PLUS Loans for both not professional and professional graduate programs. These loans, that are now completely gone, were utilized by hundreds of thousands of independent graduate and professional students.

Consequences of this action are still pending because this section isn’t implemented until July 2026. However, it can be easily predicted that there will not be very many positive effects for the future of nursing programs, along with other fields of study.

With less federal funding, many people will not be able to pay for nursing school, which will in turn add to the significantly rising need for nurses. Heavy limitations may be set for the majority of Americans for where they can study and their advancements within a given program due to loan limits.

Why nursing does not meet professional criteria

When making the list of professional degrees, the Department of Education (ED) used Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes, which are number codes to classify different fields and degrees. For example, the CIP code for a registered nurse (RN) is 51.3801. The first two numbers refer to the broader field, in the case 51 refers to health professions, then the last four digits tell you the specific degree.

Of the 10 professional degrees listed, eight have CIP codes beginning with 51, while Law and Theology fall under different categories.

According to the NASFAA, the Department of Education allows degrees with other CIP codes to qualify as professional degrees if they meet certain conditions. These include completing the academic requirements needed to begin professional practice with skills beyond a bachelor’s degree, typically being at the doctoral level with at least six years of postsecondary education—including two or more years after a bachelor’s—and generally requiring professional licensure to start practicing.

This means advanced nursing programs, along with other programs that used to be considered professional, will lose funding to the fact that their CIP code differs from other degrees that are currently seen as professional.

As current undergraduate students consider future careers, this may impact those choices even more.

Kristal Stefanov named SC Assistant Principal of the Year

BY KYLEE LOWE, CHS SENIOR
PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE KNOTT, CSD PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

CLOVER, S.C. - Kristal Stefanov, from Bethany Elementary, was awarded South Carolina Assistant Principal of the year for 2026.

When asked how she felt about achieving this honor she said “Amazed. There are hundreds of assistant principals in South Carolina, and everyone does an amazing job. But to receive the honor, like, truly, I was in shock.”

Stefanov goes on to say how the happiness the students had for her was very special. This happiness came

her belief in “perseverance and grit” and fighting through the challenges when life got hard.

Since Bethany Elementary is a small school of a little less than 400 students, Stefanov’s connection with each of her students is priceless. Stefanov says “The kids always tease me. They’re like, if we lined all of us up in the hallway, do you think you could go down and pick all of us?” She answers by saying she could probably get about ninety nine percent correct.

to have that conversation, it’s not an additional stress.” Stefanov believes and understands that her students “...don’t do something bad because they want to be bad,” and that is a response to something they disliked or felt strongly about. Since she is able to understand this, her conversations with her students are more about what happened instead of what the student did wrong. She states “You may have to say sorry. You may have to write an apology letter, but how are we going to fit it for the future?” This mindset allows her to have personal connections with all of her students.

Stefanov is able to not only relate with her students but also parents. She explains that “My route to get here was not an easy route.” She was a single mom with no family

close by to help her out. She explains since her path was not easy, “...when parents have an issue,... I try to relate to what that situation is,...”

Stefanov’s path was hard “but every one of those experiences made me a better teacher, made me a better reading coach, and made me a better administrator for sure.” She wants her family to see her struggle and persevere to show that there is hope when things get hard.

Stefanov wants the community to know “that Bethany is a family and that ... nobody is perfect, but...we are all striving to be better.” She loves each of her students and has a personal relationship with all of them.



Stefanov surrounded by excited students.

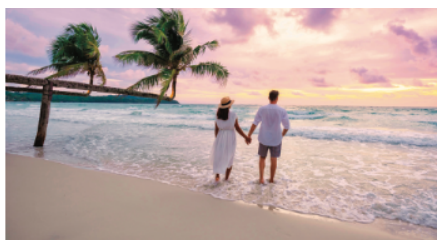


Stefanov with her family.

from the personal connection Stefanov had with each and every one of her students.

Stefanov mentioned that winning this award validated

When it comes to going to the principals office, Stefanov says “...I also try to use my office as not just the place that you come to when you’re in trouble.” She explains that her office is also a place to just have conversations with her students, that way “...when I do have



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CHS introduces a new sport

BY BRODY WOOLBRIGHT, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, S.C. - As Clover High School launches its first-ever rugby program, both boys' and girls', students are diving into a sport that's completely new to most of them.

CHS student and now rugby player Jazlyn Delgado shared what the experience has been like so far. "It's been kind of hard because I've been working out a lot, and my muscles have been sore," she said. "It's been a bit of a struggle for me, but overall it's helped me a lot. It's been a big learning experience."

For those unfamiliar with rugby, Delgado described it as a mix between two sports many students already know. "It's kind of like football, but instead of throwing the ball forward, you pass it back-

ward," she explained. "You can also use your feet like in soccer, and there's a lot of tackling. You're able to do more things than you can in

"I didn't realize how much contact was allowed," Delgado said. "You can pull shirts or even hair without getting flagged, so that really sur-



Girls Rugby players going for the ball. Photo courtesy of Richard Myrick, Head Coach

football, which gives you a bit more freedom."

One of the biggest surprises so far? The physicality.

prised me."

Despite the challenges, being part of Clover High's first rugby team has been a

rewarding experience. "It feels great. I've made a lot of new friends—both younger and older—and it's been a really good experience." When asked what inspired her to join, Delgado said it was an opportunity to try something new. "I haven't really done any sports before. I've been in band, but since this is the first year Clover has had rugby, I wanted to try it," Delgado said. "I thought about doing track, but I felt like I might be judged. With rugby, I didn't feel judged at all—it just felt welcoming."

Delgado, just one of many Clover High School students trying out a new sport, is ecstatic to try something new and participate in Clover's first-ever rugby squad.

PET OF THE MONTH

Meet Graham: Pet of the month

BY PIPER HAYCOCK, CHS SOPHOMORE

LAKE WYLIE, S.C. - Graham's story is something straight out of a sad dog movie. 3 years ago he was found tied to a tree with a note saying his owner couldn't care for him anymore. York County's Humane Society (HSYC) took him in, and this beautiful boy is now in his senior years without a home.

Graham is a 12-year-old, medium sized, rottweiler. HSYC makes sure all of his shots are up to date and he is neutered.

Though his story is unprecedented, he is still a normal pup. His favorite things are cuddles, treats and toys.

He loves to chill at home or go on relaxing walks. He



is leash trained, calm, and quiet.

His ideal home wouldn't include other pets or small children. He is perfect for a person, couple or family looking for a companion without dealing with the chaos.

He is very easy to please, belly rubs and a couch potato buddy will do it.

If you are interested in meeting Graham, contact HSYC (803)-802-0902 or contact@humanesociety-ofyorkcounty.org. They are located at 8177 Regent Parkway, Fort Mill, SC 29715.

Academic opportunities night inspires students to try new things

BY SAVANNAH ADAMS, CHS JUNIOR

CLOVER, S.C. Academic Opportunity Night is a yearly event hosted at the Clover School District auditorium, this year on Jan. 14. Mrs. Jennifer Forrest, the chair of the CHS Counseling Department, explained what all students get out of this event by stating, "So the benefit is that the younger students get to learn about all the programs, and the older students get to share what they've been learning and why that class is beneficial to them. So I think it helps all ages."

The evening consists of two portions, the presentation and the booths. This is beneficial for both students and parents. For the parents, they get to sit with their child(ren) and listen to the principal and the variety of guidance counselors discuss and explain the requirements for a high school diploma, or as Forrest calls it, "the nuts and bolts."

This is where topics such as GPA, IGP meetings, and credits are introduced and discussed in more depth. The staff also does an incredible job explaining the different

paths after high school and how they contrast from each other, whether that's a university, community college, going directly into the workforce, enlisting in the military, and so on.

The parents and students really enjoy this, according to Forrest. "Instead of saying, 'Oh, I'm going to the high school,' they say, 'Oh, he's going to be my counselor; she's going to be my principal.' It's really making those relationships. So it's a good way to start."

And then there's the booth portion, where students walk around with their friends or parents to stands that different electives set up to introduce the opportunity of joining their class. Students who are heavily involved will often volunteer to share about their exciting high school experience. "—It is probably one of our larger events of the year because we have so



The Choraliers are always ready to recruit new members.

many people. Last year we had about 500 people attend," Forrest shared.

"This event has gotten so much outstanding feedback

and outcomes. Naturally, rising 9th or 10th graders are nervous. There was a new tradition started a few years ago where bingo cards are handed out. This encourages young or upcoming high schoolers to be social with the older crowd and go outside their comfort zone." For every stand that they visit, they get a stamp. However, to get that stamp, they have to ask a question. That way younger students have to interact with their older peers.

Those stamps are then traded in for small prizes. It's a reward system for kids; they may need to strengthen their social skills before coming over to high school.

It was observed that there is a lot more conversation go-

ing on because students have that motivation. It makes it a lot more fun and tends to cut down on the peer pressure.

The older students also enjoy sharing what they love about the particular class they are representing and why they chose to be a part of the program.

For the teachers that attend, they enjoy getting to meet potential future students and parents. "Meeting new students and sharing about the classes I love to teach is fun," shared Dr. Kelly Clark, a teacher who has attended to share about two of her classes. "But my favorite part is seeing my current students explain why they are in the classes, what they like about the classes, and how they see my classes helping them in the future. Seeing them share their passion for the classes is amazing."

With the transition to two new high schools next year, the night may look different. But from the success of previous years, a version of Academic opportunities Night is sure to continue.



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Cooking methods for grains

BY SCOTT MICHAW, CHS CULINARY ARTS TEACHER

CLOVER, S.C. - We are studying grains in class right now. I wanted to send a short lesson on cooking them and how to make them tastier. We use grains a lot to cook and add carbohydrates to our meal. There are many varieties of grains, but I will focus on the more common. Rice, Oats, and Grits are common in South Carolina. Quinoa, Sorghum, and Rye have become more popular and are a healthier choice of grain.

Rice

You utilize a 2:1 ratio when cooking white rice and 2.5:1 when cooking brown rice. I always tell my students to use flavor when cooking so I use stocks instead of water when cooking rice.

If you want just a plain white rice, you can still add flavor by adding vinegars, fats, wines, or sometimes juice. The ratio needs to stay the same though.

I use coconut milk and pineapple juice to make a nice tropical rice that goes well with chicken teriyaki.

I have added salsa to my rice before cooking for Tex-Mex dishes. These are all used for the pilaf method of cooking.

The pilaf method has you

bring your rice and liquid to a boil, reduce heat to low, one final stir, cover, and simmer for exactly 20 minutes. Don't peek. When your timer goes off, your rice should be perfect.

For the risotto method, you need to use a 4:1 ratio and slowly add your liquid while simmering your rice (Arborio). This method takes a while, but you get a nice creamy rice from all the starch on the rice.

Quinoa

Quinoa is a 2:1 ratio like rice. Sorghum and Rye are a 4:1 ratio. Oats depend on the types. I use a 2:1 with rolled quick Oats. You may need a 3 or 4:1 ratio when using steel cut oats. Just remember to add flavor.

Grits

Grits are a 4:1 ratio. I use butter and cream in my grit recipe.

For my morning breakfast grits, I bring 3 parts water to a boil with butter in it. I add my grits and reduce the temperature to low, continually stirring them until they thicken up. Once they thicken, I add 1 part of heavy whipping cream and continue to stir and cook on low until it reaches the thickness that



A picture of our winning Quinoa dish from the SC Jr Chef Competition.

I desire. I will then season with salt and pepper.

If I am serving grits with my lunch or dinner, I will substitute the water with a stock that matches the main

ingredient of the dish. If I am making Shrimp and Grits, I use a shrimp or seafood stock. If I am making a chicken dish, I would use chicken stock.



This surf & turf dish has salmon on a bed of stone-ground grits with a roasted red pepper cream sauce.

Invasive hornet species confirmed in York Co.

continued from pg. 1

track and contain the species. Clemson officials are encouraging residents to remain vigilant and report any suspected sightings, particularly near wooded areas or beehives.

Experts advise residents not to approach hornet nests, as the insects can become aggressive if disturbed. Instead,

sightings should be reported to local agricultural authorities or Clemson University's Department of Plant Industry for proper identification and removal.

Officials say early detection is critical in preventing the hornet from becoming established in South Carolina.

Continued monitoring and

public awareness will play a key role in limiting the spread of the invasive species and protecting the region's bee populations.

As efforts continue, state agencies emphasize the importance of cooperation between residents, beekeepers and environmental officials to address the growing threat

posed by the yellow-legged hornet.

To learn more about this species, including making traps and reporting sightings, visit <https://blogs.clemson.edu/regulatory/december-2025-yellow-legged-hornet-update-movement-of-ylh-beyond-lowcountry-confirmed/>

FEBURARY

Saturday, Jan. 31

- Moped to Memphis Talent and Gong Show, 6 PM, Clover School District Auditorium



Sunday, Feb. 1

- Greenway Wedding Show, Anne Springs Close Greenway, 10am, 250 Dairy Barn Lane, Fort Mill

Monday, Feb. 2

CSD Teacher Professional Development Day, No School

- Town of Clover Veterans Committee Meeting, 6 PM, 120 Bethel St., Clover
- York County Council Meeting, 6 PM, 6 South Congress St., York

Tuesday, Feb. 3

- Town of Clover Steering Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM, 120 Bethel St., Clover

Wednesday, Feb. 4

- Town of Clover Architectural Review Board Meeting, 9 AM, 120 Bethel St., Clover
- Chair Yoga for Strength, Balance, and Flexibility, 11 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, Register online or at (803) 831-7774

Thursday, Feb. 5

- Itty Bitty Bookworms for ages 0-2, 10:30 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, Register online or at (803) 831-7774

Friday, Feb. 6

CSD Interim Reports

Saturday, Feb. 7

- Harry Potter Science Saturday, 10 AM, Museum of York County, 4621 Mt. Gallant Rd., Rock Hill
- Living History Saturdays - By Way of the Back Door, 10 AM, Historic Brattonsville, 1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells

Monday, Feb. 9

- Town of Clover Town Council Regular Meeting, 6:30 PM, 120 Bethel St., Clover

- CSD Board of Trustees Work Session, 6 PM, 604 Bethel St., Clover

Tuesday, Feb. 10

- QTS Community Meet and Greet, 7 PM, Field Day Park, Clover

Wednesday, Feb. 11

- Chair Yoga for Strength, Balance, and Flexibility, 11 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, Register online or at (803) 831-7774

Thursday, Feb. 12

- Mark Nizer 4D, 7 PM, Clover School District Auditorium
- Piedmont Medical Center Business After Hours and Q&A, 7:30 PM, River Hills Country Club, 1 Country Club Dr., Lake Wylie



Saturday, Feb. 14

Valentine's Day

- Living History Saturdays - By Way of the Back Door, 10 AM, Historic Brattonsville, 1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells

Monday, Feb. 16

President's Day

CSD Intercession - No School

Town of Clover Offices and Departments Closed

- York County Council Meeting, 6 PM, 6 South Congress St., York

Tuesday, Feb. 17

CSD Intercession - No School

Wednesday, Feb. 18

CSD Intercession - No School

- Chair Yoga for Strength, Balance, and Flexibility, 11 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, 185 Blucher Circle, Lake Wylie

Thursday, Feb. 19

CSD Intercession - No School

- Itty Bitty Bookworms for ages 0-2, 10:30 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, Register online or at (803) 831-7774



- Town of Clover Planning Commission Meeting, 6 PM, 120 Bethel St., Clover

biltiy, 11 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, Register online or at (803) 831-7774

Friday, Feb. 20

CSD Intercession - No School

- Community Heroes Day, 10 AM, Museum of York County, 4621 Mt. Gallant Rd., Rock Hill
- Lake Wylie Sewing Group, 10 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, 185 Blucher Circle, Lake Wylie

Saturday, Feb. 21

- Living History Saturdays - By Way of the Back Door, 10 AM, Historic Brattonsville, 1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells

Monday, Feb. 23

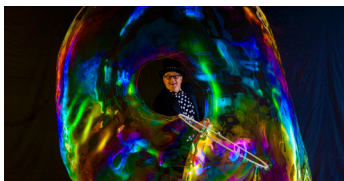
- CSD Board of Trustees Business Meeting, 6 PM, 604 Bethel St., Clover

Tuesday, Feb. 24

- Town of Clover Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6 PM, 120 Bethel St., Clover
- The Soap Bubble Circus, 7 PM, Clover School District Auditorium

Wednesday, Feb. 25

- Chair Yoga for Strength, Balance, and Flexi-



Saturday, Feb. 28

- Living History Saturdays - By Way of the Back Door, 10 AM, Historic Brattonsville, 1444 Brattonsville Rd., McConnells
- CHS Father-Daughter Sweetheart Dance, 6 PM, CHS Main Entrance

Monday, March 2

- York County Council Meeting, 6 PM, South Congress St., York



Wednesday, March 4

- Chair Yoga for Strength, Balance, and Flexibiltiy, 11 AM, Lake Wylie Public Library, 1Register online or at (803) 831-7774



January CAAC Pantry Needs

- Adult Pull-Ups- Sizes Large, XL, XXL
- Canned Beans
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Tomatoes- Diced, Paste, Etc.
- Individually Packaged Potatoes and Canned Potatoes
- Eggs
- Jelly
- Mac & Cheese
- Manwich
- Milk
- Oil - Vegetable, Olive, etc.
- Pork & Beans/ Baked Beans
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Women's Sanitary Pads & Bladder Pads



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