



THE ROARING EAGLE



A community newspaper serving the residents of Clover School District

ISSUE 19

APRIL 2025

Rose Parade President visits Clover to celebrate CHS Band

BY CLOEY HARRIS, CHS JUNIOR

PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE KNOTT, CSD PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

CLOVER, SC - Clover High School's band has been selected to perform in the 2026 Rose Parade, making history as the 7th band from South Carolina to be part of the event in 137 years. Out of 60 bands invited, Clover is one of only 10 chosen to participate.

parade," and expressed how excited he is for Clover's band to be part of the



The York Delegation of the SC House of Representatives issued a proclamation in honor of the band's invitation.

with the Rose Parade began simply as a volunteer looking to help out, but over the years, he took on more responsibilities and became deeply committed to the event.

and vehicles in the fires. Leavens and his team have worked hard to support these individuals and help them rebuild after the disaster.

As Clover High School's band prepares for its performance in the 2026 Rose Parade, Mark Leavens' leadership and dedication continue to make a difference in the success of the event and in the lives of the many people involved.



Leavens chats with CN2 anchors.

To celebrate this achievement, Mark Leavens, the president of the Roses Association, visited the Clover community. Leavens has been volunteering with the association for 30 years, working on everything from floats and horses to marching bands and even the Rose Bowl football game. He shared with students that high school bands are the "heart and soul of the

upcoming event.

The theme for the 2026 Rose Parade is "The Magic in Teamwork," which emphasizes the importance of collaboration.

Leavens explained that the theme reflects the work

Now, as president, he travels



Clover LEAF kicks off donations for travel.



Mr. and Mrs. Leavens visit iconic train mural.

required to bring such a large event together, with so many different people and organizations involved.

Leavens' involvement

across the country to help high schools fundraise and make the process of attending the parade as easy as possible.

One of the biggest challenges Leavens and the Roses Association have faced in recent years has been the impact of the California wildfires. Many volunteers lost their homes, businesses,

The Roaring Eagle Staff

Lily Wallace, Managing Editor, CHS Junior
Emily Belk, CHS Senior
Hope Miller, CHS Senior
Courtney Novellino, CHS Senior
Leila Parkman, CHS Senior
Cloey Harris, CHS Junior
Kylee Lowe, CHS Junior
Kaya Spencer, CHS Junior
Kelly Clark, Editor-In-Chief, CHS Faculty

03: SC Tide Fights Hunger

The SC Tide baseball organization partnered with Fred Caldwell Chevrolet to collect food for CAAC.

04: Walker named Coach of the Year

CHS Head Girls' Basketball coach, Shakkia Walker, is the Region three Coach of the Year.

EVENTS

Clover celebrates its Irish heritage

BY HOPE MILLER, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, SC – Clover celebrated its 21st annual St. Patrick's Day event on March 15, and it was a day filled with fun, community spirit, and lots of excitement. Main Street was bustling with activity, lined with a variety of vendors and food trucks offering everything from tasty treats to unique handmade goods. At one end of the festival, children were thrilled to find a section dedicated to rides and games, providing hours of entertainment for the younger crowd. A stage was set up in the heart of the festival, where live music performances added to the lively atmosphere, and a series of events, including the ever-popular Dog Show, captivated attendees throughout the day.



Kids had fun on one of the amusement rides provided at the festival.



This Dog Show winner stole hearts.



Destiny's Calling, a ministry within Clover that donates all store purchases to women coming out of human trafficking, providing free messages to festival attendees.



This dog's talent was shaking hands.



Another Dog Show award winner accepts a prize.



3T's Crafts & Designs was one of the small business shops available to residents at the festival.



New Life Baptist Church sold treats to fundraise for their church.



This Dog Show award winner accepts a prize.



Spike's Fresh Pork Skins & Boiled peanuts busy at work selling fresh peanuts.



Bustling streets of downtown Clover. Residents showed out to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

SC Tide steps up to fight hunger in Clover

BY EMILY BELK, CHS SENIOR

CLOVER, SC - This month, we're shining a spotlight on SC Tide, a local baseball organization based out of Clover, SC, for their incredible efforts in giving back to the community! With three teams—10U, 11U, and 12U—SC Tide players, coaches, and families joined forces to make a difference.



The boys worked hard to collect donations.

In collaboration with Fred

Caldwell of Clover, SC, one of their sponsors, SC Tide collected an astounding 940 pounds of food for the Clover Area Assistance Center (CAAC)! Thanks to their hard work, 250 families in need are receiving a week's worth of food from CAAC, helping to fight food insecurity in our area.

But it doesn't just stop there, CAAC is always in need of more help. The most-needed items at CAAC include regular-sized cans and jars, and donations are updated frequently on their website and Facebook page. They even have an Amazon wish list, making it

easy for the community to contribute more. Since CAAC is a full-choice pantry, families get to select the items they need most, ensuring that nothing goes to waste and everything on the shelf is in date and not expired.

With more family and food-centered holidays around the corner, like The Fourth of July, CAAC needs extra donations to meet the growing demand. It's important to remember that all donated items must be in date and unexpired. SC Tide players from all three teams played an



SC Tide players, families, and coaches active role in collecting, delivering, and contributing to this effort. Their dedication to service is a true demonstration of the power of teamwork—both on and off the field!

Let's keep the kindness going! Check CAAC's pages regularly and consider donating to help make a difference.

Clover resident running to raise money for cancer research

BY NATHALIE SCZUBLEWSKI, MEDIA RELATIONS MANAGER FOR THE DANA FARBER CANCER INSTITUTE, GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

BOSTON, MA – On April 21, Tammy Mays of Clover, South Carolina is running to defy cancer as a member of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team in the 129th Boston Marathon®.

Along with more than 500 Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge teammates from across the United States and around the world, they will run Massachusetts' historic marathon route from Hopkinton to Boston to collectively raise \$8.5 million for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This year marks the 36th annual running of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC). One hundred percent of the

money raised by the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team benefits Dana-Farber's Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research, which supports promising science research in its earliest stages. The Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge has raised more than \$132 million for the Barr Program to date.

In 1990, Dana-Farber was among the first charity organizations to be recognized by the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.), which organizes the Boston Marathon. The Dana-Farber



Tammy Mays

Marathon Challenge team offers its members extensive fundraising support, training guidance from 1976 Boston

Marathon Men's Open Division Champion Jack Fultz, and team training runs. Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge runners who are not time-qualified for the Boston Marathon receive an invitational entry into the race.

Runners include cancer survivors and patients, and family and friends of those who have been affected by cancer. Each team

member must fulfill a basic fundraising commitment: Invitational runners - runners who receive their entry from Dana-Farber have a minimum fundraising commitment of \$10,000. Own entry runners - runners who have joined the DFMC after obtaining their own race entry have a fundraising commitment of \$4,000.

To contribute to the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge, visit [RunDFMC.org](https://www.runDFMC.org) or contact the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge office at (617) 632-1970 or dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu. Follow DFMC on Facebook: www.facebook.com/marathonchallenge. On Twitter: #RunDFMC.

SPORTS

Shakkia Walker earns Region 3 Coach of the Year

BY CLOEY HARRIS, CHS JUNIOR

CLOVER, SC - Shakkia Walker, head coach of the Clover High School Ladies Varsity Basketball team, has been named Region 3 Coach of the Year following a unanimous vote from her fellow coaches. The prestigious honor underscores her exceptional leadership and the remarkable season her team delivered under her guidance.

A proud alumna of Clover High School, Walker's connection to the program runs deep. As a former stand-out player for the Lady Blue Eagles, she laid the foundation for what would become a lifelong passion for basketball. That same passion has carried her from the hardwood into the coach's seat, where she's built a legacy defined by dedication, discipline, and results.

Her latest accolade—voted unanimously by her peers—cements her status as one of the most respected coaches in the region.

Coach Walker's impact on the program is immeasurable; she's not only developed talented athletes but has also shaped outstanding young women. This recognition is long overdue. Walker's journey from player to coach has been marked by consistent success. Since taking over the program, she has led the Lady Blue Eagles to multiple region championships, including another stand-



Region Three Coach of the Year, Shakkia Walker

out campaign this year. The Region 3 Coach of the Year award acknowledges not just her win-loss record, but the way she leads—with integrity, humility, and an unshakable commitment to her players.

Reflecting on the season, Walker remained characteristically modest. "I am nothing without them," she said, speaking of her players. "They put in the work every single day. The recognition belongs to them." Walker's humility is well known in the Clover community.

Those close to the program describe her as a tireless mentor, someone who pushes her athletes to excel not only on the court, but in the classroom and beyond. Her coaching philosophy emphasizes unity, effort, and personal growth—values that have become hallmarks of the Lady Blue Eagles' identity. One of the defining moments of the season came during a highly anticipated game against Greenwood at the

Queen's Court showcase in Rock Hill. The pressure was high, but Walker's team delivered a commanding performance.

"I was extremely proud to see the ladies lock in and win," Walker said. "It was a moment that showed our growth—not just in skill, but in mindset."

That mindset, cultivated through countless hours of practice, film sessions, and team-building, has become the team's calling card.

Walker's coaching success is matched only by the admiration she receives off the court. She remains deeply involved in the Clover community, often volunteering her time to speak with youth teams, mentor former players, and support school events. Her dedication to empowering young women through sports has made her a role model to many.

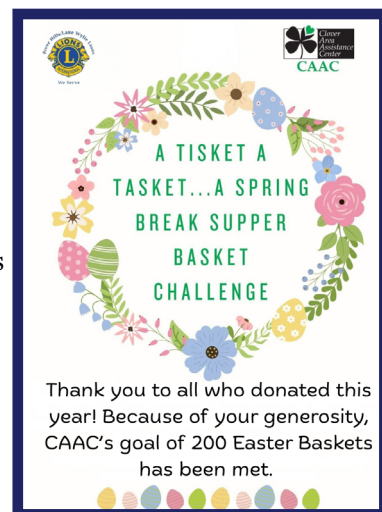
With the Region 3 Coach of the Year title added to her growing list of accomplishments, Walker isn't resting on her laurels.

She's already focused on the future—developing younger talent, refining strategy, and preparing her team for what comes next.

Still, she takes a moment to appreciate the recognition. "This award is special because it comes from my peers—people who understand what it takes to do this job," Walker said. "But it's never been about me. It's about the team, and I'm just grateful to be a part of it."

As the season fades into memory, Walker's impact continues to echo through the halls of Clover High School and the wider Region 3 basketball community. Her leadership, forged through experience and fueled by a genuine love for the game, stands as a perfect example of what it means to be a coach.

And for the Lady Blue Eagles, there's no doubt: their success story is far from over—with Coach Shakkia Walker leading the way.



CHS Basketball represents at All-Region games

BY LILY WALLACE, CHS JUNIOR, MANAGING EDITOR

CLOVER, SC - With an outstanding basketball season behind them, four Clover High School basketball players represented their teams in All-Region play.

Boys All-Region honors Clover standout



J'shon Watson

Senior J'shon Watson was the team's lone All-Region selection this season after a standout year on both sides of the ball. Known for his work ethic and leadership, Watson made key plays throughout region competition and the playoffs, helping propel the team to its

first Elite Eight appearance since 2009. Fellow seniors Owen Galeota and Devin Agard also played pivotal roles in the postseason run.

Three Lady Blue Eagles earn All-Region honors

The Lady Blue Eagles were well represented on the All-Region 3-AAAAA team, with junior Clara Powell, sophomore Olivia Lewter, and senior Samara Lucas earning postseason honors following a region championship season.



Samara Lucas

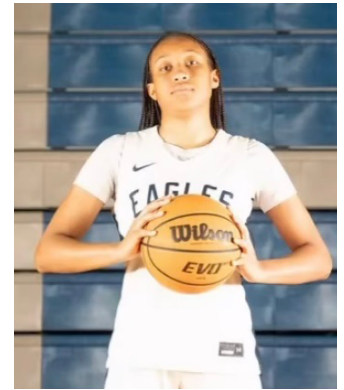
Lucas, a senior and four-year varsity letter winner, was named Region 3-AAAAA

Player of the Year. She led the Lady Blue Eagles in both scoring and rebounding, recording 16 double-doubles. Her dominant performance also earned her a spot on the 5A All-State Girls' Basketball Team and selection to the prestigious North-South All-Star Game.



Clara Powell

Powell, a junior and four-year varsity veteran, knocked down a team-high 51 three-pointers and provided steady leadership throughout the season. She will return next year as a key piece for the defending region champions.



Olivia Lewter

Lewter, a sophomore and three-year letter winner, filled the stat sheet across the board. She led the team in steals, blocks, and field goal percentage, while continuing to grow as an on-court leader. With two seasons still ahead of her, she's expected to be a major contributor moving forward.

As Watson and Lucas move on to other ventures, the lessons they have instilled in their younger teammates won't be forgotten. And Powell and Lewter will certainly continue their excellence next year.

ups THE UPS STORE
be unstoppable

312 BULKHEAD WAY STE 104
CLOVER, SC 29710

Mon-Fri 08:30 AM - 07:00 PM
Sat 10:00 AM - 03:30 PM
Sun 10:00 AM - 03:00 PM

15% OFF
COLOR PRINTS

(8.5x11, single-sided, white 28# paper, self-service)

Located at:
5217 Hwy. 557
Clover South Carolina

FAMOUS
TOASTERY
BREAKFAST. LUNCH. BRUNCH...ALL AT ONCE

Hours:
Mon - 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Tue - 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Wed - 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Thu - 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Fri - 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Sat - 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Sun - 7:00 AM - 2:30 PM

SPORTS

CHS Spring sports aim high

BY LILY WALLACE, CHS JUNIOR, MANAGING EDITOR

CLOVER, SC

Clover Golf Aims for Upper State Berth

The Clover golf team has its sights set on advancing past the region tournament and into the Upper State tournament—a feat that hasn’t been achieved in many years. With a talented roster, the team believes this is the season to make it happen.

This year’s focus is on sharpening the short game, particularly putting. “If you’re good around the green and with the putter, you can beat a lot of high school golf teams,” the coaching staff noted.

Success is measured not just by final scores but by efficiency and execution. The team aims to limit three-putts, average two-putts per green, and hit six to seven greens in regulation per nine holes. Even strong scores are evaluated for improvement, showing the program’s commitment to raising the standard.

Lady Blue Eagles Emphasize Growth, Grit, and Team-First Mentality in 2025 Season

For head coach Kelsey Black and the Clover girls soccer program, the 2025 season is about much more than just wins and losses. The Lady Blue Eagles have set ambitious goals centered around development, both on and off the field. A strong emphasis has been placed on refining skills, learning tactical concepts, and building true teamwork. Black stresses the importance of doing

what’s best for the team, even when it means putting decisions over personal feelings—a mindset that builds trust, accountability, and resilience.

“We’re working every day to develop not just as athletes, but as people,” Black said. “That means bringing effort, energy, a positive attitude, and toughness—regardless of the scoreboard.”

While winning the region remains a key objective, the larger vision is centered around peaking at the right time and making a deep playoff run. The team believes that with the right mindset and chemistry, anything is possible.

Ultimately, the Lady Blue Eagles want to finish the season stronger than they began—not just technically, but as a united group. “We want to look back and feel like we became a family,” Black said. “That’s what success looks like for us.”

Clover Boys Lacrosse Eyes Deep Playoff Push in Upper Division 1

With a talented and determined roster, the Clover boys lacrosse team has one mission this season: push through the challenging Upper Division 1 playoff bracket. While advancing deep into the postseason is the on-field goal, the program underlines that success runs far deeper than wins and losses.

“We define success by growth—in the game, in the classroom, and as individuals,” the coaching staff said. “If our players

are representing Clover the right way, we’ve already accomplished something special.”

Tactical flexibility is at the core of the team’s identity. The Blue Eagles adapt their game plan daily, constantly evolving strategies to match their personnel and opponents. Injuries are met with a “next man up” mentality, and new wrinkles are regularly introduced to stay ahead of the curve.

Team culture remains a foundational piece. Early-season bonding activities, positive reinforcement, and shared time off the field help foster strong chemistry.

With grit, adaptability, and a team-first mindset, the Blue Eagles are prepared not just to compete—but to contend.

Clover Softball Aims for Success with Focus on Growth, Resilience, and Teamwork

The Clover softball team is setting its sights on building a competitive, hard-working squad this season, with a clear goal of making a deep playoff run. “We want to create a team that strives to improve every day,” said the coaching staff. While postseason success is the ultimate aim, developing athletes who are resilient, dedicated, and well-rounded is just as important. The team focuses on cultivating strong work ethics and academic success, ensuring that players excel both on the field and in the classroom.

This season, the team is emphasizing a focused approach, taking the game

one pitch at a time and aiming for productive at-bats. Strategies are tailored to fit individual needs, with practices and drills adjusted to enhance each player’s skill set while also fostering team cohesion.

Team chemistry is another key area of focus. To build strong bonds off the field, players are encouraged to participate in fun team-building activities like dodge ball, laser tag, or outings to Top Golf. “We want to ensure our players develop strong relationships and enjoy the season together,” the staff shared.

Leadership on the team is diverse, with both vocal leaders on the field and those who lead by example. These qualities are crucial as the team faces the highs and lows of the game. Managing those ups and downs, both in individual games and over the course of the season, is one of the biggest challenges.

When preparing for key match-ups, the team sticks to the fundamentals that have made them successful in the past. By focusing on their strengths, Clover Softball aims to stay consistent and competitive against any opponent.

To foster individual improvement, coaches tailor drills to address both team needs and specific player development. Each practice is designed to challenge athletes while ensuring they’re ready for every situation during the season.

Charity Highlight: The Free Store

BY HOPE MILLER, CHS SENIOR

PHOTOS BY KIER HOPKINS-SMITH AND ELICIA "STARR" HOPKINS-SMITH, GUEST CONTRIBUTORS

CLOVER, SC - The Free Store is a community help center geared towards providing free goods to our community. The store is located at Clover First Assembly and is on April 19 and November 22 from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. or until empty.

Kier Hopkins-Smith and Elicia "Starr" Hopkins-Smith created the Free Store once they recognized a need for outreach centers in Clover.

The Free Store allows people in need to get items for free, such as: home goods, dry food items,

clothes, toys, and more.

They also provide free meals catered by the Hopkin-Smith's barbecue business called Lil Hop's BBQ. They provide brisket, pulled pork, mac n cheese, and other sides, to anyone hungry for barbecue with a mid-western flare.

The idea for the Free Store came from a church the Hopkin-Smith's attended in Indiana. Once they moved to Clover they weren't sure how to help the community, so they reused the idea for the Free Store as Clover lacks help centers for residents in need.

They also created the organization called Youth Expressing Salvation, or YES!, that provides volunteers to run the store. YES! is a youth group open to anyone interested in Christianity. You don't have to be



YES! Members serving barbecue at the Free Store.

Christian to join or attend, just have an interest in the faith, and want to help. The youth members volunteer and help run the store, with the Hopkin-Smith's children playing a role as well. The Free Store is truly family involved. The Hopkins-Smith family believes community service is important, with Kier stating "As God has freely given unto us, it is not just our obligation but our honor to give back". Their family prioritizes giving back, and it is seen through their work.

The Free Store is held at Clover First Assembly located at 223 Church Street, Clover, SC. It will be held on April 22, and again on

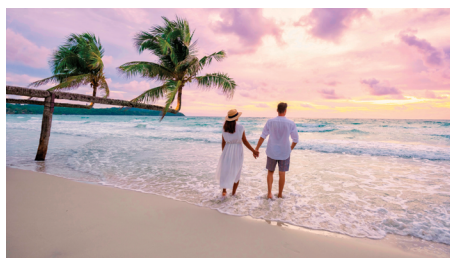
November 22, from 12:30 p.m. till 3:30 p.m., or until empty.

If you wish to attend, volunteer, or donate, please reach out! For anyone interested in coming to the store or donating goods, please contact their email powerinmytestimony@gmail.com. Clean and gently used items are accepted, and greatly appreciated.

Anyone interested in Lil Hop's BBQ can find their Facebook and Instagram under the same name!



Kier Hopkins-Smith and Elicia "Starr" Hopkins-Smith



Plan your next amazing vacation with one of the top travel companies in the world!

Call Art
Your local travel expert
(704) 585 1275



 **Expedia Cruises**
Air, Land & Sea Vacations

SCHOOLS

Sapphire Dance Team places tenth at national competition

BY LEILA PARKMAN, CHS SENIOR

PHOTOS BY JANET STEWART, SAPPHIRE TEAM COACH, AND NATHAN BOWEN, SAPPHIRE TEAM CAPTAIN, GUEST CONTRIBUTORS

ORLANDO, FL - The Clover High School Sapphire Dance Team placed 10th in the nation at the Contest of Champions Championship at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida. The competition, held from February 28 to March 2, brought together top teams from across the country to showcase their skills at the national level.



The team competed in three small-group categories

The team competed in the Small Pom, Small Contemporary, and Small Hip-Hop categories and secured a 10th-place finish in the Small Group Division based on their combined scores. The competition also featured other dance styles such as lyrical and jazz, organized by team size

and age level. In addition to team events, the competition hosted solo, duet, and trio performances.

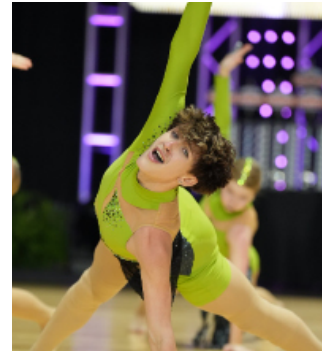
This year marks the team's first-ever appearance at a national championship, a significant milestone for the program that was founded just three years ago. Coach Janet Stewart reflected on the experience, noting that "we've been strategically building our skills and experience to reach this level." The team's decision to enter as an independent competitor allowed them to gain national exposure without needing a prerequisite, "providing a more accessible entry into this competitive arena."

Team captain Nathan Bowen emphasized the dedication and hard work that led to this achievement. When discussing the team's preparation for the competition, he reported, "On the endurance and stamina side, we have

morning practice twice a week from 7:30 to 8:50, where we do conditioning and all that stuff. And then we have real practice on Tuesdays, every Tuesday till 6:30, where we just run the dances over and over and over again."

The team's exciting accomplishments brought pride and joy to the team. Bowen described this moment, "Honestly, after that last performance, we were all crying, and we're just hugging each other. And it was just so magical. We all felt so accomplished even if something may have went wrong on stage. Like, we really didn't get down about it because that was our last moment together, and we just left it all out there." Bowen emphasized the lifelong memories the dance team brings its members. "You meet the most amazing people. You create these bonds that you'll never forget."

Looking ahead, Clover



CHS Junior and captain Nathan Bowen

High School is launching a JV Sapphire Dance Team, creating new opportunities for aspiring dancers. Coach Stewart told the Roaring Eagle, "We hope our journey inspires others to realize that it's never too late to chase their dreams. With unwavering passion and a strong work ethic, any goal is within reach."



The Championship took place at Universal Studios



All the supplies Clover needs to succeed?

OD does it.
officedepot.com

20% OFF

QUALIFYING REGULAR
PRICED PURCHASE

Coupon - 36489497

Valid through - 12/31/2024

Valid in Office Depot and OfficeMax stores serving the Clover School District in the Charlotte Metro Area. Must present this original coupon (reproductions not valid) to cashier at time of purchase. Cannot be used as an account payment. Not combinable with Store Purchasing or Store Discount Cards; Rewards Member or Business Select Member pricing; or other sales, offers, and promotions. Excludes: 1) Purchases made in Office Depot or OfficeMax clearance/closing stores; 2) gift & prepaid cards; 3) technology or consumer electronic products and accessories or software products; 4) furniture & seating; 5) cleaning, breakroom, facility, & safety products; 6) JaniSport products; 7) performance protection plans; 8) postage & mailing/shipping services; 9) ink & toner; 10) electronic labelers & labeling accessories; 11) appliances; 12) simple human products; 13) subscription services; 14) services: off-site shredding, tech, furniture, marketing, administrative, & third party services; 15) items by the pallet; & 16) premiums/free gifts with purchase. Coupon is good for one-time use only, is not transferable, and is not for resale or auction. No cash back. Excludes taxes. Void where prohibited. Limit 1 coupon per household/business. Coupon expires 12/31/2024 Coupon Code 36489497

Office DEPOT. OfficeMax

Engineering for accessibility: CHS and GRES students build a ramp

BY COURTNEY NOVELLINO, CHS SENIOR

PHOTO BY KIERSTIN ROLF, CHS SENIOR, GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

CLOVER, SC - Two engineering students from Clover High School (CHS) have made a lasting impact on their community by designing and constructing a ramp to help a disabled student at Griggs Road Elementary School (GRES).

Addison Grant and Ryan McMahon took on the project after discovering that a student who uses a wheelchair had difficulty navigating through the mulch-covered playground. CHS student Addison Grant highlighted the team's motivation, saying, "We're just very passionate about the community, and we really wanted to help this boy. It was a great first project for us, knowing we were making a real difference."

The team utilized Autodesk Inventor, a 3D modeling software, to design

and lay out the plan for the ramp. They planned out the necessary materials, designed it on the

computer, and ensured it met the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements before beginning construction.

Safety and accessibility were top priorities for the students. They followed ADA guidelines, ensuring the ramp stayed under six inches in height to eliminate the need for handrails, which helped keep the project cost-effective. The team selected pressure-treated wood and Trex boards for durability and to prevent rotting.

Part of the project involved Grant and



Students gather around the ramp as design choices were explained.

McMahon engaging with students at Griggs Elementary, teaching them basic construction skills and giving them hands-

on experience with the building process. "Most of the kids didn't know what a pilot hole was or a screw or anything, so it was nice to get to show them all that," Grant said.

Although there were minor mishaps, McMahon and Grant remained unfazed. Grant reminded everyone that "it's okay because it's a learning process".

Students from GRES like Tyler Megorden and Roselee Wilson, who are members of a "What I Need" (WIN) group at their school, were eager to assist. They explained that the idea for the ramp came from their

desire to do something meaningful for their friend, whose wheelchair often got stuck in the mulch.

Working alongside the high schoolers was an exciting experience for the younger students. "It's different from what I'm used to," Wilson shared, while Megorden added, "They're really nice, but I feel so small next to them!" Beyond the teamwork, both were excited to see the final result and their friend's reaction.

Through this project, CHS and GRES students demonstrated the power of collaboration and community spirit. The hard work of the CHS engineering students and the GRES students has provided their friend with a safe, accessible way to enjoy the playground with his peers, proving that even small projects can make a big impact.

Larne Elementary students learn the life cycle by hatching chicks

BY KYLEE LOWE, CHS JUNIOR

YORK, SC - The Larne Elementary School (LES) third graders in Ms. Shealy's, Mrs. Sanders', and Mrs. Jackson's classes hatched chicks for the third year in a row. Given the eggs from the Clemson Extension 4H office, the 80 third graders kept "...the eggs in incubators for the incubation period of 21 days," according to Karla Sanders, LES teacher.

During the incubation period the students shine lights on the eggs to watch the development of the chicks inside. This allows the students to study and compare life cycles. The students also studied other animals through research. Sanders goes on to say, "We also were able to observe 1 week quail this year, because we only had 1 egg hatch out

of our 36 eggs. This was the lowest hatch rate we have ever had." Thanks, to the Clemson Extension Office they got to compare quail to chickens during development.

The students in all three third grade classes helped with the raising of the chicks by keeping them watered and fed. They also enjoyed holding and interacting with

the chicks.



A young quail and chick that were hatched at Larne.

NEW TO THE AREA

The Corner Store brings unique items to Clover

BY KAYA SPENCER, CHS JUNIOR

PHOTOS BY THE CORNER STORE, GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

CLOVER, CS - A new addition to the local business scene is set to arrive this spring with the opening of the Corner Market. Located at 518 Main Street, just across from the old mill, the market officially opened its doors on April 4 at 12 p.m. Now the store is open Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.



Beautiful items for that perfect gift.

The Corner Market will feature a diverse array of

vendors, offering something for everyone. Shoppers can expect a unique mix of merchandise, including Disney Loungefly items, western-style clothing, hand burned boots and hats, and simple horse tack. The market will have things such as raw amethyst jewelry, resin art, anime, and Hello Kitty products.

One vendor will also operate an all organic laundry detergent refill station. The Corner Market will be operated by Heather Thomas. She hopes the Corner Market, in addition to bring local goods downtown, will have a positive impact on the community by providing a welcoming space for kids

and teens in the Clover area. Her vision is to create an inviting environment where individuals of all ages enjoy themselves.

Reflecting on her journey as a small business owner, Thomas shared words of encouragement for others who may be hesitant to take a leap of faith. "I always tell people to go for it. Because if you never try, you'll never know if it's going to work out," she said. "If you believe in yourself and you believe that you can do it you can do it".

She had a lot of self-doubt and people thinking that it wouldn't work because it's on the South end of Main Street. But that obstacle did not stop her



All organic laundry products

and she opened in that space anyway.

Although the journey from dream to reality has been very hard and challenging, it's just made her find that with initiative, hope, and a venue for a new type of store in the area, there is plenty of room for growth in downtown Clover.

Coffee culture grows with the opening of Ciao Bella

BY KAYA SPENCER, CHS JUNIOR

PHOTOS BY CIAO BELLA, GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

LAKE WYLIE, SC - Ciao Bella Coffee and Sweets is located in Lake Wylie, right next to Lily's Bistro at 4547 Charlotte Highway. Monday through Thursday, they are open from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Friday from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m..

Esther Garneau is the owner of Ciao Bella Coffee and Sweets. She's been baking her whole life and got into coffee a few years ago. She was operating in a food truck before Lisa Spencer approached her and asked to join her shop. Lisa is the

architect, designer, and general contractor for the space.

Ciao Bella offers a wide variety of coffee options, including iced coffee, hot coffee, iced lattes, and cold brews. It will feature a range of freshly baked goods, including cinnamon buns, cookies, and cakes available daily.

One of the most significant challenges Lisa encountered while preparing



Ciao Bella on Hwy. 49

the store was the plumbing and the counter tops. The sink needed multiple functions,

which required additional plumbing work.

Transitioning from a food truck setup to meeting county regulations introduced a whole new set of requirements. They added depth on the counter top, which led to the really creative addition of built-in cup holders.

The name Ciao Bella is inspired by Esther's daughter, Arabella, who has always loved the phrase. In Italian, it means "hello beautiful", which is a warm welcoming greeting that perfectly reflects the heart of the business.

Esther explains, "You want them to feel important and special and beautiful. Also acknowledge like just having someone come in and say hi and ask how your day is like. Brings such joy to people in such a simple thing for us to do."

County Council considers new impact fee for Fort Mill

BY COURTNEY NOVELLINO, CHS SENIOR

YORK, SC - York County Council met on March third and March 17. In addition to continued opposition to Silfab, rezoning matters, and general expenditure approval, the council heard both a first and second reading of a new Impact Fee to be imposed on new builds in the Fort Mill School District.

Fort Mill was the first district in York County to have an Impact Fee. That fee was \$2500 on each new home or apartment, and was enacted in 1996. In 2018, that amount was increased to \$18,158. On March third, an increase to \$29,640 for single family homes and \$20,796 per unit for multi-family dwellings was proposed and approved. The second reading of the Ordinance was approved on March 17. (Editor's note: The fee was approved at the third reading on April seventh and was effective on any new permits applied for on April eighth.)

Fort Mill and Clover are the only districts in York to impose an impact fee, and the Clover School District's

impact fees are currently \$4000 for single-family residences, \$1976 per each unit in a multi-family development, including town homes, and \$2618 per mobile home. These fees became effective January 15, 2021.

According to the South Carolina Code of Laws, impact fees are required to be updated and reviewed every five years.

The rest of the agenda items from both meetings that could impact the Clover area are summarized below.

As for new business, the Council held a second reading of an ordinance regarding Fort Mill EMS services, and the acquisition of Fort Mill EMS by Atrium Health. This ordinance addresses the agreement between Atrium Health Fort Mill EMS and York County to continue to provide rescue services in York County. The second reading was deferred on March third, but was approved on March 17. It will go to a third reading and final approval in April.

Rezoning approvals included Thomas McCall's

request for 6.73 acres on Dulin Road to be changed from Urban Development and Residential Mixed Use-20 to Residential Development so his family can build a house on his land. Vernie Paulette Melton Hall's request for 1.54 acres on Ervin Street to be changed from Urban Development to Residential Single Family-30, so a detached dwelling can be built.

New members were sworn into various boards, including Joseph Costello, Walter Wilkes, and Michael Robbe for the Bethel Fire Tax District Board and Brian Jones for the Rock Hill/ York County Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Laura and David Booth requested a county-wide assessment for library expansions.

The Council approved several board nominations, contracts, and purchases, including a \$377,642 utility agreement with MCI metro for the Pennies three project that is underway. A Pennies five project, work on the intersection of Hwy. 321 and Old North Main, has

moved to the design phase with the approval of no more than \$366,835.00 to ACEOM Technical Services. Additionally, a \$107,477 design contract for the Hwy. 55/Maynard Grayson Intersection was approved. Other purchases included sewer vacuum excavators (\$145,404.40), Microsoft Office licenses (\$88,800), and \$8 million for local road improvements. The \$8 million had come from the State.

They also reviewed amendments to Chapter 155: Zoning Code to allow minor adjustments and revise accessory structure standards.

Councilman Tom Audette, in comments before moving to Executive Session, shared that he also had concerns about Silfab and requested that a discussion be held about the possibility of a cease and desist order.

York County Council met on April seventh and will meet again on April 21 at 6 South Congress St., York, SC.



Lake Wylie Pizza
and Italian Restaurant
"Happiness is homemade"

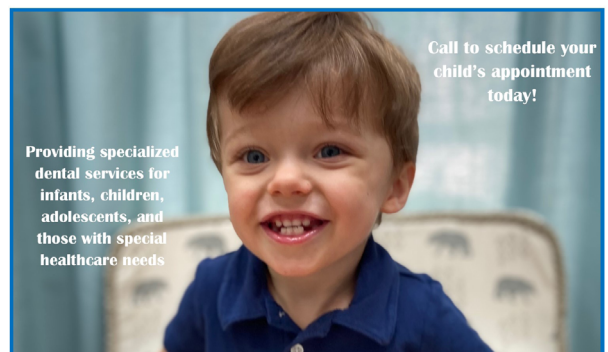
We now have two locations:
4074 Charlotte Highway, Clover SC
(803) 831-0855

1075 Filbert Highway, York SC
(803) 818-6986

www.lakewyliepizza.com

25% off 1 large Pizza with this coupon

Take-out orders Only



Call to schedule your child's appointment today!

Providing specialized dental services for infants, children, adolescents, and those with special healthcare needs

LAKE WYLIE
pediatric dentistry

803.619.5155

www.lakewyliepediatricdentistry.com

CHEF'S CORNER

A salute to strawberry season

BY CHEF FRANCINE MARZ, CHS CULINARY ARTS TEACHER

Frozen Strawberry Lemonade Pie with Pretzel Crust

Makes: 1 Pie

Ingredients:

1½ cups crushed pretzels about 4 cups / 5 ounces mini pretzels

½ cup unsalted butter

¼ cup light brown sugar light or dark brown, packed

One 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk, chilled

One 12-ounce container whipped topping, thawed

One 6-fluid-ounce can frozen lemonade concentrate, unthawed

1 cup fresh strawberries, sliced

Garnish with: Whipped Cream, Freeze dried strawberries- crushed and Lemon zest

Pretzel Crust Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F and grease pie dish.

2. In a large food processor or by hand in a sealed bag with a mallet, crush pretzels into slightly coarse crumbs.

3. In a medium mixing bowl, melt butter in the

microwave. Using a spatula, stir in pretzel crumbs and brown sugar until well combined.

4. Scoop mixture into pie dish, discarding ¼ if using an 8-9" crust. Using the bottom of a measuring cup or drinking glass press into dish and along the sides to create a wall. Add additional mixture as needed.

5. Bake 10 minutes. Cool before filling.

Filling Directions:

1. In a large bowl, add the sweetened condensed milk and whipped topping. Fold the two together gently until combined, being careful to keep the mixture light and fluffy.

2. Add the sliced strawberries and lemonade concentrate and continue to gently fold. Be sure to avoid letting the mixture get too liquid-y.

3. Pour the filling into the pie crust. Place in the freezer to chill overnight.

To serve: Remove pie from freezer and let sit for 10 minutes. Top with whipped cream and sprinkle with freeze dried strawberries and lemon zest over the top.

Strawberry Glazed Pork Tenderloin

Ingredients:

2-3 lb. Boneless Pork Tenderloin

1 tsp. red pepper flakes

1 tsp. garlic powder

2 tsp. olive oil

Salt & Pepper

1 bunch of scallions - chopped

2 tbs. honey

4 Tablespoons Balsamic vinegar – divided in half

3 - 4-inch piece of fresh ginger - chopped finely

¾ cup strawberry preserves

4cloves of garlic - chopped finely

1 cup fresh strawberries sliced

Directions:

1. Combine the red pepper flakes, garlic powder, olive oil, scallions, honey and 2 T. balsamic vinegar in a shallow dish. Mix together and add pork tenderloin. Turn pork until it is thoroughly covered

and then season with salt and pepper. Place in the refrigerator and let marinate for at least one hour.

2. When ready to cook, preheat oven to 350 degrees.

3. Heat a large cast iron skillet or metal sauté pan on medium heat until hot. Carefully place the pork in the pan and allow the pork to get a nice char or even browning on all sides. Add marinade mixture to the pan and let cook for 30 seconds.

4. In a separate bowl, combine the remaining ingredients and stir.

5. Spoon this mixture over the pork after the pork has charred/browned on all sides.

6. Place the pork and in oven. Cook pork in the oven for about 15 – 20 minutes or until a thermometer reads an internal temperature of 140-145 degrees.

7. Cover and let the pork rest for 10 minutes before slicing.

8. To serve: Slice the pork on a diagonal and drizzle strawberry balsamic glaze over the pork. Serve with wild rice, jasmine rice or cous cous.

Dog of the month: Meet Holly & Millie

Our First Bonded Pair!

BY EMILY BELK, CHS SENIOR

YORK, SC- This month, we are honored to feature our very first bonded pair in Dog of the Month history—Holly & Millie! These two beautiful senior girls, currently at the Humane Society of York County, are searching for a loving home where they can stay together forever.

Holly and Millie had spent many years in a stable home, but due to circumstances beyond their control, they were sadly returned to the rescue. Now, they are looking for someone who will welcome them both into their home and hearts.

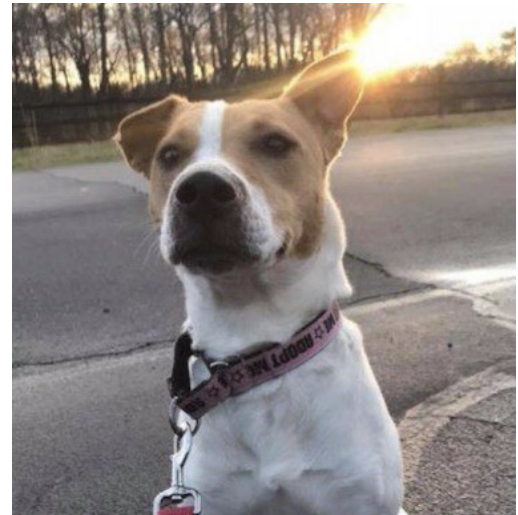
Millie, the younger of the two, is the leader, and her sister Holly relies on her for hearing. They truly function as a team, always working together, always looking out for each other. While adopting two dogs is a big commitment, once you meet them, you'll understand why they belong together.

What We Know About Holly & Millie:

They are incredibly sweet, loving girls. They lived in a home with full access to the house and yard, where they played, explored, and enjoyed life. They adore each other and play well together. They are spayed, vaccinated, microchipped, and tested. Holly is estimated to be 9 years and 8 months old; Millie is 7 years and 11 months old.

These gentle, affectionate girls long for love and just want to spend their senior years in a true FURever home. If their story tugs at your heart, please consider meeting them—you might just find your perfect companions.

To schedule an appointment to meet Holly & Millie, call the Humane Society of York County at 803-802-0902.



Join the Fun & Support a Great Cause!

Run for Life 5K/10K Benefitting Type 1 Diabetes & Childhood Cancer

Saturday, April 26th, 2025 | Race starts at 8am
Camp Thunderbird - Lake Wylie, SC

Whether you want a competitive race, fun run, or a leisurely stroll - don't miss this important event that helps the River Hills/Lake Wylie Lions Club to help children with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) by providing scholarships to a week-long overnight diabetes camp, diabetes supplies, and much more! Create a school team, corporate team, family and friends team, or participate individually. Choose one of the below categories:

5K Run 10K Run 1 Mile Family Fun Walk

Participants Will Receive:

- FREE Event T-Shirt
 - FREE Goodie Bag & Snacks
 - FREE Diabetes Testing & Counseling
- Medals to Top 3 Winners in Each Age Group!
Trophies to Top Winning Teams!



Sign up today!

Camp Provides Life Changing Experience for T1D Kids

Camp Sweet Escape is held at the beautiful grounds of Camp LaVida in Winnsboro, SC. The camp celebrates 10 years of providing Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) children with:

- A week of adventure and fun in a safe, medically-supervised environment
- Bolstered confidence in their own diabetes care
- Lifetime friendships with campers that face similar challenges

RACE SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

David Allen
803-230-1449 | daallen7078@gmail.com

Neil Nelson
803-818-0042 | neilnelson@gmail.com

www.rhwlions.org



Help the Lions Help Children with Type 1 Diabetes and Childhood Cancer!



LAKE WYLIE
FOURTH OF JULY
FIREWORKS

100% funded by community donations

A cherished 35-year tradition
celebrated by neighbors,
family, and friends.

We kindly ask for your assistance in achieving our goal
of \$20,000. Each minute of fireworks costs \$1,000.

Your contribution will elevate the celebration for
everyone in Lake Wylie.

Do you have photos from events in
previous years? We would love for
you to share or tag them on our
new Instagram account -
@LKWFireworks!

All donations will be recognized through our
social media platforms, Chamber
communications, River Hills communications,
and in the Roaring Eagle publication.

For Checks,
Camp Thunderbird Fireworks Fund
One Thunderbird Lane
Lake Wylie, SC 29710

Lake Wylie Fireworks



venmo

@LKWFireworks

/LKWFireworks



Gallery 120 will host an exciting exhibit featuring CHS students' artwork titled "Beyond Boundaries: Emerging Voices in High School Art." The opening reception will take place on May 1, from 6 PM - 8 PM at Gallery 120, located at 103 N. Main St.

APRIL CALENDAR

CURATED BY **CLOEY HARRIS**, CHS JUNIOR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		1 April Fools' Day 5:30PM Steering Committee Meeting 120 Bethel St	2 
6 	7 6PM Veterans Committee Meeting 120 Bethel St	8 	9 
13 Passover Clover Choralier Show CSD Auditorium	14 Passover 6:30PM Town Council Regular Meeting 120 Bethel St	15 Passover Tax Day	16 Passover
20 Easter Passover Ends	21 CSD Spring Break 6PM York County Council Meeting 6 South Congress St, York	22 CSD Spring Break Earth Day 6PM Board of Zoning Appeals 120 Bethel St	23 CSD Spring Break 8AM Economic Development Board Meetings
27 	28 5:30PM Town Council Workshop 120 Bethel St	29 	30 



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		
3 Clover Choralier Show CSD Auditorium	4 	5 Passover Begins Clover Choralier Show CSD Auditorium
10 Passover 6PM Planning Commission Meeting 120 Bethel Stance	11 Good Friday Passover CHS Prom	12 Passover
24 CSD Spring Break	25 CSD Spring Break 8AM Clover Coffee with the Council 120 Bethel St	26 8AM Lions Run For Life River Hill Country Club
		

Links to Full Calendars

[Clover High School Athletics](#)

[Clover School District](#)

[Lake Wylie Chamber of Commerce](#)

[River Hills/Lake Wylie Lions Club](#)

[Town of Clover](#)

[York County](#)

[York County Museum](#)

Contact us at www.roaringeaglenews.com

From there, you can email, provide story

For advertising and sponsoring opportunities, contact the [River Hills/Lake Wylie Lions Club](#).

The Roaring Eagle Sponsors

Business Sponsors

[Clover Leaders for Educational Advancement](#)

[Foundation \(LEAF\)](#)

[Lake Wylie Pizza and Italian](#)

[Lake Wylie Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Fred Caldwell Chevrolet](#)

[Lake Wylie Pharmacy](#)

[Clover Harvest Restaurant](#)

[Office Depot/Office Max](#)

[DragonFly Wellness Center](#)

[Howard Hanna Mortgage Services](#)

[Catawba River Capital](#)

[May Green Properties](#)

[Kasby's](#)

[Sweet Southern Gals](#)

[Dogwood Lane Academy](#)

[Lake Wylie Pediatric Dentistry](#)

[River Hills/Lake Wylie Lions Club](#)

[Mullooly Wealth Planning](#)

[Greater Things Ministry – Lake Wylie](#)

[The UPS Store-Lake Wylie](#)

[Zo.ra Lake Wylie](#)

[Eco-Boutique](#)

[M.L. Ford & Sons](#)

[Mellon Insurance Solutions](#)

[Senator Wes Climer](#)

[J. Alden Fine Jewelry and Precious Metals](#)

[Famous Toastery of Lake Wylie](#)

[Expedia Cruises - Art Versnick](#)

Individual Sponsors

Phil & Helene Weiss

Richard Lewis

Larry Lewis & Jane Brown

Kevin Naumann

Carlos Salas

Michael Schonfeld

Don & Joan Nowak

Allan & Sheri Sutherland

Sharon & Edward Amatetti

Bobbie & Larry Arnold

David & Margaret Marshburn

Lisa & Gene McCarthy

Beverly Kelly

RJ Phillips

Ray & Mary Williams

Linda Fonteyne

Peter & Lynne Tucker

H. McNiece, M. Kordecki, H. Pisano

In Honor of Bob Johnson

Michelle Gurevitch & James Samland

Sara Strickland

For advertising and
sponsoring opportunities,
contact the River Hills/
Lake Wylie Lions Club.

You can also scan the QR
code.

