

THE CONNECTOR

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SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FALL 2019

Strategic Plan's employee comments bring changes to SCDOT

By Christy Hall
South Carolina Secretary
of Transportation

SCDOT's Strategic Plan is not just a plan, it is OUR plan!

I want to thank those who submitted comments during the roll-out of SCDOT's Strategic Plan. It takes courage to speak out when trying to bring forth needed change and your voices have been heard loud and clear. After developing the plan, we rolled it out over the course of many months so that all employees had the opportunity to hear about and comment on the plan. We also included briefing the strategic plan as part of newcomers' orientation. Over 1,300 comments were provided to the strategic planning team that visited employees across the state. You told us how the plan can be more effective and relevant to you as individual members of the team and for the agency as a whole. As promised, your comments made it back to me - I along with senior leaders of the agency, reviewed every comment submitted.

What have we done and what can you expect for the way ahead in 2020, with respect to OUR Strategic Plan? First, we collected 125 separate action plans from units telling us what is important to them to make the strategic plan successful. Second, we set up a schedule to ensure progress with these action plans will be reviewed quarterly by supervisors; semi-annually by senior leaders and then annually by me and my direct reports to ensure the plan remains a living document to help guide



us in accomplishing our strategic goals. Third, we are establishing feedback mechanisms like this letter from me that lets you know that OUR plan is more than talk. Indeed, OUR plan is a dynamic plan of action.

These are just some of the things you should be seeing now or at least in the very near future as a result of your comments: **lighted flagger paddles; mobile rumble**

strips before entering a work zone; **added lights on SHEP vehicles; safety bumper stickers; safety stickers** for hard hats; **improved 360 degree lighting packages** for vehicles and other equipment; **better representation** for you through a speakers bureau that tells our story to local, state and federal leaders. There are many more items we are currently acting on that are too numerous to



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

As part of SCDOT's Strategic Plan, safety improvements were added thanks to suggestions from employees, supervisors and management. Some of these improvements include lighted flagger paddles, mobile rumble strips and 360-degree flashing lights on vehicles.

mention here, but will be provided to you in the future.

We will continue to take action on your comments as well as other aspects of the strategic plan, but I need your help. I need you to continue actively working OUR plan through the action plan process.

I also need each of you to tell

our SCDOT story. We have a good story to tell; SCDOT actions help to connect communities, families and loved ones by providing quality roads, bridges, and mass transit to all who travel in the state.

The SCDOT Strategic Plan is a good plan because it is OUR Plan.

Thank you!

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ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Former Commission Chairman Ben Davis passes the gavel to new Chairman Robby Robbins and Vice-Chairman Tony Cox.

Robbins, Cox elected Commission Chair, Vice-Chair

By Bob Kudelka

Robert D. “Robby” Robbins, of Summerville, was named Chairman of the South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission on Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019, during the commission’s monthly meeting in Columbia.

Robbins, a Commissioner representing the 1st Congressional District, had been serving as Vice Chairman of the Commission. He joined the SCDOT Commission in 2016.

“I am honored to be selected by the SCDOT Commission members to serve as the Chair-

man of this body,” Robbins said. “I appreciate their confidence in me and I pledge to use my experience to guide the Commission as we make important policy decisions on transportation issues in the coming year.”

Robbins, a Summerville attorney, is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and the USC School of Law. He was 1st Circuit Deputy Solicitor from 1997-2003 and 1st Circuit Solicitor in 2004.

Robbins was a member of the Dorchester County Sales Tax Transportation Authority from 2004 to 2015.

He is married to Mary Bryce Robbins, and they have a son and a daughter.

During the same meeting, Tony K. Cox, of Horry County, was named Vice Chairman of the SCDOT Commission.

Cox, a Commissioner representing the 7th Congressional District, joined the SCDOT Commission in 2017.

A graduate of Coastal Carolina University, Cox is a real estate professional with over 36 years of experience. He currently serves as the executive vice president at Burroughs and Chapin Co, Inc. in Myrtle Beach.

Cox has previously served on the South Carolina Real Estate Commission, Horry County Planning Commission and the Myrtle Beach Air Base Redevelopment Authority.

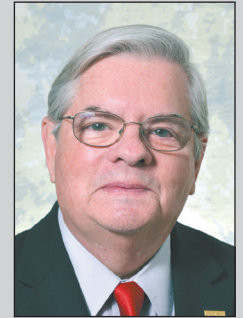
SCDOT Commission



Robert D. Robbins
1st Congressional District



John H. Burriss
2nd Congressional District



Ben H. Davis Jr.
3rd Congressional District



Woodrow W. Willard
4th Congressional District



Gene Branham
5th Congressional District



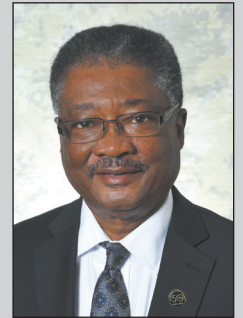
Barnwell Fishburne
6th Congressional District



Tony K. Cox
7th Congressional District



Kristen Blanchard
Commissioner At-Large



J.T. McLawhorn Jr.
Commissioner At-Large

THE CONNECTOR

Winner of awards from S.C. Division, Public Relations Society of America; Carolinas Association of Business Communicators; S.C. Press Association and AASHTO.

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Christy A. Hall is the South Carolina Secretary of Transportation.



SCDOT team helps SLED recover missing Sumter girl

A grim search for a 5-year-old girl's body in a landfill sounds like a storyline in a TV crime drama, but it was all too real for a group of volunteer SCDOT employees.

Our employees are known for stepping up in times of hurricanes, winter storms and other natural disasters, but had never before in the history of the agency been asked to perform such a task, said SCDOT Chief Engineer for Operations Andy Leaphart.

Authorities said a 29-year-old Sumter woman was found stabbed to death inside her apartment on Aug. 5, and her 5-year-old daughter had been missing since.

Leaphart said SCDOT employees went "above and beyond" the call of duty, working about six weeks in the Richland County landfill off Screaming Eagle Road to help recover the girl's body.

The request had come from the very top, Governor Henry Mc-

Master, for SCDOT to help with its expertise in heavy machinery and excavation to help bring closure to a family and community impacted by the horrific tragedy.

"The S.C. Department of Transportation played a vital role in Team South Carolina, which was comprised of over 400 state and local employees, who came together to form one team with one purpose," said SLED Chief Mark A. Keel, in a letter to SCDOT Commission Chairman Robert D. "Robby" Robbins. "This daunting task could not have been accomplished without the specialized expertise and personal commitment of every individual involved."

After initially improving roads into the landfill to allow heavy equipment, SCDOT fielded 8-member crews to dig in an area of the landfill designated by law enforcement.

SCDOT crews, starting at 5:30 a.m. each day, would pull trash

out of the ground, put it on a dump truck and drive it to a search pad where authorities would sift through a six-inch high layer in the search for the girl's remains.

On a typical day, SCDOT employees pulled up to 95 tons of trash out of the dig area, Leaphart said. At all times, the employees were led on site by either Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall, Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin or Leaphart.

SCDOT employees involved in the excavation had volunteered from District 2 and District 4 and were all Maintenance employees. All faced challenges of the unknown, not to mention working in a dusty, smelly landfill.

"When we first went into this, we did not know what to expect," Leaphart said. "It was a harsh environment, but nothing we couldn't handle."

Employees were outfitted with the proper gloves, boots and had

respirators if needed, Leaphart said. "We branded them 'SCDOT Special Forces' for answering the call any time, every time," Leaphart said.

Leaphart said a key role was the agency's Events Planning staff, which coordinated logistics including providing on-site bathrooms and a tent for employees to briefly escape the extreme heat.

More than 40 local and state agencies collaborated and searched about four million pounds of material, and approximately 400 individuals worked together to bring the search to an end, according to SLED.

"It was a very rewarding experience and the guys were very appreciative of the opportunity," Leaphart said. "It gave a sense of closure to the family and the Sumter community."

The SCDOT team that helped with the recovery included **Tina Kennedy**, Agency Events Coor-

ordinator; **Scotty Foster**, Laurens Maintenance; **Mark White**, District 4 Pavement; **Mike Bagley**, District 4 Maintenance; **Christy A. Hall**, Secretary of Transportation; **Lucas Robertson**, Saluda Maintenance; **Clifton White**, District 2 Office; **Travis Griffin**, Newberry Maintenance; **Leland Colvin**, Deputy Secretary for Engineering; **Ronnie Byars**, Chester Maintenance; **Ashleigh Sandel**, Assistant to Chief Engineer for Operations; **Rob Perry**, Director of Traffic Engineering; **Troy Kennison**, District 4 Pavement; **Brian McAbee**, District 4 Pavement; **Jim Sharpe**, McCormick Maintenance; **Nathan Lance**, York Maintenance; **Andy Leaphart**, Chief Engineer for Operations; **Brian Hodges**, York Maintenance; **Dan Booth**, Edgefield Maintenance; **Rodney Shaw**, Greenwood Maintenance; **Jimmy Bowen**, Abbeville Maintenance; and **Brad Trout**, District 4 Office.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

The team that helped with the recovery included, front row, from left: Tina Kennedy, Agency Events Coordinator; Scotty Foster, Laurens Maintenance; Mark White, District 4 Pavement; Mike Bagley, District 4 Maintenance; Christy A. Hall, Secretary of Transportation; Lucas Robertson, Saluda Maintenance; Clifton White, District 2 Office; Travis Griffin, Newberry Maintenance; Leland Colvin, Deputy Secretary for Engineering. Middle row, from left: Ronnie Byars, Chester Maintenance; Ashleigh Sandel, Assistant to Chief Engineer for Operations; Rob Perry, Director of Traffic Engineering; Troy Kennison, District 4 Pavement; Brian McAbee, District 4 Pavement; Jim Sharpe, McCormick Maintenance; Nathan Lance, York Maintenance. Back row, from left: Andy Leaphart, Chief Engineer for Operations; Brian Hodges, York Maintenance; Dan Booth, Edgefield Maintenance; Rodney Shaw, Greenwood Maintenance; Jimmy Bowen, Abbeville Maintenance; Brad Trout, District 4 Office.

2019 SC Highway Engineers Conference

Sharing ideas, engineering better roads, bridges

By Bob Kudelka

The turnout was so large at the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference that the opening session was held in the largest room of the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

A record 925 people attended the March 26-27 conference. That's triple what the conference drew just six or seven years ago, said Deputy Secretary for Engineering **Leland Colvin**.

"This conference has been historically well attended but it continues to grow each year," Colvin said in remarks at the lower level exhibit hall instead of in the upstairs ballroom where the opening was held

in the past. "It's at the point now we're busting at the seams. We've got some very, very good presentations lined up this year and a lot of good information."

Less than half of this year's attendees were SCDOT employees, with most coming from industry partners, consultants and local governments.

Colvin thanked Secretary **Christy Hall** for her support of the conference. Hall delivered the "State of the DOT" presentation after thanking those who responded to some of the more dramatic events of the past year, including the Wando bridge emergency repairs and Hurricane Florence.

"Never had we experienced anything like that and hopefully we never do again," Hall said of the

Wando Bridge response and temporary traffic solutions. "When I think of resilience - we had that in action - and our ability to quickly adapt, use out of the box initiatives, working around the clock to meet those challenges."

As for Hurricane Florence, Hall commended employees and partners for Project Lifeline, preventing a potential "270,000 people from being cut off from the rest of South Carolina."

"It seems like every time we're able to demonstrate our ability collectively to get the job done, the bar gets raised a little higher for us," Hall said.

SCDOT Program Manager **Adam Humphries** and **Joey Rhoades** were co-chairman of this

year's conference.

The conference topics were a mix of maintenance and construction subjects as well as design build projects of interest, **Humphries** said.

"We reached out to all of our District and Headquarters groups so there's a topic from every District and every group within the building," **Humphries** said. "We're excited."

In the age of emails and texting, it's good to have an opportunity where engineers in government and private sectors can build face-to-face relationships, **Humphries** said.

"The conference brings together SCDOT and all its partners in the consulting and contracting communities," **Humphries** said. "It gives us training and refreshers on new products, projects that may be upcoming and how the DOT is moving forward."

Humphries thanked Agency Events Coordinator **Tina Kennedy** and **Meagan Hare**; **Shaun Gaines** and the staff from Clemson University's Transportation Technology Transfer Service; and all the speakers, presenters and moderators.

Speakers, presenters and mod-

erators in addition to **Hall** and **Colvin** included: FHWA Division Administrator **Emily Lawton**, **Andy Leaphart**, **Randall Young**, **Ladd Gibson**, **Brian Klauk**, **Vonie Gilreath**, **Samantha Dubai**, **Paul D. de Holczer**, **Kevin Gantt**, **Chad Long**, **Timothy Henderson**, **Jason Johnston**, **Steve Kirk**, **Ahmed El-Assar**, **Glen Bramlitt**, **Adam Alexander**, **Alan R. Kozusko**, **Berry Mattox**, **Tony Sheppard**, **Ernie Boughman**, **Blake Loudermilk**, **Kevin McGhee**, **Brett Harkelson**, **Kurt Mead**, **Yates Jackson**, **Sid Bacchus**, **Jay Thompson**, **Joey Riddle**, **Eric Hall**, **Carolyn "DeeDee" Burton**, **Mike Hannah**, **Mickey Queen**, **Jackie Williams**, **John Martin**, **Chris Gaskins**, **Emily Thomas**, **Jennifer Rhoades**, **Toby Feaster**, **Jae H. Mattox III**, **Austin Purgason**, **Michael Bowman**, **Neal Banerjee**, **Sean Knight**, **Carol Jones**, **Joe Burgett**, **Michelle Mabry**, **Betsy McCall**, **Joe D. Laws III**, **AJ Bostic**, **Michael Buck**, **Dennis G. West**, **John Timmerman**, **Susan Connell**, **Hugh Haddock**, **Emily Berry**, **John Boylston**, **Julie Barker**, **Rob Perry**, **Stephanie Amell-Jackson**, **Robert Dickinson** and **Barbara Melvin**.

SCDOT employees were honored at the annual Engineering Conference. Awards were presented for safety, Quality Management Team Excellence, Resident Maintenance Engineers of the Year, Resident Construction Engineers of the Year, District Employees of the Year, Headquarters Employees of the Year and a special recognition for Project Lifeline.



FROM LEFT: **Phillip Bethea**, **Jayson Cantey**, **Kyle Hardwick**, **Cory Johnson**, **Danny Lane**, **Robbie Foxworth**, **Jamie Poston**, **Chris Smith**, **Derrick Smith** and **Derrick Tindal** of District 5 receive the 2019 Engineering Excellence Award during the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference on March 27, 2019. The group received the award for their significant contributions and excellence in engineering achievement for their work on Project Lifeline which kept lanes of traffic open to Myrtle Beach during Hurricane Florence and Michael last year. Not pictured: **Robbie Foxworth**.

FROM LEFT: **Randall Young**, **John Boylston**, **Rob Bedenbaugh**, **Randall Mungo**, **Stephen Benedict**, **Tom Knight**, **Terry Koon**, **Jason Stillwell** and **Yelena Kalashnikova** from SCDOT Headquarters receive the 2019 Engineering Excellence Award during the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference on March 27, 2019. The group received the award for their significant contributions and excellence in engineering achievement for their work on Project Lifeline that kept a lanes of traffic open during Hurricane Florence and Michael last year.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR



LEFT: DISTRICT RESIDENT MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS OF THE YEAR were honored during the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference on March 27, 2019. The honorees, seated from left are: Richland Resident Maintenance Engineer Tony Magwood, Laurens Resident Maintenance Engineer Jim Beach, Greenville Resident Maintenance Engineer Randy Russell, Cherokee Resident Maintenance Engineer Stephen Ellis, Horry Resident Maintenance Engineer Shannon Welch, Colleton Resident Maintenance Engineer Adam Bishop and Clarendon Resident Maintenance Engineer Coleman Holladay.

RIGHT: DISTRICT RESIDENT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERS OF THE YEAR were honored during the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference. The honorees, seated from left are: Sumter Resident Construction Engineer Will Fulton, Anderson Resident Construction Engineer Michael McKenzie, District 3 Resident Construction Engineer Josh Makison, District 4 Resident Construction Engineer Wes Spencer, Dillon Resident Construction Engineer Trey Parnell, District 6 Resident Construction Engineer Keith Green and Orangeburg Resident Construction Engineer Darryl Kennerly.



LEFT: DISTRICT EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR were honored during the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference. The honorees, seated from left are: Evan Henderson of Richland Maintenance, Rodney Shaw of Greenwood Maintenance, Kirk Thompson from the District 3 Office, Edward Moore from the District 4 Office, Tammy Mishoe from Horry Construction, Donnie Orr from Jasper Maintenance and Deborah Till from Orangeburg Construction.

Presenting the awards to the District honorees (in the top three photos on this page) were, standing from left: Chief Engineer for Operations Andy Leaphart, District 1 Engineering Administrator Robert Dickinson, District 2 Engineering Administrator Kevin McLaughlin, District 3 Engineering Administrator Stephanie Jackson-Amell, District 4 Engineering Administrator Jason Johnston, District 5 Engineering Administrator Kyle Berry, District 6 Engineering Administrator Tim Henderson, District 1 Engineering Administrator Kevin Gantt, Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall and Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin.



ABOVE: OPERATIONS EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR were honored during the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference. The honorees were Mark Hunter from the Director of Maintenance Office, second left, and Mark Faulk from Traffic Engineering, center. From left: Chief Engineer of Operations Andy Leaphart, Mark Hunter, State Maintenance Engineer Jeff Terry, Mark Faulk, Traffic Engineer Director Rob Perry, Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall and Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin.



ABOVE: PROJECT DELIVERY EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR were honored during the 2019 South Carolina Highway Engineers Conference. The honorees, seated from left are: Wei Johnson of the Director of Construction Office, Vince McCarron of the Environmental Office, Ivana Gearheart of Program Controls, Casey Lucas of Preconstruction and Tabitha Celestine of Rights of Way. Presenting the awards to them are, standing from left: Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin, Director of Construction Claude Ipock, Environmental Director Chad Long, Chief Engineer for Project Delivery Randy Young, Director of Preconstruction John Boylston, Director of Rights of Way Mike Barbee and Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall.

To see a complete photo album of awards, go to:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/SCDOT/photos/?tab=album&album_id=2351221481815921

SCDOT plays important role in Floodwater Commission

By Lauren Roeder

State and local leaders are currently working to reduce the risk of flooding across South Carolina. Frequent flooding from rains, storms, hurricanes, and tides threatens the people of this state and their way of life. To identify a solution for the flooding, Governor Henry McMaster has established the South Carolina Floodwater Commission. The Floodwater Commission is made up of ten committees or task forces. Each task force has a specific role in working to overcome flooding problems and rising tidewaters in South Carolina.

Secretary of Transportation Christy Hall is the Task Force Chair of the Infrastructure and Shoreline Armoring Taskforce. Other task forces include Artificial Reef, Living Shoreline, Smart River and Dam Security, and Grid Security. Task forces also include Landscape Beautification and Protection, National Security, Stakeholder Engagement, Federal Funding, and Economic Development. As the Commissioner of the Infrastructure and Shoreline Armoring Task Force, Secretary Hall is breaking committee activities into three categories: Infrastructure, Shoreline Armoring, and the potential opportunity to assist other task force groups.

The first quarterly South Carolina Floodwater Commission meeting was held on Feb. 8, 2019, at Founder's Hall at Charles Towne Landing. According to Governor Henry McMaster, SCDOT plays

a critical role in the Floodwater Commission. "We have got a lot of talent here. I want to thank all of you. Thank you to the people that are working to complete this mighty task for our state," said Governor McMaster.

During the first quarter meeting, Commissioners planted sweetgrass at Charles Towne Landing. Sweetgrass is an evergreen seagrass that is native to coastal South Carolina. Plants placed behind dunes can help mitigate damage to beaches caused by hurricanes and storms. The plants provide storm surge and wind damage protection to help hold dunes in place. The planting is meant to symbolize a step toward addressing our state's flood control issues.

On June 15, 2019, the South Carolina Floodwater Commission held its second quarterly meeting in Nichols and was host to an all-day event that brought volunteer groups together with local and state governments to clean ditches and make other repairs to the existing drainage system in and around the Town of Nichols. More than 300 people volunteered to assist the Town of Nichols and Marion County with drainage maintenance. The small town has been devastated by floods twice in the past three years.

"The South Carolina Floodwater Commission was created to unleash the spirit of cooperation and collaboration among South Carolinians in addressing our ongoing flooding concerns," McMaster said during the event.

SCDOT employees led by Sec-



Several areas in the community were targeted to help prevent flooding in the future. Here, volunteers remove limbs and debris from a large drainage ditch in Nichols.



Christy Hall, second right, points out some of the work crews have done to clear a major drainage ditch in Nichols. The cleanup effort in Nichols was done to try to prevent flooding in the town after major storms. Shown from left, are: Nichols Mayor Lawson Battle, Lieutenant Governor Pamela Evette, Governor Henry McMaster, Secretary of Transportation Christy Hall and Floodwater Commission Chairman Tom Mullikan.



Governor Henry McMaster rolls up his sleeves and helps trim vegetation clogging up drainage ditches.

retary Christy A. Hall worked side by side with church groups, everyday volunteers, Boy Scouts, mem-

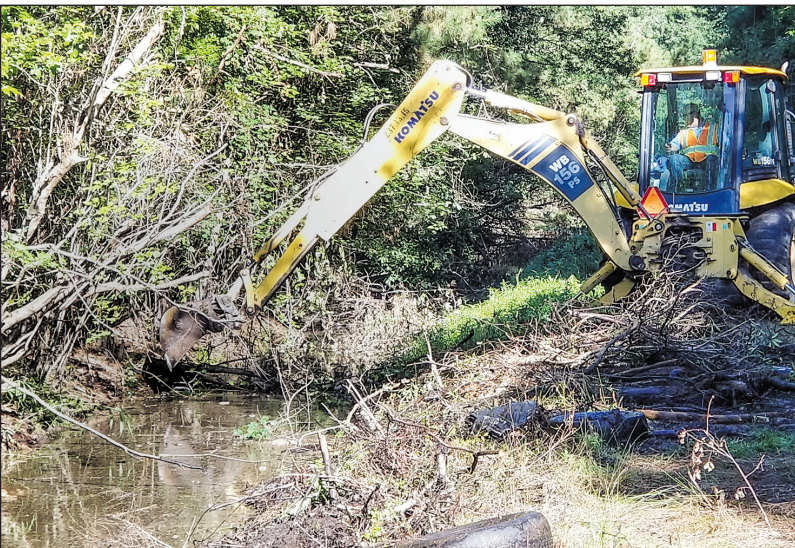
bers of the South Carolina State Guard, other state agencies and local governments for the cleanup.

See FLOODWATER
next page



BEFORE: After years of neglect and litter accumulation, this major drainage ditch in Nichols is clogged and its drainage ability has been reduced.

CRUZ WHEEL/DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE OFFICE



DURING: SCDOT crews and volunteers worked on the ditch on June 15 to clear debris that was restricting the ditch's ability to move water out of the area.

ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR



AFTER: The drainage ditch is able to move water faster with less potential for flooding. Employees from across the state participated in the effort.

ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

FLOODWATER from page 6

“It’s a real team effort,” said Hall. “I’m proud to be here representing the Infrastructure and Shoreline Armoring Task Force. One of the things we determined very early on in our Floodwater Commission work is that the very first priority we should have is to get the existing drainage system up to full capacity and operating condition,” Hall said.

The best way to accomplish that, Hall said, is to take care of deferred maintenance including roadway drainage, ditches along the roadways and pipes underneath the roadways.

“We’re tracing the flow of water from the sky to the drainage ditches, to the next ditch, to the canals, to the river,” Hall said. “It’s a tremendous effort that’s underway in Nichols.”

The flow of water, of course, does not follow boundary lines set by state and local governments, so it took a cooperative effort among various governments to coordinate the massive cleanup. The work plan included 25,000 feet of roadside drainage maintenance; cleaning 1.5 miles out of the main drainage canal and restoring it to its full functioning activity; and debris removal from Catfish Creek Canal.

Work duties were divided into categories: Light debris removal began on U.S. 76 and S.C. 9 and branched out onto secondary roads; medium-duty included

ditch cleaning, raking, and shovel work aided by SCDOT backhoes; and heavy-duty consisted of heavy machinery to help clear the main canal flowing through Nichols to the Little Pee Dee River.

In the forming of the Floodwater Commission, Chairman Thomas S. Mullikin with the Mullikin Law Firm says he sought out the top leaders in the state: emergency management and disaster preparedness professionals, engineers, university professors, military officers, legislators, mayors, meteorological gurus, and logistical experts.

The Floodwater Commission is not waiting to respond to the next catastrophic flood event. The consensus among the commissioners is that this work is critically time-sensitive.

Districts help floodwater commission complete goals

Marion Maintenance was heavily involved in assisting the Floodwater Commission before, during and after the Nichols cleanup day on Saturday, June 15, 2019.

During the event, SCDOT employees worked alongside more than 300 volunteers to clean outfall and roadside ditches in the community that had been severely impacted by recent floods. District Engineering Administrator (DEA) **Kyle Berry** led SCDOT’s local efforts in the Pee Dee.

Marion Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer (ARME) **David Townsend** and his unit hosted several meetings with local stakeholders to identify areas throughout the county where drainage improvements were needed. A working list of these locations was developed, and SCDOT, Marion County and local municipalities partnered to address several of these drainage issues.

In addition, Resident Maintenance Engineer (RME) **Tim Collins** and his staff in Horry County were also assisting the Floodwater Commission by cleaning several outfall ditches

around Loris. Horry Maintenance also cleaned and performed repairs on several of the closed drainage systems throughout Loris.

Georgetown Maintenance also aided the Floodwater Commission by addressing several drainage trouble spots in Pawleys Island and North Litchfield. RME **Timmy Britt** and his team, along with work crews from Georgetown County, cleaned and performed repairs on several drainage systems in these sections of Georgetown County.

In District 6, DEA **Tim Henderson** and his units worked to further the goal of the Floodwater Commission: to bring the state, county and municipal maintenance and public works together to address drainage issues that crossed their respective boundaries of responsibilities.

Assistant District Maintenance Engineer **Ray Molinaroli**, RME **Arnold Blanding** and ARME **Kevin Mitchell** coordinated SCDOT efforts in the Low Country. The local elected officials, along with public works and maintenance supervisors, met at locally identified

properties of concern to discuss the drainage issues. These field meetings were followed by quarterly task force meetings at North Charleston City Hall to update the progress of projects.

The goals were to be achieved within each department’s existing budgets by performing maintenance of the drainage systems with minor modifications to correct observed deficiencies. DHEC has been a part of the process by permitting maintenance in marsh areas.

Molinaroli commented, “It is great to see combined efforts by the state, county and municipalities to address drainage issues and their willingness to participate. We meet on-site at the requestor’s reported drainage issue. Sometimes the problem may be the responsibility of one entity, but we have an open dialogue of ideas to address. Often multiple agencies have portions of responsibility and this allows open communication to coordinate those efforts to address the issue at one time.”

SCDOT has accomplished nearly 90% of the drainage requests for state maintained roads.

2019 Equipment Operator's Rodeo



Josh Bearden



Justin Bishop



William Blackwell



Justin Bolding



Dan Booth



Dock Bowick



Lee Brazzel



Edward Brown



Robert Brown



Scott Burgess



Bret Bush



Cass Capps



James Catoe



Miles Childers



Jacob Courtney



Jerrell Davis



William Downes



Joseph Dwinell



Devell Eaddy



Jeremy Etters



Brandon Fish



Elijah Gary



Darrin Glidden



James Gray



Justin Haithcock



Turnerman Hodges



Brian Hodges



Jamie Jackson



Kenny Jennings



Matthew Johnson



Louis Johnston



Jeff Kelley



TJ Lecroy



Charles Long



Jason Long



Bruce Longshore



Aaron Looper



Celina Magee



Brian McAbee



Cody McAbee



Joe McBreairty



Jonathan McCutcheon



Daniel Mizell



Jeffrey Muellenback



Michael Murphy



Cynthia Myers



Brent Nelson



Chris Owens



Scott Page



Jake Pagels



Charles Parker



Andrew Pinckney



John Quick



Chris Richardson



Ronald Riley



Michael Rowlen



Cody Schneider



Robert Schoonover



Jeremy Schrewsberry



Terry Singletary



Dimitri Singleton



Curtis Smith



Glen Smith



Rusty Smith



William Spann



Daniel Stachewicz



Justin Starling



Justin Stone



Joshua Strock



Lerew Tate



Gene Taylor



Jonathan Thomas



Joe Turner



Brandon Varnadore



Kelvin Varnum



John Watson



Jay Weisner



Danny West



Joshua Williams



Terrell Williams



Levi Wilson



Ben Yost



Steve Zaretska



Darryl Zorn

Congratulations to all the county and district winners this year!



SC Equipment Operators Champions

ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

The SCDOT 2019 Equipment Operators Champions are, from left, seated: Joseph Dwinnell, Jeremy Shrewsberry, Brandon Varnadore, Jason Long, Charles Long, Darryl Zorn and Brian McAbee. Standing from left: James Catoe, Joshua Williams, Scott Burgess, Cass Capps, Ben Yost, Cody McAbee, Joe Turner, Jacob Courtney and Lerew Tate. The team came in Fourth Place at the Southeastern Regional Competition in Biloxi, Mississippi.

SC Walk and Roll to school day

Safe Routes To School Program encourages fitness

By Lauren Roeder

South Carolina Walk and Roll to School Day was held on March 6, 2019. The event encourages physical activity among children, emphasizes concern for the environment, and builds connections between schools and the surrounding communities.

This is all part of an effort by communities across the state to provide students with more opportunities to promote pedestrian and bicycle safety. More than fifty schools participated in this year's Walk and Roll to School Day. This event mirrors International Walk to School Day. That event falls in October of each year. Both events are organized locally by SCDOT's Safe Routes to School Program.

A.C. Moore Elementary School Nurse Carolyn Duff organizes the event each year for her school. When asked about the purpose of the event, she said, "The importance of getting exercise early in the morning cannot be emphasized enough. In most of our classes, students do some form of exercise before the academic program begins each and every day of the week." Duff says she has been coordi-

nating the event at her school for more than 20 years.

The South Carolina Safe Routes to School Program encouraged schools to celebrate their "Safety Super Heroes" during this year's Walk and Roll events. Heroes include law enforcement personnel, crossing guards, educators, parents, and students. Schools encouraged students to dress as super heroes, while recognizing the people that make walking and bicycling safer.

Caption – Students at A.C. Moore Elementary school in Columbia are pictured walking on March 6, 2019. They celebrated South Carolina Walk and Roll to School day inside this year because temperatures were very low. Students walked the hallways of the school for about fifteen minutes before heading to their classes.

To see a video on this story, go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/SCDOT/videos/375831046333456/>



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Students at A. C. Moore Elementary School did the 'Walk and Roll' to school day event in the hallways at the Columbia school on March 6 due to inclement weather.

RETIREMENTS

Johnnie L. Adams, trades specialist III with Clarendon Maintenance, retired Nov. 18.

Gail Barton-Ford, administrative coordinator II with Contract Services, retired Nov. 29.

Titus L. Bethea, trades specialist IV with Dillon Maintenance, retired Nov. 28.

Phillip D. Bowers, engineer/associate engineer III with RPG 2 - PeeDee, retired Jan. 21.

Patricia A. Bradley, trades specialist III with Pickens Maintenance, retired Jan. 31.

Cherry S. Burton, administrative assistant with Anderson Maintenance, retired Feb. 28.

Earl Coaxum, trades specialist III with Beaufort Maintenance, retired Jan. 1.

Charles Commander, trades specialist III with Florence Maintenance, retired April 5.

Jerry D. Creed, mechanic II with Kershaw Maintenance, retired March 1.

Jeffrey Edgemon, trades specialist II with Orangeburg Maintenance, retired Dec. 31.

Richard M. Ellis, associate geodetic technician with Spartanburg Construction, retired Nov. 21.

Lettie J. Epps, trades specialist III with Sumter Maintenance, retired March 21.

James H. Evans, trades specialist V with Holly Hill Maintenance, retired April 30.

Batina M. Feaster, program manager I with C-Program Administration, retired Jan. 1.

Duane E. Gamm, engineer/associate engineer II with D1 - Bridge Maintenance, retired March 25.

John J. Hair, trades specialist IV with Calhoun Maintenance, retired Dec. 31.

Charles M. Holliday, electronics technician II with D2 - Traffic Signals, retired Jan. 11.

Alonzo B. Jackson, trades specialist II with Bamberg Maintenance, retired April 17.

Thomas A. Johnson, program manager I with Deputy Secretary for Engineering, retired April 23.

Richard J. Johnson, trades specialist III with Marion Maintenance, retired Jan. 31.

Janice M. Kemp, trades specialist III with Orangeburg Maintenance, retired Dec. 30.

Brian W. Keys, Deputy Secretary for Finance and Administration, retired Nov. 30.

James R. Kinard, engineer/

associate engineer II with RPG 2 - PeeDee, retired Jan. 1.

Carolyn R. Koon, IT consultant I with IT Services, retired April 19.

Timothy Langston, trades specialist IV with Laurens Maintenance, retired May 1.

Harold L. Lewis, mechanic III with Horry 1 Maintenance, retired Nov. 29.

Michael D. Lindler, trades specialist IV with Newberry Maintenance, retired Dec. 31.

Angela M. McCaslan, OSHA officer II with Greenwood Maintenance, retired March 15.

John D. McKay, engineer/associate engineer III with Lancaster Maintenance, retired March 1.

Edward O. Moore, OSHA officer III with District 4 Office, retired April 29.

Crystal B. Morrow, administrative assistant with Calhoun Maintenance, retired March 22.

Martin H. Mullis, engineer/associate engineer II with Spartanburg Construction, retired Jan. 4.

Charles R. Ponton, program coordinator I with Outdoor Advertising, retired Nov. 30.

Gregory L. Poston, engineer/associate engineer II with Florence Maintenance, retired April 30.

Harvey L. Ratliff, trades specialist III with Chesterfield Maintenance, retired Jan. 2.

Joe D. Richardson, trades specialist III with Horry 1 Maintenance, retired May 6.

Ernest L. Sanders, trades specialist III with Colleton Maintenance, retired Dec. 15.

Ronald E. Spears, senior geodetic technician with District 1 Office, retired April 30.

Wendy R. Stevens, administrative specialist II with Anderson Maintenance, retired April 18.

James M. Sullivan, engineer/associate engineer IV with Planning, retired Feb. 8.

David E. Suttlemyre, trades specialist IV with Calhoun Maintenance, retired Jan. 4.

John J. Thomas, trades specialist V with Edgefield Maintenance, retired Jan. 16.

Thomas L. Tucker, trades specialist II with Pickens Maintenance, retired Dec. 6.

Theodore A. Wurthmann, incident responder I with SHEP Charleston, retired Feb. 28.

William R. Young, trades specialist II with Chester Maintenance, retired April 1.

PROMOTIONS

SCDOT names Justin Powell Deputy Secretary for Finance & Administration

Powell was an Assistant County Administrator in Horry County

Justin P. Powell has been selected to assume the duties of Deputy Secretary for Finance & Administration for the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). Secretary of Transportation **Christy A. Hall** selected Powell for the position. He has more than 15 years of experience in the finance arena in both the government and private sectors.

Powell previously served as an Assistant County Administrator for Horry County where he has been managing the County's Administration Division since May 2015. His responsibilities in Horry County were Finance, Human Resources, Procurement, Information Technology and Budget Management among other duties.

Hall pointed to Powell's experience and accomplishments during his tenure in Horry County that made him an excellent choice for the SCDOT Leadership Team. "Mr. Powell has a proven track record of success and I have every confidence that he will be able to make a positive difference here at the agency," said Hall.

She also noted that Powell's financial management has resulted in an upgrading of Horry County's credit rating, and that he has vast experience in disaster response and recovery, citing his support following Hurricanes Joaquin, Matthew and Florence.

Powell has previous experience serving as Chief Financial Officer for Dorchester County, a Budget Analyst for the City of Greenville, a private sector position with IBM Consulting Services and as a Budget Analyst for Fairfax County, Virginia.

A South Carolina native, Powell graduated from James Island High School in 1998. He earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Government from Wofford College and earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of North



Justin P. Powell

Carolina at Chapel Hill. Powell began his work at SCDOT in April 2019.

While in Conway, Powell was active in First United Methodist of Conway and the Waccamaw Sertoma Club. He is a member of the Government Finance Officers of South Carolina, the South Carolina City/County Association and the South Carolina Economic Developer's Association.

Powell is married to Ashley Welton of Anderson and they have two children, Ella (3) and Gus (1). They moved to Lexington in June.

Powell enjoys spending time with his family, hiking and reading.

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@SCDOTPress on Twitter

PROMOTIONS

Duncan Smith is State Traffic Safety Engineer

Duncan Smith has accepted the position of State Traffic Safety Engineer at SCDOT in Traffic Engineering. He began his new duties on May 17.

Smith proudly served in the United States Coast Guard prior to obtaining his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of South Carolina. He is a registered Professional Engineer in South Carolina and Kentucky.

Smith left the private sector and began working at SCDOT in 2011 in Aiken Maintenance. He moved to Roadway Design Support at Headquarters in 2012. He most recently served as the Roadway Design Support Engineer.

He resides in Lexington, SC, with his wife, Carmen, and two sons Fitz (9) and Charlie (5).

As an avid outdoorsman Duncan spends much of his free time in the woods with family and friends.



Duncan Smith

Joseph Sturm named C-Program Administrator

Joseph Sturm has been selected to serve as the C-Program Administrator in the Office of Project Delivery. Sturm has nearly 11 years of experience with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) and also worked as a summer intern over a three-year period with the Federal Highway Administration.

He has served as an engineer in the Safety Office under the Traffic Division and as a program manager in the Preconstruction Division. With his service as a program manager in the Pee Dee region of the South Carolina, he brings a wealth of knowledge concerning the C-Program and its administration.

Sturm has both a Bachelor of Science degree and Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Clemson University. He is married and has two children, ages four and two. Sturm is a member of Airport Church of Christ and enjoys spending time with his family.



Joseph Sturm

James P. Beach named Director of Supply and Equipment



Jim Beach

James Paul “Jim” Beach has been selected to serve as the Director of Supply and Equipment at SCDOT.

Beach earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Florida. He has an Associate of Science in Forestry Engineering from the School of Forestry at Lake City Community College. He is a registered professional engineer in both Florida and South Carolina.

Beach has more than 25 years of experience in the transportation field in both public and private sector positions. Beach began his SCDOT career in 2015. Prior to accepting this position, he served as the Resident Maintenance Engineer for Laurens Maintenance in District Two.

Beach is originally from Ridgecrest, Calif., and is married to Gina Faye Beach of Tifton, Ga. They have three children, Whitney M. Gorden of Raleigh, N.C., Lindsay S. Beach of Lake City, Fla., and Joseph P. Beach of Orlando. They also have two grandchildren.

Beach is a member of First Baptist Church in Boiling Springs where he serves on the media team.

In his spare time, he and his wife enjoy “Adventure Saturdays” where they select a local location to explore, and spending time with their grandchildren.

Roger Sears is State Capital Improvements Manager



Roger Sears

Roger Sears has joined SCDOT to serve as the Capital Improvements Manager. Sears’ responsibilities include the management and oversight of capital improvement projects throughout the state as well as building maintenance and security at the headquarters building.

Sears is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and began his career with Strickland Engineering which later merged with Alliance Engineering. In 2010, he joined SCDOT where he served as an assistant program manager prior to taking a role with Richland County as their Preconstruction Manager. In his most recent role, he served as a Senior Project Manager with TRC.

Sears is a resident of Columbia and the proud father of two young children, Carter and Madeline.

PROMOTIONS

Ahmed Abdulshaheed, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Aiken Maintenance on Jan. 2.

John M. Adams, promoted to trades specialist III in Oconee Maintenance on March 17.

Michael W. Allen, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Greenville Construction on Nov. 17.

Angelo A. Anastopoulos, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in District 6 Office on April 17.

Shawn Anderson, promoted to trades specialist III in Charleston Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Sterling A. Babic, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in RPG 3 - Midlands on April 17.

Connor M. Bailey, promoted to trades specialist III in Dillon Maintenance on Nov. 17.

James P. Beach, promoted to program manager II in Supply and Equipment on March 2.

Barbara D. Beagles, promoted to program manager II in Minority and Small Business Affairs on March 2.

Mitchell W. Beck, promoted to trades specialist III in York Maintenance on March 2.

Timothy T. Behling, promoted to trades specialist III in Colleton Maintenance on Feb. 17.

Jason A. Berry, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Dorchester Construction on Feb. 2.

Willie T. Bostic, promoted to trades specialist III in Colleton Maintenance on Jan. 2.

Joseph D. Bozard, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in RPG 2 - PeeDee on March 2.

Tyrone A. Brabham, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Lexington Construction on March 17.

James O. Branham, promoted to trades specialist III in Charleston Maintenance on April 17.

Samuel E. Brigman, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Florence Maintenance on April 2.

Michael R. Buck, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Richland Construction on Feb. 2.

Nathaniel E. Burriss, promoted to communications manager in D6 - Traffic Signals on Jan. 17.

Jester J. Burton, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in RPG 4 - Upstate on March 17.

Ashley N. Butler, promoted to associate geodetic technician in

Horry Construction on March 17.

Ronald E. Byars, promoted to trades specialist V in D4 - Pavement Repair and Preservation on March 2.

Jason A. Byrd, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in Design/Build on March 17.

Lori A. Campbell, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in District 1 Office on March 2.

Aneliya P. Carignan, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in Pre-Construction Support on Feb. 2.

Kevin S. Carlson, promoted to trades specialist III in Anderson Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Christopher D. Carter, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Materials and Research on Dec. 17.

Jamie G. Carter, promoted to trades specialist III in Sumter Maintenance on Nov. 17.

Bobby W. Chesney, promoted to trades specialist III in Greenville Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Matthew D. Childs, promoted to trades specialist III in Pickens Maintenance on March 2.

Brian G. Christmas, promoted to trades specialist V in Lee Maintenance on Nov. 17.

Brandon K. Clark, promoted to chief geodetic technician in Materials and Research on Dec. 17.

Matthew K. Coker, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Materials and Research on Jan. 2.

Christopher T. Coleman, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Florence Construction on Dec. 17.

James E. Collins, promoted to trades specialist IV in D5 - Traffic Signals on April 17.

James R. Collins, promoted to trades specialist IV in Jasper Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Preston L. Cooper, promoted to trades specialist IV in Florence Maintenance on April 2.

Marshall A. Couch, promoted to trades specialist III in Oconee Maintenance on Nov. 17.

Quinton C. Cox, promoted to trades specialist III in Dillon Maintenance on April 2.

Gregory B. Cox, promoted to trades specialist III in Pickens Maintenance on Jan. 17.

David M. Crisp, promoted to trades specialist V in Pickens Maintenance on Dec. 2.

Anthony R. Cromartie, pro-

moted to program manager II in Minority and Small Business Affairs on Dec. 2.

Nathaniel A. Crowe, promoted to trades specialist III in Laurens Maintenance on Nov. 17.

Mabel Cuellar Azcarate, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Pre-Construction Support on April 17.

James B. Dalton, promoted to trades specialist III in Greenville Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Jobie A. Davenport, promoted to trades specialist III in Greenwood Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Tyler W. Davis, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in RPG 2 - PeeDee on April 2.

Stephen A. Dellairo, promoted to trades specialist V in Colleton Maintenance on April 2.

Steven H. Diamond, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in York Maintenance on March 2.

Willis Dobison, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Bamberg Construction on Dec. 2.

Raleigh I. Dozier, promoted to trades specialist III in Clarendon Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Melissa E. Edmonds, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in Traffic Engineering on Feb. 17.

Richard A. Edmondson, promoted to procurement manager II in Procurement on Nov. 17.

Ray R. Ellington, promoted to trades specialist III in Georgetown Maintenance on Feb. 17.

Edward M. Elmore, promoted to chief geodetic technician in D5 - Bridge Inspection on Dec. 2.

Hayden T. Hernandez, promoted to associate geodetic technician in York Construction on Dec. 2.

Jessie E. Etheredge, promoted to records analyst II in Postal Services on Jan. 17.

Jeremy B. Etters, promoted to trades specialist IV in York Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Stacy J. Eubanks, promoted to chief geodetic technician in Chesterfield Construction on Jan. 17.

Deana W. Eubanks, promoted to administrative assistant in Fairfield Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Brian W. Evans, promoted to chief geodetic technician in Spartanburg Construction on May 2.

Emmanuel A. Faluyi, promoted to engineer/associate engineer I in Greenville Construction on

March 17.

Hazel B. Faulkenberry, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in District 1 Office on Feb. 2.

Bradley C. Flewelling, promoted to trades specialist III in York Maintenance on March 2.

James E. Fowler, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Rights of Way on Feb. 17.

Larry H. Fox, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Chester Maintenance on March 2.

Richard A. Frierson, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Lexington Maintenance on Nov. 2.

Meredith M. Frye, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in RPG 3 - Midlands on Jan. 17.

Anthony J. Fubio Jr., promoted to associate geodetic technician in Anderson Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Daniel P. Gallo, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in RPG 1 - Lowcountry on April 2.

Jahred S. Gamez, promoted to trades specialist III in Pickens Maintenance on Dec. 17.

John E. Gibson, promoted to trades specialist III in Oconee Maintenance on Feb. 17.

James B. Gilfillan, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in District 4 Office on Dec. 17.

Jack M. Graham, promoted to trades specialist III in Marion Maintenance on April 2.

Travis S. Green, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Sumter Construction on Nov. 2.

George T. Griffin, promoted to trades specialist IV in Newberry Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Phil R. Griffin, promoted to trades specialist III in Sumter Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Kevin L. Groves, promoted to trades specialist III in Charleston Maintenance on Feb. 17.

Jennifer D. Gruber, promoted to program manager I in Director of Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Caroline O. Haggard, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in District 1 Office on Dec. 2.

Daniel B. Halsted, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in Traffic Engineering on May 2.

James D. Harper, promoted to trades specialist III in D5 - Bridge Inspection on Dec. 17.

Jimmy R. Harris, promoted to mechanic III in Oconee Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Anton J. Haynes, promoted to trades specialist IV in D4 - Capital Improvements on March 17.

Betty P. Hemingway, promoted to trades specialist III in Marion Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Benjamin D. Henderson, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Abbeville Construction on Dec. 17.

Matthew C. Henderson, promoted to trades specialist IV in Orangeburg Maintenance on Jan. 2.

David E. Herrington, promoted to trades specialist III in Marion Maintenance on Dec. 2.

Robert J. Hinton, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Lexington Surveys on Jan. 2.

Derrick Holmes, promoted to trades specialist IV in D6 - Bridge Inspection on April 17.

Donald T. Hopkins, promoted to trades specialist III in Richland Maintenance on April 2.

Terry L. Howard, promoted to trades specialist III in Fairfield Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Anthony D. Hughes, promoted to trades specialist III in Dorchester Maintenance on Feb. 17.

Matthew J. Huller, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Oconee Construction on Dec. 17.

George E. Ingalls, promoted to trades specialist III in Marlboro Maintenance on April 17.

Melissa A. Jackson, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in RPG 3 - Midlands on Dec. 17.

Alexander J. Jamros, promoted to trades specialist III in Greenwood Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Daytona L. Jarman, promoted to engineer/associate engineer I in Traffic Engineering on Nov. 17.

Stanley H. Johnson, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Chester Surveys on Jan. 17.

Stacey H. Johnson, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in RPG 2 - PeeDee on May 2.

Toby R. Johnston, promoted to trades specialist IV in Fairfield Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Jason M. Jolly, promoted to trades specialist II in Newberry Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Jason M. Jolly, promoted to trades specialist III in Newberry Maintenance on March 17.

Marcus A. Jones, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Greenville Construction on March 17.

PROMOTIONS

Henry L. Jones, promoted to program coordinator I in Minority and Small Business Affairs on April 17.

Cristi A. Junkins, promoted to human resource manager I in Human Resources on May 2.

William M. Jurgelski, promoted to program manager I in Environmental Services on Feb. 17.

Kevin L. Karlinsey, promoted to supply specialist III in Beaufort Maintenance on April 17.

James A. Karr, promoted to trades specialist III in Pickens Maintenance on March 17.

Cedric C. Keitt, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in Rights of Way on Nov. 17.

Christopher S. Kelly, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in Director of Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Kenneth P. Korrek, promoted to trades specialist III in Edgefield Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Robert S. Lamb, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Pickens Construction on March 2.

William R. Landers, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Richland Construction on May 2.

Willie A. Lawson, promoted to trades specialist III in Richland Maintenance on Dec. 17.

Kendrique Z. Lawton, promoted to assistant geodetic technician in Lexington Surveys on Nov. 17.

Samuel W. Leroy, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Abbe- Construction on Dec. 17.

Paul A. Lewandowski, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Dorchester Construction on Jan. 2.

Doyle D. Lewis, promoted to trades specialist III in Kershaw Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Gary S. Linn, promoted to program manager II in Minority and Small Business Affairs on March 2.

Jack H. Locklair, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Rights of Way on March 2.

Scott P. Lowther, promoted to trades specialist III in Jasper Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Christine B. Lucas, promoted to procurement specialist I in Richland Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Christopher S. Lyle, promoted to trades specialist III in Oconee Maintenance on April 2.

Celina J. Magee, promoted to trades specialist IV in Calhoun Maintenance on April 2.

Michael A. Marcengill, promoted to assistant geodetic technician in Oconee Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Douglas R. Marsh, promoted to trades specialist III in Sumter Maintenance on March 17.

Aaron L. Martin, promoted to trades specialist V in Union Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Austin M. Mason, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Orangeburg Construction on Feb. 17.

Wendell A. Massey, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Greenville Maintenance on Feb. 17.

Earl McFadden, promoted to trades specialist III in Florence Maintenance on April 2.

Lynn A. McGilvery, promoted to systems programmer/developer III in IT Services on Feb. 2.

Christopher R. McKenzie, promoted to trades specialist III in Lee Maintenance on Jan. 17.

William R. McKeown, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in RPG 3 - Midlands on Dec. 17.

Steven L. McNeil, promoted to trades specialist III in Charleston Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Kelvin E. Meetze, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Supply and Equipment on Dec. 17.

Dashawn R. Miller, promoted to trades specialist III in D5 - Bridge Inspection on April 2.

Oscar R. Mitchell, promoted to mechanic III in Dorchester Maintenance on Dec. 2.

Terry A. Morris, promoted to trades specialist IV in Newberry Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Gregory W. Mott, promoted to assistant geodetic technician in Greenville Maintenance on April 17.

Shaun C. Munkberg, promoted to engineer/associate engineer I in Dorchester Surveys on Feb. 2.

Paige A. Musselman, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Richland Construction on Feb. 17.

Andrew M. Muster, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in RPG 2 - PeeDee on April 17.

Kelli A. Nalley, promoted to administrative assistant in Anderson Maintenance on April 2.

William G. Nicholas, promoted to trades specialist III in Ander-

son Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Michael A. O'Cain, promoted to trades specialist IV in Orangeburg Maintenance on March 2.

Chauncey R. Outing, promoted to trades specialist III in Allendale Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Richard P. Phalen, promoted to right of way agent III in Rights of Way - St. George on Feb. 2.

Paul D. Phillips, promoted to trades specialist III in Williamsburg Maintenance on Nov. 17.

Cory K. Pope, promoted to program coordinator II in Director of Construction on Jan. 2.

Bill C. Prescott, promoted to engineer/associate engineer I in Clarendon Construction on Jan. 2.

James A. Priester, promoted to trades specialist IV in Colleton Maintenance on March 17.

Joshua S. Puckett, promoted to trades specialist III in Calhoun Maintenance on Jan. 2.

Lawrence M. Ravenel, promoted to trades specialist III in D6 - Bridge Inspection on Dec. 17.

Cyrus S. Razi, promoted to assistant geodetic technician in Chesterfield Construction on April 17.

Joshua T. Readett, promoted to trades specialist IV in Pickens Maintenance on Jan. 2.

David C. Reece, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Laurens Construction on March 2.

Quentin T. Rhinehart, promoted to trades specialist IV in Greenville Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Timothy J. Richey, promoted to trades specialist III in Greenwood Maintenance on Dec. 2.

Nathaniel H. Rigsby, promoted to trades specialist III in Oconee Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Warren Riley, promoted to trades specialist III in Calhoun Maintenance on Nov. 2.

Justin L. Roberts, promoted to trades specialist III in Greenville Maintenance on Dec. 2.

Steven G. Robinson, promoted to trades specialist III in Berkeley Maintenance on March 17.

Johnny C. Robinson, promoted to trades specialist IV in Dorchester Maintenance on Nov. 17.

Preston Rogers, promoted to communications manager in D5 - Incident Response on Dec. 17.

Thomas F. Russell, promoted to trades specialist III in Jasper Maintenance on Dec. 2.

Ashar Saeed, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Jasper Construction on Jan. 17.

Ashleigh G. Sandel, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in Deputy Secretary for Engineering on Jan. 17.

Thomas E. Scott, promoted to program manager I in Pre-Construction Support on March 17.

Kelly L. Seigler, promoted to trades specialist III in Aiken Maintenance on Jan. 2.

Chadwick J. Silvers, promoted to trades specialist III in Oconee Maintenance on Dec. 2.

Darren R. Simmons, promoted to trades specialist V in D5 - Traffic Signals on Dec. 17.

Perry M. Simmons, promoted to trades specialist IV in Marlboro Maintenance on Feb. 17.

George D. Singleton, promoted to trades specialist II in Beaufort Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Tabitha A. Smith, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Pre-Construction Support on April 2.

Arthur H. Snelling, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Lexington Construction on April 2.

Dylan B. Sowers, promoted to engineer/associate engineer I in Lexington Surveys on March 17.

Adam M. Speake, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Union Maintenance on Feb. 17.

William R. Spearman, promoted to trades specialist III in Oconee Maintenance on March 17.

Kevin B. Spears, promoted to trades specialist III in Florence Maintenance on April 2.

John B. Stephenson, promoted to electronics technician II in D4 - Traffic Signals on Jan. 17.

Robert A. Strong, promoted to trades specialist III in Williamsburg Maintenance on Jan. 2.

Joseph P. Sturm, promoted to engineer/associate engineer IV in C-Program Administration on April 2.

Daniel L. Sweat, promoted to mechanic III in Saluda Maintenance on April 2.

Jeffrey L. Tanner, promoted to trades specialist IV in Dillon Maintenance on April 2.

Harry E. Taylor, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Bamberg Maintenance on Jan. 2.

Charlie Tenio, promoted to electronics technician II in D6 - Traffic Signals on March 2.

Rusty A. Thompson, promoted to trades specialist III in Chesterfield Maintenance on Nov. 17.

Kenneth S. Thompson, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Spartanburg Maintenance

on Dec. 2.

Douglas J. Wanser, promoted to trades specialist III in Spartanburg Maintenance on April 2.

Raleigh O. Ward, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in District 5 Office on April 2.

Eric T. Waring, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Charleston Construction on April 17.

Cameron J. Weathers, promoted to engineer/associate engineer II in Spartanburg Construction on March 17.

Robert D. West, promoted to trades specialist III in Edgefield Maintenance on Dec. 2.

James A. White, promoted to trades specialist III in Colleton Maintenance on April 2.

Matthew A. Williamson-Davis, promoted to trades specialist III in Chester Maintenance on April 17.

Ronald S. Willoughby, promoted to trades specialist IV in Anderson Maintenance on Nov. 2.

Sam L. Wilson, promoted to senior geodetic technician in D6 - Bridge Inspection on Jan. 17.

Jeremiah Wilson, promoted to trades specialist III in Holly Hill Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Lashawn Wilson, promoted to audits manager I in Office of Contract Assurance on Nov. 17.

Steven B. Womble, promoted to mechanic III in Jasper Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Garrett L. Wood, promoted to trades specialist III in Aiken Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Wendy A. Wood, promoted to senior geodetic technician in Aiken Maintenance on Feb. 2.

Marquis J. Workman, promoted to trades specialist III in Richland Maintenance on April 17.

Gail E. Wright, promoted to trades specialist III in Charleston Maintenance on Jan. 17.

Daniel P. Yagman, promoted to associate geodetic technician in Dorchester Maintenance on Dec. 17.

William D. Yarborough, promoted to engineer/associate engineer III in Spartanburg Construction on Feb. 2.

Ronald Yehouenou, promoted to trades specialist III in Jasper Maintenance on April 2.

Marvin A. Zeigler, promoted to trades specialist IV in Bamberg Maintenance on March 17.

Wesley D. Zorn, promoted to trades specialist III in Barnwell Maintenance on Feb. 2.

SCDOT has five new Certified Public Managers

Congratulations to SCDOT's five new Certified Public Managers recognized on March 16, 2019, upon completion of the 18-month management training program.

The new Certified Public Managers are Michael Guffee, Jae Mattox, Leah Quattlebaum, Robert Dickinson and Jason Johnston.

The South Carolina Certified Public Manager (CPM) Program is a Nationally Accredited management development program for managers and supervisors in South Carolina state government. The program was initially accredited by the National CPM Consortium in 1996 and was reaccredited in 2006, 2011 and 2016.

Philosophically, the South Carolina CPM Program strives to encourage innovative management practices and high ethical standards. The mission of the CPM Program is to provide quality training for public administrators, to assist agencies in developing future leaders, and to recognize



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

Michael Guffee, Jae Mattox, Leah Quattlebaum, Robert Dickinson and Jason Johnston are SCDOT's newest Certified Public Managers. The group completed the 18-month management training program in May.

management as a profession in the public sector. The CPM Program promotes on-the-job application of learning, gives participants experi-

ence in solving agency problems, develops human resources and encourages networking with CPM graduates in other states.

Jason Johnston was also recognized with this year's George C. Askew Award. The award is given for the best individual CPM proj-

ect. Johnston did a study on Open Grade Friction Course pavement that will be presented to the agency.

Harold Coleman recognized for 50 years of service



PHOTO BY SUSAN JOHNSON/INTERMODAL

Resident Maintenance Engineer **Harold Coleman** (left) is recognized for 50 years of service to SCDOT by District 5 Maintenance Engineer **Ray George** (right). The award was presented to Coleman at the quarterly District Meeting in Florence on Jan. 31, 2019.

Coleman started his career at SCDOT in Marion Construction on Nov. 4, 1968. In 1976, he moved to the Right of Way Office in the Florence area where he worked as an agent. In March 1977, he joined Marion Construction. He became the Resident Construction Engineer in Marion in 1990. In 1994, he transferred to Marion Maintenance where he became the Resident Maintenance Engineer.

Congratulations for your years of service to SCDOT!



Harold Coleman

International Women's Day *Recognizing contributions by women*

By Lauren Rountree

SCDOT recognized International Women's Day on March 8, 2019. The first International Women's Day occurred in 1911, and was supported by more than one million people. The event's purpose is to forge a more gender-balanced world.

Every day at SCDOT, we celebrate the impact women have in the workplace. Here are just a few women that play key roles at SCDOT:

Zoe Cook
Graphics Manager

"I chose a career in graphic design because I didn't want to be a traditional artist. Graphic design was the best fit for me. I have been with SCDOT for 12 years. On International Women's Day, I'd like to encourage young women to explore all options if they want to pursue a career in art.

It's not just paint to canvas. It could also be computer-generated art or even web design."

Emily Markley
Assistant State Bridge Maintenance Engineer

I'm responsible for the development of all bridge maintenance projects throughout the state. I've always really enjoyed math and I have done well with it. When I was looking into different college majors, engineering was one of the top picks for me. On International Women's Day, I'd like to encourage young girls to step outside of their comfort zone. If you're innovative and interested in technology, math or science might be a good career for you."

Amanda Taylor
Attorney

"I review and process claims and lawsuits filed against SCDOT by members

of the public. On International Women's Day, I'd like to encourage young girls to never stop learning. Also, never stop trying new things! I think that's how you discover the things that you really love. When I was younger, I was interested in spending time with my dad at his law office. I decided that I wanted to be a lawyer because I found his work interesting and important. I decided I wanted to be just like him."

Penny Phillips
Program Manager

"There are so many things you can do as an engineer with SCDOT. You can do construction, preconstruction, traffic, or maintenance. It is a very rewarding career. I have been with SCDOT for 26 years. I encourage young women to consider a path in engineering. Over the course of my career, I am very excited that more women are choosing to be engineers."



Zoe Cook



Amanda Taylor



Emily Markley



Penny Phillips



Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall, Clemson Head Football Coach Dabo Swinney and members of the legislature unveil one of the new signs that will be placed at 18 locations across the state congratulating the Clemson Tiger Football team for winning the 2018 National College Football Championship. The sign was unveiled after Swinney spoke to the South Carolina House Members and Senators. In the background are members of the South Carolina legislature and Clemson fans. Funding for the National Championship signs was provided by the Pickens County Transportation Committee.

SPEAK UP





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SCDOT remembers fallen employees

By Bob Kudelka

After each name of a fallen SCDOT worker was read aloud, the silver bell rang. It rang 86 times.

The sound of the bell was a poignant part of the 2019 Workers Memorial Day Ceremony held in front of SCDOT Headquarters on April 29, one year after the unveiling of the memorial wall that includes names of employees who have given their lives in service to SCDOT and the State of South Carolina.

“Fortunately our prayers have been answered in that we did not lose any more employees since the unveiling,” Secretary of Transportation Christy Hall said in remarks during the ceremony. “However, through continued research, we have identified three additional employees that needed to be added to this memorial.”

The additional names added to the wall were John Robert Holmes, Georgetown Maintenance, Aug. 22, 1969; Wilson Lloyd Keith, Horry Maintenance, Aug. 8, 1980; and Brenda Farr Wicker, Engineering Reproductions, Headquarters, July 7, 1987. SCDOT Commissioners and several employees and retired employees joined families of lost loved ones for the ceremony.

SCDOT Commission Chairman Robert D. “Robby” Robbins of the 1st Congressional District and SCDOT Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin were among the speakers in addition to Hall.

Chief Engineer for Operations Andy Leaphart and Chief Engineer for Project Delivery Randy Young read aloud each name on the wall while Director of Maintenance David Cook, wearing white gloves, rang the silver bell in their honor.

A new addition to the memorial was unveiled. A large “Let em’ Work. Let em’ Live” sign was erected on the wall reminding viewers of the agency’s safety message.

Zonni Holmes, daughter of fallen employee James Robert

Holmes, helped unveil the new sign.

Zonni Holmes was just 1 year old when her father was killed on the job in Georgetown County. She now is a 21-year SCDOT employee working in District 6.

“This has been an emotional moment for my family and myself,” Zonni Holmes said after the ceremony. “This has been an honor.”

Over the years, Zonni Holmes has learned much about her father from her mother and four older siblings.

“My dad was a people person, a respectful person and a helper of all people,” she said. “He died helping someone with faulty equipment. He had also trained his brother (at SCDOT) just before he died.”

It was fitting that Zonni Holmes helped unveil the “Let ‘em Work. Let ‘em Live.” sign at the memorial. It’s the same sign that she and her crew hope people notice when they’re out on the job.

“I’m hoping when they see the signs, the public would pay more attention and realize there are actually human beings out there and not just orange cones,” said Zonni Holmes. “The people who are out there have a family to return to, and it’s not just a single person you’re destroying when you’re hitting them - you’re destroying the entire family.”

Standing in front of the Memorial, Zonni Holmes said: “We do not want to add any more names to that wall.”

Zonni Holmes, Tony Magwood, Roy Parnell, Clint Beaver, Joe Winfield, and Craig Brown assisted in laying a wreath as a symbolic gesture of our respect, love and gratitude for the 86 fallen employees.

The silver bell rang one final time during the laying of the wreath: 2 rings followed by 4 rings, a signal of 10-24, signifying a call of assignment completed – a job well done.

In Hall’s comments at the ceremony, she read a poem she had composed especially for the memorial:

We Remember Them
by Christy A. Hall

*At the rising of the sun and at its going down,
We remember them.*

*At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
We remember them.*

*At the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
We remember them.*

*At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer,
We remember them.*

*At the rustling of leaves and the beauty of autumn,
We remember them.*

*At the beginning of the year and when it ends,
We remember them.*

*As long as we live, they too will live;
for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.*

*When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.*

*When we are lost and sick at heart,
We remember them.*

*When we have joys we yearn to share,
We remember them.*

*When we have decisions that are difficult to make,
We remember them.*

*When we have achievements that are based on theirs,
We remember them.*

*As long as we live, they too shall live,
for they are a part of us, as we remember them.*

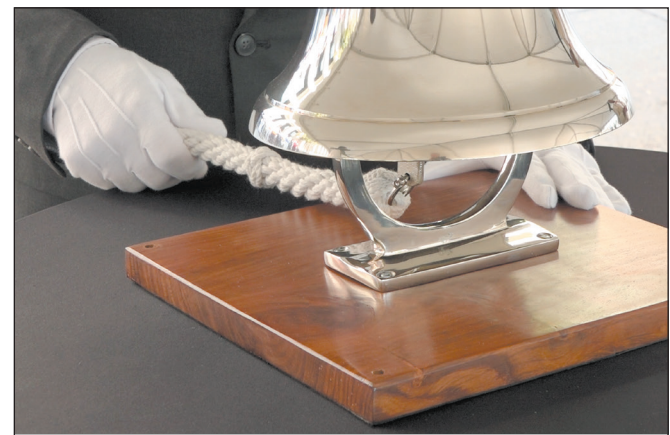
JOHN ROBERT HOLMES
Georgetown Maintenance
Aug. 22, 1969

WILSON LLOYD KEITH
Horry Maintenance
Aug. 8, 1980

BRENDA FARR WICKER
Engineering Reproductions, HQ
July 7, 1987

Additional research by SCDOT found three more employees whose names were added to the memorial wall. These employees are listed above.

Editor’s note: In July, two employees in Horry County were killed on the job. The next issue will feature a story on Cecil Morgan and David Sibbick.



A bell was rung after each fallen employees name was read during the ceremony.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR
A new sign was unveiled at the conclusion of the ceremony that says ‘Let ‘em work, Let ‘em live.’



SCDOT Commission Chairman Robby Robbins, left, and Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall lead a group of SCDOT employees as they place a wreath on the memorial wall during the ceremony.



Family members, coworkers and friends gathered at SCDOT Headquarters to remember the fallen employees.



Zonnie Holmes does a rubbing of her father’s marker on the memorial wall after the ceremony. His name was added this year after research found three additional employees to be honored. Holmes is an employee in District 6.

Hurricane Dorian threatens, brushes by S.C.

When a hurricane is forecast to threaten the South Carolina coast, many in state government have a saying: “Hope for the best; prepare for the worst.”

That’s how it went with Hurricane Dorian as the ONE SCDOT Team again rose to the challenges of yet another threat by Mother Nature.

Dorian became a hurricane on August 28 and intensified to a Category 5 by Sept. 1, with maximum sustained winds of 185 mph, while making landfall in Elbow Cay, Bahamas. The deadly storm made another landfall on Grand Bahama several hours later.

To aid in evacuation from the coast, SCDOT and its partners conducted a successful lane reversal on Interstate 26 from Charleston to Columbia. A total of 89,000 vehicles used Interstate 26 to evacuate during lane reversal operation, including 17,000 on the reversed side. In all, there were 441,000 total evacuees due to Hurricane Dorian.

Dorian tracked northward north-northeast just off the South Carolina coast on September 4-5 while intensifying to a Category 3 hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 115 mph, according to the National Weather Service. The storm caused sustained tropical storm force winds, hurricane force wind gusts, heavy rainfall and some coastal flooding to the areas including the South

Carolina Lowcountry.

In the aftermath, SCDOT employees from Florence Maintenance and the District 5 Specialized Bridge Crew were put into action to remove tons of sand that Dorian had brought to Springs Avenue on Pawley’s Island. SCDOT crews worked long hours through the weekend to repair damages from Hurricane Dorian as quickly as possible. The sand was stockpiled at the end of the island to be used later to renourish the beach.

SCDOT crews also worked hard clearing roads and removing tree limbs and debris from areas such as SC Hwy 61 in Dorchester and Charleston counties.

Before, during and after the storm, the SCDOT Call Center worked around the clock to help the public with up to day road information. The agency website was also active with important information for the public. During Hurricane Dorian, the SCDOT Office of Communications used social media to post several photos and informational videos of our crews on the job including lane reversal operations, debris clearing, sand removal on Pawleys Island, Call Center operations, the 511 Traveler Information System, strategic work at the SCEMD and flood/barricade safety messaging.

SCDOT Twitter account total views for Hurricane Dorian: was 775,000 views.

SCDOT Facebook reached an estimated 420,000.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

Even though South Carolina was spared major damage from Hurricane Dorian, areas of the coast did receive dangerous winds and flooding. Here, SCDOT crews remove sand from Springs Avenue at Pawleys Island after the storm.



Evacuated traffic flows through the crossover near I-26 and I-77 in Columbia. Lanes were reversed to evacuate traffic forced to leave coastal areas due to Hurricane Dorian.



Crews remove debris along S.C. 61 after the storm.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

SCDOT crews set up and removed barricades, cones and barrels to begin and end lane reversals across the state. The crews do the set up and break down along evacuation routes quickly thanks to annual lane reversal drills.

SASHTO AWARDS

SCDOT wins awards for Bridge Preservation, Hurricane Response

Continued
from page 32

The design also combined modern steel cable railing. This railing provides a safety barrier along the bridge while maximizing the views of the scenic shoals below.

Using appropriate environmental controls, the construction team removed the flaked and rusted lead-based paint, and the bridge now wears a new coat of red paint. Energy-efficient LED light fixtures and power outlets were also installed to extend the bridge's usefulness beyond daylight hours and facilitate the vision for this gathering place.

With a fresh breath of life, this historic landmark was reopened to the public in July 2018.

Project Lifeline

Operations Excellence – Small category

When Hurricane Florence slammed into the coastline of the Carolinas in September 2018, the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) jumped into action to identify locations that would help keep transportation flowing even as heavy wind and rain posed roadway use hazards.

The Project Lifeline initiative led SCDOT officials to identify four critical locations in the Pee Dee area that would help keep transportation open as long as possible: U.S. 501 in Conway, U.S. 378 near Lake City, U.S. 17 in Georgetown and U.S. 521 driving into Georgetown.

The construction of a flood barrier wall along the U.S. 501 in Conway took several days to complete. With help from the National Guard and other organizational volunteers, Hesco Flood Barriers were installed and topped with sandbags. This flood barrier wall proved to be successful as the flood waters did not reach U.S. 501, but flooded the road and it remained open to traffic.

SCDOT also installed Aqua Dams, or water-filled barriers, on U.S. 17 and U.S. 521 in Georgetown. Installation of the AquaDams took just days to complete and proved to be a successful decision.

The quick action and operations of the SCDOT allowed for all transportation to continue and prioritized the safety of all residents, ultimately helping save lives.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

The Historic Iron Pedestrian Bridge at Glendale Shoals in Spartanburg spans Lawson's Ford Creek and is near a once vibrant cotton mill community. The area is now used as a public park and gathering place for the community events.



Project Lifeline used a Hesco dam on the U.S. 501 Bypass (shown here) as well as Aqua Dams near Georgetown to prevent Conway and Georgetown from being cut off due to rising flood waters after Hurricane Florence.

Groundhog Day: *My job shadowing experience at SCDOT*

SCDOT offers both job shadowing and internships to students. Fields include engineering, communications, accounting, legal, graphic design, and more. Anna Cirillo, seventh grader at Chapin Middle School, spent a day shadowing Lauren Rountree in the Communications office at Headquarters.

By Anna Cirillo

I am interested in a career in broadcast journalism. I chose to job shadow in the Communications department at SCDOT so I can explore the career field. After job shadowing at a local television station last year, I wanted to also see what other similar jobs are like.

During my day at SCDOT, I wrote a story about SHEP responders and how they prepare for winter weather. I interviewed SHEP Incident Responder Wade Fullwood. He shared tips for driving. He talked to me on camera and I

put together a story for Facebook and Twitter. Cody Crouch showed me how to edit the story on iMovie. Together, we posted the story to Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. I was surprised how many steps there are in putting together a story from start to finish. I enjoyed talking to Wade and meeting so many new people at the office.

Overall, this was a very positive experience for me. As I work towards my future in broadcast journalism, my time here will be very helpful.

To learn more about these programs, go to SCDOT.org.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

Anna Cirillo interviews SHEP Incident Responder Wade Fullwood during her day job shadowing at SCDOT. Cirillo wanted to explore reporting as a career.



CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

Cirillo watches SCDOT Public Information Coordinator Lauren Roeder as she writes a script for the video they produced.



RANDALL YOUNG/SCDOT

Sixth grader Revon Jackson from Kelly Mill Middle School learns about Right of Way with Robyn Jackson.

Here are more photos from Groundhog Shadowing Day at SCDOT. Many of our workers spent the day with local students. They shared what they do each day at SCDOT.

RIGHT: Lower Richland High School Senior Clarissa Goodwin job shadows with her mom, Alicia Goodwin, in the Preconstruction Support Office.



RANDALL YOUNG/SCDOT



RANDALL YOUNG/SCDOT

Seventh grader Kelsi Crawford, from Blythewood Middle School learns about Right of Way acquisitions from Debra Thompson.



RANDALL YOUNG/SCDOT

Grayson Simmons, eighth grader from Kelly Mill Middle School shadows Road Design Engineer Richard Gadsden.

Safety and Health News

My co-workers are heroes

By **Laura Kline**
Office of Materials and Research

On Jan. 9, I was walking from my office to a meeting and suffered an injury. The injury is called a ring avulsion, where a ring is caught on something and causes sudden trauma to the soft tissue. In my particular case, it was my college class ring on my dominant hand which was caught on a door strike. My finger was de-gloved and for a single second, I saw my own skeleton while the soft tissue was hanging by less than a quarter inch width still attached.

I have never had any major injuries before. In 5th grade, I had a hairline fracture on my wrist from falling from a bike. As a lifeguard through my high school and college years, I was fortunate to never have any major events occur while on duty. I have some basic first aid knowledge, but in that second, was clueless on how to take care of myself.

Thankfully, there were two people within a fifteen foot radius from the occurrence. These men were knowledgeable and acted quickly, saving my finger. In what seemed like a portion of a second, one co-worker had grabbed me, situated himself in front of me, holding my arm under his, bracing my brachial artery. With his hands, he grasped my hand/wrist to stop blood. He called

to the other nearby co-worker who promptly called 911, and grabbed towels and ice. It was as if it was a perfect execution of a well-practiced drill had occurred at the lab that day.

They talked to me to keep me calm until the ambulance arrived. They control the blood flow to the point that there were hardly a few drops of blood on the ground after the occurrence. They coordinated other co-workers to stand in the parking lot to direct the ambulance to my location on the back side of the lab. They collected my important belongings and followed me to the hospital, and helped with paperwork and decision making. They made me laugh while waiting for surgery. They held my hand and wiped my tears. My family is all fairly far away, having grown up 1,000 miles away. In the nearly 48 hours I was in the hospital, I was never alone (except when required by the hospital for surgeries).

Upon arriving back at work, I had support in daily tasks. I had forgiveness in my slow speed of accomplishing tasks, one handed. I had a pat on the back when frustrations of my abilities arrived. I had help changing bandages and even had someone at all of the follow up doctor appointments.

I am so incredibly grateful for these SCDOT employees. Their description

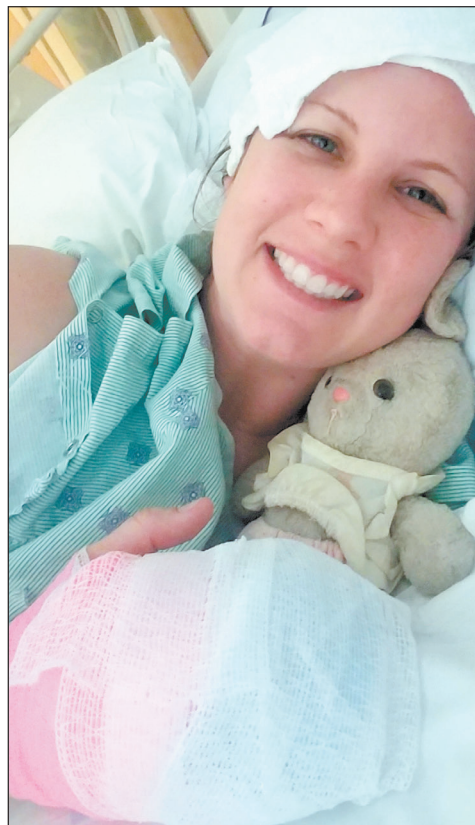


PHOTO PROVIDED

Laura Kline bandaged up at left, and today after her finger has healed.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

may be 'co-workers', but they will always be a part of my family. They are the definition of OneSCDOT. Their brave and quick action allowed me to type this today, using all 10 fingers. My name is Laura, and my co-workers are

heroes.

I would like to send out a special thank you to Keith Stone, Will Dickert and Luke Gibson for all of the help and support they have given me through the incident and recovery.

Giving back to the community

SCDOT Blood Drive nets 27 units

By **Lauren Rountree**

SCDOT employees donated blood to the American Red Cross during a blood drive on Jan. 28, 2019, at SCDOT Headquarters in Columbia.

By the end of the day, 27 employees donated which can save 84 lives in the process. Five workers donated for the first time.

SCDOT Nurse Dale Thomas said, "This blood drive will help with local hospitals. Anyone injured or needing blood in our area will benefit from this."

The bus used at Headquarters has five stations for blood donors. It is sponsored by local businesses in Columbia.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR

Public Information Coordinator Brittany Peacock with SCDOT's Communication Office donates blood for the first time as she reports on the blood drive for social media.

SCDOT Strategic Plan Update

FIVE GOALS for SCDOT's Strategic Plan

GOAL 1:

Improve safety programs and outcomes in our high-risk areas.

GOAL 2:

Maintain and preserve our existing transportation infrastructure.

GOAL 3:

Improve SCDOT program delivery to increase the efficiency and reliability of our road and bridge network.

GOAL 4:

Provide a safe and productive work environment for SCDOT employees.

GOAL 5:

Earn public trust through transparency, improved communications and audit compliance

Action plans, reviews, achievements

The Strategic Plan drives agency progress

By Bob Kudelka

Recently, a group of engineers on the resident and district engineering levels met to discuss their goals and priorities related to the Strategic Plan.

What followed was a frank discussion not only about things going well but also about the challenges they face - such as hiring and retaining employees in today's workforce and having the necessary equipment to get the job done.

It wasn't just idle discussion.

In attendance were Strategic Plan Leaders **Rob Manning** and **Susan Johnson**. The pair helped guide the discussion, took notes and announced that the comments at the meeting would be sent directly to Secretary of Transportation **Christy Hall**.

You might say these meetings are where the rubber meets the road, as far as

the Strategic Plan is concerned.

Johnson and Manning have been meeting with 125 offices throughout the agency. Johnson and Manning do a lot of traveling, and Hall refers to them as "BFFs," or Best Friends Forever. At these meetings, employees review their action plans, identify obstacles and potential solutions and share success stories.

These offices also meet with their supervisor every three months. As outlined by Hall in the Strategic Plan, internal overview sessions determine how each unit can contribute towards the goals.

The five goals for SCDOT's 2018-2020 strategic plan are:

- Improve safety programs and outcomes in our high-risk areas.
- Maintain and preserve our existing transportation infrastructure.
- Improve SCDOT program delivery to increase the efficiency and reliability of

our road and bridge network.

- Provide a safe and productive work environment for SCDOT employees.
- Earn public trust through transparency, improved communications and audit compliance

"We are hearing general comments along with some risks and accomplishments," Johnson said of the strategic plan meetings. "Some groups have had some real innovative ideas that they have tried and shared with other districts."

As Johnson stressed, "this is not a one-time thing."

Rather, the 125 offices, or units, meet once every six months with Manning and Johnson to go over their action plans.

The action plan "should always be 3-5 items that are high on your to-do list that align to our overall strategic goals," according to Hall's plan outline. "Each Division should hold meetings every 6 months to review the progress of the Directors in achieving their action plans, discuss obstacles and possible solutions, share success stories and note any adjustments or changes to the action plans that may be needed in order to provide the greatest influence on a particular targeted item."

So what's next?

In July-August of 2019, there will be an Annual Review where the Division Heads and Direct Reports will review with the Secretary the progress made in achieving the strategic goals, share success stories and discuss whether any adjustments to the strategic plan are needed, according to the plan.

The annual review should also include an analysis of the remaining highest risks identified across the entire agency and a determination made on how to mitigate those risks. The results of the annual review is to be communicated throughout the agency.

SCDOT's Office of Strategic Planning employees Rob Manning and Susan Johnson (top photo), along with District 1 Engineering Administrator Robert Dickinson, met with District 1 leadership on Feb. 26. It was an open discussion on how District 1's actions are aligning with SCDOT's strategic plan.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY CODY CROUCH/THE CONNECTOR



Minority & Small Business News

Three DBE employees take on new leadership roles

SCDOT announces the promotion of **Anthony Cromartie** to Director of Support Services and Business Development.

In this role, Cromartie will direct activities associated with the Agency's DBE Supportive Services program including oversight of the DBE Business Development Center, DBE outreach efforts and DBE training initiatives.

He is a retired army officer. Upon retirement, he served as Procurement Manager for S.C. State Fiscal and Accountability Authority/MMO. He transitioned to SCDOT where he has led the DBE/SBE Certifications unit, DBE Technical Assistance team, and DBE Mentor-Protégé program.

He is a graduate of Troy University where he earned a Master's in Business Management and of Webster University and holds a Master's Degree in Management/Leadership and Human Resources Management.



Anthony Cromartie



Gary Linn



Barbara Beagles

SCDOT also announces the appointment of **Gary Linn** as Director of DBE Assistance and Mega Projects Support. Linn's responsibilities include supervising the Agency's DBE Technical Assistance team, directing DBE project monitoring and compliance efforts, establishing DBE project goals and specifications, and serving as the DBE Liaison for all Civil Rights aspects on SCDOT mega projects.

Linn holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix and is a retiree of the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations. During his 12 years with SCDOT, he has managed the DBE Certifications unit, DBE Technical Assistance team, and DBE monitoring and compliance efforts. He is also a graduate of SCDOT's Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) program.

SCDOT also announces the promotion of **Barbara Beagles** to Director of Civil Rights Programs. Beagles will be responsible for overseeing the Agency's Title VI, External Equal Opportunity (EEO), On-the-Job Training (OJT), and the DBE/SBE Certification Programs.

She is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology/Business Administration. She has more than 33 years of experi-

ence with SCDOT. During her tenure with the Agency, she has managed the Highway/Transportation Careers Training Program, Youth Corps Employment and Training Program, School-to-Work Transitional Program, Summer Transportation Institute Program, and partnerships with the Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Federal Highway Administration.

She currently serves as Manager of the Agency's Title VI, EEO and OJT programs.

SCDOT DBE solicits minority participation in I-26 widening project



PHOTOGRAPH BY ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

The Minority and Small Business Office at SCDOT introduced minority and small business contractors to larger firms at Brookland Baptist Church on Feb. 13. The meeting gave the companies a chance to meeting companies looking to subcontract DBE firms on the upcoming I-26 widening project in Lexington, Richland and Newberry counties.

District 1 News

Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, Richland and Sumter counties

*District Engineer: Robert Dickinson (803) 737-6660
FAX: (803) 737-6401*

Rural Road Safety Program

Vegetation clearing makes roads safer

**By Alan Kozusko,
Assistant District 1 Maintenance Engineer**

While housing one of the top urban areas in the State, District One also has its fair share of rural roads. Lately the usual articles read in the District 1 page have dealt with bridges, and bridges are one quarter of the Strategic Plan. Another quarter of that Plan is the safety improvements on rural roads—where a majority of severe wrecks happen.

The first round of the Rural Road Safety Program (RRSP) for the District has met with some success on two roads, with two different scenarios under the same program. The first is US-178 where vegetation clearing and ditch relocation is currently taking place.

The next is U.S. 601 in Richland County where heavy vegetation clearing has happened. U.S.178 is a standard construction contract process, while U.S. 601 was actually carried out by Maintenance via a funding distribution by the RRSP. Two different parts of SCDOT, but we all get the same results!



The District's vegetation clearing improves motorists views down the highway and also gives a cleaner shoulder should vehicles leave the road.

Got news?

Contact Alan Kozusko at: 803-737-6420 or email him at KozuskoAR@scdot.org

**Alan
Kozusko**



Meet Joe Winfield

Assistant District Maintenance Engineer **Joe Winfield** is one of our newest employees in the District One office.

Winfield was formerly the RME in Aiken County. He is a graduate of The Citadel and a registered Professional Engineer.

He enjoys camping, fishing, Brazilian Ju-jitsu, F3 and money-management books. At least one of those will be extremely useful should public negotiations go awry!

District 1 is excited to have ADME Joe Winfield part of the District One team.



Joe Winfield

District 2 News

Abbeville, Anderson, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda counties

District Engineer:

Kevin McLaughlin (864) 227-6971

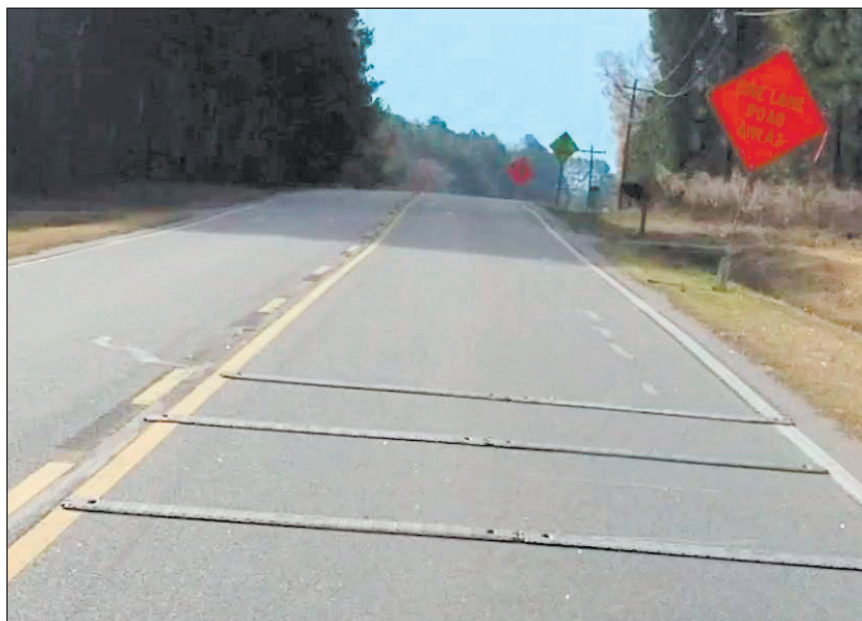
FAX: (864) 227-6567

District 2 puts safety first

SCDOT recently unveiled a new safety motto for the Agency: Safety 1st – Live By It.

Director of Safety and Health Kenny Eargle said “As part of the Agency’s Strategic Plan, SCDOT has taken aggressive measures to protect SCDOT employees. It is our intent to keep pushing the message out to motorists that our employees are literally feet away from them performing job duties and we want motorists to slow down, drive with caution and be aware of their surroundings. We want the motorists to get to their destination safely and most importantly we want our team members to go home safely at the end of their shift.”

Temporary work zone rumble strips will now help to alert drivers to work zones. The rumble strips can be moved and placed at each job location, and are typically placed in two separate sets. The rumble strips are very helpful on roadways that have poor visibility, such as curves or dips. District 2 has also started using LED stop/slow paddles. These paddles have flashing LED lights, that increase visibility for the flaggers, especially at night or when it is foggy.



TOP: Temporary rumble strips are being used to alert drivers of road work ahead. The strips also alert workers to oncoming traffic. RIGHT: Flashing stop/slow paddles are also being used to make the work zone more visible.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT COLLINS/SALUDA MAINTENANCE

A letter we liked

Anderson Maintenance Permits Manager **Mike Hood** has been with the SCDOT for 22 years.

After assisting with an encroachment permit, SCDOT received a thank you for a job he completed.

The taxpayer wrote “Thank you, sir! And thank you very much for

your excellent service. You worked in the rain to do the due diligence today with my property and were very supportive and kind to me. I’m grateful to you and to everyone at SCDOT. No other municipality or government organization has given me anything close to the excellent customer service

you all have provided. I’d like to offer my high regards and excellent review with any opportunity I may have to do that. As an SC resident, I must say, I am very, very proud of our SCDOT. All of you do a mighty fine job.”

**Wesley Brashier
Anderson, SC**

Got news?

Contact Jennifer Pickens at 864-716-2380 or email her at PickensJH@scdot.org.



Jennifer Pickens

30 years of service



MICHAEL D. BRUNSON/ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION

Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall, right, presents Michael D. Brunson with a Certificate of Service to recognize his 30 years of employment with the SCDOT.

District 3 News

Greenville, Oconee, Pickens and Spartanburg counties

District Engineer: Stephanie Jackson-Amell (864) 241-1010
FAX: (864) 241-1115

Crews train indoors on snow, ice simulator



District 3 Maintenance Units recently had the opportunity to train on virtual snow/ice conditions through L3 Driver Training Solutions in their mobile training simulator. District 3 had nearly 80 employees trained throughout the week, which involved a classroom session and time on the driving simulator. The simulator put the drivers through various winter weather conditions or hazards that they may encounter during a storm such as icy roadways, stranded vehicles, non-attentive drivers, pedestrians and emergency vehicles.

Full depth repairs fix heavy truck damage



Recently District 3 Maintenance operations paving crew was out full depth patching at the intersection of McAulay Rd and S.C. 290. This intersection had extensive pavement failures due to heavy truck traffic.

Got news?

Please contact
 Karuam Booker
 at 864-241-1010
 or by emailing him at
 BookerKV@scdot.org

**Karuam
 Booker**



Meet Greg Mott (and Buffet)



Greg Mott



Buffet

Greenville Maintenance employee **Greg Mott** and his parrot, “Buffet” were the winners in District 3’s Adopt-A-Family Pet Photo Contest.

The contest raised \$285 for our Adopt-A-Family program. “Buffet” beat out the 13 other entries. The winner was chosen

by Chief Engineer for Operations **Andy Leaphart**.

“Buffet” is an 18 year old parrot whose vocabulary includes about 100 words. He loves vanilla wafers and iced oatmeal cookies as treats. On warm days he spends time with Mott on the screen porch chatting away with others.

Belle Shoals Road Bridge reopens



The Belle Shoals Road bridge in Pickens County, reopened Jan. 4, 2019, after being closed almost a year ago for replacement. This project was part of the SCDOT’s Strategic 10-Year Plan.

District 4 News

*Cherokee, Chester, Chesterfield, Fairfield, Lancaster,
Union and York counties*

District Engineer: *John McCarter* (803) 377-4155
FAX: (803) 581-2088

D4 crews remove litter during Spring Spruce Up

Employees donned hard hats, safety vests and gloves before heading out to clean major routes throughout the district.

Hundreds of District 4 employees participated in Spring Spruce Up 2019. SCDOT maintenance and construction forces concentrated pick up efforts on major primary and interstate routes.

A total of 339 District 4 employees picked up 3,990 bags for a total of 61,553 pounds of trash. District Engineering Administrator **Jason Johnston** thanked all participants stressing the impact made working together to clean up litter on the roadways of our state.



From left, Daniel Hopkins, Robert Richter, David Gamble and Allison Love from the D4 Traffic Engineering Office pick up litter on U.S. 176 in Union County.



Employees from Chester Maintenance, Chester Construction and Columbia Headquarters teamed together to collect litter on Highway 9 in Chester County. From left are Jeff Brown, Laura Somerville, Lee Oliver, Edward Moore, Dennis Moore, Michael Moss, Lisa Correll, Kenny Eargle and Seth Lown.

Got news?

Contact Edward Moore with your ideas at 803-377-4155 or by emailing him at MooreEO@scdot.org



Edward Moore

Meet Herbert Latten

Name: Herbert Latten
Title: Chester Assistant Resident Construction Engineer
Started at SCDOT: 1994

Herbert Latten began his 25 year career with SCDOT at Charleston Construction as a summer helper in 1994 while he was attending college. After graduating The Citadel, he became an Engineering Tech I at Charleston Construction. He then transferred to Road Design for three years, the last of which he was in the Civil Engineering training program. After completing

the program, he transferred to Richland Maintenance where he served as Assistant Resident Maintenance Engineer for two years. He then became Project Engineer at Lexington Construction for 12 years.

Last year, Latten transferred to District 4 where he is serving as Assistant Resident Construction Engineer for Chester Construction.

A newlywed, Latten and his wife, Sytira, were mar-



ried in August 2018. They are the parents of five grown children. They reside in Irmo and attend Brooklyn Baptist Church.



Johnny McKay 28 Years of Service

Lancaster Resident Maintenance Engineer Johnny McKay was honored with a retirement luncheon on Feb. 13 in Chester. McKay retired after 28 years of service. District Engineering Administrator Jason Johnston, left, presents Johnny McKay with a plaque for his service.

District 5 News

Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Marion, Marlboro and Williamsburg counties

*District Engineer: Kyle Berry (843) 661-4710
FAX: (843) 661-4704*

District 5 replaces deficient bridge

As part of SCDOT's Strategic 10-Year Plan, the Indian Branch Road bridge over Boggy Gully Swamp in Darlington County was replaced by the District 5 Bridge crew. The replacement of this bridge made this road safer for the public and removed one deficient bridge from our inventory without having to hire contractors.



Got news?

Contact Michael Miller at 843-661-4710 or by emailing him at MillerMW@scdot.org

Michael Miller



District 5 Engineering Administrator Kyle Berry assists Georgetown Maintenance employees in cleaning up the District's roadways. This year's Spring Spruce Up was a great success in all 8 of District 5's counties.



Equipment Rodeo Workers

For every successful Equipment Rodeo, there is a large group of volunteer judges that make each event run smoothly. Here are most of the judges for District 5's Rodeo this year. They manned their stations through cold winds and even colder rain this year to make sure all participants completed their tasks safely and smoothly. Thanks to them all!



District 6 News

Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester and Jasper counties

District Engineer: **Tim Henderson** (843) 740-1665
 FAX: (843) 740-1663

Got news?

Contact Debra Jerideau :
 843-834-9034 or
 by emailing her at
 JerideauDJ@scdot.org



Debra Jerideau

District 6 Spring Spruce Up Results

County	People	Bags	Weight
Beaufort	31	371	5,555
Berkeley	38	188	3,495
Charleston	68	276	4,140
Colleton	31	119	2,050
Dorchester	31	400	6,000
Jasper	22	290	4,350
Totals	221	1644	25,590



Meet Ashar Saeed

Ashar Saeed graduated from the University of Engineering and Technology in Pakistan with a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering.

Saeed has seven years of experience in construction engineering and joined SCDOT in 2016 in District 2 before moving to the Beaufort/Jasper construction office in 2019 where he serves as the Resident Construction Engineer.

Saeed is a registered professional engineer in South Carolina.

He and his wife have two children, aged 15 months and 1 month. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, camping, backpacking and archery.



District 6 Strategic Plan Meeting



District 6 supervisors met with the State Strategic Plan Coordinators Susan Johnson and Rob Manning on Feb. 28, 2019. A part of District 6's strategic plan is to continually provide a safe working environment, completion of work request within 30 days to stay above the 75% threshold, closing out construction projects in a timely manner and responding to customer service requests within two days.

District 7 News

Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Clarendon, Hampton and Orangeburg counties

*District Engineer: Bryan Jones (803) 531-6850
FAX: (803) 531-6854*

SCDOT Strategic Planning Meeting

Employees discuss challenges, risks, successes in District 7

Susan Johnson and Rob Manning, members of the strategic planning team, along with District 7 Engineering Administrator Kevin Gantt, District Maintenance Engineer Efre Dantzer, District Construction Engineer Brian Heape, Resident Maintenance Engineers and Resident Construction Engineers participated in a strategic planning update meeting at District 7 headquarters in Orangeburg.

District 7 and unit management updated the strategic planning team on challenges, risks and successes in District 7 as they relate to

SCDOT's Strategic Action Plans goals and objectives.

Resident Maintenance and Resident Construction Engineers provided details on specific issues and also discussed potential and actual adjustments and changes to their individual county action plans.

Among the Strategic plan goals and objectives discussed was the goal to provide a safe and productive work environment for SCDOT employees and the strategy to promote workforce safety throughout the state. Also maintaining and preserving our existing infrastructure and the objective to improve

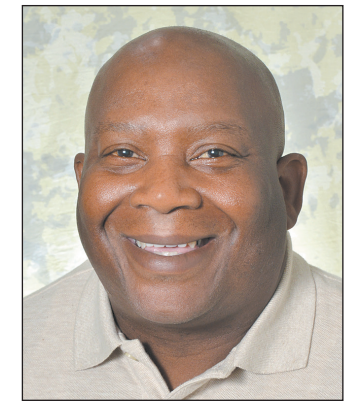
the level of service of our day-to-day maintenance of the state system for key safety related items.

Prior to the meeting, unit management discussed several items of concern with their staffs. The strategic planning team members will present a summary of matters and concerns discussed at this and other update meetings to Deputy Secretary for Engineering Leland Colvin and Secretary of Transportation Christy A. Hall in an effort to communicate mission critical risks that may impact success in achieving SCDOT's strategic goals.

District 7 Spring Spruce Up Litter Collection Totals			
County	# of People	Bags	Weight
Aiken	63	425.00	7,125.00
Allendale	22	208.00	3,120.00
Bamberg	29	262.00	3,930.00
Barnwell	23	169.00	2,535.00
Calhoun	31	384.00	5,760.00
Clarendon	35	363.00	5,445.00
Hampton	26	366.00	5,490.00
Orangeburg	34	437.00	7,410.00
Holly hill	22	599.00	8,985.00
Total	285	3,213.00	49,800.00

Got news?

Contact Danny Simmons at: 803-395-7165 or by emailing him at SimmonsD@scdot.org



Danny Simmons

Harry Eugene Taylor

Harry Eugene "Gene" Taylor, 65, of Bamberg, passed away Saturday March 23, 2019.

Taylor was born in Bamberg County on Dec. 2, 1953, to the late William and Minnie Lou Davis Taylor.

He graduated from Bamberg Ehrhardt High School. He was the Resident Maintenance Engineer for SCDOT in Bamberg. He was employed by SCDOT for more than 45 years.

He loved spending time with his family, hunting, fishing, shrimping and all things outdoors.

He is survived by his wife Amy Hightower Taylor, a daughter Ashlyn Taylor of the home, a son Robert Hutto, three daughters, Donna (Ted) McAlhany of Bamberg, Kristin (Juan) Nevarez of Hilda, Dana (Fleetwood) Stokes of Denmark, grandchildren, Fleetwood Stokes Ill, Bethany Stokes, Taylor Stokes and Chandler Platt, brothers Timmie (Anna



Gene Taylor

Jennings) Taylor of Bamberg and Robert (Mary) Taylor of Franklin, North Carolina. A host of nieces and nephews. Very special friends Jimmy Wise of Bamberg, Henry (Bubba) Bamberg IV of Bamberg and his SCDOT family.

Pallbearers were members of the South Carolina Department of Transportation.

Memorials can be made to Augusta Wounded Warriors Project, 701 Greene Street Augusta, Georgia 30901.



DEATHS



David A. Fahy

David A. Fahy, of HQ Building Services, died March 13.

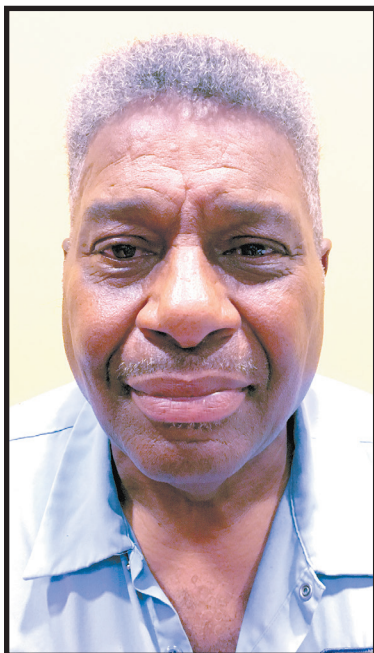
William A. Chubb, of Charleston Maintenance, died Jan. 25

Constantina A. Iser, of Beaufort Maintenance, died Nov. 30.



Jessie J. Mack

Jessie J. Mack, of Williamsburg Maintenance, died Jan. 25.



Harold Myers

Harold Myers, of Sumter Maintenance, died Nov. 29.

Nell C. Reynolds, of Columbia, died June 10, 2018. Reynolds was retired from Human Resources.



Harry E. Taylor

Harry E. Taylor, of Bamberg Maintenance, died March 22.



William E. Taylor Jr.

William E. "Bill" Taylor Jr., of Lexington, died June 24. Taylor was retired from the Director of Maintenance Office.



Karl C. Zimmerman

Karl C. Zimmerman, of Aiken Maintenance, died March 1.

Former SCDOT Commission Chairman James H. Rozier dies

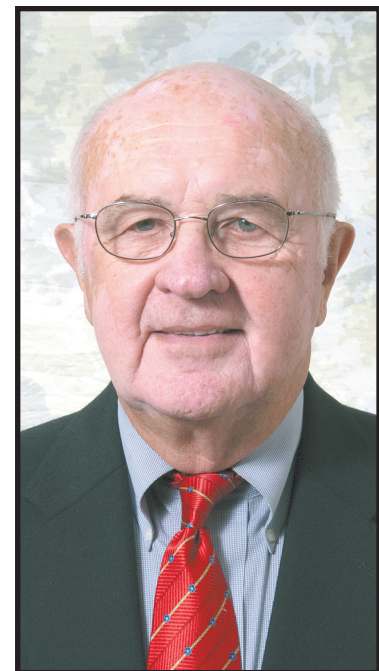
Former SCDOT Commissioner James Hewlette Rozier, Jr., 77, of Moncks Corner, SC, died on Feb. 6, 2019.

He was born October 2, 1941 in Charleston. He was a graduate of Berkeley High School and studied at Clemson University.

He enjoyed announcing the Berkeley Stags High School football games, attending Clemson football games, traveling, fishing and talking.

He served as Berkeley County Supervisor for 16 years from 1990 - 2006. As Supervisor, he was the Chief Executive Officer for all County government operations and served as Chairman of County Council. He spent 30 years in national and international corporate management and operating of his own small businesses; these included Whispering Pines Memorial Gardens and Pet Rest Crematory and Cremation Services, for which he was awarded the Small Businessman of the Year award in 1988 by the Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce. He also served as the Berkeley County Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee Chairman. He was instrumental in helping Mepkin Abbey develop their columbarium. Most recently he was a business consultant with his company The Rozier Group, LLC.

He served on the following Boards and Commissions: Board of Trustees for Trident Medical Center, Board of Directors of both the Berkeley County and Charleston Metro Chambers of Commerce, Board of Directors of the South Carolina Association of Counties, President of the State Administrators and Supervisors Association, President of the State County Council Coalition, Chairman of Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester Regional Transportation Authority, Past President of the State Regional Council of Governments, Chairman of the Govern-



James H. Rozier

nor's Rural Summit, Clemson University Board of Visitors, National Commission on Globalization of all U.S. Counties, the BEST Committee, Chairman of the BEST Personnel and Finance Committee, Second Vice President, First Vice President and President of the South Carolina Association of Counties, Chairman of the BCD Council of Governments and Vice Chair of the National Association of Counties' Community and Economic Development Steering Committee, Farmers & Merchants Bank Board of Directors, Clemson University's Board of Advisors for Public Service and Agriculture, the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Aquarium, the Charleston Southern University Board of Visitors, the Advisory Board for the Jim Self Center on the Future of Clemson University and SCDOT 1st Congressional District Highway Commissioner 2012-2016. He was elected Chairman of SCDOT in 2015. He was a member and President of Lord Berkeley Conservation Trust.

SCDOT ETR Office wins International recognition

SCDOT's Engineering Technology and Research (ETR) Office is the 2019 Winner of the Year in Infrastructure Awards in the Project Delivery category.

The award was presented for the ProjectWise program that allows seamless information sharing and integration across multiple platforms.

The use of electronic data entry and reports saves thousands of man hours and saves tons of paper, water and other natural resources.

The annual awards program honors the extraordinary work of Bentley software users advancing infrastructure design, construction, and operations throughout the world. SCDOT's project was selected by 12 independent jury panels of distinguished industry experts, which selected the 54 finalists from 571 nominations submitted by more than 440 organizations in more than 60 countries.

Eric Stuckey presented the project to the judges in Singapore via a videotaped power point presentation during the Year in Infrastructure Awards Oct 21-14, 2019. The ETR Team that works on ProjectWise includes Eric Stuckey, Scott Shaffer, Matthew Boozer, Judy Hite and Shrinivas Jadhav.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

The ETR Team that works on ProjectWise includes, from left, Judy Hite, Matthew Boozer, Eric Stuckey, Scott Shaffer and Shrinivas Jadhav.

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SASHTO AWARDS

SCDOT wins awards for Bridge Preservation, Hurricane Response

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) has won two regional transportation awards for its work to preserve a 100-year-old bridge in the Upstate and for innovative methods to maintain transportation systems when Hurricane Florence struck the East coast in September 2018.

"For 12 years, the America's Transportation Awards have recognized state DOT projects for making communities safer, less congested, and better connected," said

Carlos Bracer, executive director of the Utah Department of Transportation and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) 2018-2019 president. "Today's regional winners demonstrate how state DOTs collaborate with local communities and partners to develop innovative, multimodal solutions that keep people and goods moving by motor vehicle, scooters, bicycle, and on foot."

SCDOT's two awards are:

Historic Iron Bridge at Glendale Shoals Project
Quality of Life/Community Development – Small category

Built in 1928, the Glendale Shoals Bridge in Spartanburg County served as the connector for a vibrant cotton mill community but was closed to vehicle traffic in the late 1970s.

With the bridge showing signs of deterioration from the elements, SCDOT saw

an opportunity to breathe new life into the bridge by making it a space for the community to enjoy and restore it to its former glory.

Engineers preserved the iron trusses and were able to reuse much of the existing structure. The deteriorated asphalt bridge deck was replaced with a new timber deck.

See SASHTO AWARDS
inside on page 19