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148 State agency issuing more fines against abortion clinics

COLUMBIA (AP) — South Carolina's public health agency could fine three abortion clinics and two waste disposal companies nearly \$51,000 for violations concerning the disposal of fetuses.

The proposed fines range from \$2,200 to \$21,150 for violating state disposal regulations, Department of Health and Environmental Control Director Catherine Heigel told a House panel Thursday.

They are the latest fines stemming from an investigation requested by Gov. Nikki Haley in August. The request followed the release of secretly taped videos showing Planned Parenthood officials in other states discussing the collection of fetal organs for research.

Less than a month later, DHEC suspended the licenses of two of the state's three abortion clinics and fined them a combined \$10,250. The threatened closures marked a

first for the agency.

Ultimately, sanctions were lifted and neither clinic had to close.

Violations cited in the five consent orders dated Friday include paperwork issues and fetuses being sterilized with steam and taken to a landfill rather than incinerated as required by law — issues also cited in the clinics' suspensions.

The lowest proposed fine is against the Charleston Women's Medical Center — not among the clinics suspended — for not accurately reporting the amount of waste it generates on its registration renewal.

The orders give 30 days to pay a fine, but they note the amounts are under discussion.

GOP Rep. Gary Clary, chairman of the House Oversight panel, applauded Heigel for "tightening up" on inspections. His committee launched its own investiga-

tion into Planned Parenthood following the videos' release.

Republican legislators have criticized DHEC as being too lax with the abortion clinics.

A report released by the Legislative Audit Council in May found the agency hadn't consistently inspected the clinics as required by law and had imposed no penalties for violations, with the exception of an expired license.

Heigel, who took DHEC's helm a month later, said Thursday the agency has better trained staff and changed how inspections are conducted, including joint inspections by the agency's infectious waste and health divisions.

"We are substantially better positioned to effectively regulate these facilities," she said. "At the end of the day, our role as regulator is to protect the health and safety of patients who use these facilities."

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DHEC wants to bolster dams

BY SAMMY FRETWELL

The State

S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control wants to bolster its beleaguered dam safety program with more money and more staff after floods last month reignited concerns about the program's effectiveness.

In its budget request for next year, DHEC is asking to roughly double the size of its dam safety staff as part of an overall program increase of \$595,000.

If approved, the dam safety program would be as large, if not larger, than it has been during the past 20 years. The proposal includes hiring six full-time engineers and an environmental health manager, spokeswoman Jennifer Read said in an email. She said the agency now has 6.75 dam safety employees.

DHEC is charged with inspecting and overseeing 2,370 dams across the state. But in recent years, inspectors haven't always examined the dams as frequently as needed because the dam safety

program is so small. Without inspections and oversight, the state doesn't always know about shaky dams that threaten property downstream.

Read said the plan to increase staffing would bring the program up to "existing statutory and regulatory requirements."

But the agency also is working with Gov. Nikki Haley and lawmakers on legislation to further strengthen the dam safety program with more money. That money could come from general appropriations, inspection fees or both, Read's email said.

Read did not provide details of the plan. But state Rep. Murrell Smith, R-Sumter, said some of the legislative changes under discussion include providing more clarity on the responsibilities of those who own dams and how they are to maintain the structures. The majority of dams in South Carolina are privately owned, many by homeowners groups that DHEC director Catherine Heigel says are not always well organized.

"We have learned some hard lessons from this recent flooding," said Smith, who chairs the budget subcommittee that will hear DHEC's request for more money. "It's incumbent upon us to make sure we have appropriate enforcement and inspection mechanisms as it relates to dams. We see the catastrophic damage that (failed dams) can do to the surrounding area."

DHEC's dam program has in recent years ranked as

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one of the most poorly funded in the country, according to the Association of State Dam Safety Officials. For years, the program's budget hovered at \$200,000 or less, although DHEC says the budget is currently about \$469,000.

The State newspaper chronicled many of the problems with the dam safety program in a 2011 story. The spotlight again focused on the program last month, when about three dozen dams broke across South Carolina following a massive rainfall. Those broken dams included at least six in the Gills Creek watershed of Columbia, home to more than 100,000 people. The October flood damaged homes, destroyed cars, washed out intersections and sent many people fleeing for higher ground.

Cary Chamblee, who formerly oversaw the dam safety program for the S.C. Land Resources Commission, said he's encouraged that DHEC wants to bring its program up to standard. But he said he'd like to know if the new jobs will be dedicated full-time to dam safety. Land Resources ran the program

until dam safety was transferred to DHEC in the mid-1990s by the Legislature. At DHEC, some dam safety employees have had other duties.

Despite questions about the adequacy of South Carolina's program, state Rep. Jimmy Bales said he has reservations about increasing the budget. Bales said he has received complaints from some Lower Richland dam owners about zealous enforcement by DHEC since the storm. He serves with Smith on the legislative subcommittee that will review DHEC's budget request.

"The committee is going to be sort of diligent," Bales, D-Richland, said. "We're not going to turn (DHEC) loose with a bunch of people that don't know what they are doing and demand all this stuff. If we don't give them a whole bunch of money, they can't do this."

Still, if DHEC had employed more inspectors in the recent past, South Carolina might have been able to prevent some of the failures of dams that occurred during the October storm, said Mark Ogden, the project manager with the Association of State Dam Safety Officials.

"The fact they had not kept up with their inspection schedule and other things, it's pretty clear they needed additional staff," Ogden said Wednesday.

"It's difficult to say without knowing the particulars, but based on the reports, it seems that there were probably dams that failed that should not have failed given the circumstances," he said. "If those dams had been properly inspected and had follow-ups to make sure they got repaired, they could have weathered this storm."

The request for the budget year that starts July 1 notes that DHEC will need to reclassify some dams that are now considered low hazard to significant or high hazard dams because of their proximity to populated areas.

DHEC's request is part of a range of proposed budget increases that would offset budget cuts the agency suffered about seven years ago, as the state's economy flagged. An upcoming budget hearing will also cover whether DHEC needs more money for regulators to oversee mines, as well as hog and chicken farms. The agency says the extra money is needed.



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THE GREENVILLE NEWS
Nov. 8

THE GREENVILLE NEWS ON DAM SAFETY

It is no secret to residents of South Carolina that this state has an infrastructure problem. All of us are well acquainted with the sometimes awful condition of the state's roads. That is a problem created and exacerbated by a tremendous deficit in state highway funding; a deficit lawmakers repeatedly have been reluctant to bridge.

Last month's torrential rain event in the Midlands — a disaster confusingly referred to as a 1,000-year rain — laid bare another life-threatening infrastructure problem. In the wake of that storm, it became apparent that the state's network of 2,400 regulated dams is not inspected frequently enough and that the staff that's called on to inspect those dams is far too small.

Thirty-two of those dams failed in last month's rain that dropped 2 feet of water on parts of the state.

In a detailed report last week, *Greenville News* investigative reporter Rick Brundrett revealed that the state's Department of Health and Environmental Control has only 6.75 employee positions dedicated to inspecting all of South Carolina's regulated dams. No doubt the gap in inspections was exacerbated by the fact that staffing has been even lower in recent years: In 2005, there were only 1.5 full-time positions for the dam in-

spection program.

The state's dam safety office is one of the most poorly funded in the nation, and in 2014 had a budget of \$260,000, according to a report in *The State*. In 2014-15, funding was \$453,000.

This is not a problem created by our current governor or even many of our current lawmakers. But it is a symptom of a state that rushes to cut taxes without taking time to study potential consequences.

What are the consequences? Of 75 dams that now are under emergency repair orders issued in the wake of last month's floods, at least a dozen hadn't been inspected in the past five years or more, Brundrett reported.

If there is one positive, it is that last month's rains have opened the state's eyes to the problem.

A spokeswoman for Gov. Nikki Haley acknowledged there's a funding gap and said that Gov. Haley will include more money for the state's dam safety program in her upcoming executive budget. Spokeswoman Chaney Adams also conceded that it's very early in the process.

Year after year this state's leaders talk

about cutting taxes. This year, they're going to need to face the music and begin talking about increasing spending — and perhaps taxes — to ensure the infrastructure in this state is safe and contributes to, rather than hinders, the well-being of our fellow South Carolinians.

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<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/>



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Gov. Haley

Monday, Nov. 23 is the new date for SC Governor Nikki Haley to visit McCormick and the Savannah Lakes Village Recreation Center.

The event is a Women in Business Luncheon sponsored by the McCormick Chamber of Commerce and is set to start at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets are priced at \$25 per person and are available from the Chamber, 864-852-2835. Ticket purchase deadline is Tuesday, Nov. 17.

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Kinney receives state's highest honor for humanitarian service

November 17, 2015 • THE LINK • Page 7b

When Bill Kinney, editor and publisher emeritus of Marlboro County's newspaper, The Herald Advocate, based in Bennettsville, received the Order of the Palmetto on Oct. 12, The Link staff shared in the excitement. During Bill's 57-year career in journalism, he has been a leader in the South Carolina Press Association. Congratulations to Bill on receiving the highest honor a South Carolinian can receive for humanitarian service.

We are reprinting, with permission, The Herald Advocate's story and hope you will join us in congratulating Bill. He's one of the best newspaper people in the state.

— Jane Pigg, Publisher of The Link

BY LYNN MCQUEEN
Marlboro Herald-Advocate

Friends from near and far gathered at The Skye on Monday, October 12, as South Carolina's highest civilian honor was bestowed upon the Herald-Advocate's own William Light "Bill" Kinney Jr.

S.C. Rep. Patricia Henegan presented Kinney with the Order of the Palmetto on behalf of Gov. Nikki Haley,

who was not able to attend but sent a letter in which she praised Kinney's "uncommon commitment to excellence" in all of his endeavors.

Kinney is editor and publisher emeritus of the Herald-Advocate, with a 57-year career as a journalist. He is also a dedicated community leader with a lifetime of service at the local, state and national levels.

Henegan, who nominated Kinney for the award, said it is the highest honor for humanitarian service to the people of South Carolina and recognizes lifetime achievement.

She said she could think of no one more deserving than Kinney, who has made a mark not just on journalism, but on cultural arts, historic preservation and business development as well.

A renowned philanthropist, he helped create and fund the Marian Wright Edelman Public Library, the Marlboro Civic Center and the Pee Dee Coalition's emergency safe shelter for abused women and children. He has served as chairman or president of many boards including the S.C. Historical Society and S.C. Archives and History Commission at the state level and the Library of Congress American Folklife Center at

the national level.

Perhaps most importantly, Henegan said, "he leads by example and he leads from the heart."

She read excerpts from some of the letters of recommendation that were written to the governor on Kinney's behalf, and several special friends spoke briefly during Monday's ceremony. First was Kinney's cousin, John Light Napier, a Marlboro County native and former member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Napier said Kinney had many unique opportunities when he graduated from Wofford College more than 61 years ago, including interviewing for a Rhodes Scholarship, practicing medicine and studying abroad. Instead, he chose to come back to Bennettsville as a journalist, and for that, Napier said, "We are forever grateful."

Calling Kinney one of the five most influential South Carolinians in private service, he said, "Over a lifetime of achievement, Bill Kinney has excelled for our state and her people."

State Sen. Gerald Malloy spoke next, calling Kinney a friend to many and someone who always puts himself behind others. He urged everyone present to follow that



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(Left to right) Light McNiel, Elisabeth McNiel, Lee McNiel, Bill Kinney, Peggy Kinney, Dan McNiel, Margaret Jane McNiel.

Contributed

example.

Former S.C. Rep. Doug Jennings called him a "passionate ambassador" with a genuine love for Marlboro County. "Bill Kinney is, simply put, the heart and soul of Marlboro County," he said. "I can't think of any one individual who has done more and served his state and community more diligently."

Bennettsville Mayor Heath Harpe read a proclamation on behalf of the city, recognizing Kinney for the award and for

his many contributions.

Finally, Elisabeth Kinney paid tribute to her dad, saying, "I have always been blessed and grateful to have Bill Kinney as my father."

In accepting the award, Kinney reflected on the things that have encouraged and driven him over the years: his parents and extended family; his wife of 52 years, Peggy, daughter, son-in-law and three grandchildren; and the instruction he

received in church and school that "a person's talents should be used to help others."

He said he has always taken to heart the idea of "Service Above Self," the Rotary motto, and has tried to become involved in places he felt he could be useful. Quoting something he heard many years ago at a church in England, he concluded by saying: "The only purpose of our creation is to praise and serve God, and we do this by serving others."



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City¹⁴⁸ has first graduate of National Fire Academy

Second firefighter honored
by Gov. Nikki Haley.

By KATRENA McCALL
editor@lowcountry.com

The Walterboro City Fire Department has its first graduate of the National Fire Academy and its first official arson investigator.

Paul Seigler recently traveled to Emmitsburg, Md., about 10 miles from Gettysburg, Pa., to attend the arson investigation course. He had a blast.

"We burned a lot of stuff. We burned cars. We burned rooms," he said. Then after the fires were out, students got to go in and determine what and how the fire was caused.

At one point in the training, instructors set up eight different rooms, complete with electricity and furniture, and burned them eight different ways, Seigler said. Instructors filmed the fires, including how they were ignited. Three days later, student teams went in and had to figure out how the fire started, what caused it, document and photograph the scene, take witness statements — everything there is to do at a fire scene, he said. Then the teams compiled a PowerPoint presentation on their findings, which they presented

to the groups.

Seigler's team came to the correct conclusion.

The academy, run by FEMA, teaches all types of emergency training, not just firefighting. Seigler had to pass 10 hours of online prerequisite courses before even setting foot in Maryland.

"We don't have anybody who's ever been through a fire arson investigation training. You get some basic stuff from the S.C. Fire Academy, but never anything this in depth where you get to dig up stuff, go in after something's burned and figure it out," Seigler said. They also learned burn patterns, pour patterns from accelerants, air flow patterns and other things that happen during a fire.

Classes were taught by a variety of specialized instructors, from an electrical engineer who taught about electricity to a prosecutor who taught about the legal side, such as warrants and charges. Instructors also brought in an arson dog which found a piece of a toothpick dipped in kerosene and buried in the ground.

Seigler started his career as a city volunteer firefighter in 1989 when he was just 22. "I just kind of stumbled into it. I'd had three or four

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Photo by KATRENA McCALL

AWARDS. Paul Seigler, right, holds his graduation certificate from the National Fire Academy while Skip Lange displays his letter from S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley.





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jobs before that, but I found a home here," he said. "It's a way to help our the community, and possibly even save someone's life." He's also police certified, so he can help law enforcement as well as the fire department.

And that's what he'll be doing with his new knowledge. He'll do the initial fire investigation to determine a fire's cause and origin. If he finds anything suspicious, he'll call in SLED because they have the laboratory, arson dogs and other equipment that the local department lacks. Seigler also hopes to get an arson team together with other officers trained in both law enforcement and firefighting.

"This will be a good thing for the department, a good thing for the city of Walterboro, to have somebody who can do this. It's something we've never had," he said.

Lange receives appreciation letter from governor

Walterboro City Firefighter Skip Lange got a letter from the governor in October.

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley congratulated Lange on being honored by the Colleton County Emergency Preparedness Agency for his service as a fire safety instructor for the agency's CERT and BERT teams.

"It's a great day in South Carolina when our everyday heroes receive recognition for their contributions that help ensure the safety of our citizens and communities. By volunteering your time to train others in the Community Emergency and Business Emergency Response Teams programs, you

are making South Carolina a safer place to live, work and learn. Michael and I thank you for your willingness to place your life on the line to protect others and for your service to the people of our state. God bless," Haley said in the letter.

Lange has been with the Walterboro City Department since 2004, but has been in firefighting in some form for over 30 years. Originally from the Boston area, he retired after 20 years in the Marine Corps and volunteered as a firefighter while stationed in Burton.

After retiring, he worked at the Hilton Head Airport, first refueling airplanes and then in aircraft rescue firefighting, which required a lot of "very interesting" training to maintain his annual certification. Fortunately, he never had any crashes on airport property, but did respond to one crash of a plane that took off from his airport. "The guy took off and then called FBO (Fixed Base Operations). He said he wasn't declaring an emergency but had a 'situation,'" Lange said. So he grabbed his partner and sent him to the end of the runway, while Lange went to midfield. "On the way, I saw all this black smoke. So I went out the back gate and down the road, trying to find the airplane." The plane, which was losing fuel, had crashed just 70 feet from a number of homes while trying to return to the airport. Both people on board were killed.

Lange's job now as the fire engine driver for the city department may not be as exciting as some of his former jobs, but that's OK with him. At 61, he's pretty happy not to have to lug around 45 pounds of firefighting gear on a regular basis anymore. "But I could still fight a fire if I had to," he said with a grin.



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148 Domestic abuse laws increase penalties

By GEORGE SALSBERY
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Fourteenth Judicial Circuit Solicitor Duffy Stone's bid to educate Colleton County law enforcement officers and victim advocates about changes in the state's domestic violence law brought together some of the leading experts in combating the crime at USC Salkehatchie-East Campus Monday.

Those who have to enforce the new law and those who have the task of assisting domestic violence victims filled the campus's large meeting room.

Joining Stone and 14th Circuit Assistant Solicitor Brian Hollen at the morning-long seminar were Laura Hudson, executive director of the South Carolina Crime Victims' Council; Mary Ann Stroup, director of Victim's Services for the Eighth Circuit Solicitor's Office; Sara Barber, executive director of the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; Larry Barker, director of the State Office of Victims' Assistance and Office of Executive Policy and Programs; and Suryai Capps, executive director of Hope Haven of the Lowcountry.

Stone, who was part of the statewide task force that reviewed the existing state law and suggested changes, said part of the task force's recommendation was "a big push in education, to make sure that not only everyone in law enforcement and victim services, but the whole community, gets a better idea of what's out there, what services are available to crime victims and new changes in the law."

The work of the task force and the legislative initiative resulted in a vastly different domestic violence law for South Carolina. Stone said very little of what was in the old domestic violence law survived the update. "It is all turned around now," Stone said. "It is much better."

Among the changes contained in the new Domestic Violence Reform Act, signed by Gov. Nikki Haley on May 4, are:

- Enhanced penalties for repeat offenders;
- Enhanced penalties toward those who commit domestic

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violence in front of children;

- Bolstered penalties based on the severity of abuse;

- Recognized the nature of domestic violence and gives prosecutors more tools to fight it;

- Recognized that domestic violence is repeated, escalating and learned behavior and gives prosecutors the ability to punish offenders accordingly;

- Increases the penalties for the most severe crimes from 10 years to 20 years;

- Increases the penalties for the lower offenses from 30 to 90 days;

- Allows solicitors to prosecute even the lowest-level domestic violence offenders in General Sessions Court.

That last change listed will

give other circuit court solicitors the opportunity to follow the lead of the 14th Circuit.

A special piece of legislation passed by the South Carolina General Assembly several years ago gave the 14th Circuit the ability to move the lower level domestic violence cases to General Sessions.

As the task force was discussing their work, Stone said, members of the General Assembly said they wanted to see it done statewide.

They wanted it available statewide, Stone said, "because it sends a strong message to the offender."

"I believe our way is the most effective," he said. "It sends the message."

Rather than making a court appearance in magistrate court, offenders are appearing in General Sessions.

"They are sitting in a room with people who don't have a parking ticket. I think that is

a big plus," Stone said.

Even though the 14th Circuit has been using the General Sessions atmosphere to send that message, Stone pointed out that if the suspect of a lower-level domestic violence decided to take the case to trial, the trial was held in magistrate court because a conviction only carried a 30-day sentence.

Now that the law calls for a maximum 90-day sentence, Stone explained, it is a General Sessions' level offense.

Stone said he decided to start the 14th Circuit Court training on the new domestic violence law in Colleton County and was pleased with the level of attendance and the results.

His next step will be to offer the same training program for law enforcement officers and victim advocates in each of the four other counties in the circuit court district.



Photo by GEORGE SALSBERY

DISCUSSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. Fourteenth District Solicitor Duffie Stone, standing, led a discussion on the new domestic violence laws at USC Salkehatchie last week.



Why legislative session should be much shorter

Guest column

Cecelia Brown

Editorialists and commentators have chastised the South Carolina Legislature relentlessly for failing to get anything done during the 2015 session. In fact, though, they did plenty of work.

This year our Legislature met from January to July, and during that time 1,336 bills were filed between the House and Senate. Of those, lawmakers passed 131. In addition, 950 resolutions were filed, and all but 64 of those passed.

The question, of course, is this: How many of these were actually worth legislators spending over half a year in Columbia?

The length of South Carolina's legislative session has consequences. Studies have found that professional, full-time legislatures are more prone to pressure from lobbyists – and this translates into higher spending and more favors for special interests.

Consider this year's attempt to deal with roads. There are two ways to devote new revenue to roads: raise taxes or cut spending. But lobbyists – in this case, lobbyists working for companies and industries that would benefit from additional spending on roads – aren't going to urge lawmakers to pay for new road projects by cutting other parts of government.

They're going to urge tax hikes. And thanks to South Carolina's long legislative session, they had plenty of time to do it. In the end, thanks to citizen groups raising the alarm, they weren't successful. That's a rarity, unfortunately, and tax hike supporters are sure to be back in January.

According to one media account, toward the end of session legislative leaders even tried to prevent the Board of Economic Advisers from publicizing a reve-

nue surplus, presumably on the grounds that a surplus would undermine the argument for a tax hike. That simply couldn't have happened without a lengthy session.

Or take ethics reform. The year began with a few good proposals, but the longer they sat in committees, the longer lawmakers had to water them down or amend them with insidious provisions.

A bill to reform the state's freedom of information law gained a provision allowing government agencies to take citizens to court for filing "frivolous" FOIA requests. A bill to require elected officials to disclose their sources of income eventually included a provision loosening requirements on disclosing government income. And so on. The longer the session went on, in other words, the more pointless these bills became.

Or consider the debate over the bond bill. House lawmakers introduced a bill to issue bond debt and use the money for a variety of largely unnecessary projects connected to state colleges and universities. It would have been difficult for lawmakers to pass such a controversial bill within the confines of a short session.

As it was, though, they were able to introduce the bill; then take it off the floor when the Policy Council and (separately) Gov. Nikki Haley raised objections; then find ways to pay for the new projects through the general fund; and then spend much of the rest of the session trying to figure out how to pass the bond bill anyway, which they were almost able to do.

In short: our excessively long session gave the State House complex – lawmakers, lobbyists, consultants, various special interests – plenty of time to weaken reform, make tax hikes more likely, and spend every last avail-



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able dime of revenue.

What should a session-shortening bill look like? A sensible reform would be to mandate an end to sessions by the second Friday in April, making each one last roughly 90 calendar days, and holding session every two years. This would encourage lawmakers to use their time – and our money – more wisely.

Members of the House argue that they pass a bill every session to shorten sessions but the Senate ignores it. That may be technically true, but this year, anyway, the bill they passed was

anemically weak. The House of Representatives passed a bill that cut a mere 10 days off the session.

The Senate's bill would have shortened the session by three months. It wasn't passed, but at least it was worthy of passing.

Our legislature's job is to ensure that citizens' rights are protected. After they do that, they should go home. More time leads to more mischief.

Cecilia Brown works as a research assistant at the S.C. Policy Council.

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EDUCATION 148

Tracey G. Hill has been appointed to serve a four-year term to the Spartanburg County Commission for Technical and Community Education by Gov. Nikki Haley. The board is the governing body of Spartanburg Community College and has 13 voting members appointed by the governor. Hill represents School District No. 1 in Spartanburg County.

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148 ***United Way: volunteers needed to help clean up debris left by flooding***

The United Way of South Carolina is asking for volunteers across the state who can help victims clean debris from their flood-stricken homes and sort the debris at the curb. United Way requests that volunteers register at: getconnected.uwasc.org/drm.

"What we've seen over the last week is the very best in so many people across our state – neighbors helping neighbors is what South Carolina does best," said Governor Nikki Haley. "Team South Carolina is motivated, and that's a blessing, but what we need as we start the long process of cleaning up is volunteers. Whatever time you can give makes a difference."

"It is going to be hard, the work of recovery," said Timothy Ervolina, president and chief executive officer of United Way of South Carolina, noting how hard and how long a job this will be. "After the news has moved on and nobody is talking about the 1,000-year flood anymore, United Way will still be here in South Carolina. We will still be working hard to rebuild communities and lives. That's what we do."

Debris removal workers are asking homeowners to separate the debris into six categories to speed the removal process: household garbage, construction debris, vegetation, household hazardous waste, electronics and appliances (white goods).

Debris removal will occur for the next several months, and volunteers

can help by putting together Flood Buckets for survivors:

- 5-gallon bucket
- Sponges and scrub brushes
- Heavy-duty gloves
- Retractable utility knife
- Mold control spray
- Bleach and disinfectant

• Other items: http://s3.amazonaws.com/churchplantmedia-cms/first_baptist_church_fort_mill_sc/flood-buckets-instructions.pdf

To find where to drop off the Flood Buckets, call the S.C. Baptist Convention Relief Center at (803) 227-6031.

Other organizations are coordinating activities to collect items of need. The S.C. Conference of the United Methodist Church is delivering health and school supply kits throughout the community.

The S.C. Baptist Convention has also developed a disaster relief mud-out training video with basic procedures for safely and effectively cleaning debris: <http://www.sc-baptist.org/resources/video-library/disaster-relief---mud-out-training/156>.

Survivors of the 1,000-year flood who need help should register as soon as possible with the Federal Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-261-FEMA (1-800-261-3362). Flood survivors are also encouraged to call 211 to register with the United Way of South Carolina. They can help survivors find the best resources in their community.