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Subject: 10.26.15 Media Monitoring Afternoon Report for DR-4241-SC

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## FYSA- 10.26.15 Media Monitoring Afternoon Report for DR-4241-SC

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# NEWS CLIPS

SOUTH CAROLINA-DR-4241

10/26/15

Afternoon

### Issues:

- None.

### Summary:

- New DRCs open in Berkeley County; one station that reported this referred to them as “FEMA Flooding Relief Centers.”
- Governor’s next Team South Carolina is Wednesday in Goose Creek.
- FEMA, SBA, Red Cross, S.C. Legal Services reach out at Johnsonville church on Saturday.
- King tides and rain affecting Charleston today, including areas already harmed by erosion caused by recent rains and floods. Some downtown streets were closed Monday morning due to water.
- Richland County’s North Main Street, Polo Road, Forest Drive reopened after flooding repairs.
- Orangeburg County residents advised they’ll need floodplain development permits for repairs to damaged structures within the floodplain.

### Analysis:

- Media coverage is slow today. New Berkeley County DRCs, business news and king tides flooding Charleston dominate this afternoon’s clips.

### Social Listening Analysis:

#### TOPICS FROM SOCIAL MEDIA:

- **FEMA.** Conversations regarding FEMA and the flooding continue to be low in volume. Since the last report, there has been a small number of posts about FEMA’s involvement in [Team South Carolina](#) days and [opening of Disaster Recovery Centers](#) in Berkeley County. These posts are being shared by local news or response organizations on their social media accounts, with minimal commentary from the public. Posts from affected residents with negative sentiment towards [assistance denials](#) continue at a low level as well.
- **Community relief.** Relief groups continue to post today about individual needs, with a small shift in the stated needs towards [construction help](#) and [furniture needs](#). Individual volunteers are also sharing photos from their work in affected neighborhoods in an effort to help with [fundraising](#) and [raising awareness](#).

Floods

[FEMA opens Disaster Recovery Centers in Berkeley County](#)

[Church brings disaster assistance to Johnsonville](#)

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[High tides to affect beaches, coastal areas in SC this week](#)

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[Coplon's to rebuild in Forest Acres; 'flash sale' at temporary location planned](#)  
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[Fall updates finalized for SCHSL events](#)  
[Campbell: Another moment of grace in South Carolina, this time in Columbia](#)

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## Floods

### FEMA opens Disaster Recovery Centers in Berkeley County

By Raymond Owens

WCBF News 2 NBC Mount Pleasant, October 26, 2015

FEMA has now opened two Disaster Recovery Centers in Berkeley County.

FEMA opened one at 303 North Goose Creek Boulevard at the Goose Creek Magistrate Court. Another center was opened at 1501 Recreation Road in Huger at the Berkeley County Medic Station 7.

You can get information and questions answered by members of FEMA and the Small Business Administration.

You are encouraged to apply if you have any possible damage resulting from the flooding. The deadline for application to FEMA is December 4th, 2015. After that date, you will not be able to try and get assistance.

Patricia Lord is the Disaster Recovery Center Manager in Goose Creek. "We are here to provide assistance if someone needs to apply, if they have not already applied for FEMA assistance, or if they just want to check their status. We also have an SBA representative here if you want to talk to us about your disaster related losses. We're here to help and will continue to be here as long as we're needed."

The Goose Creek Center will be open seven days per week from 8 AM until 7 PM.

### Church brings disaster assistance to Johnsonville

By Dianne Owens, The Weekly Observer

Florence Morning News, Oct. 26, 2015

(No website version available)

JOHNSONVILLE--In a scene that has played out over and over during the past 17 days, water, cleaning supplies and other assistance were on the menu of activities Saturday at White Chapel Holiness Church, just a handful of miles west of Johnsonville.

The hastily put-together event brought church volunteers, a Small Business Administration representative, FEMA representatives, American Red Cross volunteers and the executive director of the S.C. Legal Services office to the area. The event was put together by White Chapel pastor Henry Morris, evangelist Blossom Generette and church administrator Judith Rich.

"We are here to canvass the area, assess the damage and register people with FEMA," FEMA public information officer Mike Wade said. Because some people in the community are homebound or "shut-ins," he explained, and to better assess the damage of others who had come to register with FEMA, teams of three or four were sent into the community. For those who did come Saturday, the system was simple: Register, as a matter of record, as soon as one walked into the fellowship hall. Take a seat and wait to visit with a Red Cross volunteer who would assess needs and give a ticket so things could be retrieved.

Visit with the SBA and S.C. Legal Services representatives and then register with FEMA. The final stage for getting help was driving past the trucks filled with supplies, presenting your ticket and getting from the volunteers what was requested.

Adrianne Laneave, a public affairs specialist with the SBA, was there to remind people who were seeking aid that completing a SBA loan is part of the assistance process, she said.

Low-interest loans from the SBA assist individuals as well as businesses, she explained, adding that the process for receiving financial aid from FEMA requires the loan application to be made. The SBA is part of the US Department of Treasury and as a lending institution is set up to process loans.

"These people know who needs help," Wade said. "We've registered 175 today, and there were about to more hours to go before closing shop at 5 p.m."

Some people might question why their letter says they are ineligible, Wade said.

He advises people to take the letters and go to one of the Disaster Recovery Centers, in either Lake City or Kingstree, where representatives can look up their case and answer questions. "Do not reapply," Wade and Laneave said. That muddles the issue and creates a red flag.

"You're looking to appeal your 'ineligible letter,' not reapply," they stressed. Andrea Loney, executive director of the S.C. Legal Services, was at the church letting people know about their rights, especially as it pertains to being a renter.

"They have rights. Sometimes issues that arise following a disaster can be resolved by legal representation acting as an advocate," Loney said.

The church is no stranger in helping those in the community, Morris said. It often opens as a shelter in inclement weather, it distributes food to those who need it the third Saturday of each month, and it works routinely with young people and senior citizens. The church also has after-school care and tutoring, he said.

First thing right after the flood, Morris said, the church saw the need for dry, clean clothes and then food. And now there's a need for cleanup supplies and other help. The church has helped each step of the way.

One woman, helped about two weeks ago, Morris said, came back to the church Saturday and gave a \$50 gift to assist with continuing the helping ministries.

"That's a blessing right there," he said, looking at the folded check. "We'll just keep doing what we do."

Red Cross volunteer Richard Wing, from Vancouver, Washington, said he was on hand to deal with health care services. In his case, just that morning, the team had made three references so people could get health care items replaced.

Necessary items included these such as a commode chair, a walker medicines, glasses and such, he said.

"We just listen and see what we can do," he said. "We give vouchers much like a debit card that can then be presented at a pharmacy."

## **Governor to make stop in Goose Creek Wednesday for flood relief event**

[Berkeley Independent](#), Monday, October 26, 201

Gov. Nikki Haley will visit Goose Creek on Wednesday, Oct. 28, for the next Team South Carolina flood relief event. Team South Carolina for Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Goose Creek Community Center.

For those impacted by flooding in counties across the state, Team South Carolina events serve as one-stops where residents can find out about resources available to families and businesses as South Carolina recovers. Team South Carolina events bring together representatives from state and federal agencies and non-profit organizations to assist those in need in the wake of statewide flooding.

At Team South Carolina Day for Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester Counties residents can:

- Register for financial assistance from FEMA
- Apply for disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration
- Learn more about repairing and flood proofing their home from FEMA
- Get information about assistance for farmers with crop losses or damage from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency
- Apply for unemployment benefits from the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce
- Apply for food and financial assistance from the S.C. Department of Social Services
- Get information about mental health and other healthcare services from the S.C. Department of Mental Health and the S.C. Department of Health and Human Services
- Get help with insurance claims from the S.C. Department of Insurance
- Receive a free kit to test well water from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Receive a free tetanus shot from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

## **Tides to flood beaches, streets**

By Bo Petersen

[Post and Courier](#) (Charleston), Oct 26 2015

(Photo: The sand from the recent beach renourishment has all but disappeared from the far east end of Folly Beach. Brad Nettles/Staff)

The tide comes in Tuesday to a dangerous height for coastal property owners, and a potential nuisance to downtown rush-hour traffic.

A high tide of 8 feet or more is forecast, according to the National Weather Service, Charleston. Tides above 7 feet are high enough to trigger coastal flood advisories. The tide is expected at 8-8:30 a.m., but could cause trouble

until 10 a.m., said meteorologist Carl Barnes with the weather service.

High tides will persist at or above the 7 feet level until the weekend, Barnes said.

Tides at 8 feet can undermine properties and exacerbate the erosion that by recent rains and floods that already has seriously eaten into Charleston-area beaches. Some downtown streets were closed Monday morning as the tide heights began to climb.

Rains are predicted to start Monday afternoon and continue through Wednesday could bring heavy downpours at times, and rain during a high tide could flood more downtown streets.

More later at [postandcourier.com](http://postandcourier.com).

## **High tides to affect beaches, coastal areas in SC this week**

By [The Associated Press](#), Oct 26, 2015

(Widely used)

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) - More beach erosion and more flooding of low-lying areas along the South Carolina coast is expected this week with another round of astronomical high tides often called king tides.

The National Weather Service issued coastal flood advisories for south coast into southeast Georgia on Monday morning warning of street and lowland flooding - the second round of flooding after historic rains earlier this month. More than an inch of rain is forecast in the Charleston area over the next several days.

Local media outlets report more erosion is also expected on oceanfront dunes damaged earlier this month. Higher-than-normal tides are expected to affect the coast through Halloween.

A small craft advisory is in effect off the coast through late Wednesday.

## **50 percent chance of rain in Charleston this afternoon, flood advisory tonight**

By Dave Munday

[Post and Courier](#), Charleston, Oct 26 2015

There's a 50 percent chance of rain in Charleston this afternoon, and rain is in the forecast the next several days, according to the National Weather Service.

Aside from the rain, expect to see flooding on downtown Charleston streets tonight because of high tide. The National Weather Service has issued a coastal flood advisory from 6 to 10 p.m.

The tide in Charleston Harbor is expected to peak around 7:50 p.m. between 7.4 and 7.7 feet. Flooding in low-lying areas occurs when the tide goes over 7 feet. Some road closures are expected.

This afternoon, rain could add up to between a tenth and quarter of an inch. The high should be near 70.

The chance of more rain tonight is also 50 percent.

Looking ahead:

Tuesday: Another flood advisory for downtown Charleston Tuesday morning, with tide peaking over 8 feet around 8:15 a.m., plus an 80 percent chance of up to half an inch of rain, with a high near 71.

Wednesday: 80 percent chance of up to half an inch of rain, high near 79.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, high near 77.

Friday: Sunny, high near 73.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, high near 73.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 74.

## **TRAFFIC ALERT: Morrison Drive near I-26 in downtown Charleston closed because of flooding**

By Suzelle Santos

[WCSC](#), Live 5, CBS Charleston, Oct 26, 2015 7:38 AM EDT

Officials with Charleston County Dispatch are reporting a lane closure caused by flooding in downtown Charleston.

Dispatchers say Morrison Drive near I-26 is closed.

Beaufort, Charleston, Colleton and Jasper counties are under a coastal flood advisory until 9:00 a.m.

## **North Main Street, Polo Road reopen in Richland County**

By Cassie Cope

[The State](#) (Columbia), Oct. 26, 2015

Roads continue to come back online after flooding closed

Forest Drive also returned to service late Sunday afternoon

About 50 Richland County roads remain closed Monday

A portion of North Main Street reopened Monday after having been closed due to a sinkhole that developed during the historic flooding earlier this month, .

North Main Street had been closed from Craven Street to Clarendon Street

Polo Road in Northeast Richland reopened Sunday afternoon. Forest Drive also returned to full service late Sunday afternoon, said Andy Leaphart, chief engineer for operations at the Transportation Department.

About 50 Richland County roads remained closed Monday. That number of closed roads is down from a peak of 133 roads in the county during the early October flooding.

## **Permits may be needed to repair businesses, homes**

Special to The T&D

[Times and Democrat](#), Orangeburg, Oct. 26, 2015

Orangeburg County residents are advised to obtain permits for repairs to damaged structures within the floodplain.

Because of the recent flooding event, many structures within the community may have experienced structural damage. Repairs and/or reconstruction activities to structures that are located in the floodplain and were damaged due to the event will require a floodplain development permit from the Orangeburg County Permit Office as required by the Orangeburg County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

Failure to obtain the necessary permits can result in violations. For more information on the permitting process, contact Richard Hall or Odell Waddell at 803-533-6160. The Orangeburg County Planning and Land Use Department can be reached at 803-533-6160.

Before you begin

If your home or business is located within a Special Flood Hazard Area or is in a flood zone that begins with the letter “A” or “V,” you must have a permit before you begin certain repair or reconstruction work. If you begin work without a permit, you may be fined.

If you are not sure of your flood zone, contact your community's floodplain administrator. You can find a list of floodplain administrators listed by county and community at [www.dnr.sc.gov/flood](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/flood).

If you remove, alter or replace any of the following items it may require a permit: roof, walls, siding, plaster, cabinets, flooring, electrical systems, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning units

To obtain a permit, contact your community's floodplain administrator. You can find a list of floodplain administrators listed by county and community at [www.dnr.sc.gov/flood](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/flood).

No permit needed

You do not need a permit to proceed with cleanup activities or temporary emergency repairs that prevent further damage. These types of activities include:

Removing and disposing of damaged furniture, personal items, carpeting, wallboard (not plaster) and insulation.

Cleaning and scrubbing floors, walls and air conditioning duct work.

Covering holes in roofs or walls and covering windows to prevent rain and other weather from entering your home or business and causing further damage.

Removing sagging ceilings (not plaster), shoring up broken foundations and other temporary repairs that make the building safe to enter.

## **Coplon's to rebuild in Forest Acres; 'flash sale' at temporary location planned**

[The State](#) (Columbia), Oct. 26, 2015

Highlights

Fashion industry lends helping hand

Store will set up temporary location in Trenholm Plaza

Flash sale to be held on Main Street starting Oct. 30

Coplon's, whose Forest Acres store was heavily damaged during flooding earlier this month, is holding what they're billing as “The Thousand Year Flash Sale.”

The upscale women's clothing retailer said in a news release it will host a “monster sale,” starting Oct. 30, featuring designer samples and current inventory.

In the wake of the devastating Oct. 4 flood, the store has received a flood of offers of help from the fashion industry and the Council of Fashion Designers of America, the release said.

The Coplon's store on Forest Drive was severely damaged, and work already has started on rebuilding the original store as well as a temporary location in Trenholm Plaza.

“We love Columbia, we love what we do and we can't wait to see our family of friends and loyal clients,” owner Bruce Greenberg said in the news release.



If you go

Flash sale dates: Oct. 30-Nov. 8

Location: 1350 Main St.

Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Sundays

A portion of the proceeds from the sale will benefit the American Red Cross of Central South Carolina.

## Retailers to ramp up hiring for holidays

By Chuck Crumbo

[Charleston Regional Business Journal](#)

Published Oct. 26, 2015

With the holiday shipping season approaching, employers are looking to fill thousands of seasonal jobs across South Carolina.

Amazon plans to create 100,000 seasonal jobs across its U.S. network, according to company representatives.

"Seasonal employees play a critical role in meeting customer demand and we're excited to be adding thousands of jobs in South Carolina," said Amazon spokesman Aaron Toso. The additional hires are the result of the company's response to local needs resulting from this month's disastrous flooding, Toso said.

In the United States, Amazon has about 90,000 full-time employees at its more than 50 fulfillment centers and 20 sorting centers.

To meet customer demand and prepare for the 2015 holiday season, Amazon said it has hired more than 25,000 full-time employees since August.

UPS has 266 job openings for seasonal work, said a Dan McMackin, spokesman for the Atlanta-headquartered carrier.

"Those jobs include drivers, driver helpers and part-time package handlers. Wages range from \$10.10 an hour to \$18.75," McMackin said. "We are hiring immediately and applicants must apply on line at [www.upsjobs.com](http://www.upsjobs.com)."

Statewide, UPS has 1,247 openings for seasonal work. Across the country, UPS expects it will hire between 90,000 and 95,000 seasonal employees to support the anticipated increase in package volume driven by e-commerce that will begin in November and continue through January.

"Many of our seasonal hires are invited back after the holidays, and as we promote almost strictly from within, a permanent position can be a stepping stone to a career," McMackin said. "I started out loading trucks during the holidays 37 years ago. And our CEO (David Abney) also started out loading trucks part time."

Abney, who worked the night shift at UPS in March 1974 while studying business, said the job "was a way to pay my way through college. At the time, I had no idea then that I'd be leading the company someday, but I could tell UPS was a place where a solid work ethic was appreciated and there were great opportunities for advancement."g

## Forest Lake Gardens – and a slew of Forest Acres residents – vs. the bank

By Salley McInerney, contributing columnist

[The State](#) (Columbia), Oct. 26, 2015

So, big ole First Citizens Bank is trying to send little ole Joseph McDougall and his Forest Acres produce store packing.

Oh my. Not a good move.

So here's the deal. Forest Lake Gardens is a funky place owned by an even funkier 46-year-old McDougall who leases the property from the bank. McDougall's eye-popping set up is stretched along the backside of a parking lot. He sells everything from boiled peanuts to begonias to Big Foot statues painted bright pink. You can't miss the place.

Now the bank is just up the way – an easy walk across the parking lot – at Trenholm Road and Forest Drive.

And for whatever blah-blah-blah reason, the bank doesn't want McDougall in its backyard anymore.

And so, in a letter dated Oct. 20, the bank told McDougall to pack up his peanut pot and his ceramic pumpkins and depart the premises by the end of this month.

The timing of the letter couldn't have been more obtuse – sent some 17 days after a 1,000-year flood turned many residences and businesses in Forest Acres – including McDougall and his place – upside down and into the muddy waters of physical mess and financial wreckage.

And therein lies a lot of the rub.

What the bank likely didn't think about when it decided to send McDougall on his merry way was what a maelstrom like a mighty flood does to the psyche of a small community, which is essentially what Forest Acres is.

The Oct. 4 flood ripped through the area and the proverbial fabric of the community was torn asunder. But then the sun came out, folks put their rubber boots on, ventured into the muck, helped each other clean up, offered shoulders to cry on and arms to carry out a lot of hard, hard work. Day after day after day.

And all during that time, the fabric of the community was being rewoven – a lot tighter than it had been before.

McDougall, who said someone from the bank wants to meet with him, put it this way on Sunday: “It slowed us down to where people thought a little more about each other. As we pass each other by every day, we’re in a hurry. Then when something like the flood happens, we slow down and we connect with each other. It’s a real blessing, really. We don’t really stop and think as much as we should.”

And that’s exactly what First Citizens Bank needs to do. Stop and think.

About what it means to be a part of a community that has taken it on the chin. About what it means to be part of a community that is rebuilding, reweaving and trying to retain its special character. About what it means to embrace, rather than eject, a funky small-business owner selling boiled peanuts in its backyard.

Just for the heck of it, I went to the bank’s website and cruised through its “Who We Are” page.

Under a section called “Diversity,” it said this: “We are committed to reflecting the rich diversity of the community where we live and do business.”

Fancy that.

Salley McAden McInerney is a local writer whose novel, *Journey Proud*, is based upon growing up in Columbia in the early 1960s. She may be reached by emailing [salley@hartcom.net](mailto:salley@hartcom.net).

## **Fall updates finalized for SCHSL events**

[WYFF](#) Greenville, Oct. 26, 2015

High School state championship schedules altered due to the South Carolina floods

COLUMBIA, S.C. —South Carolina High School League fall sports experienced a slight shuffle due to the severe flooding across South Carolina earlier this month. The one week extension granted by the SCHSL Executive Committee altered the calendar for several fall sporting events to include playoffs, press conferences and state finals. Visit [www.schsl.org](http://www.schsl.org) for additional information on each event.

## **Campbell: Another moment of grace in South Carolina, this time in Columbia**

By Reba Hull Campbell

[The State](#) (Columbia), Oct. 26, 2015

I watched the floods from abroad, searching for the word to describe the amazing responses

I found it reaching back to June, and the Amazing Grace we all experienced in the response to the massacre at Emanuel AME Church

Grace of people of Columbia will get us through this ordeal

Volunteers head down Glenhaven Drive a week after the floods to help clean up damaged homes.

Volunteers head down Glenhaven Drive a week after the floods to help clean up damaged homes. Gerry Melendez [gmelendez@thestate.com](mailto:gmelendez@thestate.com)

Columbia, SC--I took off for a long-anticipated trip to Italy with three friends the first week of October. We flew out on a Wednesday thankful to leave behind the impending hurricane warnings and paying little attention to the flash flood alerts for Columbia.

Little did we know that we would spend the better part of our trip glued to international news reports showing deadly floods sweeping away friends’ homes and devastating our hometown.

We watched our friends’ usual social media posts about kids’ activities become hourly missives of who needed help where. One friend showed up in a yellow raincoat on international CNN. Another was interviewed on the Weather Channel. National news correspondents were posted in neighborhoods where just days earlier I’d been riding my bike.

I struggled for days to find the right word to describe what I kept seeing and hearing from the people back home.

Then a recollection from this summer prompted me to find it.

A couple of days after the Emmanuel nine shooting in Charleston, I happened upon an impromptu prayer vigil on the State House grounds. I was hot and sweaty from a bike ride, so I stood on the periphery of the group that started out as mostly college-age African-American students.

Within minutes, the group swelled with people from all walks of life, who were drawn toward the crowd the same way I was. I soon found myself pulled into a prayer circle, holding hands with two strangers and singing “Amazing Grace.”

While everyone’s faith and courage to communicate that grace originated from their own hearts and experiences, our community showed a common humanity that was humbling and inspiring to see. Everyone became part of something bigger.

Standing in that circle of strangers sharing sadness and hope, I realized that grace was indeed amazing in this situation.

Grace shown by the shooting victims’ families as they talked of forgiveness without strings. Grace as they

courageously explained how their loved ones wouldn't want them to live with malice or hate in their hearts. Grace in encouraging others to do the same.

In Italy as my friends and I watched street after street of our hometown being washed away, I realized it was grace we were witnessing over and over again. And now that I've been home a couple of weeks and have witnessed the devastation firsthand, I'm more certain than ever that our famously hot city should more aptly be called "famously grace-filled."

In the midst of the storm, grace was the young mother who lost everything but still wanted to find and thank the strangers who rescued her family. Grace was the teenager who was evacuated from his home but went back to help others escape theirs. Grace was the rescuer who treated family pets with the same care and respect as the people he was carrying from their homes.

In the days following the flood, the news out of Columbia could have been of our first responders dealing with looting and crime or people with a "poor us, it's not fair" attitude. Social media posts from families who lost everything could have leveled blame or complained about their plight.

After the flood, a week of great destruction, and greater generosity

There was none of that. It was pure grace.

Within hours, people dealing with flooded basements that would have been a major ordeal just days earlier were out helping strangers find clothes, water and lost pets. Teens were trekking from house to house in the devastated neighborhoods helping any way they could. Children were delivering water, home-baked cookies and encouraging messages to first responders. Help was pouring in from around the state and country.

We heard people who lost everything say over and over "we will rebuild" and "others weren't as lucky as we were" and "my family is safe, and that's all that matters." They weren't whining about why this happened to them. They weren't blaming or complaining. They were in a place of grace.

How to give assistance

While everyone's faith and courage to communicate that grace originated from their own hearts and experiences, our community showed a common humanity that was humbling and inspiring to see. Everyone became part of something bigger.

Watching all of this from afar, I had no doubt that this generosity of spirit would get us through the struggle of recovery from this storm. Several weeks later, I'm even more certain of that.

When not promoting the interests of cities and towns as deputy executive director of the Municipal Association of South Carolina, Ms. Campbell is passionate about travel, writing and keeping connected with old friends; contact her at rebahcampbell@gmail.com.