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# SC has first measles case in 2025

## Infection found in one in Upstate

**Nina Tran**  
Greenville News  
USA TODAY NETWORK – SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina’s first confirmed measles case since September 2024 was announced on Wednesday, July 9.

The individual who contracted the virus is an Upstate resident who is currently isolating at home to avoid further

spread.

News of the case was first shared by the South Carolina Department of Health, which said the individual was exposed to the virus on an international trip. They also did not have immunity from a previous infection, according to ABC 15 News.

A contact investigation is currently underway by health authorities, who are notifying people who may have been exposed to the virus.

“Measles is highly contagious, and a serious disease caused by a virus that affects the respiratory tract. This virus

spreads quickly, which is why we must act now to prevent its spread,” Dr. Linda Bell, state epidemiologist and Health Programs Brand director, told ABC 15 News.

Here’s what to know about the measles virus in S.C.:

### What is measles?

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can cause serious health issues, especially in children under 5 years old. Ear infections and diarrhea are common complications in this age group, and se-

rious complications include pneumonia and encephalitis. If one person has the virus, up to 9 out of 10 people nearby will become infected with it if they are not protected from it, per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### What are the symptoms of measles?

Measles symptoms can appear 7-14 days after exposure. Common symptoms include the following:

**See MEASLES, Page 2A**



The Beacon Drive-In restaurant in Spartanburg announced a new partnership with Coca-Cola Consolidated to provide a range of nonalcoholic beverage products and flavors, including both sparkling and still beverages.

PHOTOS BY ALEX HICKS, JR./SPARTANBURG HERALD-JOURNAL

# The Beacon turns 80

## Success comes when you ‘love your customers’

**Baker Maultsby** Spartanburg Herald-Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Frances Kelly has a long history with the Beacon Drive-In, now in its 80th year in business.

She remembers eating at the original location, which opened on Thanksgiving Day in 1946 on West Main Street.

“When the kids were little, we’d take them to eat at the old building,” she recalled.

Her aunt, Myrtle Timmons, worked at the Beacon, assembling cardboard boxes for take-out orders. John B. White, the Beacon’s original owner, treated her aunt well. “He was good to everybody,” Kelly said.

Asked about the Beacon’s longevity, Kelly said, “I guess it’s the good food – and the amount they put on the plate.”

The Beacon is famous for its “A-Plenty” plates, which include onion rings



This year marks a milestone for Spartanburg’s Beacon Drive-In: The restaurant has been in business for 80 years.

# Sheriff candidates to speak at NAACP forum July 15

**Terry Benjamin II**  
Greenville News  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Candidates for county sheriff will meet to discuss their platforms at an upcoming NAACP event.

The Spartanburg County NAACP will host a Sheriff’s Forum on July 15. The event will take place at the CC Woodson Community Center, 210 Bomar Ave., from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The event will host candidates running for sheriff in Spartanburg County. Former Spartanburg County Councilman and NAACP County president, Michael Brown, will be the moderator for the event.

Visitors will need tickets to enter. The tickets are free. Click here for tickets.

## What to know about why former Sheriff Chuck Wright resigned

Candidates are running to replace the previous sheriff, Chuck Wright, who resigned on May 23, following allegations of improper use of a county credit card, as well as an ethics investigation involving Wright’s hiring of his son.

On June 12, Attorney General Alan Wilson wrote a letter to the Seventh Circuit Solicitor’s Office saying Wright could soon be charged with misconduct of a public officer; use of official position for financial gain; obtaining certain drugs, devices, preparations, or compounds by fraud or deceit; and breach of trust with fraudulent intent.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division later confirmed an investigation into Wright.

## Who’s attending the forum?

According to the NAACP, the following candidates have accepted an invitation to the forum.

- Adam Crisp
- Nick Duncan
- Rusty Clevenger
- Andy Clark
- Randy Hollifield
- Joseph Pilato
- Ric Stephens
- Bill Rhyne
- Robert J. Cheeks

