

# Morning News

Thursday, March 19, 2026 • Florence, South Carolina

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## FLORENCE PARK UPGRADES



EMMY RIBERO PHOTOS, STAFF

Jeffries Creek at Freedom Florence Recreation Complex on March 11, 2026.

### Improvements planned for signs, benches, more

GENE ZALESKI  
Staff Writer

The City of Florence Parks and Beautification Commission outlined priorities for its 2026 parks upgrade plan, including adding historical kiosks at all parks.

- The commission plans to:
- Improve wayfinding signs to Jeffries Creek Trail and the rail trail at Freedom Florence Recreation Complex.
  - Add historical kiosks at all parks.
  - Have an open house at High Hill Creel Bike and Run Park to help promote the bicycle facility.



Please see **PARK**, Page A3 Lucas Park entrance off of Santee Drive on March 11, 2026.

## Dancing for Our Future Stars tonight

STAFF REPORT

The School Foundation is holding its 14th annual dance competition at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 19. The dancers have been practicing and are ready to perform.

This year's Dancing For Our Future Stars couples are:

- Adam Swindler (City of Florence) and Katelyn Rodgers
- Devin Ruffin, EDD (HopeHealth) and Jordan Young

- Dr. Brian Blaker (McLeod Health) and Cadence Corbett
- Dr. Cary Brewton (MUSC Health) and Campbell Cox
- Draper Myers (Draper G. Myers Mortuary, LLC) and Meredith Baxley
- Jack Pawloski (King Cadillac Buick GMC) and Mallory Prozzi
- Jermaine Eason (Honda) and Brianna Powell
- Mitchell Lister (Florence Flamingos)

- and Allyson Tisdale
- Rob Gokey (Otis Elevator) and Tiffany Collins
- Scott Olsen (GE HealthCare) and Ashlee Gillespie
- Twana McRae (First Citizens Bank) and Eric Crowley
- Wesley Snow (Snow & Bailey Law Firm) and Meggie Daniel

Please see **DANCING**, Page A3

### FLORENCE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2

## Florence District 2 election today

GENE ZALESKI  
Staff Writer

Three incumbents are running unchallenged in the Florence County School District 2 Board election.

The nonpartisan election is scheduled for Thursday, March 19.

Thaddis Calcutt Jr. is running for Seat 4, Mark Campbell for Seat 5 and Elleveen Poston for Seat 3. The seats are all at-large. If re-elected, they will serve three-year terms.

The polling location for the election is at Hannah Pamplico High School at 2055 S. Pamplico

Highway in Pamplico. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 a.m.

Voters need to bring one of the following to the voting precinct:

- S.C. driver's license
- S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles ID card, including S.C.

Concealed Weapons Permit

- S.C. voter registration card with photo
- U.S. passport
- Federal military ID, including Department of Defense photo IDs and the Department of Veterans Affairs benefits card

### Deaths • A9

- Charles Patrick Jr. -- Gaffney

### Inside

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### Weather

Mostly sunny  
**High 64**  
**Low 39**  
Forecast • A10

