



Bulldogs
'locked in' after
first loss
PAGE B1



OPTP presents
'Steel Magnolias'
PAGE A2

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\$150,000 FOR SAMARITAN HOUSE



GENE ZALESKI/STAFF

Orangeburg County Council District 7 Councilwoman Latisha Walker, center, presented a \$150,000 check to the Samaritan House homeless shelter. Pictured, from left, are Samaritan House Fundraising Chair Karen Hay, Samaritan House Executive Director Henry Miller, Walker, Samaritan House Board Chair Brenda Jamerson and Samaritan House Board member Karen Stacks.

Contribution supports shelter renovations and new space

GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

Orangeburg's Samaritan House homeless shelter received \$150,000 toward renovations of the shelter's kitchen, dining room and for the construction of a multi-purpose facility.

"Homelessness is near and dear to my heart," Orangeburg County Councilwoman Latisha Walker said. She presented the check to the Middleton Street shelter.

"I have a personal story myself and I know that this is something

that this can affect anyone at any given time," she said.

"One health issue can change somebody's life forever," Walker continued. "We can never look down on people just because of the situations that they are in because most situations are temporary.

"We can't help how the cookie crumbles sometime, but we just have to pick up the boots and keep moving and also be that motivational force to help one another."

The money came from the capital project sales tax approved by

Orangeburg County voters.

Samaritan House Board Chair Brenda Jamerson said the shelter's building is over 70 years old and the kitchen and dining room have not been upgraded in over 25 years.

She noted the building was never designed to be a homeless shelter. It first housed the county's health department and later a beauty salon and school.

"It is too small," Jamerson said. "We have the capacity for 53

Please see **CONTRIBUTION**, Page A4

ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL

Advocates push for animal changes

GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

Some Orangeburg County residents and a Charleston-based animal rights group are asking Orangeburg County to better enforce its animal control ordinances and address animal overpopulation.

Eutawville resident Karen Adkins appeared before Orangeburg County Council recently, informing the body that the stray dog situation in the area is a "crisis." She said about a dozen stray dogs congregate near the Hot Spot in Eutawville.

"Some of these dogs are critically injured," Adkins said. "They have crushed hips, they are limping, they are breeding constantly"

Adkins says she has called Orangeburg County Animal Control and the town of Eutawville about the matter, but has not received any assistance.

"They (animal control) need more officers," Adkins said. "The second largest county in the state. They need help because we are struggling"

"We have ordinances that cannot be enforced because they don't have the manpower," Adkins said.

Branchville resident Ida Hipkins echoed Adkins.

"Animal control: they need more help," Hipkins said. "There is not enough of them. They need more help, they need more funds."

"We need to keep the dogs fixed. We need to uphold the laws," Hipkins said.

Hipkins also thanked county animal control officials for helping her in a case where her dog was abused by another person. She said justice was served and the perpetrator was arrested.

Amanda Adams of the South Carolina Animal Welfare Alliance said the county needs to address breeding and overpopulation of animals.

"This is a serious problem in Orangeburg," Adams said. "Dogs are being chained also, allowed to roam, allowed to continue producing puppies without accountability"

She asked Orangeburg County Council to strengthen ordinances "to require appropriate spay/neuter measures for the dogs kept outdoors, and establishing licensing requirements for anyone breeding animals."

She asked the county to dedicate money to animal welfare, enforcement and prevention by assisting residents with spay and neuter efforts.

"This is simply not about spending money on animals," Adams said. "It is an investment in prevention. Every unwanted litter increases the pressure on shelters, rescues, animal control and, ultimately, the taxpayers."

Please see **ANIMALS**, Page A4

SCSU announces new scholarships

SPECIAL TO THE T&D

South Carolina State University has announced new scholarships for high-achieving students and proven student leaders from across the state.

Beginning with the 2027-28 academic year, the 1896 Promise Scholarship and Bulldog Leadership Scholarship will provide financial support and guaranteed housing in Benjamin E. Mays Hall for qualifying South Carolina residents. The university also will introduce an Employee Dependent Scholarship for

eligible dependents and spouses of SC State employees.

"College has to be accessible, and it has to be affordable," SC State President Alexander Conyers said. "We want our high-achieving students and young leaders across South Carolina to know there is a place for them at SC State.

"These scholarships are about recognizing the hard work they have already put in and making sure finances are not what stands between them and a college education."

1896 Promise Scholarship

The 1896 Promise Scholarship will be available to freshmen who graduated in the top 15% of their high school classes.

For qualifying students, the scholarship will provide:

- A guaranteed top-off covering tuition, fees and books after all other aid and grants have been applied.
- Guaranteed housing in Benjamin E. Mays Hall, SC State's new residence hall

Please see **SCHOLARSHIPS**, Page A4

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SLED seeks gunman from fatal shooting

SPECIAL TO THE T&D

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division announced Monday that it continues to investigate a shooting that occurred on Oct. 4, 2025, during South Carolina State University's Homecoming.

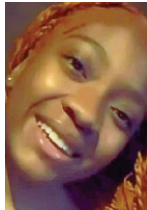
Jaliyah Butler, 19, died in the shooting incident.

The SLED investigation was requested by the South Carolina State University

Department of Public Safety.

SLED has charged multiple individuals who were found to be in possession of firearms on campus around the time of the shooting. However, the person responsible for Jaliyah Butler's death has not been identified at this time.

Anyone with information on the incident should call 866-472-8477 and/or email tips@sled.sc.gov.



Butler

Deaths • A9

Earl K. "Ken" Bair, Jr. - Mt. Pleasant
Earl Davis - Orangeburg

Inside

Nation/World	A6
Opinion	A7
Sports	B1
Weather	A10

Weather

Partly sunny
High: 84
Low: 60
Forecast: A10

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