

The View from the CHU

The View
from the
C.H.U.

By The Residents,
For the Residents



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A Life and Legacy Worthy of Remembrance

--Warden John Pate announces retirement--



Warden John Pate

31st. After transforming one of the most violent prisons in South Carolina into a respect-based institution, he now passes on the legacy of his grand vision with characteristic optimism and hope for the future of the program. It was my pleasure to interview and learn more about this charismatic leader just weeks before his retirement.

We started our interview by exploring his journey within SCDC. He began his professional career by serving our country as a soldier in the US Army. He recalls his time in the service with surprising exactness- 20 years, eight months, and ten days. It was in April of 1989 that Mr. Pate would begin an almost 30 year prison sentence, taking up employment with SCDC. He began at ACI, where he would remain throughout his career, and in May of 2010 he was promoted to the position of the institution's "top dog"—Warden. During his employment, he has accumulated a storehouse of memories that he will

take with him. One of the most vivid memories occurred in 1996, when mass riots broke out at ACI, then a level three institution. It was a dark period in ACI's history, as extreme violence erupted in a chilling storm of chaotic madness. "It took us firing over 200 rounds to stop it," he recalls, shaking his head at the memory. The impression it made on him was something he never wanted to experience again. The memory would remain in the recesses of his mind, playing a vital role in the formulation of a vision that would ensure ACI *never* sees those days again.

In sharp contrast to this, he reminisces on one of his favorite memories, a day that would become the crowning achievement during his time as Warden. It came in 2015, when ACI was selected to become the first entirely character-based institution in SCDC, an accomplishment that took years of effort, trials, and hard work to make possible.

This effort began with Warden Pate and A/W Newton traveling to a newly formed CBU (Character Based Unit) at PerryCI, conceived by then Warden Michael McCall. Having realized that warehousing inmates wasn't working, our Administrators were excited to see the transformation that a respect-based environment was causing amongst the residents there. When they returned to ACI they selected eight inmates who were already informal leaders at ACI. These inmates were sent to PerryCI to witness the power of the program for themselves, and were tasked with developing the groundwork for a similar program here. In September of 2011 Bamberg B-Wing, formerly nicknamed "The House of Pain",

Legacy—continued on page 4



The Legal Lens



In the winter edition of "The View from the CHU" this column

gave a general overview of the legal resources available through ACI's law library. At the close of the winter column we indicated that a later offering of The Legal Lens would more closely examine the specific nature of available legal resources, and this remains our goal. This is the second of the three-part series which examines specific legal research sources.

In order to get the most effective use of legal research material, you must first understand the origin of the materials and why they are organized as they are. The entire body of the law in the United States and throughout much of the world is divided into two major categories: Civil Law and Criminal Law. Today's column will focus on Civil law research materials, and the third part of the series will discuss Criminal law research materials.

The goal of both civil and criminal law is to resolve or settle disputes between parties. Civil law attempts to settle disputes between people, businesses, government agencies, and on occasion between states and even nations. Because Civil law governs such a broad range of human behaviors, it is subdivided into more manageable segments. For example, the family court system, probate courts, and bankruptcy courts are each governed by civil court rules and laws.

The authority of a civil court to resolve disputers which are brought before them is derived from two sources: the South Carolina State constitution, and laws enacted by the

state legislature. This authority given to a court to resolve a particular type of dispute is called "jurisdiction." A court's jurisdiction limits the type of disputes it can resolve. For instance a civil court cannot resolve the dispute between a business and someone accused of shoplifting. Shoplifting is a criminal matter.

When a civil court judge attempts to resolve a dispute between two or more parties, the judge relies on three primary sources of information; (1) South Carolina rules of civil procedure, (2) South Carolina Code of Laws, and (3) decisions by the South Carolina Appellate courts. These three sources of information advise the civil court on how best to resolve the various disputes.

The S.C. Rules of Civil procedure (SCRCP) determine the conduct of all parties to a dispute, and set time limits for completing the many duties required in a civil dispute. Also the SCRCP outlines how a party is to appeal decisions by the civil court judge or a civil jury. There are many rules in the SCRCP, and the Legal Lens strongly urges the readers to review the rules for themselves.

The second source of civil law reference material is the "S.C. Code of Laws", also called statutory law, the laws enacted by the state legislature that govern the civil courts. The laws are organized by subject matter and cover every aspect of the civil court process. The majority of the civil court laws are contained in Title 15 of the S.C. Code of Laws.

When a civil court judge presides over a dispute between two or more parties, the parties often disagree with the judge's interpretation of the state law and civil court rules. To determine whether the judge's inter-

pretation of the state law and court rules was correct, one or both parties of the dispute appeal the judge's decision to the S.C. Court of Appeals.

The S.C. Court of Appeals is a panel of judges who review the decisions of lower court judges for "errors of law". An error of law occurs when a lower court judge misinterprets how the law should be applied under a given set of facts. The decisions of the Court of Appeals provide the third source of reference material to the civil courts, which guide civil court judges through every imaginable factual circumstance. The decisions of the Court of Appeals are printed in book form and are called "case law". In South Carolina, the printed cases are in the Southeastern Reporter 2d, a large series of books critical for effective legal research.

The next edition of the Legal Lens will examine criminal law. Please note that the information above should not be construed as legal advice, and is only the opinion of the author. Please consult your law library for additional information.

~Gene D.



Scarlet Fever!



Scarlet Arrives at A.C.I.

who was found down and out, on the brink of death, represent me?" I encourage you to read on.

Scarlet is a red-nosed reddish haired terrier mix discovered outside of the prison by an SCDC perimeter Officer. She spotted the pup curled into a ball, covered by fleas, and amidst a swarm of flies. Vikki Scott, President of the no-kill Animal Advocates shelter in Barnwell and facilitator of our MuttMates/MeowMates program at ACI was stopped at the front gate and informed of Scarlet's predicament. With Mrs. Scott's oversight, and the swift authorization and support of Captain Thompson and A/W Newton, Scarlet became the first dog to be rescued and taken directly into the institution.

She was quickly named Scarlet because of her color, and the inflamed deep scar around her eye that initially refused to heal. The wound caused a pus-filled fistula that vets said would cause blindness in one eye. She weighed 4.4 pounds and was infested with internal and external parasites (fleas covering her body, eight ticks within her ear canals, ear mites, hookworms, and tapeworms). Her gums were as white as her teeth—a symptom of anemia.

Upon entrance to ACI, Scarlet was placed into the capable hands of MuttMates/MeowMates resident program leader Geoffrey P. Along with the other members of his leadership staff they bathed her and administered antibiotics, probiotics, and vitamins. Payne stated, "She was weak in body but strong in spirit." Along the road to recovery she became a celebrity. The entire endeavor became a true team effort as Bamberg Unit Counselor S. Drayton, known for her tenacity and steadfast support for the animals, checked on Scarlet daily.

Scarlet has made a full recovery, without the loss of any vision. More than a miracle, this recovery personifies the

scope and vision of Warden John Pate, Mrs. Vikki Scott, and the CHU program as a whole. We were all found in poor shape: physically, mentally, and spiritually. Yet, our individual effort supported by Administration, Staff, and leadership amongst residents has encouraged our recovery and a journey to a bright future.

When Vikki Scott was interviewed about our Scarlet fever she stated, "The

program here is a true extension of her staff at the shelter. This living arrangement is a vital need that allows animals to live amidst environments that many were used to before being brought to the shelter, as many animals come from the elderly who have either passed or are no longer capable of caring for their pets." In five years ACI has increased from just two cats to nearly 50 animals at this present time. She went on to say that "moving forward I would like to see the residents gain therapy dog accreditation in addition to the grooming accreditation that is currently available." The View from the CHU staff thanks the MuttMates/MeowMates staff and all others whose love, time, and dedication went into making this heartwarming story a success.

~Troy B.



Legacy continued



Warden Pate and a few friends

~became the first Character Unit at ACI.

When asked if he would miss the program Warden Pate responded, "Absolutely. We have accomplished a lot. Now, when I say 'we', think of it like a three-legged stool. The three legs are the staff, the inmate population, and the volunteers. As long as all three legs are firm and functional, the stool sits firm, but if any of the legs are out of balance or broken, the stool will wobble or crash. We've all worked miracles and a lot of times we had to fight for the program, because a lot of what we do here today was once considered too radical."

The greatest accomplishment Warden Pate has seen since the inception of the program came in the form of the change in men's lives. "For the population as a whole, the change is easily recognized by how well the men adapt to the programs when they realize character is *their* choice, and they can make the decision to transform their lives if presented with the opportunities," he explained.

These are truisms that this writer knows all too well. In fact, I can remember my first encounter with Warden Pate. I'd only been in the program for a short time when I was introduced to painting, something that would alter the course of my life. One day, Warden Pate brought an artist from Hilton Head into the learning center. Many of the guys rushed into the classroom, shaking the artist's hand, and then the most curious thing happened—Warden Pate stuck out his hand to be shaken as well! It was the first time I'd ever shaken the hand of a Warden. That day I experienced a leader who carried himself with a unique mixture of discipline and sternness (you could tell he meant business) combined with humor and charisma. His most important trait, to me at least, is that he treated

us as fellow human beings. In that gesture—a handshake—the trajectory of my thinking changed.

Although there has been a bit of trepidation from ACI residents at the announcement of his retirement, when asked if he planned to maintain some form of involvement with the program in the future, he explained, "I will be submitting a proposal to headquarters, which if agreed upon, would allow me to return as a part time employee, and continue my work with the program." Men, let's keep our fingers crossed that this is not the last we've seen of the "Big Guy" – Warden John Pate.

At the end of our interview he wanted to make clear what is important, the real strength of the program, with these closing words: "What we have accomplished at this institution has changed the lives of countless people, to include friends and family of the inmate population, and could not have been done without the support and assistance of the population and the staff. This institution is fortunate to have some of the most loyal and dedicated volunteers I have ever seen. They selflessly give their time, talents, and treasures to the men on this yard. My leaving does not end what you guys have accomplished. The program does not begin or end with one man. You helped build it and you can help sustain it. My prayers are with all of you."

Warden Pate, we thank you for giving us the power to choose. May our choices reflect and emulate the example you leave us with—a life and a legacy worthy of remembrance.

~Terry B.



A.C.I. Goes Hollywood



Mr. Galaxy, Warden Pate, and some Animal Program participants

With twilight approaching I was granted an audience with Jackson “Cat Daddy” Galaxy, the Animal Planet host of the hit program “My Cat from Hell” for the past nine years. After a full day spent shooting on location here at Allendale Correctional Institution (A.C.I.) I could see that the day’s events had been taxing. However, when I introduced myself and explained my purpose he flashed an inviting smile and gave a firm handshake. So began the greatest interview of my burgeoning career in journalism.

Jackson Galaxy’s career with animals “just happened” in the early 90’s, and he attributes his success to being in the right place at the right time. Most people wouldn’t consider scooping poop from cages as a volunteer at an animal shelter as the right place at the right time, yet in hindsight he realizes that this experience began to change his life within days. He realizes that the unconditional love that he received from the animals was what started him on his road to recovery from drug addiction. When he began as a volunteer he was engaged in a destructive addictive pattern he terms, “slow suicide”. He spoke frankly, “If it weren’t for animals and what they awakened inside of me I would have been dead twenty years ago. Through their love I have learned to trust and love myself.”

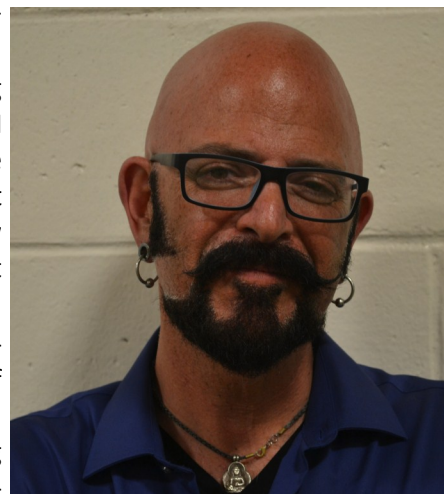
The focus of the program he was filming here at A.C.I. was a distinct variation from his typical programming. Rather than documenting a “cat from hell”, the star of this episode will be “Beauticia”, and the show’s one-time title will be “My Cat from Heaven.” Beauticia wasn’t always a perfect angel though. In fact, she was a feral cat at a lake in Barnwell County. After feeding the feral cat colony for one year, the entire colony was trapped and delivered to the Animal Advocates no-kill shelter headed by Vikki Scott. When Beauticia arrived she was as frightened and aggressive as any cat shelter personnel ever seen.

Beauticia wouldn’t allow anyone to enter her cage without the claws coming out. The volunteers went into creative overdrive and attached a glove to a stick and began petting her from safety outside of her cage. The next step came with her delivery to A.C.I. resident and cat handler David B. After months of love, care, and dedication, Beauticia is now a model of redemption. She is a living, breathing illustration of the transformative effect that love has upon the soul.

Knowing the time, energy, and money that has been dedicated to domesticating Beauticia, as well as the other feral cats that A.C.I. MeowMates has received, I asked Jackson Galaxy if in his opinion it was worth the effort. His response came without hesitation. “We will never learn to love and care for humans until we first learn to care for animals. You can gauge the goodness of a society by seeing how they treat others. This is an opportunity to look within ourselves and see what we are made of.”

When asked about our program here he admitted that he had never seen anything like it. “The bar is set high for other prisons looking to start a program of this magnitude.” He was enthusiastic with his praise for our mission here saying, “The transformation of men here is something that people on the outside looking in could only dream of feeling. The amount of time that these handlers are dedicating to these cats and dogs could never be given on the outside with the unending distractions of life.”

Mrs. Vikki Scott was on hand and she admitted, “I’m tired”. Yet she was glad that the residents of A.C.I. were able to get a true glimpse of the supposed glitz and glamour of Hollywood. We discovered that a lot of hard work goes into what is perceived by the public to be a fifteen



Mr. Jackson Galaxy of Animal Planet’s *My Cat from Hell* fame.



Welcome to Hampton A-Side Receiving



It has been said that any great journey begins with a first step, a right step. So how do we undertake the “steps” to effect the change of ourselves into the good, righteous, and introspective men that we should be? Perhaps a better question is, “How do we effect this change while in prison?” How can this program, this yard, show us what we need to accomplish within ourselves, while we are here?

In case you haven’t noticed, we’re getting a lot of new faces on the yard. Most of them have requested to come here from other institutions, and also from Kirkland Receiving and Evaluation (R&E). Our hopes are that each and every one of them recognize the possibility of a becoming a better man though what is being offered here at Allendale C.I.

How do we help them begin this journey down this correct path, and what are its “steps?” We must begin at receiving! The first impression that each new resident receives will help to form his concept of what this institution is all about. This is where Hampton A-Side is so very pivotal. From here the residents, facilitators, mentors, liaisons and staff help the “new guys” coming to the yard understand the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) governing this program.

I talked to both Unit Counselor James and Hampton liaison William T. about their vision for the Receiving wing of Hampton.

VFTC: *How long have you been in your position here at Hampton?*

Ms. James: *Two years as a Unit Counselor.*

William T.: *Since August of 2017.*

VFTC: When you assumed leadership positions in Hampton, what was your focus?

Ms. James: *Being open-minded, understanding, and maintaining positive communication and patience.*

William T.: *That we needed standardization and uniformity. The residents needed consistency, direction, and especially compassion.*

VFTC: *What is your vision for the future of Hampton A-Side receiving?*

Ms. James: *I would like Hampton Unit to adjust some of the classes to be a little more suitable for the short-term inmates. I would like to see classes that prepare them to compose resumes and fill out job applications. I feel that there should be classes that seek to unite families and communities and that help residents to understand the importance of working together regardless of your race, beliefs, and affiliations.*

William T.: *I would like to see a Welcoming Team, composed of mentors, who focus upon greeting new residents and seek to integrate them seamlessly into our community.*

Great hopes and ideas from some very good people, leaders from our receiving dorm. Furthermore, we should not overlook the rest of the men who offer their time, talents, and dedication to make the Hampton A-Side Receiving Unit operate so smoothly. It is truly a team effort, and I am proud to say that I am part of that team.

~Robert C.

A.C.I. Goes Hollywood Continued from Page 5

second shot. Though it was exhausting, she had a blast, saying, “Everyone has learned a lot, including me. We’ve seen what happens behind the scenes and how involved the production of a show truly is.”

Jackson Galaxy closed our interview by saying how grateful he was to have been given a glimpse into our unique institution. “This is a win-win program all the way around. The world is going to love what we have seen here. I am eternally grateful for the hospital-

ty that has been shown to me and my crew.”

The feeling of gratefulness is certainly shared by the residents of A.C.I. Any exposure of the MeowMates/MuttMates program is welcomed by all of the A.C.I. residents that take part in this endeavor. We believe in what we’re doing and are glad to be a part of something bigger than ourselves.

~Nathan R.



Mr. Galaxy and Animal Program Leader Geoffrey P.



Chow from the CHU

Theo's Tuna Snacks



ACI's premier newsletter introduces another serving of the *Chow from the CHU*. This healthy snack can be enjoyed while watching your favorite T.V. show or movie, or after a workout.

For this snack, you will need the following:

- One package of 4.23oz Fisherman's Paradise Light Tuna.
- Two to Four Maruchan Instant 2.25oz Lunch Hot and Spicy Vegetable Soup.
- Two to four sporks of American Premium Hot Dip Chili Con Queso.
- Three slices of Dutch Farms American Singles Cheese.
- Five El Pato Jalapeno Wheels
- One small bag of Doritos.
- 16 SE Grocers Original Snack Baked Crackers



Directions:

- Take the two Hot and Spicy Vegetable soups and crush them up into a cereal bowl. Pour boiling water just to the top of the noodles. Cover and allow to swell.
- As the soups swell take your five Jalapeno Wheels, place them in another cereal bowl and using your trusty orange state spork, crush-chop them until they are to a consistency satisfactory to you.
- Add the chopped jalapeno wheels to the soups and mix. Add the two to four Tbsp. of the Con Queso Dip and repeat the thorough mixing.
- Now pour the soup noodles and the tuna mix into a larger bowl and mix them together.
- Now place the three to five slices of cheese on top of the tuna-soup mix, crush the Doritos thoroughly, and spread the pieces liberally on top.
- Place the large bowl into the microwave for one to three minutes on high (depending on power of your microwave). Remove, let cool and eat with your smack crackers.

Note: for those of you who aren't presently incarcerated in the South Carolina Department of Corrections I have included a picture of an orange spork so that you will know what I am talking about.

~Theo W.

Bhakti Yoga Comes to ACI



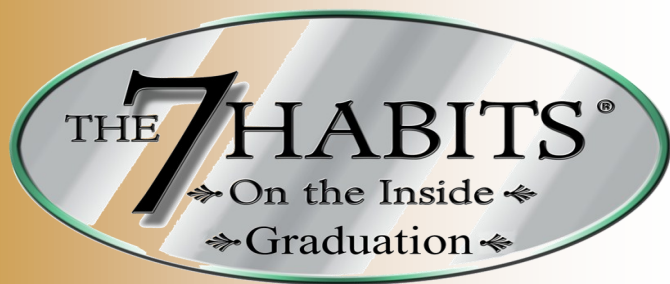
When many people hear the word "Yoga" we think about a practice involving postures and stretching. Some may call to mind images of mystics meditating in the Himalayas. Others think of yoga as being a healthy God-centered life filled with selfless service.

On September 7th, 2018 residents of ACI received a "taste" of Bhakti Yoga, the yoga of selfless service. Not only did four volunteers (devotees of Bhakti Yoga) sing traditional prayers and songs in Sanskrit, they introduced a profound philosophy and proven method of meditation that dates back thousands of years. This new experience, for many, provided something to think about and

appreciate.

How did this "first of its kind" Bhakti Yoga Program come to ACI? There was a culmination of effort, overcoming obstacles, and determination to see this type of program manifested for the benefit of fellow human beings. It originated from the belief that culturally diverse programs are very important because they generate a healthy awareness and ac-





The 7 Habits on the Inside graduation held in the visitation room on September 9th, 2018 was a day filled with mixed emotions.

The event was kept light by the humor of Master of Ceremonies, Erick W., but at the same time there was sorrow as the graduates absorbed that they had completed such a monumental course. Erick W., also a facilitator of the class, began with a point to ponder: "Our situation and the circumstances of our incarceration are the result of our choices."

As Erick W. explained, this course is so vital for prisons because so many of us have adopted the victim mentality. We have come to view ourselves as prisoners, not just in the physical sense, but prisoners of our past. *The 7 Habits on the Inside* gives us the opportunity to see our potential and offers a roadmap that will take us to a destination of our choosing.

Keynote speaker Cindy Hauptman, whom everyone knows as the "Canteen Lady", gave a very heart-touching speech

about the impact that the 7 Habits course has had on her. We learned about a different side of her. She not only inspired us, but she challenged us to consciously practice these habits until they become automatic. Who knew that this course had impacted her so deeply?

Nena Staley, Deputy Director of Programs for SCDC, had encountered *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* years ago but hadn't taken full advantage of this life changing course. Rita Crapps, Assistant Deputy Director of Programs, reintroduced Nena Staley to the 7 Habits, and informed her of the plans that she had for the course within SCDC. They both took the course, collaborating to introduce this course that has been instrumental in our lives, as well as in our program's development.

One of the graduates, Treffle B., gave a truly inspiring speech filled with raw emotions. As he was explaining how *The 7 Habits on the Inside* impacted his life, there were tears forming in his eyes as well as in the eyes of members of the audience. He explained sincerely how much the course has altered his life. "For the first time in 54 years I'm winning a private victory that I had previously lost."

As you read this, I hope you are inspired enough to search yourself, to understand the potential that this course has to shift the paradigm, or personal perspective, through which you view the world. ACI's A/W of programs, Yvonne Wilkins-Smith, said, "SCDC is charting new territory. This new territory is defined by the venture into resident-led *The 7 Habits on the Inside* classes." Congratulations to the very first graduating class of many to come. I leave you with some food for thought. "You are the artist of your own masterpiece." So how will you paint it?

~Colby C.

ACI 2017-2018 Adult Education Graduation



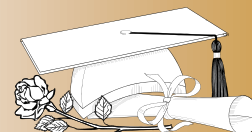
On September 28th, 2018 Administrators, Educational staff, teacher's aides, graduates, and family and friends gathered in the ACI visitation room to celebrate the prolific success of this year's graduating class. With 33 GED graduates, a more than 400% increase from the preceding year's six graduates, celebration was certainly in order. The tremendous upswing in GED graduation was accompanied by the

attainment of 58 Work Keys certificates and 394 On the Job Training vocational certificates.

Education Coordinator Paul Morse burst with pride at the performance of the students and the staff of administrators and teacher's aides. The Keynote speakers, Salutorian

Yawnie W. and Valedictorian Dustin J., echoed the importance of making the most of your time and refusing to give up in the face of adversity. The elite drill team was led by James Hill and was soon followed by a performance from the ACI choir that will not soon be forgotten. Warden John Pate, A/W Yvonne Wikins-Smith, and Palmetto Unified School District SCDC Special Education Program Director Jay Collins shared glowing remarks concerning the attending graduate's epic achievement. On this day it was obvious to all that the progressive vision that began with Warden John Pate is clear, and stronger than ever.

~ Nathan R.



Refocusing Accountability



In early July of this year a dynamic new class was introduced to Allendale's Refocus wing, a course designed and facilitated by our very own residents. ***I Am Responsible*** is a class that is simple in its outline, but thanks to its facilitator, asks some hard-hitting questions. When I asked some of the men what the class was about, the majority had the same answer. "The class is about practicing responsible behavior now, so that I can continue behaving that way on the outside."

As the class worked its way down the alphabet of responsible traits it became evident that momentum was increasing. The culture of ***I Am Responsible*** had begun. For a group of guys who felt exhausted with classes and all things program related, ***I Am Responsible*** rejuvenated interest and class participation. For two hours every day the learning center was standing room only, this leaving some participants standing without complaint for the duration of the class.

For these reasons Refocus was allowed a rare opportunity to have the ***I Am Responsible*** graduation. In the dorm the energy surrounding the event was electric. Every participant was eager to receive their certificate of completion signed by our very own unit manager Captain Corujo, and by Ms. Buehner, whose dedication to programs has been unparalleled. The class maintained a 99% graduation rate, consisting of 98% attendance, 99% homework completion, and 96% final exam average.

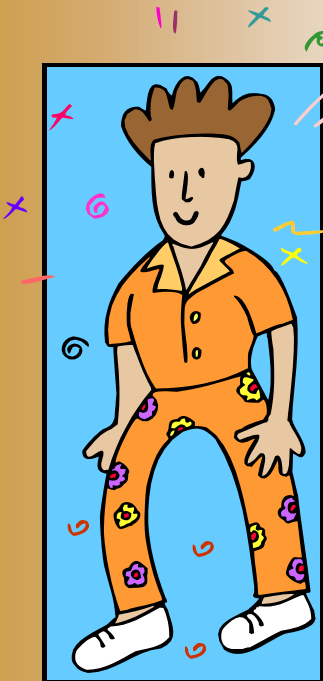
The event began with the class facilitator and master of ceremonies Ken N. warming up the crowd with a few lighthearted and reflective comments about the journey the men shared. Next was the introduction of two of the class's shining stars: Paul K. and Paul H.. Each participant shared how the class affected him, and how he would carry on its message. Captain Corujo gave a few brief remarks about his experience while sitting in the class. "I went to the first hour and it was so good, I stayed for the next hour."

The guest speaker of the day was Nathan R. As the former president of Toastmasters his skill at public speaking was on full display. Nathan R. shared with the graduates his own story of transformation from irresponsibility to becoming a man who takes responsibility for his actions and his personal growth. Nathan R. concluded his speech by compelling the entire room to chant in unison, "I Am Responsible!"

The graduation was a great day of celebration for Refocus participants. If there was one thing that all in attendance walked away with it was this: ***I Am Responsible*** is a success.

~ Ken N.

There Once Was a Boy...



There once was a boy, who thought himself a man, who knew not whom he was.

Coming to this realization, he sought through the Divine, to find knowledge of self.

Upon receiving, such a gift he was, in truth, reborn.

Now a man, forever changed, he could never revert to his old ways.

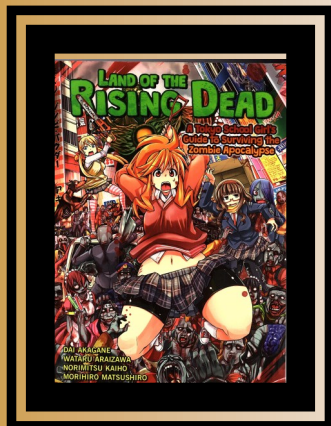
There once was a man, changed in his ways, who sought to be better each day.

Through the divine, within his own mind, he made a choice to live.

He sought to enlighten, the spread the joy, of the Divine awaiting within.

Open your mind, experience the Divine, your connection to God and All That Is.

-Justin L.



Book Review: Land of the Rising Dead

Land of the Rising Dead is a wonderful representation of Manga; it may also serve as a survival guide in case of a zombie apocalypse. The survival guide is told from the perspective of main character Mero Andor, who is a self-aware zombie teaching her three friends how to survive an invasion of zombies. The four friends adventure through five chapters, where they learn to recognize the different zombie types, how to defend and attack, and how to survive through a months-long siege.

This is not traditional Manga, although the story is told in Manga format. The “meat” of the book is comprised of text and graphs as if it were a true guidebook. It contains the history of the zombie as a horror monster and offers many examples from the zombie movie genre.

As is typical to Manga, the artwork is fantastically detailed and well suited to the story. Be sure to read it carefully because it is written in Japanese style, from right to left. The book is available within the ACI library.

~ Brian T.

Jay Collins-SCDC Special Education Director



During the commencement of the graduation ceremony I was intrigued to hear Palmetto Unified School District SCDC Education Director Jay Collins share his perspective on the accomplishments of the graduates. He reminded them, “The diplomas you hold in your hands are proof of your accomplishments. Now you are tasked to inspire your fellow man who may have lost his confidence.” His final words reminded them that their journey is just beginning. “Keep growing—be hungry for more!”

Following the event I was granted the opportunity to learn more about his mission. I discovered that he is a University of South Carolina graduate in Child Psychology who no longer practices psychology professionally. Instead he dedicates his energy to coordinating resources within SCDC such

as teachers and computers to better serve the under 21 inmates with learning disabilities and emotional and behavior issues. While inmates under 21 are his focus he clarified that his job is to provide help to anyone who needs it.

He travels to an average of six institutions each week as he seeks to ensure the education departments are operating at peak effectiveness. He spoke promisingly of the future for SCDC education. “The agency is growing. SCDC is looking for ways to serve the inmate population interested in advancing their education.” He even spoke of the opportunity in the near future for sponsored college degree programs. This is welcome news considering Pell Grants were denied inmates in 1996 following the Truth in Sentencing Act/Omnibus Crime Bill.

He ended the interview with a positive note by saying, “SCDC is the most rewarding place that I have worked and I have no intention of leaving.” This is welcome news considering his sincere desire to aid in the progression of SCDC’s educational focus.

~Nathan R.

Bhakti Yoga Comes to ACI Continued from page 7



ceptance for all walks of life.

Indeed, in today’s society we need to see that our diversity should neither divide nor define us. As we are all equally created by the Divine, we should work together to evolve and interact as a community, and love each other as members of a global family.

Our rehabilitation equates to a true transformation of consciousness—the ability to incorporate and manifest into our daily lives all qualities of good character. This mentality is the essence of Yoga, particularly Bhakti Yoga, and ACI’s Character Based Program as well.

~Jason M.



Olli Group Tours ACI

The Olli (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute), one of the top five institutes of its kind, visited with ACI administration and residents for the third time. Olli offers over 230 programs to the retired communities of Beaufort and Sun City. The Olli participants place a premium on education and were excited to learn about the extensive programming we have available at ACI.

The event began with participants touring the program booths that were set up in the visitation room. This allowed for extensive questioning about individual program's missions and how the residents are using the leadership opportunities available to serve the resident population in the most effective way. The tour then moved to the conference room where Olli Director Holly Hughes informed A/W Wilkins Smith, CRI Board Member Camille Nairn, and attending residents that "the 24 slot sign-up sheet to tour ACI was filled up within 24 hours." The Olli participants demonstrated that enthusiasm, listening with rapt attention as several resident's journeys through incarceration were spotlighted.

The Olli participants then returned to the visitation room to enjoy lunch and fellowship with the ACI tour group. The mood was effervescent, properly communicating the receptive spirit to our mission here at ACI by everyone in attendance. The tour completed by walking the "yard", viewing the new delivery of Koi to the Sustainable Living Project. The "wastes" from the fish will be used to fertilize the plants for the aquaponics program that helps to feed underprivileged families in the community. Lastly they were able to see the smiling faces of our four legged friends housed in the Muttmate/Meowmate program in Bamberg Unit. We are sure all in attendance learned more from each other as residents seek to transition to society and the Olli participants were given a new perspective of what a prison experience can be.

~Nathan R.

Citadel Professor Dr. Leslie Hill surveys ACI's Animal Programs



The only proven prison rehabilitation program for reducing recidivism is education. Studies show that the attainment of a GED reduces recidivism by 50%. Yet, a recent visitor to our institution by Citadel Professor Dr. Leslie Hill's research aims to prove that education is not the only system that reduces recidivism.

Her research into Prison-Based Dog Training Programs within the Florida Prison System yielded positive results. Her study began with 724 inmates split into two groups of 362. The control group consisted of statistically similar participants in age, crime of conviction, number of arrests, and socio-economic factors with the men in the study group. The only difference was that the men in the control group were not active in the prison based dog training program, while the men in the study group were.

This study, for the scientifically minded reader, is based on propensity score matching and logistic regression. Her study found that one year after release the men who had participated in the Prison Based Dog Training Program were 30% less likely to reoffend. This research should cause all who are interested in Criminal Justice to raise their eyebrows at the implications of her studies. The Administration at ACI and the residents housed here could perhaps benefit most from this knowledge.

Yet, one study does not prove causation. To conclusively prove her theory—that Prison-Based Dog Training Programs do help reduce recidivism—many studies are required. Therefore, her two recent visits to ACI where she conducted surveys with the participants of the Beekeeping and Mutt Mates/

Meow Mates programs sought to add more research to her intriguing study.

These surveys will continue in the vein of her previously released research paper, *Becoming the Person Your Dog Thinks You Are: An Assessment of Florida Prison-Based Dog Training Programs on Post-Release Recidivism*. Two chapters of her upcoming book with co-author Barbara Cooke will include the conclusions of what she found through the surveys she conducted at ACI. After completing the surveys she met with the men from the Mutt Mates/Meow Mates program and received candid responses from several of the men in attendance. Resident James W. perhaps said it best when he shared, "A lot of these animals are broken, and so are we. Together we are learning to get both of our lives together." Dr. Hill closed the question and answer period by saying, "I would like to see similar programs instated at every institution." In light of the promising indicators of her research, we should all share that hope.



~Nathan R.

Cornerstone Music Theory Program Crescendos!!!



Cornerstone—the GED focused education wing in Colleton Unit at ACI—has recently instituted a therapeutic music theory program with the help of Volunteer Mark Epps. This program came about from the realization that rehabilitation comes from not just from feeding the mind, but by also feeding the soul.

“Theory deals in absolutes, just as morality deals in absolutes. For example, if your guitar is out of tune your music will sound bad. Likewise if your life is out of tune you will likely experience bad results.” ~**Mark Epps**

Mr. Epps began his volunteer experience with ACI at the request of Warden Pate to facilitate the Mission Advance Program in the Refocus Wing of Barnwell Unit. Since that time the class has expanded into Hampton Unit and also has been utilized in the Youthful Offender Act (YOA) Wing in Barnwell Unit. Mr. Epps is also a board member of the Character Restoration Initiative and Director of the Mission Advance Non-Profit.

Mr. Epps’s career in music began when he was a child, when his mother made him take piano, organ, and guitar lessons. At the time, he disliked the lessons, because they weren’t teaching him the rock and roll staples he wanted to learn. At the age of 18, he picked up the guitar again, determined to conquer the instrument, not to be conquered by it! Thirty years later, he says to this interviewer with a smile, “I am still trying to conquer it!”

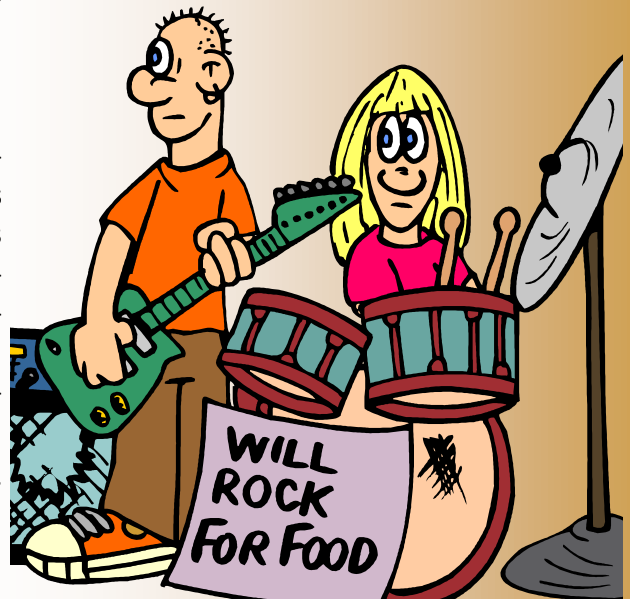
While teaching class in Refocus, several of his students were entering into the talent show and asked him to play guitar for them. So began Mr. Epps’s foray into playing guitar in the Character Awareness Program Talent Shows, which he now does every month.

Mr. Epps wanted to initiate a guitar centered music theory program because he knew that playing the guitar created discipline, a strong work ethic, and a perfect

outlet for self-therapy. The idea of a therapeutic music theory class was brought to Ms. Connie Buehner, and the schedule was laid out. Since that time the music theory program has been well received by many residents within the unit.

A huge obstacle to the music theory program in Colleton has recently been overcome! In September six guitars were donated. This much-needed gift placed instruments into the hands of participants who had previously had little or no access to guitars. Many accessories are still needed to give the music theory program within Colleton, as well as in other units, the tools they need to thrive. If you, or someone you know, would like to donate to the program, contact Ms. Connie Buehner.

~Justin W.





An Allendale Ghost Story



Is Allendale Haunted? Sadly, there have been entirely too many violent deaths here in the past. With that said, it should be no surprise that there might be a few ghosts here or there. Having been here so long, I have seen a thing or two. Here is the most incredible and terrifying, at least to me.

In the early 90's I lived in Barnwell Unit. While living there, I experienced the following events: It began with the feeling of someone watching me, which was not entirely unusual for prison at that time. Then stuff started to disappear, then reappear again in odd places. Once my watch vanished out of my locked locker, only to show up later in a shower that I was using.

As time went by things only got worse for my roommate Jeffrey "Hawk" T. and I. One day as Hawk and I were putting away food after getting back from the canteen, we heard a strange clicking sound in the middle of the cell, then we

heard a matter of fact voice originating from the same place say, "Get out." In a worried voice, Hawk said, "Did you hear that?" I said, "No." Then, getting his wits about him, he said, "Me neither".

Nothing happened after that for a while. Then one night I woke up with a weight on my chest and I could not move. This was the first of three terrifying nights in a row. Then came another reprieve from the terror. Soon thereafter came a series of odd smells that fellow inmates began to comment upon. The smells would most often turn up in the

middle of the night. The weirdest part was sometimes I would smell something as clear as day while Hawk would not smell anything, and vice versa.

This all came to a head on one summer night when

the air was off, and the whole dorm was wet from condensation. It was hot, wet and miserable. I woke up yet again, my body trapped by a malevolent presence. Only this time it did not happen for all that long. As I became free I saw an old man standing by the TV. I had had enough! I said, "Why don't you leave us alone?" Hawk woke up and asked whom I was talking too. Hawk then saw the old man,

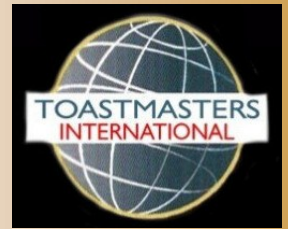
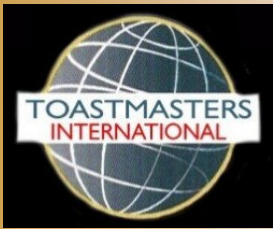
at which point the phantasm disappeared. That was it! It ended as far as I know.

A few weeks later Hawk transferred to another unit, and I moved to another room. We had to escape the room, even if we could never escape the memories. Sadly, we left the old man to whichever poor souls took our place. Two years after this incident, Jeffrey "Hawk" T. died from cirrhosis of the liver. Coincidence? You be the judge.

I'll close this by asking the same question with which I began this article, "Is Allendale haunted?" Hawk and I knew the answer to that question. Here's to hoping that you never wake to find yourself struggling to breathe, with an unbearable weight upon your chest. If you do, I only hope you heed his warning: GET OUT!!!

~Theo W.





Allendale Toastmasters Attains Presidential Distinguished Honors



THE HEART AND SOUL OF THE CLUB - CONNIE BUEHNER

This fiscal year, 2017-2018, The Allendale Toastmasters Club has achieved a mark to be remembered and celebrated. After much strenuous effort our Toastmasters Club has achieved the status of Presidential Distinguished Club, thanks to the milestones achieved by members of our club.

On September 22nd The Allendale Toastmasters Club celebrated this grand achievement, while also celebrating the Three Year Anniversary of our Club. On this day we honored the members for their enthusiasm and encouragement in the path to success for our club.

To achieve the award of Presidential Distinguished Club, the highest honor a club can receive, the club must maintain a high standard of excellence in achieving educational goals, gaining and maintaining members, proper training for club officers, and on time payment of club members' dues. We would like to thank all of the Allendale Toast-

master members who received awards and contributed to the success of the entire club. A big thanks goes to all those that constantly gave positive reinforcement to all striving to better their ability to lead and communicate effectively. Of course, we cannot forget to thank the Executive Committee that led us to this great victory, this one being the first of many to come.

The event went as smooth as our Toastmaster of the Day, Tajh C.. He guided the event flawlessly, as if he were a TV show host making the big bucks. We enjoyed phenomenal speeches by some of our clubs most developed speakers such as Nathan R., Terry B., Weldon S., and Kenneth N.. Each of these men received a standing ovation for a job well done in delivering his speech. In the interim between speeches we enjoyed a session dubbed "The Never Ending Story." The premise for this session was an impromptu story where volunteers picked up the story where the person before them left off. Robert H. began "The Never Ending Story", and was followed by an array of club members and honored guests. Mark B. finished the story with an interesting twist in which the Dallas Cowboys somehow won the Super Bowl and was venerated by the world. It went to show that the fantastical story was not bound by reason nor logic.

Thank you to all the family and friends who make it possible for us to partake in the Toastmasters International journey. Last but not least, a huge amount of gratitude goes to all the members from Toastmasters clubs in the free world, for com-



VISITING TOASTMASTER



ing and celebrating this milestone, and supporting us along the way.

~Justin L.



A Halloween Word Search

By - Theo Wright



B	F	S	U	V	E	M	A	S	K	S	C	T	G	L	U	K	Y	P	A	F	V
J	A	S	W	R	K	T	I	H	V	K	E	O	O	N	D	A	O	H	R	P	A
W	T	T	E	H	W	G	R	M	I	E	H	G	S	O	H	F	J	A	K	I	M
V	C	F	S	A	T	H	T	I	R	L	J	S	H	T	B	U	D	N	G	E	P
A	H	U	Y	L	O	I	F	S	D	E	O	G	P	M	U	F	A	T	H	B	I
G	V	C	A	L	I	W	R	S	F	T	O	F	U	L	L	M	O	O	N	T	R
H	O	B	G	O	B	L	I	N	S	O	L	S	N	N	E	D	E	M	I	W	E
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S	O	F	L	V	L	J	O	H	U	V	K	E	T	E	R	A	N	R	T	E	U
J	F	L	T	R	I	C	K	O	R	T	R	E	A	T	H	N	Y	E	O	S	L
T	U	N	S	E	T	R	P	N	H	S	E	U	V	P	E	D	N	T	D	G	L
A	N	C	M	G	R	A	V	E	Y	A	R	D	S	O	O	Y	O	O	D	B	S

Jack o Lantern

Haunted houses

Boo

Bats

candy

Ghosts

Graveyards

Cobwebs

Costumes

Black cats

Goblins

Scarecrows

Skulls

Frights

Phantom

Witches

Full moon

Vampires

Fear

Ghouls

Skeletons

Masks

Trick or treat

Fun

Boogieman

Hobgoblins

Halloween Party

Werewolves

Terror

The Study of Journalism



Holly Bounds-Jackson, Lynne Hummel, and Gwyneth Saunders

A sense of vindication was given to many of the Journalism staff of "The View from the CHU" on Friday, September 9th, 2018 when three distinguished journalists instructed the first class of its kind—*The Study of Journalism*: They were Editor-In-Chief of the Bluffton Sun, Lynne Hummel, freelance writer of the Bluffton Sun, Gwyneth Saunders, and Director of Content and Operations for SCETV of the Low Country, Holly Bounds-Jackson.

The sense of vindication, at least for me as the facilitator of Hampton's *Introduction to*

Journalism class, came when the women presented us with some of the same information and materials that we are presently sharing with our class. They followed this by mentioning how impressed they were by the summer edition of this newsletter. This gave the members of the Journalism staff an affirmation that we are heading in the right direction. They gave us insight into the world of journalism and how easy it could be for someone with a criminal record to contribute in a substantial way. If you are passionate about writing I encourage you to sign up for *Introduction to Journalism*, which is currently offered in Bamberg, Hampton, and Colleton Units. It is a skill that is directly transferrable to whatever professional career you choose to pursue.

~Darrel M.

Prison Rape Elimination Act (P.R.E.A.)

A.C.I. is dedicated to eliminating all sexual harassment and abuse. It is your responsibility as a resident to report any incidents you witness, and/or reported to you. Do so by dialing *22, or by written or verbal reports to any agency staff member, contract employee, volunteer, investigator, or SLED. There will be zero tolerance for retaliation against any reports. (*This may be done anonymously.*)

Quote of the Quarter

"Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend.
Inside of a dog it is much too dark to read."

~Groucho Marx

Fun Fact

Did you know that the word Halloween comes from the Old English words Hallo (sacred or holy) and Ween (to think). So Halloween means to think holy.

Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a proclamation in 1942 designating the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.

Editorial Staff

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Reporter	Ken N.	Reporter	Colby C.
Reporter	Jason M.	Contributor	Theodore W.
Reporter	Gene D.	Contributor	Brian T.
Reporter	Troy B.		

Event Calendar -Thea W Special Events Calendar



Weekly Celebrations

Week 1: Get Organized
Week 2: Customer Service
Week 3: Pastoral Care

Month

Adopt a Shelter Dog
Breast Cancer Awareness
Computer Learning

October

1st National Homemade cookie Day
5th World Teachers Day
6th Made Flatter Day
9th Curious Events Day
9th Leif Erikson Day
13th International Skeptics Day
14th National Dessert Day
19th Evaluate Your Life Day
26th Frankenstein Friday
27th Navy Day
29th National Frankenstein Day
30th Mischief Night
31st Halloween
31st Toastmasters Scary Story Event



Weekly Celebrations

Week 1: Chemistry
Week 3: Games and Puzzles

Month

National Novel Writing
National Adoption Awareness
National Caregivers Appreciation

November

1st All Saints Day
2nd All Souls Day
3rd Housewives' Day
9th Chaos Never Dies Day
13th World Kindness Day
15th American Recycles Day
16th International Tolerance Day
17th World Peace Day
18th Occult Day
22nd Thanksgiving Day
23th You're Welcome Day
23th Black Friday
26th Cyber Monday
28th Red Planet Day