

CD Replacements
Life Insurance
IRA Rollovers
College Funding

401(k) Rollovers
Health Insurance
Medicare
Long-Term Care

CALL US 843.563.2656



McCLURE & ASSOCIATES

139 N. Parler Avenue
St. George, SC 29477
843.563.2656

Est. 1899

The Eagle - Record

~ Your Dorchester County Seat Newspaper Since 1899 ~

www.theeaglerecord.com

Number 08/Volume 127

January 8, 2026

St. George, South Carolina

Automobile vs Motorcycle Fatality Victim Identified

The Dorchester County Coroner has identified the person killed in a motor vehicle collision on US 78 in Saint George.

Matthew J. Dacus, 34, of Saint George has been identified as the person killed in a motor vehicle collision on US 78 in St. George.

According to the Dorchester County Coroner, Dacus was killed when his street legal dirt bike was struck by a Ford Explorer making a left turn out of a private near Motel Drive at approximately 4:50pm on New Years afternoon.

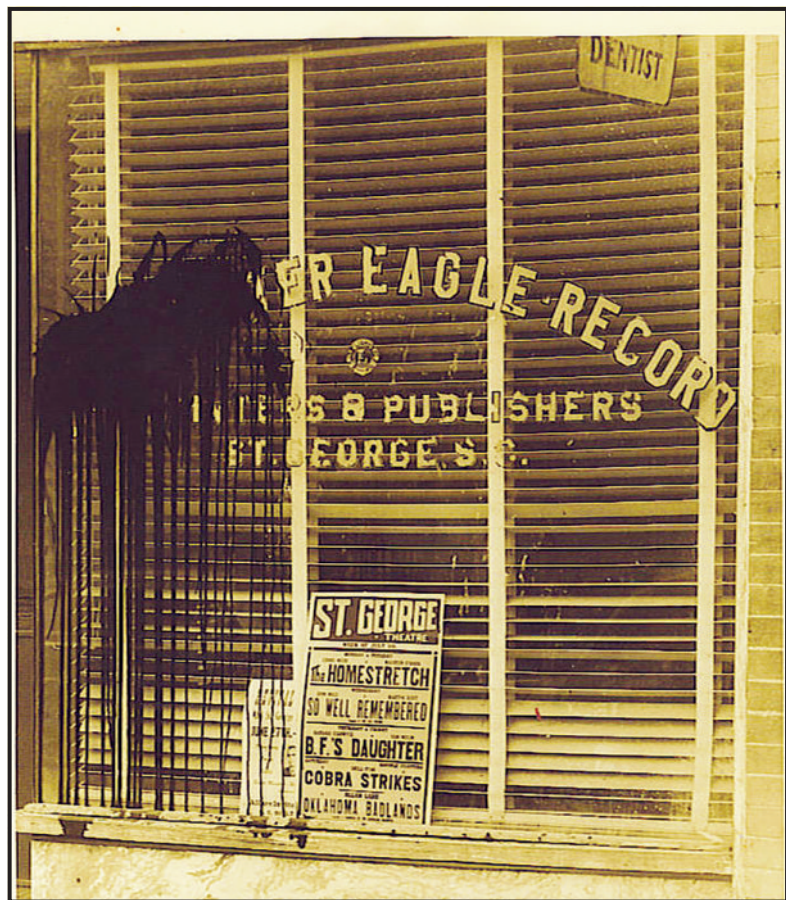
The coroner pronounced Dacus dead at the scene at 7:54pm.

The body will undergo an autopsy at the Medical University of South Carolina on January 8, at 8:00am.

The South Carolina Highway Patrol and The Dorchester County Coroner's Office are investigating.

End of an Era

Eagle-Record to Cease Publication after 127 Years



According to Pew Research, a primary newspaper industry think tank, an average of 2.5 U.S. newspapers a week are closing, most of them weeklies. Absent a buyer, *The Dorchester Eagle*, established in 1899 to serve the new county for legal and other services, is closing its doors after this week's edition.

Founded as a legal organ for the new county, cobbled together from Charleston and Colleton Counties, *The Eagle* merged with their bitter rival, *The Dorchester County Record* in 1934 in the midst of the Great Depression.

We have creatively kept the publishing cycle for many years, but ultimately, continuing spiraling costs, including printing, postage, insurance, taxes and fees, have rendered the operation, at least the manufacturing portion unsustainable for an independent operator to navigate.

The Eagle is still a profitable operation, but we have resisted gouging readers for memorials, weddings, obituaries and the like, which in retrospect may have been a mistake in some ways.

Many newspapers have turned to charging readers research fees for looking up information in their archives. Just imagine how that would go over! It's a sad decision to make, but not necessarily a difficult one. For many of you who know me, I have always been immersed in history and old stuff in general, and that also weighs on me. But I also know that the three of us, including Vicky and Louise, would like to retire. They have their grandchildren to look forward to and, between the three of us, have given this venerable old newspaper almost 90 years combined. This is my 43rd year in the newspaper business overall and that's enough for me.

The building will be up for sale here at 5549 Memorial Boulevard eventually, which has housed your newspaper since 1938, but will be here for at least a couple of months to tie up the many loose ends.

The newspaper business, even smaller weeklies, can be complex creatures, with many moving parts. Our many advertisers, sponsors, readers and vendors must be addressed. Many still have unpaid accounts, and we in turn will owe some readers or sponsors funds that have been paid in advance. The sooner we can receive the advertising and subscription payments that are in arrears, the quicker we can turn it around and make everyone whole.

That's about it for now. We've sincerely appreciate the love, support and criticism you've shown for many, many decades. Your loyalty means the world to us.

Andrew Gentry
Editor/Publisher
*The Dorchester
Eagle-Record*

AREA DEATHS

CANADAY, Mildred
"Mickie" Canaday, 95,
of St. George

FRALIX, David, 82,
of St. George

See
OBITUARIES
on Page 6



~ A Note of Thanks ~

I would like to take this opportunity, in what looks like the final edition of *The Dorchester Eagle-Record*, to say "Thank You" to all the good people of St. George, surrounding Towns, communities, and the business owners/managers I have had the pleasure to create ads for, and with, during my years here at the County Seat newspaper, which has been in existence for 127 years. Sometimes I have felt like I have been here that long.

There have been many friendships made along the way and I will certainly miss talking with those folks on a regular basis.

In my 40+ years here I have shared tears and hugs with folks bringing in memoriams for loved ones, congratulated new parents on the birth of their new baby, and helped couples, or Mom's of the bride, who were anxious to put "the wedding write-up" in the paper. I have figured out the best way to make a decent ad out of the hand-written info brought in on a wrinkled napkin, and was glad to be able to help with that.

The paper has seen many changes throughout the decades, some good, some not so good. It makes my heart beyond sad to see it come to an end. I am pretty sure however, there will be a few who say "good riddance". And to those I simply say ...Bless Your Heart.

May God be with us all as we move forward in this ever changing world.

Sincerely,
Victoria Mims "Vicky" Owens



Tripp
Gaillard
Owner / Agent
Tripp@batesinsg.com
843-563-4221
"We've got you covered"

HOME • AUTO • COMMERCIAL • LIFE

Gaillard Insurance Agency Inc.
A Division of Bates Insurance Group
of the Lowcountry
GIA

208-A Cedar St. • St. George
843-563-4221



The Faces You Know & Trust --- l-r, back row: Tripp Gaillard, Marvin Rick-born, Dan Horton; front row: Rosie Huff, Darlene Quattlebaum, & Melissa Marchant.

