

The Link welcomes the other Jane

JOAN YATES
Editor – The Link

The Link is pleased to welcome Chesterfield County native Olivia Jane Crawford as its new assistant editor. After living across the South Carolina region for the past 11 years, Crawford has recently returned to her home roots in Cheraw. Despite her years away, the 30-year-old is no stranger to the county she recalls fondly as her “adolescent playground.” Crawford grew up in Cheraw where she attended school until enrolling in Chesterfield public schools, where she participated in cross



Jane Crawford

country, track, cheerleading and bookkeeping for the Chesterfield High baseball team. Through sports and

other activities, the then-high-schooler fostered life-long friendships with her peers across the county.

After graduating from high school in 2011, Crawford moved to Columbia, where she began college at The University of South Carolina studying public health and experimental psychology. During her time at USC, she joined Chi Omega Fraternity. Wishing to narrow her area of study, Crawford transferred to Columbia College two years later to study speech-language pathology, earning her Bachelor of Arts degree in 2015.

WELCOME

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Upon graduating, Crawford spent the next several years working as a speech therapist across the Piedmont region. Feeling unfulfilled in her profession, she decided it was time to make a career change and began pursuing her childhood dream of becoming a writer. Shortly after, Crawford moved to Charleston, where she enrolled in the Master of English program at The Citadel Graduate College. While in graduate school, the speech-therapist-turned-writer worked various jobs until securing an internship

with the editorial department of Charleston Magazine, where she advanced to senior editorial intern and went on to earn the position of contributing writer. When she wasn't working or attending class, Crawford found herself spending her weekends back home in Cheraw, which served as the catalyst to her decision to move back to her hometown.

"I was craving a change of pace," explained Crawford. "So, I decided to trade in the hustle and bustle of the city for the slow and steady pace

of home, and I haven't looked back since."

Crawford is excited to join the team at The Link in her new role as assistant editor. She looks forward to the opportunity to utilize her passion for writing as a way to connect with and serve the community she said shaped her into the person she is today.

"When I finally decided to chase my dreams, I never would have expected them to lead me back home," said Crawford. "But I couldn't be more grateful that they did."