

McCormick Post Office delivery issues under District Office review



By JOHN STONE

MCCORMICK, S.C. — The Augusta District Post Office has advised The Journal Messenger & Reporter that McCormick newspapers will continue to be delivered by the McCormick Post Office while future plans are developed.

Augusta District Business Mail Entry Manager Brenda Harris requested updated delivery paperwork be completed by the newspaper. The newspaper has an existing agreement on file with the USPS since 2022, but Harris has requested a specific new file, an "Exceptional Dispatch Authorization Letter." The paper has delivered the requested documents and awaits confirmation by the August District Office at press time.

The controversy

began last week when McCormick Postmaster Evelyn Case texted the newspaper demanding the papers delivered to her loading dock on Tuesday as they have been since 2022 be removed, and that she would not deliver. She then threatened arrest on Publisher John Stone when he arrived to question the decision.

The Augusta District Post Office intervened and Case agreed to reverse her earlier decision.

The incident has been noted by all member newspapers of the South Carolina Press Association, state and federal legislators, and other elected officials in the event outside involvement or litigation is needed to insure that Palmetto State newspapers continue to be delivered to their subscribers by the U.S. Postal Service.

Green Curtains to present classic 'Arsenic and Old Lace'



MCCORMICK, S.C. — This spring, Green Curtains invites audiences to step into the thrilling world of old-time radio with a unique production of "Arsenic and Old Lace—A Live Radio Play." Blending the timeless charm of a 1940s broadcast with the fast-paced energy of live theater, this production promises an evening of laughter and suspense.

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LC commissioners set to approve contract for storm preparedness

By ANGYE MORRISON

LINCOLNTON, Ga. — The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for their monthly workshop on March 6, with board members taking a look at possible standby contracts to allow the county to be better prepared for any future weather events on the level of Hurricane Helene.

According to Ernie Doss, Finance director, the county accepted requests for proposal for debris monitoring, and it is his recommendation, along with Emergency Services Director Casey Broom, that the county award a standby contract to DebrisTech LLC, out of Sarasota, Florida.

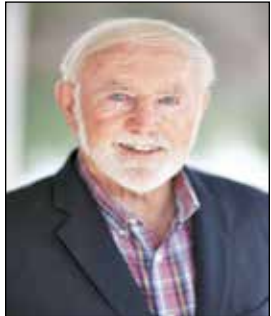
The standby contact would be at no cost to the county, unless the services are needed in the event of a storm.

In addition, Broom and Doss recommended that the county award a standby contract for debris removal to Ceres Environmental Inc., which provided debris removal services after Hurricane Helene.

"I think we're being proactive in what we're doing to put Lincoln County ahead of the ballgame in case something happens again," said commission Chairman Walker Norman. "We won't get caught without anybody. It worked out pretty good for us, but it could have been a nightmare if things



Norman



Cliatt

hadn't worked out for us like they did by not having a contract already with somebody. So I think that it's good that we go ahead and get this done. Hopefully we never have to call you back in."

The debris removal contract is also at no cost to the county unless activated.

Commissioners will vote on the contracts at their next scheduled meeting.

Commissioners also heard from Doss regarding the county's telephone system, which he said "is obsolete times two."

Doss told the board that they have been discussing the replacement of the phone system, which was installed in 1996, for a long time.

"The problem is it's

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Lincoln County commissioners are considering contracting with outside sources to ensure that the county is prepared for another event like Hurricane Helene, which caused the damage shown here near the office of the Lincoln County Board of Education.

Lady Tigers fall to Wilcox in state championship game



Photos by Justin Riley

By REX EDMUNDS

WASHINGTON, Ga. — The Washington-Wilkes Lady Tigers ran into a buzz-saw in the state championship game, falling to the Wilcox County Patriots, 72-48. Wilcox finished the season 28-1 and was the No. 1 team in Class A-Div II for most of the year. They won their quarterfinal and semifinal matchups by 28 and 30 points, respectively, with 22 of their 28 wins this season came by more than 20 points.

Freshman forward Myasia Lewis was the leading scorer for the Lady Tigers as she has been several times during the playoffs. She finished with 15 points, 13 of which came in the first half. Fellow freshman forward Samaria Young led the team with 6 rebounds and had 11 points. Sophomore guard Kaidyn "Bug" Porter also had a very productive game with 10 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists, and 2 steals.

The pace was relentless from the start, with both teams utilizing a lot of pressure defense, creating turnovers, and forcing bad shots. It was a low scoring affair for the first few minutes, with the Lady Tigers holding a 5-4 lead 4 minutes into the game. However, at that point, the Patriots' only senior, Carly Miller, converted a 4-point play that put Wilcox on a 17-2 run.

WW held tough in the second quarter and went

into halftime trailing 32-20. But they came out hot in the second half, cutting the deficit to 5 points with a 7-0 run to start the third quarter. The Tigers outscored Wilcox by one point in the third quarter and trailed 47-36 entering the fourth.

The star of the game for the Patriots was sophomore center Tyliah Benjamin, who was a dominant force down low, finishing the game with 20 rebounds and 6 blocks, to go along with 13 points. However, Benjamin was on the bench with foul trouble for the end of the third quarter and the start of the fourth. While Benjamin was out, the Lady Tigers were able to claw back into the game, cutting the lead to 6 points, 47-41, with 6:30 left in the game.

Again, however, it was a 3-pointer by Miller that ended the Tiger run. On the next Patriot possession, Benjamin who had just re-entered the game, connected on another 3-point play, with a basket and free throw. Wilcox ended the game on a 25-7 run to claim the state title.

The Lady Tigers had an incredible season and the future looks very bright for this young team.

Washington-Wilkes (48) — Young 11, Crew 8, Williams 1, Porter 10, Bankston 3, Lewis 15

Wilcox County (72) — S Martin 22, Roberts 8, Z Martin 6, K Martin 9, Miller 14, Benjamin 13

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL NEWS RELEASES, ADVERTISING, LEGAL NOTICES, OBITUARTIES AND CLASSIFIED ADS FOR INCLUSION IN THE FOLLOWING WEEK'S PAPER IS THURSDAY, 3 P.M. BY PHONE AND 5 P.M. BY EMAIL.