



Thursday

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Editor: Kathy Ropp

All About Us

COPS ON TOP

The recent fundraiser event collected \$5,285 over this past weekend at the Conway Chick-fil-A. The money will be donated to the Special Olympics. Page B2



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PHOTOS BY KATHY ROPP / FTHE HORRY INDEPENDENT

CCU executive vice president Eddie Dyer follows along with the new historical marker in front of the old Conway High School as Rick Maxey with Horry County Schools reads the text for the folks gathered Monday for the unveiling.

The old Conway High School makes history

BY KATHY ROPP
EDITOR

Conwayite Emma Lou Johnson wore her "I'm from the old school" t-shirt and Horry County Council Chairman Liz Gilland brought a brick that she rescued from the old Conway High School when a group gathered Monday afternoon to mark the location as the birthplace of Coastal Carolina University.

The high point of the event was unveiling a S.C. Historical Marker that ties the site of the old school to CCU. Coastal's first students met in the old school on Laurel

Street in the evenings after the high school day was over. Mrs. Johnson was actually a student at both schools. She graduated from Conway High School, but came back to Coastal Carolina College for one semester. Illness caused her to lose all of her credits for that one semester.

Gilland said some very important people went through the old Conway High School from 1929 - 1979 because anyone who lived anywhere near Conway went to that school. She was one of them.

Gilland said young people in her day didn't get into se-



Billy Alford, chairman of the CCU Board of Trustees, presents a plaque to J.K. East, the only living founder of the college.

rious trouble the way today's young people do; they just played pranks, had fun, enjoyed the Motown sound and dreamed about what

was going to happen at the Beach Club that weekend.

She remembered the time

CHS MARKER, B10

TEA Party rally returns to MB

BY MATT MONTGOMERY
FOR THE HORRY INDEPENDENT

Are you frustrated with big government? Are taxes too high? Upset over the recent healthcare vote?

Those are the questions a group of politically active residents are asking.

And if all goes according to plan, Myrtle Beach Tea Party organizers will have 4,000 people who answered "yes" show up to the 2nd Annual Tax Day Rally today at Chapin Park in Myrtle Beach.

From noon until about 2:30 p.m., Chapin Park will be the venue for U.S. Constitution supporters to air grievances at the current administration's "reckless and irresponsible" government spending.

The lunchtime demonstration is open to the public, and fliers ask attendees to bring three items: a chair, an American flag and a tea bag.

"We may decide to mail [the tea bags] to a senator or congressman," Joe Dugan, MB Tea Party's media and public relations chairman, said. "But it just represents the basic tea party idea: taxation without representation is against our constitution."

"Forcing people to pay health insurance against their will, in our minds, is taxation without representation."

Often times thought of as a right-wing group, Dugan emphasized that Myrtle Beach Tea Party is unaffiliated with any political party and, if consistent views are supported, would back a Democratic candidate.

Enter registered Democrat Mike Visnjic. He has supported the Myrtle Beach Tea Party group since its inception and said Monday after the group's weekly meeting that it's "bigger than political parties."

"People here know that I am proud to be a democrat," Visnjic, 56, said. "They sometimes will, in jest, make a little remark, but we are all on very good terms."

Visnjic was among 60 others whom gathered at a family restaurant Monday for the final Tea Party meeting. It was a larger crowd than usual, mainly because Rep. Nikki Haley (R-S.C.) was the speaker.

Haley is campaigning to be South Carolina's next Governor. She was stumping in Myrtle Beach last weekend and stopped to speak at the Tea Party meeting. The former Clemson University graduate said when she left school and returned to the family business, making a buck wasn't quite as easy.

"The one thing we learned about the family business was how hard it was to make a dollar and how easy it was for the government to take it."

Likewise, candidates for the First Congressional District - although all nine of them Republicans - have been invited to share their views with the attendees at Chapin Park. Lieutenant Gov. candidate Bill Connor will be the keynote speaker.

All candidates will have a booth set up for deeper discussions following the speakers, Dugan said. The group will also provide a voter registration table.

Last year's T.E.A. (Taxed Enough Already) party rally totaled approximately 2,500 outspoken activists, some who held signs along Kings Highway that read "Give Us Liberty, Not Debt" and "Please hear our voices, We pay the tax!"

CCU students learn how storm drains affect environment

Students hope to raise awareness of stormwater pollution and litter

BY HEATHER GALE
STAFF WRITER

Students at Coastal Carolina University are getting a firsthand lesson on where stormwater goes and how it affects the environment as they mark the school's storm drains.

CCU students Lauren Greoski and Kelly Muench, storm water education interns, led a group of 15 students on a journey through campus to mark the various storm drains as a way to educate the student population that anything entering a storm drain will lead straight to area waterways untreated.

The students helped to develop custom designed, four-inch round markers made of hard plastic that they plan to glue near the storm drains with one of two messages: "No Dumping, Drains to River" or "No Dumping, Drains to Ocean."

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that "runs off" across the land.

Not all stormwater is polluted and causes problems in the rivers and oceans, but litter, pet waste and pesticides do cause harm, according to the Coastal Waccamaw Stormwater Education Consortium's website.

Greoski said they are trying to raise awareness of stormwater pollution and litter.

"Everything gets picked up and taken to the river or the ocean," she said. "We need to help the public understand that we unknowingly may be harming our environment."

Kyle St. Clair, a sophomore in the Marine Science program, came out to help mark the drains and said people need to know what is going on with stormwater pollution.

"People need to know how vital it is to know what is being put in the water," he said. "A lot of people just throw things on the ground without thinking. We need to make sure they think about things and take care of the planet."

St. Clair also said the University needs to up its game in promoting eco-friendly events and programs.

"We need to help keep the environment healthy," he said. "I am excited to be here and I love helping out and the University should too."

Muench and Greoski have been working with the Coastal Waccamaw Stormwater Education Con-



CCU students Lauren Greoski and Kelly Muench, stormwater education interns, mark various storm drains as a way to educate student population that whatever enters storm drains will lead straight to area waterways.

CCU STORM DRAINS, B3