FREE • Vol. 3 - No. 2 Your Trusted Source for Local News and Information

February 2025

## The Peach Stand in Fort Mill to Undergo Temporary Closure for Renovations

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Fort Mill, SC – The Peach Stand, a beloved Fort Mill staple, will temporarily close from February 2 to February 28, 2025, for facility updates, reopening on March 1 with normal hours.

After nearly five decades of service, the store is making improvements to

ensure a safe and efficient environment for customers and staff. "We are committed to maintaining the quality and charm our customers love while enhancing the experience," the company stated.

Established in 1980, The Peach Stand is known for its butcher shop, deli, bakery, ice cream parlor, fresh produce, and locally crafted goods. The store emphasizes a farm-to-table experience, featuring items sourced within 100 miles.

When it reopens, customers can expect the same friendly atmosphere and high-quality products, with improvements aimed at enhancing the shopping and dining experience. The store remains dedicated to supporting local farmers and artisans.

Mark your calendars for March 1, 2025, when The Peach Stand reopens its doors, ready to serve the community with the same commitment to quality and local flavor that has made it a cherished local landmark.

For updates, visit the Peach Stand website at www.peachstand.com.

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## PowerSchool Data Breach Impacts Fort Mill School District

A cybersecurity breach in PowerSchool's PowerSource portal has affected school districts nationwide, including South Carolina. The breach exposed directory information such as names, phone numbers, and addresses, along with some medical records like allergy information.

In Fort Mill School District, social security numbers of eight former employees and two current or former students were compromised. Those affected are being contacted directly by PowerSchool.

While the company claims to have contained the breach, the incident raises concerns about data security in education. State Superintendent Ellen Weaver called the protection of student and educator data "non-negotiable" and assured the state will investigate the breach and ensure affected individuals receive credit and identity monitoring services.

Late on January 7th, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) was informed by PowerSchool about the incident. Officials confirmed that personally identifiable information (PII) was compromised. The SCDE is actively working with PowerSchool, legal counsel, and local districts to assess the full impact on South Carolina schools, students, and educators. The department has also engaged with the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), the Attorney General's office to address the situation.

The breach, which began on December 19, 2024, was not detected by PowerSchool until December 28, and school districts were not notified until January 7. Nearly four weeks later, families, teachers, and school officials are still seeking clarity on the full extent of the breach.

PowerSchool has stated that it has taken steps to secure its systems and prevent further unauthorized access. However, the breach serves as a stark reminder of the growing threat of cyberattacks on educational institutions.



## Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, SCDES Recognize York **County Entities for Joint Efforts in Watershed Planning** and Protection

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Lt. Governor Pamela Evette and the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) recognized several local governments and entities in York County for their effective collaboration on watershed planning and protection.

Lt. Governor Evette and SCDES Interim Director Myra Reece presented representatives of the Watershed Evaluation Team (WET) with SCDES's Power of Partnerships Award. WET is a working group comprised of stakeholders from multiple jurisdictions in York County: City of York, York County, City of Rock Hill, Catawba Regional Council of Governments, Catawba Indian Nation, City of Fort Mill, and the City of Tega Cay.

These stakeholders assembled WET in 2022 to better understand and manage York County's water resources and through their cooperative efforts, developed watershed plans in the region. The watershed plans are used to implement improvements for protecting water quality.

"The Watershed Evaluation Team is a perfect example of what can be accomplished through collaboration, and we couldn't think of a better initiative to receive the agency's first Power of Partnerships award," said SCDES Interim Director Myra Reece. "WET created partnerships through several local governments and jurisdictions to allow for a concerted effort in protecting water quality throughout York County."

WET stakeholders have applied for and received several grants that supported the development of watershed plans for the Big Dutchman



Creek and Tools Fork watersheds. Plans for the Burgis Creek and Sixmile Creek watersheds as well as the Fishing Creek Headwaters, Upper Fishing Creek, Middle Fishing Creek, Tinkers Creek and Little Allison Creek watersheds are in the works or will soon be developed.

As these watershed plans are completed, WET and local stakeholders are pursuing funding opportunities to implement the solutions identified through the watershed planning process.

"This is a forward-looking initiative," said Rick Lee, Chairman of the WET. "These watershed studies will be used in planning for growth in the area, as they provide us with a better understanding of our watersheds and how development can potentially impact them. These watershed plans allow us to take informed actions to mitigate those potential impacts before they could affect nearby communities."

WET members recognized today include representatives of:

City of York York County Catawba Regional Council of Governments City of Rock Hill Catawba Indian Nation City of Fort Mill City of Tega Cay The WET members are the first to be recognized with SCDES's Power of Partnerships award, which celebrates those who demonstrate extraordinary partnership and collaboration in protecting and preserving South Carolina's environment for the benefit of all.



## Nancy Mace Eyes South Carolina Governorship

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Nancy Mace, a Republican Representative from South Carolina, has announced that she is seriously considering a run for Governor of South Carolina in 2026. Mace, who has represented South Carolina's 1st District since 2020, believes her experience in the state legislature and her strong relationships in Washington have prepared her for this potential gubernatorial bid.

In a recent interview, Mace emphasized her commitment to conservative policies and her desire to make a significant impact at the state level. She has been a vocal supporter of President Donald Trump and plans to seek his endorsement for her gubernatorial campaign. Mace's alignment with Trump and her stance on key social issues, such as her resolution banning transgender women from using women's bathrooms at the U.S. Capitol, have bolstered her profile among social conservatives.

Mace acknowledges the need to connect with voters in more conservative areas of South Carolina, such as the Upstate region, to build a strong statewide campaign. She currently represents the state's only swing district, which includes the Charleston area.

Mace told the Associated Press, "We are seriously considering a statewide run for governor in 2026. I've been in the state Legislature before, I have great relationships in Washington now, and I've acquired the leadership necessary to be bold, to make sure that we are moving forward with conservative policies."



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## Tega Cay Sun



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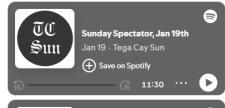
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## **Tega Cay Sun Sunday Spectator Podcast**

Thomas Hyslip, Editor





The Tega Cay Sun is excited to announce the launch of its new weekly podcast, bringing you the latest local news in an easily accessible audio format. Leveraging cutting-edge artificial intelligence technology, the podcast will deliver a curated selection of the week's top stories, keeping you informed and engaged with your community.

"We are always looking for ways to better serve our readers and the community," says Tom Hyslip and Patrick Byrne, Editors of the Tega Cay Sun. "This podcast provides a convenient new way for busy residents to stay up-to-date on the latest happenings in Tega Cay."

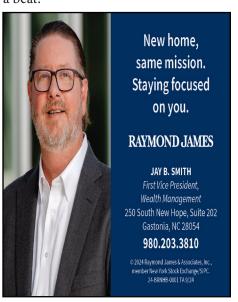
Key features of the Tega Cay Sun podcast include:

AI-powered curation: Advanced algorithms select the most important and relevant news stories each week. Free access: The podcast is completely free for all listeners.

Convenient format: Perfect for listening during your commute, workout, or while tackling chores around the house.

Local focus: Stay informed about the news that matters most to you and your neighbors.

The Tega Cay Sun podcast is available now on all major podcast platforms, inlcuding Spotify, Amazon, Apple, and Iheart. Subscribe today and never miss a beat!



## Tega Cay Events for the year!

Tega Cay's 2025 Event Lineup offers a year of exciting activities, including:

\*\*Best Dam Food Festival\*\*: May 10 at Catawba Park, featuring food trucks, live music, and a kids zone.

\*\*Music in the Park\*\*: Summer concert series with various tribute bands, starting in June.

\*\*U.S. of Cay Independence Day Celebration\*\*: July 4-5 with parades, a fish fry, and fireworks.

\*\*Catawba Fest\*\*: Moved to September, showcasing arts, crafts, and music.

Other events include Boos & Ghouls, Pumpkin Palooza, and community engagement activities with local fire and police departments. Stay updated through the city's website and Facebook for more details and changes.



## UPCOMING EVENTS 2025

FEB

**3TH** 

**PlanningCommission**- will meet at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers.

FEB

**18TH** 

**24TH** 

**City Council Meeting-** at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers.

## FEB '

**Economic Development Commission**-will meet at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers.

## TUE.

Weekly

**Dr. Tom's Trivia** - 6:30pm at Model A Brewing..

## THUR. Weekly

**Bingo with Shane** - 6:30pm at Model A Brewing..

## WED-SAT. Weekly

**Live Music** - Live music four nights a week at the SC Shore Club

## Saturdays Bi-Weekly

Tega Cay Lions Club - 2nd and 4th Satruday of the month, the Tega Cay Lions Club meets in the lower level of the Glennon Center. More information available at https://tegacaylions.wixsite.com/tegacaylions

## Last WED. Monthly

**Tega Cay Good Life Club** -Meets the last Wednesday of each month at the Glennon Center. More information available at https://tcgoodlifeclub.wixsite.com/tcglc

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## **Public Notices**

We now offer public notices IAW 15-29-80 S.C. Code Ann. (1976). If you are legally required to provide public notice, please contact us and we will assist you with meeting your requirements.

## Winthrop University to Offer First Doctoral Degree This Fall, Other Degree Offerings Approved

Beginning in the fall, Winthrop University aims to offer its first doctoral degree, a move that is a major milestone for the institution.

President Edward Serna '02 said the university has already received state approval to create an Ed.D. in Leadership and Innovation degree and will ask for the green light from its major accreditation body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). "This is a proud moment for Winthrop University," Serna said. "Now in its 139th academic year, Winthrop started as a college to train teachers. The addition of a doctoral degree is a natural evolution for our institution and will deliver significant dividends for the region and state for years to come."

Provost Sebastian van Delden said the degree through the Richard W. Riley College of Education, Sport and Human Sciences will give students a chance to explore advanced studies in the areas of learning, leadership and organizational change. The program will bring together different perspectives that exist in PK-12 school districts, institutions of higher education, nonprofits and businesses in an adult-oriented program that allows for dissertation studies focused on problems of practice that are expected to positively influence change.

Winthrop received state approval for the doctoral degree in December from the S.C. Commission on Higher Education. It will apply this spring to its main accreditation body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), to be reclassified from a Level 3 (master's granting) institution to a Level 5 (three or fewer doctoral programs) institution.

Two new undergraduate degrees responding to the evolving needs of business also will be offered this fall.

The Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence will develop graduates capable of developing, not just using, artificially intelligent systems to solve a wide range of problems.

The second degree is a Bachelor of Science in Financial Technology (FinTech) designed to build on traditional finance topics and equip students with knowledge of datadriven financial modeling and fintech tools, such as artificial intelligence and machine learning,

## Mr. Penny Pincher: 3 Roadblocks to Financial Success and How to Overcome Them Patrick Byrne, Editor

Having a healthy relationship with money can be challenging. We live in a society where we're constantly being asked to spend with little regard for saving or truly understanding the ramifications of our choices. Our friends, family and loved ones may also be detrimental in reaching our money goals.

Here are 3 roadblocks that may be getting in the way of your financial success.

## You're a sheep, not a wolf

Following the herd is natural. It's comfortable and offers little to no resistance as we meander through life. In the case of money, it can be very damaging.

Let's say you're faced with a decision. Your friends are planning a trip to Las Vegas and they've invited you to go. Everyone is providing input on where to stay and what to do when you get there. You're comfortable spending \$2000 for hotel, airfare and pocket cash when you get there. The itinerary is agreed to by everyone but you and will cost \$3000. You now have a dilemma. Do you agree to pay the larger amount, offer resistance or back out completely? In other words, will you be a sheep and go with the herd or be a wolf and stay true to your original budget?

No matter how difficult or uncomfortable it may be, sticking to your original budget will provide you with the greatest chance of financial success in the future. If your friends either don't understand that or aren't willing to compromise, it may be time to reconsider the company you keep.

## You have a budget, you don't manage a budget

According to debt.com, over 90% of Americans use some form of budgeting to manage their money. On its face, this would appear to be positive. Digging further, an additional survey from Clever Real Estate indicated that 74% of Americans report overspending with 55% saying they spent "recklessly."

Having a budget and managing your budget are two completely different things. For example, if you bring home \$3,000 a month but routinely spend \$3,200, you're \$200 in the hole each month. Rather than saving for the future, you're putting yourself in debt to the tune of \$2400 per year.

Scaling back on purchasing and finding savings where possible to stay below your monthly income is the difference between having and managing a budget.

## You're surrounded by jackals

We've all heard stories of the lottery winner, athlete or actor who hits it big only to find themselves broke within a 5-10 year period. Overspending, tax ramifications and handouts to friends, family and acquaintances are some of the main reasons. In the case of handouts, this isn't a phenomenon isolated only to the wealthy, it impacts everyday people as well.

You've probably been faced with a situation where someone either doesn't pay you back, sticks you with the bill for dinner or pays less than what they owe on an outstanding bill. Making a decision to foot the bill for a friend or

See Penny Pincher, Page 8

## State-of-the-Art Veterans' Nursing Home Opens in Sumter

\$71 Million Facility Offers 104 Beds and Comprehensive Services

Sumter, SC — South Carolina veterans have a new haven designed to provide exceptional care and comfort in their golden years. A state-of-the-art nursing home dedicated to serving those who have served our country has officially opened in Sumter.

"The opening of Patriot's Village in Sumter marks yet another milestone in the state of South Carolina's commitment to providing quality, long-term care to our Veterans," said South Carolina Department of Veterans Affairs' Secretary Todd B. McCaffrey. "Expanding access to high-quality long-term care for Veterans is a priority for the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs. We are committed to working with Veterans, family members, local communities, and our care providers to ensure our facilities continue to meet the evolving needs of our Veteran population and provide a comfortable, dignified, and supportive environment for them to thrive."

Located at 915 N. Wise Drive, the sprawling 70-acre campus offers 104 beds for veterans requiring skilled or intermediate nursing care.

## Features include:

- -Single- and double-occupancy rooms
- A chapel
- Barber shop
- Activities room
- Bistro
- Physical therapy room
- Pharmacy

This project was made possible through a collaborative effort between federal and state sources. The U.S. Veterans Administration approved \$28.8 million in reimbursable funds, while the South Carolina Department of Mental Health (SCDMH) received \$42.6 million in state appropriations for the fiscal year 2022.

## Eligibility for admission includes:

- An honorable discharge from active duty
- South Carolina residency for the previous 12 months
- Meeting the Veterans Administration's requirements for nursing home care

The opening of this nursing home underscores South Carolina's commitment to enhancing the quality of life for its veteran population, offering essential services and support to those who have bravely served the nation.

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Dr. David Hall

## **Tega Cay Council Grapples with Deer Management, Development Impacts, and ARPA Funding**

Patrick Byrne, Editor

The Tega Cay City Council meeting on January 21, 2025, involved discussions on a variety of issues, including committee structures, development concerns, ARPA funding, and the deer management program.

### Action Items & Discussions:

- Tabled Item: The council tabled the first agenda item to their February meeting.
- Approved Minutes: The council approved the minutes from the December 16, 2024 meeting.
- Ordinance 581 Violation (27053 Catamaran Drive): The council tabled discussion regarding a potential ordinance violation concerning a Land Rover vehicle. The owner, Rory Forum, argued that the vehicle was neither abandoned nor derelict according to state law.
- ARPA Funding for Small Businesses: The council approved criteria for small businesses to receive ARPA funding, with discussion about eligibility requirements and communication strategies.
- Council Liaisons for Committees: The council discussed the role of council liaisons for committees and agreed that while council members should continue to attend committee meetings, committee chairs or designated members should present reports to the full council.
- Amending City Code Parks & Recreation and Stormwater Committees (Ordinance 581): The council introduced and conducted the first reading of an ordinance to amend the city code relating to the Parks and Recreation and Stormwater committees. They discussed membership requirements and meeting procedures.
- Amending Fiscal Year Budget Parks and Recreation Fee Schedule: The
  council introduced and conducted the first reading of an ordinance to
  amend the fee schedule for reserving pickleball courts at the Beach and
  Swim Center. They discussed the fee structure, reservation process, and
  access for residents versus non-residents.
- York County Natural Gas Board of Directors: The council voted to recommend Tom Goble to continue serving as the city's representative on the York County Natural Gas Board of Directors.
- Windjammer Shoreline Stabilization Project: The council awarded the bid for the Windjammer Shoreline Stabilization project to Lake Wylie Dock Construction for an amount not to exceed \$990,000.
- Wildlife Management Program: The council approved allocating funds not to exceed \$35,000 from contingency funds towards the wildlife management program for additional deer culling. They discussed the effectiveness of the current program and the need for further action to reduce the deer population.

## City Manager's Report:

- Annual Department Reports: Annual reports for each city department were to be available online the following day.
- Spring Sports Registration: Registration for spring sports closes on Saturday, February 1st, coinciding with Dick's Sporting Goods Day.
- Upcoming Public Hearings: The council was expected to hold two public hearings at their February 18th meeting, one regarding the MAR Overlay District and the other concerning site standards in the PDD for Main Street.
- Committees, Commissions, and Boards Applications: Applications were open until February 29th for terms expiring at the end of March.
- Comprehensive Plan Update Survey: An interactive survey for citizens to provide feedback on the city's comprehensive plan update was expected to be available by the end of the month.
- Beach and Swim Center Membership: Registration for Beach and Swim Center memberships for the following summer was open.

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## Healthy Living with Dr. Hall: When The Winter Blues are Something More

## Dr. David Hall

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a real thing. It is a type of clinical depression related to the changes in season. The symptoms of SAD are comparable to Major Depressive Disorder but only occur at certain times of the year. Symptoms typically begin in mid-late fall (October or November) and last through early spring (March or April). The symptoms tend to peak in February. People living in higher altitudes and or latitudes are more susceptible to SAD due to diminished daylight hours during the winter.

### Causes

Circadian Rhythm is our body's natural, internal clock. This 24 hour cycle is influenced by the length of daylight and can contribute to symptoms of SAD. The hypothalamus is a part of our brains that produces sleep-inducing melatonin. Diminished daylight can trigger the hypothalamus to increase production of sleepy-time melatonin. Inversely, the mood-regulating hormone serotonin can drop during sunlight-deprived days also triggering SAD symptoms.

## **Treatment Options**

- Light therapy: Sit in front of a bright light box for 30–45 minutes a day, usually in the morning, from fall to spring.
- Sunlight exposure: Spend time outside or near a window, even on cloudy days.
- Exercise: Regular physical activity can help relieve stress and anxiety.
- Sleep: Establish a regular sleep schedule and avoid oversleeping or napping.
- Diet: Eat a healthy, balanced diet and choose energy-boosting complex carbohydrates starchy vegetables (white and sweet potatoes, peas, corn), legumes (beans, lentils), and whole grains.
- Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT):
   A talking therapy that can help you identify and manage stressors.
- St. John's wort: An herbal remedy that may increase serotonin levels.



- Self-care: Do things you enjoy, like watching a movie, taking a bubble bath, or visiting a museum.
- You can also try to make your home and work environments brighter, such as opening blinds or adding skylights.
- Medications, such as bupropion hydrochloride, can offer some relief from SAD symptoms. These antidepressants can provide energy and motivation and increase the desire to socialize.

## Conclusion

While Seasonal Affective Disorder can be quite challenging, there are many coping options available.

Most important, if you are noticing indicators or if you have a history of SAD, being proactive about addressing the symptoms is key to managing the problem until the spring thaw.

Dr. David Hall is the owner of Hall Chiropractic Center. With over 40 years of experience, Dr. Hall is proud to serve the residents of Tega Cay and Fort Mill.

## Wegmans Secures Land for First Charlotte Store in Ballantyne Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Wegmans Food Markets Inc., a renowned family-owned grocer based in Rochester, New York, has officially acquired 14.32 acres in Ballantyne for its first store in the Charlotte market. Mecklenburg County property records reveal that Wegmans purchased two parcels from NP BCP Land and NW Offices on Six, entities affiliated with developer Northwood Investors, according to the Charlotte Business Journal. The acquisition cost totaled nearly \$15.8 million.

Plans for the site include a 110,000-square-foot Wegmans store, which will be located along North Community Road on the east side of Ballantyne. The grocer has announced a targeted opening date in the third quarter of 2026.

This development marks a significant milestone for Wegmans as it expands its footprint into the Charlotte region, promising to bring its signature combination of high-quality products, prepared foods, and customer service to local residents. Wegmans has gained a loyal following in other markets for its focus on fresh and specialty foods, as well as its innovative store layouts and



## Buzz around Town



Lake Wylie Steals the Spotlight on Bravo's "Southern Hospitality" Thomas Hyslip, Editor

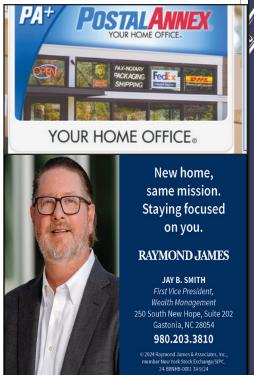


Get ready to see your hometown on the small screen! Bravo's reality show "Southern Hospitality" recently filmed an episode right here in Tega Cay on Lake Wylie, and you might just catch a glimpse of some familiar faces and places.

The show, which follows the lives of a group of friends working in Charleston's hospitality industry, brought the drama to our beautiful lake as it explored the complicated relationship between cast members TJ and Joe.

While we won't give away any spoilers, let's just say things got pretty heated as past revelations and hidden feelings came to light. Keep your eyes peeled for some recognizable landmarks - you might just spot your favorite waterfront restaurant, that popular lakeside bar, or even your own neighbor!

This isn't the first time Lake Wylie has been featured on "Southern Hospitality," and with the drama heating up, it likely won't be the last. Tune in to "Southern Hospitality" Thursdays on Bravo to see what unfolds next for these Southern charmers and our beautiful lake!



Nigerian Suspect Extradited to South Carolina for Sextortion Case Leading to Teen's Suicide



A Nigerian man has been extradited to South Carolina to face federal charges in connection with the 2022 suicide of Gavin Guffey, the teenage son of State Representative Brandon Guffey. This marks the first time a suspect has been extradited from Nigeria to South Carolina for a sextortion crime.

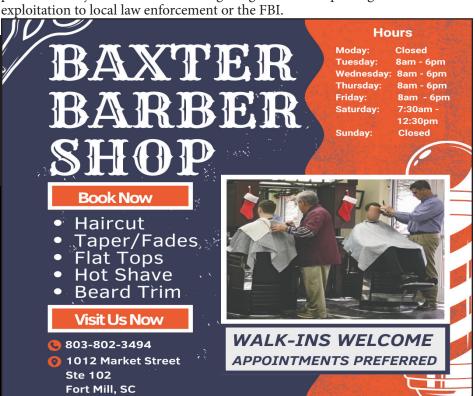
Hassanbunhussein Abolore Lawal, 24, of Osun State, Nigeria, faces five federal charges, including child exploitation resulting in death, production and distribution of child sexual abuse material, and cyberstalking. If convicted, he faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 30 years, with a maximum of life in prison.

Prosecutors allege Lawal posed as a teenage girl online, coercing Gavin into sending explicit photos before threatening to release them unless paid. The extortion led to Gavin's suicide in July 2022. Authorities claim Lawal also targeted Gavin's sibling and family after his death.

Lawal was arraigned in federal court following his extradition. The FBI, York County Sheriff's Office, and SLED led the investigation with assistance from U.S. and Nigerian authorities. "We will not allow predators to hide behind a keyboard or across an ocean," said U.S. Attorney Adair Ford Boroughs.

Rep. Guffey championed "Gavin's Law," criminalizing sexual extortion in South Carolina, and has sued Meta for failing to remove extortion profiles. He is also advocating for the Social Media Design Act to hold tech companies accountable.

Sextortion cases have increased with the rise of social media and gaming platforms. Project Safe Childhood urges vigilance and reporting of online child



Tega Cay Resident Rikki **Terry Captures Eerie Footage** of SpaceX Starship Debris While on Family Vacation



Tega Cay resident Rikki Terry captured chilling footage of the SpaceX Starship breakup on Thursday, January 16th, 2025, while vacationing with his family in the Caribbean. The video, which has since gone viral on social media, shows an eerie stream of lights across the night sky as the rocket disintegrated, leaving a trail of debris.

The Terry family was enjoying their vacation when they witnessed the unusual event. Terry, quick to react, grabbed his phone and started recording, capturing the unsettling sight of the disintegrating spacecraft.

The footage provides a unique perspective on the failed launch, showcasing the vast debris field created by the Starship's breakup. It serves as a stark reminder of the inherent risks involved in space travel and the importance of continued testing and development.

SpaceX's Starship rocket, designed to be the world's most powerful launch vehicle, experienced a catastrophic failure during its seventh test flight. The uncrewed upper stage of the rocket broke up after launch, leading to a loss of communication and a shower of debris over the Atlantic Ocean.

The video captured by Terry serves as a reminder of the awe-inspiring yet perilous nature of space exploration and the dedication required to push the boundaries of human knowledge. It also underscores how even amidst a relaxing family vacation, moments of extraordinary events can occur and be captured thanks to the accessibility of modern technology.

Watch the video on YouTube at

https://bit.ly/rikkiterry



## SPORTS



## Fort Mill High School Wrestling Team Shines at **Region Meet**









## Thomas Hyslip, Editor

The Fort Mill High School boys wrestling team dominated the Region Meet, boasting five individual Region Champions and earning a total of ten podium finishes across weight classes. The Yellow Jackets showcased their strength and determination, solidifying their place as one of the top teams in the region.

Five Fort Mill wrestlers claimed the top spot in their respective weight classes, earning the coveted title of Region Champion:

## **Individual Region Champions**

126 lbs: Tucker Gibson 138 lbs: Lincoln Greene 157 lbs: Broden Mitcheson

190 lbs: Ted Ernst

285 lbs: Jonathan Da Silva

## **Second-Place Finishers**

106 lbs: Brody Harris 120 lbs: Jacob Nally

## Third-Place Finishers

150 lbs: Keenan Costen 175 lbs: Mason Metcalf 215 lbs: Kristian Villatoro

## **Special Recognition**

In addition to winning his weight class, Lincoln Greene (138 lbs) received a significant honor by being named Region Wrestler of the Year, an award determined by a vote from all region teams. This accolade highlights his outstanding performance and leadership throughout the season.

## Local Girls win Savannah United Elite Cup Soccer **Tournament**



FR: Quinn Thompson, Anna Blocher, Breanne Adams, Kylar Fraser, Kylie Traceski, Morgan Tebben, Bella Person, Eva Swarts. BR: Elisa Montauti, Olivia Cahill, Reagan Hyslip, Ryann Kolb, Ella Stulginsky, Emma Horiuchi, Mary Ellis McHaffie, Adley Devereaux, Tinsley Fitzgerald, Serenity Livingston, Coach Steve

The York County CSA 11U DPL girls team defended their title at the Savannah United Elite Cup February 1-2. After going undefeated in tournament play without giving up a goal, the girls went to overtime and a penalty shoot-out in the finals. Goalie Ella Stulginsky stop three penalty kicks to seal the victory.

## Yellow Jackets defeat Indian Land

Chris Coffee, Sports Reporter



The 16-2 Fort Mill Yellow Jackets boys basketball team escaped with a narrow victory Friday night over district rival Indian Land. The varisty boys won 53-52 thanks to a final seconds freethrow from Wallace Campbell. With a second remaining, the Warriors failed on a hail mary shot at the buzzer. Both teams entered the game undefeated in region play. Fort Mill remains the lone undefeated team in the region, followed by Indian Land at 4-1 and Northwestern at 3-2. The remaining region teams are below 500 overall and in Region 3-5A. The Yellow Jackets are 16-2 overall and 5-0 in Region 3-5A.

The Lady Jackets also defeated Indian Land Friday night, 48-31. The team is 10-7 overall and 4-1 in Region 3-5A action. Tip off for their game at Nation Ford is set for 6 pm Wednesday.

## Cindy Van Buskirk Named Coach of the Year for Fort Mill High School Girls **Swimming**

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



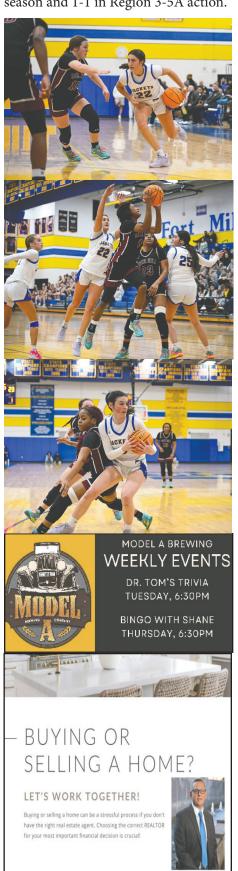
of Fort Mill High School on being named Coach of the Year! With 17 years of coaching experience, including 12 as head coach, she led the Girls Swimming team to the SCHSL 2024 5A Division 2 State Championship while extending their streak as Region 3 5A Champions for the 16th consecutive year.

## Lady Jackets down Rock Hill 42-41 at The Hive

## Chris Coffee, Sports Reporter

The Fort Mill Lady Jackets scored 17 in the second quarter to take the lead in narrowly defeating Rock Hill 42-41. As time ran out, Rock Hill drained a three pointer to come within a point.

The Lady Jackets improve to 8-7 on the season and 1-1 in Region 3-5A action.



CONTACT:

Congratulations to Cindy Van Buskirk

## Penny Pincher, From Page 4

family member is one thing, having that decision hoisted upon you against your will is another thing entirely.

Being selfish with your money doesn't make you a bad person. I'm not advocating for never sharing your wealth if you have the ability to do so. I'm simply stating that if you don't have the extra income to help others while risking financial ruin, you'll be of no help to them or you in the future. It's perfectly reasonable to hold others accountable when it comes to your money.

Remember, financial success isn't just about how much you earn—it's about how well you manage what you have. By addressing these common roadblocks, you can take control of your finances and create a more secure future for yourself.

## DeepSeek AI: The New Chinese AI and Why Americans Should Be Cautious

## Thomas Hyslip, Editor

A new AI model, DeepSeek AI, has emerged from China, positioning itself as a competitor to OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google's Gemini. However, serious concerns about data security, government oversight, and censorship make it a risky choice for American users

Major Risks of DeepSeek AI Data Security & Privacy Risks China's cybersecurity laws grant the government broad access to data. Any information entered into DeepSeek AI could be subject to foreign surveillance.

Government Censorship & Bias DeepSeek AI may filter or misrepresent politically sensitive topics, limit access to global perspectives, and even serve as a tool for subtle propaganda.

National Security Concerns U.S. officials have long warned about risks posed by Chinese tech. DeepSeek AI could expose valuable information, making it a potential cybersecurity threat

Recent Data Breach A January 29 data leak exposed over one million records, including chat logs and API secrets.

Ethical & Competitive Concerns Supporting Chinese AI strengthens an ecosystem tied to mass surveillance and censorship.

Despite its capabilities, DeepSeek AI poses too many risks for American users.

## Ralph Norman Introduces Constitutional Amendment to Impose Congressional Term Limits

## Thomas Hyslip, Editor

A new push for congressional term limits is gaining momentum as Republican lawmakers, led by Congressman Ralph Norman (R-SC) and U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (R-Texas), have introduced a joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to limit the number of terms members of Congress can serve.

The amendment seeks to limit U.S. senators to two six-year terms and U.S. House members to three two-year terms. If passed by Congress and ratified by the states, the amendment would go into effect within seven years of its submission. Under the proposal, individuals who have served the maximum terms would no longer be eligible for reelection or appointment to their respective chambers.

Supporters of the amendment argue that term limits would address concerns about career politicians, reduce special interest influence, and encourage fresh perspectives in governance. They emphasize the importance of fostering a legislature more accountable to the American people and aligned with the Founding Fathers' vision of citizen legislators.

Senate and House Advocates

The resolution is cosponsored in the Senate by several prominent Republicans, including Senators Mike Lee of Utah, Rick Scott of Florida, Rand Paul of Kentucky, and Cynthia Lummis of Wyoming, among others. Congressman Ralph Norman, representing South Carolina's 5th District, introduced the resolution in the House, emphasizing the need for Congress to operate as a temporary public service rather than a lifelong career.



Norman and other proponents believe term limits would restore trust in government and enhance legislative efficiency by curbing the influence of entrenched politicians.

Previous Efforts and Challenges

This is not the first time Senator Cruz has pushed for term limits. Similar resolutions were introduced in 2017, 2019, 2021, and 2023, but none successfully advanced through Congress. Amending the Constitution remains a formidable challenge, requiring a two-thirds majority vote in both the House and Senate, followed by ratification by three-fourths of state legislatures, or 38 out of 50 states. Alternatively, a constitutional convention called by two-thirds of state legislatures could propose an amendment, though this method has never been used in U.S. history.

To date, all 27 amendments to the Constitution have been passed by Congress and ratified by the states, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1992.

Local and National Impact

The proposed amendment has garnered attention nationwide, with advocates arguing it would reduce gridlock and foster a government more representative of the American electorate. Critics, however, caution against limiting voter choice and losing experienced legislators who can navigate complex legislative processes.

Congressman Norman's sponsorship highlights the growing support for term limits among South Carolina's constituents, reflecting broader concerns about accountability and transparency in Washington.

As the resolution moves forward, its success will depend on garnering bipartisan support in a deeply divided Congress and convincing state legislatures to prioritize ratification. While the path to constitutional change is steep, the growing movement for term limits signals a continued push for structural reform in the nation's capital.



## Supreme Court Expands GI Bill Benefits for Veterans with Multiple Service Periods

Thomas Hyslip, Editor

Veterans who have served multiple periods of qualifying service can now access expanded GI Bill benefits thanks to a landmark Supreme Court decision in the Rudisill case. This ruling significantly enhances education opportunities for veterans who qualify for both the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) and the Post-9/11 GI Bill, granting them up to 48 months of combined benefits.

## What Changed?

Previously, veterans had to waive their Montgomery GI Bill benefits to access the Post-9/11 GI Bill, leaving unused MGIB benefits on the table. Now, the Rudisill decision changes that:

No more waivers: Veterans no longer need to forfeit MGIB benefits to utilize the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
Reclaim benefits: Veterans who previously waived their MGIB benefits may now revoke those waivers and reclaim unused benefits.
Extended benefits: Veterans with qualifying service periods can access up to 48 months of combined benefits between the two programs, giving them more time and flexibility to achieve educational and career goals. How to Access Additional Benefits

Eligible veterans can take the following steps to unlock these expanded benefits:

Submit VA Form 22-1995: Indicate that you are requesting a "Rudisill review."

Follow up with the VA: Ensure your application is processed and your benefits recalculated.

The deadline to apply for recalculated benefits is October 1, 2030, but veterans are encouraged to act quickly to take full advantage of this opportunity.

## Why This Matters

This decision is a game-changer for veterans who have served multiple periods of qualifying service. With up to 48 months of education benefits now available, veterans have more resources to pursue degrees, certifications, or training programs that can propel them toward their career aspirations.

## **Learn More**

For additional details on eligibility and the application process, visit the VA's official GI Bill website.

Veterans, don't wait—take action now

## Starlink Satellite Service for iPhones and Android: A Game Changer in Connectivity

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Elon Musk's Starlink is revolutionizing smartphone connectivity with a new service that allows iPhones and Android devices to use satellites for calls and messaging, regardless of location. This groundbreaking technology promises to bridge the connectivity gap, particularly in remote areas and during emergencies.

## **How it Works**

Starlink's satellite service leverages a network of low-Earth orbit satellites to provide widespread coverage. Any LTE-compatible phone, including iPhones and Android devices, can utilize this technology. This means that even older smartphone models can benefit from this advancement.

## **Key Features**

**Global Coverage:** Make calls and send messages from anywhere on Earth, regardless of cellular network availability.

## **Emergency Connectivity:** A lifeline during natural disasters or emergencies when traditional

or emergencies when traditional communication networks are disrupted.

No Specialized Equipment: No need for bulky satellite phones; your existing smartphone is all you need. Seamless Integration: The service is expected to integrate smoothly with existing cellular networks, providing a seamless transition between terrestrial and satellite connectivity.

## Apple's Embrace of Satellite Technology

Apple has already integrated satellite connectivity into its iPhone 14 and later models. While this feature is currently limited to emergency SOS and Find My functionality, it demonstrates the growing importance of satellite technology in the smartphone industry.

Starting with iOS 18, connecting to Starlink satellites is made easy with the Connection Assistant. Here's how:

Open Connection Assistant: Access it through Control Center (swipe down from the top right corner) or the Settings app.

Follow the Instructions: The assistant provides onscreen guidance to establish a connection.

Find a Clear View: Ensure you're outside with an unobstructed view of the sky and horizon. Avoid dense foliage, hills, or tall structures that might block the signal.

Hold Your iPhone Naturally: No need to raise your arm; simply hold your phone in your hand.

### Try the Satellite Connection Demo

iOS 18 offers a demo mode to familiarize yourself with the satellite connection process:

Open Control Center: Swipe down from the top right corner of your iPhone.

Access Satellite Options: Tap the Cellular button, then tap "Satellite" and choose "Try Demo."

Practice Connecting: Follow the onscreen instructions to simulate connecting to a satellite.

## **Important Considerations**

**Availability:** While the service is expected to launch soon, specific timelines and regional availability may vary.

**Cost:** Pricing plans and subscription details are yet to be announced. Bandwidth: Initial bandwidth may be limited, primarily supporting text messaging and voice calls.

## The Future of Communication

Starlink's satellite service for smartphones has the potential to transform how we stay connected. Its global reach, emergency capabilities, and ease of use promise a future where communication barriers are minimized, and connectivity is truly ubiquitous.

Feeling lost in the digital world? Dr. Tom is here to help!

Join Dr. Tom every week in his column, Dr. Tom's Cyber Bits and Tips.

## REAL ID Requirement for Air Travel Takes Effect in 2025

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Starting May 7, 2025, a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or identification card will be required to board domestic flights within the United States. This requirement, established by the REAL ID Act of 2005, aims to enhance security standards for state-issued identification documents.

## Obtaining a REAL ID in South Carolina

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV) provides several options for obtaining a REAL ID:

**In-person:** Visit an SCDMV branch with the necessary documentation and purchase a REAL ID.

**Online renewal:** If eligible, you can renew your license and obtain a REAL ID online.

## **Required Documentation**

To obtain a REAL ID, you must provide the following original documents to the SCDMV:

**Proof of Identity** (e.g., governmentissued birth certificate or unexpired US passport)

**Proof of Legal Name** (e.g., marriage license, divorce decree, US passport) Two proofs of current, physical South Carolina address (e.g., utility bill, pay **stub**)

## **Proof of Social Security Number**

A complete list of accepted documents can be found on the SCDMV website.

### Cost

A REAL ID costs \$25, the same as a standard driver's license. Identification cards are free for individuals 17 and older and \$15 for those 16 and under.



## Beloved Children's Cooking Studio Bakers Buzzin' to Close After 11 Memorable Years

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Bakers Buzzin', a cherished family-owned children's cooking studio in Tega Cay, South Carolina, has announced it will permanently close its doors on January 19, 2025, after eleven years of service.

Established in 2013, Bakers Buzzin' quickly became a community favorite, offering hands-on cooking and baking experiences for children. The studio provided a variety of programs, including cooking classes, birthday parties, workshops, camps, scout events, and kids' night out activities.

In 2020, the business expanded to a larger location, coinciding with the onset of the global pandemic. Despite the challenges, Bakers Buzzin' continued to serve the community, adapting to changing circumstances. However, rising operational costs—particularly increased rent and local property taxes—have made it unsustainable to continue operations.

The owners expressed deep gratitude to those who have supported them over the years and emphasized their commitment to making the remaining days memorable. They encourage those with gift certificates to redeem them before the closing date and assure that scheduled parties and events will proceed as planned.

As Bakers Buzzin' prepares to closeflects on the positive impact the studio has had, teaching children valuable cooking skills and creating lasting memories. The closure marks the end of a significant chapter for both the owners and the families who have been part of the Bakers Buzzin' experience.



## Charlie's Crossword Puzzle

## **ACROSS**

- 1) Made off with
- 6) Break abruptly
- 10) Hunter in a pack
- 14) Neat display
- 15) Top of the noggin
- 16) Wicked as sin
- 17) Manufacturing plant expulsion
- 19) Fiddling Roman emperor
- 20) Plot giveaways, say
- 21) Bind securely
- 22) Sans ice or mixer
- 23) Post-larval stage
- 25) Our star
- 28) Foul-mouthed sort
- 33) Chews the fat
- 35) Pizzeria creation
- 36) Metallic cloth
- 37) Hardly gentlemanly
- 38) Slaves away

- 40) Do a laundry job
- 41) Diva's big moment
- 42) Take one's pick
- 43) Part of a drum kit
- 44) Tug's burden
- 48) Funny Louis of early TV
- 49) Jack of Tom Clancy novels
- 50) Keats works
- 52) Free-for-all
- 55) 212, for much of Manhattan
- 59) Think tank nugget
- 60) Place for odds and ends
- 62) Deck wood
- 63) Start the pot
- 64) Rock concert venue
- 65) Ultimate goals
- rage (juicer's problem)
- 67) Reasons to cram

D160416 By Fred Pisco 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13														
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65		1			66	-	+	1		67	+		+	+

## DOWN

- Carpenter's collection
- Where to use a wedge "In the ballpark" phrase
- 19-Across's language
- 5) Holes in shoes
- 6) Rival of Athens
- D.C. nine, for short
- 8) Did lunch
- 9) capita income
- 10) Bet the works
- 11) In the strike zone
- 12) Old coin of Italy
- 13) Bomb of a show
- 18) Dress up in
- Place for a body wrap
- 23) Punxsutawney critter
- 24) Beehive State athletes
- 25) Rawboned sort
- 26) Shipmate of Spock
- 27) The pits
- 29) Goes for the cuspidor30) DKNY designer Donna
- 31) Atlanta university32) Zellweger of "Chicago"
- 34) Brits' times for "cuppas"
- 38) Garment for 19-Across
- 39) Doing business
- 43) Cuss out
- 45) Sailor's assent
- 46) Unopened, as champagne
- 47) Took too much, briefly
- 51) Cause to panic
- 52) Dust bug
- 53) Blissful spot in Genesis
- 54) Sinker material
- 55) Prefix with "climax"
- 56) Has loans
- 57) Fender ding
- 58) Chunks of history
- 60) Performer's tip collector
- 61) Game with Reverse cards

Answers at tegacaysun.com/answers

## Exploring Fort Mill's Rich History: A Visit to the Fort Mill History Museum

Patrick Byrne, Editor



This past Saturday, my family and I decided to spend an hour or so at the Fort Mill History Museum—a decision we're so glad we made. From the moment we walked in, we were welcomed by a museum host who provided us with listening devices to enhance our experience. These devices allowed us to dive deeper into the exhibits, bringing Fort Mill's history to life as we explored.

Although quaint in size, the museum packs an incredible amount of history into its walls. It does a fantastic job of showcasing Fort Mill's past and its people, weaving together historic and contemporary stories to create a picture of the town's evolution.

The exhibits highlight everything from the influential Spratt and Springs families to the legacy

of the Catawba Nation, as well as the contributions of post-Civil War era African American communities. There is also an exhibit honoring local war heroes and the contributions of local citizens to the war effort through hard work and dedication within



the community.

The museum gives visitors a unique opportunity to step into Fort Mill's past, offering insights into its cultural and historical milestones.

The Fort Mill History Museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and operates through donations and the dedication of volunteers.

If you're looking for a meaningful way to spend time learning about your local community, I highly recommend stopping by the Fort Mill History Museum.

## TYOCO Mems

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## February 2025

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Get your daily dose of local news at www.yoconews.com and watch for our monthly print edition in early spring 2025.

## Indian Land Fire Department Leads Dramatic High-Rise Rescue of Injured Worker

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



In a dramatic rescue operation on Tuesday afternoon, January 14th, the Indian Land Fire Department was called to aid an injured worker stranded approximately 92 feet in the air on a water tower under construction.

Upon arrival, crews confirmed that the worker was caught in safety netting. Rescuers quickly ascended the tower to provide medical assistance and assess the situation. Recognizing the complexity of the task, additional resources were called in from Charlotte and Pineville to support the effort.

Using a carefully engineered rope system, rescuers worked diligently to safely bring the injured worker down from the towering structure. The operation was completed with precision and teamwork, ensuring the worker's safety. The patient was then handed over to Lancaster EMS for medical evaluation and treatment.

## Clover Police Citizens Academy Returns in 2025

Thomas Hyslip, Editor

The Clover Police Department is bringing back its popular Citizens Academy in 2025, offering residents an inside look at law enforcement operations. Designed to build trust and strengthen community relationships, the program provides insight into police training, traffic enforcement, use of force, specialized units, and more. Participants can also experience ride-alongs for hands-on exposure.

## Program Details

The eight-week academy runs Thursdays from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM, starting May 1, 2025. Participants must attend at least six sessions to graduate.

## Eligibility

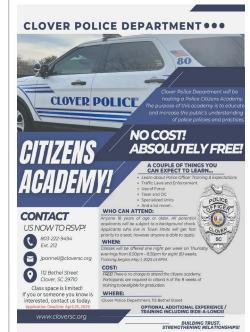
Open to individuals 18 and older, the academy requires a background check. Priority is given to Clover residents, but all are welcome to apply.

## Free and Valuable

The program is free, offering a unique opportunity to learn about local policing while fostering community connections.

## Apply Now

To RSVP, call 803-222-9494 (Ext. 212) or email jpannell@cloversc.org by April 25, 2025. Space is limited, so apply early!



## **Bands of Clover Achieve Prestigious Honors**

Thomas Hyslip, Editor



Clover High School's Bands of Clover continue to excel nationally and statewide with two major achievements.

The Clover High School Trumpet Ensemble, directed by Ms. Courtney Wyatt and Dr. Marisa Youngs, has advanced to the semi-finals of the National Trumpet Competition for the fourth time. Members Emma Appleyard, Alexander Aull, Ethan Castillo-Fenske, Joshua Seon, and Zachary Tiller will represent Clover in Texas, showcasing their talent and hard work.

Additionally, student Tian Candy Lan has been named a finalist for the 2025 SCBDA Master Recital. Candy will perform at the SCMEA Professional Development Conference in Columbia, SC, on February 8, 2025, highlighting her exceptional talent and dedication.

These achievements reflect the commitment of Clover High School's music program to fostering excellence. Congratulations to the Bands of Clover!



YoCoNews.com

## York's Clayton Takes Top 5 in Bass Fishing League Tournament on Lake Murray

## Thomas Hyslip, Editor

Local angler Greg Clayton of York, S.C. landed an impressive 5th place finish in the co-angler division at the Bass Fishing League tournament held on Lake Murray this past Saturday. Clayton brought in three bass weighing a total of 8 pounds and 9 ounces, earning him a respectable \$334 in prize money.

While Lucas Murphy of Lexington, S.C., took home the top prize with a five-bass limit weighing 26 pounds, 10 ounces, Clayton's performance demonstrates the strong angling talent present in York County.

The Bass Fishing League, known for its competitive tournaments across the United States, attracts anglers of all skill levels. Clayton's success in this event highlights his dedication and skill in the sport.

## Lancaster County Schools to Implement Weapons Detectors, Enhance Safety Protocols

## Thomas Hyslip, Editor

Lancaster County Schools is implementing new security measures to enhance safety across the district. In a message to families on Friday, the district announced several key initiatives:

Weapons Detectors: Weapons detectors will be installed in all schools and district buildings. Metal detectors will be used temporarily until the new equipment is in place.

## Enhanced Communication Systems:

The district is upgrading emergency notification systems, potentially incorporating Saferwatch technology for faster response.

## **Safety Audits and Reviews:**

Comprehensive safety audits will be conducted with law enforcement, alongside regular reviews of safety plans to ensure they align with national best practices.

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Capellini Crab Cake ● Spinach & Artichoke Dip for Two ● Ahi Tuna Poke Nachos ● Homemade Meatballs Marinara

## 2nd Course - Entree

## Sruffed Flounder

fresh flounder stuffed with crab, in a lemon dill sauce served with risotto and sautéed veggies

### Petit Filet Mignon (6 oz.)

served with our signature mashed potatoes and green beans

## Chicken Romana

breaded chicken over capellini with a sun-dried tomato and artichoke cream sauce

### Torrelloni Alla Nonna

with mushrooms, peas, and prosciutto, in an alfredo sauce  $% \left( \frac{1}{2}\right) =\frac{1}{2}\left( \frac{1}{2}$ 

### 3rd Course - Dessert

(choice of one) \* or exchange for a side house or caesar salad

Homemade Chocolate Brownie with Vanilla Ice Cream • Key Lime Pie • Carrot Cake

Add: Champagne Flute - \$6 . Champagne Flute with Strawberries - \$7





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