



Investing in the Future: Chief Alexander's financial literacy outreach and inside Fennell Elementary's D.A.R.E. Program

Chief Alexander's Visit to Brunson Elementary School

In a delightful encounter, Chief Alexander visited Brunson Elementary School's second graders, brightening a rainy day with his presence in Mrs. Brunson's class. Reading from Dr. Richard L. Ferguson's "Money 101," Chief Alexander shared valuable lessons on financial literacy with eager young minds. The students' keenness and understanding impressed everyone, making the session a memorable experience of laughter and learning.

We extend our gratitude to Mrs. Brunson and the dedicated educators at Brunson Elementary for welcoming us and facilitating this fantastic opportunity for growth and engagement.

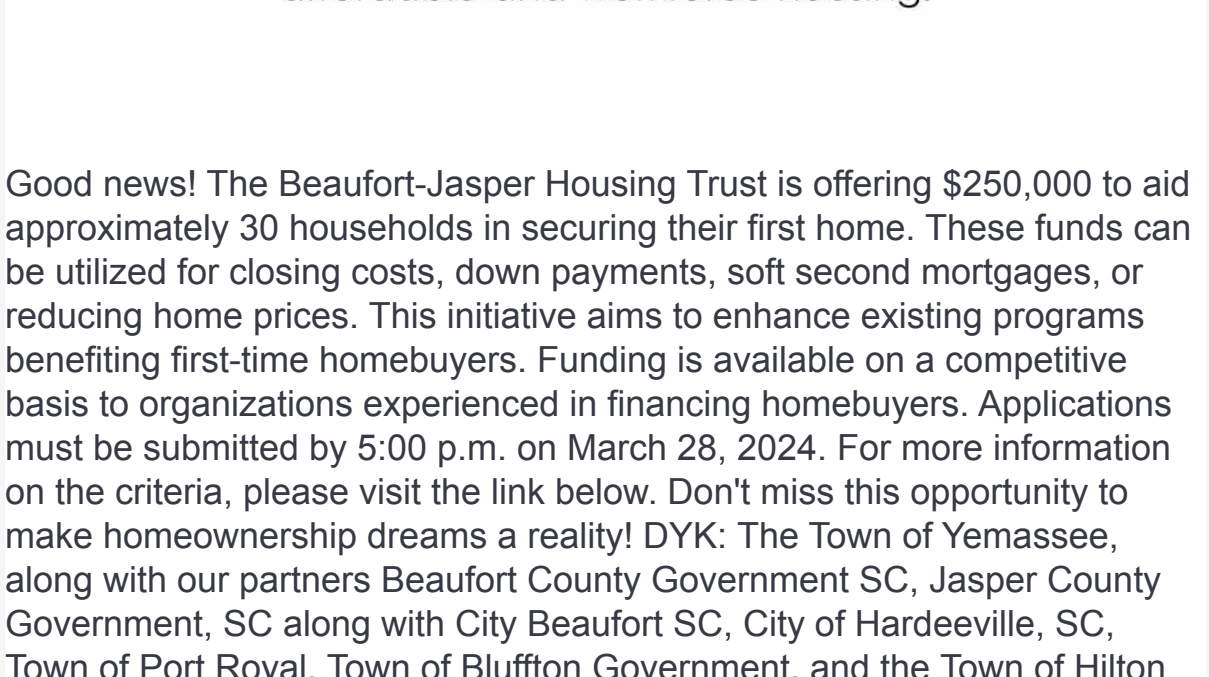
These visits highlight our department's dedication to community engagement and education, reinforcing the importance of investing in our youth's future. From teaching critical life skills to fostering financial literacy, our aim is to empower our young citizens to build a brighter, more informed future.

D.A.R.E. Program: Shaping the Future of Our Youth at Fennell Elementary

Our Lt. Michael Strauss the Public Information Officer (PIO) visited Fennell Elementary School last week to observe a particular D.A.R.E. class. Fennell Elementary is proud to host the only active D.A.R.E. program in Beaufort and Hampton County, a testament to our commitment to the well-being of our youth.

This 10-week course, led by Lt. Strauss for the past eight years, educates 5th and 6th-grade students on the importance of making positive decisions. The program's influence is undeniable, with nearly 300 students impacted since 2016. During the visit, Chief Alexander underscored this initiative's value: "We are not just talking about community policing; we are starting at a young age to engage with the youth and invest in their future." Lt. Strauss added, "If we can teach young people to think before they act and provide them with the tools to make better decisions, we are equipping them for a life free from substance abuse, filled with happiness and good health."

Thank you to Lt. Strauss and all involved in making this experience a reality. Witnessing the enthusiastic and positive engagement from the students was truly inspiring.



Shrimp Festival Planning Meeting

Attention all shrimp lovers and community enthusiasts! Join us for the Shrimp Festival Meeting on Thursday, March 21st, at 6:30 PM. The gathering will occur at the Community Center, 10 Mixon Street, Yemassee. It's a fantastic opportunity to learn how you can contribute to one of our town's most anticipated events. Your involvement and support are invaluable to its success.



Beaufort Jasper Housing Trust Homebuyer Assistance Request For Proposals

The Beaufort Jasper Housing Trust is pleased to announce a round of funding to assist organizations that serve homebuyers in Beaufort and Jasper counties. The attached request for proposals (RFP) is being issued to encourage these organizations to apply for funding in this homebuyer assistance program. Background and instructions are provided within the RFP. The Beaufort Jasper Housing Trust welcomes further circulation of this announcement to interested parties and appreciates your interest in affordable and workforce housing.

Good news! The Beaufort-Jasper Housing Trust is offering \$250,000 to aid approximately 30 households in securing their first home. These funds can be utilized for closing costs, down payments, soft second mortgages, or reducing home prices. This initiative aims to enhance existing programs benefiting first-time homebuyers. Funding is available on a competitive basis to organizations with experience in financing homebuyers. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2024. For more information on the criteria, please visit the link below! Don't miss this opportunity to make homeownership dreams a reality! DYK: The Town of Yemassee, along with our partners Beaufort County Government SC, Jasper County Government, SC along with City Beaufort SC, City of Hardeeville, SC, Town of Port Royal, Town of Bluffton Government, and the Town of Hilton Head Island Government formed the Beaufort Housing Trust to collectively work towards improving accessibility and inventory of affordable housing throughout our region.



GRAND MARSHAL JACK HUTTO

Celebrating Mr. Jack Hutto Grand Marshal 82nd Annual Hampton County Watermelon Festival

Hampton County Watermelon Festival has announced Mr. Jack Hutto has been named the Grand Marshal for the upcoming 82nd Annual Hampton County Watermelon Festival under the theme "Heart of Hampton County. Honoring Our Community Leaders." Mr. Hutto's profound impact on our community through his various roles perfectly embodies this year's theme.

As the current president of the Hampton County Rotary Club, Mr. Hutto has been instrumental in providing scholarships to local students and educational resources to the youth. His dedication is evident through the two grants he recently wrote, benefiting over 200 students with Christmas presents and a holiday meal and spearheading the revitalization of a local nature trail and outdoor classroom.

In addition to his community service, Mr. Hutto has a commendable career in education, working within the Hampton County school system for nearly three decades. His role as the Director of Communications and Special Projects for the Hampton County School District underscores his commitment to fostering opportunities for children and families in collaboration with various community and faith-based groups.

Mr. Hutto's church involvement is no less noteworthy, with over three decades of service as an organist and music director at local churches. His leadership was crucial during the pandemic, helping to transition worship services online and initiating outreach programs like the Backpack Buddies, addressing food insecurity among students.

This year's festival celebrates the joyous watermelon season and honors a true community leader, Mr. Jack Hutto. Join us in celebrating his contributions and leadership at the Hampton County Watermelon Festival. Congratulations, Mr. Hutto, and thank you for your tireless dedication to our community!

Business License Renewal: A Timely Reminder

Yemassee business licenses are valid from May 1 through April 30 of each calendar year. Renewal notices will be dispatched in March to maintain compliance and ensure your business operations continue seamlessly. The deadline for payment is April 30. We urge you to avoid late fees by adhering to this timeline. Accounts unsettled by the due date will incur a 5% monthly penalty, applicable for up to two months.

Location Verification: Ensuring You're Within Town Limits

Yemassee's unique positioning across four counties brings a special reminder: do not rely solely on the ZIP code 29945 to determine if your business or job site falls within the Town Limits. Yemassee encompasses parts of Beaufort and Hampton counties. Confirming your location's eligibility is crucial for compliance and benefiting from town resources. [For more information click here](#)

Special Permits for Food and Beverage Sales

Businesses selling prepared foods and beverages are reminded of the necessity to obtain the appropriate food safety permits. Additionally, you must collect and remit a 2% Hospitality Tax on sales of prepared food and beverages, contributing to the town's hospitality and tourism initiatives.

Accommodations Tax for Short-Term Lodging

For those offering transient overnight lodging for 90 days or fewer, please remember to assess and remit a quarterly 3% Accommodations Tax. This tax is vital for supporting tourism and infrastructure projects within our town.

[For more information Click this link](#)

The Town of Yemassee needs Volunteers to help improve our community and advise the council on our community.

Currently, we have openings on:

- Beautification Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission

[Put in your application now!](#)

Be in the know!
All committee and council meetings are open to the public.

Contact Us

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