

By Coach Daniel Thomason

Crescent Wrestling had the pleasure of taking 4 young men to the state finals held at the Anderson Civic Center on February 22-23. The Tigers had one third place finish, two state runners-up, and our first 3A state champion.

The Tigers had the 11:00 a.m. quarterfinal matches to kick off the state finals, and they certainly started with a bang. All four of the wrestlers started the tournament with wins and three came by pin fall. Sophomore Cameron Ellis (145) beat a wrestler from lower state Academic Magnet 6-2 for a minor decision. Senior Murphy McBride (160) won by pin fall against a lower state opponent from Aynor. Junior Jamie Ellis (182) won by pin fall against a lower state opponent from Swansea. Senior Clary Spires (195) finished the group and won by pin fall against his opponent from Gilbert.

That night in the semi-final matches, the Tigers showed out again winning three of the four match ups. Cameron Ellis upset the lower state champion by winning in a tech fall.

CHS Wrestlers Compete at State Finals



Pictured above are **Jamie Ellis** - State Runner-Up, **Murphy McBride** - 3rd place, **Camerien Ellis** - State Runner-Up, and **C.C. Spires** - State Champion

His brother Jamie also upset a returning state runner up from Cheraw 9-4 in a minor decision. Clary Spires had a tough fought match but ended up winning by pin fall against his opponent from Woodruff.

Murphy McBride wrestled against the eventual state champion in his weight class and lost in a tight 3-0 match.

The next morning, Murphy McBride was the only wrestler for the Tigers to battle back through the consolation round but he made his presence felt. Pinning both of his opponents

in the first period of the match, he solidified bonus points for his team and a record-breaking 102 pins-- the most in Crescent history! He set the stage for a memorable afternoon, ending his senior year on a high note.

Cameron Ellis was the first to wrestle for the state championship against the defending state champion from West-Oak.



Pictured above are **Jamie Ellis** - AAA State Runner-Up with Coach Anthony Martin

Despite the odds against him, he never gave up and always sought to find the upset. In the end, he lost by tech fall and became a state runner-up.

His brother Jamie Ellis was next up for the Tigers at the 182-weight class. He wrestled last season's state runner-up. Though taking an early lead, Jamie could not keep his momentum and eventually lost 6-2 in a minor decision.

The final match of the night was senior CC Spires. One year prior, CC was under the lights in the state finals and came up just a few points short of his state championship. But not this year. Taking a small lead and never giving it back, Clary won in a convincing 8-2 minor decision to become the first and only 3A state champion wrestler in Crescent's history. A All men represented the school and district well.



Pictured above is **C.C. Spires** - State Champion

CHS Students Selected as All-Region Basketball



Ra'Quan Groves and **Courtney Baldwin** were selected as 2018-2019 All-Region Basketball players from Crescent High School

CHS Basketball Recap

By Rayanna Cape

Basketball always draws a crowd, and the Crescent basketball teams are no exception. Both teams worked extremely hard to get better and practiced every day to make it happen. Despite numbers and statistics, they gave each opponent enough struggle to push them to their limit. Varsity girls' Coach Shayovae Brown and varsity boys' coach Kade Gray speak highly of their players

and program. This year, Coach Gray has released his plans to retire starting next season and has thanks God, his family, and competitive opponents for their tremendous impact in his life and the lives of his players. The game starts with the players, but it is strengthened through good coaches. Next season, many can't wait to see what the Varsity Tiger teams will achieve.

CHS Seniors Join Growing List of College Commits



By Dyllan McCullough
Crescent seniors **Cameron Richardson** and **Murphy McBride** join the growing list of college athletic commits. Cameron, a wrestler and offensive lineman for the Tigers, signed to play football with Palmetto Prep Academy. Palmetto Prep is a Christian post-graduate and junior college program based out of Columbia, South

Carolina. Murphy is a state runner up and current region champion wrestler and was a running back for the Tigers this past season. He will continue his football career at Newberry College located in Newberry, SC. We are extremely proud of these young men and the dedication and passion they have shown on and off the field. Good Luck #63 and #4!

Local Kids Attend Hunter Renfrow Football Camp



Article & picture By Marty Minto

It was a dream come true for hundreds of boys and girls who met their Clemson Football Idol Hunter Renfrow during an all-day event at the Hunter Renfrow Football Camp in Clemson. Children from as far away as Florida, Alabama and Kentucky, along with youngsters from Starr-Iva attended the event. Some children, who were star struck by Renfrow, questioned whether he was the real Hunter Renfrow. Some

said, "You look much bigger on TV, are you sure you're Hunter Renfrow?" Renfrow responded with, "You want to see my ID?" Children received group training from Renfrow himself along with help from many football coaches and staff from Academy Sports in this all-day event. Local News stations also came to find out which NFL team Renfrow may be going to. The day ended with each child getting his or her own personal picture taken with Renfrow.



CHS Anglers Participate in Bass Master

By Amy Russell

The CHS Anglers recently participated in the Bass Master competition at Green Pond and were one of 88 schools from 15 different states. Despite there being over 200 boats in the water, our fishing team represented our small town well. **Kaleb Butts** and **Luke McGuffin** took the honor of biggest fish and finished in first place out of all the middle schools. **Anna**

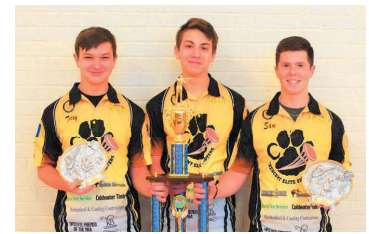
Kay and **Elizabeth Pamphilon** took third place for all middle schools. **Jacob Butts** and **Colin Sutherland** came in thirteenth out of all high school teams. In addition, Kaleb Butts, Jacob Butts, Luke McGuffin, and Colin Sutherland advance to the nationals later this year in Kentucky where they will compete and are sure to represent us well yet again.

Shooting Teams Compete in Governor's Cup



By Dylan McCullough

The CHS and SIMS shooting teams had great finishes at the recent SCDNR Governor's Cup Sporting Clay event. Three teams scored big titles in the event. From CHS: 1st place New Team for SCDNR Governor's Cup Sporting Clay event: **JD Worley**, **Eric Brown**, and **Trevor Kelly**. -2nd Place New Team for SCDNR Governor's Cup Sporting Clay Event: **Torry Kelley**, **Logan Shaw**, and **Sam Center**. From SIMS:



2nd Place New Team for SCDNR Governor's Cup Sporting Clay Event: **Maddox Martin**, **Jackson Taylor**, and **John Harbin**. We are extremely proud of these students for their stellar performance!



Eighth Grade Students Excel on the PSAT



To be named a South Carolina Junior Scholar, eighth grade students must score exemplary by scoring at least a 530 on the English portion of the PSAT or at least a 550 on the math portion of the PSAT. Eighth grade Starr-Iva Middle School students **Natali Parker, Madison Graham, Sky Elrod, Jamie Young, and Alfredo Gonzalez** met the criteria in at least one area. These students were recently recognized at a banquet held in their honor at Starr-Iva.

CHS Freshmen Visit Bosch



By Laila Rogers

Women@Bosch Anderson is dedicated to recruiting talented females to pursue careers in STEM. This year's "STEM4 Success" event allowed four 9th grade students from each of Anderson County's high schools to participate. Crescent's four freshman representatives were **Amber Elrod, Laila Rogers, Peyton Simmons, and Haley Thomas**, with Alex Smith as the CHS chaperone.

The event included a plant tour, networking with Bosch team members, participating in a supply chain simulation, and engaging in Bosch's Robotics training lab activities. Mr. Smith stated, "This event exposes young women to the world of career opportunities available in STEM. I believe it is empowering for the participants to be able to see women from our community, and

women from around the world who have succeeded in career pathways that have previously been dominated by males. I also think it is important for our students to see that companies like Bosch are willing to invest in their futures through scholarships and by providing funding for employees interested in furthering their education."

Also at the event were several news channels including Channel 7 and WYFF 4 news teams. News crews filmed the students doing various activities throughout the day and caught some of our own students in action. One of our local girls, Laila Rogers, was interviewed and was featured in a story on the Channel 7 six o'clock news. Overall, our students had a great time learning about how women can make an impact on our world.



SIMS Has Talent

By Amy Russell

This year the Starr-Iva Talent Show was combined with a new event at SIMS- the BeYOUtiful You Celebration. The premise behind the BeYOUtiful You Celebration was much like that of a beauty pageant, but the focus was placed on inner beauty rather than outward beauty. As each participant walked around the stage she held a sign that stated what she loved most about herself such as, "I am compassionate" or "I am intelligent." As the girls "modeled," the emcee read information about each girl including what she enjoys doing outside of school, goals for the future, her favorite positive

quote, and the thing that each girl loves the most about herself.

In addition to the BeYOUtiful You participants, SIMS students sang, danced, played musical instruments, and did sign language. The night was definitely one to remember. As each participant finished his or her performance, the other participants cheered like they were family, and to be honest, it felt like family. More than one teacher and parent shed a tear, and "I'm so proud of you!" resounded throughout the gym. It was inspiring to see students face their fears and go before the crowd to share their talents and confidence.



Two state FFA officers take time for a picture with the SIMS Tool ID Team and Mr. Brantley Caldwell, FFA teacher.

Middle School Tool ID Team Makes A3 Proud

By Amy Russell

The SIMS FFA Tool ID team recently competed in the Region 1 competition at Belton-Honea Path High School. The team placed 4th out of 14 teams (most of which were high schools). The SIMS team was the highest ranked middle school team and qualified for the State level competition which will be held

at Lexington Technology Center later in March. Team members include **Levi Bouknight, Brent Erwin, Sean Scherer, Jaxson Blanton, and Karlie Whitaker**, all of which are in the 7th grade. Brent was Starr-Iva's highest scorer and was ranked 7th out of 43 competitors. The future of CHS Tool ID is certainly promising!

Reading Leviticus Well

by Michael Kotlarczyk, Pastor of Youth & Children, First Baptist of Iva

One of the most underrated books of the Old Testament is the book of Leviticus. Many say that the laws in Leviticus are outdated, unnecessary and confusing. Therefore, many people write off the book as not useful or even irrelevant. It usually goes something like this: "It is just an old book of random and obscure laws that have no relevance in our world." In the most basic sense, Leviticus is just a book of laws. But when we dive into these laws we discover the heart of God. You see, a law is not given for the sake of just having laws. The law is given to show what communities value and love. For example, the U.S. has laws against murder because it puts a high value on life. If it did not value life, then there would be no law against murder.

When it comes to Leviticus, we must not look at the law itself but what is God's heart behind the law (especially if all scripture is God-breathed and useful... 1 Tim. 3:15). The law displays the heart and values of the lawgiver. If you want to know what God loves and what God values (Christians should

be saying, "yes"), you read His laws. The book of Leviticus is then a love letter written to God's children about the things He loves.

For example, in Leviticus 11, God talks about distinguishing animals that are clean and unclean. So the question then becomes, "What is God trying to give value or love to?" The value the Lord is trying to instill is to teach the people of Israel to make distinctions on the moral level between that which is right (clean) and that which is wrong (unclean). In fact, you see this made more apparent in Mark 7:14-23 when Jesus says it is a man's actions that defile a person, not what they eat. God is saying here that His children are to be people that can distinguish between what is right and what is wrong, love and hatred, and justice and unjust. So when we read the book of Leviticus, let's remember that it is not a book of random old-school or outdated laws, but laws that display the heart of God. When hard work is put in to study them, you find the heart of God himself.

Iva Burger King Gets a New Look



The new facade of Burger King. Photo by Marty Minto

By Tim Taylor

If you haven't noticed, the Iva Burger King recently got a face lift. The recent renovation is part of an investment plan to upgrade the Iva Burger King by its new owner's, Carolina Franchise Holding, LLC of Abbeville. The Iva Burger King is one of nine owned by the franchise.

Renovations started in November 2018 and were completed in early January. The renovation, called the "Garden Grill Layout" includes new facing, signage, exterior and interior upgrades, and landscaping. A new digital drive-thru was also added.

I had the opportunity to sit down

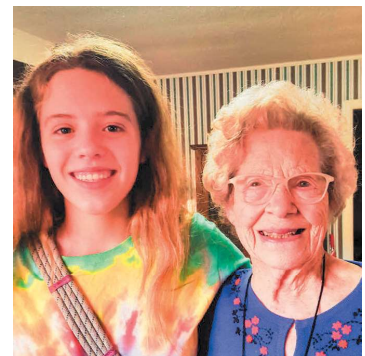
with Benjamin Fleming, Director of Marketing for Carolina Franchise Holding, to talk about the vision for the Iva Burger King. "We really love the town and we want to be a local hub that is a place where we see familiar folks", he commented. A family day is being planned for Friday, April 26th which will include games and entertainment. Mr. Fleming stated that he wants to plan more events throughout the year that would be good for the Iva community.

As a convenience, customers can now download the Burger King mobile app which allows them to order and pay for the food. The order can be picked up in store or at the drive-thru window.

What I have learned from a Centenarian

by Laila Rogers

My piano teacher, Mrs. Wakefield, is turning 100, and it makes me look back on my time with her and think of all the things she has taught me-- besides scales and arpeggios. Something that she has not necessarily said to me but has always shown me is that you should never let anything stop you from doing what you love, whether it be age, or if it's "cool" or not. As long as I've known her, Mrs. Wakefield has lived life to the fullest but always had time to stop and smell the roses. As young adults we can learn a lot from people who are older and wiser than us. In our generation today, we never stop and take in the beauty around us because we have our faces in our phones. We're always anxious about what people think, who



likes us, and how many followers we have. We're so wrapped up in our virtual lives that we don't appreciate what we have IRL (in real life). Something that we can learn from a centenarian is that we need to live in the moment, because you never know what could happen. Whether you are 100, 50, or 15, count your blessings, because you'll never know when they'll be gone.

Anderson School District Three Achievements



Anderson 3 Excels

- A3 Ranks in the top 15% in the State
 - Crescent High Excellent Rating
 - Iva Elementary Excellent Rating
- A3 Ranked 14th out of 83 School Districts in SC
- Highest SAT Scores in the State
- A3 Outperforms the SC Average in:
 - Graduation Rate
 - All Areas of WIN
 - End of Course English, Science, and History
 - SC Ready College and Career Assessment
 - ACT English, Math, and Science

Anderson 3 Initiatives

- Anderson Institute of Technology
 - 20 Programs of Study in Business, Engineering, Health Science, and Fine Arts
- Dual Enrollment Pathways to Certification
- Elementary Launch & Middle School Gateway to Technology Offerings
- Enhanced STEAM curriculum
- Elementary Jet Toy, Glider Challenge, Rocket Challenge, Lego Robotics Competitions
- 1-to-1 Classroom Technology
- STEAM Fair



A3 Student Hosting 5th Annual Car Show

Since he was 9 years old, Braxton Louch has asked for animal shelter donations instead of birthday presents. His passion for animals and selflessness has turned into a pretty successful adventure! He has hosted a car show that benefits Anderson County PAWS for the last four years.

Through his efforts, Braxton has collected more than 20,000 pounds of pet food, more than \$10,000 in monetary donations, and truckloads of supplies. He has also fostered relationships with companies that help PAWS throughout the year. He is their largest private donor!

This year is no different. Braxton, now a 9th grader at Crescent High School, is hosting the 5th Annual Cars for a Cause at the Anderson County Civic Center on May 19, 2019. There will be over forty vendors, food, raffles, a doggie pageant, and of course the car, truck and bike show.

Those interested in participating in the car show can register vehicles the day of the show. If you would like your favorite dog to walk in the doggie pageant, please contact tery-ij3838@aol.com. Follow this event on Facebook at Braxton's Cars for a Cause.

Advertise with Us!

EYES ON IVA is selling advertisement space throughout the newspaper. Eighth page and quarter page space are available. Please contact eyesoniva@gmail.com for pricing and more information.



Pictured above is **Emma Silvers** getting her vision screened.

IFLC Offers Student Vision Screening

by Marlene Wiles

Iva First Learning Center is fortunate to have developed a partnership with FOCUS FIRST, a screening group that comes annually to check the vision of IFLC students. The process is as simple as taking a photograph. No eye drops are used, the screening requires no response from the child, and children as young as six months can be screened. FOCUS FIRST uses a special camera, the SPOT digital screening system, to capture a photograph of the child's eyes. The system detects a wide range of eye abnormalities such as myopia, hyperopia, astigmatism, alignment problems, etc. This system has been quite successful at IFLC as situations have been identified where the

child only needed glasses to fix the problem. In one case a problem was found that would have caused the child to lose the vision in one of her eyes had the problem not been recognized and addressed quickly. This screening is provided at no cost to neither IFLC nor the parents.

In the photo Emma Silvers, a K-3 student at IFLC, has her vision screened. FOCUS FIRST associate, Aiyanna Bonner stands beside Emma to keep her calm and to make sure she looks into the camera while Kathryn Maxwell photographs Emma's eyes. Much thanks to FOCUS FIRST, Aiyanna and Kathryn for helping us to care for the health of our students by providing this awesome service.

Eyes on College CHS Seniors Accepted

Hannah Wooten
Clemson University

Kyleigh Smith
8 Different colleges

Murphy McBride
9 Different colleges

Abi Clinkscales
Anderson University
Erskine College
Lander University

2nd Annual Miss Iva Pageant

The Town of Iva will host its second annual Miss Iva Pageant on Saturday, June 1 at Crescent High School at 6 PM. Any girl between the ages of 2 and 19 may participate. For more information visit the town Facebook page or email justasmalltowngirlsc@gmail.com.

Habitat Happenings

By Kathy Secrist



We have had the wettest winter in history. We often see people posting rainbows and always appreciate seeing them. Here at the Habitat we are surrounded by trees and there is not much chance of seeing sunrises, sunsets or rainbows as they are hidden behind the trees. So we really appreciated this beautiful rainbow on March 12th. We are constantly surrounded by God's Love.

Note from the Editor

The outpouring support of the revitalization of the Iva Community newspaper has been overwhelming, but more often than not, I get questioned as to why I did not take credit for being the editor. Well, to be honest, this paper is not about me but our community and all of the great things going on. I'm honestly not trying to take credit because this paper includes so many people and their efforts. I'm going to try to thank some of them here, but I promise I'm not leaving anyone out on purpose. There will be more thank you's to come!

First of all, this whole project is because of the encouragement of Marlene Wiles and Tim Taylor. This is their brain child. I just put it together. Also, I love our new logo and want to thank Robyn Sauve on her hard work and for not getting tired of my emails and suggestions. In addition to her article contributions, Amy Russell has been awesome in helping with editing. Lastly, I want to thank everyone who has sent in news, articles and photos. It's an exciting time for our community, and I love seeing people honored and celebrated for what they are doing! Keep sending in your news and pictures!

~Anne Marie Rogers, Editor

Town Trivia

Last Month's Question:

Who was the first mayor of Iva?

Answer:

Frank McGee

Rhonda Minchew was the first to answer correctly.

This Month's Question:

Iva was originally a shipping station for which railroad company?

Send your answers in to eyesoniva@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

April 9th

Storytime at the Iva Library
Starting at 10:30 am.
For children ages 1-5
Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday

April 14th

Community Easter Egg Hunt
3:00pm - 4:30pm
Downtown Iva
Egg Hunt, Hot dogs, and Rides
Free event

April 15th

Circle of Hope
11:00 a.m.
Iva MAC Center – 205 Betsy Street
3rd Monday of each month

April 20th

Birthday Party for Mrs. Wakefield
2:00pm - 4:00pm
First Baptist Church of Iva Family Life Center
No gifts please.

April 23rd

Storytime at the Iva Library
Starting at 10:30 am
For children ages 1-5
Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday

April 25th

Marian Wakefield Day

April 27th

Iva Spring Express Festival (*see page 3 for more details*)
9:00am - 3:00 pm
Downtown Iva

May 19th

Brax's Cars for a Cause (*see page 11 for more details*)
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Anderson Civic Center

May 30th

CHS Class of 2019 Graduation
11:00 am
Littlejohn Coliseum

June 1st

Miss Iva Pageant (*see page 11 for more details*)
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm.
Apply now

Writers & Articles Needed

Eyes on Iva needs reporters and news in and around Iva. If you are interested in becoming a regular writer, please contact eyesoniva@gmail.com. If you have upcoming events or want to submit a news article, please visit townofiva.org to submit your news or drop a note in our box at the Iva Town Hall.