

The Chapin Star

The Capital of Lake Murray

New Utility Account Portal

EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS

Due to the change in our billing software, electronic/on-line payment procedures have also changed. The previous electronic/on-line payment system will no longer work for utilities payments. The new system is at the link [HERE](#).

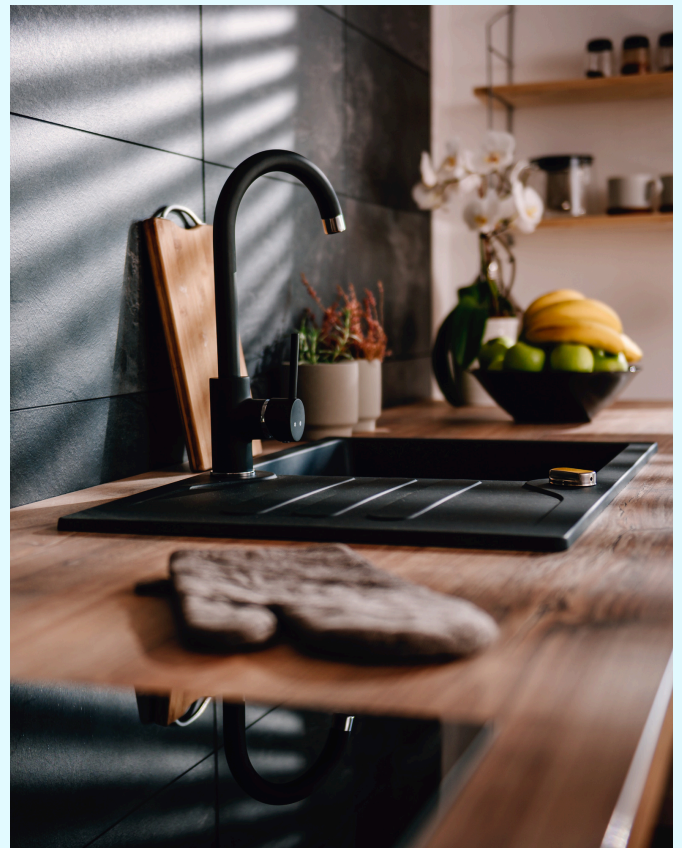
Use the lower "Utility Account Information" block.

Fill in your account number include the dash (-) number in the first two boxes. Then enter your PIN number located at the top of your bill, beside your account number, in the third box.

Click "Enter". This will show you your account information.

Click "Make a Payment" and follow the instructions for the type payment you wish to use.

Thank you!



[UTILITIES PAGE HERE](#)



Town Spotlight

ITS CAPT. GALINSKI!

While Chief Griffin has been finishing up his time at the FBI Academy in Washington DC, Captain Galinski has been holding down the fort here at the Chapin Police Department. Capt. Galinski has been with the Chapin police department for years and is a valuable member of the PD administrative staff. Capt. Galinski has helped spearhead coordinating officers for community events, tackled a variety of administrative tasks and generally held down the fort here at the PD. Thank you Captain!

Community Service in Chapin

FROM DAY TO WEEK



Later on, in the “Upcoming Events” section of the newsletter, you’ll read all about our annual Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast. It’s a very popular event taking place on an April Friday that has traditionally been followed by a town-organized Day of Service in the community. We asked ourselves a question. “Why do a day, when we could do several?” So this year our day of service is actually the week of service, immediately in front of the Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast. Very exciting, I know!

From Monday, April 7 through Thursday, April 10, local civic groups in the Chapin area will have the opportunity to give back to the area they call home. If you are an individual or are a part of a volunteer group that would like to participate in our Week of Service, please reach out to Dylan Francis, our Communications Specialist, at his phone (803-345-2444) or email (communications@chapinnc.com)! If you are a church or non-profit that is in need of help on a project and would like to schedule it for that week or if you are an individual or business that would like to help donate or supply tools and supplies for the projects, please reach out to Dylan below as well.

[WEEK OF SERVICE PAGE](#)



Town Council 2.18.25

KEEP THE MIDLANDS BEAUTIFUL

Town Council had a special guest come and give a rundown on their organization. Traude Sander, the executive director of Keep the Midlands Beautiful, gave a presentation to our Town breaking down the impact of her organization, how Keep the Midlands Beautiful works practically in their designated communities, and how we as a community can work to minimize litter in our area. Keep the Midlands Beautiful also has a shoe drive running through the 31st of May. You can learn how to participate and keep up with Keep the Midlands Beautiful at the link below!

[KEEP THE MIDLANDS BEAUTIFUL](#)

Upcoming Events!

MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST



Come one, come all for the first official Town of Chapin event of 2025, our annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, presented by Whitaker Funeral Home! Come join us for a morning of fellowship, Chick-fil-a, and a personal testimony from our special guest speaker, .

This year's theme is "Community After Catastrophe" and our speaker will express their experiences helping with the disaster relief of Hurricane Helene.

Individual tickets of \$10 will be available at the door or can be purchased through Eventbrite at the link below! reserved seating is only available through sponsorship. Our breakfast is kindly provided by Chick-fil-a Ballentine and prepared by the American Legion Post 193.

[TICKETS HERE!](#)

The Purple Martin Haze Craze

BY TERESA RANDOLPH

Piney Woods Elementary School hosted a one-of-a-kind collaborative community conservation event! The Purple Martin Haze Craze. Student volunteers including the Martin's on a Mission Piney Woods Community Impact Team welcomed the community to explore tables, enjoy popcorn, and watch a special documentary viewing and Q&A with filmmaker Captain Zach Steinhauser's film Purple Haze. Participants learned all about the plight of the Purple Martin, a species that on the East Coast is completely dependent on humans to survive. A bird call competition at intermission led to some amazing attempts at the complicated and beautiful Purple Martin Song. 5th grader Luke Lott won the competition!

Resource Tables included: SC Forestry Commission, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Chapin Branch Library, South Carolina Wildlife Federation, Lexington County Recycling, The Spirit of Lake Murray, The Environmental Education Association of South Carolina, Riverbanks Zoo & Garden, and Carolina Safari Co.

Piney Woods Principal Cassy Paschal and South Carolina Wildlife Federation's Jay Keck planned this amazing event with project management support from nonprofit organization Team Landolph. A huge thank you to student volunteers from Spring Hill High School, Chapin Middle School Beta Club, Chapin Academy, and Piney Woods Elementary Community Impact Team. Thanks to the collective efforts, over one hundred community members came together to learn about conservation and have fun!

[TEAM LANDOLPH](#)

Impact Fees for Sewer and Water

TOWN OF CHAPIN ANNOUNCEMENT



The Town of Chapin is pleased to announce that on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, the Chapin Town Council voted unanimously to issue impact fees for sewer and water services as part of an ongoing effort to ensure the sustainability and efficiency of our community infrastructure.

Impact fees will be assessed to new developments and properties requiring connection to the Town's sewer and water systems. These fees are a vital part of supporting the expansion and enhancement of our utility services, ensuring that new growth contributes to the necessary upgrades and maintenance of our water and sewer systems.

"Our community has experienced an unprecedented amount of growth from areas surrounding the Town, and with that comes the need for our infrastructure continue meeting those demands," said Al Koon, Mayor for the Town of Chapin. "By implementing these impact fees for our sewer and water territory, we are making a proactive investment in our systems, ensuring they remain reliable and capable of supporting the demands of the surrounding area."

The impact fees for sewer and water services will be calculated based on the type and size of the development, with specific rates established in accordance with local ordinances. These funds will go directly toward necessary improvements and expansions to the Town's sewer treatment facilities, water lines, and related infrastructure.

The impact fees took effect on February 18 and will apply to all new construction projects, including residential, commercial, and industrial developments. Developers and property owners are encouraged to contact the Town of Chapin Utility Department for further information regarding the calculation and payment of impact fees.

"Impact fees allow the Town to address the growing demands of our community while guaranteeing developers and new property owners share in the cost of enhancing and maintaining essential infrastructure," said Nicholle Burroughs, Town Administrator. "By enacting impact fees, the Town has shielded rate payers from the escalating costs of construction while demanding developers contribute equitability to the cost of enhancing our facilities. With an estimated \$47 million dollars' worth of necessary upgrades required within our system this approach fosters sustainable growth, avoids overburdening existing customers, and ensures that the community's infrastructure evolves alongside development." For more information on impact fees for sewer and water services or to inquire about specific development projects, please contact Nicholle Burroughs at 803-575-8039 or visit www.chapinnc.com.

Relearning Literary Love

YOUR BOY IS READING AGAIN

A little open secret about me, Dylan, the one who writes the newsletter. It's been literal years since I've read a book cover-to-cover. I know, I know, that sounds pretty bad. I spent my four years of undergrad as an English Literature major, meaning reading was all I did academically for a non-zero amount of my life. I am adult enough to admit that that straight up burned me out. Now here and there I'd read a book for some other purpose, be it something



for work or a long essay to satisfy some personal curiosity. But I'd lost the magic. It was simply too much to quiet my mind, find the time, and lock-in for enough time to enjoy a book. I'm even a little embarrassed to admit that, from cursory and superficial knowledge I've picked up throughout the years, I've just been coasting off of thematic vagueness and vibes. That time has now ended. I bought a book off of a hearty recommendation, carved out a very deliberate time to sit down with it, and I'm officially back. I'm halfway through at the time of this writing and I am cruising. It's been infinitely better for my mental health and absolute joy to experience. Now I'm sure there's many of you, like me, who have fallen out of reading for one reason or another. I understand, believe me. This life asks for a great deal of time, attention, and energy. It can seem to be just another thing to add on to your already stacked day. What I would say as someone who loved it, lost it, and has now returned to it: It's worth finding some time. We're all just doing our best these days and when it comes to stepping out of the self and into the eyes of another, a little can go a long way.

-Dylan

Have a story for us?

IF YOU HAVE A STORY THAT YOU FEEL WOULD BENEFIT YOUR FELLOW CHAPINITE TO KNOW, PLEASE SUBMIT IT TO US FOR NEWSLETTER CONSIDERATION. WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM OUR COMMUNITY!

[LET'S CHAT!](#)

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