

The Chapin Star

The Capital of Lake Murray



Chief Graduates FBI Academy

CHAPIN PD

In January, Chief Griffin left our humble little town to take some time training at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. This past month, Chief walked across the stage and graduated the academy after over 2 months of training. The academy is the law enforcement training and research center for the FBI as well as a full service national training facility. In addition to training new FBI agents at the facility, the Training Division also instructs special agents, intelligence analysts, law enforcement officers like our Chief, DEA agents, and foreign partners.



Chief Griffin's family along with our own Town Administrator attended the graduation in support and were able to see the Chief achieve his accolade. From Chief, "It took time, dedication, and perseverance. Becoming Chief in 2021 of my hometown, Chapin, the town I love so dearly, only strengthened that goal. Thanks to an incredibly supportive wife, as well as a Mayor, Council, and Administrator who continually push me to grow as a leader, today I became a graduate of the 293rd Session of the FBI National Academy."

[FBI ACADEMY PAGE](#)

Town Spotlight

IT'S DAVE PATTON! THE SUPERINTENDENT OF MAINTENANCE

Truthfully, the Town Spotlight is the entire Utilities Department of the Town of Chapin. Last month, the Utilities Department hosted a staff luncheon in the community room of Town Hall. Our team pulled together a low country boil that was one for the ages. Our Utilities team is an incredibly valued group in our Town Hall family and they work tirelessly to make sure that our water and sewer service operate at the highest capacity they can. Thanks for all you do guys!



Community Service Week

IT'S NEXT WEEK!



As mentioned in last month's Chapin Star, our event once known as the "Chapin Day of Service" has since been converted to the Week of Community Service. This was to give greater opportunity and flexibility to our local non-profits and volunteer groups to execute their chosen project and we are so excited with the plans for next week! Groups like the Chapin Junior Woman's Club, the American Legion Post 193, and Our Lady of the Lake Church have already signed up and are

ready to serve! 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@chapinisc.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 3.18.25

BLEEDING DISORDERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The Bleeding Disorder Association of South Carolina (BDASC) paid a visit to our March Town Council meeting to receive a proclamation from our Mayor in recognition of Blood Disorders Awareness Month. BDASC Advocacy Ambassadors for Lexington County, Ward and Marilyn Keith, were in attendance for the proclamation. The BDASC's mission is to raise awareness for and advocate on behalf of persons with bleeding disorders and their families; provide education and supportive services; and promote ongoing research to improve the quality of life for those affected.

[KEEP THE MIDLANDS
BEAUTIFUL](#)

Upcoming Events!

CHAPIN DOWNTOWN FARMER'S MARKET



You feel that warm weather starting to come in? It won't be long now until the crops are coming up and that can only mean one thing...the Farmer's Market is officially back!

Starting in May and going through October (unless otherwise specified) The Chapin Downtown Farmer's Market will be hosted on the second Saturday's of the month and will feature some specially curated vendors, food, and activities.

Farmer's Markets are a great way to be active in the community, shop ethically and healthily, and support your local farmers, such as Little Mountain's own Redfoot Farms who will feature! We'll see you out there soon!

[TICKETS HERE!](#)

Tipsy Toad Anniversary

BIG MILESTONE



An institution of our Town, The Tipsy Toad celebrated a major milestone this past month. March of 2025 marks the 5 year anniversary of owner Nikki Meetze's time at the helm of the Toad and she's been an invaluable asset to our community for her entire tenure.

Even taking over the Toad during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Nikki was determined to keep the business succeeding. The business model was altered and innovated throughout the last five years to account for all manner of distinctive events, both local and national.

The milestone was celebrated with a ceremonial ribbon cutting, put on by the Greater Chapin Chamber of Commerce, last March that saw the establishment packed with dedicated patrons and community leaders alike. Nikki expressed her appreciation of the communal support and her pride in the position she has made for herself.

[TIPSY TOAD](#)

New Billing Supervisor

MEET NATE HARRELL

We have a new face in our Utilities Department! Meet Nate Harrell, our new Billing Supervisor! Nate was born and raised in Elkin, NC a small town in the foothills. His wife Jessica and he have three children (Margaret 9, Gavin 6, and Adams 14 months). Jessica is a '04 graduate of Chapin High School and she grew up in White Rock. Previously, Nate held several different accounting roles, but most recently he was a Senior Staff Accountant for a local manufacturing company.

As the Utilities Billing Supervisor, Nate has said, "my goal is to oversee the daily operations of the billing department, complete various projects, and assist our citizens any way possible." Give Nate a call if you have any questions about your Water/Sewer bill.



UTILITIES DIRECTORY

Pet Health Insurance – Is it Worth it?

CONTRIBUTOR - RUBY

Similarly to human health insurance, pet health insurance helps to cover the cost of medical expenses. And similarly to human doctor visits, veterinarian care can be costly regardless of breed or species. When pet parents ask me about pet health insurance, I share my personal experiences with Athena. There were a pawful of times when she would become ill or injured, no different than a human child catching germs or scraping knees at school. As she aged, her medical needs increased. She developed arthritis at 9, was diagnosed with Cushing's Disease at 10, and rhinitis at 13. She also had seven tooth extractions, a paw infection, a sprained ankle, and a rash, among other issues. Cushing's medications cost over \$200 a month, and follow-up exams are about \$300 every 3-6 months. She had over \$2,000 in teeth extractions and a \$4,000 nasal biopsy. These costs don't include supplements, special diet foods, or vaccinations. Thankfully, her pet health insurance covered about 70% of her medical expenses, easing the financial burden significantly! I had peace of mind that my baby girl could have access to care without worrying about cost. Her annual wellness check-ups allowed us to stay on top of her health and prevent any life-threatening diseases at a young age, thus living a whole life, a testament to the importance of regular check-ups in pet care. Thanks to pet health insurance, Athena could live her best life. She gifted me 14 wagnificent years, and ensuring her access to care was a significant part of that.



Ruby Red's Pet Care Ribbon Cutting last month!

The Labor Day Train Begins

MY TIME IS NOW



Well everyone, it's that time again. It might feel like jumping the gun but make no mistake, Labor Day will be here before you or I know it. This won't be a super incisive breakdown of the weekend's events or some major announcement regarding a band or special guest, no sir. I wanted to take a moment and soak in the very essence of Labor Day talk about it in a very low-stakes way. Some people may not know exactly what goes into it and that's ok! So let's talk about it.

So Labor Day is an undertaking that is less of an event and more of a lifestyle for me. There's really not a day at work where I'm not thinking about it. Between the parade, the festival, the concert, the carnival, the car show, and more...it can be all-consuming. But this year I will have excellent help and I'm really excited for the direction the event is going. Fidelis Family Retreat, a great local non-profit that helps veterans and their families, will be heading up parade coordination and Crossroad's Church will once again be sponsoring our Children's Carnival. We also have great small businesses like Reliable Plumbing and Back to the Rack with Chickadees sponsoring things like music and our cool down tents. The whole thing is wrapped up by a huge Grand Sponsorship by Lexington Medical Center, who is a tremendous partner. On top of all of that, there's still more to come! I may bear the cross of preparation for the largest Labor Day event in South Carolina but I do so with a tremendous amount of help from my fellow town staff, local law enforcement, and the wonderful businesses and organizations that make it all possible. If you've been there before, you know I'm not speaking in hyperbole. It would be LITERALLY impossible. This exercise has given me a lot of confidence going into this year's event and I'm excited to see everyone there!

-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!](#)

[@townofchapinsc](#) | communications@chapinsc.com

CHAPINSC.COM