



Town of McClellanville
April/May 2026

VILLAGE NEWS

Upcoming Meetings: 405 Pinckney Street

*dates are subject to change

Town Council Regular Meeting

Monday, April 20 6PM; Special Meeting and Budget Workshop
Monday, May 4 7PM; Agenda deadline April 29th by noon

ARB/DRB Regular Meeting

Tues., April 21 7PM; Agenda deadline March 31st by noon
Tues., May 19 7PM; Agenda deadline April 28th by noon

Planning Commission— Mon., June 22 at 6:00 PM

Tree Committee – Tues., April 14th at 5 PM

McClellanville Magistrates Court - (843) 887-3334
10009 Hwy 17 N

Office Hours: Mon, Thur 9 AM–4 PM

Court: Thursday, October 9th

Thursday, November 13th

McClellanville Town Hall (843) 887-3712

405 Pinckney Street

Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Wednesday 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

Off-Road Motorized Vehicles

The Town has received several reports of children operating off-road motorized vehicles, including mini-bikes and dirt bikes, within residential areas. As a reminder, these vehicles are not permitted on public roads. They are designed for off-road use only and create significant safety risks for riders, pedestrians, and drivers. Parents and guardians are responsible for their children's actions and for ensuring they follow all state and local laws. The Charleston County Sheriff's Office will be monitoring the situation and may take enforcement action as needed to keep our community safe.

2026 Lowcountry Shrimp Festival

Join us on **Saturday, May 2nd**, for the 48th Annual Lowcountry Shrimp Festival and Blessing of the Fleet!

With live music from Radio Bomb and Billy and the Goats, 60+ local craft vendors, a large children's play area, and plenty of LOCAL shrimp (and options for the non-shrimp eaters)! All proceeds from food, beverage, festival merchandise, and children's area sales benefit our local charter school, CREECs. No coolers, tents, or beach umbrellas are permitted. More details can be found at lowcountryshrimpfestival.com

Town Proclamation: Building Safety Month

Mayor Leland has officially proclaimed May as Building Safety Month in McClellanville. This initiative highlights the importance of adopting modern, up-to-date building codes and raises awareness about the steps individuals, families, and businesses can take to ensure their structures are safe, resilient, and sustainable.

Request for Bids

The Town of McClellanville, SC will accept sealed bids through **12:00 PM on Thursday, April 23, 2026**, for twice weekly collection of bagged household trash from town residences and the receptacles at the R.E. Ashley Boat Landing and the playground. The contract will also include weekly collection of trash from the municipal office, the Village Museum, and five town churches.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and provide their own equipment. Proof of a valid SC driver's license, liability and workers compensation insurance will be required. The job will begin July 1, 2026, at the start of the Town's fiscal year. Bids for the job will be accepted at Town Hall, 405 Pinckney St., McClellanville, SC through 12 noon on Thursday, April 23, 2026.

Bid packages can be obtained on the Town's website at www.mcclellanvillesc.org or by contacting the Town at 843.887.3712.

Tree City USA

McClellanville is proud to celebrate **25 consecutive years** as a Tree City USA community. A milestone that reflects our town's long-standing commitment to preserving and caring for our urban forest. For a quarter-century, McClellanville has upheld national standards in tree stewardship, from thoughtful planning and maintenance to community education and conservation. This recognition honors not only our canopy, but the residents, volunteers, and partners who continue to protect the natural character that defines our village. A special thank-you goes to our Tree Committee, whose dedication, expertise, and hands-on service make this achievement possible year after year.

Dominion Energy Rate Increase

Demand for electricity from Dominion Energy's local customers is projected to increase by 25 percent by 2044. To continue meeting this demand safely, reliably and efficiently, the company is requesting an increase of approximately \$322 million to support the \$1.4 billion invested in our electric system since 2023. If approved, the rate request would result in a net increase of approximately 12.7 percent for residential customers. The average monthly bill of a residential customer who uses 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per month would be approximately \$177. This would be a monthly increase of \$19.98 from today's bill of approximately \$157.

If approved, new rates would be effective in July 2026.

The Public Service Commission has scheduled a series of customer public hearings. Public hearing dates in North Charleston, Bluffton, and Aiken will be in-person only, and the Columbia customer public hearing will be in-person or virtual so customers can testify over the phone.

Details of the Public Hearings can be found at <https://www.dominionenergy.com/scratereview>

Community Spotlight: Sylvan & Diane Racine



We have several residents who quietly pick up litter around town, and their efforts truly make a difference. This month, we are celebrating Sylvan and Diane Racine, whose steady commitment to keeping our roadsides and public spaces clean reflects the very best of McClellanville.

Their work helps preserve the beauty and character of our village and their example reminds us how small acts of care strengthen the place we all call home.

Please join the Town in thanking Sylvan and Diane for their continued stewardship and community spirit.

Trash Pickup Reminders

The Town of McClellanville currently contracts for household waste removal for residents. The contract calls for curbside collection of bagged household waste twice a week, currently Mondays and Thursdays. Trash should be on the curb for pickup by 6 a.m. If your trash has not been collected, the driver will leave a note in the container explaining why it was left.

Please note, that the Town ONLY picks up household trash in regular-sized trash bags tied in a tight knot. **Loose trash and large construction bags full of trash will not be picked up.**

Library Events

April

Craft & Connect – Tues., Apr. 7 at 1 p.m.

Make a stunning suncatcher using prisms and trinkets in this craft program for adults.

Kids Crafternoon – Thurs., Apr. 9 at 4 p.m.

Spring Break crafting fun featuring squishy nanotape creations. Supplies included.

Movie Monday – Mon., Apr. 20 at 3:30 p.m.

Enjoy a family-friendly movie after school. Snacks provided.

May

Craft & Connect – Tues., May 5 at 1 p.m.

Bring a glass and try glass etching with us! Wear old clothing; class will be outside.

Kids Crafternoon – Thurs., May 14 at 4 p.m.

Egg carton animal creations. Supplies included.

Movie Monday – Mon., May 18 at 3:30 p.m.

Enjoy a family-friendly movie after school. Snacks provided.

Weekly

Mahjongg Mondays – Hong Kong Mahjongg at 10 a.m.
American Mahjongg at 11 a.m.

Learn Mahjongg at a beginner-friendly pace. No experience needed.

Family Storytime – Every Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Stories, songs, rhymes, movement, and making for all

Closed:

May 2 – Closed for Shrimp Festival

May 25 – Closed for Memorial Day

Warmer days are on the way, and so is one of our favorite seasons at the McClellanville Library—Summer Reading! Stay tuned for registration events and special programming!

Special Announcement

Melissa Thorkilsen would like to announce the passing of her mother, Kathleen (Kathi) Ireland, who had been a resident of McClellanville for 17 years. She cherished both her time living here and the friends she made. Melissa extends her heartfelt gratitude to the community.

Naloxone Stand at Carolina Seafood

Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse an opioid overdose—including those involving heroin, fentanyl, or prescription pain medications—when given in time. It's easy to use, small enough to carry, and the doses being distributed here are pre-filled nasal sprays that anyone can administer without medical training or authorization.

A free Naloxone stand is now available outside Carolina Seafood, provided by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), which is designated as a Community Distributor. Community members can stop by at any time to discreetly pick up Naloxone and help ensure they are prepared to respond in an emergency.

Funding for this Naloxone distribution initiative comes from the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF), created through the 2023 South Carolina Opioid Settlement agreement. This means the cost does not come from local, state, or federal tax dollars.

<https://scorf.sc.gov/>

MAC Events

Don't miss the CREECS student art show, What Can We Do?, in the MAC gallery now through Saturday, April 18th.

Join us on Saturday, April 25th from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM for our Gelli Plate Printing Workshop. Explore the versatile world of Gelli plate printing in this hands-on workshop focused on creating unique textured monoprints. No experience necessary, spaces extremely limited. \$25 for MAC members, \$35 for non-members. Get all the details and register online at www.mcclellanvilleartscouncil.com/calendar/gelli-plate-printing-workshop.

Don't miss Chamber Music Charleston in the MAC gallery on Monday, May 4th at 7:00 PM for a free concert celebrating the nation's artistic heritage through music for string quartet. Reserve your seat at www.mcclellanvilleartscouncil.com/store/p/chamber-music-charleston-at-the-mac-5426 or call us at 843-887-3157.

Mark your calendars for the opening reception of HAMPTOM and the WAMBAW, by John McWilliams and Nancy Marshall on Saturday, May 9th from 5:00PM - 7:00 PM.

The MAC is hosting 3 summer camps this year! Harry Potter Summer Camp, June 15th - June 19th, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM daily, Young at Art Camp, July 6th - July 10th, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM daily, and Summer Drama Camp, July 27th - July 31st, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM daily. Scholarships are available for all camps. Get all the details and register online at www.mcclellanvilleartscouncil.com/calendar.

It's not too late to become a new MAC member or to renew your current membership! Play a vital role in preserving and promoting the arts in our community. For over 45 years, the Arts Council has brought creative opportunities to northern Charleston County, offering classes, workshops, exhibits, and more. Your membership supports our mission to enrich lives through art, ensures our facilities remain accessible to all, and helps us continue providing educational and cultural programs. By joining, you're investing in the cultural heritage and creative spirit of our coastal region. Your support makes a lasting impact—join us today! Become a member at www.mcclellanvilleartscouncil.com/store/p/mac-membership.

St. James Santee Presents: Fight the Bite

Simple, Safe, Economical Mosquito Abatement
featuring Amanda McNulty

When: Wednesday April 22nd 6:00 M

Where: Chapel of Ease - 205 Oak Street, McClellanville SC

A reception to meet the speaker will follow at the Morrison House. Everyone is welcome!

Bulls Bay Nature & Heritage Festival

When: Saturday May 16th 8am - 5PM

Workshops, Fishing, Kayaking, Wildlife & Plant Tours, Gullah stories, Kid's Activities AND MORE!

For more info: bullsbaynaturefestival.com or call Swewee Center
Wednesday - Saturday at 843.928.3368

Centennial Events at a Glance



McClellanville's centennial year is in full swing, and the calendar is packed with events that honor our history, highlight our people, and bring the community together. The Centennial Wisteria Parade was a standout moment of our centennial year, showcasing the creativity, charm, and togetherness that define McClellanville. Here's what's coming up as we continue celebrating 100 years since our incorporation in 1926:

APR 18 — Jimmy "The Cat" Dupree Run for Peace
Celebrate hometown boxing legend Jimmy "The Cat" Dupree with speakers, exhibits, and food.
Noon • Old McClellanville School

JUN 27 — MAC Centennial Exhibit Opening
A Village Shaped by the Tides showcases local artists and their stories that define our community.
5PM - 7PM McClellanville Art's Council

JUL 4 — Centennial July 4th Picnic
A classic village picnic marking both McClellanville's 100th and America's 250th.
Program begins at 11 AM • Bring a dish to share
Town provides shrimp and lemonade.

AUG 3 — Founder's Day Reception
Join us for light refreshments and a brief program celebrating 100 years of community and heritage.
6 PM • Before the Town Council meeting

THE VILLAGE MUSEUM PROUDLY PRESENTS
A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
**JIMMY "THE CAT" DUPREE
RUN FOR PEACE**

FOOD • COMMUNITY • CELEBRATION
**SATURDAY
APRIL 18TH • 12 PM**
@MCCLELLANVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL

MEET THE MAN WHO STUNG THE A CREEPS
Join us to meet Tom Dupree as he continues the legacy of Jimmy "The Cat" Dupree, honoring his skills, McClellanville's history, boxing tradition, and community advocate Jimmy Dupree.

A McClellanville Centennial Community Celebration
Presented in partnership with:
Member: McClellanville Fire Department, McClellanville Middle School, Charleston County Parks and Recreation, Charleston County Sheriff's Office
Local: Regional Center, McClellanville Arts Council, McClellanville Branch Library



The South Carolina Hands-Free and Distracted Driving Act, effective September 1, 2025, with fines starting February 28, 2026, makes it **illegal** to hold or support any mobile device with any body part while driving. Violations for texting, emailing, or watching videos while driving cost \$100 for the first offense, with higher fines and license points for subsequent offenses.

Key Aspects of the Law (as of 2026):

- Prohibited Actions: You cannot hold a phone, tablet, or GPS to read, write, send data, or watch videos.
- Permitted Actions: Using Bluetooth, wired headsets, voice-activated commands, or, in some cases, a single tap to activate a feature is allowed.
- Exceptions: The law does not apply to drivers who are legally parked, or for using a device to report a traffic accident, medical emergency, or fire.
- Penalties: First offense is \$100; subsequent offenses are \$200 and 2 points on your driver's license. The goal of this law is to reduce the high number of accidents and fatalities caused by distracted driving.

Town Council

Malcolm Baldwin Christopher Bates
Robert Gannon James Scott, IV

Mayor

Rutledge B. Leland, III

Town Clerk / Town Administrator, Michelle A. McClellan

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Executive Assistant, Jessie Thomas

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MCVLZoning@outlook.com

Code Enforcement, Erin Browne

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Town Website: www.mccllellanvillesc.org

Charleston Co. Sheriff's Office

Report all suspicious activity by calling 911 or 843-743-7200

Your community matters! Help us, help you.

Do you know who did the crime? Call or text CrimeStoppers

Phone: 843-554-1111 or www.5541111.com

**The Town Newsletter is produced every other month—
Newsletter dates for 2026:**

**** Please note newsletter mailing dates have changed ****

June/July – mailed 6/05; content deadline 5/29

August/September – mailed 8/07; content deadline 8/03

We will attempt to have the newsletter mailed by the Friday following the Council meeting. Material to be included in the newsletter should be sent to mccllellanville2@outlook.com

All material is subject to editorial review by the Town staff. Some material may not be accepted for publication.



2026 Annual Launch Permits

Resident—\$75 Non-resident—\$150

Don't get caught without your 2025 boat launch permit!

Permits can be purchased in person at Town Hall, or use this QR code to purchase online and Town staff will mail it to you.



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**Town of McClellanville
405 Pinckney Street
McClellanville, SC 29458**