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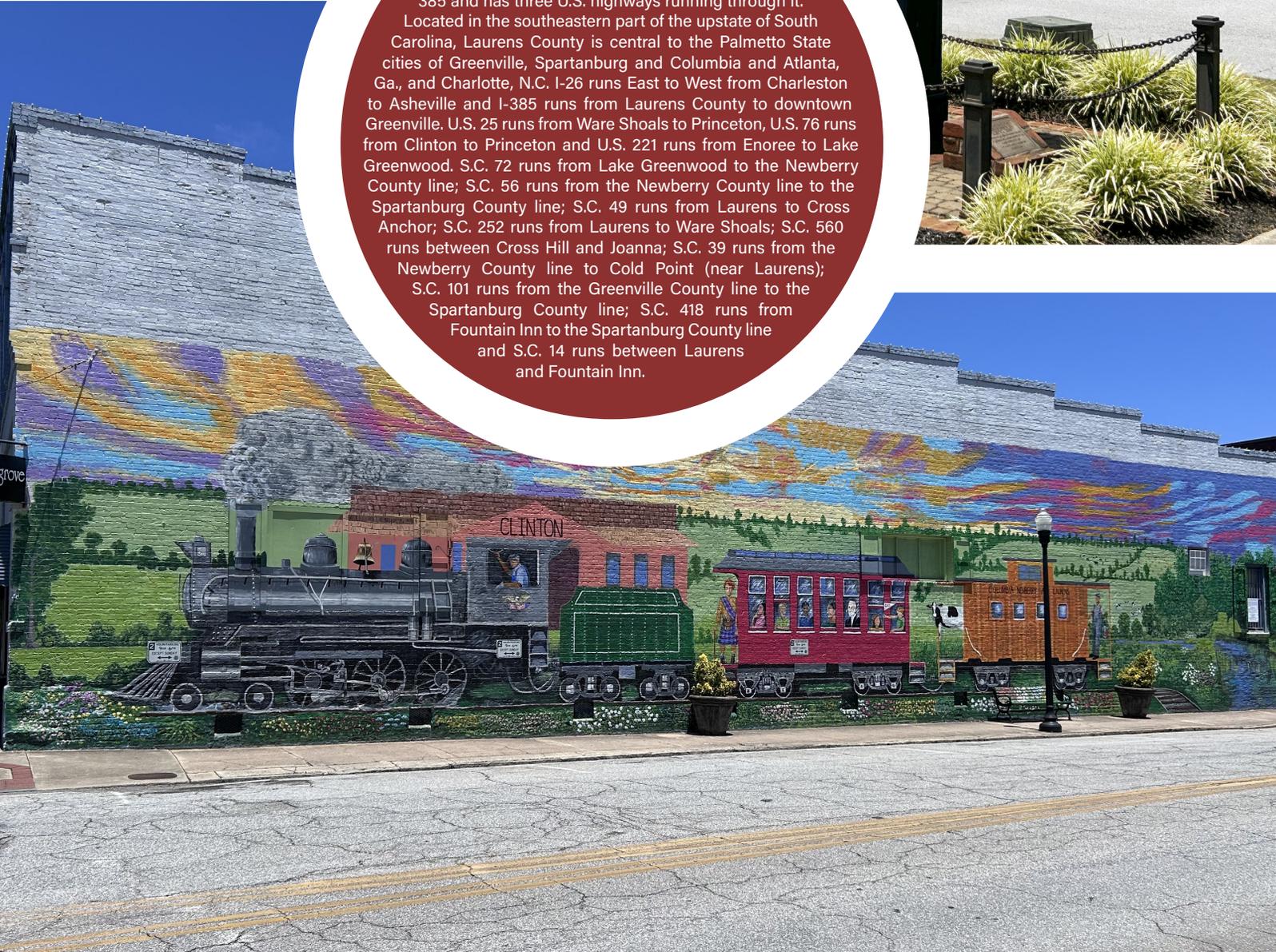
Follow Us On:





Location

Laurens County is located along I-26 and I-385 and has three U.S. highways running through it. Located in the southeastern part of the upstate of South Carolina, Laurens County is central to the Palmetto State cities of Greenville, Spartanburg and Columbia and Atlanta, Ga., and Charlotte, N.C. I-26 runs East to West from Charleston to Asheville and I-385 runs from Laurens County to downtown Greenville. U.S. 25 runs from Ware Shoals to Princeton, U.S. 76 runs from Clinton to Princeton and U.S. 221 runs from Enoree to Lake Greenwood. S.C. 72 runs from Lake Greenwood to the Newberry County line; S.C. 56 runs from the Newberry County line to the Spartanburg County line; S.C. 49 runs from Laurens to Cross Anchor; S.C. 252 runs from Laurens to Ware Shoals; S.C. 560 runs between Cross Hill and Joanna; S.C. 39 runs from the Newberry County line to Cold Point (near Laurens); S.C. 101 runs from the Greenville County line to the Spartanburg County line; S.C. 418 runs from Fountain Inn to the Spartanburg County line and S.C. 14 runs between Laurens and Fountain Inn.





Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Plant

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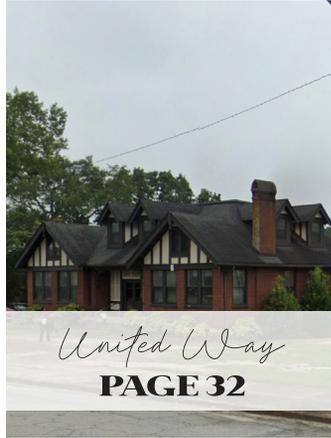
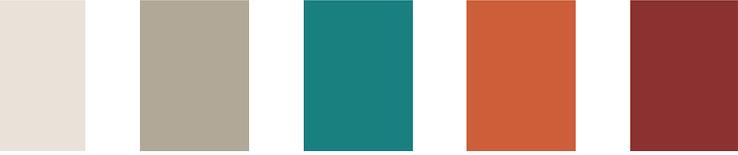


Y.M.C.A.

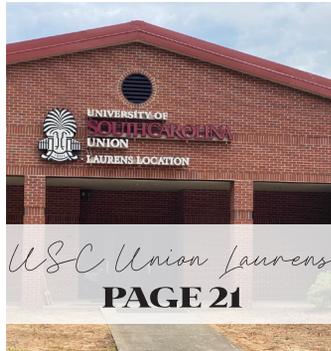
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The Square, Clinton, S. C.



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welcome HOME

Whether you're here for a day, a weekend or a lifetime, welcome to Laurens County. You're certain to find something you like. If you're here for a visit, you just might find yourself wanting to stay.

If you've decided to make Laurens County your home, congratulations on a wise decision. Laurens County reflects the best of what's good about South Carolina. It is beautiful, safe, quiet, exciting and growing — though not too much, and not too fast.

Public education, private education, higher education, quality health care, exciting and challenging recreational opportunities, lakes, rivers, arts, culture, a variety of churches, jobs, natural beauty — it's all here in Laurens County, South Carolina.

Where else can you still experience small town life with the convenience of larger, metropolitan areas so close by? Columbia, Greenville, Spartanburg, Charlotte and Atlanta are just a short drive away.

The comfortable climate in South Carolina's upstate makes year-round living and working pleasant and inviting. (The average temperature in January is in the 50s and the mid-eighties in July). The only weather extreme we can boast of is the occasional snowfall.

About 67,000 people make their homes across the 722-square-miles of Laurens County. Thirty percent of them live in the cities of Clinton and Laurens with the remainder living in the communities of Cross Hill, Gray Court, Hickory Tavern, Mountville, Joanna, Ware Shoals, Waterloo or in other rural areas.

Laurens County is home to some of the finest people, businesses and industries in the world. In January 2013 one of Laurens County's own, Ali Rogers, competed as Miss South Carolina for the title of Miss America, coming away with First Runner-up honors.

And it's a great place to call home if you decide to stay with us.



Presbyterian Communities

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Laurens County Medical Campus

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about CLINTON

With at least three separate charters (1852, 1866, 1890) documented in state record books and other anecdotal accounts of its founding passed down through the ages, tracing the exact origins of Clinton, Laurens County's second largest municipality, can be as murky as the muddied land upon which the city was established. Prior to 1852, Clinton was simply a stop for people on their way to somewhere else. The area which has grown to become the city's downtown was originally an intersection of two main highways — the Greenville-Columbia Highway and the Spartanburg-Augusta Highway. The first buildings in the area were constructed on those lots at the corner of present day Broad and Pitts streets. In the end, it was decided to name the town after Henry Clinton Young, a lawyer from Laurensville who helped design the layout of the first streets. With the arrival of Dr. William Plumer Jacobs in 1864, Clinton received not only an eager, young Presbyterian minister, but also an avid writer who kept a daily journal of his life and edited a monthly magazine for Thornwell Orphanage. Clinton's history can be traced through both from 1864 until Jacobs' death in 1917. Jacobs founded Thornwell Orphanage and the first building was completed in 1875. In 1874, Jacobs made the decision to establish a college in Clinton — Presbyterian College. In 1896, entrepreneur M.S. Bailey decided to build a cotton mill on Sloan Hill. A second cotton mill was organized in 1902. Clinton Mills, later called CMI, broke ground for the Bailey Plant in 1966 on U.S. 76 west. CMI has since closed all four local manufacturing plants and closed its doors for good in 2001. The New York-based Richloom Fabrics Group reopened the 200,000-square-foot Bailey Plant in 2003. In November, 2016, Clinton was accepted into the Main Street South Carolina program. The City's annual festival is Rhythm on the Rails. GE Renewable Energy came to Clinton in 2017.



Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Plant

Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Plant

Different from an Infrastructure Plan or even a Master Plan, the new Strategic Plan of the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission, a major driver in the county's development, charts a course for the overall management of the water and sewer provider. This commission has made a \$100 Million investment in the last 10 years in the county's infrastructure. A major part of that is the \$28M - \$29 Million Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Plant and its in-take facility. But, even more important going forward, LCWSC expects to have to repeat that investment within the next 10 years. The water plant will need to be expanded. A sewer plant is on the horizon for Gray Court. The City of Clinton, a major sewer customer of LCWSC, is developing the former Whitten Center property, deeded to the City by the State as surplus land. And, the commission manages Laurens County's hidden gem, Lake Rabon. For this reason, the commission's board adopted a resolution at its Aug. 27 meeting outlining 5 "strategic priorities" after reviewing a booklet that reveals, in detail, the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission Strategic Plan. Approval came as a recommendation from the Policy Committee following an Aug. 15 review. "The job was just getting started when we built the water plant," said LCWSC Executive Director Jeff Field.

The 5 priorities outlined for the LCWSC's future are:

- Employee Development and Retention, "...creating an environment where team members are engaged and valued;"
- Infrastructure Investment and Growth, "...to meet regional needs and provide high-quality services for our community;"
- Financial and Organizational Resiliency, "...to support effective financial management ...;"
- Community Engagement and Partnerships, "...focused on community outreach and education ...;"
- High Quality Services: "LCWSC provides high-quality and essential water and sewer treatment by meeting or surpassing all regulatory requirements and partnering with industry groups to protect public and environmental healthy in our community."

Field said a recent family gathering for commission employees at Big Air in Laurens was their first time together since 2019 (because of Covid) and that was just after groundbreaking for the water treatment plant - an investment that would cost \$80 Million in today's dollars. After a roll-out last January, in April a board / management team retreat was held to kick off a strategic planning process that included stakeholders and elected officials. This plan "looks at the organization overall," Field said, making it different from a master plan and/or an infrastructure plan. He said it outlines "an ambitious list" of goals for the organization. "We are proud of the involvement from our staff," Field said. "They are aspiring to be the same organization that we want to be." LCWSC has 50 employees. And, Field said, even though it's a local water provider, the commission addresses "global issues," such as interest rates, inflation, and expanding government regulations, especially those related to PFAS, also known as "forever chemicals". The Strategic Plan will be a fluid document; already, LCWSC has plans to upgrade its employees-in-the-field dispatch system and is viewing customer surveys, the board was told. The board's strategic plan resolution says, in part, "the Strategic Plan will guide financial, operations and policy decisions starting now and for the next several years with oversight by LCWSC's Board of Commissioners; and ...LCWSC will review the Strategic Plan annually to determine progress in achieving the plan and to reaffirm LCWSC priorities." The Strategic Framework includes Vision, Mission and Values statements. LCWSC dates from 1993, and the merger of two agencies founded in 1972, the Rabon Creek Rural Water District and the Laurens County Water Resource Commission - 90% of Laurens County's geographical area is served by LCWSC (more than 47,300 people served). Its Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Facility produces 4 Million gallons per day (MGD) of quality drinking water and it is expandable to 18 MGD or more if needed. The facility earned the prestigious State Finalist Award in Engineering Excellence from the American Council of Engineering Companies of South Carolina and the 2022 Pinnacle Award for Best Utility Project from the Carolinas Associated General Contractors (CAG).



LCWSC Trust in Every Drop

Our Values

**RELIABLE • PROACTIVE • SAFE
SUSTAINABLE • PARTNERS**

Our Mission

LCWSC 's DEDICATED team ensures high levels of SERVICE by managing a SUSTAINABLE supply of QUALITY drinking water, ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND wastewater collection, and EFFICIENT treatment services, while SUPPORTING the infrastructure necessary for REGIONAL PROSPERITY.

**864-682-3250 | 800-358-3445
3850 Highway 221 Laurens, SC**

**Visit us at www.LCWSC.com
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Laurens County Judicial Building



M.S. Bailey Municipal Complex

Paying Taxes

The Laurens County Treasurer collects county and municipal property taxes and vehicle taxes at the Laurens County Hillcrest Square office complex in Laurens. Call 864-984-4742 for information.

Building Permits

Building permits are required for all new construction, additions, renovations or demolition performed in Laurens County or its municipalities. The building standards office issues building permits for Laurens County. Call 864-984-6659 for more information.

For a building permit inside the City of Clinton, call the building and zoning inspector at 864-833-7517. The office is located at the M.S. Bailey Municipal Complex on North Broad Street.

In the City of Laurens, the building inspector can be reached by calling 864-984-2613. The office is located in Laurens City Hall at 126 E. Public Sq. in Laurens.

Vehicle Registration

Car, boat and ATV registration can be obtained by paying vehicle taxes to the Laurens County Treasurer. Call 864-984-4742 for more information.



Department of Motor Vehicles

Register to Vote

The Laurens County Registration/ Elections office has voter registration forms available during business hours Monday through Friday at the Elections Office on Bolt Drive.

Registration forms are also available at the Department of Motor Vehicles and at www.scvotes.org. Completed forms can be mailed to PO Box 769, Laurens, S.C. 29360. For more information, call 864-984-4431.

Electricity

There are four electricity providers in the county: Laurens Electric Cooperative, 682-3141; Duke Energy, 1-800-777-9898; City of Clinton, 833-7520; and Laurens Commission of Public Works, 864-984-0481.



Burning

Residents should call the Laurens County Communications Center at 864-984-2523 to advise of the requested burning.

The dispatcher will in turn provide a number to call the S.C. Forestry Service.



Laurens County Communications Center

Report a Stray

To report stray animals in the unincorporated areas of the county, call the Laurens County Sheriff's Office at 864-984-4976 during business hours Monday through Friday. In the City of Clinton, call the police department at 864-833-7512. In the City of Laurens, call the police department at 864-984-3532.



Laurens County Sheriff's Office

Hunting/Fishing License

Hunting and fishing licenses are available at any location that deals in hunting and fishing equipment.





Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission



S.C. Department of Transportation Motor Vehicles Division



Water/Sewer

Four agencies provide water to customers in the county: Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission, 864-682-3250; City of Clinton, 864-833-7520; Laurens Commission of Public Works, 984-0481; and Greenville Water System, 864-241-6000.

Sewer service is provided by the following utilities: Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission, 864-682-3250; Western Carolina Regional Sewer System, 864-299-4000; Laurens Commission of Public Works, 984-0481; City of Clinton, 864-833-7520.

Drivers License

The S.C. Department of Transportation Motor Vehicles Division is located near the Laurens County Fairgrounds off U.S. 76. Call 864-682-3213 for information.



Laurens County Humane Society

Animal Shelter

The Laurens County Humane Society operates a no-kill animal adoption center on Poplar St., near Charlotte's Road in Clinton. LCHS actively seeks volunteers to help with the adoption center and other projects. Contact LCHS at 864-984-6484 (leave a message) or email: laurenshumane@gmail.com



Laurens County is extremely easy to access via I-26 from the southeast and northwest, as well as 385 from Greenville. Or, you can fly in and out of the Laurens County Airport, with a 4,000 ft. paved runway and hangar rental spots available with other amenities.



Laurens County Advertiser

laurens county HISTORY



Henry Laurens depicted by Lemuel Francis Abbott, 1781 or 1784

Native Americans were the first known inhabitants of the area now known as Laurens County. The first known European settler to arrive in what is now Laurens County was John Duncan in 1753. He liked the lush vegetation and abundant wildlife he found in the area and settled around a creek in the northeastern section of the county not far from the present city of Clinton. Part of the old Ninety Six district, Laurens became a separate county in 1785 and was named for Revolutionary War-era patriot Henry Laurens of Charleston.

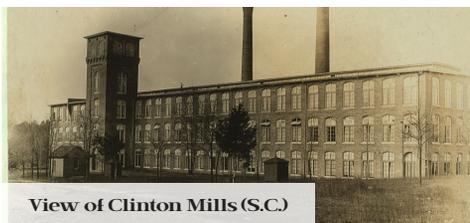
The town of Laurens (known as Laurensville well into the 19th century) became the county seat and the first courthouse was erected in 1786. The current courthouse was built in 1840 and enlarged in 1857. Laurens County opened a new judicial center in 2000, moving most county offices from the courthouse on the public square in Laurens. A major addition to this Judicial/ Services Center opened in 2016. The town of Clinton (named for Henry Clinton Young, local attorney and member of the South Carolina General Assembly) built up around Holland's store, which in 1809 housed the only post office in the eastern part of Laurens County.

No military action occurred in Laurens County during the Civil War, though many native sons who went off to war became casualties of the conflict. The desire to grow more cotton depleted forests as land was cleared and poor agricultural practices depleted the fertility of the soil. With the building of railroads in the last half of the 19th century, the towns and communities of Cross Hill, Mountville, Waterloo, Ora and Lanford grew.

The historic City of Laurens serves as the Laurens County seat and is the county's largest municipality. Until 1785, the area now known as Laurens County was a part of the Ninety Six (judicial) district. The first record of the town being officially called Laurens appears on a charter issued in 1873.

Most of the governmental, commercial, residential and religious buildings were built between 1880 and 1952 and are a visual record of the economic prosperity and growth that followed the construction of several railroads through Laurens between 1870 and 1900. By 1906, Laurens had two major cotton-related industrial plants — a cotton knit mill and a weaving operation. In the 1930s, the major industries in Laurens were two cotton mills and a glass manufacturing plant, which was the first major effort in the county towards industrial diversification. Industry had been focused heavily on textiles up to this time and except for the glass works, remained so until the third quarter of the 20th century. In the 1950s and 1960s, more job diversification took place to include additional textile works, steel fabricating operations and mobile home builders. Farm feeds, fiberglass, machine parts and paper-box manufacturing also became a part of the Laurens economic scene.

All county schools were under one superintendent until the 1950s, when the county was divided into District 55 (Laurens) and District 56 (Clinton). The population of Laurens is well over 9,000; however, the city serves a surrounding population of better than twice that. The area of the public square and most of the surrounding streets are now officially recognized as the "Laurens Historic District," which has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Each fall, the city's square plays host to the State Barbecue Championship during the "Squealin' on the Square" festival.



View of Clinton Mills (S.C.)



A row of houses of the cotton mill people. Lydia Mills, Clinton, S.C. Witness, Sara R. Hine, Dec. 2, 1908. L.W.H. Location: Clinton, SC.



A few of the employees in the Clinton Mills, going home from work. December 1908. Photographed by Lewis Hine.



The Square, Clinton, SC - 1910's

The Square, Clinton, S.C.

surrounding TOWNS

Joanna

Prior to the Civil War, the area now known as Joanna was an agricultural community known as Martin's Depot. After several families moved into the area in the 1850s, a post office/stagecoach stop was established on Feb. 3, 1853. In 1872, James S. Blalock, former land overseer from Union County, purchased 7,000 acres of land at Martin's Depot with gold he had earned running bales of cotton through a land blockade during the Civil War. Because of this, his estate became known as Goldville, and on May 2, 1883, the name became official when the post office name was changed from Martin's Depot to Goldville. In 1924, Banna Manufacturing Company was sold to Hartshorn, Hack and Durgin of New York and renamed Joanna Manufacturing Company after one of the new owner's wives. The owners of the company were very interested in the welfare of the town's residents. Indoor plumbing was installed, trees, shrubs and grass were planted, a community house was established and a registered nurse was hired for the village. Joanna Manufacturing Company was sold in 1937 to William H. Regnery, president of the Western Shade Cloth Company in Chicago. The Joanna Foundation, an idea of Regnery's, was established in 1945 to benefit the four areas the company's management had shown interest in: health, education, recreation and special events. On Aug. 1, 1948, the post office was officially named Joanna. Today, Joanna is the biggest unincorporated town in South Carolina and boasts its own concerned citizens group. A feature of its annual festival is "Puttin' on the Hits."



Gray Court

The Town of Gray Court is nestled in the northwest corner of Laurens County. Originally named Dorroh, or Dorrohville, in honor of a local family, the town's first post office was housed at the Dorroh home in 1874. The Dorroh home, also known as the Dorroh Inn, welcomed a stream of travelers from Augusta, Georgia. The first train came through the town in 1886 and in the following year a depot was built. The town changed its name in 1899 after a heated debate between Methodists and Presbyterians caused the small village to hold an election to settle the dispute. The Methodists were victorious and named the town after a prominent cotton planter named Robert Adams Gray. Legend has it that Gray suggested adding the "Court" because it lent an air of British-like sophistication to the community. A school was built north of Gray Court before 1900 and in 1902, the school at Gray Court and the Owings school merged to form Gray Court-Owings School. In 1900, the county's first oil mill was built in the town. The first census of Gray Court was also taken that year and showed 181 residents. In 1937, Highway 14 was constructed through Gray Court and 41 years later, a town hall was opened. Pioneer Days is held here each September.



Cross Hill

Cross Hill area is located in the southeastern corner of Laurens County, bordered on the east by Newberry County and on the southwest by Lake Greenwood. The Town of Cross Hill's corporate limits consist of an area with a one-mile radius. From the Saluda River at Chappells, in Newberry County, to Greenville, there is a high ridge that Native Americans used as a path from Charleston to their mountain villages. A North-South Indian path, across the fish dams on the Broad River to the fish dams on the Savannah River, crossed the first path on a hill and gave Cross Hill its name. At the crossing of the two Indian paths, in the southwest corner, a large two-story inn was built around 1800. This inn furnished food and lodging for approximately 100 years. In the early 1800s, a brick building was erected on the southeast corner, across from the Cross Hill Inn, and operated as a store until about 1900. In the late 1800s, cotton was king for all farmers and the town prospered. The Bank of Cross Hill was formed by local people. Two drug stores were operated by five doctors. Each Labor Day weekend, the town celebrates its history with the "Coming Home to Cross Hill" festival.



Clinton Family Medicine

(864) 725-1480



Neal Goodbar, M.D.



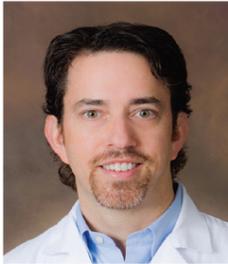
Sara Moore, FNP



Wendy Nix,
FNP-BC

Family Healthcare Clinton

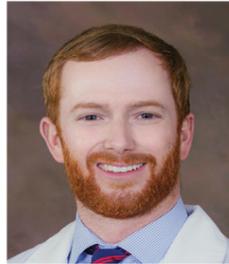
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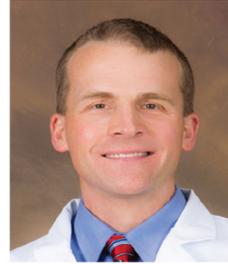
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Dillard
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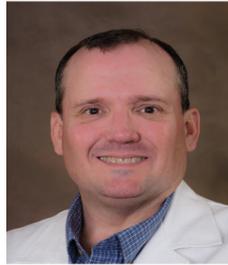
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Internal Medicine Laurens

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Brian Weirick, D.O.



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Laurens County Health Department



The Department of Social Services

Human Services Road, Clinton, S.C. 29325 — 833-0000
Hours 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. The Laurens County Health Department provides Laurens County with services including environmental health, infectious disease control, nursing services, social work, nutrition services, health education, vital records, home health, immunizations, family support, maternal and child health, family planning, children's rehabilitative services and BabyNet. Many of the department's programs have some eligibility requirements which can be addressed by the staff. Clinic schedules change periodically and the department suggests patients call for an appointment.

Human Services Road, Clinton, S.C. 29325 — 833-0100 The Department of Social Services provides family independence through employment, training and temporary aid for limited income families; food stamps for qualifying families and individuals; Medicaid medical assistance for low income and other qualifying individuals; child protective services; adult protective services and foster care and adoption.



Laurens County Disabilities and Special Needs



Good Shepherd Free Medical Clinic of Laurens County

Good Shepherd Free Medical Clinic of Laurens County is a volunteer staffed medical clinic which serves the needy of Laurens County. The clinic is located at 245 Human Services Road in the Laurens County Professional and Medical Park in Clinton. Good Shepherd, which receives support through private donations, area churches, the Laurens County Health Care System, Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy and United Way of Laurens County, provides free medical care and medications to citizens who are without government assistance, private insurance or the financial resources to afford such care. The clinic is staffed with volunteer physicians, nurses and pharmacists. Clinic hours Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m.- 3 p.m.; Thursday evenings, 5-8:30 p.m. Pharmacy hours (at PC), Tuesday, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 1-4 p.m. Other specialty clinics, including women's health and diabetes care, are available, as are morning clinic hours by appointment. Call 833-0017 for more information.

PO Box 986, Laurens, S.C. 29360 — 984-0355 The Laurens County Disabilities and Special Needs Board (LCDSNB), created in 1973, is a public not for profit service agency supporting persons living in Laurens County with a developmental disability, autism, head or spinal cord injury or a related disability. The LCDSNB supports more than 500 people living in Laurens County with a variety of services including residential long term care services to more than 120 people. A sheltered workshop, Evergreen Skills, offers work or activity opportunities to more than 150 people. LCDSNB also assists people with disabilities in finding and learning the skills required to keep a job with a community employer and offers Service Coordination to ensure those with disabilities are gaining access to and receiving all applicable services. The agency opened its new Sinclair Center in Clinton in 2015 and its new Magnolia Campus at Pleasantview in Gray Court in October, 2016. The Keys to Success Early Intervention Program serves developmentally delayed children, birth to 5, and their families by providing weekly home visits and service coordination.



The county has seen progress in recent years thanks to recruitment efforts by the Laurens County Development Corporation. In the last several years, Laurens County Council has approved a range of incentives for industry expansions and new projects.

ZF Transmissions Greenville LLC has opened a million square foot transmission plant in Owings Industrial Park, creating 2,500 new jobs. In 2013, ZF announced an expansion in Laurens County to include a research and development facility, in a partnership with Laurens County, local businesses and readySC. Piedmont Technical College opened the Center for Advanced Manufacturing at I-385 near Laurens. In August 2019, FlameSpray North America announced a \$4 million expansion of its Fountain Inn (Woodfield) thermal spray coating manufacturing plant. Hunter Industrial Park in Laurens is located on U.S. 221 at I-385 next to CSX railroad and contains 350 acres of available land. The park includes site improvements and is home to Fukoku, Unifor Brass Forgings, Kimura, Koerber, Unifor Aluminum Forgings, and Muffin Mam.

Woodfield Industrial Park in Fountain Inn is located near the Greenville County line on I-385. The park currently contains such industries as Yanfeng, Emitec, Color Resources International, Lacks Industries, Thompson Steel, Flame Spray and Callen Die Casting. There are 135 acres of developable land remaining in the park. The ClintonPark Corporate Center is under development, with more than 89 acres in Phase I, near the intersection of S.C. 72 and I-26 to serve corporate and industrial prospects. The City of Clinton and the Clinton-Newberry Natural Gas Authority supply utility service to the mixed-use park. Located in a growing area with a good transportation network, available workforce and pro-business environment, the site is an ideal location for expanding industries. Clinton 26 Commerce Park is a 400+ acre Class A industrial park located at exit 54 on I-26. The park is classified as a Palmetto Site by the South Carolina Department of Commerce. The utilities are served by the City of Clinton and Clinton Newberry Natural Gas Authority. All infrastructure is on the site. Located on I-26 and only one mile from I-385, the park offers an excellent transportation network, a probusiness environment and an available workforce. The park is anchored by GE's Alternative Energy R& D facility with a 60,000 SF spec building under contract and another 50,000 SF spec building planned. Land is priced in the \$20,000 - \$30,000 range. For more information visit www.advantageclintonsc.com or contact Marvin Moss at 864-833-7504 or mmoss@cityofclintonsc.com. The City has a spec building on a 100,000 square foot development ready pad, for sale. More information: www.advantageclintonsc.com Contact: Marvin Moss, economic development manager, 864-833-7504; e-mail: mmoss@cityofclintonsc.com The Owings Industrial Park is located at S.C. 14 and I-385 near Owings. The park is served by Rail America. ZF Transmission occupies 125 acres at a site in the park. Owings is a certified site. The development of the park by the Laurens County Development Corporation has been assisted by utility tax credits from local utility companies and nearly \$4 million in federal transportation funds used to widen and repave Old Laurens Road and add a new rail crossing at the Hwy. 14 exit ramp. Laurens County Council and the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission have been aggressive with funding the extension of water lines and placement of new sewer lines to serve the park. In addition, a million gallon water tank was completed to serve the park as well as the local area. The park's location in the northern end of the county, specifically at the crossroads of Hwy. 14 and I-385, puts it in an advantageous position to be the first to capitalize on growth trickling down from Greenville County. The Laurens County Development Corporation has also identified at least 10 additional sites in the county that are suitable for industrial development and has completed planning and due diligence on many of the sites, and recently dedicated a medical clinic.

Laurens County has a general aviation airport to service the county's general aviation traffic. The Laurens County Airport features a 4051-foot paved runway and full length taxiway landing facilities. It serves private and corporate aircraft, including single and twin engine, conventional and turbo props and business jets. The airport has pilot control runway lights for nighttime operations with PAPI and REIL lighting systems and a non-precision/ GPS instrument approach for inclement weather landings. The airport hosts an automated weather system (AWOS III) that is networked into the national weather reporting system. It may be accessed by the public as well as government agencies. With a based average of 20 planes per day, the facility offers competitive self-service fuel, 24/7 terminal access for the aviation community, WIFI, courtesy car, aircraft storage with 18 units of T-hangers, one large maintenance hangar and tie down parking. The airport is staffed Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 2012, the Laurens County Airport completed a \$3 million pavement rehabilitation project that included a concrete overlay of the runway, 152-foot runway extension, and concrete reconstruction of the parking ramp. Additionally, the project included initial site preparation for future hangar development. During 2016 it began a \$1 million project to rehabilitate its oldest taxiway with a concrete overlay and update the newest taxiway with asphalt rejuvenation. Completion was done in early 2017. Future projects include the addition of Jet-A fuel based demand and a terminal funded by the Capital Sales Tax A commission, appointed by Laurens County Council, manages the daily operation of the airport. The new terminal will be named for long-time Commission Chairman Sammy Wham.

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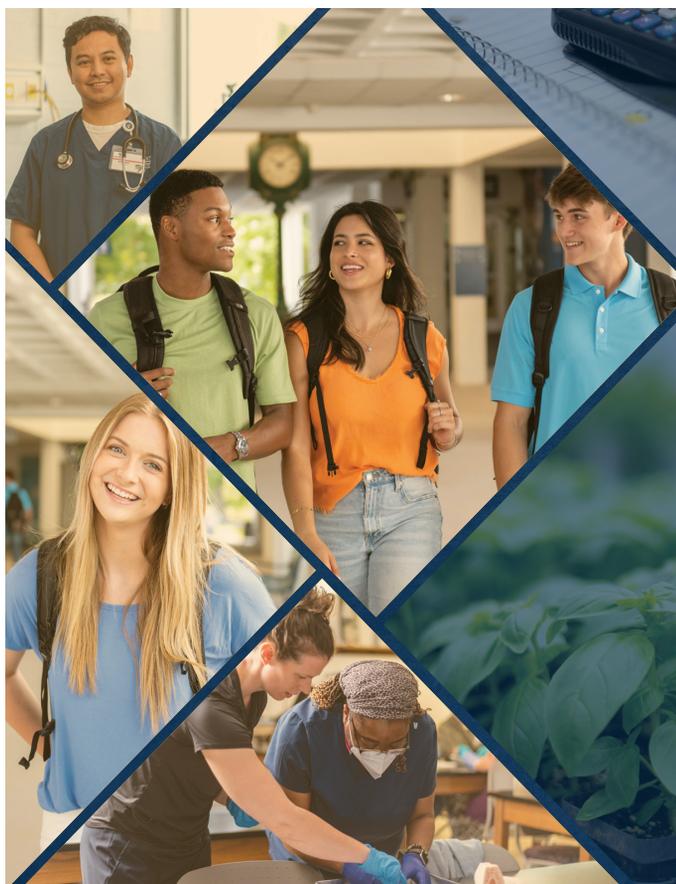
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Laurens County Community Theatre

The Laurens County Community Theatre is a group of local, regional and guest thespians who perform regular season plays and musical productions each year as well as youth theatre productions. The LCCT is partially funded by the South Carolina Arts Commission and relies on season memberships for support. LCCT productions are held in the Gillam Center for Performing Arts on the campus of Thornwell. For more information or to make reservations, call 833-LCCT (5228). Recreational opportunities are numerous and diverse in Laurens County. Both cities of Clinton and Laurens, as well as the county, have facilities for outdoor recreational enjoyment.



Laurens YMCA. 410 Anderson Dr. Laurens, SC 29360



Clinton Family YMCA. 100 YMCA Dr. Clinton, SC 29325

YMCA

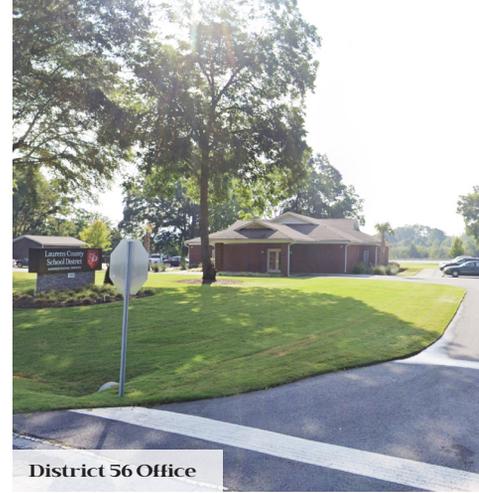
Laurens County is home to YMCAs in the cities of Clinton and Laurens. The Clinton Family YMCA serves as the city's recreation department, offering both city-sponsored programs and events and YMCA member programs. The Rufus Sadler Tennis Foundation and Clinton Jr. Tennis provide extensive tennis instruction and competition for tennis players in Laurens County. The Laurens Family YMCA provides services to individuals, families and corporations in the City of Laurens and upper parts of the county and has a branch facility in The Town of Gray Court. YMCA offerings include adult education programs (like the Laurens County Shrinkdown), health and physical education, recreation, children's programs, afterschool programs, weight rooms, swimming pools and swimming programs, aerobics, fitness facilities, ball fields and more.



Faith Christian Academy



Laurens County Adult Education



District 56 Office



Laurens Academy



District 55 Office



Lighthouse Christian Academy

Faith Christian Academy

Faith Christian is a private education facility operated by Faith Baptist Church. Located at 1607 Greenwood Road in Laurens, Faith Christian is a full-service institution with classes for 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade. Founded in 1965, the school offers Christian-based classes for all students and features the Abekka DVD curriculum with master teachers. Teachers also offer special educational help. Their phone number is 864-984-4277.

District 55 Office

District 55 operates 9 schools from Gray Court to Laurens and serves about 6,100 students. Jody Penland is superintendent of District 55. Cathy Little is board chairwoman. The district office is located at 301 Hillcrest Dr. in Laurens and their phone number is 864-984-3568. More info at laurens55.org

District 56 Office

Enrollment in District 56 is approximately 3,069 students who attend six schools in the district. Dr. David O'Shields is superintendent of District 56. Jim Barton is board chairman. The district office is located in the M.S. Bailey Municipal Complex, 211 N. Broad St., Suite B, Clinton. Their phone number is 864-833-0800. More info at lcsd56.org. Laurens County students also attend schools in Ware Shoals and Simpsonville. Thornwell Charter School and Summit Classical School opened in Fall 2019.

Laurens Academy

Laurens Academy, founded in 1994, is located one mile off I-385 on Hwy. 49. The school offers a 4K through 12 college preparatory curriculum with a nondenominational Christian emphasis and is accredited by the South Carolina Independent School Association. Visual and choral arts, foreign language, computer lab, physical education, dual enrollment (high school/college credit) courses and a competitive and successful athletic program are just a few of the things offered at Laurens Academy. Their phone number is 864-682-2324.

Laurens County Adult Education

Laurens County School-to-Work and Adult Education provides adult education classes for the two Laurens County public school districts as well as shadowing and internship opportunities for high school students. GED, high school diploma, computer and Employment Skills Certification Program (ESCP) classes are offered at the Laurens County Higher Education Center (864-938-1524). Laurens County Adult Education also provides a vital link between the county's education providers and area industries through its Work Skills Development Center in Laurens (864-984-5726).

Lighthouse Christian Academy

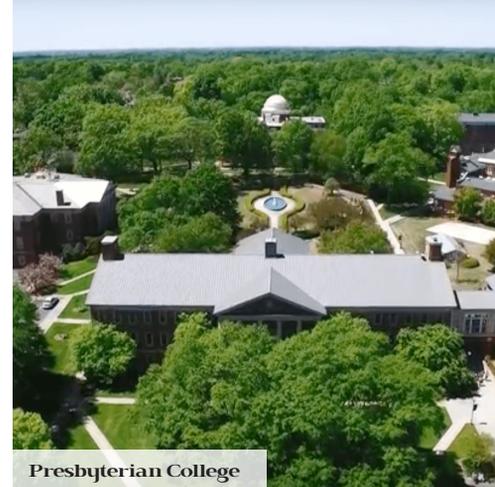
Lighthouse Christian Academy is located on Hwy. 221 between Laurens and Enoree. The school offers a quality education centered on Jesus Christ in grades 4K-12. The goal is to educate each child in a Christian atmosphere and provide them with the academic training they will need to succeed. The school also offers a variety of athletic programs for students. Annual and monthly tuition plans are available. Their phone number is 864-682-3422.



Piedmont Technical College



USC Union Laurens



Presbyterian College

one stop shop EDUCATION

Piedmont Technical College

Piedmont Technical College became the eighth of the 16-member institutions in the South Carolina Technical Education System when it was established in 1966 to serve Laurens, Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda counties.

Those seven counties represent the largest geographic area served by any technical college in the state.

Piedmont's main campus is located on a 65-acre site on Emerald Road in Greenwood.

Fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the commuter institution offers more than 70 associate's degree, diploma and certificate programs.

The division of Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning makes more than 150 courses available on the main campus, on-site at area businesses and industries, at the Laurens County Higher Education Center (938-1505) and at other convenient off-campus locations throughout the service area.

Piedmont maintains transfer agreements with all state-supported universities in South Carolina and a number of institutions in neighboring states. All high school graduates who live in Laurens County are eligible to attend PTC tuition free — through the Laurens County Future Scholarship program — to obtain a two-year degree. Articulation agreements with Lander University facilitate joint enrollment and transfer. Dr. Hope E. Rivers is PTC President. Local students can take classes at the Center for Advanced Manufacturing. Piedmont's Center for Advance Manufacturing near Laurens offers specialized training for industries and workforce development programs. It is a first-of-its-kind facility for Piedmont Technical College. In April 2018, the CAM opened its Phase III expansion of 4,800 square feet of additional instruction space.

USC Union Laurens

USC Union Laurens Location is a Palmetto College campus located at 600 Peachtree Street, Clinton, SC. This campus is supported by the entire University of South Carolina system. Students are able to take advantage of the resources and facilities on other USC campuses. USC Union Laurens Location offers two Associate degrees— Associate of Arts and an Associate of Science. You may also receive your Bachelor's degree online through the Palmetto College. This brings together the resources of the entire USC system with the flexibility of online learning. There are 14 Bachelor's degrees available.

The advantages of attending USC Union Laurens Location are: small class sizes; live, online and broadcasted classes to suit every schedule and lifestyle; scholarships and financial aid available to include the Laurens County Future Scholarship which allows high school graduates who are residents of Laurens County to attend USC Union tuition free; courses transfer to any college in South Carolina; most affordable university education in the upstate; for more information about our offerings, call 864-681-1456.

Presbyterian College

Presbyterian College is a four-year private co-educational college accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. A highly selective national liberal arts college, PC is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has been recognized in national publications and by membership in the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll as a college that "gets it right," based on its students' and graduates' contributions to society.

Founded in 1880 as Clinton College, PC is located on 240 acres in the college town of Clinton. Its student population of 1,200 is comprised of students from 29 states and 7 foreign countries.

PC students have swept the South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities awards during two of the past four years - the only college or university in the association to accomplish that feat. In addition to winning prestigious national and international scholarships, including a Rhodes Scholar, Rotary Scholars, Pew Fellows, and a National Science Foundation Fellowship, PC graduates are servant leaders in their careers, their communities, and their churches. Small classes are taught by 84 full-time dedicated faculty members, 94 percent of whom hold doctorates or the equivalent. Six faculty members have been honored as South Carolina's Professor of the Year since 1991, more than twice the number of any other public or private college or university in the state. The faculty has also been awarded seven Fulbright Fellowships. PC offers bachelor's degree programs in 30 fields of major study, including a new major in medical physics. Pre-professional programs are offered in dentistry, law, medicine, pharmacy, the ministry, veterinary science, Army ROTC, physical therapy, and allied health sciences. The college offers dual-degree programs in a number of areas including engineering and architecture with other four-year universities including Clemson, Auburn, Duke, Vanderbilt and Union Theological Seminary.

The Blue Hose athletics program is now a member of the Big South Conference and competes in NCAA Division I (Football Championship Subdivision) with 19 varsity sports for men and women. In 2012, the NCAA granted Presbyterian College full Division I status for all sports. The "red-letter day" capped a five-year effort for the PC athletics administration.

PC football became a member of the Pioneer Football League in 2021.

In August, 2021, the Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy welcomed its 12th class to a renovated 55,000 square foot facility in downtown Clinton.

The School of Pharmacy offers a four-year doctor of pharmacy degree and is partnering with pharmacists, health care providers, and free clinics throughout the state in ways that emphasize the school's mission — "Care for the Community." Its first class graduated in May, 2014 and shortly thereafter, PCSP received full national accreditation.

Based in the School of Pharmacy, the Center for Entrepreneurial Development launched a workshop series in January, 2012. Pharmacy students completing 10 workshops are awarded a certificate of entrepreneurial skills. Workshops also are available for Clinton community members wanting to start or enhance a business.

In August 2018, PC broke ground on a 144-bed residential hall complex at the Georgia Hall parking lot, near Springs Student Center. It is part of a new strategic plan, The Promise of PC, rolled out last fall. The residence halls opened in Fall 2019. Dr. Anita Gustafson is the PC President.



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Langston Place

Woodbridge Senior Living

300 Jacobs Highway, Clinton, SC 29325 — 833-3425 Woodbridge is an independent and assisted living retirement center. The facility re-opened after renovation in early 2016. The facility has a security system and 24- hour call for assistance. Housekeeping, laundry and a full service salon are also provided. Residents also enjoy the chapel and the renovation included a movie theater. Woodbridge serves three meals a day plus a salad bar. Residents have the choice of one, two or three-room apartments. A full-time activities director provides opportunities to participate in day trips, crafts, shopping, cultural programs and other leisure activities.

Langston Place

939 Springdale Drive, Clinton, SC 29325 — 833-0338 Langston Place-Enlivant is an assisted living facility for older and disabled adults. Residents in the facility live in studio or one bedroom apartments which are designed to accommodate walkers and wheelchairs and provide varied levels of assistance depending on the residents' individual needs. The apartments are private, locking rooms with voice-to-voice emergency call systems, individually controlled heat, kitchenettes and complete bathrooms. Other services include: three homemade meals served daily, housekeeping, laundry, maintenance, 24- hour security, private telephones, cable TV, activities, beauty shop, transportation, enclosed courtyard, a fireplace and whirlpool bath. Pets are welcome.

Martha Franks Baptist Retirement Community

1 Martha Franks Drive, Laurens, SC 29360 — 984-4541 Martha Franks Baptist Retirement Community is a continuing care retirement community in Laurens, which offers accommodations in cottages, patio homes, residential care, assisted living, skilled nursing, Medicare rehabilitation and an Alzheimer's unit. The 55-acre campus is located one block from West Main Street and provides a dining room, chapel, library, lobbies, laundry rooms, activity room, beauty shop, porches, post office, fishing lake, guest accommodations, picnic shelter and walking trails. Weekly housekeeping services, socials, outings and spiritual, recreational, educational and cultural activities are provided to residents.

Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina

801 Musgrove Street Extension, Clinton, SC 29325 — 833-5190 The Clinton Retirement Community is a member of the larger family of Presbyterian Retirement Communities of South Carolina, a ministry of the Presbyterian Church USA in South Carolina, located just off Interstate 26, on the outskirts of downtown Clinton, and within an hour's drive of Greenville and Columbia. Clinton offers small town atmosphere boasting two other major institutions of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Presbyterian College and Thornwell.

Laurens Memorial Home for the Aged

3744 Torrington Road, Laurens, SC 29360 — 682-2322 Laurens Memorial Home serves as a residential care facility for those who can ambulate and provide some of their own daily living needs. The facility accepts Medicaid and serves three meals a day and snacks to residents. The home provides transportation to health care and has a dining room, activity room, sun porches, a courtyard to stimulate the senses and pet therapy.

NHC HealthCare

379 Pine Haven Street Ext., Laurens, SC 29360 984-6584 304 Jacobs Highway, Clinton, SC 29325 — 833-2550 NHC HealthCare offers two facilities in Laurens County which provide sub-acute, skilled and traditional care, Alzheimer's and dementia care, respite care and home care. The facilities also offer rehabilitation services in speech, physical, occupational, respiratory and medical nutritional therapies for both inpatients and outpatients in a home like setting.





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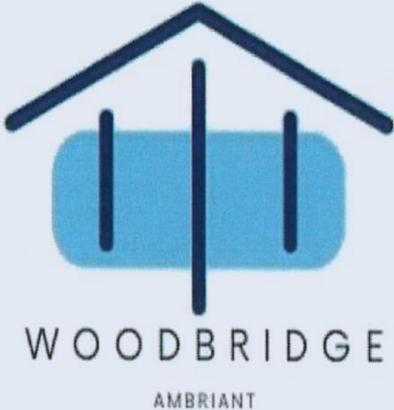
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Subdivision PREPARATION



Subdivision preparation on Wells Road

Laurens County is getting more rooftops. And an organization that is a driver in that growth - the Laurens County Water and Sewer Commission - is keeping track of where these are going. For years, local officials have said more rooftops are essential to recruiting and retaining national businesses that offer shoppers and diners more choice, and provide employment options. But the development has come so fast, especially in Northern Laurens County, that the county government had to impose a growth moratorium to allow local regulations time to catch up. Now, Laurens County is on the verge of having a new Comprehensive Plan that could manage some of this growth. The LCWSC Board of Directors received its regular update on development at its Aug. 27 meeting. The board meets the 4th Tuesday of each month in the commission's office, Hwy 221 South in Laurens. LCWSC manages a water system that bills 16,962 accounts in Laurens County. New subdivisions coming on line means that new linear feet of water lines and sewer lines, installed by developers, will become part of the LCWSC's system. Most of its water comes from the Lake Greenwood Water Treatment Plant and wastewater is handled at a Bush River plant between Joanna and the Newberry County line, in eastern Laurens County.

These new subdivisions were highlighted in the board's report (these do not include subdivisions being built in cities):

- Coachman Reserve, water only, 60 lots;
- Canterbrooks Farms, 291 homes, 131 townhomes, water and sewer;
- Durbin Meadows, 625 homes, water and sewer, 285 active accounts;
- Fountainbrook Phase 5, 18 houses, all active;
- Bridgeway, 142 homes, water and sewer;
- Brighton Meadows, 84 homes, water and sewer, behind DW Fine Pack;
- Reedy Creek Estates, 143 homes, water and sewer, across from ZF Transmissions;
- Wells Creek, 482 homes, water and sewer, north of ZF turn at the Owings water tank;
- Wren Woods / Cardinal Drive, 526 homes, water and sewer, across from Country Fresh;
- Fox Bank, 253 homes, water and sewer, beside Gray Court-Owings Elementary School; and
- Hidden Hills, 75 homes, water and sewer, near the Laurens County Hospital.

Eighteen years ago, LCWSC extended its lines on Hwy 76 to an area where Hidden Hills is now because of a proposed patio homes and commercial development, that never materialized. Eventually, Self Regional built a medical office there, that includes an Urgent Care, so the installation did pay off - just not fully, until now. LCWSC officials know that where sewer is installed, there's a good chance development will come - but sometimes it's a waiting game, and there can be concerns that the infrastructure pre-installed may not be large enough. For instance, beside Hidden Hills, there is adjoining land where an even larger subdivision could be built, and the challenge would be making it economical to the developer. The LCWSC report says there are 2,709 single family residences proposed in its countywide service area. Of these, 1,229 have been approved. That means 90,862 linear feet of new water lines and 86,038 linear feet of sewer lines will be coming into the LCWSC system, with 5 sewer lift stations. To accommodate the sewer flow, there will need to be 21,432 linear feet of sewer forced main lines. The developers install these lines under the LCWSC supervision and specifications. Longterm, LCWSC is looking at the feasibility of constructing a sewer plant in Gray Court, at an estimated cost of \$50 million. Right now, LCWSC is the water system manager for the Town of Gray Court. "This area will continue to grow," said LCWSC Executive Director Jeff Field. It's fueled by interest in Gray Court, Fountain Inn - half of which is in Laurens County, Woodruff's massive BMW electric vehicles investment, Simpsonville, and the Greenville County schools, which built Fountain Inn High School to relieve the pressure on Hillcrest High School.

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Numerous private and public lakes, including Lake Greenwood with over 200 miles of shoreline, Lake Rabon and the Enoree and Saluda Rivers afford excellent opportunities for fishing, boating and other aquatic sports. Presbyterian College offers many youth camps, such as baseball, football, softball, tennis, boys and girls basketball. Hunting opportunities, like those at Singletree Hunting Preserve and the Clinton House Plantation near Clinton, are available on private lands and tracts leased by hunting clubs in the area, as well as on Game Management Areas managed by the S.C. Wildlife Department in the Sumter National Forest. Other recreational facilities include two private 18-hole golf courses (Musgrove Mill near Clinton and Lakeside Country Club near Laurens), one public 18-hole golf course (Rolling S in Waterloo), two swimming pools (indoor at the Clinton YMCA and outdoors at the Laurens YMCA) and tennis courts (N. Adair St., Clinton, Presbyterian College, Laurens District 55 High, Thornwell, City of Laurens) plus outdoor recreation at Musgrove Mill State Historic Site and Greenwood State Park.

County Parks

Dedicated on Sept. 17, 2016, the Charlie Lollis Memorial Park is on Hwy 76 just west of Hickory Tavern, at the Tumblin Shoals bridge. It has a kayak and canoe launch, access point to the Reedy River for wading or fishing, a quarter mile walking trail, and paved parking and driveway. The blueway (personal watercraft transportation) extends south on the Reedy River to Boyd's Mill Pond. The park was developed with part of the settlement money from a 1996 Colonial Pipeline oil spill. Laurens County also has the Karl H. Dixon Memorial Park on Boyd's Mill Pond. The outdoors recreational area establishes a permanent boat ramp (small engine watercraft) at a popular access point on Boyd's Mill Pond. Facilities include a picnic shelter with tables and grill, playground, walking trail, onshore fishing and swimming, and restrooms. Boyd's Mill Pond is a popular fishing and boating access waterway to the Reedy River. The park's address is 1000 Boyd's Mill Pond Road, Laurens. Near the new park, the SC Department of Natural Resources has developed the Cliff Pitts Wildlife Management Area. The 509-acre management area, also at Boyd's Mill Pond, has a parking area with foot access to the Reedy River for hunting and fishing, and several miles of roads cut into the managed land. The address is 176 Armstrong Road, Laurens. Both the new park and the wildlife management area are located between Laurens and Ware Shoals in the western portion of Laurens County. An archery tower is near CeramTec in Laurens.

Laurens County Park is located on Calvin Bridges Road off U.S. 76 between Laurens and Clinton. The handicap accessible park features four ball fields, basketball courts, a children's play area, tennis courts, three picnic shelters, a fishing lake, paved walking paths and restroom facilities. In 2011, a nine-hole disc golf course was developed. The course consists of open shots, wooded shots, elevation changes and water hazards. The course has concrete tee pads and permanent mount INNOVA disc baskets. Nine additional holes will be added.

Hickory Tavern Park is located on S.C. 54 in Hickory Tavern and consists of twoball fields, restrooms, a concession stand, a basketball court, children's play area and a walking path. The Joanna Park, at the corner of Ellis and Pickens streets in Joanna, has a half-mile paved walking path, ball field, children's play area, basketball court, picnic shelter, an open play area for games and restrooms.

The Cross Hill Park is located on South Church Street in Cross Hill and features a ball field, children's play area, picnic shelter, restrooms and a basketball court. The county's Parks, Recreation & Tourism department also maintains a public fishing pier on River Fork Road south of Waterloo. The 150-foot aluminum pier, which is handicap accessible, provides visitors access to Lake Greenwood and has a paved parking area. The Lake Rabon Park is located off S.C. 252 west of Laurens and is open from sunrise to sunset every day. The park is equipped with a boat launch, a fishing pier, covered picnic tables, grills, playground and restrooms and is managed by the Laurens County Water & Sewer Commission.

Laurens City Parks

The City of Laurens Parks and Recreation offers youth programs such as Little League baseball and softball, tackle football and cheerleading, basketball, fall baseball and softball and a variety of summer camps. The Ridge, Laurens County's newest recreation venue, was dedicated in Laurens on August 9, 2016. It is a \$3.3 million recreation center with two gymnasiums, for basketball and volleyball, meeting space, and office space for the City of Laurens Recreation Department.

The Ridge has become the new meeting place for the Laurens County Touchdown Club, and has hosted several other events since its opening. WoodLife (Woodmen of the World Insurance) dedicated the front driveway flagpole to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the 9-11-2001 attacks on America. The Recreation Department also handles the Summer Concert Series, Fall Movie Series and annual events such as the Boo in the Park, Riverfront Freedom Festival and the Little River Park Spring Festival.

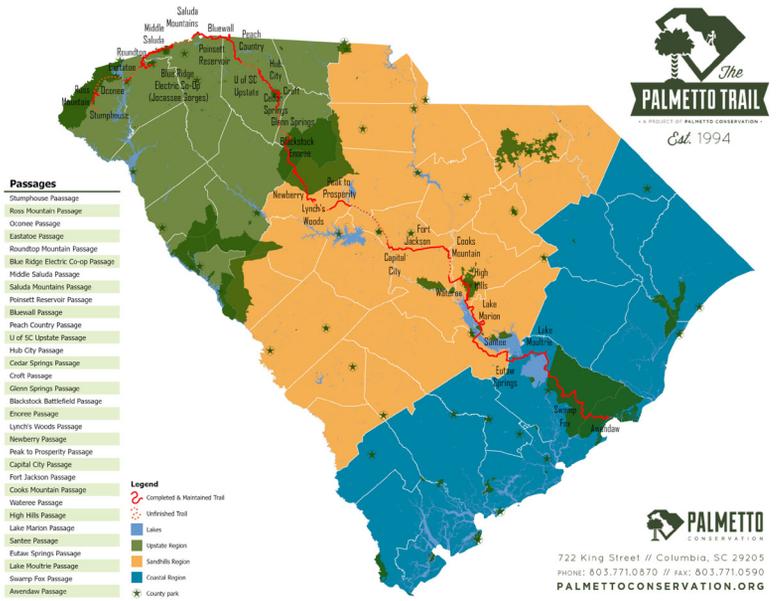
The Little River Park, located on Main Street in Laurens, features a large playground, putt-putt course and a pavilion which can be rented for parties. The Little River Amphitheater nearby is where the city hosts the Summer Concert Series and is also available for weddings and family reunions. The Recreation Department also has the new Laurens City Park Tennis Complex where the Clinton-Laurens-Newberry Tennis Association offers leagues and tournaments.



Clinton City Parks

A new children's park in the Lydia Mill community is the City of Clinton's seventh park and features playground equipment for various age groups, picnic areas, a "tot" baseball field, basketball court and walking trail. Also open to the public are: the Calvert Avenue Park; Clinton Mill Park on the corner of Jefferson and Sloan streets; Oak Street Park in Lydia Mill; Pinehaven Park on S.C. 72 north; Pine Street Park on the corner of Pine and Cedar streets; and the Josh and Ella Savage Park on S.C. 72 north (Willard Road) — with a new playground.

United Way of Laurens County, in conjunction with United Ways of the Upstate, has developed a Born Learning early learning childhood education park at Oak Street Park, Clinton, and in Laurens and Ware Shoals. Parks also have free Little Libraries. Vance Park is a venue for outdoor movies and festivals (behind MS Bailey Municipal Center). The city has begun construction of a multi-use complex on Hwy. 56 near I-26 and has built Miller's Fork Trail.



The Palmetto Trail

Imagine 500 miles of cross-state hiking and bicycling paths beside lakes, across mountain ridges, through forests, into towns big and small, and across swamps:

- Showcasing conservation and preservation from mountains to sea
- Providing free public access to active, healthy outdoor recreation
- Fostering tourism, business, and economic development

Fast Facts:

- Established 1994
- Access to the outdoors from Walhalla in the Blue Ridge Mountains to Awendaw on the Intracoastal Waterway
- About two hours away from any part of the state
- South Carolina's longest pedestrian and bicycle Trail and largest Trail construction project—500 continuous miles when finished
- 380 Trail miles completed
- 31 passages ranging from 1.3 to 47 miles
- Backcountry. Rails-to-Trail. Greenways. City sidewalks. Urban bikeways. Steps of the State Capitol. Bridle. Nothing motorized.
- Connects state and county parks, national forests, nature preserves, wildlife management areas, Revolutionary War battlefields, Native American paths, urban to rural, swamps to mountains, maritime to sandhills to piedmont, and much more
- Easy, moderate, and strenuous levels of difficulty
- Accessible for day trips, weekend jaunts, and longer treks, including through-hikes from mountains to sea (or sea to mountains)
- One of 16 cross-state trails in the United States
- Designated a federal Millennium Legacy Trail
- "Finish the Trail"—150 miles to go in the Midlands and Upstate

The entire Palmetto Trail is open to hiking and backpacking. Designated passages and sites are available for mountain biking, horseback riding, and camping (see maps). The Trail cannot accommodate motorized vehicles.

Residents and visitors of all ages, abilities, and socioeconomic circumstances use the Palmetto Trail to enjoy nature, practice conservation, and learn history—all while being physically active. Traveled individually or together, the passages reveal the rich diversity and fascinating history, culture, and geography of the Palmetto State.

A Palmetto Trail Passage Hiker (noun):

A person who has COMPLETED hiking ALL of the Palmetto Trail Passages, one passage at a time (without continuity and not necessarily in sequential order, or within a specific time period).

Thru Hiking the Palmetto Trail

Each year we see an increase in the number of hikers who Thru Hike the Palmetto Trail. Some hike the 365 miles of finished and named passages only, while others start at one end and complete the full length of the state, spanning nearly 500 miles, using alternate routes to connect incomplete sections.

The complete hike generally takes 20-30 days, and can stretch over a few weeks or a year. Each Thru Hiker has a unique reason for taking on this challenge... Some, like Mule & Inchworm or Alison Irion, do it to raise money and awareness for a cause - MS and Mental Health respectively. Thru-hiker, Ben Hall was between jobs and waiting to take the Coast Guard test to get his Captain's license. Sean Marden, using the trail name Marathon, completed his journey in just 12 days, spending much of the time running and stretching his body to extreme limits. Others, like Harry King and Gregg Wade are motivated to complete the hike before a hallmark birthday. Harry and his dog Gator hiked the trail in 21 days stretching over 5 months. Gregg began in May of 2019 and finished on Nov 1, hiking or biking primarily on the weekends since he works full time. His wife provided logistical support and sometimes he was accompanied by his daughters and a long time- friend from Columbia. He has been a South Carolina resident for a long time but was able to see and experience the state in a different way. In appreciation to PCF, Gregg and his family made a contribution to help improve parts of the Palmetto Trail near his home in Spartanburg on the Blue Wall Passage and the Hub City Passage, through the Wade Family Charitable Fund.

A Palmetto Trail Thru Hiker (noun):

A person who COMPLETES the Palmetto trail by hiking from end to end (being sure to include all of the completed Passages in the uninterrupted hike) continuously within a 60-day period.

Check out palmettoconservation.org for more information.

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- Saltwater Pool for our Camping Guests
- Laundry Facilities
- General Store with fun camping items, beer, and local South Carolina wines for sale
- Gem Mining Sluice & Kinardia Coal Train Rides

- Kamp K-9 (off-leash dog park)
- Propane & Dump Stations
- Playground & GaGa Ball Pits
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 - Pizza, Wings & Donuts, delivered to your site.
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 - Closes 45 minutes before office closes.
- Catch and release pond coming soon!

See our Website and Facebook pages for upcoming fundraising events to support Care Camps or The Gary Sinise Foundation.

Enjoy the great outdoors - Right next door!



United Way of Laurens County

United Way of Laurens County has been serving the health and human services needs of the people of Laurens County since 1955. We partner with local, like-minded agencies to advance the common good by focusing on education, health, and financial stability. Our goal is to not only provide for the current needs of the community, but to create long-lasting changes that prevent problems from happening. The dollars raised by United Way, in 2018-2019 alone, impacted Laurens County residents in over 114,600 ways. Twenty-four partner agencies received \$249,500 in grant funding from the United Way of Laurens County to offer direct services to our community through 34 programs: AMIKids Piedmont, Bell Federation of the Blind, Beyond Abuse, Bowers-Rogers Home for Children, Boys Scouts-Blue Ridge Council, C.H.A.M.P.S., Disabilities and Special Needs Board, District 56 JAG program, Girl Scouts-Mountains to Midlands, God's Pantry, Good Shepherd Free Medical Clinic, Hospice of Laurens County, Laurens County First Steps, Laurens County Literacy Council, Laurens County SAFE Home, Laurens Memorial Home for the Aged, The Open Door Christian Center, Piedmont Agency on Aging, Salvation Army, United Ministries and the YMCAs of both Clinton and Laurens. Partner Agencies apply for United Way of Laurens County funding through an annual grant process. No funding is guaranteed and is based on programmatic outcomes. In addition to these local organizations, the United Way also funds an early childhood literacy program.

A direct service offered by staff and volunteers of United Way of Laurens County, as well as AmeriCorps members, is the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. This program was introduced in Laurens County in 2011 under an upstate collaborative grant. Households making less than \$55,000 and filing simple tax returns may qualify to have their state and federal taxes filed for free. There are many ways to learn more about United Way and how to Make a Difference in our community! "Like" us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, visit us at uwlc-online.org, or call 864-833-3623.



Laurens County Library

The Laurens County Library provides service throughout the county with locations in Laurens and Clinton, a new book-mobile (December 2017) and deposit collections at senior centers. The main branch of the library is located at 1017 West Main Street in Laurens and the Clinton Public Library is located at 107 Jacobs Highway in Clinton. The bookmobile makes stops throughout the county, and a monthly schedule can be picked up at any location, or accessed through the website lcp.org.

Anyone who lives or works in Laurens County can obtain a library card at no cost. The library also has a reciprocal borrowing agreement with the Greenville County and Greenwood County Library Systems, which allows card holders of each county to obtain cards with the other county's library system. In addition to a collection of over 100,000 books, the library also offers DVDs, audio books, a large type collection and magazines for check out. Through the website, www.lcpl.org, downloadable books and audios are available for Kindle, Nook or similar devices. Also from the website, patrons can reserve materials and can access a wide range of online databases. Both locations offer computers for free internet access and wireless internet access.

Other services of the library include:

- * A local history and genealogy collection at the Laurens library.
- * Story time, programs and fun activities for young children at both locations
- * Faxing and photocopying are available at both locations for a small fee
- * Community meeting room at the Laurens Library
- * Private study rooms at the Laurens Library
- * Teen programs and a popular summer reading program.

Most importantly, a friendly and knowledgeable staff is available for questions, and will assist you in finding the book or material you want, whether it means locating it on a shelf, or obtaining it through interlibrary loans or purchase requests. The Laurens Library is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Clinton Public Library is open Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call the Laurens Library at 681- READ (7323) and the Clinton Public Library at 833-1853 for more information. Renita Barksdale is Library Director.



Laurens County Chamber of Commerce

The Laurens County Chamber of Commerce is the primary marketing agency for the county. The organization promotes the many products and services offered by their 500 member businesses while working to improve the overall quality of life for county residents. The Chamber is the main source of information for tourists and visitors to Laurens County. Available information includes a high quality county map, annual community profile, tourism brochures and this publication. A welcome center is housed in the lobby of the Chamber building in the Professional Park between Laurens and Clinton. The Chamber's staff and board of directors continually work to make Laurens County a better place to live and work. The Chamber works as a partner with other agencies and organizations to continually enhance the cultural, educational and workforce opportunities for our citizens. For more information on the many services offered by the Chamber, call 864-833-2716 or visit the chamber's website at laurenscounty.org. For tourist information, visit the Chamber sponsored tourism Facebook page at Explore Laurens County. See more at #LoveLaurensCounty, #Hey-LookLaurensCounty and www.laurenscountyagriculture.com.



Laurens County Development Corporation

The Laurens County Development Corporation is the primary marketing and recruiting agency for industrial development in Laurens County. The Laurens County Development Corporation is led by a board and three-member staff. The mission of the LCDC is to form funding partnerships between the public and private sectors to advance development opportunities in the county. The LCDC handles economic development for new and existing industries in an effort to stimulate more investment, create more jobs and diversify the tax base in Laurens County. For information call 864-939-0580 or visit the website www.growlaurenscounty.org. The Clinton Economic Development Corporation, together with the City of Clinton, has developed the three phased ClintonPark Corporate Center near I-26 and S.C. 72 interchange. Hunter Industrial Park serves Laurens.



Piedmont Agency for the Aging

senior SERVICES

Senior services are provided by Piedmont Agency for the Aging (also Greenwood and Abbeville counties). Call 984-2438 (the former Senior Options) for more information. Other human services are provided by Whitten Center and Thornwell, both in Clinton, and the Laurens County Cancer Association, Clinton Community Garden and Family Promise of Laurens County.

hospice SERVICES

There are more than two dozen hospice care providers operating in Laurens County. Hospice of Laurens County was started in 1987 to provide medical, emotional and spiritual support to patients and families in 6 local counties dealing with end-of-life issues. Hospice of Laurens County serves Laurens, Newberry, Union, Greenwood, Greenville, and Spartanburg counties. Hospice of Laurens County focuses on quality of life for patients and their families, providing care to patients in their home or in the Hospice Inpatient Facility. In 2008, a 12 bed Hospice Inpatient Facility was built to provide hospice care to those patients who are unable to stay at home. This state of the art facility provides hospice care in an environment that is comfortable, serene and family friendly. Each large, private patient room opens out to a patio and has plenty of room for family and friends. Family areas include a comfortable family living area, dining area, children's room library and chapel. Hospice Services Include: Medication, pain and symptom management, medical equipment/supplies, spiritual and emotional support, patient and family education, bereavement and grief care. As a not-for profit hospice, Hospice of Laurens County has served thousands of families since 1987. It is now affiliated with Hospice and Palliative Care Charlotte Region, also a not-for-profit hospice. The facility added the Palliative Medicine Consultants Clinic in 2018.



Hospice of Laurens County



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Prisma Health Laurens County Medical Campus

medical SERVICES

At Prisma Health Laurens County Medical Campus, residents of the community can access high-quality healthcare services and programs blended with small-town hospitality. The campus is conveniently located on Highway 76 between Laurens and Clinton.

Prisma Health Laurens County Medical Campus houses:

- Prisma Health Laurens County Hospital
- Prisma Health Women's Life Center
- Prisma Health Upstate Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Medicine Center
- Prisma Health Diabetes Center
- Prisma Health Cancer Institute

In addition, Prisma Health has four primary care and four specialty physician practices throughout the area, providing residents with access to care where and when they need it. The campus is part of the largest not-for-profit health organization in South Carolina, Prisma Health, which serves more than 1.2 million patients annually. It is comprised of two affiliates — Prisma Health–Midlands (formerly Palmetto Health) and Prisma Health–Upstate (formerly Greenville Health System). Prisma Health seeks to improve the health of all South Carolinians through improved clinical quality, access to care and patient experience, while also addressing the rising cost of health care. Prisma Health Laurens County Hospital has provided the local community with exceptional care and a hometown blend of professionalism and courtesy since 1911. The 90 bed hospital provides care to individuals who need an inpatient stay. In addition, the emergency department provides high-quality acute care around the clock in an environment designed to maximize patient comfort.

Self Regional Healthcare offers Self Medical Center - Laurens on Hwy. 76 between Laurens and Clinton. Family Healthcare - Clinton, Internal Medicine - Laurens and Express Medical Care - Laurens are located here. Self Medical Center - Laurens provides a team of doctors, family physicians and specialists, nurses and specially trained staff, all working together for your health. Self Regional provides access to advanced diagnostics and specialty services — a complete network of care for you and your family. Mission Our hearts, hands and minds are leading our communities to better health. Vision The care, experience and value we provide will be superior for all the communities we are entrusted to serve. Purpose Always create the best experience. Matthew Logan, MD, is President and CEO. Prisma Health Laurens County Hospital was ranked among the Best Maternity Hospitals nationally, according to Newsweek's annual list which includes 217 hospitals across 36 states. This is the second consecutive year Laurens County Hospital has been recognized by Newsweek. "I'm pleased to see our hardworking team at Laurens County recognized for their accomplishments in such a challenging year. We are humbled to be a part of the journey to motherhood for the women in this community and take great pride in providing the very best care to our patients," said Justin Benfield, CEO of Laurens County Hospital. Kacey Eichelberger, chair of OBGYN for Prisma Health is proud of all that the team has accomplished. "On behalf of the entire Prisma Health OBGYN team spread across our beautiful state - a team that includes not only doctors, nurses and midwives but counselors, sonographers and social workers - we are thrilled to be recognized again for providing exceptional care for women in South Carolina during their pregnancy and beyond." Prisma Health is the only health system recognized in the Midlands and Upstate regions of South Carolina. Other Prisma Health maternity hospitals recognized by Newsweek include:

- Prisma Health Baptist in Columbia
- Prisma Health Baptist Easley
- Prisma Health Greenville Memorial Hospital
- Prisma Health Greer Memorial Hospital
- Prisma Health Oconee Memorial Hospital
- Prisma Health Patewood Hospital in Greenville

"We leave our families every day to help women grow their own as safely as possible - this is the great work of our lives, and we are thrilled to be honored for doing it well. We do not take for granted the trust that women put in us at such a vulnerable time in their lives, and we will continue to do our very best to be deserving of it."



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