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# The Loris Scene

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## GRADUATES CELEBRATE!



VIRAJ NAIK / THE LORIS SCENE

More than 140 students signed up to attend Loris High School's large group graduation Tuesday of this past week.

### 'There is no set path': Horry County students celebrate 2020 graduation amid COVID-19

FROM STAFF REPORTS  
INFO@MYHORRYNEWS.COM

Throughout Horry County Tuesday morning, schools began holding group graduations. Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, St. James, Loris and Conway held ceremonies on the schools' football fields. Socastee, Aynor, Green Sea Floyds and the Early College High School held their graduations yes-

terday. Carolina Forest High, the district's largest school, could not hold one ceremony for all the students because of concerns about social distancing.

School district officials initially planned to hold virtual ceremonies for each school, but they changed their minds after a backlash from seniors and parents.

The students, like others across the country, have had the last few

months of their senior year dictated by new social norm rules because of the pandemic. They've had classes via Zoom meetings and completed assignments via digital services.

#### Loris High School

A scorebook celebrated Loris High School's class of 2020, whose members turned their tassels during a graduation ceremony at the

school's football field.

Some graduates hurled their caps into the air as onlookers snapped photos from the bleachers. Each graduate was allowed two guests, with pairs watching the graduation spaced out to practice social distancing. Some graduates and guests wore facemasks, and masks were offered to atten-

GRADUATION, A2

### Loris businesses reopen while working hard to keep everyone safe

BY SCOTT HARPER  
INFO@MYHORRYNEWS.COM

The City of Loris business community has reopened after being closed due to the COVID-19 stay-at-home rules.

Even though the stores and restaurants are back open, it is not business as usual. Stringent steps are being taken to help keep customers and workers safe from the coronavirus.

A ribbon cutting signaling the reopening took place Friday. It was a joint effort between the Loris Chamber of Commerce and WLSC radio.

BUSINESSES, A2

### New and improved city hall now open

BY SCOTT HARPER  
INFO@MYHORRYNEWS.COM

Nearly two years after Hurricane Florence caused major damage to Loris City Hall, the building has now been renovated and is once again open to the public.

The \$1.75 million project to repair the historic building began in the fall of 2019 after the contract was awarded to Sellers General Construction of Conway.

The cost of the work is being reimbursed by FEMA.

After the hurricane, all the

CITY HALL, A2

## Loris Assistant Fire Chief Larry Hickman laid to rest

BY SCOTT HARPER  
INFO@MYHORRYNEWS.COM

Retired City of Loris Assistant Fire Chief Larry Hickman was laid to rest Sunday, five days after he died at McLeod Regional Medical Center at the age of 77.

The bay of the Loris Fire Department was filled with family, friends and co-workers who gathered to remember Hickman, who began his firefighting career in 1965.

That was not the only way Hickman served his fellow citizens. He also spent four years the Army National Guard.

He was the owner and operator of Larry's Appliance Repair, and a member of the Loris Masonic Lodge #205 AFM.

Hickman spent nearly two decades as a captain in the department and was promoted to assistant chief in 2013.



SCOTT HARPER / FOR THE LORIS SCENE

Loris Assistant Fire Chief Larry Hickman was laid to rest Sunday. Services were held in Loris Fire Department with the Rev John Wayne Tyler and the Rev. Mack Hutson officiating. Committal service followed in Green Sea Cemetery.

Those who spoke during Sunday's funeral described Hickman as a "quiet man" who would do anything to help anyone.

Using Psalms 23 as a foundation for his remarks, the Rev. Mack Hutson talked about the last time he met with Hickman.

He said he visited him in the hospital recently. During the conversation Hutson asked Hickman about his relationship with Christ.

"He said everything was alright between him and God," Hutson told those in attendance.

He said Hickman "was always a friend" and was "always cordial."

Chaplain John Tyler said the fire department was one of Hickman's biggest loves in his life. But it was not just putting out fires he enjoyed. Tyler said there were many times Hickman

HICKMAN, A2

#### OUTSIDE



#### Weather

High 87, partly sunny

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Low 73, mostly cloudy

THURSDAY

High 84, mostly cloudy

FRIDAY

High 83, partly sunny

SATURDAY

High 85, mostly sunny

#### HAPPENINGS

Cherry Hill traveler group presents Lancaster Show Trip and the Dutch Country for six days, five nights (Monday - Saturday) Aug. 24-29. Includes motorcoach transportation, five nights lodging including three consecutive nights in the Lancaster area; eight meals: five breakfasts and three dinners; admission to the Queen Esther Show at the Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre; Gettysburg National Park; admission to the Amish

Experience and Jacob's Choice at the F/X Theatre; guided tour of Philadelphia; visit to charming Kitchen Kettle Village; and guided tour of Lancaster. Departure: Cherry Hill Baptist Church, 2020 Daisy Road, Loris at 8 a.m. and then City of Dillon Wellness Center, 1647 Commerce Drive, Dillon at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$635.\* \$75 due upon signing. \*Price per person, based on double occupancy. Add \$189 for single

occupancy. Final payment due June 17. For more information and reservations contact Alvin Jackson at 843-902-3366.

Loris First United Methodist Church, 3507 Broad St., has a Blessing Box available each Friday, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. This box contains nonperishable food items and individuals in need are encouraged to come to the box. It is located inside the church. Dogwood Hill Baptist

Church Food Pantry, 1040 Mt. Zion Rd., Loris, has a food pantry the third Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

The Loris Civitan Club meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month (except December) at Backyard BBQ, 5107 Main St., Loris. For more information call Charles Webster at 843-756-4300.

The Loris Area Lions Club meets the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month from 7-8 p.m. at Dale's Seafood. For more information call Lion Jim Murph at 756-7900.

