



CATHERINE KOHN/STAFF

These eight "knobs" will be recognized at the end of the academic year on Recognition Day at The Citadel. The Citadel Success Institute prepares incoming students for the challenges of military life at the college.

Discipline is the word

The Citadel's CSI program acclimates incoming 'knobs' to rigors of military life

BY CATHERINE KOHN
editor@moultrienews.com

Sitting in a semi-circle, eight young men and women, each from different backgrounds, begin to hesitantly describe why they decided to attend The Citadel, which is one of six public military colleges in the U.S.

They all seem just a little bit anxious about their new endeavor as Citadel first-year students, called "knobs." Classes have not yet begun, however, they are enrolled in the Citadel Suc-

cess Institute, a three-week program which immerses new students in military life and discipline, from rising early in the morning to daily physical training. A type of "basic training" CSI is designed to help potential cadets learn to work as a team and become acclimated to the intense rigor of The Citadel's expectations. This particular squad is led by Michael Scheur, who guides and mentors their development while in the program.

There are a lot of rules and regula-

tions, certainly more than the average freshman normally faces. But these eight students are all ready to go despite the challenges to come.

Maccio, a young man from Summerville, said he plans to study finance and chose The Citadel because of its reputation and wealth of contacts after graduation. He liked the idea of making connections with people from all over the country.

Bryce, from Whiteville, N.C.

Please see **CITADEL**, Page A4

First Responder Recruitment Day answers job seekers' questions

BY KENNA COE
news@moultrienews.com

People enter police and fire department careers for various reasons. It could be a career change, the next step after time in the military, or a way to give back to the community.

Those interested in such a new career had the opportunity to hear from people in the field at Mount Pleasant's First Responder Recruitment Day on August 2.

This was the first joint recruitment day with both the Mount Pleasant police and fire departments. The goal of the event was to share information about the departments and allow job seekers the opportunity to ask questions relating to the role.

"This gives people that are looking to join police and fire to come in a lot more relaxed setting than it normally would be if they came in for an actual interview for a job. So, we get to see them, they can see us, we get to tell them about ourselves," said Captain Matt Tidwell with the Mount Pleasant Fire Department.

The event started with an overview of each department and a brief presentation on job benefits from the human

resources department. Police Chief Mark Arnold and Fire Chief Mike Mixon welcomed the group and shared remarks.

The fire and police groups broke off into separate sessions where more details were discussed, including training and specific job roles within the departments.

Tidwell said the fire department group went around the room to hear the attendees' reasons for being interested in a job with the fire department. The current firefighters in the room also shared how they ended up in the fire department.

"We have to live with the firefighters for 24 hours a day, so we want to know a little bit about them," Tidwell said. "Everyone's got a backstory. Just because you want to work for a department doesn't mean what you did in your previous life doesn't hold bearing."

He said there were people from all walks of life; some with former fire department training, others who decided to make a career change and some who were right out of high school. Tidwell said it took the group some time to break the ice, so he joked with them to "pretend that we're on a date."

Please see **RECRUIT**, Page A3

History on the Move

Schoolhouse project reaches turning point



BY CATHERINE KOHN
editor@moultrienews.com

Preserving history to inform the present can be a difficult undertaking. Just ask anyone on the African American Settlement Community Historic Commission. For more than four years the organization has attempted to move and restore the only remaining African American school east of the Cooper River — the Long Point Schoolhouse. Success, however, now appears to be within their grasp.

This early 1900's building was an integral part of the Snowden Gullah-Geechee community created after the Civil War by freed

enslaved men and women. During the Jim Crow era it served as a place where Black children could gain an education — something denied them by the segregationist policies of the times. The school began as a one-room school house, eventually expanding to two rooms. It was closed in 1953 after Jennie Moore Elementary School opened to serve African American children and became a residence for many years.

The Long Point Schoolhouse, hidden behind trees and brush just off the I-526 entrance ramp on Long Point Road in Mount Pleasant, sits raised on cinderblocks. An earlier plan involved relocating the schoolhouse to the grounds of the Snowden Com-

munity Center in December 2019 — a plan that fell through at the last minute leaving the historic school's fate in limbo.

It became clear to commission members that placing the schoolhouse on public property would be problematic. Undeterred, the commission continued its mission to save the structure so it could become a cultural center for both the local and greater community. On August 4, John Wright, president of the organization, along with other AASC board members, publicly announced it had purchased land for the building's relocation within the

Please see **SCHOOL**, Page A5

New Hwy 41 plan addresses community concerns

BY KENNA COE
news@moultrienews.com

The Highway 41 traffic project that began four years ago, still has a long road ahead, but project planners proposed a new plan that aims to reduce congestion along the highway while appeasing residents' concerns in surrounding communities.

Project planners are calling the new plan exactly what it is — a Compromise Alternative. "I don't want to mislead everyone that everyone is happy with the compromise," said Rhett Reidenbach, the county consultant for the project.

The Compromise Alternative was presented to the Charleston County Council's finance committee meeting on Aug. 5. The council voted to bring the Compromise Alternative to the Aug. 24 county council meeting at 6:30 p.m. At that meeting the public will have the opportunity to comment on the plan.

The Compromise Alternative attempts to limit the impact on residents in the area. It does not widen Dunes West Boulevard (like the Revised Concept which was announced in March), and the additional center turn lane in the Phillips Community will create a safer buffer-zone for residents turning in and out of their homes while the structure of the Highway 17 and 41 intersection will undergo minimal changes.

The \$148 million project will build or improve nine miles of roads without relocating any



KENNA COE/STAFF

The Compromise Alternative plan for Highway 41 was presented to Charleston County councilmembers on Aug. 5.

residences.

Starting at the Wando River on Highway 41 to Dunes West Boulevard, there will be a four-lane section, which is consistent with previ-

ous recommendations. The highway will transition into a three-lane section through the Phillips Community. This includes one travel lane in each direction and a center

turn lane.

After passing Joe Rouse Road, the Compromise Alternative proposes a new two-lane parkway that crosses the edge of Laurel Hill County

Park and meets Park West Boulevard. The new Laurel Hill Parkway will reduce traffic for residents on Bessemer

Please see **HWY 41**, Page A3



MULCH • MUSHROOM • COMPOST • TOPSOIL

Lowcountry Mulch Inc.
SAND • PLAY GROUND MULCH

Proudly Serving East Cooper and the Islands for 15 Years
1135 Hwy. 41 • Mt. Pleasant, SC
www.lowcountrymulch.com
971-7010

PICK-UPS • DELIVERY • BARK BLOWING AVAILABLE

We're here. We're ready.

When a disaster strikes, my team and I will be there. Backed by one of the industry's largest catastrophe response teams, we'll be ready to help when you need us.

Billy Swails, Agent
1047 Johnnie Dodds Blvd
Mt Pleasant, SC 29464
Bus: 843-884-5149
www.billyswails.com

CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7.
Like a good neighbor,
State Farm is there.®

State Farm
IP02-1952241-1

SOD SALES and INSTALLATION

SodBusters is located at
1131 Hwy 41, Mt. Pleasant

Call Ben Sumrell at 843-514-0781
843-936-2295 for free estimate or to place orders.
www.sodbustersinc.com • sodit.ben@gmail.com

SODBUSTERS®
A Division of Nimmer Turf & Tree Farm, Inc.

IP03-1560576-1