

Starting The Day with Stacy Pinckney

By: Jack Wysong

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Stacy Pinckney takes immense pride in her ability to serve the people of Yemassee in the capacity of an active member of the town council.

Born and raised in Walterboro, South Carolina, she found her way to the town of Yemassee after relocating from Port Royal. Stacy has always had a profound desire to get out into the community and help others, as well as use her talents to overcome the pervasive apathy that she saw was permeating her community. She has organized and hosted numerous community outreach events, worked at nonprofit ministries, and through perseverance and faith overcame several setbacks that many would consider to be career-ending.

It is no surprise that someone with such a prominent love for their community would find themselves serving in the local government. However she was initially uninterested in being a council member, believing that the bureaucracy would only hinder her ability to serve others. But several of her closest colleagues presented her with the idea, and seeing the magnified impact she could have from the position there was little debate left on whether she should pursue the opportunity.

She says, “I am all about pulling people together. So many people want to see the community broken up and separated in so many ways, but I believe in pulling everyone together. In Yemassee we are located at the intersection of four different counties, so we’re almost like a melting pot of a lot of different communities.”

While serving as a member of the town council, she has overseen numerous landmark changes to the Yemassee area that have propelled its development beyond what she envisioned. In coalition with the town administration, the Town of Yemassee has secured several projects that will result in the construction of seventy-nine new homes in the area. However, the project that she feels will most benefit the people of the town is going to be the construction of a new Genesis HealthCare facility that will be positioned in the heart of the town.

The new Genesis HealthCare Project facility will provide health care resources to the people of Yemassee and the surrounding areas that are otherwise in a health care desert. Stacy identifies some of the leading problems towns like Yemassee faces as the lack of available health care resources and accommodations for its residents.

She says, “One of the biggest challenges that our residents face is the lack of a pharmacy in the town. If someone needs medications or pharmaceutical services, they have to travel to an

outside area to receive the care and treatment that they need-and for many people that is just not an option. Having that pharmacy here in town is going to be huge for the people.”

She also believes that this project is going to help bring more people into the town and help the community prosper.

Even with all of these developments on the near horizon, Stacy is always looking for what comes next for the people of Yemassee. She explains that the upcoming youth programs the town has planned will benefit the future generations of Yemassee residents, and she is excited to be able to physically be out in the community and serve its people. She says, “I took an oath for them to be able to see me working as town council, and when it comes to the kids, nobody gets pushed aside.”

Stacy has spent her career serving the people of Yemassee, and hopes to continue to serve her community in perpetuity. She applauds the work that the Yemassee Town Council has done during her tenure as a council member, and she believes that with a continuous and coordinated effort from the town council, growth and prosperity can be sustained for the town.

In conclusion she says, “Once we became unified as a council and learned how to work with each other, we became a dream team. We learned how to agree to disagree, and how to remain functional even when there was some disagreement of opinion. And that’s exactly what we need to continue to grow.”

For more information please visit: <https://www.townofyemassee.org/town-council>