



Volume 3, Issue 10

105 Sumter Ave. Summerville, SC 29483

October, 2025



Next Meeting:
Wednesday, October 1,
6:30 pm.

**Come Early and have a bite
to eat with us!**

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Military Observances in October

U.S. Navy's Birthday
(October 13): Celebrates the establishment of the Continental Navy in 1775. A celebration to commemorate the 250th anniversary is scheduled to take place at the Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum.

National Day of the Deployed (October 26): Honors all military service members who have been deployed to serve the country and recognizes the sacrifices of their families.

Navy Day (October 27): Observes the founding of the Navy League of the United States and celebrates past and present Navy sailors.

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

Summerville Post 21

Position	Officer
Commander	Ken Thompson
First Vice Commander	Kim Shultz
Second Vice Commander	Bill Schmitz
Finance Officer	Brian Ponder
Chaplain	Karl Naugle
Sergeant at Arms	Bill Dutour
Historian	Dave Corvino
Post Adjutant	Bob Ticknor
Judge Advocate	Steve Smith
Webmaster	Ken Thompson

Post Website: <https://summervillepost21.org/>

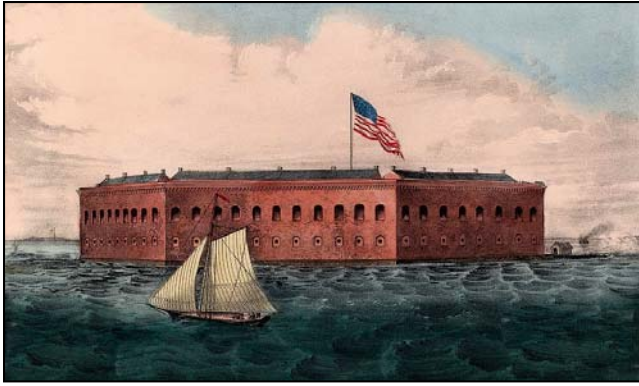
American Legion Post 21 - Clarence A. Dunning - Summerville, SC

Empowering heroes through community
and resources.

JOIN US

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS





History Lives Here

America's First Dreadnoughts

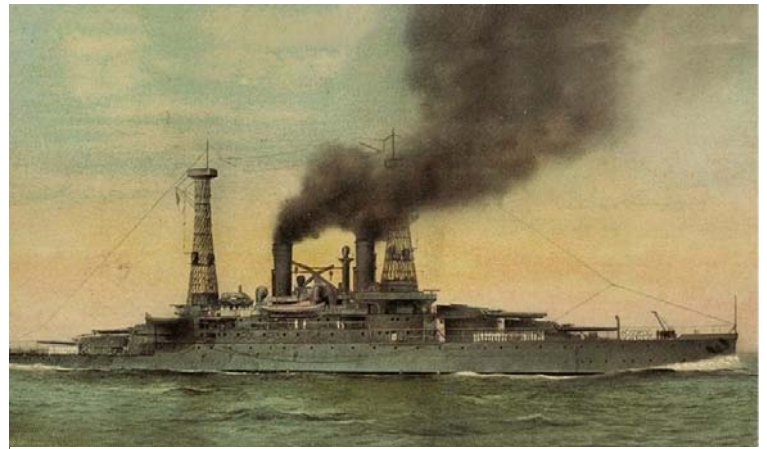
A century ago the U.S. Navy commissioned its first battleships armed only with the heaviest guns, the USS South Carolina and USS Michigan. To a casual observer, the event represented little more than that the conservative U.S. Navy had finally caught up with the British, who had commissioned the "all-big-gun" HMS Dreadnought in 1906. In fact, the two South Carolina-class ships reflected thinking that

displacement. The concept of super-firing turrets had never been applied to a ship's main battery, but the slow pace of U.S. shipbuilding diluted the impact of the American innovation. Conceived in the fall of 1904, the two battleships were not commissioned until nearly six years later. The South Carolina class was part of an international



USS South Carolina

considerably preceded that of the British ship. The American pair introduced a feature that would mark most subsequent big-gun ships: super-firing turrets, which were higher than adjacent turrets. They enabled the South Carolina and Michigan to carry all their turrets on their centerlines, and that was one reason the eight-gun ships packed the same broadside as the ten-gun Dreadnought on 2,000 tons less



USS Michigan

trend to arm battleships with guns of a single heavy caliber. Commissioned in the winter of 1910, the USS South Carolina (left) and Michigan (right) were the Navy's first all-big-gun battleships. Each mounted a uniform heavy armament of eight 12-inch guns. Super-firing, or extra-high, turrets allowed all the guns to be carried on the ships' centerlines. The revolutionary USS South Carolina and USS Michigan heralded a new era in battleship design. USS South Carolina (BB-26) was the fourth ship of the United States Navy to be named in honor of South Carolina.

SEPTEMBER POST MEETING

We had 38 attendees at the September meeting. Two new members were in attendance; Melissa Ligon and Joann Gillespie. Welcome to both of our new members! We also had several Boy Scouts with us to discuss their Eagle projects at the Post. Along with them, we had several of the Boys State attendees tell us about their experiences at Boys State. And finally, we had as our guest speaker Jana Riley, Executive Director of



the Public Works Art Center in Summerville. Everyone enjoyed a BBQ dinner of Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and all the fixin's! Great job to everyone that set up and prepared this feast. Eagle Scout candidate Juvon Gillard talked about his work on the Post sign and Flag Pole, of which he did a great job. Jackson Mann elaborated on his project, which was installing the new ramp at the front entrance. Caleb Redwood informed us about his plan to refurbish our storage closet, repairing, painting the walls, and

adding shelves. That work scheduled for early September, should be complete now. Griffen Quartuccio also planned to finish his project in September, refurbishing the Fire Pit. Charlotte Erling informed the membership that she intends to paint the interior of the Post and have that finished by year end. Boys Staters Tate Kazuba, Kendell Wilcher and



Steven Nugent provided us with an update on their experiences at Boys State and how the experience affected their outlook on the future involvement in politics, government and professional endeavors. All told, the Post sponsored 16 Boys Staters in 2025. Executive Director of the Public Works Art Center Jana Riley explained the ongoing projects at the Center including a mural of "The Greatest Generation" to be painted on a wall behind the gas station in town center. The Post will act as advisors on the accuracy of the content of the mural. We are also requested to get the word out

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about the mural in hopes of attracting donations to help cover the cost of the project, which is \$13,000. Jana also invited all of us to visit the Public Arts Center. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm. Other things we talked about included possibly opening up the Post for coffee and chats with veterans on Sunday mornings. We would need volunteers to do this. Please



see Steve Smith if you are interested in volunteering. This may be a good way to get more new members to join us. If you are interested in learning about the officers responsibilities at our Post, please let us know. Commander Thompson is hoping to start up a mentoring program to do just that. Also, on Legion.org/training, you can take online classes in Post leadership. Several of our members have already completed this training. Remember to talk to Bob Ticknor or Ken Thompson if you are interested in attending the American Legion Fall Conference in Columbia October 31

through November 2. The registration fee will be paid by the Post. And finally, if you have any suggestions for events you want to see, ideas for growth, or any questions, please let us know. We want to hear from you!





More Pictures from the September Meeting!



EVEN MORE MEETING PICS!!



Post Financials

Regions Bank

Checking	\$6,152.64
Savings	\$2,000.41
CD 0156	\$12,719.32
CD 0369	\$10,637.33

REV

Checking	\$2,318.06
Savings	\$513.27

The Financial Officer is in the process of consolidating our accounts into one bank. The money in the REV accounts will be moved to Regions Bank and the REV accounts closed.



Did You Know?

Historic Union Station

The Charleston Union Station Company was a railroad company based in Charleston, that operated throughout much of the 20th century. The Company owned and operated a passenger station in Charleston. The station was on the corner of East Bay and Columbus Streets and burned on January 11, 1947. Some time later the site area was sold to the South Carolina State Ports Authority, which continues to use it.

The Union Station in Charleston was designed by Frank Milburn of Columbia. Rooms included waiting rooms, ladies parlors and gentlemen's smoking room. There were rooms for the sending of telegraphs, ticket office, baggage claims, newsstand, dining room, serving rooms, mail rooms, storage and kitchen in addition to a concourse and three loading platforms. Upstairs included many rooms for offices and bathrooms in addition the dispatcher room and counter. The building cost around \$170,340 with \$6,400 being for heating and \$2,000 for lighting equipment and supplies. The building was a buff colored brick structure with plaster and brick interior walls, tile floors and tile roof.

Union Station Fire

The following newspaper article discusses the fire that destroyed the Union Station, it was published on Monday January 13, 1947 in the Evening Post.

FIRE TAKES A HAND

Fate has taken a hand in the



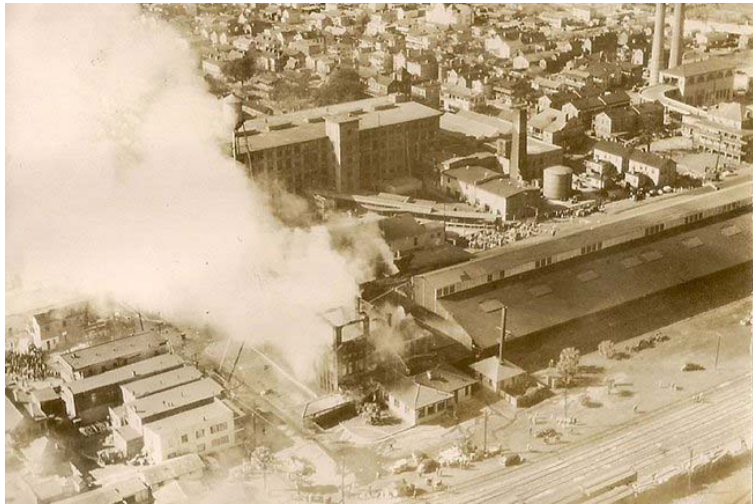
problem of providing Charleston with the type of railway passenger facilities a community of this size and prospects is entitled to. Fate took an action that changed the situation overnight, in the form of a fire which destroyed the antiquated Union station, leaving remains not much more of an eyesore then the structure had been while intact. With its train schedules divided between two inadequate points, the Linton station, in the city, and the North Charleston station, the Atlantic Coast Line for lime mire has been providing unsatisfactory service for incoming and departing passengers, It failed to keep pace, in this respect, with the growth of the city and the expanding metropolitan area. Aside from the general Inadequacy of the passenger station service here, there has been much complaint arising from the use by the A. C. L. of two stations. It has been a source of inconvenience and confusion. To remedy this condition of affairs it was urged that all A. C. L. trains be sent into the city, but the railroad refused to take this step. Then It was proposed the Union station be abandoned and a suitable station be provided near North Charleston, to take the place of the structure now there. The last public word on the Atlantic Coast Line's position prior to the fire was heard in December, 1945. Representatives of the road then informed a Chamber of Commerce committee it was

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Historic Union Station

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willing to go ahead with the project for a new station if certain conditions were met. The three "ifs" were these: If the community could crystallize public sentiment for the new site; if it I would help the A. C. L. and the Southern Railway to sell the Union Station: and if It would support the railroad petition to the State public service commission. The principal obstacle was in disposing of the Union station property. The Chamber committee offered to help sell it, but the A. C. L. refused to set a price. It was made known that a piece of property north of the viaduct, suitable for a new passenger station, had been purchased by the railroad. Surely the blaze which ruined the Union station has opened the way to a proper solution of the problem. The step dictated by sound business principles and by force of circumstances is erection of a large Union station in the North Charleston section, for use by both the A. C. L. and the Southern. The fire burned whatever valid objections the A. C. L. might have had to such a progressive move, The railroads operating bore have often, through advertisements, proclaimed their faith in this section. Here is an opportunity to implement that faith.





Veterans On Deck



In 2010, as the Director of the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Program at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center in Charleston, Dr. Ron Acierno had the only “Best Practices Clinic” in the United States. Even though the veterans participating in this program were leaving with diminished overt PTSD symptoms, they were still suffering from social withdrawal and isolation. Dr. Acierno wanted to find a means to address and treat these lingering social issues, and so, turning to other civic leaders in the community who were themselves veterans, he began to develop the framework for what would eventually become Veterans on Deck.

For veterans suffering from PTSD, interaction is not the only aspect of a social event they wish to avoid, there is also the element of social stress. Dr. Acierno and his new colleagues designed a program where veterans could gather socially, but still be required to participate in an activity which affected a certain amount of social stress. In order for these men and women to be helped, it had to be in the context of a socially stressful situation that could be controlled and ultimately mastered, hopefully with positive social effects. A sailboat was the perfect location to hold these gatherings, and the process of sailing was the ideal stressor; sailing can be a novel activity, is at times stressful, and most importantly, requires working as a team to sail the boat.

Veterans on Deck was officially approved for nonprofit status in the state of South Carolina in 2011, in addition to receiving “community partner” status with the VA. Since then, VoD has connected with several other veteran service organizations in the community and continues to receive referrals from the VA. VoD has extended the scope of participation through community engagement, outreach, and social media.

Mission

Veterans on Deck works to prevent and treat the invisible wounds that affect members of our Armed Forces, during and after their service, through a sailing program that offers holistic support and resiliency training. There is no fee to participate and come sail with us.

Location

Our two 30-foot sailboats are docked at The Harborage at Ashley Marina, 33 Lockwood Drive, Charleston SC. We sail in Charleston Harbor, weather permitting. Check our Veterans on Deck Facebook page for any weather-related cancellations.

Sailing Schedule

We currently sail three days a week, 1PM to 3PM. Tuesdays-Men’s Sail; Wednesdays-Women’s Sail and All-Comers Sail; Fridays: All-Comers Sail. Pre-registration is not required but due to limited space on board, signing up via our calendar will take precedence over walk-ups.

A Blast From the Past

American Women in World War II

Some 350,000 women served in the U.S. Armed Forces in World War II, both at home and abroad. Women on the home front were critical to the war effort: Between 1940 and 1945, the era of “Rosie the Riveter,” the female percentage of the U.S. workforce increased from 27 percent to nearly 37 percent, and by 1945, nearly one out of every four married women worked outside the home. World War II opened the door for women to work in more types of jobs than ever before. At the urging of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and women’s groups, and impressed by the British use of women in service, General George Marshall



supported the idea of introducing a women’s service branch into the Army. In May 1942, Congress instituted the Women’s Auxiliary Army Corps, later upgraded to the Women’s Army Corps, which had full military status. Its members, known as WACs, worked in more than 200 non-combatant jobs stateside and in every theater of the war. By 1945, there were more than 100,000 WACs and 6,000 female officers. In the Navy, members of Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) held the same status as naval reservists and provided support stateside. The

Coast Guard and Marine Corps soon followed suit, though in smaller numbers. One of the lesser-known roles women played in the war effort was provided by the Women’s Airforce Service Pilots, or WASPs. These women, each of whom had already obtained their pilot’s license prior to service, became the first women to fly American military aircraft. They ferried planes



from factories to bases, transporting cargo and participating in simulation strafing and target missions, accumulating more than 60 million miles in flight distances and freeing thousands of male U.S. pilots for active duty in World War II. More than 1,000 WASPs served, and 38 of them lost their lives during the war. Considered civil service employees and without official military status, these fallen WASPs were granted no military honors or benefits, and it wasn’t until 1977 that the WASPs received full military status. Though women had been joining the work force in greater numbers since the hardships of the Great Depression, the entry of the United States into World War II completely transformed the types of jobs open to women. Before the war, most working women were in

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traditionally female fields like nursing and teaching. Post-Pearl Harbor, women worked in a variety of positions previously closed to them, though the aviation industry saw the greatest increase in female workers. More than 310,000 women worked in the U.S. aircraft industry in 1943, representing 65 percent of the industry's total workforce (compared to just 1 percent in the pre-war years). The munitions industry also heavily



recruited women workers, as represented by the U.S. government's "Rosie the Riveter" propaganda campaign. Based in small part on a real-life munitions worker, but primarily a fictitious character, the strong, bandana-clad Rosie became one of the most successful recruitment tools in American history, and the most iconic image of working women during World War II.



Sources

National Archives.

Minnesota Historical Society Library.

History.com



Backpack Buddies

We supply Summerville Elementary with food for children that might not otherwise have food over each weekend. This program feeds 36 children from Summerville Elementary. Please bring the following items to the Post meeting each month, or bring cash to donate.

Breakfast: Packages of instant grits
 Packages of instant oatmeal
 Mini-muffins (Little Bites)
 Small individual boxes of cereal
 Breakfast bars (such as NutriGrain bars)

Drinks:
 Sunny D (individual bottles)
 Orange juice (individual bottles)
 Horizon Organic Milk (not refrigerated, individual servings of plain, vanilla or chocolate)
 Capri Sun juices
 Juice boxes of any flavor
 Yahoo chocolate milk in boxes or cans
 Nesquik Chocolate drink (individual bottles)

Entrees:
 Beanie Weanies (small cans that can be microwaved)
 Chef Boyardee meals in cans (with pop tops)
 Individual boxes of tuna and crackers or chicken and crackers
 Vienna sausages
 Hormel Compleat meals (individual meals, available in packages of 3 at Walmart)
 Macaroni and cheese (individual servings that you can microwave)

Snacks:
 Applesauce in individual cans/plastic containers
 Cheez-its (individual bags)
 Rice Krispie treats
 Pirate booty (individual bags)
 Cheese or peanut butter crackers
 Boxes of raisins
 Popcorn (individual servings)
 Chocolate pudding cups
 Buddy Fruits (these look like drinks but they are fruit snacks)
 Little Debbie oatmeal cakes
 Pringles chips in individual containers

We try to put an apple or orange in the bags at least once a month, so a bag of fruit is also welcomed.

Local Halloween Events



Trunk or Treat!

Summerville Baptist Church
417 Central Avenue, South Carolina 29483
Sunday, 26 October 2025 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Join us in the parking lot of the church for Trunk or Treat! Dress up (but no scary costumes, please)!



3rd Annual Trunk or Treat

Summerville Dance Academy
119 E 4th North St, South Carolina 29483
Sunday, October 26, 2025 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Join us for an afternoon of Halloween fun! There will be plenty to do for all ages! The event is free to attend bring your own trick or treat bag.



DSC Halloween Bash

Dorchester Shrine Club
2150 Beech Hill Rd, Summerville, SC 29485
Saturday, October 25, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

DSC Halloween Bash - Costume contest, Door Prizes, 50/50 and more.

Halloween at the Y!

Summerville Family YMCA
900 Crosscreek Dr, Summerville, SC 29485
Friday, October 17, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

Halloween at the Y is a FREE event open to the public and held at our Oakbrook Family Center. We will have our concession stand open, hayrides, a haunted house, jump castle, petting zoo, and of course a Trunk or Treat!





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14th Annual Halloween Festival

Town of Moncks Corner

328 E Main St, Moncks Corner, SC 29461

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at From 5:30 pm to 0:00 pm.

Join us on Main Street and in Unity Park for our 14th Annual Halloween Festival. We will have a costume contest, food, tons of trunk or treat opportunities and our famous haunted house.



World's Largest Circus Under The World's Largest Big Top!!

Garden Brothers Nuclear Circus

Citadel Mall - 2070 Sam Rittenberg Blvd, Charleston, SC 29407

Thursday, October 23rd to Sunday, October 26th, from 4:30 pm at 8:45 pm.

DATES / SHOW TIMES

Thursday Oct 23: 4:30pm & 7:30pm

Friday Oct 24: 4:30pm & 7:30pm

Saturday Oct 25: 1:30pm & 4:30pm & 7:30pm

Sunday Oct 26: 1:00pm & 4:00pm & 7:00pm

LOCATION: Citadel Mall - 2070 Sam Rittenberg Blvd - Charleston SC

Tickets available at: secure.GardenBrosCircus.com



'IT'S ALL ABOUT THE CAMARADERIE'



MILITARY SALUTE REGATTA CELEBRATES VETERANS

In May 2025, the community outreach efforts of Veterans on Deck expand further as it becomes the new organizing body for the Military Salute Regatta. The regatta was initiated five years ago by the Charleston Ocean Race Association (CORA) to get active-duty military and veterans out for a day on the water. The weekend of events includes the race and a 300-passenger viewing boat for those who don't want to sail, as well as a post-race party.

Due to the strength of its outreach among local veterans and active-duty bases, this fund-and friend-raising event will now be run by VoD. The organization looks forward to getting even more veterans involved in the race in 2025 and in future years.

2nd Sunday on King Street



2nd Sunday on King Street - King Street shops, Charleston, SC 29401

If you're wondering who, what, where, why of 2nd Sunday, here's the scoop. Every month on the second Sunday the City of Charleston helps us to shut down King Street (our Main Street) from Queen to Calhoun, roughly 1/2 mile, to through traffic and without parked cars, for 5 blissful hours. That gives us the whole street for people to walk around with a big smile, greet friends and neighbors, and enjoy Charleston as it would be on any old day without the traffic. Strolling guests see businesses they didn't know about, stores roll out past the sidewalk to invite shoppers in, carefully curated artists show their work on the street, and unique food vendors tempt guests with their fare. The street closes to through traffic at noon, and opens back up at 5pm.

Dates

October 12, 2025
November 9, 2025
December 14, 2025

**PUBLIC
WORKS**

ART CENTER

135 West Richardson Ave,
Summerville, SC 29483

CALL (843) 900-3225

ART FOR ALL

Downtown Summerville's Cultural Hub and Creative Incubator

**FREE
ADMISSION**

Tuesday – Saturday
10am – 5pm



SUMMERVILLE'S ART HUB

Welcome to Public Works Art Center - Your Creative Destination in Downtown Summerville! Immerse yourself in a vibrant hub and creative incubator, where art comes to life for all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

Explore our four galleries with rotating exhibitions, engage in enriching art classes and workshops, and experience the thrill of diverse events and free activities. As a 501(C)(3) nonprofit, we are committed to fostering an inclusive arts community, connecting individuals through a variety of artistic disciplines.



**FREE
ADMISSION**

Tuesday – Saturday
10am – 5pm

Movies in the Park



Event Date - October 10th

Come out to and enjoy a special movie screening under the stars! There are 3 separate movie night events, each screening presenting something unique and fun for the whole family to enjoy. There will also be food vendors so you can grab some snacks while you enjoy the show. All screenings begin at sunset, so make sure to get there before then. Please make sure to also bring your own lawn chairs and blankets so you can sit back and enjoy the show.


This year's last event is:

- Friday, October 10th at Gahagan Park. -
- Halloween Movie Night with the original Ghostbusters.

THIRD THURSDAYS

 5:30p-8:30p (unless otherwise listed)

EVERY Third Thursday of the Month

 Hutchinson Square, W. Richardson &
Short Central



- EVERY Third Thursday of the month
- 5:30 PM-8:30 PM – Rain or shine (unless otherwise listed)
- Hutchinson Square, W. Richardson & Short Central

On the third Thursday of each month, Historic Downtown Summerville transforms into a special marketplace featuring local entertainment, craft vendors and artisans, to complement the extended hours of our eclectic shops, boutiques and restaurants.

Third Thursday traffic is rerouted from 4:00 PM until 9:00 PM from the following streets; Little Main Street, W Richardson to Central (closed for traffic). There is plenty of FREE parking throughout the downtown including the town garage behind Town Hall.





Summerville FARMERS MARKET

- First Citizens Bank 218 South Main Street behind Summerville Town Hall
- Every Saturday: April – Mid-November 8:00am- 1:00pm
- Historic Downtown Summerville

Shop Local and KEEP IT SUMMERVILLE

The Market aims to offer a venue where Farmers, Growers, Specialty Foods, and Artisans can actively showcase and sell their handcrafted goods. We've established rules and regulations to create a fair sales environment that strongly promotes and honors local entrepreneurs and small business owners. Embracing the ethos of "I am because we are," we collaborate for collective success. Participants must adhere to these rules and regulations, as failure to do so may result in dismissal from the market.



8:00 AM-1:00 PM | Rain or Shine

Summerville Farmers Market hosts local farmers, growers, artisans and specialty food vendors.

If interested in being a Market Vendor please fill out the application in full and submit all supporting documentation. Applications are reviewed by the Market Committee and assignments are made based on selection criteria.

Business Booth Opportunities

If your company is interested in supporting the Farmers Market you may apply to be a business vendor. Business vendors are provided with a 10x10 booth to display/demonstrate goods and services. Space is limited, fee is \$100 per week.



Dorchester County Veterans Affairs



Summerville

500 N. Main St.
Summerville, SC 29483

Please use the Main St.
Entrance.

Office Hours:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday - Friday

Phone: (843) 832-0050

The Dorchester County Veterans Affairs Office assists veterans and their families who reside in Dorchester County in all matters that pertain to veterans and Veteran Benefits. You can contact the Veterans Affairs office at (843) 832-0050 to schedule an in-person or virtual appointment.

The Veterans Affairs office assists all ex-service personnel with financial compensation claims including but not limited to:

- Hospitalization
- Training
- Insurance Benefits

These services are extended to eligible dependents, including parents, widows, children and orphans of ex-service personnel.

If you need support for a specific mental health problem - or if you're having problems sleeping, controlling your anger, or readjusting to civilian life - you are not alone. You don't need to be enrolled in VA health care to get care. To access free VA mental health services right away:

- Call or walk-in to any VA Medical Center - anytime, day or night
- Call or walk-in to any Vet Center during clinic hours

If you have questions about enrolling in VA health care, please contact the VA via phone at 1-877-222-VETS (1-877-222-8387) Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM EST. Veterans with hearing loss are asked to use the TTY phone number 1-800-877-8339.

Newly separated service members can expect three calls from qualified VA Solid Start representatives over the first year of separation. VA will attempt to contact you several times around 90, 180 and 365 days post-separation, so make sure your contact information is up to date in eBenefits.

VA Solid Start representatives will not ask you for financial information and will only discuss topics you are comfortable with. Remember that phone scammers often target Veterans, so always be vigilant and protect your financial information when talking to someone you don't know over the phone.

For questions about VA Solid Start, call 1-800-827-0611, Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM EST.

St. George

201 Johnston Street
St. George, SC 29477

The St. George office is
located on the Raysor St.
side of the building, behind
DSS.

Office Hours:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tuesday

Phone: (843) 563-0116

VA Clinics

Trident VA Clinic

9237 University Boulevard
North Charleston, SC 29406-8908
Phone: 843-574-1010

North Charleston VA Clinic

6450 Rivers Avenue
North Charleston, SC 29406-4882
Phone: 843-818-5100

Charleston VA Clinic

2424 City Hall Lane
Community Resource & Referral Center
Suite B
North Charleston, SC 29406-6538
Phone: 843-789-6804
Mental health: 843-577-5011

Goose Creek VA Clinic

2418 NNPTC Circle
Goose Creek, SC 29445-6314
Phone: 843-818-6999, ext. 343100
Mental health: 843-577-5011

Ralph H. Johnson Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center

109 Bee Street
Charleston, SC 29401-5799
Phone: 843-577-5011

Beaufort VA Clinic

1 Pinckney Boulevard
Beaufort, SC 29902-6122
Phone: 843-770-0444

