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DAILY \$2

Edwards aims to balance pastoral duties with role on City Council

By RENEE ORTIZ
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Annette Edwards was sworn in as the newest Greenwood City Council member in December. This year, she and her other council members will work to improve Ward 3 and the rest of the city.

Edwards' road to city government began in 2018, but her story starts in 1961. Edwards was born in Greenwood and grew up on Woodlawn Road with her six sisters and four brothers, along with her mother and father.



ANNETTE EDWARDS

Her mom, Lillie Ruth, worked at Greenwood textiles, and her father, Joe Jones, worked at Monsanto. Edwards recounted the many Christmas parties at the company and spending every summer with her grandparents.

"We had a great life, not a poor one," she said. "We had a good life. All of us went to school, got our education."

Her first elementary school was Lakeview. The school had been desegregated by the time she arrived.

"When I went to Emerald High, it was integrated as well, and then Greenwood High, so I never went to an all-black school," Edwards said.

In April 1998, Edwards said she accepted God as her savior. Little did she know, she would be soon called to action.

"It was a calling on my life," she said. "I didn't want to preach. I heard God speaking to me, leading me."

Her mentors, the Revs. Dora Ann White and Cesar Richburg, told her to be obedient to the calling. In

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Annette Edwards was joined by her mother, Lillie, her son, T.J., and dozens of community members for her swearing-in at December's Greenwood City Council meeting.

Little kid, big heart



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

This past Christmas, Christian Edwards donated hats and gloves to the elderly and children at Elite Home Care and Day Care Centers.

Young boy works to give back to Greenwood community

By RENEE ORTIZ
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Finding time to help others can be a rare find in today's world. But one child is working to bring some light and love to all he comes across.

Christian Edwards, 6, is known for his smile and energetic attitude. His great-grandmother, Linda Boyd-Edwards, or Nana, says he has a big heart for one so young.

"It's like he's been here before. He's an old soul," Boyd-Edwards said.

Boyd-Edwards works in private home health for the elderly. She took Christian along with her while she worked. It was there where



Christian Edwards began volunteering at the soup kitchen when he was 3 years old. Now, he returns multiple times a year to assist.

Christian began to learn the importance of helping others.

"He's my sidekick, like Batman and Robin," Boyd-Edwards said.

"We're together most of the time when I'm not working."

Christian has hobbies like every 6-year-old. He loves reading, riding his bike and asking lots of questions. He spends most of his time, though, volunteering throughout the community.

Since he was 3, Christian has volunteered at the Soup Kitchen, shelters, community spaces and at his church. His goal? To help as many people as he can.

"Giving makes people happy," Christian said. "I just want to help people feel good."

He began to gather donations and funds to distribute. When Boyd-Edwards noticed Christian's

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Two-week Greenwood Eats event spotlights restaurants' offerings

By RENEE ORTIZ
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The days following Christmas and New Year's Day can be some of the slowest for Greenwood restaurants and eateries.

The Greenwood Chamber of Commerce wants to bring foot traffic to these restaurants with a new event this month. Running Monday through Jan. 19, restaurants across Greenwood will participate in the first Greenwood Eats event.

"As a chamber, we serve so many different businesses, whether it's the restaurants, retail and the manufacturers," chamber CEO Trentsie Williams said. "So, we're trying to get events that really tailor to those niche markets

Greenwood Eats participants

Break on the Lake
Eggs Up Grill
Finz & Feathers
Good Times Brewing
Hardee's
Inn on the Square
Scoops 'N Cups Café

Scooters Coffee
Shipley Donuts
Smokey Gray's BBQ
Smoothie King
Sports Break
The Mill House

that we don't normally get to highlight on a regular basis."

Williams said the hope is to highlight various eateries, including those not traditionally considered restaurants, and encourage community engagement through social media.

There are 13 restaurants, food trucks, beverage places and dessert places participating

in the event:

Participating businesses were asked to offer special menu items or discounts.

Gianpaolo "Geep" Bonaca, owner of Good Times Brewing and The Mill House, has been a business owner for close to 30 years. He's exited about this about this first-of-its-kind event here in Greenwood.

"January is a pretty down month," Bonaca said. "You're trying to kind of coincide with that and get people back out after the holidays and consuming and checking out the local establishments."

There are two featured menu items at The Mill House. The Brick James pizza comes

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Greenwood SC Chamber of Commerce
January 6th - 19th
GREENWOOD EATS
LIMITED TIME DISCOUNTS & MENU ITEMS
With Random Giveaways All Weeks & Grand Prize Drawing on January 20th
watch for specials from these PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS
Break on the Lake
Eggs Up Grill
Finz & Feathers
Good Times Brewing
Hardee's
Inn on the Square
Scoops 'N Cups Café
Scooters Coffee
Shipley Donuts
Smokey Gray's BBQ
Smoothie King
Sports Break
The Mill House
ENTER TO WIN:
Share a picture of YOUR meal, drink, or dessert from a participating restaurant and tag @greenwoodsc

The first Greenwood Eats event will go from Monday through Jan. 19. Thirteen eateries are participating in the event.

SUBMITTED

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