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Wednesday, September 23, 2020 • Section B



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Newberry County History Introduction

Dear Readers,

Here at The Observer we like to include a special section each month to add an element of variety to our local news coverage, and to entertain and inform you on things outside of the news cycle.

For September we have put together this supplemental section that highlights some of the significant historic locations

throughout Newberry County. We were careful to include more than just the City of Newberry and looked out in the county for the photos and subjects herein. This is, after all, Newberry County's Hometown Newspaper.

You may have noticed a new look to the front page of this edition, as well. The Olde English font of the nameplate/

masthead calls back to the history of the paper. *The Newberry Observer* and *The Herald News* headed the paper at least into the 1980s with a similar look. We have also revived the tagline "Just like a letter from home" to emphasize the community ties The Observer has and will continue to have. Of course, the website shown in red, has

been added, otherwise this is a very close likeness to editions of the past.

We thank you for your continued readership and I look forward to bringing you more educational and informative content in future editions. Some of our specials in the coming months will include a Halloween themed coloring book at the end of

October. That book will feature local artists' work on the coloring pages. Also, our annual Veterans Day section in November and the always popular Kids' Letters to Santa Christmas section scheduled for December 23.

I would also like to extend a special thank-you to our advertisers that continue to support our hometown newspa-

per and allow us to put together great features like this one. Certainly this section would not be possible without our loyal subscribers, either, and to them I am also grateful for your patronage.

Cordially,
Andy Husk
Publisher

The Newberry Observer
The Union Times
The Sentinel Progress

The history behind a Little Mountain business

By Andrew Wigger
awigger@championcarolinas.com

LITTLE MOUNTAIN — In the town of Little Mountain, the municipality's oldest business, with the original ownership, is also located in a building over 100 years old.

Arthur Jayroe Certified Public Accountant has called 824 Main Street, Little Mountain, home since 1984; however, the building they call home has been located in the heart of Little Mountain since somewhere between 1905-1910.

"It was originally built as a doctor's office," said Arthur Jayroe, the current occupant of the historic building.

Jana Jayroe, Arthur "Art" Jayroe's coworker and wife, said they found a picture of Main Street from 1904, and the building was not there — so they know for sure the building was constructed sometime after.

"Ralph Epting, who has passed away, told me

Right: Arthur Jayroe Certified Public Accountant is located in a 100 year old building in the heart of downtown Little Mountain, it is also one of the oldest, continuously owned, businesses in town. Pictured, left to right, Ashley Ramsey, Arthur Jayroe and Jana Jayroe.

Andrew Wigger | The Newberry Observer



his dad worked on this building," Arthur Jayroe said.

After serving as a doctor's office, date of closure unknown, it served as a church fellowship hall, a shop for lawn mowers and chainsaws, and a travelling salesman, who came through Little Mountain, would set up on Saturday afternoons, according to the Jayroes.

"I've heard stories, from people now deceased, that they would come here, when they were young, and play records and dance," Jana Jayroe said.

An interesting fact about the building is that the room where

they now keep their files, is where surgeries were held when it was a

doctor's office.

"We've been told the file room is where they did surgery. Had a gentleman, that is long deceased now, had his hand operated on," Jana Jayroe said.

Arthur Jayroe recalled a story from another individual who remembered getting their tonsils removed in that room.

Another interesting feature of their building is a trap door that takes you underneath the building. Arthur Jayroe believes this is where they kept medicine,

since the doctor's office operated before refrigeration.

"I think they use to keep whatever medicine they had on the floor where it would stay cooler and last longer," he said. "Found some old glass bottles, some were broken, some weren't."

Arthur Jayroe became the most recent professional to go into the building in 1984 — after he was already in business for one year.

"Well, I did it out of the basement of the house for one year and

she (Jana) said that was the first and last year I'd be doing taxes and meeting clients all hours of the day at our house," Arthur Jayroe joked.

Arthur Jayroe then moved into his downtown Little Mountain location, he believes having the business downtown is a plus for Little Mountain.

"I've always said we are close enough to our clients to be convenient, but not so close to be a nuisance. It's a nice equal distance from all the local towns and businesses," Arthur Jayroe said.

Arthur Jayroe said as a licensed professional firm, they can offer what the online tax programs cannot — proper knowledge of the law.

"People come to us because they want results and we minimize taxes, that computer program that does your

See JAYROE | 7B




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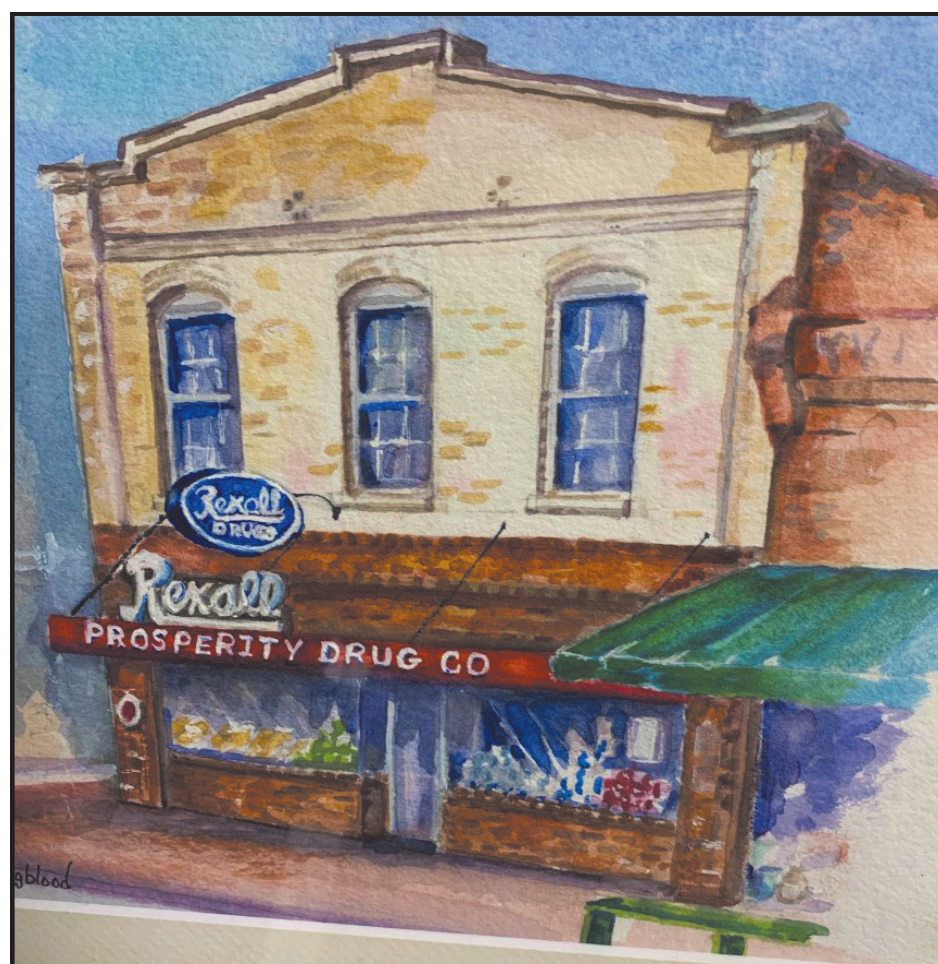
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The history and mysteries of Memorial Park

By Andrew Wigger

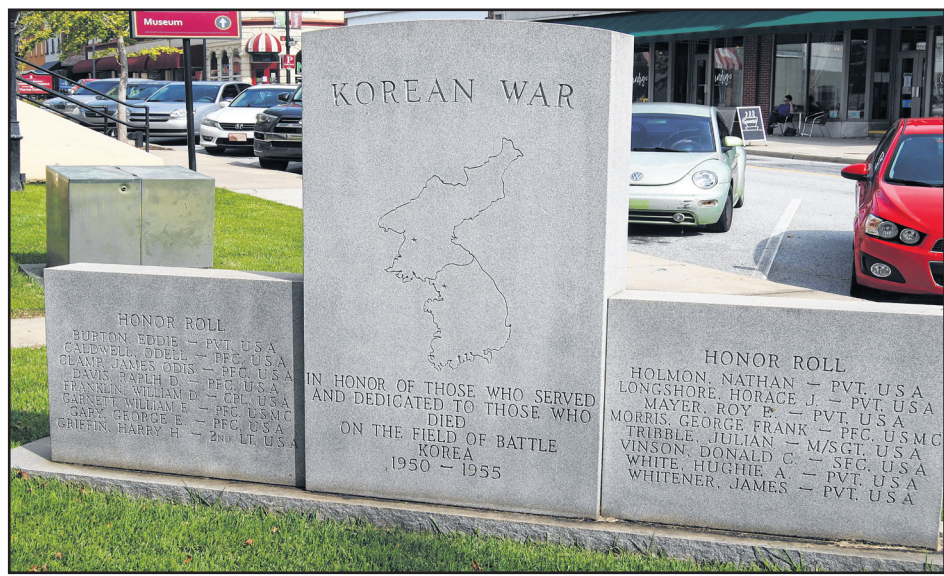
awigger@championcarolinas.com

NEWBERRY — Located in Downtown Newberry, right next to the Newberry Opera House, is Memorial Park, a unique park made up of land owned by the City of Newberry and Newberry County that recognizes those from Newberry County who have perished in American wars.

“Memorial Park is the record of those who died in American wars, those from Newberry County who gave their lives for their country. We are thankful no one from Newberry County has died in a conflict since Vietnam, that we are aware of,” said Mayor Foster Senn.



National WWII Memorial Celebration of Freedom Plaque, located on the city side of the park, with symbolic soil and water. This plaque was placed May 27, 2002.



The Korean War Monument, located on the county side, as best as we can determine, this memorial was erected sometime between 1990-1996.

If you know any details about the Korean War Monument, including those responsible for creating the monument, email awigger@championcarolinas.com.



The Vietnam War Monument, located on the county side of the park, this memorial was installed in 1986. According to David Parnell, director of Newberry County Veterans Affairs Office and a Vietnam War veteran, a group of Vietnam veterans got together, led by Rodney Griffin, to decide what kind of memorial they wanted. Parnell said they sold t-shirts, barbecue chicken, etc. and raised money from other groups. They raised about \$7,000 and got in touch with Phillips Monument Co., in Winnsboro, to make the monument. The drawing on the front was created by Wayne Mills, another Vietnam veteran.

Those instrumental in getting the monument made, according to Parnell were:
 Rodney Griffin – president
 David Parnell – vice president
 Wayne Mills – secretary
 Larry Thomas – treasurer

The Vietnam War Memorial was originally on the city side of the park, but after the Korean War Monument was installed the Vietnam Memorial was moved over to the county side.



The American Revolution Plaque, located on the city side of the park, this plaque was placed in 2012 — according to Mayor Foster Senn, Jim Livingston led a combined effort of the General James Williams Chapter of the S.C. Sons of the

American Revolution and the Jasper Chapter National Daughters of the American Revolution.

According to Senn, both groups correctly noted that Memorial Park did not have a marker for the Patriots who fought in the American Revolution in Newberry County. Livingston pointed out, according to Senn, that there was a memorial for every other major war in which Newberry County natives died for their country, except the American Revolution.

“I’m really glad we now have that memorial. There were multiple skirmishes between American Patriots and British Loyalist in Newberry County,” Senn said.

The World War I Monument, located on the city side of the park, this monument was built in the 1920s and established the former parking area and watering trough for horses as a Memorial Park. The monument is one of very few monuments to WWI in the American south, according to City of Newberry Parks, Recreation and Tourism. In fact, in 2018 a segment of the British Royal Air Force, stationed in Charleston, held a memorial service on the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day in Newberry, the Newberry Monument was the closest they could find.

According to coverage by *The Newberry Observer*, provided by Mayor Foster Senn, the World War I Memorial (which is referred to as the World War on the monument) was dedicated and unveiled on Nov. 11, 1928, at Memorial Park. The article states that 3,000 attended the ceremony. The doughboy and granite base cost \$3,500, and the money was raised by local citizens. The doughboy was sculpted by John Paulding of Chicago, Ill. and installed by the McNeil Marble Company of Marietta, Ga. The city’s three bands, Mollohon, Oakland and West End, played at the ceremony. Rion McKissick, of the University of South Carolina, was the speaker for the occasion. The monument was unveiled by three children, the nearest relatives to three soldiers that were killed or fatally wounded on the battlefields of France. The monument was unveiled by Dorothy Hope, niece of Victor Ernest Digby, who was killed Oct. 18, 1918, in the Somme sector, and Allison Cromer, nephew of Haskell B. Cromer, who was killed Oct. 8, 1918, at New Broncourt.

L.W. Floyd, president of the American Legion Auxiliary unit, placed a wreath at the base of the monument, and Mildred Leitzsey, niece of Bennie Folk, who was killed Oct. 17, 1918, at St. Quentin, placed a bunch of poppies near the wreath. As the monument was unveiled, two Boy Scouts, James Fulmer and Bennett Clary, ran up the United States Flag, and the band played the “Star Spangled Banner” as everyone stood with bared head.

Zack F. Wright, chairman of the World War committee, in presenting the memorial to the county, spoke as follows: A little more than 10 years ago, a great call resounded throughout this great country of ours and in answer to that call, four million of the finest, noblest, cleanest, bravest young men went forth to battle. A few years ago another call came and the good women of our county, hearing that call; their heart burning with this prayer, “Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget, lest we forget” and remembering the royal response of our boys when called to “carry on” and remembering all of the sorrows, the suffering and the sacrifices of these same boys, they said, “Yes, we will “carry on” and “carry on” until a fitting memorial shall have been erected to our boys that our children and our children’s children, and generations yet unborn may see and know that we did not forget.

Two sign stating, “THIS CONTRIBUTION TO CIVIC BEAUTY MADE JOINTLY BY THE CIVIC LEAGUE AND THE CITY OF NEWBERRY 1965” are located right next to the WWI Monument. While many attribute these signs to the monument, they are in fact a recognition of a sprucing up of the park, which include the possible addition of sidewalks and trees, according to City of Newberry officials.

See PARK | 6B





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A Brief History of


Newberry COUNTY MEMORIAL Hospital

From early days, Newberry County was blessed with many dedicated doctors, but a community hospital was only a dream until 1925.



Acting on a strong tradition of self-reliance, the citizens of Newberry County decided to work together to make the dream a reality. At a community meeting held on December 11, 1923, the Newberry County Hospital Association was formed to direct the building of this much-needed facility. Officers elected at this meeting were President, Dr. George B. Cromer; Vice President, Z.F. Wright; Treasurer, B.C. Matthews; Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. R.N. Bryson. Local citizens bought bonds to finance the hospital. School children collected pennies and nickels. The people even gave a linen shower for their hospital. The hospital formally opened on December 22, 1925.

The African-American community demonstrated these same qualities of community pride, self-reliance and commitment to purpose in establishing the Peoples Hospital. This facility,



located on Vincent Street, opened in the fall of 1937, under the direction of Dr. Julian E. Grant, Sr. The staff included-Dr. Grant, Dr. E. Gordon Able, Dr. E.H. Moore, Dr. Arthur Welling, Dr. R.E. Livingston, Jr., Dr. V.W. Rinehart, Dr. A. T. Neely, Mrs. Naomi Stephens Ruff, R.N., Mrs. Helen Wilson Young, R.N., Mrs. Mosell R. Gallman, R.N., Mrs. Josephine D. Livingston, Miss Janie Curry, RN and Miss Hendrix. Service clubs were organized throughout the county to supplement the hospital financially. Additional support was provided with a vegetable garden and poultry operation.

In 1950, the Newberry County Hospital Association was changed to Newberry County Memorial Hospital in honor of those who served in W.W. II. In January 1952, Peoples Hospital and Newberry County Memorial Hospital merged operations. The Vincent Street Peoples Hospital became Peoples Recreation Association of Newberry.



In 1976, the citizens of Newberry County dedicated a new 102 bed Newberry County Memorial Hospital on Kinard Street in Newberry, SC. In support of the new hospital, community service organizations and individuals donated funds to furnish the patient rooms. Board of Trustees were: A.E. Morehead, Chair; Gerald C. Paysinger, Vice Chair; Jacob A. Bowers; John E. Caldwell; Earl W. Dickert; Thomas C. Dillard; Robert E. Livingston, III, MD; B.O. Long; Harrison Reeder; Robert D. Schumpert and Doris S. Setzler.

Developing a blueprint for growth, the Board of Trustees made plans for a \$13 Million expansion and renovation of our community hospital in 1997. Ground was broken in December 1999 to enlarge the Emergency Department, Diagnostic Imaging and the Surgical Suite. A gift shop and a chapel were also added.

Our current Board of Trustees are: Dr. Jerry Alewine, Chair; Dr. Alan Paysinger, Vice-Chair; John Pugh, Secretary; Mattie Dillon, Treasurer; Beth Bozard; Candace Frick; Larry Kinard; Doriece McMorris; George Oxner; Sean Pomeroy; Barry Richardson; Frank Senn; Joe Trainor; Jeff Wicker; Dr. Phil Milner, Medical Staff Representative; and Dr. Michael Todd O'Neil, Chief of Staff. Under the guidance of a strong Board and Administrative Leadership and the support of the citizens of Newberry County, the Hospital continues to flourish and fulfill the dreams of the original founders.




Newberry
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The legacy of Dr. Grant

By Andrew Wigger
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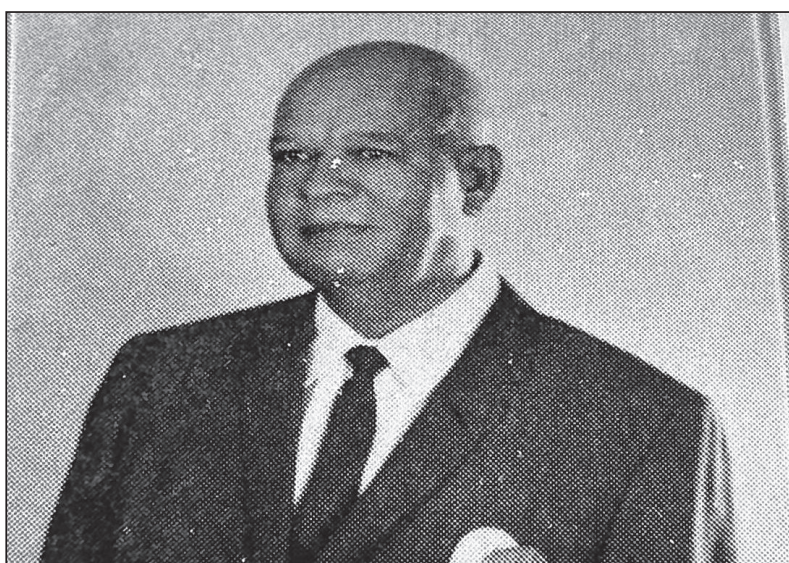
NEWBERRY — There are two locations in the City of Newberry that recognize Dr. Julian Edward Grant (1900-1997) and the work he did for the African-American community in Newberry.

The first location honoring Grant is Dr. Julian E. Grant Park (located on Vincent Street at Cline Street). The park was renamed from Vincent Street Park in 2014 to honor Grant.

The park is where the Peoples Hospital, the only hospital for African-Americans in Newberry County from 1937-1952, once stood. Grant was the founder of the Peoples Hospital.

The historical marker that stands at the park reads as follows:

“Peoples Hospital, the first and only hospital for African-Americans in the county from 1937 until Newberry County Memorial Hospital was desegregated in 1952, stood here until 1970. It was founded by Dr. Julian Edward Grant (1900-1997), who practiced medicine in Newberry County for more than fifty years. Grant, a native of Marlboro County, was educated at Claflin University and Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn., before moving to Newberry in 1930. Grant, recognizing the need for a hospital for Blacks in Newberry, organized a board of trustees from the community. By 1935 the board acquired this site, with a two story, seven-room frame house on a two-acre lot, for \$1,500. The house, renovated and fitted with medical equipment, opened as Peoples Hospital in 1937. The building, later the Vincent Street Community Center after the hospital closed in 1952, was demolished in 1970 to build Vincent Street Park.”



A photograph of Dr. Julian Edward Grant (1900-1997) that can be found at the Newberry Museum.



Dr. Julian E. Grant Park was renamed in 2014 to honor the legacy and the hard work Grant did for the community.

In 2016, Newberry College installed a historic plaque at the original home site of Grant, the home he lived in when he moved to Newberry in 1930.

As we reported in October of 2016, Grant and his wife, Grace, raised their family in a modest brick home on the corner of Lindsay and Cheek Streets. The lot was purchased by Newberry College from Dr. William Dufford and his siblings, who lived in the adjacent

property in what is now the Dufford Alumni House.

Bricks and concrete blocks from the original Grant House were conserved during demolition of the home and used to construct the historic marker now installed on the edge of the property.

The following text appeared on the commemorative plaque:

“Dr. Julian Edward Grant (1900-1997), physician, hospital administrator, and advocate

for social justice, was described at his death as “a gentle healer, humanitarian, peacemaker and friend to all who knew him.

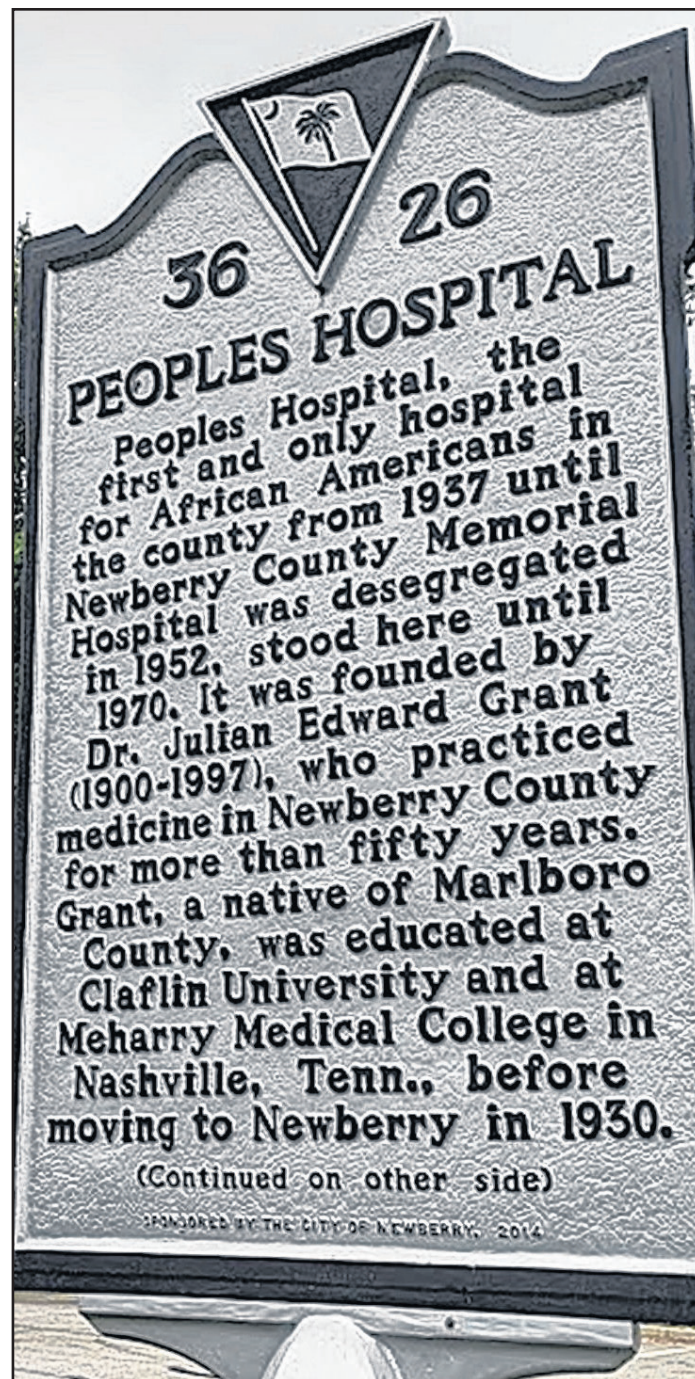
“Dr. Grant and his wife, Grace Funchess Grant (1910-1993) lived in a house on this site for many years and raised their family here.

“Dr. Grant, a native of Marlboro County, S.C., graduated from Claflin University in Orangeburg in 1925 and Meharry Medical College, in

Nashville, Tenn., in 1929. He moved to Newberry in 1930.

“The only African-American doctor in Newberry County at the time, he was often paid in produce or livestock by patients who could not afford to pay anything else. Since there was no hospital in Newberry County for Blacks in the early 1930s, Grant urged the African-American community

See GRANT | 7B



Courtesy photos

The historical marker that can be found at Dr. Julian E. Grant Park recognizing the Peoples Hospital, the first and only hospital for African-Americans in the county.

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Newberry in Bloom



Stock photo

The Master Gardeners Association offers scholarships to local students who are, or will be, pursuing an education in the fields of Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry and Life Sciences, or other related subjects. This photo, from 2017, shows Will Lever, back row at right, being presented the Newberry County Master Gardener Association's annual scholarship on June 3, 2017. Front row are, from the left, Elizabeth "Annie" Houser, Margaret Riebe, Barbara Miller and Janice Weakland. Back row are, from the left, John Wagner, Edith Hawkins, Sandy Schafer, Lynn Cousins and Lever.

Sheridan Murray

For The Newberry Observer

NEWBERRY COUNTY — The Master Gardeners Association of Newberry County is a program under the supervision of the Clemson Extension Service, working to utilize trained volunteers who have horticultural knowledge and express a willingness to share that knowledge with others in the county.

The Master Gardeners label themselves as a trained group of volunteers who

are ready for action. The association was officially formed in 2001 to promote good gardening and horticultural practices in Newberry County, to support Clemson Extension agents in the county, and to assist new Master Gardeners in their required service.

The association became a 501(c)(3) in 2005, earning federal tax exempt status.

According to museum curator and local historian Ernest Shealy, at the time of its inception, the organization functioned as a

service-focused group. They emphasized learning about plants and working with flora and fauna to nurture botanical life while also attracting wildlife with their arrangements.

Shealy said today the Master Gardeners Association shifted towards a more direct community-service approach, with rigorous guidelines for involvement.

This is apparent in the requirements stated by the club, in order to be considered a Master Gardener participants must have completed a 40-hour course and 40 hours of volunteer service in gardening, community events, education, and administration.

Topics covered at the Master Gardener training include soils and plant nutrition, entomology, plant physiology and pathology, vegetable gardening, tree and small fruit culture, lawn management, and problem solving.

Additionally, the Master Gardeners Association offers scholarships to local students who are, or will be, pursuing an education in the fields of Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry and Life Sciences, or other related subjects.

Sheridan Murray is the director of the Newberry Museum.

Park

From page 3B

The World War II Monument, located on the city side of the park, this memorial was first placed at the original Newberry County Memorial Hospital building, which the hospital was named for, according to City of Newberry Parks, Recreation and Tourism. The memorial was moved to Memorial Park during the Newberry Opera House renovations of the late 1990s so it could sit with the other war memorials.

An interesting fact about the monument, the remains of Army Pvt. Floyd A. Fulmer (name listed on the monument) were identified in 2018 from the Ardennes American Cemetery And Memorial in Belgium.

The Confederate Monument, located on the county side of the park, was built in 1880, 15 years after the Civil War, and is the oldest monument in Memorial Park. According to Ernest Shealy, curator of the Newberry Museum, a committee got together to commemorate the fallen of Newberry County, and raised funds to erect the monument.

According to City of Newberry Parks, Recreation and Tourism, the marble monument had a replacement base added in granite by the Sons of Confederate Veterans



in the early 2000s. The oldest part of the monument is made of marble, as is the original base that was replaced and is now in storage.



While not a memorial, there is a **Bicentennial Time Capsule** located on the city side of Memorial Park. The capsule was placed in 1976 and is scheduled to be opened in 2076.


Reach Andrew Wigger @ 803-768-3122 or on Twitter @TheNBOnews.



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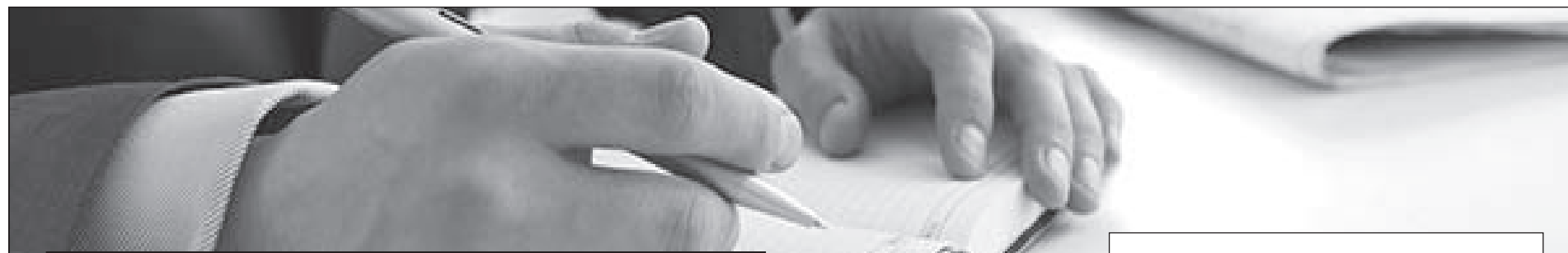
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Jayroe

From page 2B

taxes does not know the law. It does not know how to apply the law and you're not going to get the same product doing it yourself, as you are going to get if you go to a licensed professional firm — and the key word is licensed," Arthur Jayroe said.

Arthur Jayroe said they have grown every year they have been in business. For example, they've grown from a staff of one, to now a staff of four.

Jana Jayroe said they have been very fortunate their business has grown.

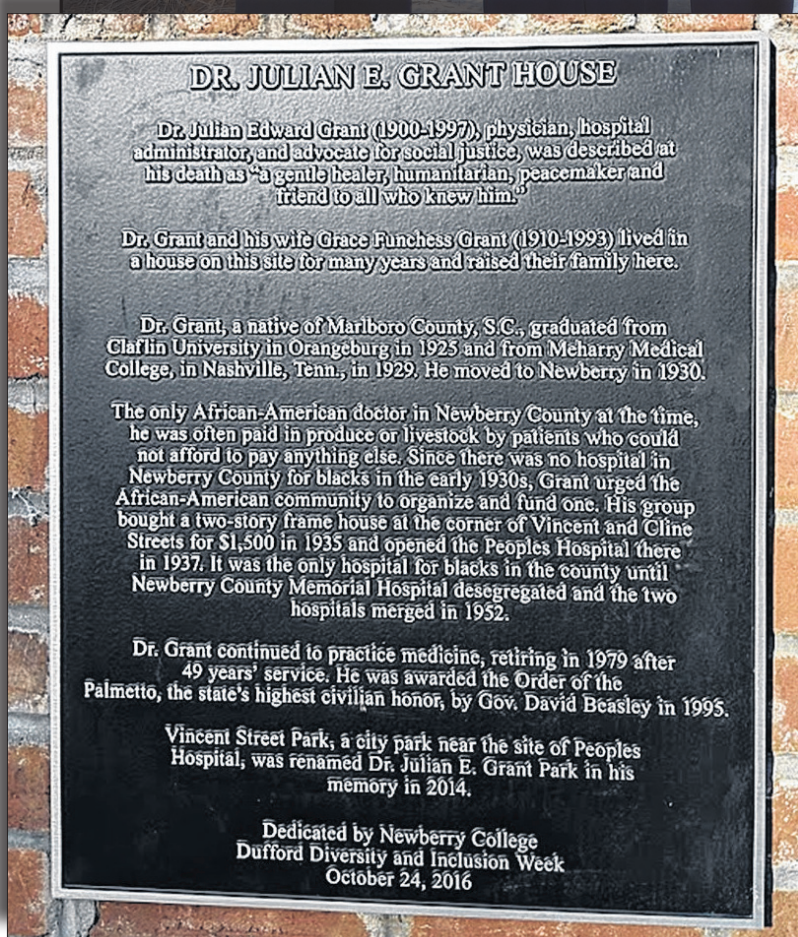
"We've seen a lot of clients come and go over the years, and the reason most are no longer here is because they have sadly passed away," she said.

Arthur Jayroe said he started this business in his early 30s, he said he is now closer to 70 than he is 60 and they have been fortunate in that time.

"We've had children of clients and maybe, in some cases, grandchildren of clients," he said. "I've never come to work a day in my life, this is something I've enjoyed doing and I still do. To me it is fun — the majority of people do not stay in public accounting this long."

"We've discovered if you are nice to people and kind to people your business will grow. Always try to be respectful to everyone. It has made a wonderful business model for us," Jana Jayroe said.

Reach Andrew Wigger @ 803-768-3122 or on Twitter @TheNBOnews.



The historical plaque that can be found at the site of Dr. Julian Grant's home near Newberry College.

Courtesy photos Pictured above from the Newberry College installation of the historic plaque in 2016. Dr. Peggy Winder, Director of Diversity Affairs and coordinator of Dufford Diversity and Inclusion Week at Newberry College, joined Dr. and Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Perry in celebration the dedication of the Grant House historical marker.

Grant

From page 5B

to organize and fund one. His group bought a two-story frame house at the corner of Vincent and Cline Streets for \$1,500 in 1935 and opened the Peoples Hospital there in 1937. It was the only hospital for blacks in the county until Newberry County Memorial Hospital desegregated and the two hospitals merged in 1952. "Dr. Grant continued to practice medicine, retiring in

1979 after 49 years' service. He was awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the state's highest civilian honor, by Gov. David Beasley in 1995. "Vincent Street Park, a city park near the site of Peoples Hospital, was renamed Dr. Julian E. Grant Park in his memory in 2014." Grant's hard work and legacy will now be remembered in the City of Newberry for generations to come.

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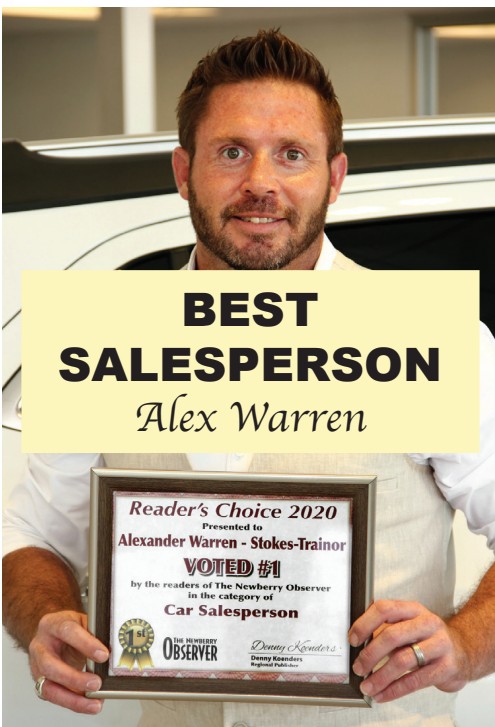
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