

The Eastover Gazette



Mayor Phillip Gunter
Photo by Michael Dantzler

From the Mayor's Desk

Greetings! As we embark on a new year, positive changes are taking place in the Town. We are interested in beautifying our town. We are currently working on getting approved to place the marquee sign next to the railroad tracks, refurbishing the water tower, renovations to the J.A. Mercantile Building, demolition of the old elementary school and enforcing ordinances on

abandoned properties and buildings. The completion of these projects will improve the appearance of our Town.

Starting in March, late fees and reconnect fees will begin again. These fees were waived since the beginning of the pandemic. The late fee has decreased from 10% to 5%. The reconnection fee decreased from \$50 to \$25. Utility Bills are due by the 15th of the month and the disconnect date is the 25th of the month.

Landlords, we have had many complaints about properties that are not suitable for living. The upkeep of your property is your obligation unless otherwise agreed upon. Please do your part.

As always, we have an open-door policy. I will make myself available to speak with you about any concerns with the Town. Let us continue to work together to build a better community.

Sincerely,

Mayor Phillip Gunter

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH:

Black History Month is a time of celebrating, appreciation and taking pride in what it means to be a Black individual. This is a time to reflect on all that we have achieved, the barriers that have been broken and all that we still must accomplish.

Sarah Mae Flemming was an African- American woman who was expelled from a bus in Columbia, South



A cutout of Sarah Mae Flemming and The COMET executive director John Andoh.
Photo by Michael Dantzler

Carolina, seventeen months before Rosa Parks refused to surrender her seat on an Alabama bus in 1955. Flemming was born June 28, 1933 to Mack and Rosell Goodwin Flemming in Eastover, SC. On June 22, 1954 Flemming boarded a bus to go to work. She took the only empty seat, which she believed began the rows in which black riders were allowed to sit. The driver challenged her for sitting in a “white-only” section and because she was so humiliated, she signaled to get off at the next stop. The bus driver blocked her attempt to exit through the front of the bus and punched her in the stomach as he ordered her out the rear door. Sarah Mae Flemming made many attempts and appeals in the court system to challenge the bus

company for violating her 14th Amendment, but to no avail. She married and had three children. She

died on June 16, 1993 and her final resting place is in Goodwill Baptist Church cemetery in Eastover, South Carolina.

Town of Eastover Administration

Phillip Gunter, Mayor
Leroy Faber, Mayor Pro Tempore
Heyward Patterson, Councilman
Rhudine Robinson, Councilwoman
Wanda Dash, Councilwoman

Town of Eastover Online

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/TownofEastover
Instagram: @eastoversc
Twitter: @townofeastover

Town Hall Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
8:30am-5:00pm
(803)353-2281
For Emergencies, please contact
Mayor Phillip O. Gunter @ (803)840-4328



Pastor DeVeaux using lift to transport client from bus to daycare center.
Photo by Michael Dantzler

Business Spotlight

Mother DeVeaux Adult Day Care Facility is one of the Town of Eastover’s gracious supporters. This facility has a positive impact on the Town by providing much needed services for persons who are qualified to attend. This organization has donated much needed items such as socks, lotions, and other necessities to seniors in this community during our annual Christmas Giveaway. We want to take this opportunity to let Mrs. Sarah DeVeaux (owner) know just how much we appreciate her and her business in our Town. Thank You!

Mask Ordinance

The Town of Eastover Ordinance 2020-01 (Emergency Mask Ordinance) has been extended. Mask or a face covering must be used when entering any public facility in the Town. Please remember to social distance and wash your hands frequently. Continue to stay safe, healthy and help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Bill Pay

Reminder: Balances on utility bills must be paid by the 15th of the month. If you need to change your mailing address on your utility bill, please call the Town Hall. (803)353-2281.

You may pay online at www.townofeastoverpay.com, or call (803) 875-4029 (you must have your account number), use the drop box at the Town Hall, mail it, or

pay in person at the Town Hall Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:30am-5:00pm. (Hours due to COVID-19)



Captain Connors briefing the Council Meeting. (Photo captured before this era of COVID-19)
Photo by Michael Dantzler

Richland County Sheriff Department

Welcome back Captain Connors! Captain Connors is back and continuing to serve at Region 8! Congratulations and thank you for your service!

Beware of mail being stolen from mailboxes. Please keep an eye out for perpetrators.



Our Monthly Council meetings are connected to Zoom where town residents can attend by phone and video conference call.
Photo by Michael Dantzler

Eastover Community Garden Reboot

The Eastover Community Garden is making a comeback soon! Look out for more details in future newsletters.