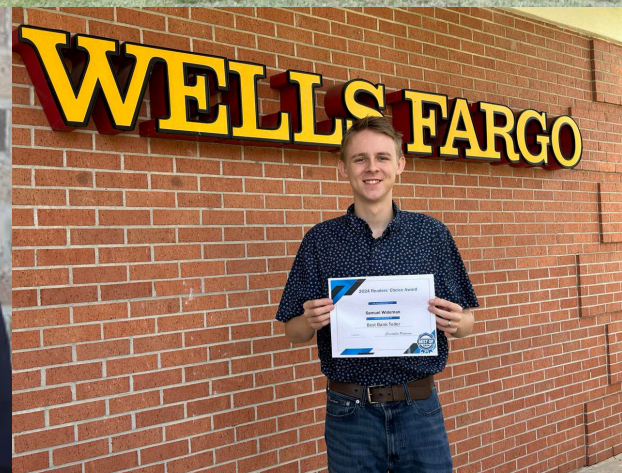




The Clinton Chronicle  
**BEST OF**  
2024







# Meet our Staff



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## Hey Laurens County!

We are thrilled about this year's edition of Readers' Choice 2023-2024. The community voted on their favorites from all over Clinton South Carolina. Thank you all for your support in this magazine! We can't wait for the next one.

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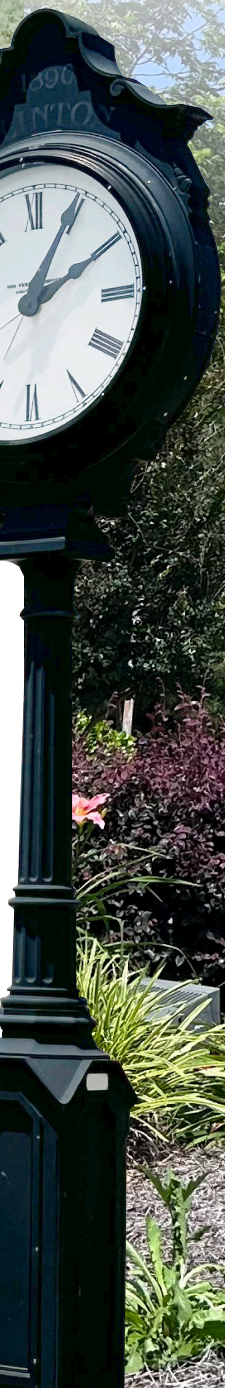
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# *About Clinton, South Carolina*

The City of Clinton is a special place where you will find friendly citizens and small town charm. The proud home of Presbyterian College, Clinton is nestled in the heart of Upstate South Carolina and has a population of approximately 8500. We are situated within minutes of I-385 and I-26 and are less than an hour's drive from the metropolitan centers of Columbia, Greenville and Spartanburg. If you are looking for high quality of life, look no further than Clinton. We have many attractive neighborhoods and an excellent education system. Our crime rate is low and our city services are top-notch. Clinton's commitment to citizen-driven strategic planning has resulted in a vibrant, enthusiastic community focused on enhancing all aspects of our hometown. The downtown area is buzzing with excitement. Whether you are a football fanatic, history buff, or are simply looking for a wonderful place to raise your children, Clinton has it all. Clinton is a great place to live, work, raise a family, and earn an education. The Mayor and City Council welcome you to the City of Clinton and encourage you to explore both this magazine and our community.





# Congratulations 2023-2024

## AUTOMOTIVE

- Best Auto Dealership (New) ..... Ballentine Ford
- Best Auto Dealership (Used) ..... Ballentine Ford
- Best Auto Mechanic ..... Rochester's Garage
- Best Auto Service ..... Riverside Garage
- Best Automotive Salesperson ..... Brandon Page
- Best Body Shop ..... Sherer Body Shop
- Best Car Wash ..... Mod Wash
- Best Oil Change ..... Clinton Tire
- Best Place To Buy Tires ..... Clinton Tire
- Best Tire Service Center ..... Clinton Tire

## FOOD & DRINK

- Best All-Around Fast Food ..... Dempsey's Pizza
- Best All-Around Restaurant ..... Dempsey's Pizza
- Best Bar ..... House of Pizza
- Best BBQ ..... Big D's
- Best Breakfast ..... Whiteford's
- Best Buffet ..... Dempsey's Pizza
- Best Burger ..... Wilson's Snack Bar
- Best Caterer ..... The Pasture
- Best Chicken ..... Chik-Fil-A
- Best Chinese Food ..... South China
- Best Coffee Shop ..... The Vestibule
- Best Country Cooking ..... Fat Daddy's Bbq And Hash House
- Best Dining Experience ..... Dempsey's Pizza
- Best French Fries ..... Mcdonald's
- Best Hot Dog ..... T&D Curb Market
- Best Lunch ..... Wilson's Snack Bar
- Best Mexican Food ..... Senior Garcias
- Best Milkshake ..... Scoops On West Main
- Best Pasta ..... House of Pizza
- Best Pizza ..... Dempsey's Pizza
- Best Salad Bar ..... Dempsey's Pizza
- Best Sandwich ..... Subway
- Best Seafood ..... Blue Ocean
- Best Stromboli ..... House of Pizza
- Best Sub ..... Subway
- Best Sweet Tea ..... Whiteford's
- Best Wings ..... House Of Pizza

## GOODS & SERVICES

- Best Appliance Service Center ..... Burns Service Center
- Best Bank ..... Arthur State Bank
- Best Concrete Company ..... Carolina Concrete
- Best Credit Union ..... Founders Credit Union
- Best Dance Studio ..... Dance South
- Best Daycare Facility ..... Young World
- Best Employment Agency ..... Roper Staffing
- Best Farm Equipment ..... Wilson Tractor
- Best Florist ..... Th' Arbor
- Best Funeral Home ..... Gray's Funeral Home
- Best Gymnastics Studio ..... Dance South
- Best Hair Salon ..... Kim's Salon On Main
- Best Heat/Air Emergency Response ..... Hanna Heating & Air
- Best Heat/Air Service ..... Hanna Heating & Air
- Best Hotel/Motel ..... Hampton Inn



# 2024 Best of Winners

- Best Insurance Company..... Matt Davis State Farm
- Best Landscaper ..... Morning Glories
- Best Lawnmower Dealer..... King’s Outdoor Power Equipment
- Best Lawnmower Repair..... King’s Outdoor Power Equipment
- Best Mini Warehouse ..... Wilkes Enterprise Self Storage
- Best Monument Company..... Pinelawn Memory Gardens
- Best Pest Control ..... A2
- Best Public Service Department..... Laurens County Public Works
- Best Tractor Service Center..... Wilson Tractor

## MEDICAL

- Best Assisted Living Facility..... Woodbridge Of Clinton
- Best Chiropractor..... Dr. Mitch Davis
- Best Ear, Nose, And Throat Specialist..... Dr. Neal Goodbar
- Best Eyewear..... Family Eye Care
- Best Family Dentist..... Dr. James Todd
- Best Family Practice..... Family Health Care
- Best Healthcare Provider..... Dr. Neal Goodbar
- Best Homecare Provider..... Hospice Of Laurens County
- Best Hospice Provider..... Hospice Of Laurens County
- Best Independent Living Community..... Woodbridge Of Clinton
- Best Medical Equipment Supplier..... Sadler Hughes
- Best Ob-Gyn..... Dr. Joni Coker
- Best Optometrist..... Dr. Gill Thomas
- Best Orthodontist..... Mccallum Orthodontics
- Best Orthopedic Specialist..... Phillip Milner
- Best Pediatrician..... Hometown Pediatrics
- Best Pharmacist..... Walter Hughes, Jr.
- Best Pharmacy..... Sadler Hughes Apothecary
- Best Rehab Center..... Gateway
- Best Retirement Center..... Woodbridge Of Clinton
- Best Skilled Nursing Center..... Clinton Presbyterian Community

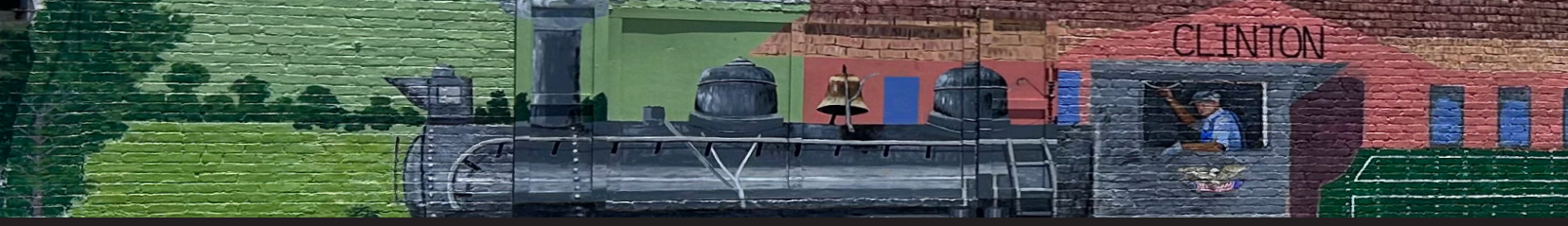
## PROFESSIONAL

- Best Attorney..... Cox Ferguson And Wham
- Best Bank Teller..... Samuel Wideman (Wells Fargo)
- Best Firefighter..... Ryan Tinsley
- Best Hair Stylist..... Teresa Vaughn
- Best Heat/Air Technician..... Thomas Air
- Best Insurance Agent..... Matt Davis State Farm
- Best Plumber..... Russ Hunt
- Best Police Officer..... Tyrone Goggins
- Best Realtor..... Sarah Hill
- Best Roofer..... Tommy Sherfield
- Best Veterinarian..... Clinton Animal Hospital

## SHOPPING

- Best All-Around Department Store..... Walmart
- Best Appliance Store..... Walmart
- Best Embroidery Shop..... Carolina Stitches
- Best Gift Shop..... Z World Gift Shop
- Best Grocery Store..... Food Lion
- Best Hardware Store..... Ace Hardware
- Best Jewelry Store..... Hoyt Hanvey
- Best Office Supply..... L & L Office Supply
- Best Place To Buy Carpet/Flooring..... Carolina Floor Covering
- Best Women’s Clothing Store..... Tapestry





## *Clinton Tire Voted Best Oil Change*



**Clinton Tire Service** is a trusted tire shop in Clinton, offering top-notch tire sales and services. With years of experience, their knowledgeable staff provides expert advice and efficient solutions for all tire needs. They offer a wide range of tires from leading brands, as well as services like tire rotation, balancing, and repair. Additionally, they perform wheel alignments, brake work, and suspension services. Clinton Tire Service is committed to delivering exceptional customer service, quality workmanship, and competitive prices, making them the go-to destination for tire needs in Laurens County. For more information visit [clintontireservice.net](http://clintontireservice.net) or call 864-833-4977.

## *Riverside Garage Voted Best Auto Service*



**Riverside Garage** is a reputable auto repair shop in Laurens, SC, offering comprehensive services for domestic and foreign vehicles. Their experienced technicians provide expert diagnostics, repairs, and maintenance, including oil changes, brake work, and transmission services. With a focus on customer satisfaction, they prioritize timely and cost-effective solutions. Riverside Garage is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and adheres to industry standards. Their commitment to honesty, integrity, and quality workmanship has earned them a loyal customer base. With a convenient location and flexible scheduling, Riverside Garage is the go-to choice for reliable auto repair in Laurens County. For more information call 864-681-0082





## *Sherer Body Shop Voted Best Body Shop*

**Sherer Body Shop** was established in 1951 by Dan Sherer in a small building that was located in downtown Laurens just off the square. Now, over 60 years later, Dan's son and grandsons are still providing quality auto body repair for the people of Laurens and surrounding communities. With their state-of-the-art facility that includes a Kansas Jack frame machine, Air Force One paint booth and computer paint matching system, Sherer Body Shop consistently ensures that your vehicle is restored to its original condition in a timely manner. Drop by and visit them at 1206 East Farley Avenue in Laurens for a free estimate so you can get your car back on the road quickly and looking like new! For more information call (864) 984-4311

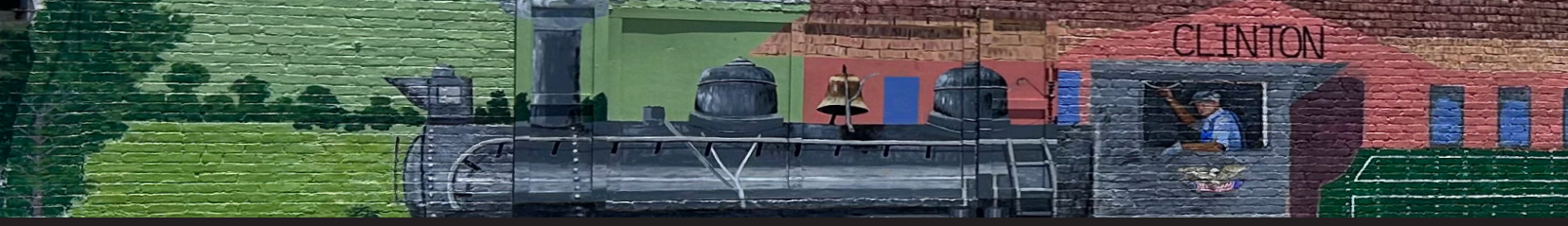


## *House of Pizza Voted Best Bar, Stromboli, Pasta & Wings*

**House of Pizza** is a beloved restaurant located in the heart of Clinton, South Carolina. This family-friendly eatery has been serving the community for decades, offering a wide range of delicious pizzas, sandwiches, pastas, salads, and Italian-American dishes. This vibrant restaurant also services a full bar serving up craft cocktails, music, and a lively atmosphere in the heart of the city. House of Pizza in Clinton, is a must visit destination for anyone craving flavorful food, lively spirits, and warm hospitality. Whether you're a local or just passing through, this restaurant is sure to satisfy your appetite and leave you feeling full and content. For more information about House of Pizza visit [houseofpizzaofclinton.com](http://houseofpizzaofclinton.com) or call (864) 833-1234.







## The Vestibule Coffee & Tea Voted Best Coffee Shop



**The Vestibule Coffee & Tea** would like to thank you so much for your vote and support each year!

Our customers mean the world to us and we wouldn't be the same without you. We strive to be more than just a coffee shop and hope to continue to be the place you enjoy coming to for your favorite coffee, tea, smoothies, hot chocolate, and more for years to come.

Our customers mean the world to us and we wouldn't be the same without you. We strive to be more than just a coffee shop and hope to continue to be the place you enjoy coming to for your favorite coffee, tea, smoothies, hot chocolate, and more for years to come.

Come see us at 310B East Carolina Avenue, Clinton, South Carolina or give us a call at 864-547-2326.

## Arthur State Bank Voted Best Bank



**Arthur State Bank** has been a cornerstone of financial services in, since 1933. This community-focused bank offers a range of personal and business banking solutions, including checking and savings accounts, loans, and investment services. With a strong commitment to customer satisfaction, Arthur State Bank provides personalized attention and expert guidance. Convenient online and mobile banking options complement their branch services, making banking easy and accessible. As a trusted local institution, Arthur State Bank is dedicated to helping individuals and businesses thrive in Clinton and surrounding areas. For more information visit [arthurstatebank.com](http://arthurstatebank.com) or call (864) 833-1588.





## Founders Credit Union Voted Best Credit Union

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOTES!

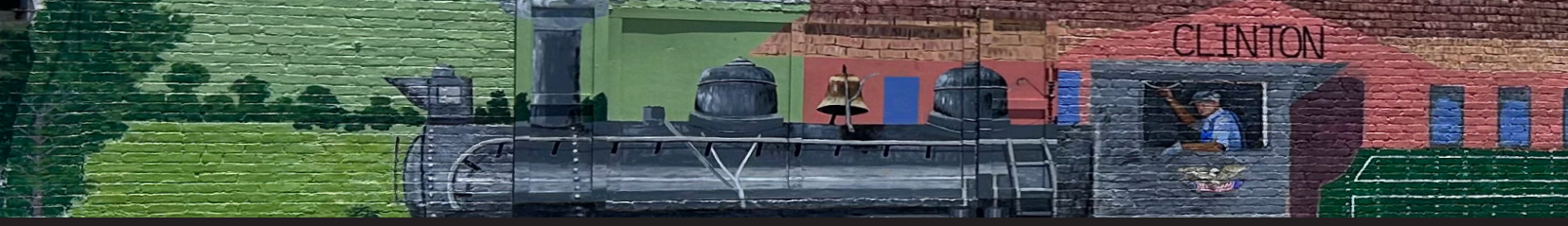


## Th' Arbor Voted Best Florist

**Th' Arbor** has been a leading full service florist in the Laurens and surrounding area for many years. Our designer draws on 15+ years of floral design experience to create floral arrangements with you in mind, whether you prefer something time-honored and traditional or contemporary and modern. At Th' Arbor, we design breathtaking arrangements for all occasions from sympathy, weddings, anniversary, birthdays, and get well. Look to Th' Arbor for unique gift ideas for any age or gender such as: delicious gourmet and fruit baskets or a personalized gift basket. We also offer a vast selection of lush green plants, home décor, potpourri, garden items, candles, wreaths, swags, silk arrangements, and balloons. All major credit cards accepted. We are conveniently located on Public Square and are open to serve your floral and gift giving needs. For more information visit [laurensflowershops.com](http://laurensflowershops.com) or call 864-984-9339







## *Kings Outdoor Voted Best Lawnmower Dealer & Repair*



**King's Outdoor**, owned and operated by Jerald King in Clinton, is a premier lawnmower repair shop specializing in Husqvarna products. With years of experience, Jerald and his team provide expert repair and maintenance services for Husqvarna mowers, trimmers, and outdoor equipment. From routine tune-ups to complex repairs, King's Outdoor ensures prompt and reliable service, utilizing genuine

Husqvarna parts and warranty work. Jerald's dedication to customer satisfaction and his team's expertise make King's Outdoor the trusted choice for Clinton residents seeking top-notch service and expertise for their Husqvarna outdoor power equipment. For more visit [kingsoutdoorpowerequipment.stihldealer.net](http://kingsoutdoorpowerequipment.stihldealer.net) or Call 864-833-1979

## *Morning Glory Landscaping Voted Best Landscaper*

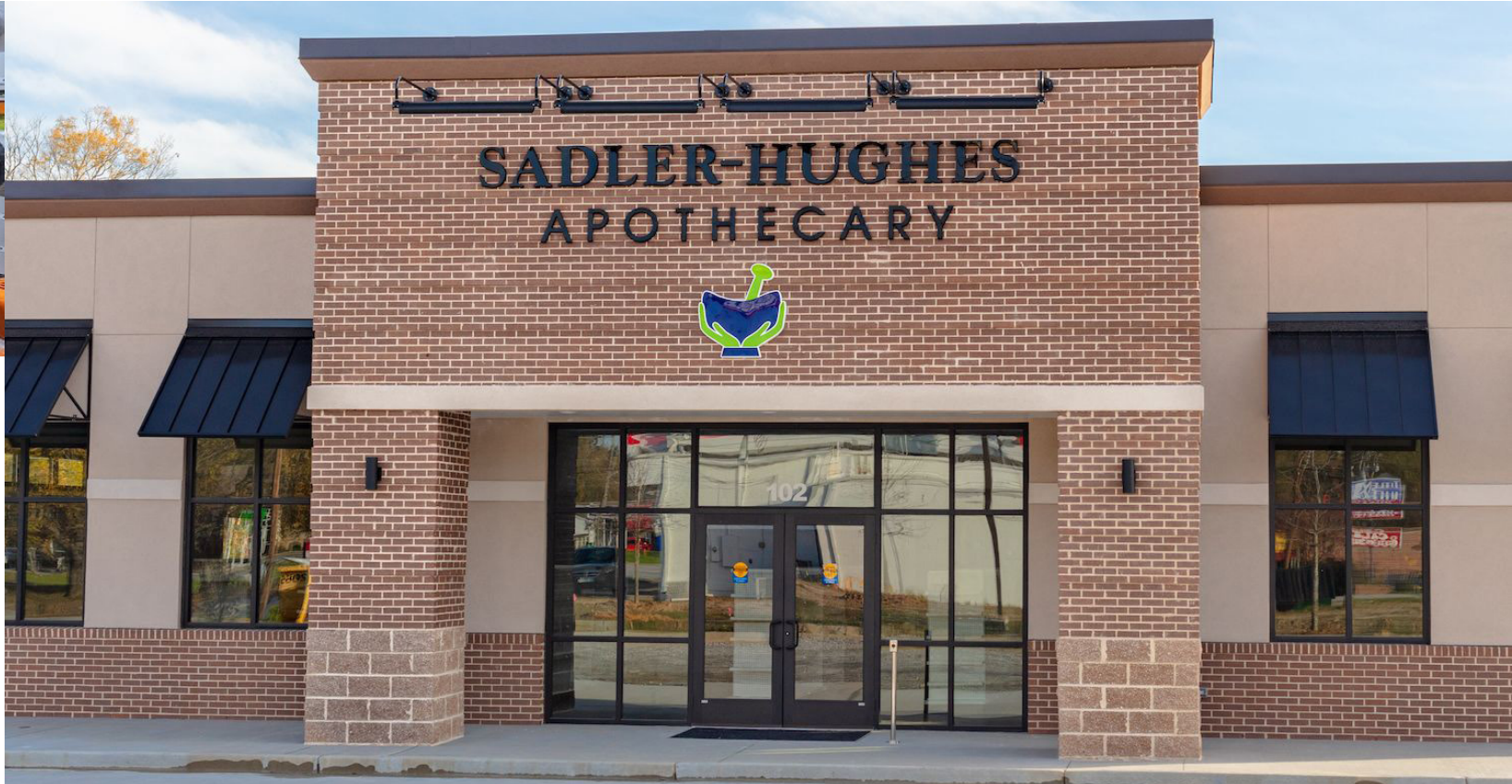


**Morning Glory Landscaping Service** is dedicated to delivering exceptional landscaping solutions that exceed client expectations. With a focus on quality, customer service, and community involvement, this company is the go-to choice for Laurens County residents and businesses seeking to enhance their outdoor spaces. Morning Glory Landscaping Service is a reputable and reliable landscaping company serving Laurens County, South Carolina. With a focus on transforming outdoor spaces into breathtaking environments, this family-owned business has established itself as a trusted partner for residential and commercial clients. For more call 864-871-0610





## *Sadler-Hughes Apothecary Voted Best Medical Equipment Supplier & Pharmacy*



For over 100 years, **Sadler Hughes Apothecary** has been serving the Clinton community, providing the highest level of personalized service to all customers.

Sadler Hughes Apothecary is a full service community pharmacy committed to serving the citizens of Laurens County, South Carolina and the students of Presbyterian College. At Sadler Hughes Apothecary you're a person with a name, and someone that we know personally. Our pharmacists and staff get to know our customers and are always available to answer questions related to your personal health.

We look forward to serving you! For more information visit [sadlerhughes.com](http://sadlerhughes.com) or call 864-833-4000







Sadler Hughes Apothecary grand opening, 2021, at 102 Jacobs Highway

## Walter Hughes, Jr. Voted



President Walter Hughes, Jr.

Staying connected to the community and up-to-date on healthcare trends are the challenges that **Sadler Hughes Apothecary** in Clinton gladly faces every day for its customers.

President Walter Hughes, Jr. - The Clinton Chronicle Readers Choice Pharmacist of the Year - says meeting that challenge involves the entire Sadler Hughes team. "It is a joint effort," he emphasizes.

"Our customers have been so supportive. We have wonderful customers," he said. "It is a pleasure to serve them."

Part of that service led the company to move from an Uptown Clinton location to a spacious, more accessible spot on the Jacobs Highway and South Broad Street. "The two drive-throughs have been the most convenient," Hughes said. "In business, you adapt or die. Our location is more convenient and accessible."

They are serving their 4th generation of customers.

A Clinton native, Walter began working at Sadler Owens Apothecary during high school, and he attended the University of South Carolina where he obtained a Bachelor's degree in pharmacy and then the University of South Carolina Pharmacy School. Walter married Patricia Sadler, MD and after moving back to Clinton, he bought Sadler Owens Apothecary which became Sadler Hughes Apothecary. He and his wife have three children, Walter Hughes III, Virginia and Caroline. Walter is a vested member of the South Carolina Pharmacy Association in addition to being a board member of the legislative committee for the SCPA. He has



Sadler Hughes is a business of the quarter of the Laurens County Chamber of Commerce





## ed Pharmacist of the Year

served as the chairman of the Carolina Pharmacy Network, is a lifetime member of the NCPA and is Chairman of the Academy of Independent Pharmacy Owners.

He credits Walter III “Walt” with staying abreast of an ever-changing healthcare landscape, and navigating the different roads of independent pharmacies and corporate pharmacies.

“Any business that has a middle-man is going to face a challenge. I believe on a level playing field, the independents can beat anybody, any time,” Hughes said.

If you listen to your customers, they will let you know their needs.

The younger customers want to do business on their phones; the older customers still want that human connection. “You can always get a person here,” Hughes said.

Sadler Hughes stays connected through professional organizations and business organizations. These provide expertise on new trends - some things that work and some that don’t - so you’re not “re-inventing the wheel”.

The organizations can provide the data that tell you where you are doing well and what you need to focus on. Right now, Sadler Hughes is looking at stocking more medical equipment, as customer needs and markets change, and examining a move into e-commerce.

It really is flattering, Hughes says, that customers keep coming back to their local pharmacy, because “they can go anywhere.”

In the 2024 Clinton Chronicle Readers Choice

poll, Sadler Hughes, 102 Jacobs Highway, is the Best Pharmacy and Best Medical Supplier.

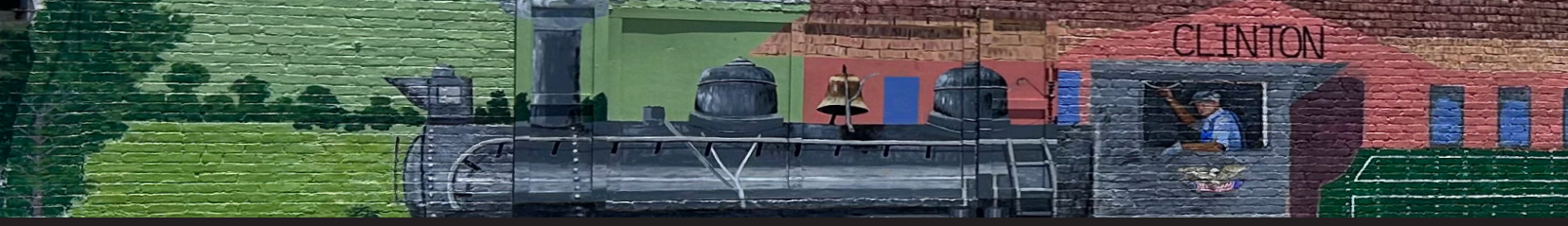
And, if you want to check out more, find them on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SadlerHughesApothecary/>) where you can find their newest merch, their TikTok about scrubs, and the V-P of Public Relations, Bucky Merle.

Or, just stop by for a conversation.  
<https://www.sadlerhughes.com>



Walter Hughes Jr., right, with William Adair, at groundbreaking for the Laurens County Agricultural Center in Laurens (Walter Hughes III was chairman of the Capital Projects Sales Tax committee that guided through a successful 2020 referendum authorizing a restricted 1-cent local sales tax to build 16 community-enhancement projects, including the Ag Center, a new Clinton Library, and restoration of the Historic Courthouse; the tax sunsets after 8 years.)





## *Dr. Gill Thomas Voted Best Optometrist*



**Dr. Gill P. Thomas** has been a leading provider of optometry services and vision care products in the Clinton community since 1987, and we want to help you achieve and maintain clear vision for years to come. Our experienced optometrist offers comprehensive vision examinations and specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of a wide array of eye diseases, conditions, and problems. We use advanced diagnostic technology and vision correction products and are committed to improving the quality of life of persons in the Clinton community through enhanced vision. Give yourself the gift of clear vision - schedule an appointment with Dr. Gill P. Thomas today. For more information visit [visionsource-drgillthomas.com](http://visionsource-drgillthomas.com) or call 864-833-1162

## *Woodbridge Of Clinton Voted Best Assisted Living, Independent Living Community & Retirement Center*



**Woodbridge of Clinton** is the Premier Senior Living Community in Clinton, SC. We pride ourselves on providing top-quality care at an affordable price. Woodbridge of Clinton is proud to offer an array of services and amenities which include a beautiful Chapel, Wellness Center, Movie Cinema, Ice Cream Parlor, General Store, Game Room, Beautiful Common Areas, Outdoor areas and gardens, large walk-in closets, 24-hour on-site assistance, Private Dining Room, Call System, and Serenity Spa, all in a soothing homelike environment. We make it easy to plan for you or your loved one's financial future by providing all-inclusive pricing and eliminating levels of care. All-inclusive pricing covers medication management, nursing care, any assistance with Activities of Daily livings, Laundry, Housekeeping, linen services, meals and snacks throughout the day, a wide variety of activities, and so much more. Our no levels of care means that as you or your loved one progress in required assistance, we do not change the price of care as a result. At Woodbridge of Clinton, we offer several different floor plans to meet everyone's needs and preferences. We would love the opportunity to show you or your loved one our beautiful community! Please contact us at 803-610-8424 for more information, or visit us at [woodbridgeclintonliving.com](http://woodbridgeclintonliving.com) or come by 300 Jacobs Highway.





*Clinton Family Medicine Voted Best Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist & Healthcare Provider*

**SELF REGIONAL**  
HEALTHCARE

**CLINTON FAMILY MEDICINE**

Thank  
You. 



Thanks for voting our family medicine physician No. 1 in the Reader's Choice Awards.

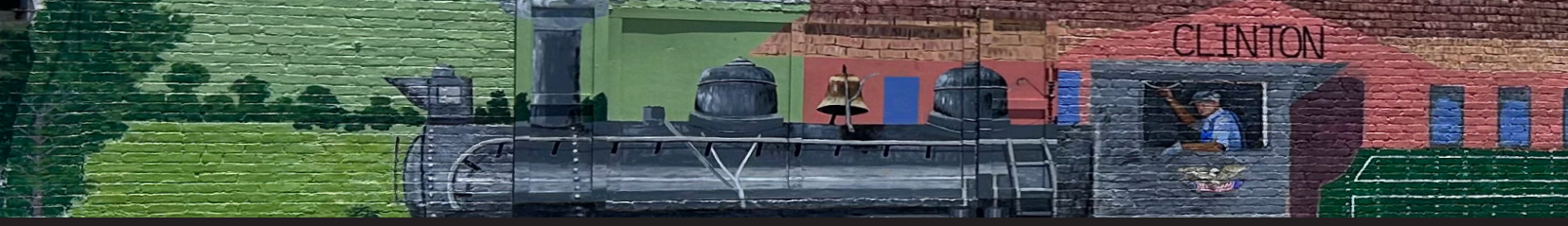
Congratulations Dr. Neal Goodbar, voted Best Healthcare Provider!

Clinton Family Medicine  
22580 Highway 76 East,  
Laurens, S.C. 29360  
(864) 725-1480

[selfregional.org](http://selfregional.org)







## *Dr. Mitch Davis Voted Best Chiropractor*



**Dr. Mitch Davis of Bennett Chiropractic Clinic** in Laurens, SC, is a dedicated healthcare professional making a significant impact in his community. With a passion for natural healing, Dr. Davis provides personalized chiropractic care to alleviate pain, improve mobility, and enhance overall well-being. His expertise and gentle approach have earned him a loyal patient base. Through education and treatment, Dr. Davis empowers individuals to take control of their health. His commitment to excellence and compassionate care has made Bennett Chiropractic Clinic a trusted destination for those seeking effective, holistic wellness solutions in Laurens and beyond. Thank you for voting for Dr. Mitch Davis. He treats his patients with excellent care, which is why they voted him the best. For more information visit [bennettchiropracticclinic.com](http://bennettchiropracticclinic.com) or call 864) 984-6731

## *Sarah Hill Voted Best Real Estate Agent*



**Sarah Hill** Owner and Broker in Charge of 864 Realty LLC. Thanks to the community for voting and awarding her Realtor of the Year in Laurens County. Sarah believes in the power of relationships and the impact we can make together in Laurens County. Founded with a vision to prioritize genuine relationships and community impact, Our principle value is having REAL relationships. Focusing on personalized service and ethical practice in the local real estate landscape, while always Putting the REAL back into Real Estate. Thank you for Trusting me and allowing me to Guide you home!





## *Hanna Heating and Air Conditions Voted Best Heating/Air Emergency & Service*

**Hanna Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.** is a family-owned and operated HVAC company. Established in 1974 by Niles Hanna, Jr., their goal has always been to deliver excellent service at a competitive price. They specialize in providing outstanding heating and cooling installation, repair, and maintenance services. Niles Hanna III joined the company in 2002 and broadened the company's residential focus to include commercial HVAC and other areas. Now Hanna works 65 percent residential, 30 percent commercial, and 5 percent residential new construction. In addition to HVAC services, they provide standby generators and sheet metal fabrication services. Through all the growth and expansion, Hanna has never lost sight of our core belief: that our customers are our No. 1 priority. For more visit [hannaheatingandac.com](http://hannaheatingandac.com) or call 864-833-7337







*280 bicyclists participated in*



For just shy of two decades now, Clinton has been the home of Flight of the Dove. It is now a bicycling fund-raiser for VIA Health Partners, founded as Hospice of Laurens County. The 19th annual event was conducted August 3 at the expansive front lawn of the Bailey Memorial Stadium at Presbyterian College.

This year, about 280 bicyclists participated, and a small army of VIA staff and community volunteers signed them up, directed them on where to go, started and finished the cycling routes, manned water stations, and served lunch. Of course, some participants have been coming to Clinton for this event for so long that they barely need any direction. They know where to go: down the stadium's driveway, left onto Springdale Drive, right at the light onto Hwy 76 and off to Joanna, then into the vast countryside of Laurens and Newberry counties. This year, there was just one road hazard for which the cyclists needed to be cautioned.

Among the dedicated Flight of the Dove riders are Gary Kuykendall, Clinton City Council member who works with Cooper Motor Company; and Dr. Justin Brent, English professor at Presbyterian College. Brent has developed a biking tour of Revolutionary War battle sites in Laurens County, in advance of the 2026, 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution; works with a City of Clinton and School District 56 program encouraging young people to safely bicycle; and has obtained a grant and is designing a safe-intersections route for people to ride bikes along Broad Street from the PC campus with Uptown Clinton, improving local connectivity.

The four FOTD routes give a range of experiences, from very seasoned bicyclists to a family cycle run - and everything in between.

In 2024, VIA Health Partners has been selected by The Clinton Chronicle's readers as Best Health Care Provider and Best Hospice Provider.

Representing VIA Health Partners, Tom Atwood said it is "a great honor" to stage the event. He is the VIA Health Partner's vice president, philanthropy.

"You let us into your lives in very profound ways," he told the assembled bicyclists. "The people volunteering or on the seat of a bike have had people close to you cared for by

us, and we hold that honor dear. This is A Family Reunion. An event like this can only come to fruition through the help of talented staff and dedicated volunteers."

Staff members wore purple shirts and volunteers wore pink shirts; and on the back of the shirts handed out during the event is a list of sponsors. The presenting sponsor is the C.W. Anderson Foundation and the main gift-in-kind sponsor is Presbyterian College which, Atwood acknowledged, "year after year lets us use this beautiful facility as a command center for Flight of the Dove." Sarah Mumford, VIA's music therapist for this region, presented the National Anthem. She is the volunteer manager and music therapist based in Greenville County. Also part of the program was a moment of silence for the hospice patients who have passed this year and a prayer - "in the spirit of all of those we have cared for since our last cycling event this time last year," Atwood said.

Flight of the Dove is a way for VIA Health Partners to stay connected with families and to remember people that it serves and "the people we have loved," he said.

One of those patients was the late Allyson Sherer, who "for so many years ran the local dance studio," Atwood said.

Owner of the Dance South studio in Clinton for 21 years, Allyson was well-known in the greater Laurens County community; and throughout her cancer journey, she educated us all with informative and inspiring post, many from the Mayo Clinic where she received continuing treatment.

To the Sherer family, Atwood said, "We are honored that you are spending your time with us, helping us remember not only the indomitable spirit of Allyson, but the strength of her faith and her love of people, but through your presence, we also remember and recognize all the families that we have touched over the past year."

LJ Meyers, of Landrum, directed the white doves release performed by the Sherer family in Allyson's memory.

Atwood said, "They will circle above as they get their bearings and then fly back to Landrum, and they will beat LJ back to Landrum," in neighboring Spartanburg County.

Melanie Young posted to Facebook, "The 'Flight of the Dove' this morning was so special for a lot of reasons,



# d in Flight of the Dove 2024



but for our family, it was a time to remember our beautiful daughter, wife, mother, sister, aunt and friend, who took her heavenly flight on 11/19/23. Daniel, George and Brady were selected as a family who was the beneficiary of Hospice of Laurens County and they released the doves in memory of Allyson. Danny Sherer, Calvin and myself along with our friend, Jane Hanna, who not only was there to support but to take these awesome pics and videos,” attached to the Facebook post.

Allyson Sherer was born in Joanna, the daughter of Calvin and Melanie Prater Young of Clinton. She was a member of Laurens First Baptist Church, where she served as a teacher for the Families in Faith Sunday School Class. Allyson was the owner of Dance South, a dance arts and gym facility in Clinton for 21 years. She was a foster care advocate, a volunteer at Straight Street, and had a heart for Compassion International.

At the time of her funeral, the family asked that memorials be directed to First Baptist Church of Laurens Building Fund, 300 West Main Street, Laurens, SC 29360; VIA Hospice (Hospice of Laurens County), P.O. Box 178, Clinton, SC 29325; Mayo Clinic, 200 First Street Southwest, Rochester, MN, 55905.

The Kennedy Mortuary & Crematory, Laurens, assisted the Sherer family.

Providing the white doves for the annual Flight of the Dove memorial program is LJ Meyers, who runs Homeward Angels.

An on-line article in Foothills Faces, People & Places of the Carolinas (2018, by Mark Levin) says that LJ grew up in New Jersey and became acquainted as a Boy Scout with the Carolina mountains. He rescued a common pigeon when he was seven years old, the article says, and he learned that his dad used to keep birds - and his father knew a down-the-street neighbor who had racing birds. He started his first loft decades later as LJ and his boys visited the barn with birds at the South Carolina State Fair. The family enjoyed raising and racing birds.

LJ continued his work as a finishing carpenter but, eventually, people started asking him about doing dove

releases - the first were for a wedding and for a funeral.

This 2018 article says, “LJ had no idea what path this would take him, but he didn’t hesitate to start the journey. Now 11 years later he knows he’s made the right decision. He has no plans to retire from his carpentry work anytime soon, but he knows his work with the doves will continue well beyond that. LJ’s Homeward Angels have helped families and communities celebrate landmark events across 18 counties in three states.”

This article states that LJ is a member of the National White Dove Release Society, and his website is: [HomewardAngelsWhiteDove.com](http://HomewardAngelsWhiteDove.com)

VIA Health Partners serves 32 counties in North Carolina and South Carolina; and since 1987, its Laurens office has been known as Hospice of Laurens County (1304 Springdale Drive, Clinton) providing exceptional care to seven counties in South Carolina.

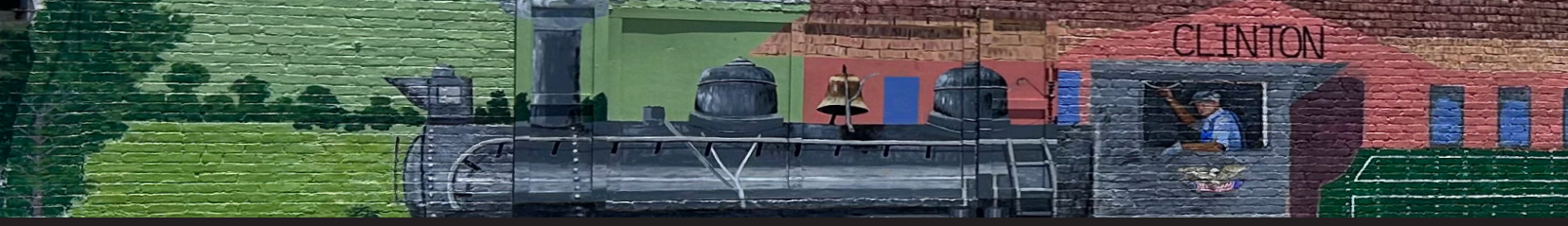
Now under the name of VIA Health Partners, the Laurens office continues to deliver the same outstanding hospice and palliative care that the community has come to trust ([hospiceoflaurenscounty.org](http://hospiceoflaurenscounty.org)).

Hospice of Laurens County’s Hospice House is the first and only one of its kind for Laurens County. The 12-bed facility offers a home-like atmosphere to care for patients and their families when homecare is not feasible. Hospice is available for any individual that has been diagnosed with a life-limiting illness and is no longer seeking curative treatment. This can include cancer as well as a non-cancer diagnosis. The top 5 non-cancer diagnosis are: end-stage heart disease, dementia, failure to thrive, lung disease, and end-stage kidney disease.

On June 9, the organization held its annual butterfly release and celebration at Ora ARP church in Gray Court. Anyone can assist the organization’s mission by providing Snack Donations to replenish the hospice house snack baskets. For other volunteering information, please see: [viavolunteering.org](http://viavolunteering.org)

VIA Health Partners, exceptional care since 1978, is at 7845 Little Avenue, Charlotte, NC 29226.



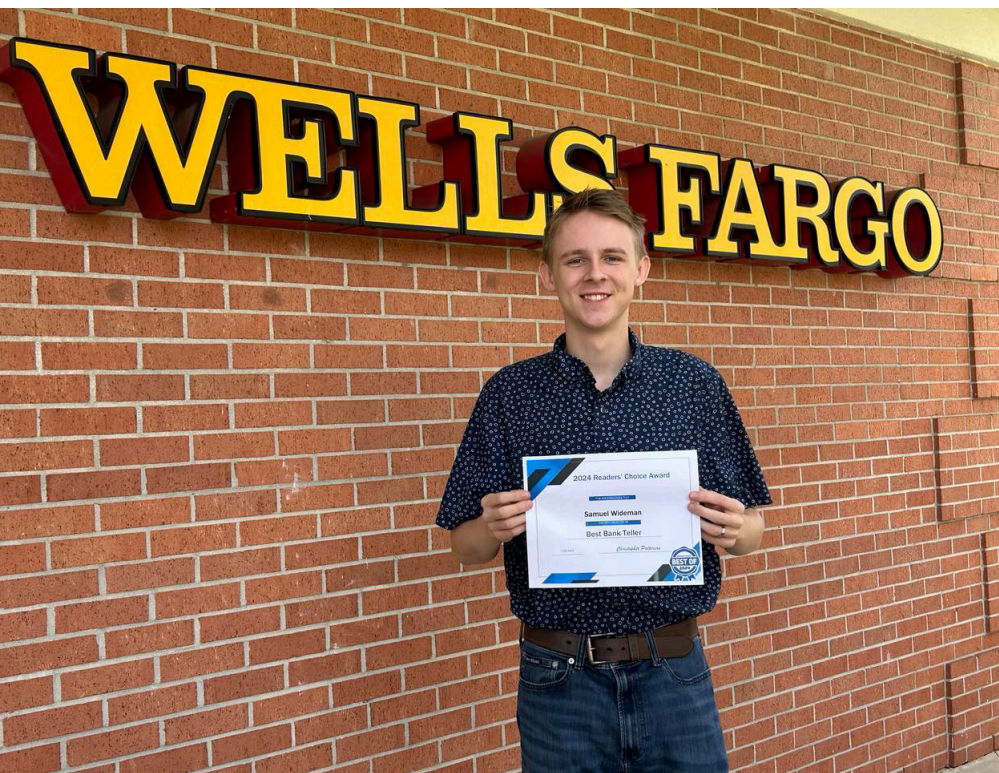


## *Clinton Animal Hospital Voted Best Veterinarian*



At **Clinton Animal Hospital** we adhere to the gold standards of veterinary care. Our goal is to ensure that your pet is healthy and happy. Clinton Animal Hospital formerly known as Orr Animal Clinic was established by Dr. Daniel Orr in 1957. Over the next several years, the clinic had several different owners. Our current owner and Clinton native Dr. Bess Pierce purchased the practice in 2019. Dr. Pierce along with associate vets, Dr. Julie James, and Dr. Mindy LaMier, strive to continue to serve the community with the same compassion that is the foundation of Clinton Animal Hospital. For more information about the Clinton Animal Hospital visit [clintonanimalvet.com](http://clintonanimalvet.com) or call us at (864) 833-2487.

## *Samuel Wideman Voted Best Bank Teller*



**Samuel Wideman** is a skilled and friendly bank teller at **Wells Fargo Bank** in Clinton, SC. With a strong passion for delivering exceptional customer service, Samuel assists clients with their banking needs, including account management, transactions, and financial guidance. His attention to detail, professionalism, and warm demeanor have earned him a loyal customer base. As a dedicated team player, Samuel contributes to the bank's mission of helping customers succeed financially. His commitment to excellence and community involvement make him a valued asset to the Wells Fargo team in Clinton.





## *Ace Hardware Voted Best Hardware*

**Ace Hardware** proudly celebrates 100 years of global service, marking a century of providing top-notch products and expertise to customers worldwide. Additionally, we honor 60 years of local service at Robertson’s Ace Hardware, recognizing six decades of dedicated commitment to serving our community with exceptional customer care and support. Robertson’s is all about helping neighbors, because our stores are part of your community. All four of our store are committed to being “the Helpful Place” by offering our customers personal service, quality products and a convenient shopping experience from the local experts who know you best. With our four generations helpful hardware knowledge, we promise that helping you is the most important thing we have to do today. For more information visit [acehardware.com](http://acehardware.com) or call 864-808-4111

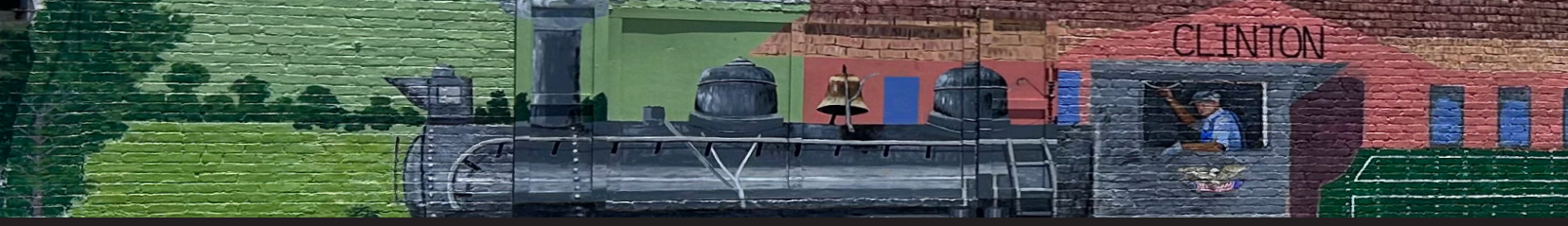


## *Carolina Stitches Voted Best Embroidery*

**Carolina Stitches** is a local embroidery shop specializing in custom-stitched Red Devils High School merchandise, and this year marks Carolina Stitches 25th anniversary. The shop offers a variety of apparel and accessories, including t-shirts, hoodies, hats, and tote bags, all featuring the school’s logo or spirit wear designs. With quick turnaround times and personalized service, Carolina Stitches is the go-to destination for students, alumni, and fans to show their school spirit. From custom jerseys to monogrammed gifts, the shop’s experienced staff ensures high-quality embroidery that makes every item a unique and special representation of Red Devils pride. For more information call 864-938-9091







## *Hoyt Hanvey Jewelers Voted Best Jewelry Store*



Tucked away in the heart of downtown Clinton, **Hoyt Hanvey Jewelers** is a beloved institution. For generations, this family-owned and operated business has been the go-to destination for exquisite jewelry, expert repairs, and personalized service. With a stunning selection of fine pieces and custom designs, Hoyt Hanvey Jewelers is the perfect spot to find a special gift or treat yourself. Their knowledgeable staff and commitment to quality have earned them a loyal following. Step into their charming store and experience the warmth and expertise that has made Hoyt Hanvey Jewelers a downtown Clinton treasure. Thank you, we are the best because you are the best. Located at 126 Musgrove St, Clinton. For more information call (864) 833-4134

## *Tapestry Voted Best Women's Clothing*



Where do we begin?! We are so overjoyed with emotions after this weekend! Our anniversary party is such a special event that we look forward to every year. Toasting to not only **Tapestry**, but to you all!! Your love, support and friendships mean the absolute world to us and that's why we are here! Because of each and every one of you. Tapestry has styled ladies for over 38 years now. We have been a part of your lives for joyful moments, tearful moments, moments of celebrating and moments of togetherness. We hope that you will continue to let Tapestry be a part of your life for the next 38 years! As we prevail, we will never forget our beloved Leslie Anne. We miss her each and every day. Thank you for also coming out and supporting our donation towards the Mesothelioma Foundation!! Here's to more fun, fashion and friends for the next 38 years to come! For more visit [shoptapestryinc.com](http://shoptapestryinc.com) or call 864-833-6591





## *Matt Davis Voted Best Insurance Agent*



**Matt Davis** is your local **State Farm Insurance Agent** in Clinton, SC. He was raised in Seneca, SC and attended Wofford College and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in 2004. In 2008 he not only became a State Farm Agent but also moved to Clinton. Now his family of five loves Clinton and they always stay involved in the community by participating in travel softball, and volunteering with their church's children's programs, and supporting local business. Over the years Matt's office has qualified for many internal awards such as, Ambassador Travel Qualifier and Chairman's Circle. The local agency focuses on Auto Insurance, Homeowner's Insurance, Renter's Insurance, Life Insurance, and Business Insurance throughout Clinton, SC and the surrounding areas with our competitive prices. Call or stop by the office for your Personal Price Plan. For more information visit [mattdavisagency.com](http://mattdavisagency.com) or call 864-833-5036





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