

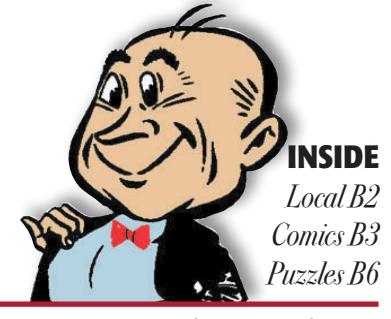
ENTERTAINMENT

Submit community news, calendar events, celebrations and obituaries to life@upstatetoday.com

Friday, December 24, 2021

TELL WILLIE

*Really wet some feathers
over in Westminster. B7*



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CAAAM hosting first Kwanzaa celebration

BY ANDREA KELLEY
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — Kwanzaa is Swahili for “first fruits,” so it’s only fitting this Kwanzaa season is a series of firsts.

The Clemson Area African American Museum is hosting its first Kwanzaa celebration on Sunday, and new executive director Angela Agard will be at the helm.

“When Maulana Karenga created this holiday back in 1966, his whole thing was for the cultural aspects of it, celebrating and embracing our heritage,” Agard said. “It means gathering around family, focusing on culture and heritage, and really, really delving back into who we are as a people.”

Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration of African culture and typically involves song and dance, poetry reading and storytelling, African drums and a traditional meal.

Each day a candle in the Kinara (candleholder) is lit, and families discuss one of seven principles Karenga chose as pillars of African culture.

Agard has been celebrating Kwanzaa since her college days and said the key thing for her is “seeing into the African American culture.”

“People sometimes say Kwanzaa is a substitute for Christmas, and it is not,” she said. “It is a way for people of African descent to basically focus on their heritage and their culture.”

She combined some of the principles to pare down the festival to five days, but felt it was important to celebrate for more than one day.

“It’s a lot of work, but I believe when it’s five days, especially during the holiday season, it gives people a reason to come back out,” Agard said. “Being able to learn from each other and hear presentations and enjoy entertainment and food ... this is a way to really build community.”

Sunday’s welcome ceremony is centered around Umoja, or unity. African drum and dance group Harambee Dance Company will perform, and the first candle will be lit.

The museum will also host the grand opening of artist Ashley Mintz’s exhibit “Mirrored Hues: Seeing Self in the Colors,” which will be on display until the end of Black History Month on Feb. 28.

“When you see this art show, you can see the complexities. You could see her focusing on black boys turning to black men, you can see little African American girls in some of the pictures turning into intelligent, beautiful African American women,” Agard said. “It’s representation. It’s allowing people to see themselves in art.”

KUJICHAGULIA & UJIMA

Monday’s “Meet the Newcomer” panel is centered around self-determination and collective work and responsibility.

“The mayor is new, the city administrator is new, the police chief is new and I’m new,” Agard said. “We are going to have the newcomers give a five-minute presentation of what they see their vision is in their position, especially when it comes to the African American community.”

Community members



Mixed media artist Ashley Mintz's "Storyteller" is one of many pieces displayed in the "Mirrored Hues: Seeing Self in the Colors" exhibit opening at the museum on Sunday. The exhibit runs until the end of February and features "face jugs" by Robert Kemp.

can also raise concerns or ask questions “based on things that may have happened in the past and moving forward,” she said.

Afterward, registered nurse and educator Nawkea Martin-Jones will lead a “Post COVID-19 Check-in,” with Rev. Dr. Ankoma Anderson from Welfare Baptist Church in Belton. The discussion will center around health and other areas that continue to impact the African American community during the pandemic.

UJAMAA

Tuesday focuses on cooperative economics through black businesses in the Upstate.

“The purpose of highlighting this in a Kwanzaa event is to speak to what we need to do as African Americans to support those that are in business — because again, they put money back into our community, they are residents in our community, they support the activities and communities of African Americans,” Agard said.

Dr. Ivy Henderson Ellerby, owner of Elements by

Eastern Design in Seneca will be joined by Dr. Nekita Sullivan and Kyron McMaster, both Clemson business owners, to talk about their business journeys.

Each speaker opened their business during or shortly before the pandemic, but are “making it work,” Agard said.

“Having them speak to being business owners will, again, have a focus on what do we need to do to support them, and what do we need to do if we wanted to be business owners?” she said. “Here

we have three live examples who are — I would venture to say flourishing, because if they’re still alive during the pandemic and their businesses are still functioning, then they are doing something correctly.”

KUUMBA

Wednesday is a creativity celebration, with a gallery talk and children’s art workshop by Mintz.

“We have art classes or workshops ... so that children can see themselves,

SEE KWANZAA, PAGE B2

GOING OUT!

To place your entertainment calendar listings, email life@upstatetoday.com
We accept listings for the following events: art, family fare, festivals, museums, music and theater.
The Journal recommends following CDC guidelines for slowing the spread of COVID-19.

ART

PICKENS COUNTY Museum of Art and History, corner of Highway 178 at 307 Johnson St., Pickens, open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free, donations welcomed.

LEE GALLERY, Lee Hall, Clemson University with changing exhibits Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sun., 2 p.m.-5 p.m.

MUSEUMS

BERTHA LEE Strickland Cultural Museum, 208 W. South 2nd St., Seneca, open Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (864) 710-9994 or email blsc-museum@gmail.com. Like us on facebook: [facebook.com/cultural-museum](https://www.facebook.com/cultural-museum).

THE BART Garrison Agricultural Museum, 120 History Lane, Pendleton, w/o; restart educational programs with story time, AG day, AG venture and more in October.

For more information, call (864) 207-0705 or email ellen@crown-ofthecarolinas.org.

MUSEUM OF the Cherokee in South Carolina, 70 Short Street, Walhalla, is open Thursday 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Email: info@cherokeemuseumsc.org Website: cherokeemuseumsc.org Instagram: [cherokee_museum_sc/](https://www.instagram.com/cherokee_museum_sc/) Facebook: [museumoftcherokee](https://www.facebook.com/museumoftcherokee)

SENECA'S BELL Gallery, “Once Upon A Time,” Seneca City Hall, 221 E. North 1st St. City’s history from founding in 1873-present Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m., closed holidays. Thirty historic photos from Louise Matheson Bell’s 2005 book, “Seneca, Visions of Yesterday.” Stained glass windows by Robert Crenshaw, city memorabilia and metal sculptures. On S.C. National Heritage Corridor Arts Trail. (864) 885-2700 or (864) 882-8213.

ASHTABULA AND Woodburn Historic Homes open by reser-

vation only. Admission: \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, \$3 for kids, and children under 5 are admitted free of charge. Ashtabula is on Highway 88, three miles east of Pendleton and Woodburn is on Highway 76, across from Tri-County Technical College. (864) 646-7249

CENTRAL RAILROAD Museum, 108 Werner St., Central, open every Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors also welcome Thursdays 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

CENTRAL HISTORY Museum & Gardens open Sundays 2-4 p.m. Garden open dawn to dusk. \$2 adults, \$1 children. House museum on National Register of Historic Places, 416 Church St., Central. Railroad model of Central in ‘30s.

OCONEE HISTORY Museum “General Store Museum,” Westminster, will be open Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Admission is free, but a \$3 donation is suggested. The museum displays a variety of contents from the histor-

ic England’s General Merchandise Store from throughout the 20th century, as well as artifacts related to Westminster and the surrounding areas.

OCONEE HISTORY Museum, Walhalla, open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (864) 638-2224

PICKENS COUNTY Museum of Art and History. Open Tues., Wed., Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Thurs. 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call (864) 898-5963.

PATRIOTS' HALL: Oconee Veterans Museum open Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oconeeveteransmuseum.org

MUSIC

BALSAM RANGE Jan. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at Walhalla Performing Arts Center. walhallapac.com (864) 638-5277

HAWLEY MAGIC Jan. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at Walhalla Performing Arts Center.

MISCELLANEOUS

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS

Seneca, a support group for parents who lost a child, meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at GHS Cottingham Hospice House conference room at 390 Keowee School Road, Seneca. For more information, visit compassionatefriends.org, call (864) 973-7609 or email compassionatefriendsofsemenca@gmail.com.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Westminster group will meet on Mondays at 6 p.m. at Westminster First Baptist Church, Highway 24, Westminster.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

We Do Recover open meetings at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Anderson/Oconee Behavioral Health Services Building, 691 S. Oak St., Seneca. If you are in a crisis or need a full list of meetings in the area, call (800) 922-5305.

AL-ANON-NARCANON WALHALLA

Hope for Today support group for friends and families of alcoholics meets at 6 p.m.

Tuesdays at CCM Resource and Solutions Center, 300A S. Church St., Walhalla.

SENECA MONDAY at 11 a.m. AFC meets at Seneca Presbyterian Church, 115 W. South 1st St., Seneca, in the gazebo on the east side of the building on Mondays at 11 a.m. Support for family and friends of alcoholics.

GOLDEN CORNER Respite Care

Program Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 214 Northampton Road, Seneca. An activity program for people with early to mid-stage dementia so caregivers can take a break for self-care. Pre-registration required by calling Bailey Dull at (864) 973-7590 or email golden-cornerrespitecare@gmail.com.

SENECA SERENITY

AFG meets at Seneca Presbyterian Church, corner of Oak and S. 1st streets Thursdays, 12:15-1:15 p.m.

PENDLETON PEACE, AFG meets from 6-7 p.m. Saturdays at Pendleton First Baptist Church.