



**CHASE FERGUSON**

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

## ***Sumter SC***

*Chase joined the United States Navy in September of 2006. Chase served as a Military Police for 15 years. Chase currently serves as a reserve watch commander for the 628th Security Forces Squadron at the Naval Weapons Station in Charleston, South Carolina. In civilian life, Chase has served as a city police officer for the Sumter Police Department. Chase also became a South Carolina certified secondary social studies teacher for Sumter School District where he has worked for the last six years. Currently, he teaches 8th grade South Carolina History at Alice Drive Middle School.*





**BAILEY AGUILLON**

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

## ***Sumter SC***

*Since the age of two, Bailey has lived in Sumter and has dedicated her adult life to serving her community. She has served as an active member in the Sumter Young Life student ministry. In this role, Bailey coached local students in faith, perseverance and fellowship. She has also devoted time to teaching Sunday School to 4th and 5th grades and leads an adult Life Group at a local church. Bailey is currently attending CCTC to become a Registered Nurse in order to fill the workforce shortage created by the pandemic.*





**GREGG ANDERSON**

## ***HOMETOWN HERO***

### ***Molesworth, England***

*In 1965, when Gregg was two years old, his father, Capt. Warren Leroy Anderson, was sent to Vietnam as one of the pilots of the RF-4C. His plane went down 26 April 1966 and is still one the un-recovered Mission in Action. During Gregg's life he stayed in South Carolina and became a husband and father. He started on his private pilots license and worked in Charleston with the Wildlife and Marine Resources Department.*





LT. JJ ARDIS

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

**Sumter SC**

Recipient of Deputy of the Year award, along with two Deputy of the Month awards. Lt. Ardis has been in law enforcement for 17-1/2 years, thirteen of those years with the Sumter County Sheriff's Office.





**GREG BRASINGTON**

## ***HOMETOWN HERO***

### ***Lancaster SC***

*As the Special Operations Coordinator and a Paramedic with Lancaster County EMS, Brasington is responsible for the first responder training for all fire departments in the County. He also works with the State Law Enforcement Active Shooter Department to train Police, Fire and EMS. He also serves as a volunteer firefighter.*





**BRIAN DAVIS**

## ***HOMETOWN HERO***

### ***Sumter SC***

*Brian Davis is retired Air Force and has been a Boy Scout Troop leader of Troop 342. He organizes the annual Halloween Terror Trail in which all proceeds are rolled back into the community. He has cut and donated firewood to people in need and he organized a crew to help clean up yards for disabled community members after a recent storm. Additionally, he is a Sumter Elks Lodge #855 Trustee, Treasurer of the Shaw AFB Green Knights Military Motorcycle Club, Sumter VFW Post 3034 House Committee member, and more.*





**BARNEY GADSON**

## ***HOMETOWN HERO***

### ***Sumter SC***

*Barney has been the driving force for achieving a partnership between the M.H. Newton Family Center and local youth. HYPE, or Helping People Pursue Excellence is an after-school program that serves over 500 students in 9 different locations. Barney serves as a community liaison for the University of South Carolina's Arnold School of Public Health and has been instrumental in working with project PATH (Positive Activity for Today's Health), project DRIVE (Developing Real Incentives and Volition for Exercise) and project PLAY (Positive Leisure Activities for Youth).*





**DEREK GAMBLE**

## ***HOMETOWN HERO***

### ***Sumter SC***

*Mr. Gamble gives a hand up to those who have been released from prison. He helps them to reintegrate into the community and provides assistance to help them keep from re-offending. He does this by helping them to get their license, find work, housing and other services they need. He makes it clear that his services are not a handout but a hand up. They are expected to work toward the goals set in the program. He has acquired properties to assist the reentry candidates while they search for permanent housing and provides clothing to inmates leaving prison. The clothing has become especially critical because family members were not allowed to provide anything for their family members leaving prison due to COVID protocols. Mr. Gamble worked with the prisons to ensure the clothing he provided was washed and met the standards necessary to be safely provided to these individuals.*







**JED ANDERSON**

## ***HOMETOWN HERO***

### ***Turbeville SC***

*In 1965, Jed's father, Capt. Warren Leroy Anderson, was sent to Vietnam as one of the pilots of the RF-4C. His plane went down 26 April 1966 and is still one the unrecovered Mission in Action. Jed is a Master Electrician and help build the U.S. Army Central Headquarters. Jed is a Gold Star Son, his mom remained in Sumter before passing away in 2003. He raised his family in Turbeville. Jed is a loyal husband, father and grandfather. His son is a lawyer and his daughter is a nurse.*





**JAMES LOGING**

## ***HOMETOWN HERO***

### ***Prosperity SC***

*As an orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Loging specializes in total joint replacement and helps a variety of patients struggling with degenerative joint disease to regain mobility, reduce pain and become more active in their day-to-day. He also is a mentor to medical students that rotate through his practice. He has been a sponsor of the Justin Pepper 5K since 2018, a community event that supports a scholarship program to recognize youth who give back to the community. He also participates in a podcast about common orthopedic conditions to educate patients on the pathology of those disorders and the various therapeutic options available.*





**MANDY OLIPHANT**

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

## ***Sumter SC***

*A registered nurse at Prisma Health ICU, Mandy Oliphant has dedicated herself to serving members of the Sumter community during some of the most critical times of her patient's lives. She selflessly and consistently volunteers herself to help others in need without hesitation, regardless of the challenges faced with the pandemic. She volunteered to exclusively work with the COVID-19 unit to take the place of other nurses with children and immune-compromised family members.*





**JAVIER POLO**

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

## ***Bogotá, Colombia***

*"I wanted to serve the community, and help those who can't help themselves," are the words of U.S. Army veteran and Sumter Police Department Officer Javier Polo. His focus is improving the quality of life of all residents he serves but especially the Hispanic residents in the Sumter community. Polo assisted affected families following targeted violent crimes against the hispanic community in 2019, many of whom did not speak English and had limited resources available.*





**JEROME ROBINSON**

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

## ***Sumter SC***

*Jerome gives selflessly to this community on a continuous basis by using his talents in martial arts to uplift and bring this community together. His gym is home to people of all backgrounds and the atmosphere is a safe place for many to come and build up their mental, physical and emotional well being. Jerome has hosted many outreaches for the community to include book bag drives, self defense classes for elementary and middle school students at no cost, women's self protection events for domestic violence victims at no cost allowing these women to gain confidence in a safe environment while also making friends and building self esteem. Jerome works effortlessly to use his talents and knowledge to educate as many as he can, using martial arts and self defense as a way to uplift this community.*





**MATTHEW SNODDY**

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

## ***Lancaster SC***

*For five years, former U.S. Army Combat Medic Investigator Matthew Snoddy has maintained a close relationship with the Lancaster Community, with a particular passion for helping those who are victimized by the opioid epidemic. In that time, he has served as a patrol officer, a member of the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program and now serves as a violent crime investigator.*





**JESSICA VARNEY**

# ***HOMETOWN HERO***

## ***Pickens South Carolina***

*Jessica is the team lead for the Pickens County Crisis Intercept Mapping for Suicide Prevention among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. This program was a collaborative effort involving SCDVA Secretary William Grimsley, the US Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Governor's Office.*

