

# Stan Jones Jr. receives scholarship

*Scholarships open to children of highway workers killed, disabled on the job*

By Kim Corley

Each year, the American Road & Transportation Builders' Association-Transportation Development Foundation (ARTBA-TDF) awards scholarships to the children of highway workers killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty.

Stan Jones Jr., of Gaston, is one of only 10 recipients across the nation of the Lanford Family Highway Worker Memorial Scholarship.

In 2007, **Standra Jones Sr.**, Lexington County Maintenance Foreman, was fatally injured in a collision on I-26 in Lexington County. He and his crew had just completed a barrier wall cleaning operation. As they were preparing to leave the site, a truck ran off the side of the interstate and struck Jones and a fellow worker. That stretch of interstate is now called the "Standra Jones Memorial Highway." At the time, Stan Jr. was only ten years old.

Despite this devastating loss at a young age, Stan Jr. stepped into his father's role in the family. "I had to grow up fast. It made me more mature than my other friends," he says.

"I'm proud of my son," says Julia Jones. "I couldn't ask for a better child," she says as she describes her son's dedication to his education, spirituality and family.

Younger sister Breana is also very proud of her brother, but

she says she will miss him when he goes away to college. "Ever since my brother was 10 he has set a goal for himself in life and I believe that he has achieved that goal," she says.

Julia Jones believes her family's unwavering faith in God has helped them persevere during difficult times since losing her husband.

Stan Jr. graduated from Airport High School in June. He is attending Clemson University to study architecture. He also plans to try out as a walk-on for the Clemson football team.

The 2015 National Work Zone Awareness Week was held March 23-27, 2015. According to the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) most recent statistics in 2013:

- 579 work zone traffic-related fatalities (6% decrease from 2012)
- 29,000 work zone injuries (9% decrease from 2012)
- 105 worker fatalities (21% decrease from 2012)
- 186 large trucks (184) and buses (2) involved in fatal crashes in work zones (11% increase from 2012)

SCDOT and partnering agencies continue to research and develop innovative safety initiatives to protect the lives of highway construction workers and motorists.

To learn more about ARTBA, please visit their website at <http://www.artba.org/>.



ROB THOMPSON/THE CONNECTOR

The Jones family holds a photograph of Standra Jones Sr. during a visit to SCDOT headquarters on May 19, 2015. From left, Breana Jones, Stan Jones Jr. and Julia Jones.

## Outstanding! SCDOT employee, former commissioner recognized by State Employee Association

The South Carolina State Employees Association (SCSEA) announced its 2015 Outstanding State Employee and Outstanding State Retiree recipients. Two of those honored have ties to SCDOT.

**Nancy Fipps** is the Outstanding State Employee female for 2015. Fipps is the chief administrative assistant at SCDOT in

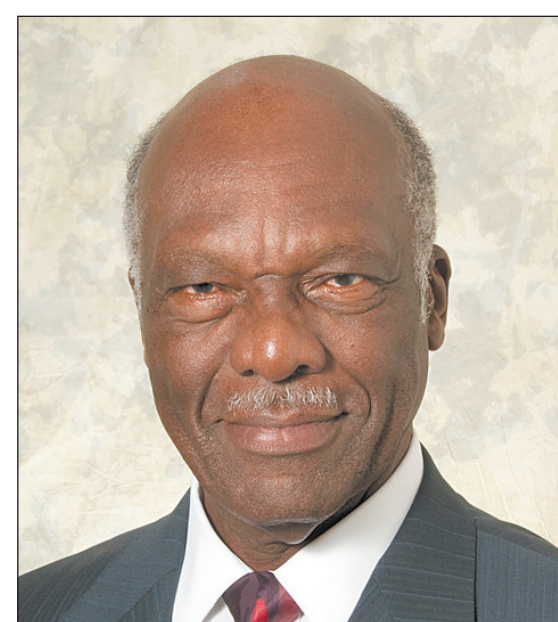
Marion County. She has been a state employee for 33 years.

Former SCDOT Commissioner **Harrison Rearden** was named the SCSEA Larry G. Ellis Outstanding State Retiree for 2015.

The award recipients were recognized during the SCSEA Annual Meeting and awards luncheon on June 20, 2015.



**Nancy Fipps**  
District 5 Construction



**Harrison Rearden**  
Former SCDOT Commissioner