

by Jackie Perrone

## Paul Sadler

Home-grown is always best, whether it's tomatoes, camellias, corn or local citizens who stay put and make things better. Paul Sadler, newly-installed President and CEO of the Chapin Chamber of Commerce, stands as a notable example of a hometown boy who has chosen to build his life and his community right where he grew up. He wouldn't be anywhere else.

"I have lived in the Midlands of South Carolina almost my entire life," he reports. "I graduated from Dutch Fork High School in 2000 and went on to Midlands Tech after that." His business career has been built around YMCA facilities in the neighborhood: Columbia, Lexington, and Ballentine. In those capacities, Sadler enjoyed membership in Chambers of Commerce, meeting the business leaders who keep the community humming, and supporting his neighbors in improving schools, streets, and public facilities.

Today he is leading the Chapin Chamber and reveling in the opportunities and challenges which may lie ahead. Here's how he sees the future:

"My focus and goals for the Chapin Chamber is to help our business community make connections, build relationships, and help with their personal and professional growth. I like to say we Engage, Influence, Impact, and then we repeat. It's a cycle that must continue in order to see our community be successful. I want to see all of our businesses thrive in Chapin.

"Today, the Chapin community is strong. Our small town is always looking for ways to strengthen the economy and to provide a better quality of life. The Town of Chapin is being smart with their growth strategies and is always seeking community input. The strategies they have put in place and continue to put in place will foster smart growth for our town while maintaining the small hometown feel that Chapin is known for."

"The one glaring surprise that I've witnessed over the last 11 months in Chapin is the overall friendliness of this community. It's a town where everyone truly does know your name and where everyone knows everybody. It's been great to submerge my life into this community and I look forward to it for many years to come."

Paul's wife Amanda teaches at Sandhills Primary in Swansea. They have two children, Addison (13) and Ethan (12), who attend Chapin schools. A Labradoodle, Charlotte, and a Morkie, Wilson, complete the family roster. ■

