

From: Symmes, Brian

To:

Date: 9/10/2013 9:33:27 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages - Tuesday, September 10, 2013

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**SC Front Pages - Tuesday, September 10, 2013**



# LIGHT OFF THE LINE

Game tape shows USC's lighter, younger linebackers are getting pushed around. **B1**

## The State

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 | THESTATE.COM

### FEELING LUCKY?

North Main gas station fuels customers' lottery dreams. **B6**

# A way out of U.S./Syria standoff?

## Poll: Voters reject airstrikes, question Obama's leadership

By DAVID LIGHTMAN  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — When President Barack Obama addresses the nation Tuesday, he will confront the most unfriendly political landscape of his presidency, one where opposition knows no boundaries and Democrats, Republicans, whites, blacks, Hispanics, old, young, men and women all are deeply skeptical of attacking Syria.

A solid majority of voters opposes airstrikes and wants Congress to reject Obama's request for approval, according to a new McClatchy-Marist poll. A majority thinks the president does not have a clear idea of what he is doing with Syria.

The ranks of Americans who approve of the way President Obama is handling foreign policy has dropped to the lowest level since he assumed office. And an overwhelming



Obama Kerry

majority insists he stand down should Congress vote no.

"Clearly this president needs to be very persuasive Tuesday," said Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist Institute for Public Opinion in New York, which conducted the poll.

SEE POLL PAGE A3

## Diplomats float plan for Assad to surrender chemical weapons

By MATTHEW LEE  
and JULIE PACE  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a rapid and remarkable chain of events, Syria welcomed the idea of turning over all of its chemical weapons for destruction on Monday.

President Barack Obama, though expressing deep skepticism, declared it a "potentially positive development" that could head off the threats of U.S. airstrikes that have set the world on edge.

The administration pressed ahead in its efforts to persuade Congress to authorize a military strike, and Obama said the day's developments were doubtless due in part to the "credible possibility" of that action. He stuck to his plan to address the nation Tuesday night, while the Senate Democratic leader postponed a vote on authorization.

The sudden developments broke into the open when Rus-

SEE SYRIA PAGE A3

## More lottery aid for S.C. colleges?

Haley: Extend the scholarships to summer classes as well

By ANDREW SHAIN  
ashain@thestate.com

Gov. Nikki Haley has asked college regulators to look at allowing S.C. students to use \$300 million in state lottery scholarships as financial aid for summer classes.

The University of South Carolina, the state's largest college, expanded its summer session this year to become a third full semester. Other state schools are weighing specialized summer offerings.

An extra semester allows students to graduate sooner, and take internships during the fall and spring semesters, USC officials said.

While scholarship amounts won't increase, the

SEE AID PAGE A8



Katie Greene takes a chemistry class during summer school at USC.

## SPORTS AND SCIENCE



Members of the Rams youth football team practice at Seven Oaks Park. Students in the athletic education training program at USC are working with youth teams to gather data on injuries.

## Players helping score a data touchdown

Heat, concussion studies focus on youth football

By JOEY HOLLEMAN  
jholleman@thestate.com

University of South Carolina researcher Susan Yeagin slips up behind an undersized defensive line-

get one of them earpieces?" referring to special devices that, rather than helping with hearing, measure the force of every hit the young players take during practices and games all season.

A national grant from youth-football governing body USA Football has transformed the youth football practice fields at Seven Oaks Park in-



Tyleik Sanders, 8, displays his accelerometer.

VIDEO ONLINE



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## CLEMSON, 1B BIG WINS GOOD FOR ACC



## LOCAL, 5A Clemson 21st among colleges

# The Greenville News

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TUESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2013  
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

## NATION

Scary anti-smoking ads prompt 100,000-plus to kick the habit, 2A

## US weighs proposal for Syria's weapons

Obama says he's skeptical Assad would hand over chemical stocks

By Matthew Lee  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A possible diplomatic solution to avoid a U.S. military strike arose Monday when Syria swiftly welcomed a suggestion to move all of the country's chemical weapons under international control. President Barack Obama said the proposal could be a potential breakthrough but remained skeptical Syria would follow through.

The White House pressed ahead with efforts to sell the notion of U.S. military action to reluctant Congress members, and officials insisted that Syrian President Bashar Assad's government must be held accountable for using chemical weapons regardless of what happens to its stocks.



John Kerry

But the diplomatic opening could provide Obama with a way out of a messy political and foreign policy bind. It followed a remarkable chain of events that started with a suggestion from Secretary of State John Kerry, followed by a proposal from Russia and immediate endorsement by the U.N. secretary-general.

Obama told NBC News in an interview Monday that he's taking a statement from Damascus welcoming the idea "with a grain of salt initially." But

See SYRIA, Page 4A



Candidates for Greenville County Republican Party chairman, Chad Groover, left, and Samuel Hams participate in a debate before the election on Monday. HEIDI HEILBRUN/STAFF

## Local GOP picks unity candidate

By Rudolph Bell  
Staff Writer  
dbell@greenvillenews.com

Local attorney Chad Groover was elected chairman of the Greenville County Republican Party on Monday night, promising to smooth tensions with the state GOP and expand the party's appeal with

## Measures may include 8 more officers, park patrol

## PLAN INCREASES SECURITY DOWNTOWN



A security camera looks down from City Hall in downtown Greenville. A camera at the corner of Washington and Main streets, inset photo, overlooks the One building. HEIDI HEILBRUN/STAFF

By Anna Lee  
Staff writer  
zlee@greenvillenews.com

All city parks would close at 9 p.m., and eight more police officers would patrol downtown under a package of new security measures proposed for the city of Greenville.

On Monday, City Manager John Castile and Police Chief

TD Stage and the Peace Center plaza, but would be unarmed and call police if they see signs of trouble.

"The theory — and we've heard this before in many cities — is the more eyes and ears, the more proactive you are," Castile said.

With heightened security downtown also comes better coverage of the Swamp Rabbit Trail, where several violent crimes have occurred in the past month.

Wilfong said she's asking the security company the city

park to park, which makes it difficult for police to enforce closing times, Souza said. Liberty Bridge at Falls Park, however, would stay open at all hours.

Meanwhile, the existing network of 100 cameras downtown hasn't been updated since it was installed in 2004. In 10 years, "We've had all these additional venues that have come online," Castile said.

Wilfong said the city is still deciding how many more cameras to add.





**Basketball Hall of Fame**  
USC's Dawn Staley joins exclusive club  
SPORTS, C1

**Haley on the rising costs of health care**  
SOUTH, B1



# The Post and Courier

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TUESDAY, September 10, 2013

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, North Charleston, S.C. ★★ \$1.00

## Ailing Citadel Mall facing foreclosure

Future unclear as building ages, stores close, shoppers head north

BY WARREN L. WISE  
wwise@postandcourier.com

Palmetto Moon gift and novelty retailer Bob Webster walks out of his Citadel Mall store and looks at all the shuttered shops near his business.

"It's disheartening," he said as one by one he counts nine gated-up storefronts in the vicinity of his retail outlet. "Maybe I need to move."

Other empty shops pepper the 1.1-million-square-foot West Ashley shopping center.

In every wing while standalone kiosks sit empty. In two places, tubes collect water from leaking skylights and direct it toward plants below. Missing bathroom tiles, chipped flooring and leaks over the Food Court show signs of aging and the need for maintenance in the 32-year-old building.

With loads of empty space and non-anchoring tenants that draw limited foot traffic, the once-prominent shopping landmark now faces another problem.

In May its owners, Chatta nooga, Tenn.-based CRE & Associates Properties started missing its monthly mortgage payments on the \$68 million balance of a \$75 million loan it took out in 2007.

That resulted in U.S. Bank National Association claiming the owner defaulted on the 10-year loan. It then sued to foreclose on the property. In the interim, a judge appointed New York-based Spinosa Real Estate Group as a receiver to manage the mall, effective Sept. 1.



Bob Webster, chairman of Palmetto Moon retail stores, said it's sad that so many storefronts remain shuttered in the vicinity of his shop at Citadel Mall.

Below, shoppers have plenty of room to park near the Southeast entrance to Citadel Mall. The wing closest to Sears is marked by several empty storefronts in the struggling shopping center.

Please see MALL, Page A6

PHOTOGRAPHS BY LEO BURNELL/STAFF



Have you been to Citadel Mall in the past year?  
Go to [postandcourier.com](http://postandcourier.com) to vote.

## Charter debate ignites tensions

Schroder vote stirs fear of racial divide

BY DIETTE COURREGÉ CASEY  
dcourreg@postandcourier.com

The politics and controversy that often come with the charter school territory were distractions Lowcountry Leadership Charter School organizers took deliberate steps to avoid.

Factors outside of their control thrust the new charter school into heated community debate on Monday night when it appeared before the Charleston County School Board.

The charter school wanted to temporarily use the former Schroder Middle School building in District 23 (Hollywood) while construction on its permanent facility is finished. Some residents and parents in the community opposed that request. They said the charter school would racially divide the community, endanger students by increasing traffic, and hurt existing public schools by taking away students and funds.

The school board sided with the charter school, and it voted 5-3 to give it permission to use the Schroder building for 60 days. It's not clear when the charter school will have its first day of classes, but officials hoped that would be as soon as possible. "I didn't think we'd end up in this situation, and we had tried to avoid it," said Mache Larkin, the school's leader. "We hope the community will accept us, and we'll try to work with them any way we can."

The school couldn't open in its permanent site because of construction delays triggered by rainy weather. That meant the school needed a short-term back-up site.

The board put additional conditions on the lease of the Schroder campus, such as staggering the charter school's start time until 9 a.m., which is one hour later than C.C. Blaney Elementary. Blaney Elementary is on the same campus as the Schroder building, and some parents expressed concerns about the additional traffic the charter school would bring. The charter school will enroll 400 students in grades K-5, and it will not provide bus transportation.

Please see CHARTER, Page A6

## 2 dreams merge into 1 special place to play

Moncks Corner getting rec complex

BY TONY BARTELME  
tbartelme@postandcourier.com

**MONCK'S CORNER** — Five decades ago, when Willie Powell was a kid, he and his buddies sometimes cut a hole in a wire fence behind their modest homes and sneak into the lumberyard. Once inside, they climbed up the mountains of wood chips, and did down on pieces of cardboard, brown

sheds on brown snow. As he grew older, Powell watched his neighborhood change. The lumberyard closed; the downtown retail district sputtered. Worse, many kids got into drugs and alcohol, and a few ended up in jail or dead. Powell did his best to help kids stay on better paths. He built Roger Wall Street Park, Please see MONCK'S, Page A6



Willie Powell, of Moncks Corner, recalls playing as a kid in the very spot where the new recreation center is being built.

## Citadel to receive fragment of 9/11

Attacks inspired cadets to serve

BY DIANE KNICH  
dknich@postandcourier.com

Many Citadel cadets say the 9/11 terror attacks motivated them to enroll in a military college, perhaps even join the armed forces.

That's why receiving a 3-foot steel piece of a floor beam from the World Trade Center is such an honor for the school, said

### Inside

List of 9/11 events, A6

Citadel fine arts instructor Tiffany Silverman.

At a special event before Friday's dress parade, representatives from the Fire Department of New York City and the

Please see CITADEL, Page A4



Mostly sunny  
High 89, Low 67.  
Complete 5-day  
forecast, B6

Bridge...D5 Editors...A10 Obituaries...B4  
Classifieds...A7 Your Health...B1 The South...B1  
Comics...D4 Sports...C1  
Carnival...C12-14 Movies...B3 Television...B6

**Charleston Deals today**

**Any Lab Test Now**  
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See A2





# Dixie World Series coming to Aiken | 1B

Citizens Park selected as host for 2015 events

## Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

TUESDAY, September 10, 2013

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 147, No. 253 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

### INSIDE TODAY



Community can sign up for holiday trip to N.Y.  
Living on the Go, 1C

Tire company eyes  
S.C. for plant location  
Local news, 2A



Player of the Week:  
Wigfall leads Trojans  
Sports, 1B



Local resident pursues  
his culinary interests  
Local news, 3A

Birdies and Bridles will be  
held at festival this Friday  
Local news, 5A

**Word**  
of the day

Find today's word - INSIDE

### AREA DEATHS

Bruce Watson, Bath  
Dora Barrett Trapp, Williston  
Franklin D. Martin, Mystic, Ga.  
Maryann S. Beckwith, Aiken  
Thelma Jackson, North Augusta  
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

### WEATHER

## Missionaries bring hope to Graniteville

... We'll be bringing some hope to the area through job training. Getting a job is the way out of poverty.

— Tonya Shipes, new co-director of the Hope Center



STAFF PHOTO BY DEDE BILES

Scott, left, and Tonya Shipes are the directors of the Hope Center, which is scheduled to open late this year or early next year in Graniteville. The Shipeses are shown here with some of the baskets they brought back from Botswana, where they were missionaries from 2010 to 2013.

BY DEDE BILES  
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

Scott and Tonya Shipes miss a lot of things about Botswana. While serving as missionaries in the African country, they enjoyed working with the friendly residents who treated them like family. They also had fun viewing exotic animals, such as elephants and giraffes, in the wild.

But the Shipeses, who returned to this country in July, don't regret leaving behind the large caterpillars known as mopane worms, which Botswana's citizens like to eat. "The worms are dried out in salt, so when you go to buy them, they are crispy like a potato chips," Tonya said. "Some people eat them just like that, but other people boil out the salt and then fry them."

She described the taste of the caterpillars as "not good," and then added, "They have sort of a liver flavor."

Said Scott: "It's not like chicken." Visitors to the Shipeses' Aiken home don't have to worry about being served mopane worms for dinner. But they will get to see beautiful baskets made out of palm fibers by Botswana's women and other native crafts brought back to America by the couple.

"It's bittersweet when you leave all the connections that you've made and the people that you've come to love," Tonya said. "But then you realize that there's work to do here, too."

Please see **HOPE**, Page 12A



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Aiken residents Vickie Desourdy and Bill Stephens bow their heads for a prayer during their wedding, which was held outside Memorial Stadium during Clemson's game against S.C. State on Saturday.

## Couple weds at football game

BY TEDDY KULMALA  
tkulmala@aikenstandard.com

A fall wedding — especially in the South — often means a few disgruntled college football fans missing a game, but one Aiken couple found a way to combine their love of football and their love for each other and were married at the Clemson football game on Saturday.

Ben Stephens and Vickie Desourdy tied the knot during halftime of the Clemson versus S.C. State game on Saturday. The wedding took place at the couple's tailgating spot behind Memorial Stadium in front of at least 60 guests, including their two children, with the roar of 83,000 fans and the strains of "Tiger Rag" in the background. "He graduated from Clemson, and we both really love football and knew that we wanted to get married in the fall," said Desourdy, a graduate of Penn State University. "We didn't want to interfere with football season."

A friend of the couple who is a lay minister performed the ceremony. Desourdy and Stephens wore orange Clemson football jerseys with the names "Bride" and "Groom" on the backs.

Please see **CLEMSON**, Page 12A

## Poll: Most Americans oppose strike on Syria

BY LARA JAKES AND  
JENNIFER AGIESTA  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Only 1 in 5 Americans believe that failing to respond to chemical weapons attacks in Syria would embolden oth-

an Associated Press poll concluded Monday.

The poll of 1,007 adults nationwide found that most Americans oppose even a limited attack on Syria — likely with cruise missiles — despite Obama administration warnings that inaction would risk

### MORE INSIDE

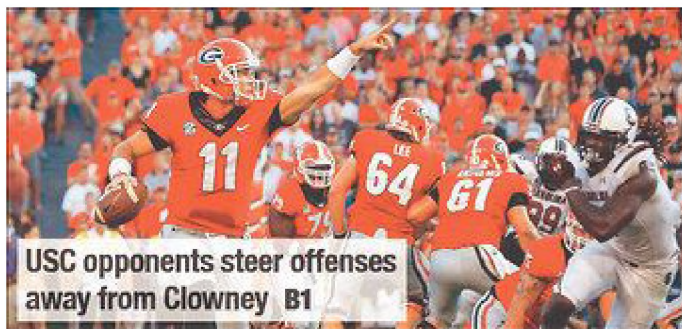
Will Syria dispose of  
chemical weapons? 10A

Obama: I might lose  
congressional vote on Syria, 10A

The survey reflects a U.S. public that is tired of Mideast wars after a dozen years of military action in Iraq and Afghanistan. It undercuts political support President Barack Obama is hoping to garner as he seeks congressional authorization this week to strike the regime of







USC opponents steer offenses away from Clowney B1

## Lucky 13

U.S. Open: Rafael Nadal downs Novak Djokovic to win his 13th Grand Slam tennis title  
Sports, B1



# Herald-Journal

TUESDAY

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HJ  
IN A HURRY

5 Things to read today



### New name

Spartanburg Preparatory School leaders took a moment to celebrate the school's newly amended name as well as a few notable accomplishments with state officials and community members Monday morning.  
PAGE C1

### Statewide model

Four high-poverty schools in Charleston County could become a statewide model for in-school medical clinics that offer parents a convenient way to take their children to the doctor's office.  
PAGE A8

### Bonds approved

As expected, Spartanburg City Council approved a \$30 million bond revenue issuance request from the Spartanburg Commission of Public Works during its meeting Monday.  
PAGE C1

### Pleads no contest

A Duncan man charged with sexually assaulting a 5-year-old girl pleaded no contest Monday to lewd act upon a child under 16. He was sentenced to five years in prison.  
PAGE C3

### New directions

When Judy Martin lost her job in the recession a few years ago, she decided to reinvent herself as an entrepreneur with an artistic bent. She's now opened Artistic Glass Fusions from her home studio in Wellford.  
PAGE D1

## Syria steps back from brink

### Russia proposes Assad turn over all chemical weapons

By MATTHEW LEE  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a rapid and remarkable chain of events, Syria welcomed the idea of turning over all of its chemical weapons for destruction on Monday, and President Barack Obama, though expressing deep skepticism, declared it "potentially a significant breakthrough" that could head off the threats of U.S.

air strikes that have set the world on edge.

The administration pressed ahead in its efforts to persuade Congress to authorize a military strike, and Obama said the day's developments were doubtless due in part to the "credible possibility" of that action. He stuck to his plan to address the nation tonight, while the Senate Democratic leader postponed a vote on authorization.

The sudden developments broke into the open when Russia's foreign minister, seizing on what appeared at the time to be an off-the-cuff remark by Secretary of State John Kerry, appeared in Moscow

alongside his Syrian counterpart and proposed the chemical weapons turnover and destruction. The Syrian quickly embraced the idea, and before long U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon did, too.

Obama, who appeared Monday evening in interviews on six TV networks, said the idea actually had been broached in his 20-minute meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin last week on the sidelines of an economic summit in St. Petersburg, Russia. Obama said he directed Kerry to have more conversations with the Russians and "run this to ground."

The president said he would

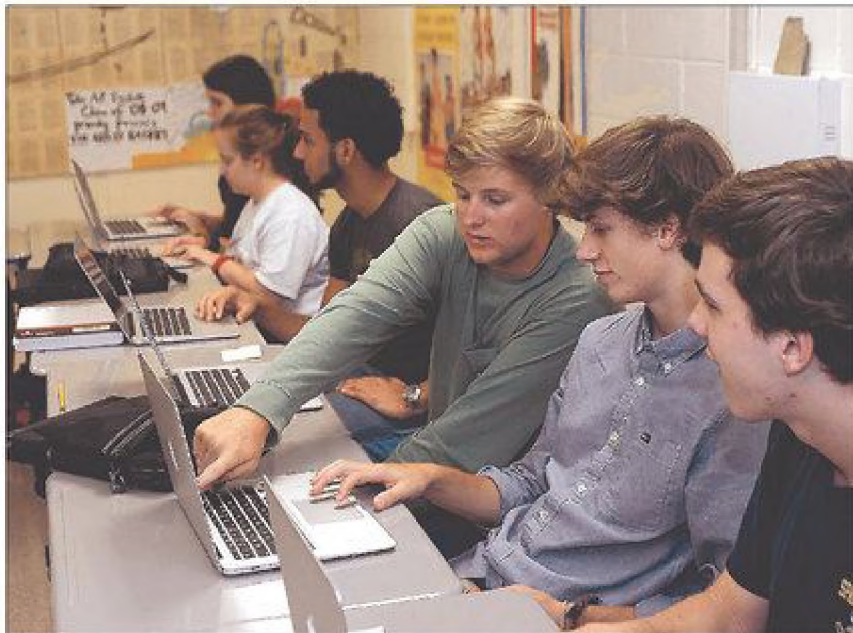
"absolutely" halt a U.S. military strike if Syria's stockpiles were successfully secured, though he remained skeptical about Assad's willingness to carry out the steps needed.

"My objective here has always been to deal with a very specific problem," Obama said in an interview with ABC News. "If we can do that without a military strike, that is overwhelmingly my preference."

The suggestion to secure the chemical weapons "could potentially be a significant break-

◆ SEE SYRIA PAGE A4

### Personal technology



Kevin Tidd, 17, center, points out areas of interest to other students working with their new MacBook Air laptops, which were distributed at Spartanburg High School on Monday. Also, the "Juice Bar" located at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church (next door to the high school) held a grand opening. It will be a place where students can charge and use their laptops after school. See more photos at GoUpstate.com.

## Seniors first in line as District 7 begins distributing new laptops

By LEE G. HEALY  
lee.healy@shj.com

Monday was the day many Spartanburg District 7 students have been eagerly awaiting.



## Coverage expensive in federal program

Cancer victim is overwhelmed by insurance costs

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Coping with advanced cancer, Bev Veals was in the hospital for chemo this summer when she got a call that her health plan was shutting down. Then, the substitute insurance she was offered wanted her to pay up to \$3,125, on top of premiums.

It sounds like one of those insurance horror stories President Barack Obama told to sell his health overhaul to Congress, but Veals wasn't in the clutches of a profit-driven company. Instead, she's covered by Obama's law — one of about 100,000 people with serious medical issues in a financially troubled government program.

Raw political divisions over health care have clouded chances of a fix for the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan, leaving families such as Veals and her husband, Scott, to juggle the consequences. That's not a good omen for solving other problems that could surface with "Obama-care."

"You don't advertise one thing





## Noah Hinzman named player of the week

1B

ALSO: Haley hires new chief of staff, 2A • Apple to unveil latest iPhones today, 10A

## Peace chosen for judgeship



JERRY PEACE

Former solicitor will be federal administrative law judge in Greenville

By CHRIS TRAINOR  
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

Former two-term 8th Circuit Solicitor Jerry Peace has been an attorney for more than 30 years.

He is now set to continue his work in the law, this time as a

judge.

Peace, 62, was selected to be a federal administrative law judge. He will be charged with hearing disability appeals for the Social Security Administration.

Peace's new role will call for him to work in Greenville. He is

set to begin work as a judge later this month.

Peace, who went to Wofford College and studied law at the University of South Carolina, has had a long career in law. He is retired from the U.S. Army, where he spent 20 years in the

Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps.

In 1997, he went to work for the 8th Circuit Solicitor's Office under then-Solicitor Townes Jones. Peace later ran for solicitor and was elected in 2004. He was re-elected for a second term

in 2008.

Peace lost a Republican primary to current 8th Circuit Solicitor David Stumbo in June 2012.

When reached last week, Peace said he is thrilled to have been

See PEACE, page 4A

## 'Everybody needs to know they are loved. ...'

Chip Crider — President, Greenwood Foster Parents Association



MATT WALSH | INDEX JOURNAL

President of the Greenwood Foster Parents Association Chip Crider, left, helps his wife, Lisa, and two of his adopted children, Cheyanne, center left, and Nicole, prepare for a beauty pageant in Honea Path.

## IMPARTING GOOD

Crider: All walks of life can foster children

By ST. CLAIRE DONAGHY • sdonaghy@indexjournal.com

Foster parents provide temporary safe haven for children who cannot remain safely in their parents' home.

life. The goal is reunification with the child's family, when possible, and there are visits with the parents during foster care.

"What caused the problem

incarcerated and there is no other caregiver.

At an age in life when many might be grandparents, Crider wants Lakeland residents to know there is not a cookie-cutter

## Garrison 'Chip' Wade Crider

President, Greenwood Foster Parents Association

■ Age: 58.

■ Resides in: Abbeville.

■ Family: Wife, Lisa, and three daughters, ages 8, 4 and 2.

■ Hobbies/interests: Chip grew up in stock car racing. His dad, Curtis,

## ■ ABBEVILLE COUNTY

## Speed limits OK'd

Ordinance affects 267 thoroughfares

By SCOTT J. BRYAN  
sbryan@indexjournal.com

ABBEVILLE — After much discussion, Abbeville County Council passed an ordinance

to provide speed limits for roads maintained by the county Monday evening during a meeting at the county's administrative complex.

The vote passed 6-1, with Councilman Claude Thomas being the only dissenter. Thomas didn't voice much opposition to the vote during discussion.

The ordinance affects 267

See LIMITS, page 4A



BILLY NORRIS



CHARLIE STONE

## ■ McCORMICK SCHOOLS

## Board talks training budget







TSA girls' tennis aims to build on 2012 success. **B1**

# The Item

Trial begins  
for alleged  
big-fish  
drug dealer  
**A2**

VOL. 118, NO. 276 WWW.THEITEM.COM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 | SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

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## ANGEL'S FOR ANIMALS



Kit Polutta said she and husband Darren have been playing and singing together in the Sumter area for about 10 years. The couple joined drummer Lyle Waddell on Saturday during the Angel's for Animals fundraiser behind the restaurant on Main Street.



**ABOVE:** Jeremy Johnson of the Sumter band Kerolinea plays Saturday night during the fundraiser for the Sumter SPCA. Angel's owner Becky Zarazoga said the band came up with the idea to hold an all-day show with local bands.

**RIGHT:** Joe Jeff-coat took the makeshift stage behind Angel's late Saturday afternoon to help the cause.



PHOTOS BY

## Lee economist leaves post after 10-year tenure

BY RANDY BURNS  
Special to The Item

BISHOPVILLE — Jeff Burgess has left Lee County to accept a position with the Lexington County Economic Development Department.

After serving 10 years as the executive director of the Lee County Economic Alliance, he worked his last day in Lee County on Friday and began a new job as project manager in Lexington County on Monday.

Burgess said he feels good about the potential for economic growth in Lee County.

"The (county) council and administrator have been awesome to

work with," he said. "I think we've accomplished a lot, but there's still so much more to do. You can never leave a position knowing you've done everything that needs to be done. ... We had some success stories. Did we want more? I think we were well on our way had the economy not turned sour.

"In a rural community, we feel it first when it goes south and we feel it last when it starts to improve. We were doing the right things. We were being coached by the (state) Department of Commerce. I think county council and the Economic Development Alliance need to continue to follow their lead. It's always going to take



BURGESS

SEE BURGESS, PAGE A12

## Giving Back to Our Communities Cinema for a Cause

### Beacon to participate in Cinema for a Cause

BY JADE ANDERSON  
janderson@theitem.com

Soon, people in Sumter will be able to see a movie and help two local charities at the same time.

Georgia Theatre Co., the parent company of Sumter's Beacon Stadium Cinemas 12, recently announced its 10th annual Cinema for a Cause Charity Day to be held Sunday, Sept. 22. This will be the first year Sumter's theatre will participate, and the money will be evenly split between the United Way of Sumter, Clarendon and Lee Counties and the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club.

"Customers are encouraged to come to the movies on Sunday, Sept. 22, since 100 percent of

concession purchases and extra donation bowl money will be donated to local charity groups chosen by each theatre staff in their markets," said Natasha Jenkins, community development director.

United Way Sumter, Clarendon and Lee Counties.

Programs such as this one that partner local businesses with nonprofits mean a lot, said Maj. Robbie Robbins with the Salvation Army.

"We all know at this point the Boys & Girls Club is struggling, and it will help tremendously," he said. "We'll be able to do more for the community through the Boys & Girls Club by offering education, sports







**SPORTS** Swinney aims to keep No. 3 Clemson sharp this week. **Page 1B**

# Morning News

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Partly sunny,  
high 90, low 66  
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

## New Start SMART initiative will change face of early education

With readiness quiz, parents can gauge development early to avoid problems later

BY ELLEN MEDER

Morning News  
emed@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The School Foundation and Florence School District 1 announced a new early childhood education public awareness campaign on Monday at a meeting held at the R.N. Beck Early Childhood Center.

Start SMART is an initiative featuring a combination of resources for families and educators to make sure that all children in the Florence

### Learn more about Start SMART

Visit [StartSmartFlo.org](http://StartSmartFlo.org) or face book.com/StartSMARTFlo

area are developmentally ready for school by the time they are five and entering kindergarten.

Debbie Hyler, the deputy director of The School Foundation, a nonprofit fundraising organization that supports Florence 1, said at the announcement that the initiative is about investing money in children early on and that doing so will have ripple effects through the region in education and economy.

"This is partly a catalyst for greater economic prosperity," Hyler said.

"We felt like this was one thing that we could do as a group that would truly lead to systemic change in education."

Start SMART, and its newly assembled advisory council of more than 40 organizations that work with young children and families, aims to bring information to parents and guardians about child development and help them get hooked into Florence 1's expanding services for early childhood education.

The program centers on the Start SMART website, which features tools including a readiness quiz for guardians of infants to 5-year-olds to gauge four types of development:

See **SMART**, Page 8A



School Foundation Deputy Director Debbie Hyler explains the Start SMART initiative at the R.N. Beck Early Childhood Education on Monday. It is a joint effort between the foundation and Florence School District 1.

## SUPERVILLAINS WELCOME



Legends Comics owner Denny Stevenson (left) holds up comic books with Hannah Williams dressed as villainess Poison Ivy, on Thursday at Legends Comics in Florence. The store is putting together a comic convention this Sunday at the Art Trail Gallery.

## First-ever Florence Comic-Con on the way

Art Trail Gallery, Legends Comics to host comic convention downtown

BY JOHN D. RUSSELL

Morning News  
jrussell@florencenews.com

FLORENCE  
Don't be alarmed if you see Superman, Batman or your favorite comic book villain walking around downtown Florence this Sunday.

Organizers expect more than a few super heroes, and villains, will come to life this weekend as the Florence Art Trail Gallery



Denny Stevenson (left) and Hannah Williams pose with life-size comic book characters in the store on Thursday at Legends Comics in Florence.

hosts the first-ever Florence Comic-Con Sunday afternoon. For those that may not know, a Comic-Con or comic convention, is an event that brings together fans of comic books, science fiction and the like.

See **COMICS**, Page 8A

## Florence City Council

## Site ID'ed for health sciences center

Council votes to move forward with obtaining and clearing property

BY LINDSAY S. BUCHANAN

Morning News  
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FLORENCE — Negotiations will proceed to acquire and clear downtown property for the new Francis Marion University health sciences center, the Florence City Council decided Monday.

Councilman Ed Robinson cast the only no vote at the council's regular monthly meeting.

If the city is able to obtain the property as it expects, the prime location on the southwest corner of 1st and West Evans streets ensures that the new medical facility will become the next vital step in the downtown's fast-moving redevelopment. The center is expected to open in 2016.

"I think that is critically important not only because it will educate nurse practitioners, physicians assistants, medical students, but that it will do so in the downtown area, which will provide traffic for residential use for retail and commercial purposes downtown and will invigorate the community," Mayor Stephen Wukela said.

Robinson has opposed the medical facility ever since the council voted earlier this year to allocate \$3 million of the upcoming local



Wukela

See **COUNCIL**, Page 8A

## Plan to dispose of Syria's chemical weapons could avert hostilities

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a rapid

U.S. air strikes that have set the world on edge.

The adminis-

sibility" of that action. He stuck to his plan to address the nation

Moscow alongside his Syrian counterpart and proposed the chemical weapons turnover and

### INSIDE

» Only 1 in 5 Americans believe







Odd

## Saving money on healthcare

HEALTH, A8



## POUGH EYES MEAC MATCHUPS AHEAD

Bulldogs prepare for Alabama A&M  
SPORTS, B1



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## Man detained without charges after fatal shooting

By RICHARD WALKER  
T&D Staff Writer

NORWAY — One individual has been detained after Saturday's fatal shooting that may have involved more than one gun.

Police Chief Scott Ward said a Norway man is being housed at the Orangeburg County Detention Center after turning himself in to authorities hours after a shooting left one dead and two wounded.

No charges had been filed

as of Monday against the 24-year-old man. Ward said any potential charges will be made only after authorities sort out what happened.

Orangeburg County Coroner Samuella Marshall said Thomas Jerome Glover died

early Sunday. The 23-year-old Harrison Avenue man was shot once in the chest.

Two others were wounded during the shooting. They were treated and released by the Regional Medical Center but were then referred to

another hospital for further treatment.

Ward said he contacted county deputies early Sunday saying the suspected shooter was located at a convenience store on Old Edisto Drive. At the request of Norway police,

deputies detained the man.

According to an incident report, the man made an unsolicited statement that he hid in the woods all night af-

See SHOOTING, A3

## Evacuated



The Pilot Travel Center near Interstate 26 in Orangeburg County was evacuated Monday afternoon when a suspicious package was discovered. No harmful device was found.

## SLED called to travel center after suspicious package found

T&D Staff Report

The Pilot Travel Center near Bowman was evacuated and traffic was stopped along Homestead Road on Monday after a suspicious package was discovered.

The exit 159 ramps from Interstate 26 were closed while officials waited for State Law Enforcement Division agents to arrive. They examined and destroyed the package, finding no bomb.

"The SLED bomb squad determined that the package did not contain any harmful devices and normal operations in the area were



TheTandD.com

See video from the scene with this story at  
TheTandD.com/news

resumed," Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Keita Peterson said.

SLED was called after the package was discovered a little after 4 p.m.

"The store management observed the bag

was unattended. They contacted law enforcement. In an abundance of caution and to prevent potential injury, we evacuated the building and limited access to the area," Peterson said.

The area was cleared after 6:30 p.m., and the business reopened.

"We are grateful for the assistance of our community for being alert and aware of their surroundings. We take all threats to public safety seriously and will deploy all resources to protect our citizens, business owners, and visitors. We thank SLED for their support and assistance during this incident," Peterson said.

## Orangeburg voters to pick councilman, mayor today

By DIONNE GLEATON  
T&D Staff Writer

While voter turnout in municipal elections has traditionally been low, the head of Orangeburg County's election office says today's race may be different.

Voters in the City of Orangeburg will go to the polls today to pick a mayor and city councilman.

"We're expecting an increase from 2009. I think anytime you have somebody that has an opponent, it hypes the process. A lot of times, we don't have anybody to run against a council person or the mayor, but I think it should be an interesting race," said Aurora Smalls, the county's executive director of Voter Registration and Elections.

Michael C. Butler is running for mayor against incumbent Paul A. Miller Jr., who has been mayor since June 2001. In addition, Zipporah Sampler has been campaigning as write-in candidate.

District 3 Councilman Charles B. "Buddy" Barnwell Jr., who has held the seat since 2001, is being challenged by Jerry Goldstein Harnah.

Smalls said there are 9,961 registered voters in the city, but only 210 turned out to cast their vote in the mayoral election of 2009. As of Monday afternoon, however, her office had already re-



Butler



Miller



Barnwell



Harnah

See VOTERS, A3

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