

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>

To:

Date: 3/17/2015 9:24:22 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages – Tuesday, March 17, 2015

SC Front Pages – Tuesday, March 17, 2015



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, 1C
**GAMECOCKS
BEGIN QUEST**



LIFESTYLE, 1D
**Gala aids
diabetes
research**

The Greenville News A GANNETT COMPANY

TUESDAY,
MARCH 17, 2015
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY

CLINTON SPENT HEAVILY ON CHARTER FLIGHTS BEFORE RACES **PAGE 1B**

**'NEVER
JUST RELY
ON ONE
GLANCE'**

State DOT officials
promise to examine
safety at intersection

By Romando Dixon
Staff writer
rdixon@greenvillenews.com

TRAVELERS REST — Residents living near an intersection on the U.S. 25 Bypass where 34-year-old Jason Jenkins died earlier this month say they have long complained to state officials about obstructed views that make entering the highway dangerous.

South Carolina Department of Transportation engineers told *The Greenville News* they will take a fresh look at the intersection where Jenkins pulled out of Foot Hills Road and into the path of a tractor-trailer traveling south on North U.S. 25 Bypass.

DOT will reexamine traffic volume, crash data, the propensity for traffic backups at the intersection and other factors because of the recent complaints, said Eric Dillon, a district traffic engineer in the Upstate.

State traffic engineers studied the intersection of Foot Hills Road and North U.S. 25 Bypass in 2012 and decided a traffic light was not necessary, Dillon said. The study reported one crash at the intersection between 2008 and 2011.



**Assembly
bills taking
aim at gay
marriage**

Measures would defy
details of US court ruling

By Lyn Riddle
Staff Writer
lriddle@greenvillenews.com

South Carolina's marriage license application has been changed to add spouse and spouse.

State taxes can be filed jointly for same-sex couples who marry, and returns can be amended for the years a couple has been legally wed.

State agencies moved quickly to comply with the ruling of U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel, who struck down South Carolina's ban on gay marriage last November.

Meanwhile, the South Carolina General Assembly is not done with the issue.

Four bills are pending. One would absolve state employees from punitive action if they do not want to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Another would prohibit any state agency from taking action against individuals or businesses who do not want to serve gay couples.

The third would strip away all money from any probate court that issued licenses to same-sex couples.

And the fourth is to be debated by the Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday afternoon. It would call for a constitutional convention to amend the U.S. Constitu-

See **BILLS**, Page 7A

SIMPSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

**Building tour
may have
violated FOIA**

Opinion: Quorum present
despite lack of meeting

By Scott Keeler
Staff Writer
skeeler@greenvillenews.com

Simpsonville City Council received an opinion from the state Attorney General's office that a quorum was present when council members and other city officials toured the historic Simpsonville Grammar School last fall, therefore it may have violated the Freedom of Information Act.

Assistant Attorney General Anne Marie Crosswell's letter stated, "While our office is not a fact-finding entity, based on the information you have provided, we believe a court would likely find that the walk-through would classify as a meeting subject to the requirements of the FOIA."

The request for an opinion was proposed at the October meeting of City Council by councilman Matthew Gooch and seconded by George Curtis, both of whom said they were unaware of a meeting beforehand. The motion carried

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Tuesday, March 17, 2015

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Union seeks vote at S.C. Boeing plant

Haley vows to fight 'bully' in a state where few employees are organized

BY DAVID WREN
dwren@postandcourier.com

Production workers at Boeing Co.'s Dreamliner campus in North Charleston soon may decide whether they will be represented by the International Association of Machinists

and Aerospace Workers, as organized labor makes one of its largest pushes into South Carolina despite the state's long anti-union history.

Known by its abbreviated IAM acronym, the union filed a petition Monday with the National Labor Relations Board to hold an election

that would determine whether more than 2,400 employees at the Boeing plant will be eligible for collective bargaining.

Such an election could take place within about six weeks if there are no challenges to the petition. If Boeing files a challenge and a hearing is required, a vote could take months.

This would be the first large-scale, private industry union effort in South Carolina — a state with the second-lowest percentage of union workers, behind North Carolina — since tex-

tiles ruled the Palmetto State's economy decades ago.

Monday's announcement had both sides claiming to speak for the average Boeing worker, while Gov. Nikki Haley called the union a "bully" and said "you will see us fight" against the IAM's effort.

"You will see us expose them for the hypocrites that they are, and I think you will see the associates at Boeing respond accordingly," Haley said in a statement.

Whatever the outcome, one labor

expert said he doesn't expect much to change in South Carolina.

"The general culture and climate in South Carolina has been well-established — people who work here aren't inclined to fall in with organized labor," said Michael Carroth, a Columbia lawyer who specializes in labor law. "Even if the union wins (at Boeing), I can't imagine it will change the whole tone of South Carolina."

Please see **BOEING**, Page A4

Homeless booted from tent city

S.C. Department of Transportation finds makeshift campground near I-26 unsafe



A homeless camp between an Interstate 26 entrance ramp and One80 Place, the city's main homeless shelter, was shut down Monday morning after the S.C. Department of Transportation said it was unsafe because a vehicle could crash into the camp.

BY DAVE MUNDAY
dmunday@postandcourier.com

A homeless camp beside an interstate entrance ramp in downtown Charleston was shut down Monday morning because transportation officials said they were worried it wasn't safe.

The camp, one of several tent cities to spring up around the city, was sandwiched between One80 Place, the city's main homeless shelter, and an Interstate 26 entrance ramp. About a dozen men and at least one woman had been camping there. Breaking away a section of fence that kept people away from the interstate, they had set up tents, outdoor grills,

Gallery

For more photos, go to postandcourier.com/galleries.

a fire pit, coolers, camp chairs and a condiment station on the damp soil under the sparse trees.

The S.C. Department of Transportation asked police several weeks ago to visit the camp and warn residents that DOT would be clearing the site because a vehicle potentially could crash into the camp, Deputy Police Chief Tony Elder said.

Please see **HOMELESS**, Page A4



William Hutmacher prepares to leave a homeless camp near I-26 and Meeting Street.

S.C. State trustees vote to fire Elzey

Many questions remain for university in deep trouble

BY JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

ORANGEBURG — South Carolina State University trustees fired the school's suspended president Thomas Elzey on Monday, ending his less than two years as leader of the financially troubled historically Black school.

After meeting in private for more than an hour, trustees on a phone conference voted 6-1, with three abstaining, to terminate Elzey's contract with more than two years remaining.

The vote came as the trustees themselves may soon be fired. The House and Senate have approved separate proposals to dismiss all the trustees.

Please see **ELZEY**, Page A6

RiverDogs doing what for a good cause?

Planning 'Bobbie Boobs' giveaway Aug. 22 for breast cancer awareness

BY TOMMY BRASWELL
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The Charleston RiverDogs haven't lost their touch when it comes to over-the-top promotions.

The minor league baseball team has made national headlines with zany game promotions, including its 2006 Father's Day Vasectomy Night

promotion (an idea that ultimately was nixed).

There was Nobody/Night in 2002, which forbade fans from entering the ballpark until the fifth inning so that the official attendance was zero, and Silent Night in 2003, when no talking or cheering was allowed.

This season's talker will be a "Bobbie Boobs" giveaway on Breast Cancer Awareness Night (Aug. 22). In addition to the giveaway, mammograms will be offered at Riley Park and fans will be encouraged to wear pink.

Please see **RIVERDOGS**, Page A4

Inside



BUSINESS

Port expected to see increase in cargo, cruise ships. **B1**

LOCAL

Proposed bill would outlaw use of Islamic law as basis for defense in state courts. **A5**

'You're caught!' HBO show may be much more than drama for Durst prosecutors

BY JANET MCCONNAUGHEY and BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Robert Durst couldn't explain away the similarities between his handwriting and a letter he said "only the killer could have written" that alerted police to his friend's shooting 15 years ago.

Confronted with new evidence by the makers of a documentary about his life, the troubled millionaire blinked, burped oddly, pulled his ear and briefly put his head in his hands before denying he was

the killer. Then he stepped away from the tense interview and went to the bathroom, still wearing the live microphone that recorded what he said next.

"There it is. You're caught!" Durst whispered to himself before running the tap water. "What the hell did I do? Killed them all, of course."

That moment didn't just make for a captivating finale to a six-part documentary on the eccentric life of an heir to a New York real estate fortune.

It also may have given police and prosecutors the evidence they needed to close the long-cold case of a mobster's daughter, Susan Herman, who was killed by a bullet to the back of her head as investigators prepared to find out what she knew about the disappearance of Durst's wife in 1982.

Please see **DURST**, Page A6



Mostly sunny. High 82. Low 52. Complete 5-day forecast. **B10**

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Charleston Deals Today

The Yoga Den
Half off yoga passes!
See A2

The public's right to see government records is coming at an ever-increasing price, **10A**



Ferguson flooded with record requests after shooting, **10A**

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867



TUESDAY, March 17, 2015

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Aiken Standard Bracket Challenge Online at bit.ly/1FeXyLf

BRACKET INSIDE: University of South Carolina women's team lands No. 1 seed

See Beth Spangler live

Former 'The Voice' singer headlining concert Thursday, will perform national anthem at Spring Steeplechase

BY STEPHANIE TURNER
sturner@aikenstandard.com

Tickets are still available to see former "The Voice" contestant and Aiken singer Beth Spangler live.

Spangler's debut full-length concert will be Thursday at the URS Center for the Performing Arts, 126 Newberry St. SW.

Doors will open at 7 p.m., and the show will begin at 8 p.m. Spangler also will sing the national anthem for the Aiken Spring Steeplechase on Saturday. Gates open at 9:30 a.m., with the first races starting at 1 p.m. "I haven't missed a Steeplechase in at least 12 years, (and) I made sure my schedule was blocked off so that I could attend this year, before I even knew I was singing," Spangler said. "I love everything about the Steeplechase, from the process of picking out the perfect dress to the very last race; I don't miss a single detail. I always look forward to the fellowship with family and friends, especially those I don't get to see often, and, when the weather is just right, it is the icing on the cake... It is the event that I look forward to attending the most every year."

Tickets for Thursday's concert are \$50, with a limited amount still available, according to the Friends of Beth Spangler group. A cash bar will be open before the show and during intermission. Appetizers will be served before the show.

Merchandise, such as T-shirts, bracelets and more, also will be sold.



Beth Spangler, pictured singing this year at the Georgia Entertainment Gala, will hold her first concert in Aiken on Thursday.

Spangler, 30, has been singing practically her whole life, with her career climaxing with a noted run on the seventh season of NBC's "The Voice."

Though Spangler didn't make it to the finals, she continued on. Most recently, she and her band

won the 2015 Belk Southern Musician Showcase, which means their music will be featured in Belk commercials and more.

Opening for Spangler will be local sister-brother duo Brooke and Brent Lundy, who perform together around the Aiken, Au-



INSIDE TODAY
Dogwood Stable part of Aiken Steeplechase tradition. **Local News, 2A**

Want to go?

WHAT: Beth Spangler's first full-length concert
WHEN: Thursday; doors open at 7 p.m., show begins at 8 p.m.
WHERE: URS Center for the Performing Arts, 126 Newberry St. SW.
COST: Tickets are \$50

gusta and Columbia areas. Spangler is expected to perform at 8:30 p.m. Accompanying her will be performers such as her four-part band and the Augusta-based Dance 2 Inspire group. For more information on the concert, call 803-648-1438. For more information on Steeplechase, visit www.aikensteeplechase.com. To keep up with Spangler, visit www.bethspangler.com.

Stephanie Turner is the arts and entertainment reporter for the Aiken Standard.



Gerard Araud, France's Ambassador to the U.S., met with French employees and toured the Savannah River Site's MOX facility Monday.

Ambassador impressed by MOX facility

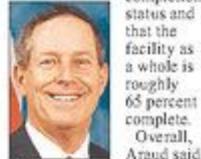
BY DERREK ASBERRY
dasberry@aikenstandard.com

Gerard Araud, France's Ambassador to the United States, said he and South Carolina Congressman Joe Wilson share the same concern: Preserving jobs at the Savannah River Site's MOX facility and across the rest of the Palmetto State.

Araud stepped into his role in September and landed in South Carolina on Monday. After touring Lexington County's two Michelin Tire plants, Araud made the drive to Aiken where he toured the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility — another one of France's investments in the state.

After the tour, Araud spoke with the Aiken Standard and said many of

the MOX structures are approaching a 95 percent completion status and that the facility as a whole is roughly 65 percent complete.



Overall, Araud said he was impressed with the MOX program — a part of the nation's agreement with Russia for each country to dispose of 34 metric tons of weapons-grade plutonium. Annually, the program enters a federal budget battle and was in danger of losing funding for construction due to missed deadlines and cost overruns.

Please see **FRANCE**, Page 12A

INSIDE TODAY

S.C. State trustees fire President Thomas Elzey
State, 6A

County seeks OK on grant for Langley Dam costs
Local News, 2A

AREA DEATHS

John. Prothro Livingston, Springfield
Rufus Herod Gaddy Jr., Clinton
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER

Restored barn haven for horses

BY DEDE BILES
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

Sandie Nicolaisen knows she and her husband, Don, made the right move when they decided to buy the Clark Polo Barn and renovate it last year.

The brick structure is in the perfect location for Nicolaisen to enjoy two of her favorite pastimes, horseback riding and carriage driving. Surrounding the barn is an equine-friendly, historic neighborhood that has polo fields, paddocks and Thoroughbred training tracks. Hitchcock Woods also is nearby.

In addition, Nicolaisen's four horses seem happy to be there, and her two dogs — an Irish Jack Russell terrier named Gidget and a Cairn Terrier named Toby — always are eager to see



Sandie Nicolaisen and her Cairn Terrier, Toby, stand outside of the Clark Polo Barn.

Preservation Awards

Each Tuesday, the Aiken Standard will publish a feature on a winner of the recent Historic Aiken Foundation 2015 Preservation Awards. The schedule is:

- FEB. 24:** Adaptive Use Award: Fusion Capital office
- MARCH 3:** Leadership Award: Whitney Polo Field pavilion
- MARCH 10:** Stewardship Award: Anne Thomasson for the Carriage House Inn
- TODAY:** Stewardship Award: Don and Sandie Nicolaisen for the Clark Barn
- MARCH 24:** Stewardship Award: Adath Yeshurun synagogue
- MARCH 31:** Wilds-Lipe Treasured Home Award

THE JOURNAL

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Tuesday, March 17, 2015

75 Cents



'LIQUID GOLD'

Country going crazy over craft beer. B1

MADNESS STARTS: Lady Gamecocks earn No. 1 seed in NCAA Tournament. C1
NUKE TALKS: Official says Iranian diplomats confront US over GOP letter. D1

Walhalla teen charged in deadly wreck

18-year-old killed Saturday in Westminster

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — A Walhalla teen faces felony DUI charges in relation to a single-car collision that killed a woman in Westminster on Saturday night.

Jordan Scott Tilson, 17, of 230 Agar Lane, is charged with one count of felony DUI resulting in great bodily injury and one count of felony DUI resulting in death, according to S.C. Highway Patrol Lance Cpl. David Jones.

Tilson was booked into the Oconee County Detention Center on Sunday afternoon, and no information on his blood alcohol level was available as of press time Monday. Tilson was being held Monday on a total \$73,374 surety bond.

Autumn Charissa Jordan, 18, of South Spring Street in Walhalla, died from blunt-force injuries from the collision, Oconee County coroner Karl Addis said in a news release early Sunday.



Tilson

SEE WRECK, PAGE A5

Fire destroys home



Oconee County fire officials are investigating the cause of a Monday afternoon fire on East Brown Street in Seneca. One dog died at the scene, but three dogs and a man were able to make it out of the home safely. At right, a family member administers oxygen to a dog in the wake of the blaze.

PHOTOS BY JESSICA HELMS/
THE JOURNAL



Man escapes unharmed

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — A man and three animals managed to escape a house fire Monday afternoon on East Brown Street in Seneca. Oconee County Fire Chief Charlie King told The Journal on scene firefighters

SEE FIRE, PAGE A5

Public hearing set on noise exemptions for industry

BY STEVEN BRADLEY
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — Oconee residents can weigh in tonight on whether added exemptions to the county's noise code are just good for business or if officials are putting the cart before the horse.

County council will hold a public hearing, and third and final reading, at 6 p.m. for Ordinance 2015-09, which would amend the county's code to add exemptions for industry to its noise regulations.

County administrator Scott Moulder said the changes to the county noise code are exclusively related to industrial, warehouse, distribution and manufacturing operations.

"(The rest) is all part of the original document," he said. "The only things that were changed were the ones referencing industrial."

Moulder said the top-

'(The ordinance is) based on continuing to make Oconee County competitive in the global landscape known as economic development.'

Richard Blackwell
Oconee Economic Alliance
executive director

ic had been broached in the process of recruiting companies, notably in relation to Project Sarah, or Michelin North America.

District 1 council member Edda Cammick argued at council's last meeting that it should wait on



Cammick

SEE NOISE, PAGE A5

School district trying to reach those who didn't graduate

Some who didn't receive diploma may now qualify

Rosemond-Saunders, who taught in the school district for more than 30 years and served as a guidance counselor for 15 years, said she wanted to know what avenues the district is using.

'I just don't want to see anyone who should get the high school diploma not get it.'

the district has attempted to get information out not only through the newspaper, but also the school district's website and information sent home with students for parents. "We haven't gone

ELITE COMPANY

Limestone women advance to round of eight after regional championship win C1



Herald-Journal

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HJ
IN A HURRY
5 Things to read today



Plans brewing

Downtown Spartanburg's craft brewing market is about to grow. Greenville businessmen Michael Willcox and Kolby Garrison, and their wives, Rachel Willcox and Cindy Garrison, will open Hub City Tap House at 197 E. St. John St. **PAGE C1**

Helping out

Four local nonprofit organizations have pledged an initial \$115,000 in a unique partnership to support the city of Spartanburg's police and fire services. **PAGE C1**

A potential break

A caught-on-tape comment from eccentric millionaire Robert Durst saying he "killed them all" may be the piece of evidence investigators need to close the long-cold case of a mobster's daughter. **PAGE A3**

Union vote sought

The Machinists union on Monday asked for an election so about 2,400 Boeing production workers in South Carolina can decide whether they want union representation. **PAGE C2**

Flight crew ID'd

The Louisiana National Guard identified the pilots and crew of a Black Hawk helicopter that crashed March 10 in the Santa Rosa Sound along Florida's Panhandle in a nighttime training exercise in dense fog with seven elite Marines aboard. **PAGE A3**

Beloved teacher remembered

James Hartell, killed in lake accident, was witty, dedicated, friends say

By ZACH FOX
zach.fox@stj.com

Spartanburg High School is mourning the death of a U.S. history teacher remembered for his sense of humor, his devotion to family and his dedication to students.

James Prescott Hartell, 43, of Garden Grove Court, Spartanburg, was pronounced dead at the scene of a personal watercraft crash on Lake Bowen

on Sunday, according to Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger. Hartell's 10-year-old son was injured and airlifted to Spartanburg Medical Center, where he remained in critical condition Monday afternoon.

"He was a witty guy, a funny guy," said Spartanburg High Principal Jeff Stevens, who knew Hartell as a colleague and a personal friend. "We're not doing real well right now. We're in a state of mourning."

Students, administrators and faculty gathered around the school's flagpole for a prayer ceremony Monday morning.

◆ SEE HARTELL PAGE A6



ALEX HICKS JR./ALEX.HICKS@SHU.COM
Spartanburg High School Principal Jeff Stevens said the death of his friend and colleague James Hartell has devastated many at the school, where Hartell was a popular history teacher.

TOAST OF THE TOWN



Stout, a black Labrador retriever owned by RJ Rockers' Mark Johnsen, is a fixture at the brewery, making friends with

District meets on safety concerns

Union High parents upset over recent incidents at school

By ZACH FOX
zach.fox@stj.com

The Union County School District board of trustees held a special meeting Monday night to address safety concerns at Union County High School, but board members did not discuss the matter in public or hear from parents.

The meeting came after the resignations of Principal Floyd Lyles and Assistant Principal Jenelle Gilliam on Wednesday, as well as multiple fights and arrests in the school's cafeteria during the week.

An overflow crowd packed a room at the Union County Career and Technology Center, adjacent to the high school campus. Union County Superintendent Kristi Woodall made a statement on the situation. She said the school's new administration team took over Thursday with help from district officials and extra law enforcement officers.

She said 440 students, more than one-third of the school's total population, were withdrawn from school on Thursday after seeing incorrect reports on television of threats made against the school. "It caused chaos and parental worry," she said. "Adults, including



Unions at Boeing plant? Machinists group wants to hold election A4

ANOTHER UPDATE:
Facebook tries to clarify
policy on content, posts,
photos allowed on site A4



Shooting triggers manhunt

Authorities investigate the scene of a shooting in the 1200 block of Alva Drive on Monday in Cherryvale.



MATTHEW BRUCE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Teen allegedly shoots man in head



BY MATT BRUCE
matt@theitem.com

A countywide manhunt was underway Monday evening as authorities combed the area searching for a Sumter County teen who allegedly shot a

man in Cherryvale.

The incident unfolded about 5:30 p.m. in the 1200 block of Alva Drive outside a house near the intersection at Amelia Drive. According to preliminary reports

SEE SHOOTING, PAGE A8

Millwood head talks building upgrades

BY KONSTANTIN VENGEROWSKY
konstantin@theitem.com

In the last several weeks, several letters to the editor have been sent to *The Sumter Item* regarding the changes implemented at Millwood Elementary School this year by the new principal, Stella Hall.

Some of these issues include the money that has been spent on building renovations and the closing of the playground.

Sumter resident Steven Miller wrote to say that he was concerned with how the district has spent money at Millwood this year.

Miller said that according to information that he obtained from a Freedom of Information Act request, Millwood had a front-office face-lift at the start of the school year. The school has also had a new concrete bus lane added, at a cost of \$28,000, and a new shelter for car riders at a cost of \$67,000.

"There are three other covered areas at the school already and a picnic shelter," Miller said in his letter. He said that plantation shutters were put up in the front office and cafeteria at a cost of \$7,000.

He said that the district has spent a total of \$100,000 for the three projects.

Hall said at Sumter School District's school board Monday night that the changes made were necessary and came out of building funds that

SEE MILLWOOD, PAGE A8

Silhouette artist discusses his art with visitors



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Artist Clay Rice creates a silhouette of Karisse Robinson, 2, while her mother, Denise, holds her. Described by Pat Conroy as a "great talent who combines soul and passion," Rice came to Sumter County Museum on Saturday to talk about his art and create silhouettes for visitors. Rice's work can be seen through March 28 at the museum's Heritage Education Center.

Fireside Fund wraps up successful season

BY JADE REYNOLDS
jade@theitem.com

FIRESIDE FUND 2014-15

Dedicated to the memory of Maj. Gen. Tom Olson

Fireside Fund took in \$583 this week to bring this season to a close with a total of \$56,428.27 raised.

"I continue to be impressed year after year with the generosity of the Sumter community in regards to Fireside Fund," said Jack Osteen, editor and publisher of *The*

Sumter Item. "Unfortunately, the need for assistance during the winter months continues to be high for a great number of area residents.

"A special 'thank you' goes to Jackie Olsen for allowing

us to dedicate this year's fund in her husband, Maj. Gen. Tom Olson's honor. I know many more people gave because of what he meant to the Sumter community and our great nation."

After serving his country for more than 30 years in the United States Air Force, Olsen retired from Shaw Air Force Base and began working to serve his Sumter com-

munity. He was the founding board chairman of The Tuomey Foundation, a position he held until his death in January 2014, and served as the first director of the Sumter Base Defense Committee.

Fireside Fund is a heating initiative started by *The Sumter Item* in 1969. The publication partners with

SEE FIRESIDE, PAGE A8



The South Carolina women's basketball team finds out its NCAA tournament seeding

See Sports 1B

INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2015

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Calhoun Falls police chief, lieutenant back to work

By COLIN RIDDLE
criddle@indexjournal.com

CALHOUN FALLS — Chief J.T. Galloway and his second in command, Lt. Ed Pereira, will start back work Wednesday after being rehired by Calhoun Falls Town Council during a special-called meeting Monday night.

Prior to going into a closed-door meeting — also known as executive session — council unanimously approved second and final reading of an ordinance rescinding a previous ordinance that gave elevated powers to the mayor, including the power to

hire and dismiss town employees if deemed in the best interest of town. The vote to rehire the two former employees also was unanimous.

About 50 people attended the meeting and erupted in applause once the vote came.

"I wanted to see things back to normal and feel this will get us back to some normalcy," Mayor Pro Tem Mindy Rogers, who presided over the meeting in Mayor Johnnie Waller's absence, said after the meeting. "I wish this had been handled differently, so we wouldn't have to go through this for the town."

"I wanted to see things back to normal and feel this will get us back to some normalcy"

The previous ordinance was put in place in January 2006, during one of Waller's previous terms as mayor.

The new ordinance retains the mayor's responsibilities as the town's chief administrative officer to execute the daily functions of the town, while

personnel powers lie with council. This includes hiring and dismissing all department heads.

Additionally, the ordinance provides greater detail to the duties and responsibilities of any town administrators hired by the town.

A first reading was approved by council a week ago during a special-called meeting.

Rogers said she hopes the new ordinance will allow them to work as a team for future personnel issues.

Waller relieved Galloway and Pereira of their duties three weeks ago, giving little reason to his decisions for which he is not required to do so for at-will employees.

Previous reports in the Index-Journal provided information in the chief's personnel file, obtained through a Freedom of Information

See **CALHOUN**, page 4A

MINDY ROGERS

Calhoun Falls Mayor Pro Tem

SC State trustees vote to fire Elzey

By JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

ORANGEBURG — South Carolina State University trustees fired the school's suspended president Thomas Elzey on Monday, ending his less than two years as leader of the financially troubled historically black school.



THOMAS ELZEY

After meeting in private for more than an hour, trustees on a phone conference voted 6-1, with three abstaining, to terminate Elzey's contract with more than two years remaining.

The vote came as the trustees themselves may soon be fired. The House and Senate have approved separate proposals to dismiss all the trustees. Both sides are currently trying to hash out differences in their plans, such as how the new trustees would be chosen.

And the future of the school itself is unclear, as officials grapple with the institution's accreditation and massive debts. The university's accreditation is on probation. A decision is expected in the next few months on whether it can remain accredited. Losing its accreditation would mean students couldn't get financial aid, likely dooming the school.

The trustees' decision came just hours after Circuit Judge Edgar Dickson lifted his own ban on firing Elzey that he issued less than two weeks ago. Dickson ruled Elzey's contract with the school allows him to be fired for any reason as long as he is paid what he is owed.



Auto Drive-in an industry leader

By JOSEPH SITARZ
jsitarz@indexjournal.com

Here's more to the Auto Drive-In than what meets the eye as drivers pass the big screen that's visible on Highway 25 just south of the center of Greenwood. There are two screens with a third ready to be built. There's a restaurant that's pumping out more than just what people consider drive-in food.

And there's the husband-wife team of Tommy and Carolyn McCutcheon keeping

See **AUTO**, page 4A



MADDY JONES | INDEX-JOURNAL

ABOVE: Carolyn McCutcheon, co-owner of the Auto Drive-In, takes concessions orders from customers.

BELOW: Customers order french fries, burgers, corn dogs, and more inside the concessions stand at the Auto Drive-In in Greenwood Friday night.





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Morning News

TUESDAY MARCH 17, 2015

TODAY'S WEATHER
 Mostly sunny with patchy clouds later.
 High 83, low 47.
 DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

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Timmonsville Rescue takes top honor

BY GAVIN JACKSON
 Morning News
 gjackson@florencenews.com

TIMMONSVILLE — Many superstitious people try to avoid activities on Friday the 13th but members of the Timmonsville Rescue Squad stood at the ready, like they do every day, waiting for the call. That call came in shortly

after midnight, then another, and then an 18-wheeler accident on Interstate 95 making for a busy early morning, but one that some of the 27 crew members are prepared to tackle. Chief Donnie Windham, 70, who was driving a truck that night, said there is no luck in how his crews work, which is why for the third

time in seven years, Timmonsville Rescue Squad was named the EMS Small System of the Year at the State EMS Symposium in February. "On occasions we've gone up to four crews to run calls," Windham said. Four isn't that often, three is often, two we do several times a week. On occasion we've run some 15 calls in a

12-hour shift or more. I've tried to see over the years if there is pattern, but there is no pattern." Unpredictability is the constant in Windham's business, just not when it comes to their response. The squad has taken the award in 2007, 2012 and now 2014. To qualify, the



Timmonsville Rescue Squad Chief Donnie Windham, second from left, stands with several crew members on Monday.

See **RESCUE**, Page 3A

'Epitome of the Highway Patrol'



South Carolina Highway Patrol Lt. Col. Chris Williamson presents the ceremonial burial flag to Dr. Melvin Howard's wife, Janice. Howard was laid to rest on March 16 at the Florence National Cemetery.

Lieutenant Colonel Melvin Howard of Florence remembered

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
 Morning News
 jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Dozens of family members, friends and colleagues gathered Monday at the Florence National Cemetery to pay respects to an honored veteran of the South Carolina Highway Patrol and the Army National Guard. Melvin Leroy Howard, a Florence native, died Wednesday at the age of 58 and was laid to rest with full military honors Monday afternoon. He was the highest ranked African-American in the highway patrol before his retirement in 2009.

Howard was a retired lieutenant colonel from the patrol, as well as a retired



COMMON CORE

SC moves on; similarities remain in new standards

BY AMANDA KERR
 Post and Courier

The Palmetto State is moving beyond the Common Core education standards after a year of heated debate, but educators say the new guidelines won't usher in a radical change in the classroom next year.

"I like that it is written by South Carolinians for South Carolinians to be used in the public schools of South Carolina," said Kathy Maness, executive director of the Palmetto State Teachers Association.

"We think the new standards are more rigorous than what our students have right now. In South Carolina, you've got to know how to add one-digit numbers."

See **COMMON**, Page 4A

Darlington County Council considers fee for business registration

BY JIM FAILE
 Darlington Messenger
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DARLINGTON — Darlington County Council got its first look at a newly proposed ordinance that, if adopted, will implement a \$10 annual fee on new and existing businesses in the county.

The measure was introduced for first reading only, which requires no action from council. A preliminary vote will come when the measure comes up for sec-



THE ISLAND PACKET

TUESDAY, March 17, 2015



Hilton Head Island • Bluffton

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Search comes to tragic end

Body recovered in Broad Creek, believed to be Bob Masteller's



Beaufort County Sheriff's Office personnel prepare to remove the body from the water Monday at a dock in the Brams Point Road area.

BODY FOUND

A fisherman found a body at a dock in Broad Creek on Monday morning. Investigators believe the body is that of missing Jazz Corner owner Bob Masteller.



Staff graphic

MORE ONLINE

Click on this story at islandpacket.com to find:

- Video of Beaufort County Sheriff's Office personnel at the scene.
- Video, timeline and stories on the search.



MASTELLER FAMILY STATEMENT

We are profoundly touched by the outpouring of love and support for our family during this very difficult time and are deeply saddened by the sudden loss of our beloved Bob.

He lived life as a devoted husband, father and friend to all. He lived a life of kindness, vision and love. He lived a life built around nurturing countless musicians and individuals young and old with his passion for music. For over 40 years, Bob was dedicated to and loved the Lowcountry community, helping to build what is now modern Hilton Head Island.

It is our sincere hope that he will be remembered for how he lived. His legacy lives on through the numerous lives he touched in such a tangible and positive way. He is deeply loved by many and will be greatly missed.

— The Masteller Family

Masteller family speaks out

By **MATT McNAB**
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843-706-8125

A few hours after the body of a missing Hilton Head Island jazz club owner was apparently found in Broad Creek on Monday, his family memorialized the longtime island resident and well-known music enthusiast.

A body believed to be that of Bob Masteller, 76, was found under a dock on Broad Creek by a fisherman around 9 a.m. Monday morning, according to a Beaufort County Sheriff's Office news release.

Masteller's family memorialized the Jazz Corner owner in a statement

released around 3 p.m. Monday, saying he was "deeply loved by many and will be greatly missed."

"We are profoundly touched by the outpouring of love and support for our family during this very difficult time and are deeply saddened by the sudden loss of our beloved Bob," the statement said. "He lived life as a devoted husband, father and friend to all. He lived a life of kindness, vision and love. He lived a life built around nurturing countless musicians and individuals young and old with his passion for music."

In addition to his work with Hilton Head's musicians through The Jazz

Corner and his Junior Jazz Foundation, Masteller was also a key part of the island's growth in the 1970s, serving as a senior vice president in Sea Pines.

"For over 40 years, Bob was dedicated to and loved the Lowcountry community, helping to build what is now modern Hilton Head Island," the statement said. "It is our sincere hope that he will be remembered for how he lived. His legacy lives on through the numerous lives he touched in such a tangible and positive way."

Please see **FAMILY** on 7A

"He was such a well-liked man on the island."

Ashton Hayes, one of the owners of British Open Pub

Jazz Corner business neighbors react to news

By **REBECCA LURYE**
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Word that Jazz Corner owner Bob Masteller's body may have been found was just beginning to spread to most of the Hilton Head Island jazz club's neighbors early Monday afternoon.

Many of them had spent the past six days hoping for an outcome that seemed increasingly unlikely — for Masteller, 76, to be found safe. On Monday, their uncertainty — shared among Village at Wexford owners, employees and regulars — gave way to news

Preserving jazz: The show must go on

Bob Masteller's generation taught Hilton Head Island to aim high, do it right and work hard.

The show must go on. Bob Masteller knew all about shows.

He was 13 when he performed for the first time, playing with his father's band in the swinging age of



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