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Date: 12/10/2015 10:37:12 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Thursday, December 10, 2015

SC Front Pages – Thursday, December 10, 2015



SPORTS LAWSON TO GO TO NFL



CITY PEOPLE Building personal for student

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 10, 2015
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY

CALIFORNIA KILLERS EACH RADICALIZED BEFORE THEY MET ONLINE PAGE 1B

Schools chief: New law will help state

US Senate passes education overhaul that gives states more flexibility, sends it to Obama for his signature

NATHANIEL CARY
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The U.S. Senate overwhelmingly passed the rewrite of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act on Wednesday, sending the overhaul of the law that replaces No Child Left Behind to President Obama's desk, where he has indicated he will sign it into law.

The new bill, called Every Student Succeeds Act, will return power over much of the public education system

back to states where it belongs, state Superintendent Molly Spearman said Wednesday in Greenville.

It will add flexibility for South Carolina and take away the emphasis on high stakes testing in favor of broader measures of accountability, she said.

"It will give more flexibility back to the state instead of Washington telling us exactly everything we have to do and what to do and how to do it," Spearman said. "It's giving us flexibility to South Carolina to do what we know is right."

South Carolina had already begun to develop its own accountability measures and had joined other states in successfully asking for waivers from some of the No Child Left Behind requirements, Spearman said.

But this new law will allow the state to develop many of its own ways to hold teachers, schools and districts accountable, she said.

States would still submit accountability plans to the federal Department of Education beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, but can choose from a broader range of accountability measures.

The ESSA was passed by a bipartisan vote of 359-64 in the House last week and

85-12 vote in the Senate Wednesday.

Under the new law, the state Department of Education plans to reduce the number of required standardized tests, Spearman said.

States will still have to test students in English language arts and math in grades 3 through 8 and once in high school and must maintain 95 percent participation in tests for each school.

South Carolina requires one test in grades 3 through 8 in science and social studies, but "right now we are doing a little bit more testing in (grades) 3 through

See LAW, Page 6A

Health care costs out of reach for 1 in 4 adults

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Health care costs are out of reach for one in four working adults with private insurance and many go without needed medical care as a result, new research shows.

"More Americans than ever have health insurance," said Dr. David Blumenthal, president of the Commonwealth Fund, which conducted the study, "but these findings show that too many people with all types of coverage aren't getting care because of high costs."

The report looked at premiums, deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses as a share of income. About nine in 10 people in the survey had employer-sponsored insurance while about 6 percent had Obamacare coverage and 5 percent had an individual plan.

With the advent of the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, the focus has been on those who have no insurance at all.

But as health care costs rise, businesses in recent years have been shifting more costs to employees in the form of higher deductibles, copayments and premiums, all at a time when wages have been stagnant.

The study found that high deductibles are one of the top reasons people can't afford health care. About 43 percent of those in the survey and 51 percent of low- and moderate-income people said their deductible is difficult or impossible to afford.

"We are seeing deductibles rise among employers," said Cheryl Parham, private insurance program director for the nonprofit health care consumer group Families USA. "It is a really huge problem for many consumers."

While premiums, copayments and co-insurance are a little easier to afford than deductibles, according to the report, 34 percent of low-income adults, or someone making less than \$23,340 a year, had trouble paying the deductibles, the study shows.

See HEALTH, Page 5A



Darrell Golden of South Carolina Gun Company in Greer discusses the semi-automatic AR-15 and the selection of rifles available at his shop.

Are changes on the way?

Senator seeks ban on some assault weapons

TIM SMITH
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COLUMBIA - Darrell Golden likes assault weapons so much he not only sells them at his Greer store, he also owns one.

As rifles go, the owner of the South Carolina Gun Company said, the AR-15-style guns are lightweight, offer little recoil and are economical to shoot.

But he also acknowledges the popular rifles are the source of controversy in the wake of two mass shootings, the most recent of which involved a man and his wife who went on a murderous rampage in San

Bernardino, Calif., using AR-15-style rifles to kill 14 and wound 21.

"Everybody is scared," Golden said. "I don't know what's going on with our country and the people in power. We could come up with a miracle cure and say guns are going to be banned and the reality of the situation is there is no way to enforce that. God himself would have to ban guns for guns to be banned."

Sen. Marion Kimpson, a Charleston Democrat, is not willing to wait that long. He has pre-filed a bill that would ban some types of assault weapons in South Carolina.

"My position is pretty simple," he said. "We ought not to have military weaponry on the streets."

The issue is not a new one. Congress itself waded into the contro-

versy in 1994, banning what it then labeled as assault weapons, defining them as semi-automatic rifles with detachable ammunition magazines and other military-like features.

But the law expired in 2004 and Congress did not renew it. Seven states and some cities have since passed their own bans, one of which the U.S. Supreme Court last week declined to take up on appeal, despite the objections of two justices.

According to *The Washington Post*, "Justices Clarence Thomas and Antonin Scalia wrote that the court should review the ban because it 'flouts' the court's Second Amendment jurisprudence. They criticized lower court decisions that have allowed jurisdictions to impose what

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Muschamp on recruiting trail to improve USC's offense, 1B, 3B



Watson, on cover of Sports Illustrated, finalist for 2 awards, 1B

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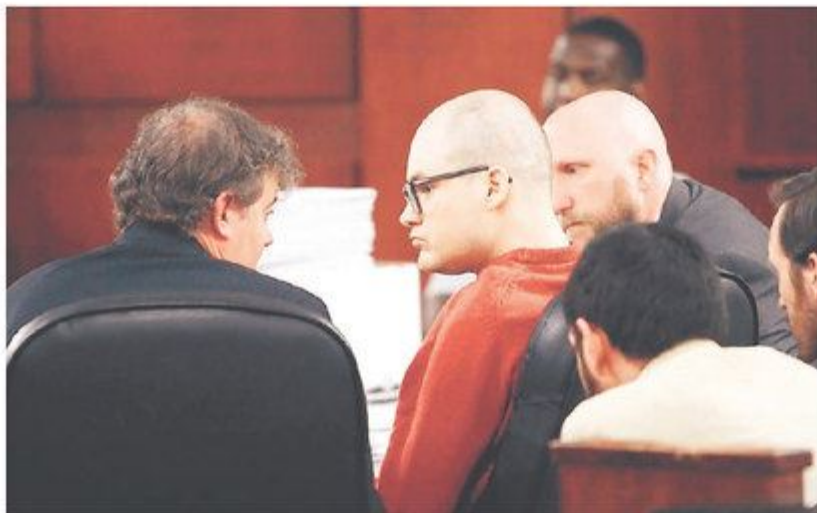
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The State

MIDLANDS MASS MURDER CASE

Dad faces death penalty in slaying of 5 children



Timothy Ray Jones Jr. with attorneys Boyd Young, left, and Rob Madsen.

BY TIM FLACH
tflach@thestate.com

Timothy Ray Jones Jr. is facing the death penalty in connection with the deaths of his five children in Red Bank more than 15 months ago.

Eleventh Circuit Solicitor Donald Myers served notice of that decision at a court hearing Wednesday in Lexington County attended by Jones in his first

Timothy Ray Jones Jr. facing murder charges in the deaths of his children more than 15 months ago

Judge orders psychiatric evaluation

court appearance in more than a year in what is one of the largest mass murders in the Midlands in decades.

Jones listened intently when consulted privately by his lawyers but said little during the

hearing other than to confirm his identity and request a jury trial.

He often stared at the wall ahead, occasionally turning to

SEE JONES, 6A

➔ ONLINE

AT THESTATE.COM:
See more photos and a video from the courtroom. And view an interactive timeline that stretches from the children's mother reporting them missing to their father's Wednesday court date.

'To give back ... in even a small way ... is huge': USC students drain meal plan dollars for needy

BY AVERY G. WILKS
awilks@thestate.com

Some University of South Carolina students on Wednesday put their leftover lunch money to work for a

good cause.

About seven freshmen and sophomores took a break from studying for final exams to walk through USC's Russell House cafeteria, filling their arms with boxes of Rice Krispies Treats, blue-

berry Pop-Tarts, chips and more.

The swiped their Carolina Cards to pay for the goods, draining most of their remaining meal plan dollars - which do not roll over to next semester. They then

delivered the goods, which filled several large boxes and bags, to Oliver Gospel Mission, at Main and Assembly streets, which runs a men's drug and alcohol recovery

SEE LUNCH MONEY, 6A

Sumter to lose 625 military jobs

Reductions to be completed by Oct. 1

Part of military drawdown after wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

Cuts "will hurt ... but not devastating"

BY JEFF WILKINSON
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U.S. Army Central in Sumter will cut about 625 jobs at Shaw Air Force Base by Oct. 1 because of continued reductions in the military after 14 years of war.

Although the command group is responsible for the planning and execution of the wars in the Middle East and Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. Michael Garrett said he has been ordered to reduce his staff by 25 percent. Most of the cuts will be at the Sumter base.

He plans to reduce by 54 percent the number of military personnel at his Shaw Air Force Base headquarters outside Sumter as well as 12 percent of the civilian workers and contractors there.

"We'll have to prioritize our efforts," said Garrett, who took the reins of U.S. Army Central - formerly called Third Army - just three weeks ago. "We'll be able to execute, but it won't be to the level we are now."

The cuts would reduce staff at the headquarters to 539 soldiers and 73 civilians, Garrett told Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday during her annual commanders briefing with the S.C. Military Base Task Force. Haley appointed the task force to protect military jobs in the state.

SEE MILITARY JOBS, 8A



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015

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GREENWOOD

Pathway House gets ready to expand

By COLIN RIDDLE
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In the Greenwood Pathway House's four years, an apparent need is quickly being revealed to Greenwood's only homeless shelter.

Pathway House is a ministry-focused organization providing solace, whether temporary or regular, while working to fix the root of problems facing Greenwood's homeless population.

"The need is real and the need is here; it's just they're hidden," Pathway House Executive Director Ken Kelly said. "Unless there is somewhere for them to go, you don't see them."

Originally acting as an emergency cold weather shelter at partner churches since 2011, Pathway House started housing nine men full-time and helping with job skills and work training on the former campus of Abney Memorial Baptist Church on Panola Avenue about a year and a half ago.

The organization launched a capital campaign Wednesday to grow that number to 30 men and build a new shelter for six women, including mothers with children.

While homelessness in Greenwood is difficult to measure and situations vary, Police Chief Gerald Brooks said it is routine for police to receive calls regarding homeless people.

"If you have a home, don't take it for granted," Brooks said. "Pause for a minute, consider how fortunate you are."

Prior to Pathway House, the city did not have a place to take the homeless, Brooks said.

"That's a sorry state of affairs considering we come across a homeless dog and we can take them to the animal shelter," Brooks said.

Brooks said a homeless person is likely to land in one of two categories: crime victim or perpetrator of crime.

"Our duty and moral obligation is to not leave that person out there to fend off for themselves," Brooks said.

Brooks said Pathway House helps guide people in difficult situations become productive members in the community, which ultimately helps combat homelessness.

"There is this cycle of dysfunction that continues and

See **PATHWAY**, page 4A

Accreditor denies OTA program

Decision affects 11 students; Piedmont Tech appeals accreditation ruling

By ARIEL GILREATH
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Piedmont Technical College administrators told 11 students they would not graduate next week as their program was denied accreditation, the school confirmed this week.

On Nov. 30, the Accreditation

Council for Occupational Therapy Education denied accreditation to the college's Occupational Therapy Assistant program, which had been in candidacy status.

The program was started on the Newberry campus in January and has 11 students in it who were slated to graduate Tuesday. It was approved by the South-

ern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, Piedmont Tech's main accreditor.

Students who complete the OTA program are required to take a certification exam before they can begin a career in occupational therapy, but the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy requires students to graduate

from an ACOTE accredited program before taking the exam.

In order for the program to become approved for ACOTE accreditation, the school had to enroll a class through the program and later conduct an on-site visit by the ACOTE.

See **OTA**, page 4A

DOWN-HOME COOKING



JOSHUA S. KELLEY / INDEX-JOURNAL

Heidi Trull, 48, stands outside of her Belton restaurant, Grits and Groceries, Wednesday morning as a production team films inside for an upcoming special on the Food Network.

Food Network films at Grits and Groceries

By ST. CLAIRE DONAGHY
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Popular regional restaurant Grits and Groceries is to be featured on Food Network, likely in the spring, according to restaurant owner and chef Heidi Trull, who operates the restaurant with her husband, Joe Trull.

"I have no idea how this came about, or exactly what show we may be on," Heidi Trull said. "They called a few months ago and then I didn't hear anything from them, so I thought somebody might be playing a joke. Then, somebody called last week and said, 'We're coming Wednesday.' They have

been filming our fried apple pie with cinnamon ice cream.

"This could become the food Mecca of the Upstate...," Heidi Trull said. "People think we're in the middle of nowhere, but we say it's the center of the universe."

The restaurant's tag line is "real food, done real good." It serves dishes mixing traditional Southern cuisine with Cajun and Creole, among other influences.

Grits and Groceries announced that Food Network would be filming at the restaurant, about fried pies, in a weekly menu email the restaurant sent to people on its email list earlier this week.

A producer and film crew, working on behalf of Food Network, was on location at the rural Belton-area restaurant, situated at Saylor's Crossroads, Wednesday. The producer declined to give his name and would not go into specifics.

Greenville-based social media consultant John Malik, who handles social media for Grits and Groceries, said the restaurant's fried pies have recently been featured in *Garden and Gun* magazine.

"Production companies scour media like that, looking for interesting stories," Malik said. "Years ago, I was a chef and did some Food Network stuff

See **GROCERIES**, page 4A

Ray Wilson honored by community for years of service

By ARIEL GILREATH
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them with a collective, more powerful voice, and that Wilson has been an integral part of the process by

that he is leaving an incredibly large footprint because his years of experience can't be matched by someone



The Beaufort Gazette

THURSDAY, December 10, 2015

beaufortgazette.com

Established in 1897 75 cents

Trump keeps casting shadow on rivals

Candidate's knack for controversy frustrates GOP hopefuls

By THOMAS BEAUMONT
and JULIE BYKOWICZ
The Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Even campaigning half as much as his rivals, Donald Trump is drowning them out in an echo chamber of insults and charged pronouncements that have taken over the presidential campaign. Frustrated GOP candidates trekking across Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina are struggling to be heard.



Trump

All the while, some Republican officials worry the intense Trump focus is letting Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton escape serious scrutiny as she works to strengthen her case to general election voters in the 2016 contest.

"He's playing you like a fine Stradivarius violin," former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush told reporters

who mobbed him after a campaign stop in New Hampshire this week — to get his reaction to Trump's remarks. "This is what he does. He's an expert at this. He's phenomenal at garnering attention."

Perhaps no one is more frustrated than Bush, the former Florida governor once thought the likely nominee but now fighting for relevance as Trump leads most Republican polls.

Please see TRUMP on 8A

Trump's Muslim comments 'over the line,' 2 local GOP leaders say

By MATT McNAB
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Leaders of two Beaufort County Republican groups said earlier this week they believe GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump's recent comments on Muslim refugees stepped over the line, but both said they don't expect Trump's surging popularity to take an immediate hit

from the public outcry over his plan.

But a Hilton Head Island lawyer at the forefront of efforts to block refugee resettlements in South Carolina said she agreed with Trump's plan — and added that all refugees should be barred until the government's vetting process could be overhauled.

Please see LINE on 8A

'I HAVE MY HOME BACK'

Volunteers rebuild veteran's house in Beaufort



JOSH MITELMAN • Staff photo

Raymond Paige stands outside his Beaufort home with his faithful dog, Trouble, on Dec. 2. Paige's home sustained severe damage in July after a large tree fell on its right side. Paige, who didn't have insurance, saw his home rebuilt by people in the community. To see before and after video of Paige's home, click on this story at beaufortgazette.com.

By DON MCLOUD and JOSH MITELMAN
dmcloud@islandpacket.com
jmitelman@islandpacket.com

Raymond Paige's life took a bleak



Workers with Lather Construction volunteer on July 8 to re-

IN PORT ROYAL

Vote on animal rules tabled

Town council members ask for a workshop to look into adopting the Beaufort County law on pit bulls and pit mixes.

By STEPHEN FASTENAU
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843-706-8182

The town of Port Royal postponed a vote on whether to adopt a new Beaufort County animal control law Wednesday, with council members asking for a workshop next month to discuss issues specific to the town.

Among the rules adopted by the county in October is a mandate that pit bulls and pit mixes be spayed or neutered. It was crafted in response to the high number of pit bulls and mixes euthanized by the county.

Owners can appeal a pit bull determination in Beaufort County Magistrate Court.

Beaufort County Animal Services director Tallulah Trice told council members Wednesday that 50 percent of the animals taken into the county shelter from Port Royal are pit bulls and the rest are cats.

"We can't do anything with (the pit bulls)," Trice said. "We're just euthanizing the problem away."

Also new under the ordinance is a licensure requirement for pets, which county officials say will make it easier to find the owners of lost dogs.

In adopting the ordinance, the town would enter an understand-



CLEMSON QB CALM UNDER PRESSURE

SPORTS, B1



'NUTCRACKER' OFFERS SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

ESCAPE, D1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thursday, December 10, 2015



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Complete forecast, B8

UPSTATE



American Legion hosting light show

The Spartanburg American Legion Post 28 in Duncan Park is hosting a free open house and light show to celebrate the holiday season. C1



Musical donation

John and Gretchen Stroncz embraced as they watched their 1930s baby grand piano get disassembled, wrapped in blankets and carried out their front door Tuesday afternoon. The Stronczs are moving to California to be closer to family, and decided to donate the piano the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen. C1

NATION

Education law to be revamped

Those federally mandated math and reading tests will continue, but a sweeping rewrite of the nation's education law will now give states — not the U.S. government — authority to decide how to use the results in evaluating teachers and schools. A3

CALIFORNIA SHOOTINGS

FBI sheds light on shooters

Couple radicalized at least 2 years ago

By Eric Tucker
and Asif Shahzad
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The two San Bernardino shooters were radicalized at least two years ago — well before one of them came to the U.S. on a fiancée visa — and had discussed jihad

and martyrdom as early as 2013, FBI Director James Comey said Wednesday in providing the most specific details to date about the couple's path toward extremism.

Investigators are also looking at whether the husband accused in the shootings was planning an attack in 2012 but abandoned those plans, according to two people familiar with

SEE SHOOTERS, A4



FBI Director James Comey testifies before the Senate Judiciary Committee Wednesday on Capitol Hill in Washington. SUSAN WALSH/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN AFTERMATH OF TRAGEDY

'Shop with a Cop' event lets children, officers bond



Four-year-old Donovan Sova Noble shops for Christmas presents with Spartanburg Police Department Officer Sheryl Hughes at the east-side Walmart in Spartanburg on Wednesday morning. The "Shop with a Cop" event is an effort to give back to those whose families were victims of violent crimes.



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Morning News

THURSDAY DECEMBER 10, 2015

TODAY'S WEATHER
Fog in the a.m.; partly sunny, mild.
High 70, low 47.
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Raiya Daniels (kneeling) helps classmate Olivia Marsac complete a level of the computer coding game they played Wednesday morning at Royall Elementary School. The girls learned about coding as part of the Hour of Code worldwide initiative.



MELISSA ROLLINS/MORNING NEWS

Students try their hand at computer programming

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com

LEARN MORE:

Find out more about the Hour of Code by visiting <https://hourofcode.com/us>

FLORENCE — Reading, Writing, Computer coding? That will soon be another fundamental skill learned in public schools around the world if the creators of

Code.org have anything to do with it. To help jumpstart its students' learning, Royall Elementary School

is taking part in the Hour of Code initiative this week and next.

Computer codes are the building blocks of any function performed on a computer. Wednesday morning, students in

See **CODE**, Page 3A

Recycling company invests in equipment

BY JOE PERRY
Morning News
jperry@florencenews.com

LAKE CITY — With an eye on innovation and increasing productivity, ICE Recycling officials on Wednesday unveiled a custom-built baler that represents a \$1 million investment.

Owned by family-run Leigh Delaware Holdings LLC and under the leadership of Leigh Fibers in Wellford, ICE Recycling's new equipment bales cardboard core tubes into tighter bundles.

Heidi Lehner, president of the holding company, said the move could help realize lower freight weights and the ability to access international markets.

"So this is a real platform for growth and we hope to be able to provide a lot more jobs and business opportunities for everybody," she said during a ribbon cutting in one corner of the Cedar Road facility that boasts 220,000 square feet of space. The baler, designed by Recycling

See **RECYCLE**, Page 3A

Santa makes a special visit



Renaire Gore, a resident of the Pee Dee Regional Center's Department of Disabilities and Special Needs, gets a present Wednesday morning from one of Santa's elves as part of an annual effort by Florence's police and fire departments and U.S. Marshal's Service to spread holiday cheer.



ABOVE: Santa Claus gets a hug Wednesday from Pee Dee Regional Center resident Ryan Derr. RIGHT: Members of

City officials bring early Christmas to disabilities center

BY JESSICA IMBIBO
Morning News
jimbibo@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Santa Claus made some deliveries early this year, Wednesday morning to be exact.

Over 50 city officials gathered to give gifts to the residents of the Pee Dee Regional Center for the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.

Personnel from the police and fire departments as well as the U.S. Marshals Service all coordinated their efforts to buy presents for the residents at the center on National Cemetery Road.

The center houses around 120 occupants

Compassionate Friends to hold annual candle lighting ceremony

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The Compassionate Friends of the Pee Dee Area, the local chapter of a national group that helps families cope with the death of a child, was placed on inac-

IF YOU GO

» **WHAT:** Worldwide Candle Lighting
» **WHEN:** 7 p.m. Sunday
» **WHERE:** Family Center at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 2536 Hoffmeyer Road

there would be no annual

THE ISLAND PACKET

THURSDAY, December 10, 2015



Hilton Head Island • Bluffton

75 cents

Glass gets life in prison for 2013 murder

Walter Glass enters a guilty plea in the death of Melanie Lowther of Pritchardville

By CAITLIN TURNER
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843 706-8184

In a crowded Beaufort County courtroom Wednesday, the man charged in the brutal 2013 murder of a well-known Pritchardville woman entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Walter Glass, 43, was charged with killing Melanie Lowther, 60, on July 31, 2013, by striking her head with a metal nail remover after she

caught him burglarizing the septic tank business she ran with her husband.

"This is one of the most vicious attacks that I have seen," 14th Circuit Solicitor Duffie Stone said in court Wednesday.

The murder left the community shaken, particularly after residents learned that Lowther had tried to help Glass turn his life around.

When she found Glass and his girlfriend living in a tent, she helped them get a camper at the nearby

Stoney Crest Campground.

She had also bought the couple groceries, the campground's manager said.

"(The Lowther family) reached out to try to help him, and he repaid them with this," Stone said of Glass.

"I just want you to know my mom was amazing," Tuesday Mock, Lowther's daughter, said in her statement to Judge Carmen Mullen. "She just had a heart of gold."



Walter Glass, center, stands with his defense attorneys, Arle Bax, right, and Lauren Carroway, on Wednesday as he pleaded guilty to murder at the Beaufort County Courthouse.

Please see MURDER on 8A

DELAYNA EARLEY • Staff photo

'I HAVE MY HOME BACK'

Volunteers rebuild veteran's house in Beaufort



Raymond Paige stands outside his Beaufort home with his faithful dog, Trouble, on Dec. 2. Paige's home sustained severe damage in July after a large tree fell on its right side. Paige, who didn't have insurance, saw his home rebuilt by people in the community. To see before and after video of Paige's home, click on this story at islandpacket.com.

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Workers with Lather Construction volunteer on site.

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Trump

Please see TRUMP on 8A

TRUMP'S MUSLIM BAN

Comments 'over

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