

From: Symmes, Brian

To:

Date: 8/14/2013 10:11:47 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages - Wednesday, August 14, 2013

SC Front Pages – August 14, 2013



SPORTS, 1C

TIGHT ENDS CARRY LOAD



BUSINESS, 7A

Local home sales still climbing

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 14, 2013
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

INSIDE

Body found near Swamp Rabbit Trail had gunshot wound, autopsy shows, 1B

FINAL EDITION

COURT REVIVES NUKE WASTE SITE

Fed can't ignore application for Yucca Mountain facility

By Eric Connor

Staff writer
econnor@greenvilleonline.com

The question of whether Yucca Mountain should be the permanent home for the nation's nuclear waste can no longer be ignored by the federal government, a federal appeals court



panel ruled — even if but a fraction of the money required to review the project is available after billions of dollars spent.

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Appeals Court for the District of Columbia on Tuesday ruled that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is "flouting the law" by declining to consider an appli-

cation to build the repository in the remote Nevada desert.

The decision was hailed by South Carolina Republicans who have long criticized President Barack Obama's administration for moth-balling the project despite a 1983 law Congress enacted requiring consideration.

The future of Yucca Mountain has enormous implications for where tons of nuclear waste stored at the Oconee Nuclear Station will go, as well as nuclear weapons waste at the Savannah

River Site in Aiken.

Duke Energy, which operates the Oconee Nuclear Station 40 miles from Greenville, said the panel's ruling is a step in the right direction.

"Currently, used nuclear fuel is being stored safely and securely at nuclear power plant sites around the country," company spokeswoman B.J. Gatten said.

"While this can continue for many

See YUCCA, Page 4A



Some residents use the sidewalks and streets for exercise. ALEN OSBURN/STAFF

UNEQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Bright kicks off Senate campaign

State lawmaker challenging Graham's bid for third term

By Tim Smith

Capital Bureau

COLUMBIA — State Sen. Lee Bright is challenging U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham's bid for a third term next year, accusing Graham of being too cozy with Democrats and not reflecting the values of South Carolinians.

Graham's campaign issued a statement Tuesday underlining Graham's values as a conservative.

"Lindsey Graham has a proven track record of protecting our conservative values and fighting for South Carolina," said Tate Zeigler, a campaign spokesman.

Bright, a Spartanburg County Republican, is just beginning his fund-raising efforts with an eventual goal of \$5 million, he said, while Graham is coming off his best fund-raising quarter ever, with a total of \$6.25 million in his war chest as of last month.

Bright, a Roebuck businessman, has served in the state Senate since 2009, defeating former Sen. John Hawkins. He lists his membership in the conservative William Wallace Caucus in the Senate on his legislative biography, as well as his board seats on the Southeastern Theological Seminary and the Palmetto Family Council.

He had been considering a bid against Graham for months. Bright told GreenvilleOnline.com that he decided to run after learning that neither U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan nor U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy would enter the race.

Two others, Lowcountry business-

See BRIGHT, Page 4A



Lee Bright

INSIDE



To tip or not to tip?

For takeout, counter service, it's not so clear. FOOD, D1



A football team with 7 players

GENE SAPAKOFF
COLUMN, C1

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WEDNESDAY, August 14, 2013

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Everything you need to know to go back to school



Third-grade teacher Akrishon Kirk works Friday on her classroom's college mascot, the University of Maryland Terrapin, as she prepares for the school year at Sanders-Clyde Elementary/Middle School.

BY DEETTE COURRIDGE CASEY and BRENDA RINDGE
dcourridge@postandcourier.com; brindge@postandcourier.com

Enjoy it while it lasts, kids. This is your last full week of summer break. Schools in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties start the 2013-14 school year next week, and teachers are busy this week getting their classrooms ready. Here's the must-know information to get your family prepared for the 2013-14 school year:

Reporting back and registering

Berkeley County

OPENING DAY: Monday
REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION: Completed registration form, child's birth certificate, S.C. Certificate of Immunization, two proofs of residency that include street address such as utility bill or rental agreement, proof of guardianship if student lives with someone other than parent.
MORE INFORMATION: Check with your child's school, the district office at 899-8600, or the district's website at berkeley.k12.sc.us

Charleston County

OPENING DAY: Wednesday
REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION: Child's birth certificate, S.C. Certificate of Immunization, notarized affidavit of residency, proof of residency with a signed current lease or most recent tax bill and one of either a utility bill, voter registration, car registration, pay stub, or piece of local/state/federal agency mail.
MORE INFORMATION: Check with your child's school or the district's website at charleston.k12.sc.us. The district also has a back-to-school hotline, 937-6366, that will take calls from Aug. 15-23 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dorchester District 2

OPENING DAY: Monday
REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION: Child's birth certificate, S.C. Certificate of Immunization, proof of residency such as a current utility bill that includes a service address in the parent or guardian's name.
MORE INFORMATION: Check with your child's school, the district office at 873-2901, or the district's website at dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Dorchester District 4

OPENING DAY: Monday
REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION: Child's birth certificate, S.C. Certificate of Immunization, proof of residency.
MORE INFORMATION: Check with your child's school, the district office at 563-4535, or the district's website at dorchester4.k12.sc.us.

See Page A6 for your back-to-school guide.

Texting ban hits fast lane

Mt. Pleasant council advances plan to curb distracted driving

BY PRENTISS FINDLAY
pfindlay@postandcourier.com

MOUNT PLEASANT — It soon could be illegal to text and drive in town, but motorists still would be able to talk on their hand-held phones.

Town Council voted Tuesday night to approve a ban on texting while driving.

"The bottom line is safety," said council member Thomasena Stokes Marshall.

"Can we stop it (texting) totally? No. If we do nothing, people will continue doing what they are doing," she said.

Violators would be subject to a \$50 fine. If a traffic accident is involved, a driver could face an additional fine of up to \$200, according to a copy of the ordinance, which got initial approval on a 6-3 vote.

Voting in favor of the new law were Stokes-Marshall, Elton Carrier, Chris O'Neal, Craig Rhyme, John Burn and Mayor

"I pass these young people every day. And how in the world they drive I'll never understand."

Elton Carrier,
Mount Pleasant councilman

Bill Swails.

"I pass these young people every day. And how in the world they drive I'll never understand," Carrier said.

Carrier said he hopes that the ordinance will spark a discussion between parents and children about the dangers of texting while driving. He said Mount Pleasant should put up signs at the city limits advising

Please see TEXTING, Page A5

Attorney: Dorch. 2 eval of Pye illegal

Lists sunshine law violations

BY BRENDA RINDGE
brindge@postandcourier.com

Dorchester District 2 school board acted illegally when it decided late Monday after a lengthy closed-door session that Superintendent Joe Pye's job performance "exceeds expectations," according to the S.C. Press Association.

"On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being illegal in all regards, it's a 9.5," said association lawyer Jay Bender. "It might even be a 10 because it appears that there was some decision made in executive session."

Bender said there were several areas in which the board violated the state Freedom of Information Act:

- The evaluation was not listed on the agenda.
- It was done in closed session.
- It appears the board voted in closed session.

The agenda for the meeting, which lasted more than 5½ hours, included "Superintendent's Contract" under the items to be discussed in executive session. During the

Please see PEE, Page A5



Joe Pye, the Dorchester County District 2 superintendent, makes \$167,123 annually and has two years left on his contract.

Read more

To read the S.C. Freedom of Information Act, go to postandcourier.com/foia.

Grieving mom desperate for answers a month after club shooting

Deputies explore shadowy gang with musical ambition

BY CHRISTINA ELMORE
celmore@postandcourier.com

Tamika Myers cradled her youngest daughter in her arms in a dimly lit living room in Ladson.

The 1-year-old girl peacefully slept on her mother's lap, unaware of the recent horror that have kept the woman up most nights.

A collage of photos stood atop a nightstand to their left —

Inside

What kind of place is the Starlite Lounge? A7

glimpses of a young woman's life as she laughed with friends, wore a Santa Claus hat and posed in a black dress and stiletto heels. That outfit was the last one Sierra Denise Truesdale wore before she was gunned down outside a rural roadhouse last month in the Hudson Town

community outside St. George. The emotional wounds left in the wake of Truesdale's death are still raw. But Myers, 38, said she refuses to let her oldest daughter's death be in vain.

"I want answers. I'm not going to stop until I have answers," Myers said.

In spite of an arrest being made within days of Truesdale's slaying, Myers said a Dorchester

Please see KILLING, Page A7



Tamika Myers remembers her daughter Sierra Truesdale, who was killed in a nightclub shooting in Dorchester County in July. "I'm not going to stop until I have answers," Myers, holding her daughter Ariana Tierra Breland, said recently.

WIDE SPEED/STAFF



Thunderstorms
High 87, Low 70.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B8

Bridge.....D7	Crossroads.....D6, D6	Obituaries.....B4
Business.....B6	Editorials.....A13	The South.....B1
Classifieds.....F1	Food.....D1	Sports.....C1
Comics.....D6, 7	Movies.....D4	Television.....D5

Charleston
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Sweet CoCo's Frozen
Yogurt and Treats
Pay \$5 for \$10 for frozen yogurt
and treats. See A2



>>> **Lunchboxes:** What to buy and what to put in them, **LIFE&STYLE, D1**

For Clowney, consistency key

Coaches hope to see maximum effort more often. **C1**

The State
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2013 | THESTATE.COM

U.S. SENATE RACE

State senator taking on Graham

Bright calls incumbent 'a community organizer for Muslim Brotherhood'

By ADAM BEAM
abeam@thestate.com

State Sen. Lee Bright announced his candidacy Tuesday for the GOP nomination for the U.S. Senate, calling incumbent Republican U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham "a community organizer for the Muslim Brotherhood."



Bright

"During the (congressional) recess, when I would hope that he would be around folks in South Carolina, getting their feelings on so many issues that affect their lives, he has instead chosen to take his time to be a community organizer for the Muslim Brotherhood and that concerns me," Bright told supporters in a conference call. "He needs to spend more time listening to what the brothers in South Carolina have to say."

At the request of President Barack Obama, Graham last week visited Egypt with U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., to help calm things down after the Egyptian military's

SEE BRIGHT PAGE A8

'NEVER-ENDING BATTLE'

750 poker machines seized in Swansea



More than 750 illegal video poker machines were confiscated on Tuesday at a warehouse in Swansea. The raid uncovered machines from several states and cities.

GERRY M. LINDSEY/CARLENDON@THESTATE.COM

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SLED trying to determine ownership of illegal items

By NOELLE PHILLIPS
nophillips@thestate.com

ONLINE: See a photo gallery with this story at thestate.com.

SWANSEA — SLED agents are investigating ownership of more than 750 video poker machines seized in an old warehouse in southern Lexington County.

police and Lexington County firefighters after they responded to a report of a possible fire at the warehouse, said Thom Berry, a spokesman for the

never saw smoke or flames, but they did notice water running from the building, Berry said. After calling the town water department, they learned

locked side door and went inside, Berry said. Once the Swansea authorities saw the rows of poker machines, they called SLED.

Swansea Magistrate Scott Whittle declared the machines were illegal. Now, the owners of the machines have 15 days

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

WEDNESDAY, August 14, 2013

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

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Project Jackson gets green light

School Board agrees to limited role in funding riverfront development

BY ROB NOVIT
rnovit@aikenstandard.com

By a 7-2 vote on Tuesday, the Aiken County Board of Education agreed to a limited role in the City of North Augusta's Project Jackson — a major economic development effort that needs the School District's participation in order to trigger a tax incremental financing plan as a public-private partnership.

The City still needs more good fortune in order to move forward, North Augusta Mayor Lark Jones said at the Board meeting. He and other City officials need approval as well from Aiken County Council and will pursue that in coming weeks. In March, the Council rejected an earlier version of the proposal.

If the initiative does proceed, the School District could see \$70,000 in revenue the first year and \$200,000 annually through a 15-year agreement with the City of North Augusta, said Board member Keith Limer.

After that period, the School District could see as much as \$1 million a year, he said. The School District technically is diverting tax revenue for that 15-year period on 25 acres in the middle of the City's efforts. That area potentially could include a conference center, parking garage and infrastructure in support of a minor league baseball stadium. That structure would be paid through private investment.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A rendering of the Project Jackson initiative in North Augusta. The School Board voted to accept the project in a limited role.

Please see JACKSON, Page 5A

INSIDE TODAY



Silver Bluff High School football preview
Sports, 1B

AREA DEATHS

James "Jim" Edwin Moates, Aiken
John Willis Cooper, Aiken
Salley Rutledge Carr, Beaufort
Sabella S. Gray, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER

Court: Yucca closing illegal

BY AMY BANTON
abanton@aikenstandard.com

Deemed as a victory by several public figures of Aiken County, the U.S. Court of Appeals has ruled that the licensing process must continue for the proposed Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository.

By a two-to-one vote, the court handed down its decision on Tuesday. According to the opinion, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission "has continued to violate the law governing the Yucca Mountain licensing process," which led to a petition for a writ of mandamus.

"This decision reaffirms a fundamental truth: the president is not above the law," stated S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson in a press release. "This administration cannot pick and choose which laws to follow and which to ignore."

The Commission is required to make a decision on the Department of Energy's application for Nevada's Yucca Mountain to be a repository for spent nuclear fuel and other radioactive waste. Funding for that project

We're very excited about the order, and hopefully we can get the licensing review process started again.

Clay Killian, Aiken County administrator

The inaction by the Commission to make a decision violated the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, the court concluded. More than a year ago, several parties including Aiken County filed arguments for the Yucca Mountain licensing proceedings to continue.



Killian

review process started again," said

billions of dollars have already been spent on the Yucca Mountain project.

"A six-mile tunnel to nowhere exists in the middle of Yucca Mountain to enable this project to be completed as quickly as possible for the safety of the American people and our nuclear waste," Wilson said.

Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., said that South Carolina has invested more than \$1.3 billion into Yucca Mountain over the last three decades.

After the Yucca Mountain project shuttered, the question of where the waste would go arose. Once funding stopped, Obama established the Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future to look at possible al-

Yucca Mountain nearly steals the show at a Las Vegas green energy conference. 13A

a possible temporary storage facility spread across the Aiken community.

Rep. Wilson said the Yucca Mountain site is a safe, viable solution to the nation's nuclear waste program especially since it was once an area used for nuclear testing in the 1940s and 1950s.

"What good news for the people of our region," Wilson said. "I'm particularly pleased with the leadership of Aiken County Council."

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said he applauded the court's decision which called out the Obama administration's "flagrant violation of the



Wilson



Shedding the pounds

Employees at a Gaffney textile mill rise to the challenge E1

Herald-Journal

WEDNESDAY

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HJ
IN A HURRY
5 Things to read today



Doesn't survive

Thor, a bulldog found inside a locked car outside WestGate Mall in Spartanburg on Sunday, has died from complications of heat stroke, a spokeswoman for the Spartanburg Humane Society says. **PAGE C1**

Failed inspection

An Air Force unit that operates one-third of the nation's land-based nuclear missiles has failed a safety and security inspection. **PAGE A3**

Snapshot

As Snapshot Spartanburg 2013 launches on Thursday, film will again serve as the ultimate equalizer as professional photographers and novices try to capture the ultimate shot. **PAGE C4**

Ruger coming to NC

Sturm, Ruger & Co. said on Tuesday that it aims to keep up with demand for its guns by opening a new factory in the small North Carolina town of Mayodan. The plant is expected to employ 470 workers. **PAGE C5**

Merger roadblock

The federal government and six states on Tuesday sued to block a proposed merger between American Airlines and US Airways, saying it would hurt competition and cost consumers hundreds of millions of dollars a year in higher fares and extra fees. **PAGE C5**

Weather

Court: Make a decision on Yucca Mountain site

Judges say NRC violating federal law by delaying action on proposed nuclear waste dump in Nevada

By MATTHEW DALY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a rebuke to the Obama administration, a federal appeals court ruled Tuesday that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has been violating federal law by delaying a decision on a proposed nuclear waste dump in Nevada.

By a 2-1 vote, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ordered the commission to complete the licensing process and approve or reject the Energy Department's application for a never-completed waste storage site at Nevada's Yucca Mountain.

In a sharply worded opinion, the court said the nuclear agency was "simply flouting the law" when it allowed the Obama administration to continue plans to close the proposed waste site 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas. The action goes against a federal law designating Yucca Mountain as the nation's nuclear

waste repository.

"The president may not decline to follow a statutory mandate or prohibition simply because of policy objections," Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh wrote in a majority opinion, which was joined Judge A. Raymond Randolph. Chief Judge Merrick B. Garland dissented.

The appeals court said the case has important implications for the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches of government.

"It is no overstatement to say that our constitutional system of separation of powers would be significantly altered if we were to allow executive and independent agencies to disregard federal law in the manner asserted in this case by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission," Kavanaugh wrote. "The commis-

◆ SEE YUCCA PAGE A5

HOME AWAY FROM HOME



D.J. Moore (20) of the Carolina Panthers meets fans to sign his autograph during the final day of training camp on Tuesday at Wofford College. See more photos and coverage on page B1 and at GoUpstate.com.

Panthers make return trip up I-85

Training camp winds down for Carolina

By ERIC ROYNTON

playfully allowed young kids to

won't matter," the man replied. "Luke is still going to stay and sign everything out there."

But even Kuechly finally

Inside today

Herald-Journal
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PREVIEW

FOOTBALL GETS REAL

PREP DYNASTY

SEASON PREMIERE AUG 23 | FRIDAY 7:30

GoUpstate.com

Wednesday August 14, 2013

Don't miss our special section devoted to the upcoming high school football season.

Bright makes it official

Launches GOP primary challenge against Graham for US Senate seat

By FELICIA KITZMILLER
felicia.kitzmiller@shj.com

State Sen. Lee Bright officially announced his candidacy for U.S. Senate during a teleconference Tuesday.

Bright has been vocal about considering a run against two-term incumbent Sen. Lindsey Graham for months.

"I have looked at the record of Sen. Graham, and I feel like it's time for a change," Bright said.

During the conference, Bright touted his voting record during five years in the state Senate — a voting history he stated has been



Bright



**Richardson
embraces role
at Newberry, 1B**

Inside today's edition

Taste: Tailgating made even more tasty, 7A

Nation: Questions raised about stadium safety, 9A

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2013

2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

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INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 95, NO. 104

County nearing trail decision

Baggett gives legal go-ahead for Cambridge Gateway; Council to vote next week

By **CHRIS TRAINOR**
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

It appears Greenwood County Council is on the precipice of adopting a key measure that would make way for the creation of the proposed Cambridge Gateway Trail.

The creation of the trail has hinged on whether or not Greenwood County and the City of Greenwood would each be willing to accept a portion of a South Carolina Department of Transportation right of way along the would-be trail.

At a County Council meeting

about two weeks ago, acting county attorney Stephen Baggett Jr. advised Council not to take action on accepting a portion of the right of way until he had an opportunity to examine the legal ramifications of such a move.

On Tuesday, during a County Council administration and finance

committee meeting, Baggett gave Council the go-ahead to consider action on the trail issue.

"I'm pleased to report I've had a chance to look into the gateway trail project," Baggett said. "I had some

See **TRAIL**, page 4A

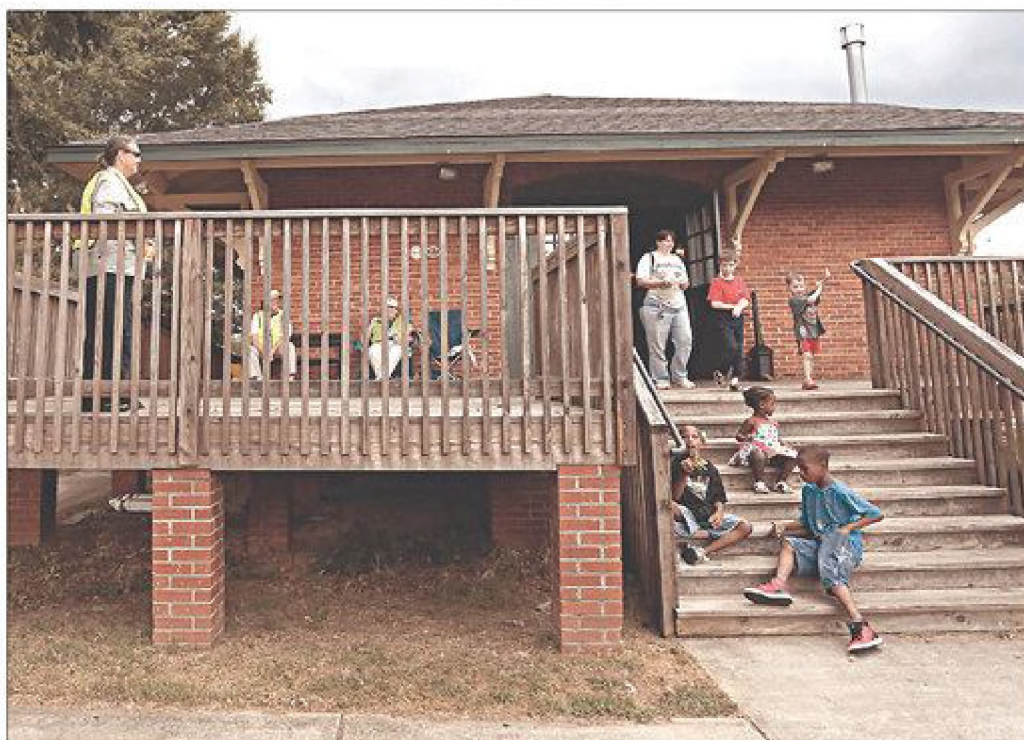


**MARK
ALLISON**



**STEPHEN
BAGGETT JR.**

TB OUTBREAK



Children and parents exit the Ninety Six Depot on Tuesday, where the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) was reading tuberculosis test results for those who were tested Saturday.

MATT WALSH | INDEX-JOURNAL

FOLLOWING UP

DHEC returns to read results in Ninety Six after hundreds tested Saturday

From staff reports

The state Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) was back in Ninety Six on Tuesday to read tuberculosis (TB) skin tests administered in a round of follow-up testing this weekend.

On Saturday, nurses and doctors set up in the Ninety Six Depot to give retests for residents concerned about the TB outbreak that stemmed

from Ninety Six Primary School. DHEC read tests at the Depot between noon-8 p.m. Tuesday.

Results were not available from DHEC late Tuesday night.

The TB outbreak originated from an actively sick janitor at the Ninety Six Primary School. More than 1,500 people — employees, students and others who have come into contact with two people with the contagious form of the TB germ — were tested.

More than 100 received positive TB screening results, which indicate the TB germ is present but not contagious.

Twelve people had abnormal chest X-rays, including 10 children who are not contagious.

DHEC sent out more than 1,000 letters to notify people about the follow-up screening.

The agency had 235 appointments for Saturday and anticipated walk-

ins for anyone else who wanted a test.

Letters were sent to people who had negative tests during the first round.

"A second, follow-up skin test is usually given ten weeks after the last known date that you may have been around a person who had active TB disease," the letter said. "As a precaution, we recommend that you have a follow-up skin test for TB."

■ **US SENATE RACE**

Bright begins

State senator kicks off challenge against Lindsey Graham

By **MEG KINNARD**
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — A challenger for U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham's seat said Tuesday he is running in the GOP primary because South Carolina needs more conservative representation and someone who isn't so friendly with Democrats.

"I think it's time that South Carolina had somebody to rep South Carolina and more

of the conservative values that we hold versus Barack Obama's or (Sen.) John McCain's," State Sen. Lee Bright said in a conference call announcing his campaign.

Bright, of Roebuck, was first elected to the state Senate in 2008, and promoted his conservative credentials.

In each of his three legislative terms, he has been a sponsor of the "Life Begins at Conception Act" and sponsored a resolution calling for South Carolina to refuse any money from the federal economic stimulus bill passed at the start of the Great Recession.

Graham campaign spokesman Tate Zeigler called the incumbent "a conservative leader with the record to back it up."

Graham, Bright said, is too friendly with Senate Democrats and spends too much time on international affairs and should be focused more on domestic issues such as



**LEE
BRIGHT**



**LINDSEY
GRAHAM**

Read more responses to Eugene Baten and Ferdinand Burns' letter to the editor. **A7**

USC players back to work after injuries **B1**



9 DAYS

UNTIL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL RETURNS

The Item

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FOUNDED OCTOBER 15, 1894 60 CENTS

Sen. Scott tours Georgia-Pacific

S.C. politician travels through Clarendon as part of statewide visits

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT
bmarchant@theitem.com

ALCOLU — Politicians sometimes metaphorically get put through the woodchipper, but this week Tim Scott, R-S.C., got a chance to see what the real thing looks like.

South Carolina's junior senator visited the Georgia-Pacific plant in Alcolu on Tuesday, part of a whirlwind tour Scott is taking across the state during the congressional August recess.

Scott received a tour of the facility from Plant Manager Tobey Elgin, reviewing at least a part of the process the company uses to convert timber into a wood product called oriented strand board, which is commonly used in home construction.

"You only saw about 15 percent of the process today," Elgin said. "This plant is capable of



ABOVE: Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., visits Clarendon County with a stop at the local Georgia-Pacific facility on Tuesday.



LEFT: Scott overlooks the Georgia-Pacific control room with Plant Manager Tobey Elgin, far right.

PHOTOS BY BRISTOW MARCHANT / THE ITEM

SEE **TOUR**, PAGE A8

District staff gears up for new school year

Sorrells named 2013-14 teacher of the year

BY BRADEN BUNCH
bbunch@theitem.com

After a tumultuous summer that saw several changes in district personnel and policies, the teachers and staff of Sumter School District gathered at Sumter County Civic Center on Tuesday for their back-to-school kickoff with a renewed sense of hope and optimism for the coming school year.

The 90-minute program, highlighted by the announcement of Tina Sorrells from Alice Drive Elementary School as the 2013-14 teacher of the year,

INSIDE

School board chairman defends travel costs, Ivey discusses monitoring. **A5**

SEE **KICKOFF**, PAGE A5

Alice Drive Elementary School teacher Tina Sorrells reacts to being named teacher of the year during Sumter School District's staff gathering at the Sumter County Civic Center on Tuesday.



Students say SHS educators' return 'victory'

BY JAMIE H. WILSON
Special to The Item

A high school student called out to Luther Barnett as the English teacher walked through the halls of Sumter High School on Monday.

"We are glad to have you back!" he said.

Monday was the first official day back for Sumter School District teachers, including three Sumter High School teachers who were happy to be back in their posts after a summer of uncertainty about their 2013-14 assignments. Barnett, art teacher Heidi Adler and history teacher Stephanie Johnston scurried



By Jamie H. Wilson

Pastors' journey to health could help with their ministering

I'm fairly certain that this week's column is bound to step on certain people's toes.

Fortunately for me, the people of whom I speak haven't been able to actually see their toes in a while.

That's right, I'm talking about those who carry a few extra pounds, specifically who hide their girth behind a pulpit on Sunday mornings.

Perhaps it's just in the South where the deep-fried portions are large and the sweet tea plentiful, but it seems that those pastors in the Bible Belt are having to punch extra notches in their own belts.

If you are wondering, yes, I have more epigrams about overweight clergy. They are sort of a hard target to miss.

OK, that was the last one.

In my experience, many pastors who struggle in this area use their own weight problems as a joke, regularly dismissing their health in some sort of anecdote. In actuality, prioritizing one's health could be a path to a better life but also a way to relate and minister to the people in your church.

I'm sure most in the pastorate have at one time preached 1 Corinthians 10:31, which says, "whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." Literally, eat like God was at your dining-room table. I don't think it is vain or superfluous to focus on the health of one's body. It's the first gift God gives us, and He expects us to take care of it. What a wonderful example it would be to the rest of us if those in the church offices would take this message seriously.

The Rev. Greg Pressley, pastor of Sumter First Church of the Nazarene, sat down with me this week and explained his own journey to better health. While preparing for a sermon series a couple of years ago, Pressley said he became convicted of his own struggles with his weight. At 232 pounds, the doctor told Pressley that he had both high blood pressure and high cholesterol. He would need to go



FINALISTS ANNOUNCED Five salad entries in the Morning News cooking cookoff. **Page 1C**

Morning News

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 14, 2013

TODAY'S WEATHER
Cloudy with storms,
high 87, low 65
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

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Study: Half who now buy own health plan to get aid

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — About half the people who now buy their own health insurance— and potentially would face higher premiums next year under President Barack Obama's health care law— would qualify for federal tax credits to offset rate shock, according to a new private study.

Many other people, however, earn too much money to be eligible for help, and could end up paying more.

The estimate, being released Wednesday by the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation, tries to answer one of the biggest remaining questions about the impact of Obama's law on American families: Will consumers wince — or even balk — when they see the premiums for the new plans?

The study found that 48 percent of families buying their own coverage would be eligible for tax credits next

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama listens June 8, 2010, as Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius speaks in Wheaton, Md. About half the people who buy their own health insurance— and potentially face higher premiums next year under Obama's health care law— would qualify for federal tax credits to offset rate shock, according to a new private study. Many others, however, earn too much money to be eligible for help, and could end up paying more.

O, CANADA



PHOTOS BY JOHN D. RUSSELL/MORNING NEWS

Antonio Dinkins practices the high jump on Aug. 8 at the West Florence High School track. Dinkins and 16 other Florence athletes are heading to Windsor, Ontario, to compete in the 47th International Children's Games. Dinkins will compete in the long jump and high jump.

Florence rec teams go international

Delegation heads north to 47th International Children's Games

BY JOHN D. RUSSELL
Morning News
jrusell@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Florence-area athletes, parents and coaches are leaving Wednesday to represent the state and the nation with one of the largest delegations in the 47th International Children's Games being held in Windsor, Ontario.

The Pee Dee delegation, made up of 17 athletes and 42 others, will compete on the world stage in basketball, tennis, gymnastics and



Doubles tennis players Magan Head (left) and Zoe Cauthen high-five before a practice match on Monday at the Florence Tennis Center.

track and field. This will be the fifth time basketball coach Carlos Washington has attended the games, having traveled to Thailand, Greece,

Cleveland and San Francisco in years past. He equates the competition to the Olympics, complete with an opening and closing ceremony.

"It's not just a sporting event," Washington said. "It's more about the cultural experience of these kids meeting people from other countries. There are relationships formed that could last a lifetime."

The delegation will leave from Myrtle Beach en route to Canada. Basketball team member Jared Zernikow, 15, said he hopes to become a better player and can't wait to meet people from other countries.

"I think it's going to be fun. I'd like to meet someone from Bangkok. It just sounds cool," he said.

When he was a young athlete, Zernikow's father, Eric,

See **GAMES**, Page 6A

Bright kicks off run versus Graham

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — A challenger for U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham's seat said Tuesday that he is running in the GOP primary because South Carolina needs more conservative representation and someone who isn't so friendly with Democrats.

"I think it's time that South Carolina had somebody to rep South Carolina and more of the conservative values that we hold versus Barack Obama's or (Sen.) John McCain's," State Sen. Lee Bright said in a conference calling announcing his campaign.

Bright, of Roebuck, was first elected to the state Senate in 2008, and promoted his conservative credentials.

In each of his three legislative terms, he has been a sponsor of the "Life Begins at Conception Act" and has sponsored a resolution calling for South Carolina to refuse any money from the federal economic stimulus bill passed at the start of the Great Recession.

Graham campaign spokesman Tate Zeigler called the incumbent "a conservative leader with the record to back it up."

Graham, Bright said, is too friendly with Senate Democrats and spends too much time on international affairs and should be focused more on domestic issues like border security.

Graham traveled with fellow Republican McCain to Egypt last week to warn that the country may be in for prolonged violence without a dialogue between the military and the Muslim Brotherhood.

"I would argue that Sen. McCain and Sen. Graham are leading to more insecurity in that region, not less," Bright



Graham



Bright

See **SENATE**, Page 6A

Infertility down slightly among married US women

The Associated Press

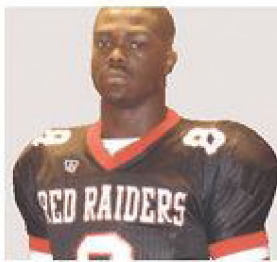
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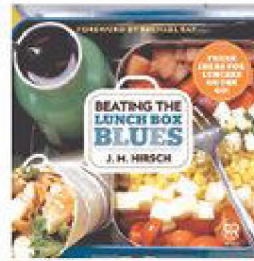


Odd



B-E TEAMMATE'S INJURY COULD PUT K.C. AT QB

SPORTS, B1



LUNCH BOXES 101

TASTE, A8

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2013

The Times and Democrat

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Man pleads guilty in girlfriend's death

By RICHARD WALKER
T&D Staff Writer

A woman grieving the loss of her granddaughter asked Tuesday that the maximum penalty be given the man who fatally shot her loved one.

"Her memory lives on in our hearts," Linda Davis said. "But her positive presence is lost forever."

Marcellous Jamison, 26, apologized to Davis and her family after pleading guilty to involuntary manslaughter in the death of 21-year-old Kennetha Leaphart on June 27, 2012. The Northman told the court the shooting was an accident.

"I never meant for none of this to happen," Jamison said. "I just wish they would forgive me."

Circuit Court Judge Perry Buckner sentenced Jamison to five years, suspended to three years, and also gave him credit for more than a year he's already served in jail.

"There was a life taken, a life that we cannot restore," Buckner said.

Leaphart was found shot once in the head at the couple's Mauleana Drive residence just outside of North.

Prosecutor Trey Harrell said there was no plea negotiation in the case. The state did not offer any deal, he said.

Harrell told the court that on June 27 of last year, both Jamison and Leaphart were at their residence, where some horseplay was going on. That horseplay included a .380-caliber Ruger handgun, the prosecutor said.

When Leaphart said she wanted something to eat, Jamison went to find some food, carrying the handgun with him, Harrell said. When he returned, there was some more playing around between the two, during which time the handgun went off, he said.

Harrell said when Jamison saw the bullet strike Leaphart in the head, he ran out to find help.

Defense attorney Peggy Hinds said that before the case could move forward, there were mental issues to be resolved. She said evaluations indicated Jamison was competent enough to make decisions



Defense attorney Peggy Hinds stands with defendant Marcellous Jamison during his plea hearing Tuesday. Jamison pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter in the June 27, 2012, fatal shooting of his girlfriend, 21-year-old Kennetha Leaphart. See related video at TheTandD.com

See GUILTY, A3

DASH AROUND THE TABLE



Celebrity chef Jon Ashton teaches Miss Orangeburg County Verhonda Crawford to blow on hot pizza and dance from side to side during the "dash Around the Table" cooking show on Tuesday night at The Cinema. A native of Liverpool, England, and a contributing editor of Parade, Ashton shared his wealth of culinary knowledge with live cooking demonstrations during the event. Dash, a food magazine published by Parade, is inserted monthly in The Times and Democrat. The event also featured local vendors and a demonstration by a chef from Black River ChopHouse & Tavern. Read more about the event in Sunday's Magazine in The T&D.

CHRISTOPHER HURRY/T&D

DNA leads to suspect in robbery

Man says wife's illness led him to rob banks

By RICHARD WALKER
T&D Staff Writer

A DNA match led investigators to a man they say robbed an Orangeburg bank while threatening to discharge an explosive device back in 2007.

Derke Mazo, 47, was in court Tuesday to face accusations that he robbed the S.C. State Credit Union six years ago.

Authorities say a periodic DNA check received a match in a national database, leading investigators to Mazo. They say he wasn't hard to find because he was already in the state prison system. Mazo had pleaded guilty last year to a 2008 bank robbery in Denmark.

"There's no substitute for good police work," Orangeburg Department of Public Safety Capt. Mike Adams said. "You check, then you re-check, then you check again."

During Tuesday's hearing, Mazo, a Detroit native, told the court he was in prison for the Denmark robbery serving "a 12-year, 85%" meaning he was ordered to serve 85 per-



Derke Mazo

Watch video from his bond hearing at TheTandD.com

Court: Obama breaking law on nuke site

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