

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 7/23/2014 10:22:49 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, July 23, 2014

SC Front Pages – Wednesday, July 23, 2014



The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

WEDNESDAY,
JULY 23, 2014
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

METRO Greer may vote on Sunday alcohol sales at stores, 3A

FINAL EDITION

Courts split on care subsidies

More legal action expected on funds helping people with coverage

USA TODAY

By Liv Osby

Staff writer
losby@greenvillenews.com

Health insurance subsidies in South Carolina and other states that use a federal marketplace to administer Obamacare were both upheld and struck down by two separate courts

Tuesday, possibly setting the stage for the Supreme Court to decide the matter.

In the first ruling, a three-judge panel of the federal D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals voted 2-1 that the federal tax subsidies should be eliminated, according to USA TODAY. In the second ruling, the Fourth Circuit Court

of Appeals unanimously upheld the subsidies.

South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson, who joined seven other states to urge the D.C. Court of Appeals to review the case, said he was happy about the D.C. Circuit Court ruling.

"I am pleased the court ruled

that the IRS exceeded its authority by reinterpreting language in the Affordable Care Act," he said.

"I joined seven of my fellow attorneys general in filing amici briefs because we recognize the vital importance of ensuring un-

U.S. Supreme Court may once again have deciding vote on Obamacare issue. A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit ruled 2-1 that consumers in 34 states using the federal health exchange aren't eligible for billions of dollars in tax subsidies. 1B

See COVERAGE, Page 4A

1.2 Number of miles in the newest section of Swamp Rabbit Trail, open Tuesday.

18.7 Total number of continuous miles in the trail. Additional sections exist.

400K Approximate number of pedestrians who use the trail annually.

BUSINESS TAKES A
leap
ALONG SWAMP RABBIT

Travelers Rest section of shops already benefiting

By Nathaniel Cary
Staff writer
ncary@greenvillenews.com

For two months, the roadside sign outside Handee's Sports Deli in Travelers Rest has proclaimed the words "The Swamp Rabbit is coming." On Tuesday, officially, it came.

"I've got to change that to 'The Swamp Rabbit is here,'" Ken Duncan said as he walked out of the deli past an outdoor picnic shelter.

Duncan walked through the deli — past the counter where they serve subs, meat-and-three plates and ice cream — and out the back door to where the freshly paved trail meanders directly behind his 4-year-old business.

Duncan now has a dream to capitalize on his new access point near the northern ter-

Sheheen shares his plan for roads

Haley says senator's ideas come from her

By Tim Smith

Staff writer
tsmith@greenvillenews.com

COLUMBIA — South Carolina lawmakers should set aside \$800 million a year to spend on road and bridge repairs, the state's Democratic nominee for governor says.

Any more than that, Sen. Vincent Sheheen said Tuesday, is financially unrealistic.

Sheheen says while he is open to suggestions where the money can come from, he does not want to raise the state's gas tax and believes most of the money could be supplied by dedicating 5 percent of the state's General Fund and surplus revenues each year there is growth in revenue, a plan first advocated by Senate Transportation Chairman Larry Grooms, a Berkeley County Republican.

Sheheen also proposes that the state borrow up to \$1 billion using bond funds to give the funding effort a kick-start, that the state Department of Transportation give priority to repairing existing roads, and that the state DOT Commission be abolished, giving the governor sole authority over the state's transportation secretary.

Grooms told The Greenville News that he supports Sheheen's plan.

The campaign of Gov. Nikki Haley, who has said she will propose a road-funding plan in January to lawmakers, issued a statement saying Sheheen's plan is similar to ideas already voiced by the governor, who has long threatened to veto any gas tax increase. Haley has proposed redi-

State Sen.
Vincent
Sheheen

**Travel service:
Charleston fares
the lowest**
BUSINESS, B2



**As hype grows over
heirloom tomatoes,
is quality falling?**
FOOD, D1



The Post and Courier

THE SOUTH'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER • FOUNDED 1803

WEDNESDAY, July 23, 2014

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

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

Poll: Haley, Sheheen close in 4-way race

But in battle with Sheheen only, incumbent's lead would be double digits



State Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Camden



Tom Ervin,
independent



Steve French,
Libertarian



Gov. Nikki Haley, Republican

PROVIDED AND AP FILE PHOTOGRAPHS

BY JEREMY BORDEN
and CYNTHIA ROLDAN
jborden@postandcourier.com
croltan@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has a slim lead over her Democratic opponent and a wide margin over two other challengers in a state that is deeply divided over the incumbent governor's leadership, a Palmetto Politics Poll shows.

The poll of likely voters commissioned by The Post and Courier and three television stations shows that in a matchup with Democrat Vincent Sheheen, Haley leads Sheheen by four percentage points — within the poll's 4 percent margin of error. Haley led overall with 46 percent support of those polled among the 650 likely voters surveyed.

Please see POLL, Page A6

Get the app

Get the latest South Carolina political news with our new Palmetto Politics app, available now for iPhone and Android.



Upcoming stories

THURSDAY: The Legislature's approval rating, and whether or not South Carolina is on the right track.

FRIDAY: Approval ratings for Sen. Tim Scott and Sen. Lindsey Graham, and details on the Senate race.

SATURDAY: What voters think about legalizing online gaming, medical marijuana, and sales tax reform.

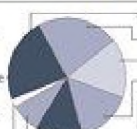
SUNDAY: An early look at 2016 presidential contenders and President Obama's approval rating.

Poll
Which issue will most influence your vote at the polls this November? Find this story at palmettopolitics.com to vote.

Palmetto Politics Poll

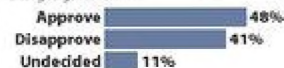
Commissioned by
The Post and Courier,
WCMT-TV in Charleston,
WCCB-TV in Columbia,
and WYFF-TV in Greenville.

Question: Which of the following issues will most influence your vote at the polls this November?



- Health care: 23%
- Job creation: 22%
- Ed./public schools: 16%
- Illegal immigration: 15%
- Taxes: 13%
- Roads/transportation: 8%
- Other: 2%

Question: Do you approve or disapprove of the job Nikki Haley is doing as governor?



Question: If the general election for governor were held today, would you vote for Republican Nikki Haley, or Democrat Vincent Sheheen?



*Among 1,000 likely voters.

Question: If the general election for governor were held today and the candidates were Nikki Haley, (Republican), Vincent Sheheen, (Democrat), Tom Ervin, (Independent), Steve French (Libertarian), which of these would you vote for?



*Among 650 likely voters.

Second Wojcik inquiry ordered

New allegations of abuse emerge

BY ANDREW MILLER
amiller@postandcourier.com

College of Charleston President Glenn McConnell has ordered a second investigation of embattled basketball coach Doug Wojcik based on new allegations of a physical confrontation with a player and verbal abuse of athletic department staff.

One of the allegations in the new report includes a physical confrontation between Wojcik and Dixon is part of the report.

Dixon transferred to Francis Marion following the 2012-13 season.

The McConnell probe follows a previous investigation that produced a



Wojcik

Please see WOJCIK, Page A6

Read more

For previous coverage of the Doug Wojcik investigation, go to postandcourier.com/wojcik.

Rulings cloud S.C. health care subsidies

Haley: Conflict 'huge blow to Obamacare'

BY LAUREN SAUSSER
lssauser@postandcourier.com

The Affordable Care Act may be headed back to the U.S. Supreme Court after two conflicting court decisions were announced Tuesday.

While a federal appeals court in Virginia upheld tax subsidies for low- and middle-income people who buy insurance under the Obama administration's health care reform law, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit decided subsidies are available only for those who buy insurance on exchanges established by the states.

At stake are billions of federal dollars that consumers use to purchase insurance policies in the 36 states, including South Carolina, that opted into the federal exchange instead of creating state-based exchanges.

Please see HEALTH, Page A8

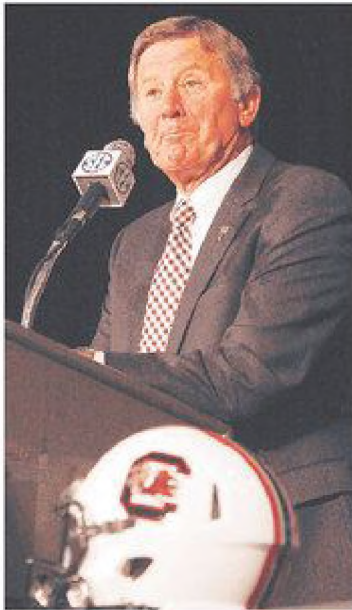


Chance of storms:
High 91, Low 74.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B12

Bridge	— \$11	Crossroads	— \$10.15	Obituaries	— \$4
Business	— \$2	Editorial	— \$12	Sports	— \$1
Classifieds	— \$1	Food	— \$1	Weekend	— \$3
Cars	— \$10.11	Money	— \$9	The South	— \$1



Repton Charleston
\$15 for a one-day pass for two adults
and two children to Repton's
ReptonDay (\$30 value) See A2



Spurrier on Swinney's Pluto remark

USC coach addresses 'planet controversy,' Clowney, other topics at ESPN. **Page C1**

The State

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014 | THESTATE.COM

GERVAIS AND HUGER DEVELOPMENT

280 apartments, hotel, retail, offices planned

\$100 million complex would rise at former Kline Iron site

By SARAH ELLIS
sellis@thestate.com

A 280-unit apartment complex and a mixed-use development are planned at a gateway to the Vista on one of Columbia's most prominent pieces of land.

Office and retail space, a 680-space parking garage and a free-standing, yet-unnamed hotel are part of the plans for development of the former Kline Iron and Steel Co. site at the corner of Gervais and Huger streets, pending city approval of the project.

The high-profile site, near the S.C. State Museum and EdVenture



SEE VISTA PAGE A4 **INSIDE:** Warehouse retailer to locate at Lexington redevelopment site. **Page B4**

Deluge soaks Orangeburg



A statue at Edisto Memorial Gardens is lapped by floodwaters Tuesday after heavy rains Monday night. Many of the bridges, benches and pathways in the attraction known for its roses remained submerged Tuesday after heavy rains that fell in just a few hours Monday night left many parts of Orangeburg County mopping up.

INSIDE: Orangeburg County cleans up after intense rains, which totaled 10 inches in some areas, fell Monday night. **B1**

Sunday beer, wine sales vote includes towns now

Proposal closer to Lexington County ballot

By TIM FLACH
tflach@thestate.com

Lexington County Council leaders say they will include 11 municipalities on a countywide referendum to allow purchase of six-packs of beer and bottles of wine on Sundays — even though leaders in many of those towns want to keep the ban.

The decision came Tuesday as council moved one step closer to final approval of putting the question to Lexington County voters on the Nov. 4 ballot.

But supporters of Sunday sales are happy at the prospect of averting a patchwork of controls in the county.

"To us, it applies county-wide" both for unincorporated areas and communities, County Attorney Jeff Anderson said.

That decision could be reversed if state revenue officials — who police alcoholic beverage sales — balk. Efforts to reach revenue officials on whether the county's efforts are per-

ANOTHER HEALTH CARE SNARL?

Appeals courts split on whether Obamacare policyholders can use tax credits to purchase coverage. What do rulings mean? **Page A3**

2014 GOVERNOR'S RACE

Sheheen's road plan doesn't

SEE SALES PAGE A5



Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

WEDNESDAY, July 23, 2014

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 148, No. 204 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

Board renews nuclear waste position

BY DERREK ASBERRY
dasberry@aikenstandard.com

AUGUSTA — The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board renewed its 2013 position paper taking a stance against the Site becoming an interim storage site for commercial spent nuclear fuel.

The board, also known as CAB, put the issue to a vote Tuesday on the second day of its bimonthly meeting. The results came out in an overwhelming 16-0 decision opposing shipments of spent fuel.

CAB listed several reasons for making its decision, including the belief that a repository superior to Yucca Mountain doesn't exist; the completion of a new repository is generations away; and not wanting future generations to adopt commercial nuclear waste.

Please see **BOARD**, Page 5A

INSIDE TODAY



Aiken's Post 26's revival season stopped
Sports, 1B



Want to learn some chicken trivia, recipes?
Living on the Go, 1C

AREA DEATHS

Edith McFalls Black, Stiefeltown
Frank Dennis Adgate, Aiken
Sheene' Griffin Tobin, Langley
Steven D. Tracy, Clinton, Tenn.
Vincent Michael Leonardi, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER



SUBMITTED PHOTO

John Coomes hugs his daughters Nevaeh, left, and Saylor after returning home from deployment in Afghanistan.

'It's so much joy'

Guardsmen returns from deployment to Afghanistan

BY AVERY WILKS
awilks@aikenstandard.com

Spec. John Coomes will have difficulty trying to top his 28th birthday, which he celebrated on Saturday by returning home from overseas to be surrounded by close friends and family for the first time in a year.

Coomes' journey home from Afghanistan, where the Aiken resident had been deployed with the South Carolina National Guard's 124th Engineer Company in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, ended on July 19.

He reunited with his friends and family in a hangar at Columbia Metropolitan Airport, rushing to find them in a crowd of other servicemen and families.

"It was pretty cool coming in on my birthday," said Coomes of returning from his first deployment overseas. "That's something I'll never forget."

Coomes had last seen his family and friends in July of 2013, when he left for duty with a National Guard unit out of Saluda. By October, he was in Afghanistan's Kandahar Province, where he worked to take down old American bases as U.S.



After a while, you stop counting ... because the longer you count, the longer it takes.

Spec. John Coomes, National Guardsman

SUBMITTED PHOTO

John Coomes stands with his family shortly after landing at Columbia Metropolitan Airport last Saturday. Pictured, from left, are Saylor, John, Nevaeh, John S. II and Nicole Coomes.

forces moved out of the area.

Coomes spent nine months in Afghanistan before returning stateside last week. He and his fellow servicemen had to spend a week demobilizing at Fort Dix in New Jersey, and he struggled to pass the time as he looked forward to seeing his family — including his wife, two daughters

and a son who was just four months old when he left.

"You'd lay there in bed just looking up at the ceiling," Coomes said. "After a while, you stop counting the days, though, because the longer you count, the longer it takes."

Coomes, hoping to make it home before his birthday, found out when

he'd be flying in about two days beforehand. His plane landed around 11:30 p.m. in Columbia. After a short ceremony in the hangar, he was released to his family, about 10 of them who had made the trip to see him.

Please see **10E**, Page 5A

Report: Child poverty worsened in S.C.

The latest Kids Count survey, released Tuesday ... shows that South Carolina's children rank 45th in

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA — South Carolina still ranks better than only five states in the overall well-being of its children, according to the release of a national report.

The latest Kids Count survey, re-

overall in the ability of children to succeed. That's the same as last year's report.

The annual findings use a variety of indicators to come up with a state's ranking, like economics, education and health.

The report also shows that poverty

about 288,000 children, according to the most recent data available.

Thirty-six percent of the state's children lived in homes where the parents lacked secure employment, an increase from 30 percent in 2008.

Nationally, the report shows that 23 percent, or 64.4 million U.S. children



The Beaufort Gazette

WEDNESDAY, July 23, 2014

beaufortgazette.com

Established in 1897 75 cents

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT 2 courts issue conflicting rulings

Can consumers use tax credits on premiums?

By **MICHAEL DOYLE** and **TONY PUGH**
 McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Two appeals courts Tuesday reached radically different conclusions about whether millions in 36 states can use tax credits to help buy health coverage on the federal health insurance marketplace.

The conflicting rulings, combined

MORE INSIDE: A graphic explains decisions in two federal appeals courts regarding the legality of tax subsidies applied to health premiums. **9A**

with two other pending challenges still awaiting decisions, potentially tee up for the Supreme Court its next landmark health care case and leave one of the Affordable Care Act's signature provisions in a state of legal limbo.

"The important thing for consumers to know is that they will keep their tax credits and coverage as this judicial process continues," said Anne Filipic, president of Enroll America, a national health care law support group.

In the first ruling to become public, a divided panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit concluded in the case, *Halbig v. Burwell*, that the Obama administration stretched the 2010 health care law too far in extending the subsidies through the federal HealthCare.gov website.

"We reach this conclusion, frank-

ly, with reluctance," Judge Thomas Griffith wrote in the 2-1 decision. "Our ruling will likely have significant consequences both for the millions of individuals receiving tax credits through federal exchanges and for health insurance markets more broadly."

Please see **HEALTH** on **9A**

59TH ANNUAL BEAUFORT WATER FESTIVAL

Cha-cha-cha



CROWD IN STEP WITH
SALSA TUESDAY



WHAT'S NEXT?

For an interactive schedule you can bookmark on your mobile device, use your device's browser to visit bit.ly/h2ofest-sked.

Attempts to revive sales tax fall short

By **ZACH MURDOCK**

zmurdock@beaufortgazette.com
 843-706-8347

A proposal for a 1 percent sales tax to fund capital projects cannot be revived in time to get it on the ballot in November,

COULD IT STILL HAPPEN?

For the sales tax proposal to make the November ballot, Beaufort County Council would have to advertise a public hearing on the matter at least 15 days in advance. It would then have to take three votes at three separate meetings by Aug. 15.

Beaufort County's attorney concluded Tuesday.

Some are holding out hope that Beaufort County Council will reconsider its decision last month to quash a referendum or at least approve a scaled-down version of the \$221 million plan to pay for 21 capital projects. However, none of the seven council members who voted down the referendum have indicated they have changed their mind, nor has the leader of the Sales Tax Commission that designed the proposal asked to reconvene the group.

Unless one or the other happens before the end of the day today, "for all intents and purposes, (the tax) is likely dead,"

Please see **TAX** on **9A**



DELAYNA EARLEY • Staff photo

Donique Smith, 19, of Beaufort, dances with fiancé, Cassie Pataki, 17, of Beaufort, during a salsa lesson on Salsa Tuesday at the 59th Beaufort Water Festival at Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park.

By **LAURA OBERLE** • loberle@beaufortgazette.com • 843-706-8369

MORE PHOTOS
 For a gallery, click on this story at beaufortgazette.com.

MISS TUESDAY'S FUN? Catch up at bit.ly/h2ofest.

Hips were swaying in Beaufort on Tuesday night, as couples cha-chaed back and forth to the beat of Latino favorites at Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park.

Salsa Tuesday made its debut at the 59th Annual Beaufort Water Festival.

Marcia Mitchell of Revolution Ballroom, a Beaufort dance studio, started the night by teaching basic salsa moves to a crowd of about 300.

Please see **CHA** on **9A**

WIND COVERAGE IN BEAUFORT COUNTY

More private insurers get into market

By **DAN BURLEY**
dburley@islandpacket.com
 843-706-8342

Airlines ban flights to Israel after attack

LIFESTYLE: Girls compete in Little Miss & Teen South Carolina pageant. IB

THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Darlington County's News Leader Since 1893

50 CENTS

WEDNESDAY JULY 23, 2014

WWW.HARTSVILLEMESSENGER.COM

schow.com

Nucor raises \$75K for Free Medical Clinic

Nucor employees present a check for \$75,000 to the Free Medical Clinic of Darlington County. Front row (from left): Renetha D. Blackmon, Tammy Howle, Free Clinic Chairman Jay James, Terry Diggs, Free Clinic Assistant Director Sharon Dubose, Free Clinic Executive Director Kathy Baxley Hancock and Free Clinic board member Sheila Boyle. Back row: Heather Huggins, Ray Evans, Mary Ann Wiggins, Cindy Graham, Wade Baker, Billy Grant, Jim Kizzier, Free Clinic board member Winky Black and Ian Deeks.



JIM FAILE/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

BY JIM FAILE
faile@hartsvillemessenger.com

DARLINGTON — Nucor employees outdid themselves this year in raising money for the Free Medical Clinic of Darlington County.

Through its charitable annual golf tournament, Nucor raised \$75,000 for the clinic, \$15,000 more than last year, according to Kathy Baxley Hancock, executive director of the free clinic.

"I continue to be humbled by the efforts that the Nucor team pulls together each year for the Free Medical Clinic of Darlington County," Hancock said. "I believe that it says so much about the heart of the people that work within

Nucor everywhere."

"It's a pleasure for us to do this. It takes a team, and at Nucor we always try to raise the bar," said Nucor's Ian Deeks.

"The company's reputation for excellence extends beyond the mill and impacts the county in a positive way," said Jay James, board chairman of the Free Medical Clinic. "Nucor has the reputation for being the best steel company in America, but it is one of the best companies period. It takes care of its people and it takes care of its communities."

"Big companies like Nucor usually give to large charities like the American Red Cross and March of Dimes," said Sheila

See **NUCOR**, Page 3A

Council terminates Surret's contract

BY JIM FAILE
faile@hartsvillemessenger.com

DARLINGTON — Darlington County Council voted 5 - 3 to terminate the employment contract of County Administrator Dale Surret effective at once and named Frank



Surret

Willis, currently the executive director of the Darlington County Economic Development Partnership, to serve as county administrator until an interim administrator is appointed.

The vote to terminate the contract followed about a 20-minute closed executive session of council members and the county attorney during a special called meeting Monday.

Members voting to terminate the contract were Robert L. "Bobby" Kilgo Jr. of Darlington, Le Flowers of Darlington, Robbin Brock of

See **SURRETT**, Page 3A



ARISE ANDERSON/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER
ABOVE: Rising third- and fourth-grade students are attending Kalmia Gardens "Week in the Wild" camp this week.



LEFT: Liza Raye Sherbert gets sprayed with bug repellent before going to the pond.

Into the wild

Darlington man dies in tragic backhoe accident

From staff reports

Eugene Leo William, 54, William was pronounced expected Monday afternoon.



INDEX

121st Year 16 pages

Happenings.....	2A
Obituary.....	3A
Opinion.....	4A
Sports.....	5A
Lifestyle.....	1B
Puzzle.....	2B

hartsvillemessenger.com
2014 Copyright Hartsville Messenger



Grounded

Airlines cancel flights to Israel after rocket falls near airport C4

Herald-Journal

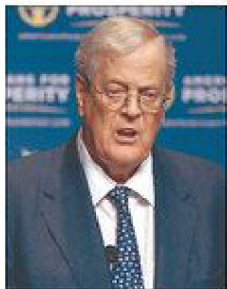
WEDNESDAY

JULY 23, 2014
SPARTANBURG, S.C.
50 cents

www.GoUpstate.com

HJ
IN A HURRY

5 Things to read today



At odds?

America's black colleges are struggling for funds. The Republican Party is struggling to attract black voters. Enter a \$25 million gift to the United Negro College Fund from the conservative Koch brothers (David Koch is shown above). **PAGE A4**

Flag switch

Police are searching for four or five people they believe scaled to the top of the Brooklyn Bridge's two towers in the dead of night, disabled lights illuminating two large American flags and then replaced the flags with bleached-white ones. **PAGE A5**

Kids' well-being

South Carolina still ranks better than only five states in the overall well-being of its children, according to a national report. **PAGE A5**

Billy D's closes

Another prominent local eatery has shuttered. Stax Billy D's at 880 S. Pine St. closed its doors for a final time Monday, ending its 15-year run as one of Spartanburg's most prized dining spots. **PAGE C1**

Road plans

Democratic candidate for governor Vincent Sheheen has a plan to raise hundreds of millions of dollars to improve roads, but like many of the state's leaders, he doesn't want to raise South Carolina's gas tax. **PAGE C3**

Health law faces new challenge

Two rulings on subsidies for consumers who bought plans contradict each other

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's health care law is snarled in another big legal battle, with two federal appeals courts issuing contradictory rulings on a key financing issue within hours of each other Tuesday.

But the split rulings don't necessarily mean another trip to the Supreme Court for the Affordable Care Act.

And White House spokesman Josh Earnest immediately announced that millions of consumers will keep getting financial aid for their premiums — billions of dollars in all — as the administration appeals the one adverse decision.

In that first ruling, a divided three-judge panel in Washington called into question the subsidies that help millions of low- and mid-

dle-income people afford their premiums, saying financial aid can be provided only in states that have set up their own insurance markets, or exchanges.

About 100 miles to the south in Richmond, Va., another appeals court panel unanimously came to the opposite conclusion, ruling in *King v. Burwell* that the Internal Revenue Service correctly interpreted the will of Congress when it issued regulations allowing health insurance tax credits for consumers in all 50 states.

Split appeals court decisions

are a classic route to the Supreme Court. But in this situation, it's far from clear what will happen because the administration still has a legal card to play.

Since the Washington case was decided by a three-judge panel, the administration will ask the full 11-member appeals court to hear the case. The full U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has seven judges appointed by Democratic presidents, including four by Obama.

◆ SEE LAW PAGE A8

Getting in the spirit



Carolina Panthers' lineman Nate Chandler, left, exchanges high-fives with children as they meet him Tuesday evening at Academy Sports and Outdoors in Spartanburg.

Panthers help fire up local students during back-to-school shopping spree

By ZACH FOX
zach.fox@shj.com

INSIDE

Students shopped with Panthers offensive

were her favorite part of the shopping trip. The iron-clad cat rode by, honking on a

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 16, NO. 56

www.indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Council gives its \$100K worth

Greenwood officials match Heritage Corridor funds

By FRANK BUMB
fbumb@indexjournal.com

Several Greenwood historical artifacts got a two-for-one deal out of Monday's Greenwood City Council meeting.

The Greenwood Museum Railroad Center applied for a South Carolina Heritage Corridor grant in 2013. The center received a \$100,000 award from the program, which is administered by the National Park Service.

However, the award is contingent on matching funds from a local government body. Greenwood City Council voted 7-0 to commit \$100,000 of 2015 hospitality tax funds to the center. Hospitality taxes are an extra 1

to 2 percent sales tax on prepared food or beverages. Once collected, the funds must go to projects and groups that promote tourism in a municipality.

Greenwood City Manager Charlie Barrineau said Green-

wood takes in about \$1.4 million in hospitality taxes each year. While the \$100,000 would be significant, the opportunity to use it as matching funds was too good to pass up.

"It's a great opportunity to get two-for-one on your dollar, to invest here locally

See MATCH, page 4A



CHARLIE BARRINEAU

INVESTMENT

Upstate near top in FDI

Foreign impact on state economy double US average

By COLIN RIDDLE
criddle@indexjournal.com

The Brooks Institution released a first-ever meta-analysis of foreign direct investment's role in the Upstate's regional economy.

The analysis is part of the Global Cities Initiative, a joint project of the Brookings Institution and JPMorgan Chase. The report analyzes the types of foreign-owned businesses located in the area, outlines the region's sources of foreign investment and demonstrates the number of jobs supported locally by foreign direct investment.

The Global Cities Initiative was created in 2012 as a five-year project aiming to help city and metropolitan leaders become more globally fluent by providing an in-depth and data-driven look at their regional standing on crucial global economic measures, highlighting best policy and practice innovations from around the world, and creating an international network of leaders who ultimately trade and grow together.

The Upstate was selected in late 2013 through a competitive application process. The initiative aims to grow the region's economy through a continued focus on international recruitment, a new focus on increasing exports of Upstate goods and services, and a new focus on increasing international investment through possible joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions.

The Upstate's FDI has accounted for more than 2,100 announced jobs and \$2.2 billion in announced capital investment this year. Among the country's 616 micropolitan areas, Greenwood ranks 22nd for share of jobs in foreign-owned establishments at 14.5 percent.

Greenwood had the second highest percentage of jobs in foreign-owned establish-

Imagine That!



Improvisational theater group from Spartanburg Imagine That! poses Tuesday evening at the beginning of its performance at the Greenwood Community Theatre.

Improv group tackles tough issues through performance

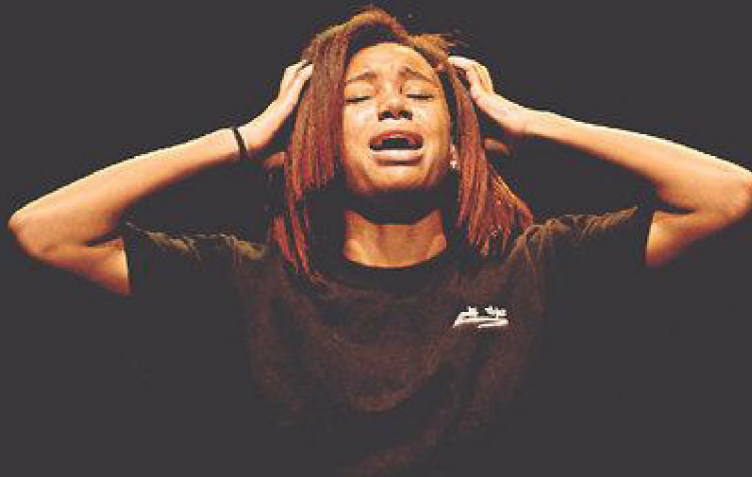
By ST. CLAIRE DONAGHY
sdonaghy@indexjournal.com

Spartanburg County high school students ages 13 and older who are part of an improvisational theater group, Imagine That, silently seat themselves among

a small gathering of audience members in Greenwood Community Theatre on Tuesday night.

The young actors proceed to act out four very different scenarios, addressing difficult-to-talk-about social issues.

See IMPROV, page 4A



ABBEVILLE SCHOOLS

Board delays busing issue

By KATE HRUBY
khruby@indexjournal.com

ABBEVILLE — Busing procedures in Abbeville County School District will remain the same — for now.

After a lengthy discussion that focused on safety and convenience for parents, the board voted Tuesday night to table the busing issue for further study, with the sentiment of the board seeming to lie in finding a way to allow students to ride from one district location to another with stricter safety, parental permission and student pick-up guidelines.

District administration recommended that the board approve a policy that would prohibit students from taking a bus to another location in the district unless a parent worked at that location or they participated in an after-school activity there.

Board member David Brooks was opposed to the recommendation as he said it was unfair to allow some students to ride to other locations while prohibiting others.

"I just believe in equality," Brooks said.

District director of transportation Sherwin Johnson said the reasoning behind the recommendation lies in traffic problems and liability for students who are not supervised after being dropped off at another location.

"It creates a situation where it puts the child in jeopardy," Johnson said.

Superintendent Jonathan Phipps said he would converse with school principals and come back to the board with an alternate plan, including specific safety guidelines.

In other business, the board



DAVID BROOKS

the Sumter ITEM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014 75 CENTS
SERVING SOUTH CAROLINA SINCE OCTOBER 15, 1894

3 SECTIONS, 26 PAGES | VOL. 119, NO. 238

YOUR HEALTH



Are you shopping for a new doctor?

10 tips that will help you make the right choice A5

FOOD

Wacko for watermelon

Try these sweet recipes C8



Scientific proof that New Yorkers hate you A9

DEATHS, B5 and B6

Dr. Charles H. Andrews Jr.
Charles E. Braxton
Lula Mae Thomas
Larry Johnson Sr.
Jean Rogers
Marguerite G. Gardner
Rev. Manney C. Reid
Raymond Pack
Linda D. Roberts

WEATHER, A10

TYPICAL SUMMER STUFF

Expect thunderstorms later this afternoon and into tonight before clearing up

HIGH 91, LOW 73

INSIDE

Classifieds B7
Comics C6
Lotteries A10
Opinion A9
Panorama C1
Television C7

CONTACT US

Info: 774-1200
Advertising: 774-1237
Classifieds: 774-1234
Delivery: 774-1258
News and Sports:
774-1226

VISIT US ONLINE AT theitem.com

2 minutes a fugitive

Man tries to flee near police headquarters

BY ROB COTTINGHAM

rcottingham@theitem.com
(803) 774-1225

If you're going to poke the bear, you'd better have one foot out of the cave first.

Sumter Law Enforcement Center on East Hampton Avenue emptied out like a rattled beehive Tuesday after a man wanted on larceny and trespassing charges decided to make a run for it.

According to reports, William Paranto, 23, of 21 Dew Drive, was supposed to appear before a judge Monday for a hearing on outstanding charges. He didn't show.

Instead, Paranto reportedly decided he'd speak with the judge

MORE INSIDE

Sumter County Sheriff's Office charges 3 with intimidating a witness A2



MATT WALSH / THE SUMTER ITEM

An officer handcuffs William Paranto during an arrest in the First Baptist Church churchyard in Sumter on Tuesday.

about why he wasn't able to make it Monday, so he went into the courtroom and explained his situation to the judge.

The judge, reports said, wasn't having it.

Unsatisfied with Paranto's excuse, the judge informed him that he would be served a bench warrant for missing court. At that point, Staff Sgt. Gerald Robinson approached Paranto to escort him to the police station.

"I was telling him he was being detained for the charges and was about to take him to the Law Enforcement Center," Robinson said.

As Robinson was walking the offender out of the magistrate's office, Paranto took a look around and decided he'd take his chances with a footrace.

Apparently, he'd forgotten he was standing at the police department's back door before he took off.

Paranto ran across Hampton Street and veered into the churchyard of First Baptist Church, jumping a fence in the process. At that point, he had nowhere to go.

It was probably the best idea to go ahead and give up at this point

SEE FUGITIVE, PAGE A8

Bridge detour could strain smaller street



MATT WALSH / THE SUMTER ITEM

A truck barrels down Brooklyn Street, the road that will serve as the detour for northbound traffic when the Lafayette Drive bridge closes Aug. 11. The overpass is expected to be closed for more than a year.

Lafayette Drive overpass will close Aug. 11

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT

bmarchant@theitem.com
(803) 774-1272

If Brooklyn Street is part of your daily commute, you might have some company during the next year.

The two-lane, partly residential street is scheduled to become one of two official detours when the Lafayette Drive bridge closes in three weeks, re-routing one of Sumter's busiest roadways onto a patchy stretch of asphalt running three-

MORE INSIDE

Democratic candidate for governor Vincent Sheheen has plan to improve roads without raising gas tax A3

road will cope with increased traffic.

"We get a lot of walkers," said Vivian Brogdon,

co-owner of Sumter Machinery Co. on Brooklyn. "I see a lot of people pushing grocery buggies on the side of the road. ... I hope there are no accidents."

Brogdon's company sits near the

"You can sometimes spend 10 minutes waiting on the train to pass," she said.

The selection of a detour route can take a lot of factors into account, but the main advantage engineers with the S.C. Department of Transportation look for is proximity to the area affected by a closure. And regardless of its size, Brooklyn is simply the closest route for Lafayette drivers to use after the bridge goes down Aug. 11.

Officially, Brooklyn is the detour for northbound Lafayette



RETURN TO GLORY?
Tigers' Beasley highly confident in veteran defense. C1

TOP TRAILS: *Sassafras Mountain offers 360-degree views of four states. B1*
GROUNDING: *FAA bans flights to Israel after rocket strike. D1*

Walhalla High construction 'on time and under budget'

Savings estimated in six figures

BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — School District of Oconee County superintendent Michael Thorsland recently received a call from

Trehel Corporation's construction project manager, who asked to meet regarding the construction budget for the new Walhalla High School.

Thorsland said the news he received at the meeting was better

than he could have dreamed. "Jack Webber, of Trehel, told us Trehel has value-engineered some things and taken some steps of their own to save us some money," Thorsland told school board members during Monday night's meeting. "He said they are still on time and under budget."

The savings that would bring

the district under the \$55 million guaranteed maximum price for the project, according to the superintendent, are not small. In fact, Thorsland said Webber told him that it appears to be in the six-figure range.

The new school will be located on the west side of S.C. Highway 11, a mile north of the S.C. Highway 103 intersection and a little

more than three miles from the existing high school site on Razorback Lane. Officials say the new facility will house around 1,300 students with room for growth.

Total square footage for the new school, including mezzanine space, is 268,000. The new

SEE WALHALLA, PAGE A5

'a beautiful thing'



With only around 25 licensed foster homes in Oconee County, many local foster parents are encouraging others to give children homes.

Officials: Foster parents needed in Oconee County

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — Seneca resident Abby Crooks said fostering a child is not as scary as some may think; it just requires simply offering a safe environment for a child without one.

"A lot of the kids are just normal kids that need a safe and stable environment; they're just kids — they're not scary," Crooks said.

Crooks and her husband have adopted one little girl (now 5 years old) that they had fostered for six months, and now they also have another daughter, 18 months, in the process of adoption. The two have also fostered their second daughter since she was brought home from the hospital at 10 days old.

The Crooks family is one of the few licensed foster homes in Oconee County — a number that she and many other foster parents would like to see grow.

'A lot of the kids are just normal kids that need a safe and stable environment; they're just kids — they're not scary.'

Abby Crooks
Seneca foster parent

According to Sharon Durham, Oconee County licensing coordinator from the South Carolina Youth Advocate Program, there are between 35 and 90 foster children in the county. Durham said the program has 25 licensed foster homes in the county.

Oconee Foster Parents Association administrator Alicia Ward added

SEE FOSTER, PAGE A5



Seneca resident Robin Lanning is currently fostering six children while also caring for her grandson, Wyatt. The Lanning family transports the children in their 15-passenger van to several daily activities.



Hitec Road, which connects the main intersection at Walmart in Seneca to Wells Highway, is the most trafficked road that Oconee County owns, according to Oconee County Council chairman Joel Thrift.

Hitec Road 'safety issue' no closer to resolution

BY STEVEN BRADLEY
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — The most trafficked road that Oconee County owns isn't any closer to an upgrade just yet.

Hitec Road intersects with U.S. Highway 123 at the entrance to Walmart in Seneca and connects to Wells Highway on the other end, and the county has been in discussions to put it under the umbrella of

the state highway system.

The trouble is, the S.C. Department of Transportation (SCDOT) wants the road upgraded first, and that could prove quite pricey indeed, according to Oconee County Council chairman Joel Thrift.

"They are going to require us to upgrade this road," he said at a council meeting last week. "We heard some pretty astro-

SEE SAFETY, PAGE A5

Bagwell: No conflict in county transaction

BY CARLOS GALARZA-NEVE
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — Mayor pro tem Tjay Bagwell said Monday that abstaining from voting on Walhalla City Council over a property transaction between the town and Oconee County should be enough to eliminate any conflict-of-interest concerns residents may have over his law firm's involvement in some county transactions.

Bagwell said his law

partner, Stephanie Corley, has been handling the transaction for the county

for the Bagwell and Corley firm. He said he has no interest in the property and is not making money on any sale.

"I'm not an expert on parliamentary procedures by any means, but I believe the way to

SEE BAGWELL, PAGE A6



Bagwell



Morning News

WEDNESDAY JULY 23, 2014

TODAY'S WEATHER

A thunderstorm early; partly cloudy; High 95 Low 72
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Sheheen unveils road plan

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Democratic candidate for governor Vincent Sheheen has his own plan to raise hundreds of millions of dollars to improve roads, but like many of the state's leaders, he doesn't want to raise South Carolina's gas tax.

The chief part of Sheheen's plan

is having lawmakers come up with a plan over several years that ends with dedicating 5 percent of the state budget and surplus every year to repairing and building roads. That would have raised about \$350 million last

year, and the state senator from Camden thinks with economic growth, it can give the state about \$500 million extra to spend on roads.

It is well below the nearly \$1.5 billion in extra funding the state Department of Transportation has said it would need over 20 years to bring South Carolina roads up to good condition. But

Sheheen said it would be impossible for South Carolina to come up with that kind of money on its own.

Sheheen hopes to have all the extra money in place in five years, but he said he would be willing to delay the plan if the state has a tough year or two economically. He wants to use revenue growth to build up the road fund, instead

of cutting from other areas.

Sheheen's road plan would also involve borrowing money immediately for important projects that can't wait, since the state has almost finished paying off bonds used to build schools 16 years ago. He thinks the state should concentrate on repairing

See **SHEHEEN**, Page 3A

Two sentenced for criminal sexual conduct

BY TRACI BRIDGES

Morning News
tbridges@floridamorningnews.com

FLORENCE — A pair of Florence teenagers who had sex with a 14-year-old girl at an alcohol-and-drug-fueled party last summer will each spend at least the next decade in prison.



Black



Boston

Shyquan Black, 19, of 1116 Sherwood Drive in Florence, and 17-year-old Jordan Boston, of 6630 Blackwell's Farm Road, Ellingham, each pleaded guilty to third-degree criminal sexual conduct with a minor in general sessions court in Florence this week. Boston was sentenced to 12 years in prison, while Black was sentenced to 11 years.

Twelfth Circuit Solicitor Ed Clements III said Black and Boston were among several teenagers who attended the party last June at 1002 Mimosa Drive.

"There was drinking and other drugs going on there," Clements said. "The 14-year-old was intoxicated and several males sexually assaulted her. They had sex with her one after the other while she was incapacitated."

There are several other teenagers who have similar charges pending in connection with the sexual assault, Clements said.

Jennifer Benenhaley, 35, who lived at the Mimosa Drive residence at the time of the party, also is charged with seven counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor in connection with the party.

Florence police investigators contend the party started when Benenhaley's 16-year-old son had some friends over. Investigators allege that during that gathering, the teenagers drank alcohol, snorted Xanax and smoked marijuana and that on at least two occasions, Benenhaley saw the drugs and alcohol being consumed and did nothing to stop it.

Benenhaley's case is pending, Clements said. She is out of jail on bond, in the meantime.

SUMMER SHOWERS



Water flows toward Lynch's River on Tuesday afternoon near Highway 52. According to a nearby United States Geological Survey gauge, 4 1/2 inches of rain fell between July 21 and 22 and water discharge peaked at 700 cubic feet per second — typical discharge for this time of the year hovers around 400 cubic feet per second.



PHOTOS BY
VEASEY CONWAY
/ MORNING NEWS

LEFT: Water droplets cling to a spider web Tuesday afternoon at Lynch's River County Park.

National report says child poverty worsened in SC

The Associated Press

45th in the nation in the ability of children to succeed. That's the

27 percent in 2012. That's about 288,000 children, according to

erty. That's up from about 19 percent in 2005.

eighth-graders weren't proficient in math, down slightly from 70

