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To:
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Subject: SC Front Pages – Tuesday, November 24, 2015

SC Front Pages – Tuesday, November 24, 2015



SPORTS

CU TALENT
POOL DEEP

LIFESTYLE

Dad's work
helps warm
his new son

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 24, 2015
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY

MANHUNT UNDERWAY AFTER GUNMAN SHOTS 16 IN NEW ORLEANS PARK PAGE 1B

Greenville becoming tech mini-hub

Three major distribution
companies have their
headquarters in the cityAMANDA COYNE
THE GREENVILLE NEWSGreenville has become a mini-hub for
technology distribution companies.
ScanSource, which specializes in sell-ing and marketing products including
barcode and 3-D printing technology,
was founded in Greenville more than 20
years ago, and has its international head-
quarters off Pelham Road. SYNTEX,
which supplies cloud technologies and
IT services and equipment, has had its
distribution headquarters in Greenville
since 1998. Last week, WYNN Distribution, a supplier of MicBit products and
other consumer technologies, an-
nounced its headquarters would movefrom North Syracuse, New York to
Greenville's One building on Main
Street.You probably haven't heard of these
companies before. They don't sell any-
thing to you, but they help get gifts under
your Christmas tree and get your favor-
ite stereo and readers and security cam-
eras. As distributors, they work to get
products from manufacturers to busi-
nesses. Soon, their Greenville workforce
will be close to 2,000 combined.So, why Greenville? It started with
another distributor in the early 90s, ac-
cording to Mike Haur, ScanSource CEO
and co-founder. ScanSource began as a
venture with technology distributor
GatesPA, which, in a series of acquisi-
tions, became part of SYNTEX."So, GatesPA essentially started dis-
tribution in Greenville," Haur said.

ScanSource launched in 1992, and has

See TECH, Page 5A

The tie that divides

After pastor weds same-sex couple, Baptists vote to split from Greenville church

ERIC CONNOR

ECONNOR@GANNETTNEWS.COM

The revelation that First Baptist
Greenville would marry same-sex
couples sparked renunciations and
rejoice over the summer — left wing,
right wing, casual non-believers, an
issue wrapped in tradition and the
ripe moment of a cause.The dust had just begun to settle
here in the cradle of conservative
Baptist theology, but now another
longtime Baptist church on the out-
skirts of downtown Greenville has
aroused interest — and sparked new
rounds of praise and condemnation.Today, Augusta Heights Baptist
Church finds itself in a similar posi-
tion after its pastor officiated a same-
sex marriage outside the church.The blessing of the bond of two
gay men has brought with it ultima-
tums from the Baptist organizations
it has long affiliated with.Recently, both the Greenville Bap-
tist Association and the larger South
Carolina Baptist Convention voted to
sever ties with Augusta Heights, de-
manding repentance in exchange for
reunion. It doesn't appear that any
will see the reconciliation they say
they desire.The church's pastor, Greg Dover,
told The Greenville News that he re-
ceived permission from his deacons
to perform the wedding and that the
church itself took no position and has
no intention of conducting a formal
vote. Meanwhile, both Baptist or-
ganizations told The News that while
they are "heartbroken," the issue of
gay marriage is so integral to South-
ern Baptist theology that disaffili-
ation is necessary.In March, Greg Dover answered
the call to pastorship at Augusta
Heights, a church of about 250 mem-

MICHAEL MCELROE/STAFF

Greg Dover, pastor at Augusta Heights Baptist Church, poses
for a portrait inside the church.“
I feel like there's still this
culture of 'don't ask, don't
tell' within the church.”

GREG DOVER

PASTOR AT AUGUSTA HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

See DIVIDE, Page 7A

Two men charged in slaying of Indiana pastor's wife

MADELINE BUCKLEY

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

INDIANAPOLIS—Detectives have ar-
rested two men in connection with theburglary, theft, robbery, auto theft and
criminal confinement charges along
with a misdemeanor charge of carrying
a handgun without a license, according
to electronic court filings.The arrests mark the first big break
in what police have said was a burglary
attempt that resulted in the slaying of
Amanda Blackburn, the 28-year-old
pregnant mother of a toddler.of Amanda's killer," he said in a state-
ment before word of the second arrest.
"Though everything inside of me wants
to hate, be angry and slip into despair, I
choose the route of forgiveness, grace

Chas. Harbor Resort, Marina
1457 of al Chas. Harbor Fish House.
See A2



The State

USC VS. CLEMSON

The road to the Palmetto Bowl



TIM O'DONNICK/SCORINGGENERAL.COM

USC held its annual Tiger Burn pep rally Monday. This year's tiger was built by the student group American Society of Mechanical Engineers and reached nearly 30 feet tall. Bands, cheerleaders and the dance team got the crowd going. Interim head coach Shawn Elliott and the players attended with the captains taking the stage with him.

FIRE, 'FUNERAL' SET OFF RIVALRY WEEK

The tradition of Tiger Burn dates back to when the Gamecocks mascot made its first appearance in 1902. Carolina defeated favored Clemson 12-6 and a brawl broke out. Since then, to lessen tensions, each school burns an object that represents the other. This year's tiger was built by the USC student group, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and reaches heights of nearly 30 feet.



Courtesy of Clemson University

Clemson's ROTC Tiger Platoon carries in Cocky's coffin Monday night at Clemson's pep rally, which was followed by 'cremation' of the effigy of USC's beloved mascot.

Why Clemson's Watson 'guarantees' he won't lose against USC, 18

South Carolina assistants know change is part of a coach's life, 18

Former USC QB calls out players and fans after Gamecocks' loss to The Citadel, 18

Officer's death spurs changes in emergency-response rules

BY KEVIN TESSER/STAFF WRITER
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Columbia police have changed emergency response guidelines after an officer ran a red light at excessive speed with her seat belt off and died in a crash, Police Chief Skip Holbrook said Monday.

Officer Stacy Case, 37, was killed in the late-night collision with a University of South Car-



Case

olina officer's vehicle Nov. 7. "She died a hero, responding to (a call for) help," Holbrook said in outlining findings of the S.C. Highway Patrol investigation into

the wreck.

New guidelines will require officers to come to a full stop at red lights before entering an in-

tersection in any call for help. Guidelines at the time of the crash allowed officers to go through red lights in certain situations as long as they slowed down and made sure the way was clear.

Holbrook expects the change will have a "negligible" impact on slowing response to such calls. "Coming to that stop, the few seconds that causes, I don't think it's going to have any effect on our ability to provide service," he said.

Case also violated standards by going more than 20 mph above the speed limit, Holbrook said.

SEE CRASH, 7A

LAST CO-DEFENDANT IN CASE

Zahn gets probation in Pinson corruption case

Richard Zahn sentenced to three years' probation, ordered to fund \$25,000 scholarship at S.C. State University

Developer has given victims, survivors of Emanuel AME slayings free lodging, admission to Disney World, his attorney says

BY JOHN MONE
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CHARLESTON

A federal judge sentenced Richard Zahn, the last defendant in the Jonathan Pinson public corruption case, to three years of probation Monday.

"I'm just happy it's over," developer Zahn said as he walked from the courthouse in Charleston.

The sentence eliminated five years of FBI investigations involving S.C. State University, a Columbia



Zahn

private-public housing development and a Marion County diaper factory.

U.S. District Judge David Norton said he was going easy on Zahn for trying to bribe public officials. Zahn admitted wrongdoing when first confronted, cooperated extensively with federal prosecutors, lived an otherwise unblemished

SEE ZAHN, 7A

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Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

TUESDAY, November 24, 2015

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

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Below the fold: Safety pause comes to an end at the Savannah River Site



STATE PHOTO BY TRIPP GIRARDEAU

Residents rush to find the cheapest pumps in town with gas prices being the lowest in seven years.

Cheaper gasoline bolsters holiday travels

BY TRIPP GIRARDEAU
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Gas prices continue to drop across Aiken, with GasBuddy reporting prices as low as \$1.63 per gallon and other reports of prices as low as \$1.58 in other areas of the state.

The BP on Bass Pine Log Road near Brooks Mill Road has the lowest price for gas in Aiken at \$1.63, and Gulfway has the lowest gas price in the state with \$1.58 at its Marion gas station on Floyd Belter Boulevard, according to GasBuddy.

South Carolina's current average of \$1.83, compared to the national average of \$2.06, has had a positive effect on expected holiday travel in addition, so residents who said they have more money for shopping.

"I'm loving these prices, and I hope they get lower," said local resident Susan Wright. "If these prices stay, my two kids are going to have a sweet Christmas. That's for sure."

Gas prices in South Carolina have declined steadily over the past few months.

Please see **GAS**, Page 9A

INSIDE TODAY



Aiken Chamber's Commerce Report
INSIDE

AREA DEATHS

Hazel Ridge way, Aiken
Joseph Milton Johnson Sr., Ridge Spring
Marlene Ann Watkins, Aiken
Ruby Richardson Dedmon, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER



'He's a miracle'



STATE PHOTO BY ROB NOVIT

Stephanie and Derek Deese of Graniteville recently joined their son, Dawson, 2, as he watches with wonder the Disney television show "Little Einsteins." They are presently in Boston, where Dawson continues to recover from his third open-heart surgery since birth.

Aiken County toddler survives multiple open-heart surgeries

BY ROB NOVIT
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Earlier this month, Dawson Deese curled up on the living room couch — laughing with joy and needing in the life-or-deathly charming Bowles, the family dog.

His parents, who live in Graniteville, joined Dawson to watch "Little Einsteins" — a cartoon that invariably reduces the 2-year-old boy to endless giggles and a sense of wonder.

A few hours later on Nov. 14, parents Derek and Stephanie Deese packed up their car and headed to the Hoxworth Children's Hospital in preparation for Dawson's third open-heart surgery.

The successful surgery occurred on Wednesday, and the child continues to improve.

"Dawson is moving right along," Derek said following the operation. "He's a miracle from what he's been through. We're very blessed and feel confident that everything will be OK."

The boy is scheduled to leave the hospital on Tuesday and will be seen by doctors as an outpatient for another week.

Want to donate?

- **Family assistance** — With their son having received his third open-heart surgery, Derek and Stephanie Deese are facing ongoing help for bills and more recent expenses.
- **Options** — People interested in making cash donations may stop by First Community Bank on 407 Silver Bull Road. They also may go to Dawson's online site at www.gofundme.com/ekpwws.

Not surprisingly, Derek and Stephanie are struggling financially, but they are undeterred as they care for Dawson.

A relative of Aiken, Deese, 29, met Stephanie, 27, a few years ago after she moved to the community. After their marriage, the couple was thrilled when Stephanie became pregnant.

She was 19 weeks along when they learned the baby had a congenital heart condition — a disease so extensive that the baby would require specialized care at the Bowles facility.

Soon after Stephanie reached 35 weeks, Dawson was born and went through surgery four days later to correct the condition and other defects. Even then, doctors knew the boy

would need additional surgery; and in November 2013, they performed a more extensive operation.

With the recent third heart surgery completed, the family hopes to bring their son home in the next week or two.

As for Dawson's developmental growth, he's doing remarkably well at 80 to 90 percent. His language ability is limited, but he is getting speech therapy through BabyNet, a state program that provides early intervention.

"He's so loud," Stephanie said with a smile during a recent conversation. "What 2-year-old isn't full of energy? He's our bright light and gives us joy."

Please see **HEART**, Page 9A



STAFF PHOTO BY MAWATY SCHUCHTER

Aiken's new Mayor Rick Osborn shakes hands with U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., before Osborn was sworn in at the City Council meeting on Nov. 23, 2015.

Osborn sworn in as mayor

BY MAWATY SCHUCHTER
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Without hesitation, Aiken's former Mayor Fred Cavanaugh passed the gavel to new Mayor Rick Osborn on Monday after convening his final City Council meeting.

On Monday, Osborn became the City's fourth mayor since 1946, taking the reins, and the designated seat between

City Attorney Gary Smith and City Manager Jon Klimm. Fred Cavanaugh, who served 24 years as mayor and several years before as a

Council member.

Osborn, a former County Council member and current owner of Osborn's Laundry & Cleaners, won by a landslide in the Nov. 3 general election — securing 4,899 votes to City Council member Levas Price's 2,667.

Wearing a wide grin, Osborn said the experience was "amazing."

"Having someone like Fred Cavanaugh, who is such a gentleman and such a special part of the community, he there, it was amazing — I'm excited for Aiken," Osborn said. "Council clearly loves this community and I look forward to good things."

Sitting beside his wife, Amy, and his three children — Reagan, 16, Gremmie, 13, and Sterling, 10 — Osborn was sworn in with his hand on the Bible pushed down to him by his father, now 86 years

Please see **OSBORN**, Page 9A

SRNS exits safety pause; readies for new phase

BY DERRICK ASHERBY
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Savannah River Nuclear Solutions officially exited a self-induced operational safety pause it started more than two months ago.

The contractor, or SRNS, announced Monday that all of its essential work has at least made it to deliberate operations — a time frame where precise safety being conducted require specific, well-thought-out actions in the identification of critical safety issues.

Canyon in the processing of nuclear materials.

In a Savannah River Site update, the site announced that HB Line entered deliberate operations after the site checked off an



SRNS and DOE SN have planned measures

SRNS entered the safety pause on Sept. 11 after four workers took part in an improperly storing a sample size of plutonium a container not specified for transport. The sample was scheduled to go to the Savannah River National Lab.

Since then, each of the facilities and operations that went into the safety pause have been entering, deliberate operations after SRNS and Department of Energy confirmed the proper safety procedures had been executed.

• **Second shift** — SRNS has been working

ing point for the contractor.

"We have a standard of excellence we're working toward and where we're talking all of the lessons learned and we're using them in operations in a way that displays excellence in everything we do," Strickland said.

Facilities that exited deliberate operations include Savannah River National Lab and National Nuclear Security Agency Operations including incineration operations, engineering, the D Area Ash Project and site services.

• **First shift** — Aiken, S.C. — SRNS and DOE

the Sumter ITEM

NATION

U.S. religious leaders make forceful appeal for Syrian refugees A6

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015 | Serving South Carolina since October 15, 1894

75 cents

Fireside Fund honors Propst this season

BY JACK OSTEEN
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Dr. Charles R. "Pap" Propst, in whose honor this season's Fireside Fund is dedicated, was one of Sumter's most beloved physicians and exemplified what the Fireside Fund is all about: A spirit of giving and helping others, especially the truly needy.

"It's all about service, which is what Dr. Propst's life was dedicated to, not just as a pediatrician caring for children but as a community leader who served faithfully on the School District 17 Board of Trustees for many years."



and Hubert D. Osteen, chairman of Osteen Publishing Co., and a close friend.

"He was one of Sumter's finest who made a difference in so many people's lives," Osteen said. "In remembrance of him, this year's fund could not have been dedicated to a more selfless and giving person than Pap Propst."

Started in 1969, the Fireside Fund is

a partnership between *The Sumter Item* and The Salvation Army. The newspaper collects the donations and gives them to the local nonprofit.

The Christian charity then interviews people who need help with heating costs such as past-due electric bills or to purchase kerosene or wood. Candidates must provide a valid form of picture identification, paycheck stubs and copies of late bills.

"Dad loved Sumter and everyone associated with the town and he spent his life working to make things better for all people whether through medicine, the schools or the YMCA," said

one of Propst's two sons, Sims Propst.

"Dad was all about people and always delighted in their successes. He would be proud to know that he was representing the Salvation Army and helping the Fireside Fund," Sims Propst said.

Dr. Charles "Pap" Propst died on May 20, 2015, at the age of 90. He founded Sumter Pediatrics with Dr. Tyl Young in 1964, and he practiced there until 1988. Propst became a prominent



PROBST

SEE PROBST, PAGE A11

Swan Lake lights up Nov. 30



SUMTER/STAFF PHOTOS

The Fantasy of Lights annually delights both children and adults. Many people enjoy walking through the display of Christmas lights, while others prefer to drive. Either way, they can see all the different characters, trees and other objects. In addition, children can get help writing letters to Santa and mailing them to the North Pole on weekends.

Festival undeterred after flood damage

BY IVY MOORE
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Things are about to get much brighter around Swan Lake-iris Gardens.

The gardens will be illuminated by thousands of color-

ful lights during the Monday, Nov. 30, opening ceremonies for the annual Fantasy of Lights.

Lynn Kennedy, events coordinator for the city, said many of the Christmas lights were lost when the warehouse

where they were stored was flooded during the first week-end in October.

"A lot of them were OK, and we're replacing the others," she said, "so the display

SEE LIGHTS, PAGE A10



Clyburn donates congressional papers to USC

COLUMBIA — Sumter native and No. 3 House Democrat James Clyburn is sending his congressional papers to

lies today will be flooded by learning of the courage shown by the average man and woman — black and white —

race and political persuasion."

The university's Center for Civil Rights History and Research is going

Last week, a group of primarily African-American students walked out of class to protest what they called in-



Morning News

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2015

TODAY'S WEATHER
Sunny and warmer.
High 59, low 34.
DETAILS 2A

www.fox4.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 CENTS

SNAC team steps up in wake of tragedy



After chief executive Courtney Graham passed away, all SNAC board members stepped up to the plate. Posing (from left) are Curt Derrick, Susan McGrath, Shane Orr, Janice Howard, Cindy Wood, Jacqueline Grich, Laura Ballenger, Brent Tiller and Laraine Stevens.

By DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearen@fox4news.com

FLORENCE — When Courtney Graham, the founder of local nonprofit Shelter and Nutrition for All Children (SNAC), died over the summer, the organization vowed to continue her legacy. In recent months, all members of the volunteer-run organization have stepped up to ensure that the children of Florence School District 1 have food and shelter.

Without Graham's guidance in the creation and organization process, as well as in the nonprofit's first year, SNAC might not have had continued success, said Jacqueline Grich, a SNAC board member. But because of her, the team persevered and was able to continue its service, she said. "I was never worried about it, because the blessing in it was we had a year with Courtney," Grich said. "She was such a leader, and her compassionate heart was just contagious."

Graham passed on her courage

See **SNAC**, Page 3A

Third in a series

► **TODAY:** The people who volunteer at SNAC, continuing the legacy of the late Courtney Graham, who founded the nonprofit organization.
► **GET INVOLVED:** To learn more about volunteer opportunities with SNAC, call 843-407-1485.
► **COMING WEDNESDAY:** The Coker College men's lacrosse team, which is active in the Houlsville and surrounding community, especially helping the Darlington County recreation department with events.
► **COMING IN PEE DEE WEEKLY:** Dee and Lou Dixon, volunteers at Carolinas Hospital System

Hitting the road

Lower gas prices in SC means more Thanksgiving travelers

By JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@fox4news.com

FLORENCE — With gas prices at the lowest they've been since 2008, more people will be on the road during the year's busiest travel weekend — especially in South Carolina.

According to AAA, South Carolina's gas price average for the 2015 Thanksgiving holiday is \$1.88. That's 23 cents below the national average and 71 cents cheaper than last year's state gas average.

Officials say the highest number of travelers on the road will happen Wednesday when travelers leave for their destinations and on Sunday when most people are returning home.

Considering the lowered fuel price, AAA predicts an estimated 660,000 South Carolinians will travel 50 miles or more this holiday weekend.

South Carolina Highway Patrol Cpl. Sonny Collins said the five-day Thanksgiving holiday period will bring more cars through Interstates 20 and 95 in the Pee Dee than any other time of the year.

"The difference for this holiday is that we know Wednesday is one of the busiest days of the year," Collins said. "So all those simple rules we ask throughout the year are magnified when you look at the number of cars that will be on the road this weekend."

He added that travelers should always wear a seat belt, obey all speed limits and allow extra driving time so rushing and aggressive driving don't become an issue.

Last year, the Highway Patrol reported eight fatal crashes on South Carolina highways during the Thanksgiving weekend — that's an increase from five fatalities in 2013.

Interstates aren't the only areas that will see drastic increases in traffic. Local roadways, especially in the city of Florence, will see a significant increase in traffic volumes.

Florence police Chief Allen Heidler said the city will become increasingly crowded on Friday and Saturday because it serves as a major shopping hub for the Pee Dee Region.

"We ask that drivers reduce distractions while driving. Put away your cellphone, lower the radio if you have to, and obey all the traffic rules," Heidler said. "David H. McLeod Boulevard is one of the most heavily congested areas in the city. Don't whip in and out of traffic, keep your speed in check and don't improperly change lanes. If you're going to be out in heavy traffic, don't be distracted, wear your seat belt and pay attention."



Students from Wilson, West Florence and South Florence high schools joined together Monday night at Wilson for the All-City Chorus concert with guest conductor Peter Felder from Allen University.

All-City Chorus performs at Wilson



Gwyneth Moray, winner of the Florence School District 1 Young Artist Competition, sings "Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again" from Phantom of the Opera on Monday night during the All-City Chorus concert at Wilson High School.

From staff reports

FLORENCE — During the All-City Chorus concert Monday night at Wilson High School, approximately 300 student vocalists presented a selection of six songs, including "O Magnum Mysterium," "Jai Ho!" and "I Wish You Christmas."

The students sang under the direction of guest conductor Peter Felder, a concert choir director at Allen University. This was Felder's third time coming to Florence to conduct.

They were accompanied on piano by Betsy Johnson, who is the principal flutist with the Florence Symphony Orchestra and regularly accompanies the Wilson

See **CHORUS**, Page 3A

New tire store should be open by mid-2016



Shopping plaza bustling with activity

By JOE PERRY
Morning News
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FLORENCE — In another sign of commercial growth, ground has been

laid for a new shopping plaza. Recent precipitation has somewhat slowed construction on the freestanding tire store, but work was once again underway Monday morning.

"When you're playing in



Let rivalry week
begin!
Sports 1B



INDEX-JOURNAL

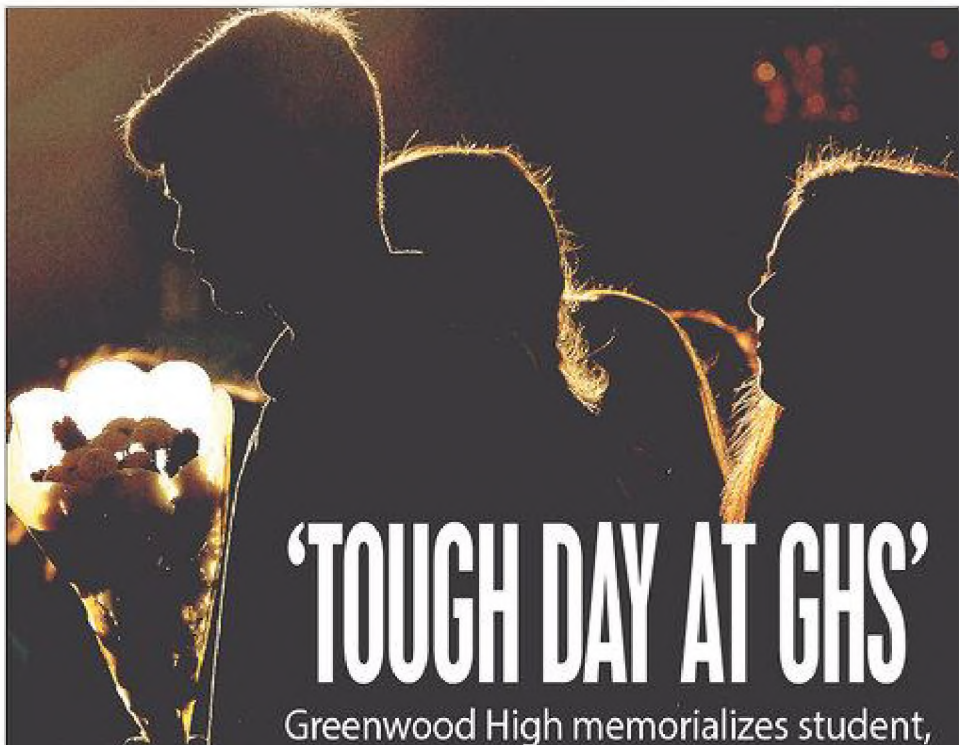
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2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50



'TOUGH DAY AT GHS'

Greenwood High memorializes student, grandparents killed in weekend wreck

Sam Ortiz holds a bouquet at a Monday morning memorial service at Greenwood High School for GHS student Cooper Gunnells, 16, and his grandparents, Harry "Pee Wee" Gunnells, 73, and Barbara "Ba Ba" Gunnells, 74, both of Saluda, died Friday night in a four-vehicle wreck.

PHOTOS BY JESSICA S. KELLY / INDEX-JOURNAL

By MARY KATE MCGOWAN
mmcgowan@indexjournal.com

The grass at the front of Greenwood High School was still frosted Monday morning as 200 or more people commemorated the life of Cooper Gunnells.

Gunnells, 16, and his grandparents, Harry "Pee Wee" Gunnells, 73, and Barbara "Ba Ba" Gunnells, 74, both of Saluda, died Friday night in a four-vehicle crash in

Lexington County.

Bryce Compton, Gunnells' first cousin from Bamberg, said the three were on their way to see the Trans-Siberian Orchestra in Columbia — an example of his grandparents helping Cooper Gunnells do something he loved with music.

Standing, praying and singing in the morning chill before classes began, students, family and

See TOUGH, page 4A



Two hundred or more Greenwood High School students gather Monday morning to celebrate the life of GHS student Cooper Gunnells.



■ CALHOUN FALLS

Town to get remaining withheld state money

By COLIN RIDDLE
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CALHOUN FALLS — Money the state withheld following last year's "black bag" incident, which led to a State Law Enforcement Division probe into how money was handled by the clerk's office, might soon flow back into the town's coffers.

After missing court fines and remittance forms landed on a table in Calhoun Falls Town Hall's foyer last summer, new policies and procedures in handling those fines were created in the midst of plugging holes in what was soon to be discovered as poor reporting concerning court fines.

The reporting also led to late audits, which the town has recently caught up. Additionally, the state required a random ticket audit for court fines for fiscal year 2014, which caused the state to withhold about \$63,000.

Paul Gilbert, a former town administrator who stayed on as a consultant, told Town Council on Monday the remaining withheld state funds are making their way through approvals and should be received any day now.

"They're not withholding anything," Gilbert said. "The hole we were in, we put the last bit of dollar on that hole."

Gilbert said the state's report should be posted online any day.

Steve Blake, who performed the audit for the state, found numerous problems with the town's policies, procedures and execution of assessing, collecting and distributing court fines to the state treasurer's office, victims assistance and its own treasury, according to Gilbert.

Gilbert attached the town's response to Blake's report, showing extensive changes to town policy addressing those issues, which have resulted in timely and accurate submission of all remittance forms and fund since the discovery last year.

"The biggest change has really been the assurance that these remittance forms are given to the state treasurer's office in a timely fashion," Gilbert said. "Everything he has identified in his report have been corrected."

The audit showed the town still owed the state about \$8,000 and overpaid victim services by about \$11,000, which will account for the money owed to the state and about a \$3,000 deposit to the town's general fund.

Additionally, Blake revisited remittances from fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

See MONEY, page 4B

Meg's House serves Thanksgiving dinner



Sara Collins and Mark Derrain, Meg's House case managers.

Brian Symmes

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