

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 10/17/2016 8:34:26 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Monday, October 17, 2016

SC Front Pages – Mon day, October 17, 2016

The Post and Courier

FOUNDED 1803 •



WINNER OF THE 2015 PULITZER PRIZE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Monday, October 17, 2016

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, S.C. \$100

Are students safe in Berkeley schools?

Lawsuits stemming from sex-abuse cases stir questions about actions, judgment in district

BY PAUL BOWERS
pbowers@postandcourier.com

The Berkeley County School District failed to protect students from sexual abuse that took place in a school office, a school cafeteria and a school gymnasium, according to federal

lawsuits filed by parents in the past 2½ years.

At one school in particular, Goose Creek High, two men were spending time alone with female students. In the winter of 2014-15, according to subsequent federal lawsuits, the men

the other was mechanical teacher Donald Wayne Blair.

That winter, students later told authorities, Blair was taking a 15-year-old girl into his office two to three times a week. The doors locked shut. Rooms worked.

Blair told Principal Jimmy Horsey nothing was going on, according to a signed statement in his personnel file dated Jan. 8, 2015. Rather than hand the case over to police, according to the personnel file, the school placed

an employment charge of supervising students about the women—a former Mount Pleasant police officer is a graduate of authority.

The man was Paul Herman. His internal investigation did not lead to Blair's arrest.

It was Blanton that sheriff's deputies arrested on Feb. 24, 2015, on a charge of sexual battery with a student, 10-year-old girl in his own office. After the arrest, school officials tried to track down Blanton's interview

notes from the Blair case, according to a federal court order in Blair's personnel file.

"Mr. Herman took statements from all parties," the order reads. "After the Mr. Herman situation on 2-24-15, we could not find the statements."

This year, the Berkeley County School District has settled two lawsuits brought by parents of sexual abuse victims.

Please see B50, Page A1

N.C. tallies \$1.5B in flood damage

Estimate covers 100K homes, businesses but not belongings, infrastructure



Fayetteville Christian School students and staff help clean out Cynthia Quirk's flood-damaged home on Friday in a Habitat for Humanity neighborhood in Fayetteville, N.C. More than 90 area Habitat homes were damaged by flooding.

BY JOSHUA DREW
Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. — Flooding spawned by Hurricane Matthew has caused \$1.5 billion in damage to 100,000 homes, businesses and government buildings in North

Carolina, according to a state estimate.

The figure released late last day equates one of the first detailed analyses of damage from the storm, and it's part of a growing picture of Matthew's financial impact.

With floods still yet to recede in

some mountainous, officials say the number could be higher.

"I do think that there may be more numbers," John Dorman, an assistant state emergency management director, said of whether the number could grow.

Dorman said the state's output

of modeling combines property records, topography and stream gauges in an attempt to determine how many people were affected, how much damage was caused.

Please see B500, Page A5

Pence: We will accept outcome

Says 'Trump's rigged' claim targets media

BY LAURIE NEELMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Mike Pence said Sunday he and Donald Trump will abide by "the will of the American people" on Election Day, and urged that Trump's claim of a "rigged" election stems from his belief

the media is "gunning upon" him. **Inside** RNC, GOP office burned, graffiti sprayed nearby. A6

"We will absolutely accept the results of the election," Pence said in television interviews. He said Trump's complaints, spread from the campaign stage and across Twitter but without evidence, reflect fatigue with "the obvious bias in the national media. That's where the seeds of a rigged election were sown."

Not long after Pence said that, Trump partly undermined his own claims

Please see CAMPAIGN, Page A1

Federal gun-safety research lacking

Little is known despite child deaths

BY LISA DIARIPANE
Associated Press

ATLANTA — In a handful of information you might expect from long-range government research, on average, one American child or teenager is killed or injured every day in an accidental shooting. The most common victims are ages 1 to 16. And the shooting happened frequently in their own homes.

But for the most part, such government research is almost nonexistent.

Instead, the data is more anecdotal, from a mix of sources from The Associated Press and the USA TODAY Network. The news organizations teamed up to analyze information gathered over the past 2½ years by the Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit that is trying to capture details about every shooting in America.

"There's no data that we can't turn," said David Weisberg, the director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research.

Please see SHOOTING, Page A5

Inside



SPORTS

Slumping Panthers fall to Brees, Saints. C1

INSIDE BUSINESS

Local retailers take stock in popular, expensive Yeal. E1

SPORTS

Citadel won a big one, but more big ones remain. C1

Historic area joins 'most endangered' list

Status could help protect former Navy base hospital district

BY ALAN C. RICHIE
richie@postandcourier.com

Those fighting to protect the former Charleston Naval Hospital district have a new big gun on their side, as the National Trust for Historic Preservation added the district to its 11 Most Endangered Places list.

The listing will bring new, national attention to the largely quiet battle being waged to protect 32 historic buildings from negative impacts from a planned rail line that would run about 1,400 feet through the base's hospital area.

Please see B45L, Page A1



This 1942 image shows the groundbreaking ceremony for the Nurse's Home at the Charleston Naval Base. Rear Adm. William Allen, commandant of the 6th Naval District, is on the right. The hospital district grew quickly during World War II.



Clear, High BT, less oil. Complete 5-day forecast, B10

Bridge B1
Drama C1
Landscape B1
Covers B1

Football B1
Education B1
Health B1
Politics B1

Debut B1
Sports C1
Society B1
Interview B1

Charleston Deals today

Ashley on the Cooper
\$20 for two to Murder Works.
See A2



USC FOOTBALL
Muschamp keeping quiet on possible changes **1B**



USC WOMEN'S SOCCER
Gamecocks remain undefeated with 2 OT win over Florida **1B**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016

\$1.00

VOL. 126/NO. 403
SAT. CONNECTED THESTATE.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/THESSTATE
TWITTER.COM/THESSTATE



TODAY: MOSTLY SUNNY **88-92** 10-59
YESTERDAY: 88-92 10-59 (THURSDAY)
FORECAST: B.C.

The State



PALMETTO VOICES
BLESSED, TO BE A BLESSING
David Lauderdale explores why he was spared the wrath of Hurricane Matthew while others were not. **1C**

AFTER HURRICANE MATTHEW



Neighborhoods brace for more flooding

DAVID BLACKBURN/MORGAN PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE STATE

Conrad Marquez yells to neighbors that he will help out and offers a beer from his cooler near Socastee's Smith Boulevard on the Intracoastal Waterway on Sunday.

Intracoastal Waterway residents: 'It's our hurricane survival party. ... We're survivors'

BY ANDREW HUDSON
The (Myrtle Beach) Sun News

SOCASTEE

Despite all the wreckage caused by Hurricane Matthew — the destruction of property and flooding of area rivers — Inland Reef neighbors gathered at an intersection of water-filled streets by the Intracoastal Waterway here Sunday for an impromptu block party.

"The only thing that makes

us happy right now is that it's a Sunday afternoon and we are with our neighbors," said Jenny Marquez. "We're close neighbors. We lean on each other and check on each other."

She and her husband, Conrad Marquez, along with neighbors B.J. Poug, Tina Pendleton and a 12-year-old chocolate Labrador retriever named Itokie, stood in the flooded street with cold beverages to swap flood stories and discuss where they and others were riding out the deluge.

"It's our hurricane survival party," said Conrad Marquez. "Because we're survivors."

The Marquez family plans to stay in their house surrounded by flood water with their pets. So are Poug and Pendleton.

"We're saving our nancy for repairs," Poug said.

Neighbors along River Bend Road joked that the water was so deep in their front yard, they were fishing for carp. Didn't catch anything, they reported.

Houses along the Intracoastal Waterway were eerily silent for

a sunny weekend day. Some residents peeked from windows as the water steadily climbed, determined to stay in their homes. Other houses appeared vacated, surrounded by SUVs and a Cadillac that were half-submerged in the water.

Sewer systems have been breached, as was evidenced by the stench. But that didn't stop neighborhood kids from riding their bicycles through the flooded streets.

SEE FLOODING, 7A

1934-2016



LONGTIME SC POLITICAL GURU DIES

Longtime Columbia political consultant and advertising executive Crawford Cook died Sunday. **3A**



CLEMSON FOOTBALL

SC's crisis chief leads the way in laid-back style

■ Kim Stenson, director of the South Carolina Emergency Management Division, is the individual state officials turn to in times of crisis, such as Hurricane Matthew.



team of emergency planners have offered communities across the state during the last two weeks.

To respond quickly to emergencies, Stenson says, he uses a



SPORTS, 1C SAINTS TOP PANTHERS



METRO, 3A Running club helps kids focus

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 17, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY DEMS FAIL TO SEE BIG SURGE IN HISPANIC VOTERS PAGE 1B

Trump worries some in SC GOP

Fear voter turnout will
be low on election day

KIRK BROWN

KIRK.BROWN@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

Joshua Putnam and Anne Thayer are afraid that Donald Trump's past lewd remarks about women may hurt their chances of getting re-elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives.

"I am scared that Republicans will stay home," Putnam said.

He is being challenged by Democrat Anna Brown in House District 10, which covers parts of Anderson, Greenville and Pickens counties.

Thayer also is worried about a lower than usual turnout of GOP voters. She is opposed by Democrat Mary Goren in House District 9, which stretches from Anderson to Pickens.

Such fears are warranted, said U.S. Sen. Tim Scott, who visited Anderson last week.

"It definitely should be concerning to all of us that voters will be disgusted with the process," said Scott, a Republican from North Charleston who also is seeking re-election.

Scott said that Trump, the GOP presidential nominee, and Democratic Party standard-bearer Hillary Clinton "should be ashamed of themselves" for waging the most negative campaigns that he has seen in his lifetime.

Like several other Republicans interviewed last week, Scott said he will vote for Trump because he dreads the prospect of Clinton making appointments to the Supreme Court.

"You are choosing between the lesser of two evils," he said.

When asked if she will support Trump, Thayer responded, "I would never vote for Hillary."

South Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Jaime Harrison said he wouldn't be surprised if GOP candidates suffer from the backlash over comments that Trump made in a 2005 videotape that recently surfaced. In the tape, the Ambition real estate tycoon bragged that his status as a "star" enabled him to grope women.

"There are a lot of moderate Republicans who are good people. They don't want to be associated with those type of things," said Harrison, who also was in Anderson last week. He predicted that the "Trump effect" will

INSIDE

Number of registered voters rises in the state and update.
Page 13A.



SCOTT KEELER/STAFF

Simpsonville Police Officer Adam Semanski is trying to help in the city's recruitment and retention of officers.

Simpsonville looks at police retention

COTT KEELER

CKEELER@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

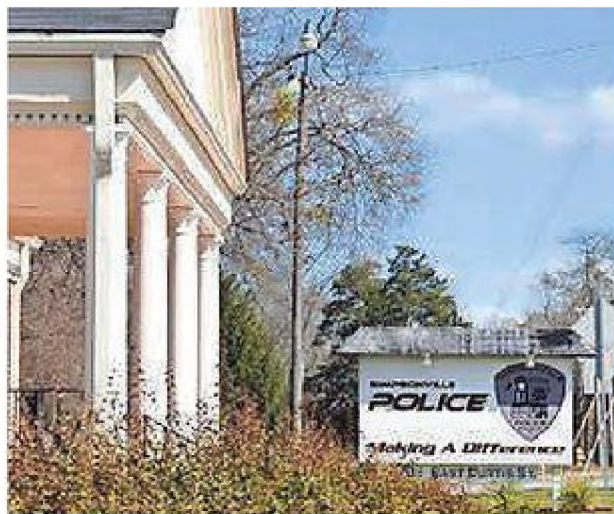
During Simpsonville Police Officer Adam Semanski's three-and-a-half years on the force, he said he's learned a lot from some really good officers that he's looked up to. He's also had to say goodbye to many of them who moved on to other offices or new lines of work.

After attending a recent conference in Jacksonville, Florida, Semanski said Simpsonville is experiencing a problem police departments across the country are facing. Simpsonville is currently five officers short of being fully staffed with 39 of 44 positions taken. It comes during a time when public scrutiny of police is higher than ever.

"Most people don't want to wake up and be hated just because you wear a uniform," Semanski said. "And most people don't want to come to work to make peanuts."

The average starting salary for a new Simpsonville officer is \$15.75 per hour. Officers often work as security at local festivals and concerts to supplement their regular income.

Simpsonville Interim Chief Steve



The Simpsonville Police Department is currently short five officers.

PAGE

CLEMSON, OSU HANG ON TO TOP 3 RANKING

Both teams won in overtime to keep spots in the Arway poll. **1B**



Independent Mail

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

Sassafras Mountain project faces delay



Construction on the 360-degree viewing tower atop Sassafras Mountain has been delayed until spring 2017.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ABE HARDESTY

ABE.HARDESTY@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

A 360-degree view from atop South Carolina's tallest peak will not be available until 2017.

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources spokesman Greg Lucas said construction on the Sassafras Mountain tower is not likely to begin until the spring.

Natural Resources Department officials had hoped construction might start in September or October this year, but paperwork delays and the arrival of cold weather at the top of the 3,553-foot peak pushed the construction into 2017.

"It's looking like it will be early 2017

before it gets underway," Lucas said. "Concrete can't be poured up there once it gets cold, so realistically, it's looking like it will be spring 2017."

Private funding for the first phase of construction on the 15-foot tower was acquired in June. The first phase is scheduled to include the observation tower at the pinnacle of the mountain and restrooms.

The present wood platform, built less than 300 feet from the parking lot three years ago by Clemson University architectural students, will remain in place as an auxiliary deck. It provides a 120-degree view to the west, looking into North Carolina.

The 360-degree tower is expected to

offer views of mountains in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Phase II of the project, which will require additional funding, is scheduled to include a picnic area, accessory trails, informational kiosks, educational pavilions, and improvements to the parking lot.

Sassafras Mountain sits on the South Carolina and North Carolina border, about 20 miles north of Pickens. It can be accessed by vehicle from the F. Van Clayton Highway in Sunset, and through the Pothills Trail, a 77-mile footpath between Table Rock and Oconee state parks.

Follow ABE Hardesty on Twitter @abe_hardesty.

Brace for costlier heat bills this winter

DAVID KOENIG

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Expect to pay more to heat your home this winter than you spent last year.

That's the message from government analysts who sifted through forecasts for a colder winter and slightly higher energy prices.

The federal Energy Department said Thursday that household bills are likely to be higher for all four main heating fuels — natural gas, electricity, heating oil and propane.

Last winter, above-normal temperatures reduced nationwide demand for heating fuels to the lowest level in at least 25 years. For most regions outside the West, this winter is expected to be more typical — colder than last winter although still milder than many recent ones, according to forecasters with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

If winter turns out to be colder than expected, however, heating bills could soar.

Officials with Duke Energy and Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative said they could not predict what heating bills will be in Upstate South Carolina this winter.

Ryan Mosier, a spokesman for Duke Energy, said everyone uses electricity differently and while weather is a key factor, usage of large appliances plays a major role in utility bills.

He said tips for saving electricity, and money, are available on the Duke Energy website.

Terry Ballenger, a communications director for Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, said the cooperative is working to add extra capacity to its power lines so cold January days are less likely to lead to lost power.

He said the cooperative offers help with bill payment if winter heating, like summer air conditioning, becomes too costly.

Payments can be stretched out in the spring and fall months when usage, and utility bills, generally drop, Ballenger said.

In Portland, Maine, William Boss had insulation wrapped around his heating ducts this summer and set aside money to survive Maine's fickle winter weather and volatile fuel market. He usually tops off his 275-gallon oil tank about three times, sometimes with help from federal subsidies, and he was rattled by the forecast of higher heating bills.

"Right now, I've been thinking I'm going to be OK," the 69-year-old said. "There's not much we can do about it if the weather turns cold all of a sudden."

Here is the Energy Department forecast for average household heating bill from October through March.

Pence says GOP ticket will 'absolutely' accept outcome

LAURIE KELLMAN

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Mike Pence said Sunday he and Donald Trump will abide by "the will of the American people" on Election Day, and suggested that Trump's claim of a "rigged" election stems from his belief the media is gang-banging on him.

"We will absolutely accept the results of the election," Pence said in television



Online

Visit Independentmail.com for the latest updates on the election.

branch of faith in American democracy. He has repeatedly claimed, without offering evidence, that election fraud is a serious problem and encouraged his mostly white supporters to "go and watch" polling places to make sure things are "on the up and up."



PANTHERS RALLY, BUT FALL TO SAINTS

SPORTS, B1



HARVICK REACHES NEXT ROUND IN CHASE

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Monday, October 17, 2016



GoUpstate.com

75¢



GoUpstate



@GoUpstate

TODAY TUE WED



83°/53° 85°/60° 86°/58°
Complete forecast, A8

NEWS DIGEST



Candlelight vigil held for Deondre Brannon

Family and friends of Deondre Brannon shouted his name as they released balloons skyward during a vigil held Sunday night at Leroy Mathis Park in Inman.

More than 100 people attended the vigil. Brannon, 15, was shot and killed Oct. 11 on James Raymond Court in the Martin Lane Estates neighborhood by a Wellford homeowner during an alleged attempted car theft, according to the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office.

Some who gathered at the candlelight vigil shed tears as they spoke about Brannon.

"Everybody is hurting in Spartanburg County right now ... by this tragedy that happened," said the Rev. Tavecin McIntyre of Divine Directions Ministries.

Brannon's father, Lynn Brannon, said his son was a loving person who knew how to make him laugh. He encouraged all parents to hold and protect their children.

"I am going to miss him," Lynn Brannon said. "I just want to tell you the tragedy that happened to him, don't let it happen to you."

Deondre Brannon's mother, Lakesha Oglesby, also spoke. She said she hasn't slept much since the shooting and misses her son's laughter.

"I don't have the little moments to sit there and talk to my son," she said. "His spirit is still there with me."

—Chris Lannister, Staff

HURRICANE AFTERMATH

NC buildings take \$1.5B hit

By Jonathan Drew
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Flooding spawned by Hurricane Matthew has caused \$1.5 billion in damage to 100,000 homes, businesses and government buildings in North Carolina, according to a state estimate.

The figure released late Saturday represents one of the first

detailed analyses of damage from the storm, and it's part of a growing picture of Matthew's financial impact.

With floodwaters yet to recede in some communities, officials say the number could fluctuate.

"I do think that there may be more out there," John Dorman, an assistant state emergency management director, said

of whether the number could grow.

Dorman said the state's computer modeling combines property records, topography and stream gauges to estimate how many feet of water have affected a given building — and how much damage that water caused. The state also used manned aircraft and drones to verify projections.

Damage estimates for buildings where the water only reaches the base of the foundation can be as low as \$200 to \$300, while estimates for buildings in which the water reach several feet are much higher, Dorman said. The system uses property tax values that are updated regularly and

SEE AFTERMATH, A7

AVIATION THEME

Plans for airport park could soon take flight



The city is pushing for an aviation-themed public park at Spartanburg Downtown Memorial Airport, near the intersection of Kensington and Airport drives. IMAGE PROVIDED

By Alyssa Mulliger
alyssa.mulliger@sh.com

Plans for a new city park that will serve the west side of Spartanburg are taking off.

The city is spearheading efforts to create an aviation-themed public park at Spartanburg Downtown Memorial Airport, near the

4-acre park is anticipated to cost \$850,000 and will be owned and maintained by the city.

Mitch Kennedy, the city's community services director, said a new west side park is in line with steps taken by Spartanburg City Council in 2014, when funds were set aside for capital park improvements.

In the Wadsworth Hills neighborhood due to the partnership with St. Matthew's Episcopal Church," he said. "Staff worked hard to identify another location on the west side that supported a neighborhood; we were unsuccessful in that effort."

Kennedy said there had

NORTH KOREA

Missile explodes during launch

By Kanga Kong and Heejin Kim
Bloomberg

North Korea fired a ballistic missile on Saturday that immediately exploded after launch.

The missile was thought to be a mid-range weapon capable of hitting U.S. military bases in Japan or Guam in a move that comes as the international community considers further sanctions on the isolated nation.

The projectile, believed to be a Musudan missile, was fired from near an airfield in the western city of Kusong, at 12:53 a.m. South Korean time, according to a statement from South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"The failed launch shows North Korea's launch capability isn't perfect, so Kim Jong Un might fire a Musudan again or any other missile soon given his temper," Yoo Dong Ryul, President of Korea Institute of Liberal Democracy in Seoul, said by phone.

Military officials from South Korea and U.S. shared information on the launch and concluded Sunday that the missile seems to be a Musudan, South Korea's FCS said. The launch of "a ballistic is an apparent violation of UN Security Council resolutions"

TIP SHEET

Today

Spartanburg County Council meets at 5:30 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 366 N.

SPORTS

Harvick wins at Kansas to reach next round of Chase

Page 7A

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

MONDAY, October 17, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 290 Aiken, S.C. ★ ★ 75¢



BRICK POND MARKET OPENS IN N.A.



STAR PHOTO BY DEB BILES

Marc Nungesser, right, holding his dachshund, Franklin, shops at Mrs. Delightful's Bakery at the Brick Pond Market in North Augusta on Sunday. Shawna Mellott, left, shows him some of the treats that are available. Mrs. Delightful's is owned by Mellott's sister-in-law, Kelsie Mellott.

Brick Pond Market offers variety of goods at Sunday opening

BY DEB BILES
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

NORTH AUGUSTA—After shopping at the new Brick Pond Market on Georgia Avenue on Sunday, Marc and Megan Nungesser sat down on some holes of tennis and took a break with their dogs, Franklin and Jackson.

The couple's purchases included two iced coffees and a couple of pie pops.

"For a first-time gig, it's pretty dang good," More said. "I love it."

There was live music in enjoy, and four vendors offered a variety of products.

For lovers of sweets, the Antebellum Chocolate Company had candy and the Mrs. Delightful's Bakery had pecan chowies, cupcakes and pumpkin spice whoopee pies. In addition to pie pops and iced coffee.

The Picole Project's homemade preserved cucumbers came in flavors such as shiso-mustard, wasabi and jalapeno.

An assortment of fresh produce was available under Wilton Faria's pop-up tent.

"This is nice, I always try to support activities in North Augusta," said Sally Hicks, who bought potatoes, green beans, okra, tomatoes and carrots.

Sending the Brick Pond Market is the first project for the inaugural class of North Augusta Forward's Junior Leadership North Augusta program. The market is scheduled to be open from noon until 4 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of each month.

"There are a lot of rural places not too far from North Augusta, and this was a way to connect with them," said Junior Leadership Chairman David Brannon. "It's also a way to

spur downtown economic development and to engage youth. It has so much potential."

The members of the Junior Leadership class are 11th- and 12th-graders who live in North Augusta and the surrounding area. Most attend North Augusta or Fox Creek high schools. Brannon, however, is a senior at Lakeside High School in Evans, Georgia.

"The requirements for membership are that you are invested in the City of North Augusta, you want it to grow and you are willing put time into it to see that happen," Brannon said. "I have family ties here, and I go to Grace United Methodist Church."

Brannon hopes the Brick Pond Market will become a popular gathering place for people who attend Grace United and the many other

Please see MARKET, Page 12A

Pence says GOP ticket will accept outcome

BY LAURIE KELLMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Mike Pence said Sunday he and Donald Trump will abide by "the will of the American people" on Election Day and suggested the Trump victory of a "rigged" election stems from his belief the media is ganging up on him.

"We will absolutely accept the results of the election," Pence said in television interviews. He said Trump's complaint, circulated from the campaign stage and across Twitter but without evidence, reflects fatigue with "the obvious bias in the national media. That's where the sense of a rigged election goes here."

No leg after Pence said that, Trump partly undermined his own claims.

"The election is absolutely being rigged by the dishonest and disoriented media pushing Barack Obama—but also at many polling places," Trump tweeted. "SAD."

Pence's words were the latest attempt by Trump's surrogates to attempt to exploit that some things the GOP presidential nominee has said and tweeted are not what he meant.

Much of that cleanup duty has fallen to Pence little more than three weeks before the Nov. 8 vote. Trump is struggling to shift the focus away from mounting accusations that he sexually assaulted women in ways similar to what he is recorded describing on a recently released video. Trump said all of the accusations are fabricated.

Several of Trump's endorsed claims—such as the one Saturday that Democratic nominee Hillary

Please see ELECTION, Page 12A

INSIDE TODAY



Former St. Mary's priest gets Order of the Palmetto
Local News, 2A

AREA DEATHS

Gene Emanuel Morgan Jr., Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 4A

Mark your calendar: Help 'jump start' economy by spending \$20 on the 20th

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
ccleveland@aikenstandard.com

Aiken County residents can give the local economy a boost, simply by spending \$20 on Thursday. The Aiken Standard is reviving its "Spend \$20 on the 20th" program, encouraging people to spend \$20 at local business on Oct. 20.

Shoppers don't have to stop their spending with just \$20, but if each person spends at least that much, those dollars could help keep money flowing in the local economy and, in turn, keep businesses doors open and their employees inside of them.

Ron Brenneman, co-owner of downtown shop Picole's, is excited about the idea. "It's a way to

increase flow through the store, and we're certainly looking forward to it," Brenneman said.

Avery Spears-Matney, of the Aiken Downtown Development Association, said the association is excited for "Spend \$20 on the 20th," and it is a campaign it supports.

"It's very important for our community to support their neighbors and their friends in our downtown," she said. "Our downtown is unique and people love it, and the only way to keep it that way is to keep the money flowing."





SPORTS Brees leads Saints past slumping Panthers, 41-38. **Page 1C**

Morning News

MONDAY OCTOBER 17, 2016

The Voice of the Pee Dee

**TODAY'S
WEATHER**

Mostly sunny
and clear later.
High 84, low 59.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

75 CENTS

HURRICANE MATTHEW

'Bam. Bam. Bam. Bam.'



*"It sounded
like bombs
going off."*
David Perkins

Four large oak trees fell both on and around David Perkins' property during Hurricane Matthew. This tree fell in the front yard, barely missing the house.

JESSICA HAMMO / MORNING NEWS

Toppled trees blocked every exit of Florence couple's house



David Perkins looks up at the massive oak tree that fell into his home during Hurricane Matthew. Perkins said he expects the repairs to cost upward of \$10,000.



A large oak tree was removed from the Perkins' property after it fell on their neighbor's garage and caused severe damage.

by JESSICA HAMMO
Morning News
jhammo@scnnews.com

FLORENCE — David Perkins and his wife found themselves trapped in their Damon Street home after Hurricane Matthew passed through on Oct. 4 when multiple large trees fell in their yard, blocking every exit from the house.

Perkins said he had to crawl out of the garage to get help once the rain and winds subsided. A neighbor used a chain saw to cut through thick, heavy limbs to free Perkins' wife and their dog, Toby. The couple have lived in their house for

See **MATTHEW**, Page 3A

Vietnam Memorial coming to FMU

From Staff reports

FLORENCE — The Moving Wall, a portable replica of the famed Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., is coming Oct. 27 to the Francis Marion University campus.

The Moving Wall is the new 32-year-old project of

Memorial, will arrive on Oct. 26 at FMU and will be set up near the James Rogers Library on campus.

Opening ceremonies are set for 5 p.m. Oct. 27. Medal of Honor winner and Vietnam veteran Gen. James B. Livingston (USMC-Ret.) will be the keynote speaker for the event. Livingston is a

FMU alumnus.

The public is invited to the opening ceremony and the reception that follows.

The wall will be open throughout the day from Oct. 27-30. Free parking is available in Lot D on the FMU campus.

Like the wall at the actual memorial in Washing-

House of Hope

Courtney McGinnis Graham Community Shelter opens

by JUSTIN JOHNSON
Morning News
jjohnson@scnnews.com



FLORENCE — House of Hope, a Florence-based



Toros growing in numbers

Club has some needs — find out what they are

Sports 1B

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 98, NO. 255

indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016

DAILY \$1, SUNDAY \$1.50

Minding their money

Lander, PTC boards' spending 'very conservative'

Lander's board of trustees
spending per year

■ 2012:	\$18,947.33
■ 2013:	\$17,917.59
■ 2014:	\$19,819.83
■ 2015:	\$21,016.27
■ 2016:	\$15,869.23

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

When news broke of the Medical University of South Carolina's Board of Trustees spending more than \$500,000 in the past five years on mileage, meals and hotel stays, the Commission on Higher Education decided to do an audit of the school's board spending. The commission will also

audit the boards for Clemson University and the University of South Carolina.

The Index-Journal requested the spending habits for the boards of two Greenwood-based institutions: Lander University and Piedmont Technical College.

In the past five years, Lander University has spent \$93,570 on its 17-member board, or a little more than \$1,000 per member per year.

Part of that cost is the \$35 per item each board member receives for each meeting they attend — a benefit board members decided to drop this year because they didn't want to go through the hassle of taking out taxes on it.

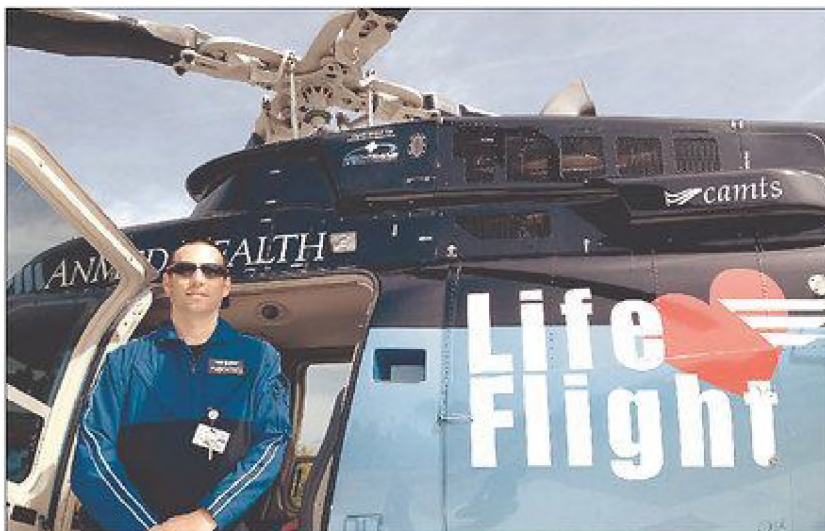
Another component of the cost for members who live across the state is mileage, which is based on the state-set mileage rate.

See MONEY, page 4A



RICH
COSENTINO

WHEN SECONDS COUNT



Jeff Higginbotham stands next to his LifeFlight helicopter. He's a paramedic and pilot who works for AnMed Health in Anderson.

Even closer

■ **Name:** Jeff Higginbotham

■ **Age:** 37

■ **Family:** Higginbotham lives in Greenwood with his wife, Melissa, and daughter Ansley.



JEFF HIGGINBOTHAM
paramedic

■ **Education:** Certified Emergency Medical Technician from Piedmont Tech and certified paramedic from Midlands Technical College.

■ **Of note:** He was a fourth-grader at Oakland Elementary School in

LifeFlight paramedic passionate about work

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

As a paramedic, the difference between life and death is in the span of split-second decisions. For a paramedic working on a LifeFlight helicopter, the stakes are often much higher and the calls deadlier.

AnMed Health's LifeFlight helicopters are made by Med-

■ COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Public gets opportunity to weigh in

By ADAM BENSON
abenson@indexjournal.com

How can Greenwood leaders best manage the county's natural resources and community facilities? Are there ways officials can make traffic flow and roadways more efficient to accommodate higher volumes of traffic? And how will changing demographics affect long-term employment?

County officials are turning to the public to help answer these questions as they prepare an update to Greenwood's plan of conservation and development. A daylong open house will take place starting at 9 a.m. on Oct. 25 at the library for residents to offer their ideas and learn more about the document.

Before it can be implemented, the plan also needs approval from the County Council, City Council and town councils in Ninety-Six and Way Shoals.

"Your role is to review and make any comments. If there are any strategies identified in there that you'd like to see changed, we need to have a discussion about those," City/County Planner Phil Lindler told the City Council earlier this month. "Obviously, you are the largest jurisdiction in the county and a lot of things that happen in the county is within city limits."

Lindler told city leaders the plan — last updated in 2006 — is not under an immediate timeline for adoption.

"Even though it is a 2016 document, there's no requirement to have it done by Dec. 31, but certainly we would like you do it as quickly as you're comfortable," he said. "We've utilized all the information



PHIL
LINDLER

—

Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044