

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 8/19/2016 8:40:01 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Friday, August 19, 2016

SC Front Pages – Fri day, August 19, 2016

The Post and Courier

FOUNDED 1803 • WINNER OF THE 2015 PULITZER PRIZE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Friday, August 19, 2016

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Plan for police advisory panel overhauled

New proposal for North Charleston incorporates feedback, changes appointment process

BY BRENDA RINDGE
brindge@postandcourier.com

A citizens' commission to advise the North Charleston Police Department will be made up of 25 residents selected by committees led by City Council members, according to a new draft document.

North Charleston City Council on Thursday got its first look at the proposed document that would create the North Charleston Citizens' Advisory Commission on Community/Police

Relations. The commission's purpose is to enhance communications between the community and the police.

The document was first drafted by a working group of people who began meeting in May 2015, in the wake of the Walter Scott shooting, with Walter Atkinson, a community relations expert from the U.S. Department of Justice, North Charleston Police Chief Eddie Driggers and Mayor Keith Summey.

It outlines guidelines for forming and operating the community panel

that would have the authority to review department policies, hear residents' complaints, help recruit new officers and review department data, including information on traffic stops and internal investigations, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, according to city attorney Brady Hair.

In June, a draft document was presented at two community meetings, during which some committee members complained about a lack of transparency in the way the document was drafted. None of the committee

Read the draft
To read the proposed draft for the North Charleston Citizens' Advisory Commission on Community/Police Relations, go to postandcourier.com.

members were at Thursday's meeting.

"When we met with the public in June, this said 'North Charleston Police Department Community Commission,'" said Guy Van Horne of the Police Department. "The reactions

were that we were trying to control things too much. Since June, we've changed our focus and tried to do everything we can to remove ourselves from playing active roles in this."

The proposal incorporated feedback from those meetings, said Hair. Council members then added their own comments.

"We are seeking input so that we can have a good document, so that we can move forward with a commission that

Please see **PANEL**, Page A8

U.S.: Iran payment contingent on release

Official says \$400M withheld as leverage

BY BRADLEY KLAPPER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration said Thursday that a \$400 million cash payment to Iran seven months ago was contingent on the release of a group of American prisoners.

It is the first time the U.S. has so clearly linked the two events, which critics have painted as a hostage-ransom arrangement.

State Department spokesman John Kirby repeated the administration's line that the negotiations to return the Iranian money — from a military equipment deal with the U.S.-backed shah in the 1970s — were conducted separately from the talks to free four U.S. citizens in Iran. But he said the U.S. withheld the delivery of the cash as leverage until Iran permitted the Americans to leave the country.

"We had concerns that Iran may renege on the prisoner release," Kirby said, citing delays and mutual mistrust between countries that severed diplomatic relations 36 years ago. As a result, he explained, the U.S. "of course sought to retain maximum leverage until after the American citizens were released. That was our top priority."

Both events occurred Jan. 17, fueling suspicions from Republican lawmakers and accusations from GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump of a quid pro quo that undermined America's longstanding opposition to ransom payments.

Trump spokesman Jason Miller

Please see **IRAN**, Page A9

Raven's Day



MICHAEL PRONZATO/STAFF

Raven Saunders waves to fans on Sumter Street in downtown Charleston during Thursday's parade celebrating her journey from Burke High School to the Rio Olympics. Saunders, who finished fifth in the women's shot put finals, rode on a float decorated in Burke blue and white, surrounded by friends and family. Mayor John Tecklenburg, who declared Thursday "Raven Saunders Day" in Charleston, led the parade, along with the Burke High marching band. See Page C1.

Multimedia
To see a video of Raven Saunders arriving home, go to postandcourier.com/videos. For more photos of the parade, go to postandcourier.com/galleries.

N. Chas. mall sets limits on youths

Officials say shoppers felt 'uncomfortable'

BY WARREN L. WISE
wwise@postandcourier.com

One of the Charleston region's largest shopping malls is cracking down on unruly teenagers and other minors.

Northwoods Mall officials announced Thursday that youths ages 17 and younger must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian at least 21 years old after 6 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays starting Sept. 16. If not, and they don't leave when asked, they can be charged with trespassing.

"Public safety must always be one of Northwoods Mall's top priorities," said Stacey Keating, spokeswoman for Tennessee-based CBL & Associates Properties Inc., which owns the North Charleston mall.

"Despite our enhanced efforts, shoppers have continued to express concern about the uncomfortable atmosphere on Friday and Saturday nights due to the behavior of unsupervised youth," she said. "Our family-friendly environment continues to be challenged by unsupervised youths exhibiting inappropriate and disruptive behavior."

Please see **MALL**, Page A6

Charges focus attention on mysterious Travelers

BY MAYA T. PRABHU
and MAAYAN SCHECHTER
mprabhu@postandcourier.com
mschechter@postandcourier.com

NORTH AUGUSTA — As drivers pull off Interstate 20 at Exit 5, the line of fast-food restaurants quickly fades to reveal a number of oversized houses and out-of-place red brick mini-mansions with luxury cars parked out front.

The curtains are mostly drawn or the windows boarded up. Almost every house has a statue of the Virgin Mary or Jesus in the front yard. Cars, likewise, are adorned with Jesus bumper stickers, some with small Mary or Jesus figurines on dashboards.

This is the uninhabited community of Murphy Village, where 20 of the reclusive residents — known as Irish Travelers — were indicted along with two Georgia residents on federal charges of racketeering and other crimes this week.

The charges were not a surprise for Sen. Shane Massie, R-Edgefield, one of the few people who spoke openly about the Travelers and who's heard stories about their members running

Please see **TRAVELERS**, Page A6

Inside



SPORTS
Fort Dorchester quarterback has high aspirations. C1

LOCAL

District remains undecided on 3-8 grading scale. A3

NATION

Emails reveal role of Trump advisors on Ukraine. A9

'Very healthy' manatee was killed by boat strike

Vet: Second carcass found this week had prop injuries

BY BO PETERSEN and ANGIE JACKSON
bpetersen@postandcourier.com
ajackson@postandcourier.com

A boat propeller is responsible for the death of a badly decomposed manatee found Thursday morning in knee-deep water off Sullivan's Island. It is the second manatee carcass to turn up in the Charleston area this week.

The carcass, found with portions of skull gone, had seven propeller injuries to its left side and dorsal, said Al Segars, S.C. Department of Natural Resources

Please see **MANATEE**, Page A8



FLORIAN

Inside

How to steer clear of manatees. A8



Partly cloudy.
High 93, Low 76.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B10

Bridge — B9 Crossword — B8, D9 Obituaries — B4
Business — B1 Editorials — A12 Sports — C1
Classifieds — D1 Local — A2 Sudoku — B7
Comics — B5-9 Movies — B7 Television — B6

Charleston Deals Today

Glen Davis Golf School
\$149 for one full day of school for two with two rounds of golf (\$299 value). See A2

USC FOOTBALL

Who'll start at quarterback?
Getting down to gritty details, 1B



SHOP AROUND

New eateries are planned for the downtown, Dutch Square areas, 5B

FRIDAY AUGUST 19 2016

\$1.00

VOL. 126TH No. 184
STAY CONNECTED THESTATE.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/THESTATENEWS
TWITTER.COM/@THESTATE



TODAY: SLIGHT CHANCE OF STORMS HI 95 LO 74
YESTERDAY: HI 96 LO 77 PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.)
TRACE/FORECAST, BC

The State

SISTERS OF CHARITY ALLEGE DOUBLE-CROSS

\$50M lawsuit pits hospital icons against each other

Providence's former owners are suing Palmetto Health hospital system, alleging it stole Providence's orthopedic practice.

BY JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

The Sisters of Charity, who once owned Columbia's former Providence Hospital, have sued Columbia's Palmetto Health

hospital system, alleging the health giant stole Providence's valuable orthopedic practice worth \$50 million.

The Sisters of Charity seek not only \$50 million, but also punitive and other damages for the loss of Moore Orthopedic

Clinic - additional damages that could cost Palmetto Health hundreds of millions of dollars, were it to lose the lawsuit.

The lawsuit pits two iconic Columbia hospitals - Palmetto and Providence - against each other in what will be a high-stakes legal battle where not only money, but prestige and reputations, are on the line.

There are few people in the Columbia area who have not received medical treatment at either hospital complex or who don't see doctors affiliated with those hospitals.

Palmetto Health spokeswoman Tammie Epps said Thursday evening she was unaware of Providence's lawsuit and would likely respond to it Friday.

The lawsuit was made public late Thursday afternoon on a federal court records database. The Sisters of Charity seek a jury trial; U.S. Judge Terry Wooten is hearing the case.

The suit was brought by Sisters of Charity Providence Hospitals Legacy Corp., a legal enti-

SEE SUIT, 6A



Junior Taylor Martin kicks for the Mid-Carolina High School football team. She's moved up to varsity, and has added 10 yards to her range.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

She's all in for football

Mid-Carolina High's Taylor Martin earns kicking job

BY LOU BEZJAK
bezjak@thestate.com

season, Martin was committed in the offseason to hone her craft.

Rebels' kicker when the team opens its season Aug. 26 against Chapin.

MORE INSIDE

Phil Strickland goes for win No. 300: game previews, 1B AND 2B

ONLINE

THESTATE.COM: Taylor Martin talks kicking in video.

HIGHWAY SAFETY FUNDING

Death of driver, 20, illustrates road-safety risks in SC

Anthony Ferrigno died on a stretch of U.S. 25 that S.C. Transportation Department officials say needs improvements. But the agency lacks the money.

BY CASSIE COPE
cope@thestate.com

Vance Ferrigno was driving home from work Nov. 10, 2015, when he saw a car overturned in the median of U.S. 25 in northern Greenville County.

The crushed car, slipped over in a ditch, was the same turquoise green as his son Anthony's vehicle. "No, please Lord. No, please Lord," Vance Ferrigno remembers thinking.

Anthony Ferrigno died on a stretch of U.S. 25 that S.C. Transportation Department officials said Thursday needs safety improvements, including new pavement.

But it is unclear when the road will be repaved, estimated to cost about \$6 million. The project does not rank high enough on the state's priority



Anthony Ferrigno



SPORTS TIGERS QB INSURED



E GREENVILLE Seal puts emotion in his music

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

FRIDAY,
AUGUST 19, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ABANDONS PRIVATELY RUN PRISONS PAGE 1B

DDSN chair: Changes 'in play' on Mentor

State inspector to deliver report next week

TIM SMITH
TCSMITH@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

COLUMBIA - The chairman of the state Department of Disabilities and Special Needs on Thursday said "changes are in play" in the wake of a report in *The Greenville News* on problems

involving a company that holds a nearly \$20 million contract to help some of the state's most vulnerable adults.

The South Carolina Commission on Disabilities and Special Needs did not discuss the company, SC Mentor, at its meeting Thursday but Chairman Bill Danielson said beforehand the agency

INSIDE

New DDSN board rules included no recording meetings, **Page 9A**

was moving forward with changes independent of a report expect soon from the state inspector general.

"There are changes in play, but I'm not in position to discuss details at the

moment," he told *The News*. "There will be many changes in play, and we're actually moving forward with lots of them on our own."

He said he expects a draft of Inspector General Patrick Maley's report on Mentor and the agency to be delivered for their review next week.

"I think it will be an interesting report

See **CHANGES**, **Page 9A**

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS



Christ Church's Joe Yarbrough runs a drill during the team's practice this week.

PHOTOS BY BART BOATWRIGHT/STAFF



Regards from Rio: Blessed, thankful, excited

SANDI MORRIS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Tomorrow evening I will compete in my first ever Olympic finals. It is amazing to think back on all of the hours, weeks, and YEARS that I spent training for this day.

Each and every practice was one small brick, perfectly placed, in the wall I have built. It is a wall of experience, confidence, and resilience.

I have been building this wall ever since I first touched a vaulting pole at age 13. I feel so ready for finals, and I know the wall I have built is strong. It will withstand the stresses of tomorrow's competition.

That is exactly what tomorrow is going to be - a tough competition. I have high hopes of medaling, but I do not undermine the other vaulters.

There are many very talented women with a shot at gold... and it will come down to which jumper has the best day and can make bars on first attempts. Am I nervous? I truly can say I don't feel nervous... just excited and anxious. But I definitely feel ready.

Today has been all about relaxation and preparing myself physically and mentally to be as fresh as possible. I

See **MORRIS**, **Page 4A**

REALIGNMENT

Changes coming for high school fans, teams and schools



BOB CASTELLO
BCASTELLO@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

It's the biggest change to the format of the South Carolina High School League in more than five decades.

The High School League has adopted a five-classification format for the 2016-2017 school year, the greatest shift in the landscape of the organization since it added Class AAAA in 1968.

The league goes through realignment every two years, moving some schools up and down in class and from region to region. But its effect has been minimal compared to the latest shakeup.

has brought the games closer to home.

No offense to Seneca, Fort Mill and Nation Ford (the first three nonregion games for Greenville High last year), but the trio of Wade Hampton, Carolina and Christ Church (this year's schedule) sounds a little more enticing to Greenville High senior offensive tackle Jarvis Reynolds.

"This year, I know the teams pretty well," Reynolds said. "Playing Wade Hampton means a lot to me. It's like an old rivalry that got taken away. I went to school with most of those kids."

"I've seen a definite level of excitement in our kids and also in our parents in just knowing that we're playing a lot more of the local schools in our nonregion schedule," said Greenville coach David Crane. "The fact that the realignment checks out like it did come up so





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FOR SENIORS

FAITH & FAMILY, D1



INJURY FORCES CHANGE TO GAME PLAN

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Friday, August 19, 2016



GoUpstate.com

75¢



GoUpstate



@GoUpstate

TODAY SAT SUN

88°/70° 86°/71° 88°/69°

Complete forecast, B8

NEWS DIGEST

DOT OKs Clyburn's road request

COLUMBIA — State Department of Transportation commissioners on Thursday approved U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn's request to reallocate \$21.5 million of unused federal money to four road projects in his district.

Clyburn said the roads in Sumter, Orangeburg and Columbia follow federal requirements of being within 50 miles of the original four projects he directed money toward more than a decade ago. The veteran Democratic congressman secured the budget earmarks before Republicans took over the House and banned the practice in 2011.

The \$21.5 million is left over from three completed projects — including the pedestrian walkway over S.C. 277 named for Clyburn — and a fourth that never received the necessary environmental approvals, according to the DOT.

Some state Republicans, including the GOP chairman, criticize the new designation as an example of politics coming before actual highway needs.

— The Associated Press

NATION & WORLD



Image of Aleppo boy shocks the world

The Russian military said Thursday it was ready to back a U.N. call for weekly cease-fires for Syria's contested city of Aleppo, as haunting footage of a young boy's rescue from the aftermath of an airstrike shook

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE

Residents in limbo as fire burns



Cal Fire firefighter Jorge Rivera hoses the remaining hot spots left from a brushfire in Spring Valley, Calif., on Wednesday. HAYNE PALMOUR IV/THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE VIA AP

49 square miles blackened since erupting Tuesday

By Christopher Weber
and Christine Armario
The Associated Press

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — Twisted metal gates and rusted mailboxes remained where houses once stood. Flames had turned a lot full of cars — including some vintage models — into a junkyard of hollowed-out shells. Countless trees were scorched or gone.

Scenes of destruction were everywhere Thursday after a huge wildfire sped through mountains and high desert 60 miles east of Los Angeles so swiftly that it took seasoned firefighters off guard.

An aerial flyover revealed significant property loss, but crews were just beginning to comb through the rubble to document the devastation.



A burned-out residence stands amid rubble Thursday on Highway 138 after the Blue Cut Fire burned through Phelan, Calif. NOAH BERGER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At a glance

In mountains north of San Francisco, fire crews gained more ground on a wildfire as damage inspectors surveyed the area to determine how many structures were destroyed or damaged.

anything would be left when they can.

"I want it to be over, but more than anything I just

and was just 4 percent contained since erupting Tuesday in hot, gusty conditions and spreading with extraordinary speed. At its height, more than 34,000 homes and some 82,000 residents were under evacuation warnings.

There was some good news Thursday: People living near a corner of the area that didn't burn were cleared to return home.

THE RIO GAMES

Police: US swimmers were not robbed

Incident gives American
athletes a black eye

By Mauricio Savarese,
Peter Prengaman
and Luis Andres Henao
The Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazilian police said Thursday that swimmer Ryan Lochte and U.S. teammates were not robbed after a night of partying, and that the intoxicated athletes instead vandalized a gas station bathroom and were questioned by armed guards before they paid for the damage and left.

The robbery that was or wasn't has become the biggest spectacle outside of the Olympic venues in Rio, and given American Olympians a black eye in Brazil after an otherwise remarkable run at the Summer Games. The ordeal was also a blow to Brazilians, who for months endured scrutiny about whether a city that has long had problems with violence would be able to keep athletes and tourists safe.

"No robbery was committed against these athletes. They were not victims of the crimes they claimed," Civil Police Chief Fernando Veloso said during an afternoon news conference.

But the police account raised questions about whether it's possible Lochte and the swimmers believed they were victims of a robbery. Lochte's attorney has maintained that one took place and insisted the swimmer had nothing to gain by making the story up. He, as well as Lochte's father and agent, did not return phone calls seeking comment.

The swimmers could potentially face punishment — probation, suspension, a fine or expulsion — under USA Swim-



Lochte

AIKEN STANDARD GAME OF THE WEEK

Strom Thurmond at Saluda High
7:30 p.m. kickoff – Week Zero breakdown, 7A

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

FRIDAY, August 19, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 232 Aiken, S.C. ★ \$75C

How to watch the Game of the Week

When: 7:30 p.m., today

TV: Watch on Atlantic Broadband channel 7
Online: Find the game on aikenstandard.com and watch a livestream via YouTube

Aggressive annexation considered by the City

Non-residents could pay up to four times what city residents pay for city services

BY DAN BROWN
dbrown@aikenstandard.com

Non-City of Aiken residents who receive city water and sewer services could see their water and sewer bills increase four times what city residents pay if City Council approves a resolution getting more aggressive with its annexation policy.

On Tuesday, Aiken City Council's Administrative and Finance Committee discussed changing the City's annexation policy and increasing non-residents' rates on City services as an incentive for annexation where contiguous lines exist.

Currently, non-city residents who receive City water and sewer services pay double what city residents pay in monthly water and sewer bills, plus other services. Aiken may consider increasing what it charges for city services to four times the city rate as an incentive to annex into the City.

Committee Chairman Dick Dewar said the City needs to become more aggressive in closing what are commonly called "doughnut holes," which are unincorporated parts of Aiken County surrounded by properties within the city limits of Aiken.

Most commonly, these are homes located within residential communities such as Gem Lakes and Aiken

Residents reluctant to discuss Murphy Village



A home is shown in Murphy Village just outside of North Augusta city limits.

Irish Travelers suspects in federal fraud case

BY MAYAN SCHECHTER
AND MAYA T. PRABHU
mschechter@aikenstandard.com
mprabhu@postandcourier.com

As drivers pull off Interstate 20 at Exit 5, the line of fast food restaurants quickly fades to reveal a number of oversized houses and out-of-place red brick mini-mansions with luxury cars parked out front.

The curtains are mostly drawn or the windows boarded up. Almost every house has a statue of the Virgin Mary or Jesus in the front yard. Cars, likewise, are adorned with Jesus bumper stickers, some with small Mary or Jesus figurines on dashboards.

This is the unincorporated community of Murphy Village where 20 of its reclusive residents – known as Irish Travelers – were indicted along with two Georgia residents on federal



I do think that there is, probably for people who live in the general area, there's a lack of trust of people in (Murphy Village) because of the main focus of this story, which is consistent with what people have been talking about for years down there.

Sen. Shane Massey, R-Edgefield

charges of racketeering and other crimes this week.

The charges were not a surprise for Sen. Shane Massey, R-Edgefield, who said stories have circulated since he arrived in the region as a teenager about Travelers committing scams.

"I do think that there is, probably for people

who live in the general area, there's a lack of trust of people in (Murphy Village) because of the main focus of this story, which is consistent with what people have been talking about for years down there," Massey said. "But at the

Please see MURPHY, Page 12A.

USCA students, professors return to class

BY LARRY WOOD
lwood@aikenstandard.com

Wednesday wasn't just the first day of college for freshmen at USC Aiken. When Dr. Jessica Sullivan walked into her Geology 103 class just after noon, it was her first day as a university professor.

Sullivan was a teaching assistant and guest lecturer more than 200 undergraduates while she completed her doctorate in geology at USC, but Wednesday, she stood at the front of her first class as a new assistant professor.



Grimm



Harrison



Mesak



Owiriwa

"It's a little nerve-wracking," Sullivan said she's "thrilled for the opportunity" to teach at USCA.

they're eager to learn a lot and work hard."

Down the hall, sophomore E. J. ...

said, "I'm just waiting to meet everybody and getting to know my teachers."

Although she has her freshman year behind her, Grimm said she, like Sullivan, was a little nervous on the first day.

"I have first-day jitters just like everybody else, but I'm ready," she said. A special education major and a teaching fellow at USCA, Grimm is student teaching in a special education classroom at Byrd Elementary in Graniteville and knows she chose the right career.

"It's very fun," she said. "I enjoy it

Please see CITY, Page 12A.

AREA DEATHS

Sandy Ann Johnson DuBose,

Aiken

Noah Alston Turner, Graniteville

Louise Priestner, Aiken

Lt. Col. William Carl Edler, Aiken

Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER



Morning News

FRIDAY AUGUST 19, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

A p.m. shower or thunderstorm.
High 91, low 72.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents



TOP PERFORMER

► America's **Helen Maroulis** defeated Japan's Saori Yoshida in the 53-kilogram freestyle to win the first-ever gold medal for a U.S. women's wrestler and derail Yoshida's quest for a fourth straight gold. "At the end of it, I was like, 'Really, I just did this?'" she said.

U.S. MEDAL HAUL



TODAY'S MUST WATCH

U.S. might face tough test from Spain in basketball
2:15 p.m. on NBCSN
► The U.S. men's team expected to face Spain at some point in Rio. They'll meet in today's semifinals, with Spain getting another chance for an upset.

Florence County

Software system long overdue

Council business

- Approved a memorandum of understanding regarding mutual aid between the Florence County Sheriff's Office and the Jasper County Sheriff's Office.
- Approved \$500,000 for lighting at the Johnsonville Athletic Complex.
- Approved a fee-in-lieu of tax agreement on McCall Farms' \$23 million, four year expansion.
- Accepted the donation of two cars from Cale Yarborough for display at the Florence County Museum.

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Florence County is preparing to take on a lengthy, and potentially costly, endeavor to update its computer software systems.

day, officials said the overhaul could take years to complete and could cost the county upwards of \$2 million.

"We're looking at an up-front cost of hopefully less than \$2 million. It's not cheap... and it's going to be a long, drawn-out process," said County Finance Director Kevin Yokim.

"We've got to take all of the data off our old system and put on a new system."

The current system has three unique parts, each handling a different aspect of county tax and financing needs.

The underlying problem comes from a system that has been built upon for more than decades by

the same engineer, who is set to retire within two or three years.

The current software is fully integrated and performs county tasks as intended but is outdated and will no longer be sustainable after the engineer retires.

See **UPDATE**, Page 3A

Florence pianist heads to Germany to study music

Auf Wiedersehen

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — A quick hop and a skip took Gabe Smallwood from Florence to Furman University. Now a plane will take him on his next adventure: studying music in Europe.

Originally, Smallwood graduated from the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities planning to double major at Furman, studying two disciplines he was passionate about. A year later he realized that he only loved one of those fields.

"I was on a track at Furman to double-major in composition and piano, and I just realized that composition wasn't what I wanted to do anymore," Smallwood said. "I didn't have the love for it that I thought I did, and it wasn't where my passion laid. When I realized that piano was primarily what I wanted to do with my music life, I figured that I needed to go to a conservatory or a place I can get more attention-specific training."

That somewhere ended up being Europe, more specifically, Germany. "I thought it might be the time to go to Europe and see if this is pos-

NEW SEASON KICKS OFF



ABOVE: Whitney Hokett, 5, watches the start of the Latta versus Lake View football game through the fence on Thursday evening.

RIGHT: Marquise Johnson, 13, plays football with friends before the start of the varsity football game at Lake View High School on Thursday.



Lake View High School hosted the varsity football game against the Latta Vikings on Thursday evening. The Lake View Gators won, 20-14. The game was the first local match-up; other area teams scheduled to play in Week Zero play at 7:30 p.m. today. See more photos on scnw.com.

Florence teachers use DonorsChoose to fill funding gap

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com



FLORENCE — In modern classrooms, books and pencils are not the only

WANT TO HELP?

Campaigns for Florence One teachers can be found at DonorsChoose.org using the search function to narrow down by location.

ence School District One, several teachers have had success getting their projects funded. With the start of a new school year, hundreds of active campaigns are just waiting to be

THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Darlington County's News Leader Since 1893

50 CENTS

FRIDAY AUGUST 19, 2016

WWW.HARTSVILLEMESSENGER.COM

schoen.com

DOT secretary wants safer rural roads

BY CASSIE COPE
ccope@hartsvillimesseenger.com

COLUMBIA — State Transportation Secretary Christy Hall proposed on Wednesday pushing for money during the 2017 legislative session to make rural S.C. roads safer.

Hall proposed looking at the cost of a safety program that would include

clearing areas alongside highways so drivers can recover if they run off the road, draining ditches so they do not hold water and upgrading signage.

South Carolina ranked second in the nation in highway fatalities on rural roads in 2015, according to a report by The Road Information Program.

The only statewide safe-

ty programs currently in place include installing rumble strips and paving two-foot-wide shoulders on S.C. roads.

Transportation Commission chairman Mike Wooten said the state Transportation Department needs a substantial increase in its budget to improve highway maintenance, including safety.

Currently, routine safety maintenance is at Level D, which means highway workers are struggling to keep up a poor highway system.

It would cost an added \$89 million a year to improve routine safety maintenance to Level C, according to the Transportation Department. Level C is a "fair maintenance" service

level with few deficiencies in safety-related activities.

The Transportation Department needs a recurring stream of added money so it can plan spending, including on safety, Wooten said. He advocated Wednesday increasing the state's 16.75-cent-a-gallon gas tax, the third lowest in the nation.

In June, legislators ended

their two-year session by refusing to increase the gas tax. Instead, they approved a bonding proposal that is expected to yield about \$4 billion for road repair projects over 10 years.

The Transportation Department says it needs an added \$1.5 billion a year to repair and expand the state's transportation needs.

Hartsville

Plans for roundabout moving forward

From staff reports

Plans are moving forward for construction of a roundabout at the intersections where West Carolina Avenue, West Home Avenue and 14th Street converge, according to the S.C. Department of Transportation.

SCDOT officials expect to put the project out for bids in February, said Emily Toler, safety projects manager for SCDOT and manager of the roundabout project.

SCDOT personnel plan to meet next week for a field review with representatives of utilities whose infrastructure will be affected by the project to review plans for the project. That meeting will not be open to the public.

Toler said such field reviews in advance are routine for SCDOT construction projects.

SCDOT announced in 2013 that the agency planned to build a roundabout that will encompass the West Carolina and West Home Avenue intersections along with 14th Street and neighboring Trailwood Drive.

Agency officials said the project is aimed at improving traffic safety at the intersections, which officials said at the time had a high rate of traffic accidents, most of them right-angle or "T-bone" collisions, several of which resulted in bodily injuries. A roundabout, SCDOT officials said, will reduce the likelihood of right-angle crashes.

The agency said it based its decision on its analysis of crash rates and crash patterns.

The original plans for the roundabout underwent a revision in 2014 aimed at scaling back the size of the project, making the diameter of the roundabout smaller to lessen the impact on surrounding properties.

SCDOT plans to use about \$1.2 million in federal highway safety funds to pay for construction of the roundabout.



Jaime Peters (center) is the receptionist and Dawne Hollywood (right) is the center director at Hartsville's Goodwill Job Link Center.

Goodwill helps train job seekers

BY KENT MAHONEY
kmahoney@hartsvillimesseenger.com

Eunice Pouncey helps a job seeker at one of the many computer terminals at the Job Link Center.

HARTSVILLE — When one thinks of Goodwill, they think of clothing and household needs.

But locals can now go to Goodwill in Hartsville for some much-needed help in job counseling and resources.

According to Goodwill spokeswoman Kaley Briesmaster, the local center has been busy in its first two years.

"To date in 2016, we have served 240 people through the Hartsville Job Link

Center, placed 60 people into new jobs and provided 34 clothing vouchers," she said.

Ricky Shelley, VP of mission services, explained three primary functions of the Job Link Center.

"Helping to connect unemployed individuals with job prospects," he said. "Secondly, we help prepare the individual, and third is to introduce them to potential career opportunities."

Goodwill partners with various agencies and

See GOODWILL, Page 3A

Darlington County

Barbecue fundraiser for Humane Society scheduled for Sept. 1

From staff reports

es ordering 10 or more plates any-

Davis sees path he helped blaze

the Sumter ITEM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2016 | Serving South Carolina since October 15, 1894

75 cents

A5

SCIENCE

Hawaii's Big Island volcano creating new land, great show

DOT OKs \$11.5M for Sumter revitalization

Money can be used along North Main and Manning Avenue

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

South Carolina Department of Transportation Commission voted 7-1 in favor of repurposing federal high-

way money, according to a plan submitted by U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, a Sumter native, which includes \$11.5 million for revitalizing the North Main Street/Manning Avenue corridor in Sumter.

Mayor Joe McElveen said the revitalization project has been a goal of area leaders for more than a decade. "It is a big, big thing," he said. "This is a big step in revitalizing the South Sumter area."

The mayor said the money can be

used for streetscaping on Manning Avenue and along North Main Street.

McElveen credited Clyburn for getting behind the project.

"It has been a labor of love for him, and he stuck with us," McElveen said. DOT had about \$23.5 million in federal highway funds previously earmarked for road projects in Clyburn's district.

Federal law allows those funds to be repurposed to projects within 50 miles of the original project. Local govern-

ment must also be able to match 20 percent of the project budget.

"I support the S.C. Department of Transportation Commission's action today to repurpose certain federal highway funds to make critical investments in communities in the 6th Congressional District," Clyburn said. "Today's action will create jobs, improve infrastructure, enhance public safety and contribute to essential community

SEE DOT, PAGE A6

August 'Sturgeon Moon' rises over Opera House



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM
The full "Sturgeon Moon" rises behind Sumter Opera House on Wednesday night. According to the *Old Farmer's Almanac*, the August full moon gets its fishy name because Native American groups in the Great Lakes region felt that it marked an auspicious time for catching sturgeon.



West Nile confirmed in Shaw mosquito

FROM STAFF REPORTS

West Nile Virus has been confirmed in a mosquito on Shaw Air Force Base, according to an article posted Tuesday by the 20th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office.

The article said the virus was confirmed in a mosquito found near Chapel Pond during routine testing on the base by the 20th Medical Group.

"(A) positive result does not indicate an increased risk of disease but is a good reminder for all to practice mosquito avoidance and control techniques," said Lt. Col. Rob Grover, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron commander. "We regularly monitor and take actions to control the mosquito population throughout the installation, as do the surrounding communities."

Grover said the techniques will not eradicate all mosquitoes, and it remains important to take actions to limit exposure to the pests.

No human cases of the virus have been reported in South Carolina this year, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

West Nile Virus can cause encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain, but most people infected with West Nile have no symptoms of illness, according to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. About a fourth of those infected may have mild

Brown details air campaign against ISIL at dinner

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

The close relationship between the Sumter community and Shaw Air Force Base was on display Wednesday evening at the 16th Annual Joint Dinner of the Air Force Association and Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce at Sunset Country Club.

military," she said. "We really cherish the work that you do for us."

AFA Swamp Fox Chapter President Bush Hanson said the Air Force needs the support of the community now as much as ever.

"The Air Force is short 700 pilots," he said.

He noted that Shaw is the home of the largest F-16 fighter wing in the Air Force and will soon be the only active-



News: Police arrest 5 connected with local burglaries

2A

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 98, NO. 148

 indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

D50 EDUCATION

Elementary schools receives Chromebooks

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

For the first time, students in third through fifth grade in Greenwood County School District 50 will receive Chromebook laptops as part of the district's 1:1 initiative.

Students in middle and high schools first received Chromebooks through the initiative last year during a mass roll-out at the start of the school year.

This year, all students in third through 12th grade will have a Chromebook to use at school, and students in kindergarten through second grade will have iPads to use in their classrooms.

Debbie Leonard, instructional technology coach in the district, went out Thursday morning to teach the students at Merrywood and Springfield elementary schools the basics of how to use the Chromebooks.

"They caught on very quickly," Leonard said. "(It's) a little different because they're not taking them home. The middle and high school take them home — that involved more rules. These children are going to use them in the classroom."

But Leonard's primary focus isn't showing students how to use the laptops — it's showing teachers how to use them in their lesson plans effectively.

See **SCHOOL**, page 4A

FOOTBALL IS BACK!

Check out previews of Week Zero matchups across the Lakelands

Sports 1B



And don't forget to pick up a copy of our **Kickoff 2016** high school football preview

Meet our new team

New writers David Roberts and Sarah Spencer join sports editor Michael Christopher to bring you complete coverage of Lakelands high school football. Roberts and Spencer introduce themselves on our website: indexjournal.com

Genetic Center looks to expand education outreach across state

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

Looking for new funding for its education programs, the Greenwood Genetics Center had state leaders on campus Thursday morning to show what the facility has to offer.

The Genetic Center's education division brings in students ranging from middle school ages to graduate school to provide education and pique their interests in career options in genetics. For students who don't attend school near Greenwood, the mobile science lab will bring the lessons to them — all at no cost.

Dr. Leta Tribble, director of education at the center, said Thursday morning that even though the lab travels throughout the state, there are some counties in the lower part of the state the center has never taught at, which she aims to change.

"Interestingly, it is those counties that have been identified as those that are in most need of service," Tribble said.

standards, and Tribble said the equipment they use are often items teachers don't have available to them to adequately demonstrate the lessons.

Tribble said she is hoping to receive funding and support to make traveling to every county possible, as well as expanding the amount of education they are able to provide.

"I'm proposing a second mobile lab that would actually be housed in either Florence or Charleston — we have GGC properties in those areas — house it at GGC properties with its own team, and that way that bus could more consistently serve those counties and then this program can continue to serve from Orangeburg and up," Tribble said.

Sen. Mike Gambrell, R-Anderson, said he supports the center's goals of expanding, but it might be hard to receive funding from the state in the near future because of a \$10 million revenue shortfall in the budget that was announced Wednesday.

Melanie Barton, executive director of the Education Oversight Committee, said she has visited the



--

Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044