

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 3/8/2016 5:40:20 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages - Monday, March 7, 2016

SC Front Pages – Monday, March 7, 2016



NANCY REAGAN: 1921-2016

Former first lady dies at 94

Nancy Reagan, who died at the age of 94, was remembered as one of the most influential and controversial first ladies,

fiercely protective of her husband a staunch advocate in the war on drugs and stem cell research.

MORE INSIDE

A look at her life, 3C

ONLINE

AT THESTATE.COM:
Reaction to her death,
plus photos and videos.

MONDAY MARCH 7 2016

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TODAY: MORNING FOG; MOSTLY SUNNY HI 70 LO 45
YESTERDAY: HI 65 LO 41 PRECIP (as of 5 p.m.) TRACE
FORECAST, 8C

The State

Death penalty on hold in SC

South Carolina can't easily execute death row inmates - even if it wants to

Bill would help get executions back on track in state

BY JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

South Carolina, known as a tough-on-crime state, cannot put a condemned inmate to death nowadays - unless that inmate agrees to be executed using the electric chair.

And the chances are slim to none that a death row inmate will choose the electric chair.

After all, since 1996, only three of 38 S.C. death row inmates who were executed have chosen the electric chair. Under state law, an inmate must be put to death by lethal injection unless he chooses the electric chair, according to the S.C. Department of Corrections.

And for now, lethal injections aren't possible.

That's because under state law, the DOC must use fresh drugs when executing killers. But all the expiration dates have passed on the toxic drugs the department uses to execute the condemned. And there's no easy way of getting new drugs. Drug companies are refusing to sell the state those chemicals.

A bill proposed in the General Assem-

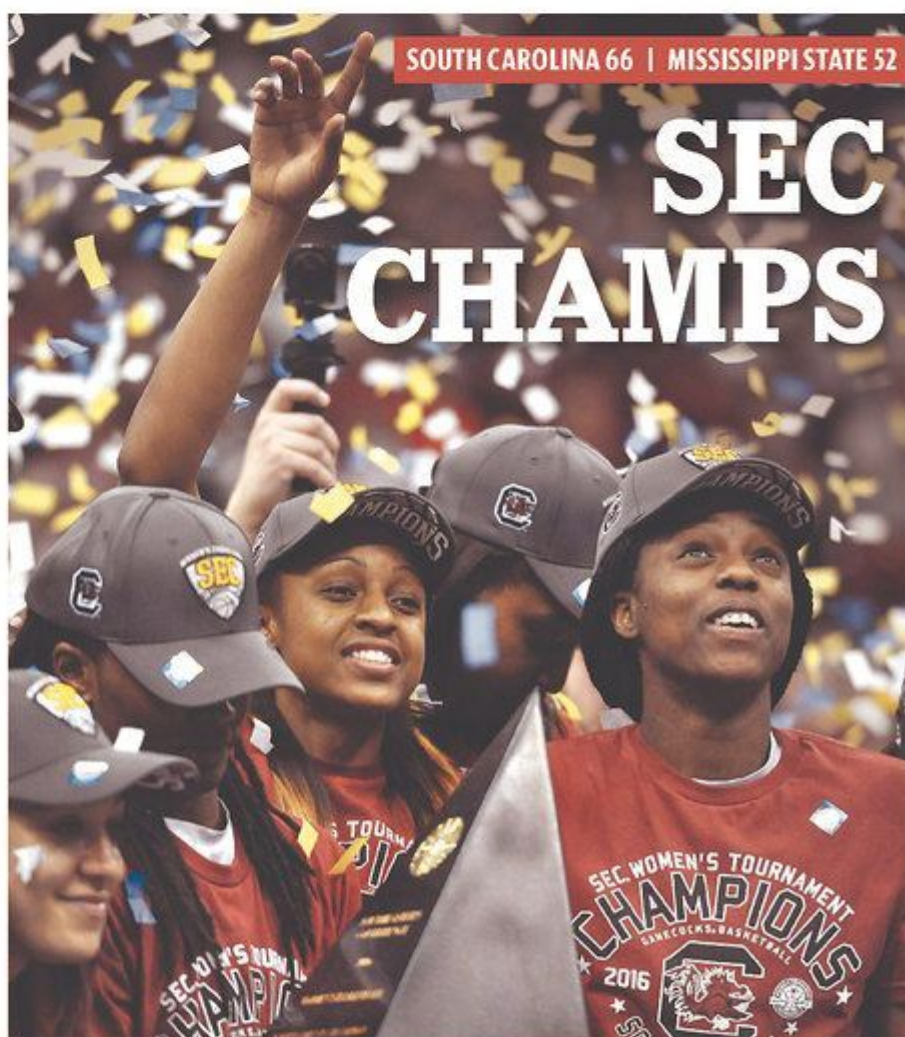
SEE DEATH, 7A



PALMETTO VOICES

HOLD DAM OWNERS RESPONSIBLE?

Columbia flood victim Jean
Leitner says the Legislature



SOUTH CAROLINA 66 | MISSISSIPPI STATE 52

SEC CHAMPS

South Carolina's Tiffany Mitchell, center, who won the tournament MVP, celebrates with her USC women's basketball team after they won the SEC Championship on Sunday against Mississippi State in Jacksonville, Fla.

BRUCE UPSKY/Associated Press

AT THESTATE.COM: PHOTOS FROM THE SEC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME
GAMECOCKS CAP OFF PERFECT SEC SEASON IN STYLE, 1B
SESSIONS BRUSHES ASIDE ALL-TOURNEY SNUB, 3B

EXCLUSIVE TOUR

'Wow' moments await at Fireflies' new park

BY RODDIE BURRELL
rburrell@thestate.com

Just more than a month

Columbia Fireflies, the Class A baseball team that will open the new park on April 14. "This ballpark and this whole development has been



The Post and Courier

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Monday, March 7, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Man accused of killing, burying 2 in yard

Burned remains found in Goose Creek after wife goes to police

BY MELISSA BOUGHTON
mboughton@postandcourier.com

A 39-year-old Goose Creek man shot two men to death Saturday, dumped them in a hole in his backyard and then set their remains on fire, along with his clothes and the towels he used to clean up their blood, according to an arrest affidavit.

James Edward Loftis, of 413 South Pandoe Drive, where the burned bodies were found in a shallow grave, is charged with two counts of murder. He is being held at the Berkeley County jail and appeared Sunday night at a

bond hearing.

A magistrate judge can't set bail on a murder charge.

Loftis' wife, Wilda Loftis, went to the Goose Creek Police Department about 20:15 p.m. Saturday and reported that her husband was having suicidal thoughts and told her he "killed them and put them in the backyard," according to the affidavit.

Shortly after, officers responded to Loftis' home and he voluntarily told them what happened. Loftis said he took a cab home early that morning from a strip club and that afterward the cab driver and another uniden-

tified male banged on his door, the document states.

The two were looking for cab fare and pushed their way into the home, Loftis told police. After being threatened, he told them, "I'll get your money," and returned with a .45-caliber handgun. He fired eight shots at the two men, killing them.

Loftis then relocated the taxicab to Old Back River Road and walked to a Kangaroo gas station on Red Bank Road, where he bought 5 gallons of gas, the affidavit states.

Please see **YARD**, Page A5



James Edward Loftis is charged with 2 counts of murder at a bond hearing Sunday at Hill-Finkbea Detention Center in Moncks Corner.

WIDE SPEED/STAFF

Neighborhood anchor

Cannon Street YMCA must adapt, but wants to remain in city's MLK district after other historically black institutions left



PAUL ZOLLER/STAFF

Only the brick-and-iron fence remains from the Plymouth Congregational Church at 124 Spring St. after the property was sold and the structure demolished. Attorney Erika Harrison wants the Cannon Street YMCA to grow and prosper downtown, and is helping it develop a new plan for the property instead of closing up and moving away like many other black institutions.

BY DIANE KNICH
dknich@postandcourier.com

A low brick wall, an iron gate and a parking lot are all that remain of Plymouth Congregational Church on Spring Street.

Erika Harrison, an attorney for the nearby Cannon Street YMCA, pointed to the lot on a walking tour last week and said her group hopes not to join the exodus of historically black in-

stitutions, such as Plymouth Congregational, from the city's Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial District.

The district, which runs along Cannon and Spring streets on the Charleston peninsula, for years had been a commercial, residential and social hub for the city's black residents. But more recently, more students, single people and higher-income white residents have moved in. That has driven up land prices and enticed long-

term residents and businesses to sell their property and move away. Now, the district also is losing many of its historically black churches and other organizations.

The YMCA at 61 Cannon St., which has faced tough times in recent years, is the oldest continuously operating YMCA developed for African-Americans in the country. And it wants to

Please see **YMCA**, Page A4

Clinton, Sanders get testy in debate

Dems battle on trade, U.S. financial bailouts

BY NANCY BENAC
and CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press

FLINT, Mich. — Ratcheting up the rancor, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders tangled aggressively in a Democratic presidential debate Sunday night over trade, Wall Street influence and more, with Clinton accusing him of turning his back on the auto industry and Sanders countering that Clinton's friends on Wall Street had "destroyed this economy."

It was a marked change in tone for the two Democrats, signaling Sanders' increasingly difficult effort to slow the party's front-runner. Both candidates frequently interrupted one another and accused each other of misrepresenting their records.

"Let's have some facts instead of some rhetoric for a change," Clinton snapped at Sanders at one point.

"Let me tell my story, you tell yours," Sanders shot back at another. "Your story is voting for every disastrous trade amendment and voting for corporate America."

More than once, Sanders chafed at Clinton's interruptions, saying, "Excuse me, I'm talking" or "Let me finish, please."

Their disagreements were clear, but still the debate's tone was nothing like that of the Republican debate in Detroit just three days earlier, a four-way face-off that was marked by a steady stream of personal attacks, insults and even sexual innuendo. The Democrats' face-off, in comparison, was a more civil if heated affair.

Clinton said that while she and Sanders have their differences on policy, "compare the substance of this

Please see **DEBATE**, Page A7

Locked phones can hinder local crime-solving efforts

BY MELISSA BOUGHTON
mboughton@postandcourier.com

While much controversy has surrounded the FBI's attempts to get Apple to unlock an iPhone used by one of the San Bernardino attackers, the fight is not isolated.

Lowcountry law enforcement agencies say that lack of access to locked phones is a serious problem they face every day.

"The technology that we now use and take for granted provides some

wonderful benefits but also provides the worst kind of criminals a method of hiding," said Charleston County Sheriff Al Cannon.

Cannon said that without access to key evidence in criminal cases, authorities can lose out on finding suspects even in the most urgent, time-sensitive situations.

"If your child went missing and you had their cellphone and computer with no information and no passcode, how

Please see **PHONES**, Page A4

Inside



SPORTS
Peyton Manning calls it a career after 18 seasons. C1

BUSINESS
Actor's gourmet burger chain coming to Charleston. D1

Charleston police project aims to strengthen trust

BY GLENN SMITH
gsmith@postandcourier.com

After months of preparation, the public will get a chance this week to weigh in on the state of police relations with the Charleston community as part of an ambitious effort to strengthen ties and build trust.

The Charleston Illumination Project will hold its first "listening session" Tuesday night at the Greek Orthodox Church's Hellenic Center on Race Street. At least six more sessions are

planned in the coming weeks as organizers seek input on how to build upon the unity displayed after the Emanuel AME Church shooting left nine dead in June.

Organizers want a broad cross-section of Charleston to participate in the sessions, and a group of community leaders was tasked last month with encouraging people to attend. As of Sunday, 50 people had registered to participate in the opening forum, but

Please see **POLICE**, Page A4



Mostly sunny.
High 70, Low 47.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B8

Bridge B7 Crossword B6, C6 Some B1
Business D1 Editorials A10 Sports C1
Classified C7 Movies B5 Sudoku B7
Comics B6, 7 Obituaries B2 Television B4

Charleston Deals today

Charleston House of Pizza
Pay \$10 to spend \$20 at Charleston House of Pizza.
See A2



COLLEGE BASEBALL, 1C TIGERS TOP GAMECOCKS



METRO, 3A SC battling food stamp fraud

Greenville News

MONDAY,
MARCH 7, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM



NANCY REAGAN WAS A HUGE INFLUENCE ON HER HUSBAND'S PRESIDENCY **PAGE 1B**

SURVEY REVEALS SUPPORT FOR TAX

Most South Carolinians in favor of hike on
tobacco products if money used on health



■ The preliminary findings, which are part of the state Department of Health and Environmental Control's 2015 Adult Tobacco Survey, also reveal that almost three in four residents also would increase the tax on chewing tobacco.



■ Nearly three quarters of South Carolinians support a hike in the state's tobacco tax.

■ Nearly half favoring an increase of \$1 or more if the money is used to improve health.

■ According to the S.C. Tobacco-Free Collaborative, a coalition working to reduce tobacco use in the state, support was even higher in the Upstate.

76%

of residents favoring a hike compared with 73% statewide.

LIV OSBY LOSBY@GANNETT.COM

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the country, resulting in a variety of cancers, heart disease, stroke and other conditions, according to the National Cancer Institute. And lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths, killing more people than cancers of the breast, colon and prostate combined, according to the American Cancer Society. In 2015, some 221,200 Americans were expected to be diagnosed with lung cancer and about 158,040 people were expected to die of the disease, the society reports.

Statewide, about 7,200 people die from smoking annually, which represents about one in every five deaths, according to the collaborative.

Moreover, tobacco use costs the state \$1.9 billion in direct health care costs, the collaborative reports.

"The South Carolina Tobacco-Free Collaborative supports a cigarette tax increase of \$1 or more to promote quitting and keep kids from starting to smoke," said Megan Hicks, executive director of the collaborative.

Support for a hike was highest among college-educated people (79.1 percent), those with family incomes of \$100,000 or more (78.2 percent), and nonsmokers (79.7 percent) compared with people who smoke daily (46.7 percent) and those who smoke some days (68.6 percent), according to the collaborative.

More women than men also approve of a hike — 76 percent to 69.6 percent.

The lowest level of support came from those with annual incomes of \$20,000 or less (68.6 percent) and

Fire reported at Oconee Station

RON BARNETT
RBARNETT@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

A fire was reported Sunday afternoon at Oconee Nuclear Station, Oconee County Emergency Management said.

A transformer burned for about 30 minutes, said Scott Krein, director of Oconee County Emergency Management. Multiple fire units remain on scene.

No evacuations will be necessary and there is no threat to the public, Krein said.

Scott Batson, Oconee Nuclear site vice president, said the cause of the fire has not been determined.

Fire from the burning transformer damaged a power line that runs from the transformer to a switchyard, from which power is sent to the grid, Batson said. That forced officials to send out an alert, this second least serious

See OCONEE, Page 5A

Clemson may be in charge of school

John de la Howe could
lose its accreditation

SEANNA ADCOX
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA — Legislators could put Clemson University in charge of a public residential school for troubled teens that is on the verge of losing its accreditation.

A proposal advanced by the House budget-writing committee would transfer oversight of John de la Howe School to the university on July 1, along with funding for the school that spends \$92,000 annually per student. Clemson officials would be tasked next school year with evaluating turnaround paths for the sixth-through-10th-grade school in rural McCormick and reporting their recommendations.

"We believe Clemson has the expertise and background to go in and save that school," said Rep. Kenny Bingham, R-Cayce, chairman of the committee's K-12 panel. "I believe it's the only way to keep the doors open."

One possibility, he said, would be turning John de la Howe into a public charter school sponsored by Clemson.

Both are land-grant schools. John de la Howe was founded as a farming school benefiting poor and orphaned children in the 1800s. It has 1707 students.

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

MONDAY, March 7, 2016

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Vol. 150, No. 67 Aiken, S.C. ★ ★ 75¢

Every penny counts



STAFF PHOTO BY DEDE BILES

Mark Dover plays a clarinet during Imani Winds' performance Sunday afternoon at St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, as part of the Joye in Aiken Performing Arts Festival and Outreach Program.

Aiken hears a Joye-ful noise

Imani Winds impresses at performance at St. Mary

BY DEDE BILES
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

An appreciative and enthusiastic audience clapped like crazy while giving Imani Winds two standing ovations at St. Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church on Sunday afternoon.

The crowd rose to its feet the first time after the chamber music quintet finished performing the final number scheduled in its concert and then got up again after Imani Winds played an encore.

"I think they're wonderful," said Ellie Joos. "Their version of 'Scherezade' blew me away. I've heard it done by full orchestras before and to hear just the five of them do it and still capture the fullness of it was just absolutely amazing. It's one of my favorite pieces, and I didn't know quite what to expect here, but it was absolutely spectacular."

Imani Winds' appearance was part of the eighth annual Joye in Aiken Performing Arts Festival and Outreach Program.

The group's members and their instruments are Valerie Coleman, flute; Mark Dover, clarinet; Jeff Scott, French horn; Monica Ellis, bassoon; and Toyin Spellman-Diaz, oboe. Coleman and Scott also are composers.

"I thought the music in this setting

Please see WINDS, Page 10A

The hospitality tax is an added 1 percent tax on prepared meals in Aiken restaurants that has collected more than \$891,000 through February.

Hospitality tax funds City improvements

BY DAN BROWN
dbrown@aikenstandard.com

The hospitality tax survived a 4-3 repeal vote during Aiken City Council's Feb. 22 meeting and will continue to be a funding source for many of Aiken's capital improvement projects. The hospitality tax is a 1 percent tax on prepared meals and food, including beverages, in Aiken restaurants, grocery stores, delis and shops. Through February, \$910,972 has been collected, which is \$91,000 ahead of the \$100,000 per month budgeted, and well ahead of the \$1.2 million the City hopes to collect annually. To date \$891,338 in hospitality tax funds have been collected.

"We've been very pleased with the funds the hospitality tax has generated," said City Manager John Klimm. "As you recall, we were very conservative in our estimates." Klimm said Council also laid the detailed foundation originally discussed for the hospitality tax by mapping out a list of projects for the upcoming fiscal year as well.

"There is a myriad of projects that need to be completed that fall under the hospitality tax," he said. "It's not that we would be spending carelessly; there are just so many. There is the Whiskey Road corridor, which affects tourism because of the traffic."

These projects will be discussed in the upcoming project process, Klimm said. Klimm also wanted to clear up the misnomer regarding Business Vitality Manager John McMichael's salary being funded by the hospitality tax.

"The business vitality manager's salary is funded by the Economic Reinvestment Fund," he said. "Originally, money was allocated by the hospitality tax that originally would have been paid for out of the Economic

Items not subject to hospitality tax

- Cold, canned drinks in vending machines located in deli
- Cold, bottled drinks in vending machines located in deli
- Drinks in small coolers located in deli
- Consolidating fruit into a basket (fruit basket)
- Repackaged ready to consume meats and cheese
- Repackaged ready to consume deli salads
- Items repackaged for immediate consumption
- Repackaged items consolidated into a larger container to make one package (gift basket)
- Deli turkey and ham dinners cooked off site and consolidated into one (Thanksgiving dinner)
- Bakery items heated
- Ready to eat prepackaged food customer reheats on site (customer is making the food consumable)

Reinvestment Fund, which freed up the funds to cover the business vitality manager's salary."

It was an indirect benefit from the hospitality tax, Klimm said.

Council pleased with tax so far

Aiken Mayor Rick Osborn, who made the repealing the hospitality tax a cornerstone of his mayoral campaign, lacked the votes to repeal the tax as Council voted by a 4-3 margin to keep it.

Please see TAX, Page 8A



AREA DEATHS

Lonnie Steven Key, Beech Island
Mescal Dicks, Williston
Nancy Gibson, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER



Clinton, Sanders get aggressive in debate

BY NANCY BENAC AND
CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press

FLINT, Mich. — Ratcheting up the race, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders battled aggressively in a Democratic presidential debate Sunday night over trade, Wall Street influence and more, with Clinton accusing Sanders of turning his back on the auto industry and Sanders countering that Clinton's friends on Wall Street had "destroyed this economy."

It was a heated exchange in tone for



Clinton



Sanders

frequently interrupted one another and accused each other of misrepresentation.

at Sanders at one point.

"Let me tell my story, you tell yours," Sanders shot back at another. "Your

story is voting for every disastrous trade amendment and voting for corporate America."

More than once, Sanders chafed at Clinton's interruptions, saying, "Excuse me, I'm talking" or "Let me finish, please."

Their disagreements were clear, but

faceoff that was marked by a steady stream of personal attacks, insults and even sexual innuendo. The Democrats' faceoff, in comparison, was a more civil if heated affair.

Clinton said that while she and Sanders have their differences on policy, "compare the substance of this debate with what you saw on the Republican stage last week."

Sanders chimed in, "We are, if elected president, going to invest a lot of money into mental health, and when you watch these Republican debates you know why."



2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

MONDAY, MARCH 7, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

SAYING FAREWELL

Former first lady Nancy Reagan dies at 94

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Nancy Reagan, the helpmate, backstage adviser and fierce protector of Ronald Reagan in his journey from actor to president — and finally during his 10-year battle with Alzheimer's disease — has died. She was 94.

The former first lady died Sunday at her home in Bel-Air, California, of congestive heart failure, assistant Allison Borio told The Associated Press.

Her best-known project as first lady was the "Just Say No" campaign to help kids and teens stay off drugs.

When she swept into the White House in 1981, the former Hol-

lywood actress partial to designer gowns and pricey china was widely dismissed as a pre-feminist throwback, concerned only with fashion, decorating and entertaining. By the time she moved out eight years later, Mrs. Reagan was fending off accusations that she was a behind-the-scenes "dragon lady" wielding unchecked power over the Reagan administration — and doing it based on astrology to boot.

All along she maintained that her only mission was to back her "Ronnie" and strengthen his presidency.

Mrs. Reagan carried that charge through the rest of her days. She served as a full-time caretaker as Alzheimer's melted away her husband's memory. After his death in

June 2004 she dedicated herself to tending his legacy, especially at his presidential library in California, where he had served as governor.

She also championed Alzheimer's patients, raising millions of dollars for research and breaking with fellow conservative Republicans to advocate for stem cell studies. Her dignity and perseverance in these post-White House roles helped smooth over the public's fickle perceptions of the former first lady.

The Reagans' mutual devotion over 52 years of marriage was legendary. They were forever holding hands. She watched his political speeches with a look of such steady

See FAREWELL, page 4A



ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTOS

ABOVE: The former first lady Nancy Reagan has died at 94. TOP: President Ronald Reagan, right, and first lady Nancy Reagan wave to onlookers at the Capitol building as they stand at the podium in Washington following the swearing in ceremony.

BETTER THAN ONE



ARIEL GILREATH | INDEX-JOURNAL

Kaycie Wells, left, and Katie Walton are twin sisters who teach English across the hall from each other at Emerald High School.

Twin teachers collaborate at Emerald High School

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

classes.

"Our counselor always told us that we would never be able to work together so we

Even closer

■ NAMES: Katie Walton and Kaycie Wells

■ GREENWOOD

Scout group earns rank of Eagle

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

Six Boy Scouts who started together as Tiger Cubs and continued on to the same troop have all received the Eagle Scout honor — an honor only about 5 percent of Boy Scouts earn.

Each of the scouts started out together in first grade, except for John Tarasidis, who started with the group in fourth grade, and earned the Arrow of Light award while they were Cub Scouts, which is the highest honor for a Cub Scout.

Former Cub Scout Den Leader John Ergle, who is also the father of Scout Matthew Ergle, said it is significant for each of the scouts to start in the same den and go on to earn the Eagle Scout honor.

"We've had a lot of Eagle Scouts come out of Troop 911 but that little group all joined at one time — you don't separate them by grade like you do in Cub Scouts; once you become a Boy Scout, you're a Boy Scout — but for that group to kind of all come at one time and all progress and all finish is pretty unusual," John Ergle said.



REMEMBERING NANCY REAGAN Former first lady dies at 94 in California. **Page 4A**

Morning News

MONDAY MARCH 7, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Mostly sunny.
High 70, low 43.
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Georgetown County

Seafood, beaches and oil

Peaceful county at odds over drilling possibility

BY SAMMY FRETWELL
The State
sfretwell@thestate.com

MURRELLS INLET — The lunch crowd at King Street Grille was too busy eating seafood last week to notice Peg Howell, a former oil-rig boss, sitting in a corner of the marsh-front restaurant with a small stack of papers and a grim smile.

Howell and local seafood dealer Rick Baughmann were in deep discussion about oil drilling along the South Atlantic coast.

Both hate the idea. Georgetown County has as much at risk as any community in the region if the government opens the coast to oil-and-gas drilling, said Howell and Baughmann, who are leading the charge locally to stop the federal government's plan.

"Once we open that up, it is there forever," Howell said as she went over a report she had written about the dangers of off-shore drilling. "As long as they find enough oil and gas to produce, they will always be out there. It makes me furious."

With a major federal decision expected soon on whether to open the South Atlantic coast for oil and natural-gas drilling, opponents like Howell and Baughmann are eager to hear whether the government sticks with a plan that has coastal communities from Virginia to Georgia in an uproar.

The U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is expected in the next month to update its draft proposal for offshore energy development. Drilling opponents, and some who support offshore energy exploration, say the bureau's updated plan will say a lot about how the government moves ahead with drilling in the South Atlantic.

Many people in South Carolina are hoping the bureau will drop the proposal, or at least exclude Palmetto State waters. As proposed last year, the government plan would open areas off the coasts of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia for oil-and-gas development.

Drilling could lead to spills that would pollute beaches and marshes that draw tourists to popular vacation spots, critics of the plan say. The images of oil-coated seabirds from BP's 2010 spill in the Gulf of Mexico are hard for some people to shake, they say.

Some business interests and state politicians, who are urging the Obama administration to stick with the proposal, say oil rigs off the South Atlantic coast do not mean spills would occur, but drilling does mean prosperity for poor states such as South Carolina.

John Filostrat, a spokesman for the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, said his agency is considering comments it has received since the bureau first revealed the offshore-drilling plan last winter. The bureau will update the proposal and give the public another comment period before the ultimate decision is made by early 2017.

"We do weigh what the states want, and we take into account comments from the



Each Monday, the Morning News features a good news story on a person, place or organization in the Pee Dee. If you have a suggestion for someone or something to profile, send it to news@scnw.com.

Never say no



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH SWERINGEN/MORNING NEWS

Tindall Hutchinson is 16 years old and has her own photography business, called Shutter Up.

16-year-old runs thriving photography business in Florence

BY DEBORAH SWERINGEN
Morning News
dsweringen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Tindall Hutchinson doesn't take no for an answer.

Despite some people's reservations about her age, the 16-year-old South Florence High School sophomore opened her own photography business, Shutter Up, almost 3½ years ago.

The projects began sporadically after she got a red Nikon D3200 for Christmas in 2012. Hutchinson simply would take photographs for

MORE ONLINE

Like Shutter Up Photography on Facebook or visit shutterupflorence.com to book Tindall Hutchinson for a shoot and view her work.



Tindall Hutchinson shows off some of her favorite photographs. This one is of her best friend and fellow young business owner, Thomasena Thomas.

See **PHOTOGRAPHER**, Page 3A

Robert Harris is back to finish where he left off

BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY
Morning News
smccray@florencenews.com



FLORENCE — Robert Harris got halfway toward his goal last year in the United Way of Florence County's Biggest Loser program. He finished in ninth place for both inches and pounds.

He is participating in the competition again this year to finish where he left off. Harris' daughter



June, I want to see him graduate from college, and hopefully he'll choose to go to The Citadel, and I'll give him his diploma when he walks across the stage."

Harris said he has three other

NANCY REAGAN: 1921-2016

Former first lady dies

Former first lady Nancy Reagan died Sunday at her home in Bel-Air, Calif., of congestive heart failure. She was 94.

Her marriage to Ronald Reagan lasted 52 years until his death in 2004.

A former actress, she was Reagan's closest adviser and fierce protector on his journey from actor to governor of California to president of the United States.

She rushed to his side after he was shot in 1981 by a would-be assassin and later endured his nearly decade-long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

For the full story, plus reactions and vignettes from those who knew her, go to 9A.



Former first lady Nancy Reagan is shown in 1989.

MONDAY MARCH 7 2016

75¢

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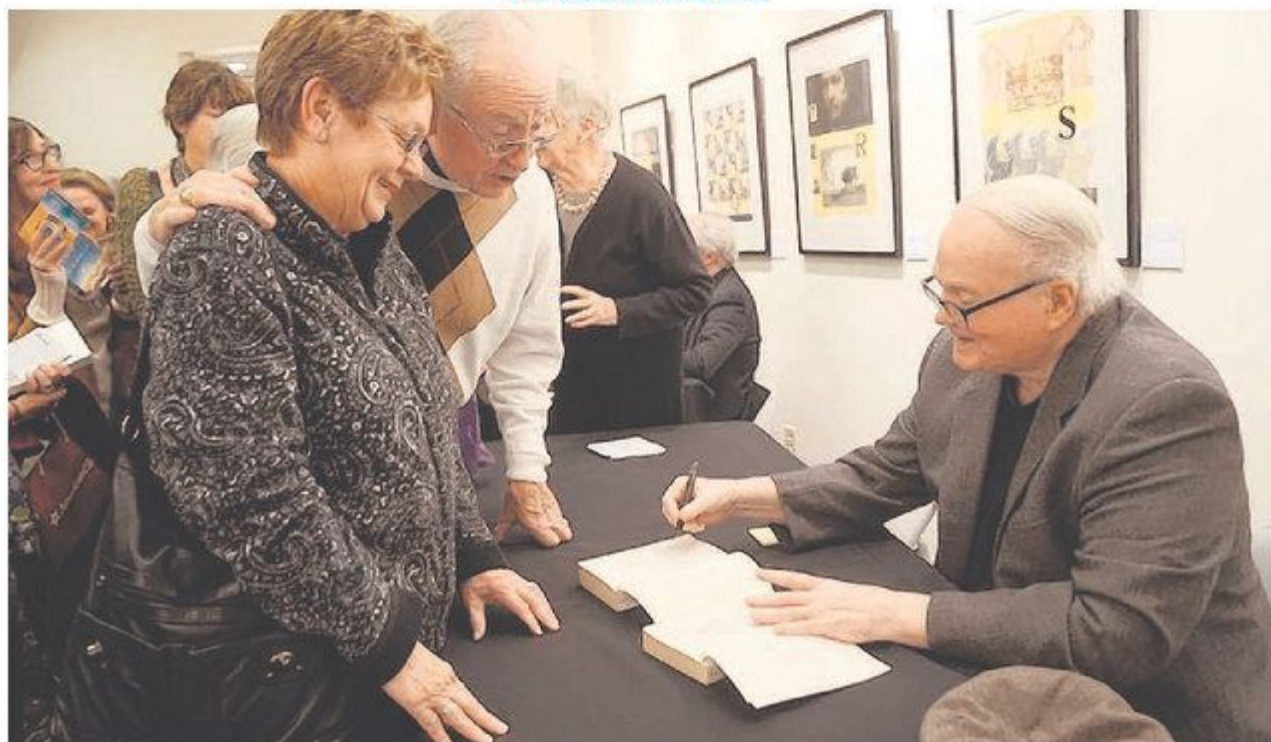


HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTON

Mostly sunny
63°/53° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

PAT CONROY: 1945-2016



FILE: Staff photo

Author Pat Conroy signs a book for Judy and George Reuscher of Bluffton after "An Evening with Pat Conroy's Story River Books" in December 2014 at the University of South Carolina Beaufort Center for the Arts in Beaufort.

He expected pickled shrimp for his funeral

BY DAVID LAUDERDALE



Kids, we better get busy. Pat Conroy fully expected all the shrimp in Beaufort to be pickled for his funeral.

He said so in "The Pat Conroy Cookbook: Recipes and Stories of My Life."

It's in a chapter called "Why Dying Down South is More Fun."

It's more fun because of the food.

And for Conroy, that meant pickled shrimp.

"When a good friend dies, I take two pounds of shrimp to

Beaufort to be pickled that day."

Sadly, that day has come. Conroy died at home on Friday night, about a month after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. His funeral Mass is to be held Tuesday at the St. Peter's Catholic Church on Lady's Island.

Conroy shares his famous recipe for pickled shrimp in the book, written in conjunction with Suzanne Williamson Pollak and published in 2004 by Nan A. Talese, an imprint of Doubleday. It's dedicated to "the cooking partner of my life, Cassan-

onnaise, and it doesn't make me cry.

In fact, it makes me laugh. It gave Hilda Gay Upton and me a big laugh Sunday afternoon. She likes the part where Conroy tries to coax her Shrimp Burger recipe out of her. It's from the Shrimp Shack, an open-air, tree-house kind of affair on the side of U.S. 21 on St. Helena Island.

"Hilda, an obstinate Low-country woman whose husband is a shrimper, refuses even to tell me if there is shrimp in her 'secret recipe,'" Conroy wrote.

This went on for quite some time. He promised her fame. Hilda laughs about him putting in some fancy magazine that she was voted Best Personality in Beaufort High School's class of 1959, four years ahead of Conroy.

And he said he was going to resort to telling people her

Funeral services may draw thousands

BY REBECCA LURYE
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Funeral services for celebrated Beaufort author Pat Conroy are expected to draw one of the largest gatherings of loved ones, friends and devotees the area has ever seen.

Anderson Funeral Home, which is handling the arrangements, said it anticipates 1,500 to 2,000 people will attend both the visitation and

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