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To:

Date: 5/27/2016 8:34:40 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages – Friday, May 27, 2016

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The Post and Courier

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Friday, May 27, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Door closes on I-526 extension to islands

Bank board votes against project; area officials vow to reapply, ensure funds left stay local

BY DIANE KNICH
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COLUMBIA — The S.C. Transportation Infrastructure Bank board on Thursday dealt the biggest blow ever to plans for completing Interstate 526 across James and Johns islands, a decades-old project that deeply divided the community.

The long-stalled project to connect

I-526 from where it currently ends in West Ashley to where the James Island connector begins at Folly Road won't be built, at least not any time soon.

After almost three hours of discussion about keeping the project alive by building it as a toll road, the board voted 4-1 to close the door on it. Only State Rep. Chip Lamehousse, R-Charleston, voted against the motion. In December, the bank board voted to

Inside

Infrastructure bank could move under DOT, report finds. **A4**

Editorial: Turn from I-526 to other road projects. **A16**

give Charleston County until March 30 to come up with a blending plan to cover the project's \$300 million-plus shortfall

or risk losing the \$420 million set aside for building it. The county failed to do that, board members said.

The highway extension's estimated price tag has jumped to \$725 million. Robin Welch, a founder of the opposition group Nat.526, said Thursday she was delighted with the outcome after years of fighting. Members of her group have said the new road would harm the environment and the quality

of life on the islands and would spur still more development.

"I feel so grateful to God and the state Infrastructure Bank and my incredible James and Johns Island neighbors who fought for our home," Welch said. Natalie Olson, land-use program manager for the Coastal Conservation League, which also has fought

Please see **I-526**, Page A4

Plan for Dewberry hotel rooftop bar hits city snag

OK still needed for club and to hold Spoletto Soiree on Saturday



The Dewberry, a Meeting Street hotel, is expected to open soon across from Marion Square.

BY DIANE KNICH
AND ALLISON PRANG
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aprang@postandcourier.com

By all accounts, the Citrus Club could be a swanky spot for a cocktail, a luxury rooftop bar at The Dewberry hotel with sweeping views of downtown Charleston and the Ravenel Bridge.

There's only one problem: Developer John Dewberry never got city

approval for a rooftop bar in his new Meeting Street hotel, which is expected to open soon just across from Marion Square. The city did permit a spa and pool, surrounded by greenery, on top of the seven-story hotel.

Dewberry's company, Dewberry Capital, did not respond to several calls and emails requesting comment on reports about the bar, which has been referred to online by Charleston Eater, the Char-

leston Area Convention and Visitors Bureau and an archived version of the hotel's own site.

City spokesman Jack O'Toole said the city's Board of Zoning Appeals has not approved a rooftop bar, and Dewberry hasn't applied to the board for any changes in his plan.

Confusion over the rooftop bar, and neighborhood opposition to it isn't the only potential problem for the hotel project, which has been

six years in the making. A plan to convert a portion of Henrietta Street to one-way traffic along one side of the hotel also is in jeopardy, and Dewberry is working hard to move hotel construction far enough along to get a "temporary certificate of occupancy," which would allow him to hold the Spoletto 40th Season Soiree on Saturday on the building's first floor.

Please see **DEWBERRY**, Page A10

Block Ga. gun permits in S.C., says Kimpson

Other state's carry criteria not as tough

BY MAYA T. PRABHU
mprabhu@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — A gun law reform senator from Charleston is setting himself up to potentially filibuster a bill that would allow Georgia residents with concealed weapons permits to carry their weapons in South Carolina.

Democratic Sen. Marlon Kimpson has drafted 80 amendments he hopes will show senators why the bill is bad legislation. After about 20 minutes of discussion and a short break Thursday, the Senate adjourned without voting on any of the amendments.

"With three more days in the session, time is in my favor," Kimpson said. "They have the votes to pass the bill. What I am trying to do is educate the body so they will make the right decision."

Kimpson said he wanted to be clear that he is against the bill. He has used several procedural moves to block it from debate since the measure was approved by the House of Representatives about two months ago.

"Why would we allow people to come into this state carrying a concealed weapons permit from Georgia, with very minimal requirements, when the people of South Carolina have to go through a substantive written test, shooting test and educational requirements, defines logic," Kimpson said. Sen. Larry Martin, R-Pickens, said he respects Kimpson's opposition to the bill and understands why some people have concerns about Georgia's permitting process. But he doesn't think their residents with concealed



Kimpson

Please see **GUNS**, Page A11

Trump seals nomination, continues Clinton attacks

Says he will debate Sanders for charity

BY STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
AND JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

RESMARCK, N.D. — Triumphant armed with a majority of his party's delegates, Republican Donald Trump unleashed a broadside attack Thursday on Hillary Clinton's prescriptions for energy, guns, the economy and international affairs, shifting abruptly toward the general election with his likely Democratic opponent locked in a divisive primary contest.

The New York billionaire shrugged off signs of dissent within his own



Donald Trump speaks to supporters Thursday in Billings, Montana.

campaign hours after sewing up the number of delegates needed to clinch the GOP nomination, a feat

Please see **TRUMP**, Page A12

Inside

LOCAL

Beachwalker among best beaches in America. **A13**

List of Memorial Day commemoration events. **A6**

Storm could make for surfing delight, sunbathing mess on beaches for the weekend. **A3**

NAACP calls for federal complaints against Charleston County School District. **A6**

NATION

Report: 1st U.S. case of germ resistant to last resort. **A12**

Clemson group escapes cave through neck-deep water

Heavy rain traps students in Ky. for hours

BY CLAIRE GALOFARO
AND BRUCE SCHREINER
Associated Press

HORSE CAVE, KY. — Flash flooding threatened to trap a group of college students inside a Kentucky cave Thursday, but they navigated through neck-deep water to safety, authorities said.

The 19 people who escaped had to clutch onto a rope to handle the swift currents of floodwaters near the entrance of Hidden River Cave. The group that spent more than six hours inside the cave included Clemson University students on a field trip, four tour guides and two police

officers who got trapped when they tried to rescue the group, Kentucky State Police Trooper B.J. Eaton said.

There was no communication between the stranded cavers and the more than 150 emergency personnel at the scene. Authorities didn't know exactly where the missing cavers were underground, and the only light the group had came from headlamps they wore.

The cavers, accompanied by a couple of experienced guides, were unaware of the rising waters threatening to block the cave's entrance. Heavy rains hit the area hours after

Please see **CAVE**, Page A10



Clear, High 86, Low 65. Complete 5-day forecast. **B10**

Bridge B7
Business B1
Classifieds D1
Comics B6-9
Crosswords B8-D10
Dear Abby B7
Editors A16
Local A3
Movies B7
Obituaries B4
Sports C1
Television B6

Charleston Deals Today

Wahoo's Adventures
\$14 for all-day river tubing experience for 2 people. Valued at \$100. See **A2**

PALMETTO

Sea lions exhibit opens early at zoo. Meet the new inhabitants, 1C

THESTATE.COM: See more photos of the zoo's newest attraction.



FRIDAY MAY 27 2016

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TODAY: MOSTLY SUNNY HI 88 LO 63 YESTERDAY: HI 90 LO 64 PRECIP. (AS OF 5 p.m.) 0.00" FORECAST, 8C

The State

Watchdog: DJJ facility was unsafe, guards untrained

Inspector general says agency making progress after riots

BY JAMIE SELF jself@thestate.com

12-hour shifts, poor training of guards are issues

Guards overseeing the state's youthful inmates said they felt in danger before recent riots at a Columbia facility, the state's watchdog told lawmakers Thursday.

Those guards also felt like

there were no consequences for bad behavior by youthful offenders at the Department of Juvenile Justice facility.

S.C. Inspector General Patrick Maley also said guards were not adequately trained to deal with out-of-control inmates.

Lawmakers asked Maley to look into Juvenile Justice in March. Maley told House and

Senate members tasked with oversight of the youth corrections agency Thursday that his review included interviews with 31 Juvenile Justice employees.

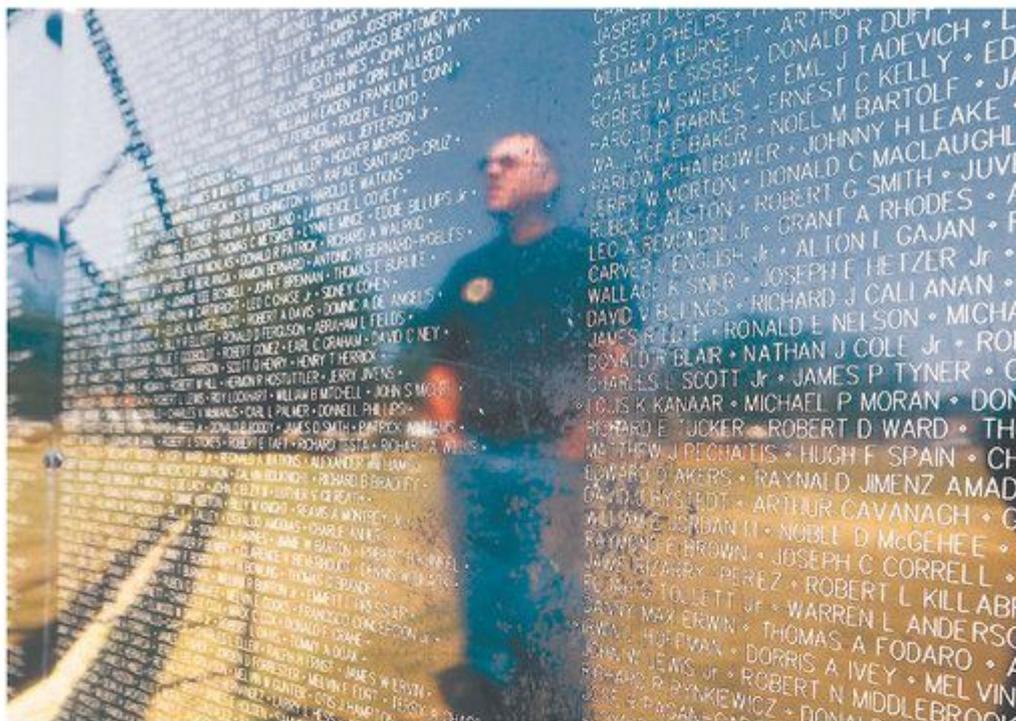
Maley said Juvenile Justice has set into motion a plan that should address the agency's security problems. That plan was in motion before a February riot that agency officials said

resulted in the destruction of property, sexual assaults on female inmates, fires set in living quarters and an inmate escape. That riot led to 14 arrests.

Separating violent inmates is part of the strategy, Maley said, adding Juvenile Justice officials

SEE DJJ, 9A

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND



Martin Spigner, of Winnsboro, looks for brothers of his friends on The Wall that Heals that is on display in Blythewood at DOKO Meadow Park over the Memorial Day weekend. See a story on Page 3A.

MEMORIAL DAY

Rain might interrupt weekend plans, say forecasters

BY RODDIE BURRIS rburris@thestate.com

School's out, the kids are at home and the first holiday of the summer season could be wet - possibly very wet and in much of the Palmetto State, forecasters said Thursday.

National weather services have been watching an unorganized area of low pressure near the Bahamas they said has a 60 percent chance of developing into a tropical storm by mid-Saturday.

The slow-developing system, which the National Weather Service said had little support aloft at the middle or upper levels to "churn" deep into ocean waters or to become very active with winds, still had a 70 percent chance of developing into a tropical storm by mid-Tuesday.

"The main concern we have at this point is there is some potential for heavy rains throughout the weekend and through Memorial Day," said Mike Proulx, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service, located at the Columbia Metropolitan

Memorial Day is the unofficial start of summer. And, wow, there are plenty of things to do in the Midlands this long holiday weekend. Here are a few, including ways to honor veterans.

GO JUMP IN A LAKE. Recreation sites and the SCE&G beach at Lake Murray are open Saturday through Memorial Day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., for swimming and picnicking. Don't bring alcohol or your pets. And there are no life preservers to give

MOREINSIDE See more fun things to do in GO COLUMBIA, Page 8C

Roger L. Cloutier is the keynote speaker in Hopkins. The Men



SPORTS
**TIGERS WIN
IN TOURNEY**



**E GREENVILLE
Mavericks
will Rock
the River**

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MAY 27, 2016
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USA TODAY VP POWER RANKINGS: GINGRICH BACK IN PLAY PAGE 1B

Audit finds issues at Infrastructure Bank

TIM SMITH
TSMITH@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

COLUMBIA - The state agency that has financed almost \$5 billion in transportation projects has awarded funds to projects without an application, has no formal policies for awarding funding, and does not announce publicly when it has funds available, according to a critical Legislative Audit Council report that suggests the agency be merged with the state's highway agency.

The report comes as the Legislature is poised to approve a bill that could eventually result in the state borrowing more than \$2 billion through the State Transportation Infrastructure Bank.

But Senate Transportation Commit-

tee Chairman Larry Grooms said the pending legislation includes reforms that if passed would require the bank's projects also be approved by the state Department of Transportation Commission, largely negating some of the concerns raised in the report.

"The State Infrastructure Bank should be a financing mechanism," he told *The Greenville News*. "It should not be in the process of selecting road projects. That's where they went wrong. That needs to be corrected. I believe within the next two weeks in the General Assembly we should be able to correct that."

Sen. Harvey Peeler, a Gaffney Republican and former Senate majority leader, has in past years proposed transferring

the bank's duties to DOT.

He said he has not read Thursday's report but agrees with the report's suggestions that the bank be consolidated with DOT.

"Some say it's a good thing, some not," he said of the bank. "It just makes sense to me to fold in the functions of the SIB with the DOT," he said. "It goes back to too much power and too little hands. The way the SIB is set up right now, the Upstate is the loser."

Peeler has long been critical of the fact that more SIB funding has gone to Charleston and Horry counties than to other counties in the state, including those in the Upstate.

The bank was created by lawmakers in 1997 to finance major transportation

projects, including the Ravenel Bridge in Charleston and freeways taking motorists to and around the Grand Strand.

According to Thursday's report, Greenville and Spartanburg are among five counties that received at least \$200 million from the bank over the years but less than \$1 billion. Charleston and Horry counties both received more than \$1 billion in bank financing, according to the LAC.

The report found 15 of the state's 46 counties in the state had received no funding from bank.

The bank has awarded a total of \$3.8 billion in grants and \$1 billion in loans, according to the bank, and has

See ROAD FUNDS, Page 4A



ELIZABETH SANDERS / STAFF

Greenville County will use a ceramic blanket to repair some cracks on Swamp Rabbit Trail.

High-tech fix coming on Swamp Rabbit Trail

Ceramic blanket can melt asphalt back together

ELIZABETH SANDERS
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On parts of the Greenville Health System Swamp Rabbit Trail smooth asphalt has given way to bumps, roots and white paint to mark the potential dangers for runners and cyclists.

It's a sign that one of Greenville's most popular attractions, which opened in 2009, is showing a little age.

"I've noticed cracks, but it seems pretty normal," said B.T. DeShields, of Greenville, who uses the trail twice a week. He said the issues seem like normal wear and tear. "I could see if you weren't paying attention, you could stub your toe."

The bumps and markings raise questions for some. "I've noticed some bad spots, especially up that way (toward



GHS makes headway in reducing shortfall

LIV OSBY
LOSBY@GANNETT.COM

Greenville Health System has cut its \$16 million budget shortfall by \$15 million in the past couple months, leaving officials cautiously optimistic about the financial situation.

But chief financial officer Terri Newsom said there are still several months left in the fiscal year, so it's too soon to breathe a sigh of relief.

"There is significant improvement from where we were in January," she told *The Greenville News*. "But we're still nowhere near where we were last year."

After announcing in March that the hospital was operating at a deficit during the first quarter, GHS put in place a plan to cut costs, she said.

Provisions enacted so far include deferring about \$32 million in capital projects and eliminating about 400 clinical and administrative positions — about half through attrition — for a savings of \$13.2 million in salaries and benefits, she said.

GHS also instituted a voluntary exit program. Some 200 employees applied for that program and 66 were accepted, Newsom said. Another 73 positions weren't filled, saving about \$657,000, she said.

GHS has about 15,000 employees at its eight campuses and 175 outpatient practices.

The hospital also curtailed its discretionary travel, education and meal budgets, she said.

Some of the shortfall resulted from lower inpatient volumes attributed to a mild flu season and efforts designed to keep people out of the hospital. But investments, such as the Epic IT system — which cost well over \$100 million, the acquisition of physician practices and facility upgrades also contributed.

Newsom said that as of the end of



Terri Newsom

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Morning News

FRIDAY MAY 27, 2016

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WEATHER**

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DETAILS 2A

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FDTC Foundation



Darla Moore and Florence-Darlington Technical College President Ben Dillard pose at a special ceremony Thursday for the announcement of a \$5 million gift to the FDTC Educational Foundation.

SHAMIRA MCCRAY/MORNING NEWS

School gets big gift from Darla Moore Foundation

Some of \$5 million will go toward a culinary, hospitality program at Lake City site

BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY
Morning News
smccray@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The Darla Moore Foundation announced a \$5 million gift to the Florence-Darlington Technical College Educational Foundation during a ceremony Thursday morning at the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology Center.

The creation of a culinary and hospitality program at FDTC's Lake City site is the primary focus of the gift, but portions of it will be used for other areas for the college.

Darla Moore Foundation President and CEO Marion Fowler said FDTC has played a vital role in providing educational opportunities to students in the Pee Dee for over 50 years.

"The magnitude of this gift demonstrates our foundation's recognition of the important role that

See **MOORE**, Page 4A

Florence woman shot and killed, man charged with murder

from staff reports

FLORENCE — An "allegedly pregnant" woman was shot and killed in an apparent homicide Thursday

Florence Democrats

Hundreds attend forum

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

District 2, a special election for the late Councilman Ed Robinson's seat. The forum drew hundreds of constituents to Poynor Adult Education Center on Dargan Street in Florence.

Candidates were allowed three minutes to introduce themselves and their platform, then were given one



Event coordinator Buquilla Ervin-Cannon calls the Democratic candidate forum to order Thursday in the auditorium at Poynor Adult Education Center on Dargan Street in Florence.

See **FORUM**, Page 3A

JOSHUA LLOYD/MORNING NEWS

Turning
Tassels

Three cheers



MICAN BAKER/MORNING NEWS

Ashlee McCall and her peers applaud as Principal Arlene Wallace speaks during the Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology graduation ceremony Thursday at the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology Center on the Florence-Darlington Technical College campus.

Senior classes from two Darlington County high schools — Mayo High School for Math, Science & Technology and Lamar — graduated Thursday. Mayo's ceremony was held at the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology Center on the Florence-Darlington Technical College in Florence. Lamar held its ceremony at its football stadium. See roundup, **Page 3A**. See photo galleries at **snow.com**.

Florence Little Theatre honors actors

BY DEBORAH SWARINGEN
Morning News

Actors, directors, cast and crew from each of the seven involved, it was time for the awards to be announced.

INSIDE: May 2016 Graduation Keepsake special section.

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State champs



SCOTT CHANCEY/EMEDIA

Hartsville High softball players hoist the state championship trophy after beating Union County 3-1 in the Class 3A state championship game Tuesday.

Hartsville tops Union County to win state title

BY SCOTT CHANCEY
EMedia

COLUMBIA — At sunrise, Hartsville softball coach Jamie Horton prepared her team Tuesday for what was at stake.

At sunset, the Red Foxes hoisted the program's second Class 3A state championship trophy after beating Union County 3-1 in the deciding game of their title series at Irmo High School.

The first was won in 2012. And after losing in 2014 and '15 against that same Union County program, frustration and uncertainty began to mount for Hartsville.

Horton, a first-year coach after serving as an assistant the previous seven, had talks with the team Tuesday morning, afternoon and even on the bus ride to Columbia. But star pitcher Cayla Drotar, a South Carolina signee, also helped out. After the Red Foxes lost 6-3 Mon-

day, players also needed words from one of their peers.

And after one player from each team was suspended for Tuesday's game because of a Monday postgame incident, it was time for Hartsville to look ahead.

"I wanted to refocus them, and Cayla was a big part of that, being the leader on this team," Horton said.

Drotar, six years the Red Foxes' ace, had experienced a state championship before as an eighth-grader.

But in her first year as coach, Horton was dealing with something totally different: High expectations from a spirited fan base.

With great expectations come great pressure, though, especially after Hartsville lost one starter from last year's state runner-up team.

Therefore, Horton needed Drotar. But Drotar also

needed Horton.

"I knew she was under a lot," Drotar said. "When I first met coach Horton my seventh-grade year, I thought she didn't like me. But I wouldn't give anything for her. She's my backbone, and I wouldn't give anything for her."

Drotar sure did her part Tuesday, going the distance while striking out eight and blasting a home run to left.

"It was perfectly amazing," Drotar said while wearing her state-championship medal.

Drotar struck out six during the first four innings.

"Drotar's been solid," Union coach Tommy Petty said. "She's been solid every year. The first state championship they won, she was on the mound. ... She's going to be very successful at Carolina. That's the kind of ballplayer you look at and say 'That's a great ballplayer.'"

Although Drotar was clutch at the plate in Saturday's first game of the series when she hit two homers, Tuesday's early offense belonged to sophomore first baseman Taylor Watford. Watford hit an RBI double to right in the first, and another RBI hit to center in the third to make it 2-0.

This was done against another highly-touted pitcher, freshman and South Carolina commit Bailey Bettenbaugh, who contained Hartsville's offense from the time she entered the second inning in Saturday's Game 1.

After Hartsville scored three runs in the sixth inning of Monday's loss, Watford made sure early the momentum was on the Red Foxes' side.

"I've been hitting for two years now, and I was just getting used to it," Watford said. "It just felt great, it was awesome. I was just in the zone. Everything was going right."

Then, in the fifth, Drotar crushed a Bettenbaugh pitch over the left-field fence, and she continually pumped her fist in celebration while rounding the bases to make it 3-0.

It was as valuable to Hartsville as it was cathartic to Drotar.

"We all knew it was coming," Horton said. "She had a few at-bats that didn't go her way Monday. It was bound to happen, and I'm glad it happened today."

In the top of the seventh, Union was able to start a rally. But, it did not last long.

Drotar walked Bettenbaugh, and Abbie Valentine singled a short time later. After Bettenbaugh scored on a sacrifice by Cara Phillips, Drotar beamed Brianna Fowler, and there were all of a sudden runners at first and second with two outs.

Drotar closed it out by inducing a Jazmyne Boyd groundout back to herself.

Then she threw to none other than Watford at first for the title-clinching out.

The two set up the victory. Then they closed it out.

But at the end, every Hartsville player and coach huddled with that championship trophy they had been chasing since 2012.

"It's extremely special," said Horton, whose team ends the year at 32-3. "We knew we had the ability to get back. It was just a long season of us working together and jelling together, getting the chemistry perfect and it started working that way and came together during the playoffs. And what better time to come together and start working the best they've worked all year than now?"

UC 000 000 1 - 140
H 101 010 x - 35 9
WP - Cayla Drotar (7 IP, 4 H, 1 R, 1 ER, 2 BB, 8 K), LP - Bailey Bettenbaugh (6 IP, 5 H, 3 R, 2 ER, 0 BB, 2 K).
USAKING HITTERS - UC: Ashley Vinson 1-3, 2B: Cara Phillips 0-3, RBI: 14: Drotar 2-3, HR, RBI; Taylor Watford 2-1, 2B, 2 RBI.
REC'D 09: UC 32-41; H 32-3.

LOCAL

Chessie the tiger shark cruises again into Port Royal Sound 3A



LOCAL

'Wheel' fine time: Bluffton crowd roots for TV contestant 3A



FRIDAY MAY 27 2016

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HILTON HEAD ISLAND BLUFFTON

Sunny 82°/70° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

STORMY WEEKEND AHEAD

Tropical system gaining strength

Tropical storm would be named Bonnie if one develops

Storm could hit South Carolina Saturday evening, Sunday morning

Expert: Hit the beaches early this weekend and don't be surprised if gas prices rise

BY MANDY MATNEY
mmatney@islandpacket.com

A strengthening storm system hovering in the Atlantic could spell tropical trouble for the holiday weekend from Georgia to North Carolina.

On Thursday afternoon, the National Hurricane Center upped the chances that a tropical storm will develop within the next 48 hours from 50 to 60 percent.

There is a 70 percent such a storm will develop within the next five days, the center said.

That means visitors to Beaufort County beaches could see rain, high tides and muggy temperatures.

Meteorologists monitoring a low-pressure area sitting between Bermuda and the Bahamas say it is "showing increasing strength as it moves closer to the coast," said Jonathan Lamb of the National Weather Service in Charleston, said Thursday afternoon.

"Confidence is increasing that a tropical storm will develop as we move closer to the

SEE TROPICAL, 7A

Holiday weekend forecast for Hilton Head Island

• **Today:** Sunny, with a high near 83. East winds 5 to 11 mph.

• **Saturday:** A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Partly sunny, with a high near 82. Northeast winds 9 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30 percent.

• **Sunday:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 81. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent. Rainfall between one-tenth and a quarter of an inch, except higher amounts possible in thunderstorms.

• **Memorial Day:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 81. Chance of precipitation is 40 percent.



NATION

TRUMP CLINCHES NOMINATION

With the necessary delegates in hand to win the GOP nod, Donald Trump turns his attention to Hillary Clinton. 6A



DELAUNA EARLEY dearley@islandpacket.com

PAYING TRIBUTE TO OUR HEROES

Tyler Carpenter, 9, a fourth-grader at Riverview Charter School, places an American flag on one of the graves at the Beaufort National Cemetery on Thursday in Beaufort. This is the second year that the fourth- and fifth-graders at Riverview Charter School have come out to place flags on the graves at the Beaufort National Cemetery before Memorial Day. Local schools, community service groups and private families come out every year to place the flags. "If someone wants to help out before Memorial Day, we will always be able to find something for them to do," said Patricia Simmons, program assistant with the Beaufort National Cemetery. "The number of people who want to help has grown every year." To find out more information about how you can volunteer your time at the Beaufort National Cemetery, call Simmons at 843-524-3925.



STATE

COURT RULES FOR THE BIRDS

A federal court ruling could protect the fish-gobbling cormorant from the wrath — and guns — of the state's hunters. 4A



NATION

HAWAII BEACH TOPS BEST LIST

The Aloha State's Hanau-

Many taking Social Security

43 PERCENT



TIGERS WIN ACC OPENER; USC OUSTED AT SEC

SPORTS, B1



CONSTRUCTION OF THE AC HOTEL MAKING PROGRESS

UPSTATE, C1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

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85°/61° 85°/63° 82°/64°

Complete forecast, B8

2016 ELECTION

Trump seals nomination

Billionaire sews up necessary number of GOP delegates

By Stephen Ohlemacher and Jill Colvin
The Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. — With a triumphant pile of delegates

in hand, Republican Donald Trump on Thursday claimed support from “almost everybody” in his party and turned his attention to his likely Democratic presidential opponent, Hillary Clinton, who is still locked in a divisive primary contest.

The New York billionaire

reached the number of delegates needed to clinch the GOP nomination hours earlier, according to the Associated Press count, just before a North Dakota campaign stop. It completed his unlikely rise that has upended the political landscape and set the stage for a bitter fall campaign.

“Here I am watching Hillary fight, and she can’t close the deal,” he told reporters. “We’ve had tremendous support from almost everybody.”

Trump’s good news was tempered by his own continuing campaign problems. Those

SEE ELECTION, A5

NEWS DIGEST

Navy: Two fighter jets crash off NC coast

RALEIGH, N.C. — Two Navy jet fighters crashed off the coast of North Carolina during a training mission Thursday, and their four crew members were airlifted to a hospital with minor injuries after being plucked out of the Atlantic Ocean by a commercial fishing vessel and Coast Guard rescuers, officials said.

The F/A-18 Super Hornet jet fighters, based in Virginia Beach, crashed about 10:40 a.m. off the coast of Cape Hatteras, following an “in-flight mishap,” said Lt. Cmdr. Tiffani Walker, a spokeswoman for Naval Air Force Atlantic. Walker did not have any further details. Earlier Thursday, the Coast Guard had said the two aircraft collided in the air before crashing.

Two of the aviators were rescued by the crew of the commercial fishing vessel Tammy, and the other two survivors were hoisted out of the water by a Coast Guard helicopter, the Coast Guard said in a statement. A second Coast Guard helicopter picked up the aviators from the fishing vessel and all four survivors were taken to Norfolk Sentara General Hospital. — The Associated Press

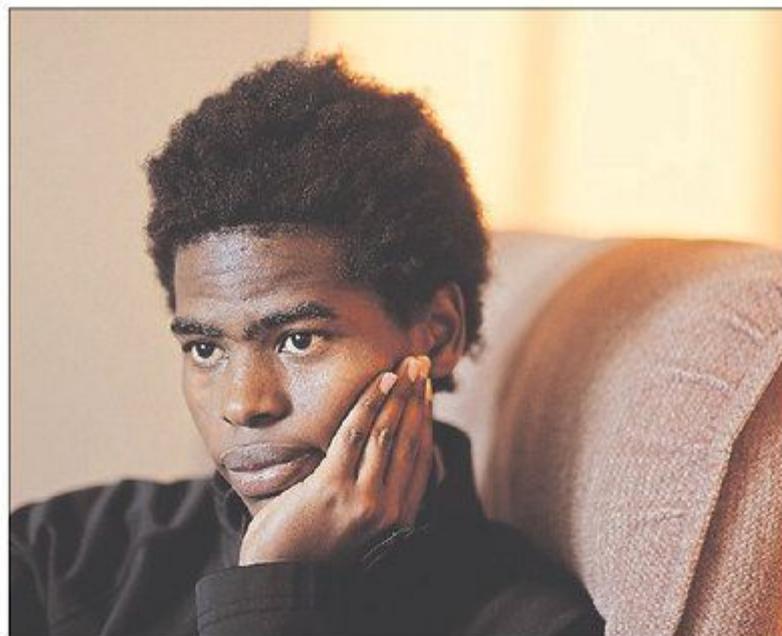
NATION & WORLD



Obama defends his nuclear record

On the eve of his historic trip to Hiroshima, President Barack Obama is defending the vigor of his efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons. He says he will use his visit to the Japanese memorial site today to underscore “the sense of urgency

AMERICAN DREAMING



Dorman High School’s Divin Nduwamahoro is the first World Relief refugee to graduate from high school, according to Jason Lee, the organization’s local director. TIM KIMZEY/TIM.KIMZEY@SHU.COM

After 11 years in a refugee camp, teenager arrives in the US

By Allison M. Roberts
allison.m.roberts@shu.com

4. They applied for the

DIVIN’S JOURNEY



Meet Divin Nduwamahoro.

AUDIT RECOMMENDATION

DOT, bank should merge

Council says it would create more efficient system for state road projects

By Seanna Adcox
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — The South Carolina agency that borrows and doles out money for large highway projects should merge with the Department of Transportation, state auditors recommended Thursday.

Combining the agencies would allow for better coordination and prioritization of highway projects and focus accountability in a single agency, the report by the Legislative Audit Council says.

But the chairman of the state Transportation Infrastructure Bank said the two must remain separate, due to the DOT’s limited ability to borrow money under state law and the state constitution.

“The situation demands it,” said Chairman Vincent Graham.

The Legislature created the bank in 1997 to fund proj-

the Sumter ITEM

NATION

11 states file suit against Federal transgender rule A8

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2016 | Serving South Carolina since October 15, 1894

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Iris Festival underway

Celebration of the arts, nature and music runs through Sunday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The 76th Annual Sumter Iris Festival got off to a tasty, music-filled start Thursday evening and continues today from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. with food and marketplace vendors in place across from the Swan Lake Visitors Center starting at 10 a.m. In addition, through Sunday at 5 p.m., festival-goers can enjoy arts and crafts, boat rides on Swan Lake, live entertainment on several stages, Art in the Gardens, Gateway to Gardening and Sumter Military Museum display's salute to Shaw Air Force Base's 75th anniversary, "Soaring through the Decades," in the visitor's center.

There's a lot to celebrate at Swan Lake-Iris Gardens during South Carolina's oldest continuous festival, named by the Southeastern Tourism Society as one of the Top 20 Festivals in the Southeast for the past two years and a Top Event by the National Bus Association.

Park at the Sumter Civic Center (fairgrounds) and take Santee-Waterlee Regional Transportation Authority's free shuttle to the gardens.



Sumter High School's McLean Marie Achziger and Patrick Collins smile after being named Queen and King of the 2016 Iris Festival during the opening ceremony on Thursday evening at the Heath Pavilion.

Suspect extradited

Grandmother faces old child abuse charges in 2 states

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
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Jaqueline Raysor, the grandmother from Louisiana arrested by Sumter County Sheriff's Office for reportedly abusing her two grandchildren, was taken back to Louisiana Wednesday after trying and failing to fight extradition.

Before being transported to Louisiana, the 55-year-old posted bail set at \$75,000 cash or surety with GPS monitoring on April 25 but was taken back into custody when Louisiana authorities issued a warrant for her arrest.

SEE EXTRADITED, PAGE A7

Shaw history on display at Iris Festival

BY JIM HILLEY
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"Have museum will travel," said Sammy Way, who has brought a portion of the extensive collection of military memorabilia housed at Sumter Military Museum to the Iris Gardens Visitors Center during the annual Iris Festival today through Sunday.

Way said City of Sumter suggested that he make a display to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Shaw Air Force Base at the festival.

Visitors won't just see the display, however; Way plans to be on hand as much as possible to interpret the exhibit.

"I will be telling the story of how Shaw came about and some of the key people who made it happen," Way said. "I will talk about how the air base has grown and how it has become an integral part of the Sumter community."

Anyone who is expecting a table or two of black and white pictures and perhaps a few faded old newspapers will be in for quite a surprise.

The large meeting room at the visitor's center has been transformed. During the festival, it will be filled with a montage of Shaw Air Force history, with panels representing each

SEE HISTORY, PAGE A7

IRIS FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MAY 27

• Palmetto Health Tuomey Community Health Initiatives free screening, Swan Lake Visitors Center, 9-11 a.m.

• Just Kidding Around, Children's Area - Palmetto Amusements, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

• Children's Art in the Park, Bland Gardens, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. today and Saturday, Noon - 5 p.m. Sunday

* Entertainment

MAIN STAGE

12:30-1 p.m. — Lakewood High School Chorus

1-1:30 p.m. — Believe in Fate - Fitness with Rudi

1:30-3 p.m. — Hands on Praise Puppets - Harmony Church

3-3:30 p.m. — USC Blazer Star Steppers

3:30-4 p.m. — Sandy Banks, Hartsville

4-5 p.m. — Sumter High School Jazz Band

5-5:30 p.m. — Dreamworks Dance Academy

5:30-6 p.m. — Believer's Quartet

DOCK STAGE

2-4 p.m. — From the Morning

SATURDAY, MAY 28

• Head Turners Classic Car Show, Bland Gardens, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Games2U & Palmetto Amusements

• Just Kidding Around, Games2U & Palmetto Amusements, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

• The World of Welding, presented by Central Carolina Technical College - Changing Lives through Education

• Children's Art in the Park, Bland Gardens, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

• Mary Hinson Flower Show, "Celebrating the Festivals of SC," Alice Boyle Garden Center, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

• SAFE Kids Adventureland, sponsored by SAFE Kids Sumter County & Tuomey Foundation, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., includes Kiwanis Kids

Fingerprinting, Bike Rodeo, Informational Displays and more.

• Introduction of Iris Kings & Queens, Main Stage, Noon

• East Coast Golf Cart Show, Visitors Center Lawn, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

• 11th Annual Shine Day Parade hosted by The Jamil Streakers, West Liberty Street, 8 p.m. (Begins at Sumter County Fairgrounds)

* Entertainment

MAIN STAGE

Noon-12:15 p.m. — King, queens, dignitaries introduced

12:30-1 p.m. — Common Call Quartet, Charleston

1:30-2 p.m. — Lemkia Percussion

1-4 p.m. — Led the Clown

2-2:30 p.m. — Fallen Statues

2:30-3 p.m. — TBA

3-3:30 p.m. — Sandy Banks, Hartsville

3:30-4 p.m. — Hearsirs

4-4:30 p.m. — Crestwood Chorus

4:30-5 p.m. — Last Generation Quartet

5-6 p.m. — Maddle Hunt, Myrtle Beach

DOCK STAGE

Noon-2 p.m. — Believe in Fate - Fitness with Rudi

2-4 p.m. — From the Morning

GAZEBO

Noon-4 p.m. — Frank Fickling

SUNDAY, MAY 29

• Sumter Cruisers Show & Shine, Garden Street, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

• Just Kidding Around, presented by Games2U & Palmetto Amusements, Noon - 5 p.m.

• Children's Art in the Park, Bland Gardens, Noon - 5 p.m.

• Mary Hinson Flower Show, "Celebrating the Festivals of SC," Alice Boyle Garden Center, 1-4 p.m.

* Entertainment

MAIN STAGE

1-2 p.m. — Believe in Fate - Fitness with Rudi

1-4 p.m. — Led the Clown

2-2:30 p.m. — Zadok, Gospel Rapper

2:30-3 p.m. — Miss Libby's School of Dance

3-3:30 p.m. — Sandy Banks, Hartsville

3:30-4 p.m. — TBA

4-4:30 p.m. — TBA

DOCK STAGE

2-4 p.m. — John Berry & Kevin Jarvis

GAZEBO

1-4 p.m. — Frank Fickling

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 96, NO. 78

 indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Audit recommends merger

DOT, highway borrowing agency should combine, according to state auditors

By SEANNA ADCOX
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — The South Carolina agency that borrows and doles out money for large highway projects should merge with the Department of Transportation, state auditors recommended Thursday.

Combining the agencies would allow for better coordination and prioritization of highway projects and focus accountability in a single agency, the report by the Legislative Audit Council says.

But the chairman of the state Transportation Infrastructure Bank



AT THE STATEHOUSE

said the two must remain separate, due to the DOT's limited ability to borrow money under state law and the state constitution.

"The situation demands it," said Chairman Vincent Graham.

The Legislature created the bank

in 1997 to fund projects that can't be built on a pay-as-you-go basis, such as the Ravenel Bridge that links Charleston to Mount Pleasant. Since then, it has awarded about \$3.8 billion in grants and \$1 billion in loans for transportation projects. As of June 2015, the bank still owed about \$2 billion to bondholders, according to the report.

It notes that legislators would need to alter state law or the constitution to consolidate the agencies. But that wouldn't be easy.

"Merging the two would have consequences on debt. It's hard to get the toothpaste back in the tube," said

Mike Wooten. As chairman of the DOT commission, Wooten also has a seat on the borrowing agency's board.

The report comes as legislators attempt to finalize a bill changing governance in the two agencies and allowing for \$2 billion in borrowing over 10 years, funded by \$200 million annually in existing fees and vehicle taxes.

Legislators say that will jumpstart meeting the state's needs without raising taxes. The DOT has said it needs an additional \$1.5 billion yearly over three decades to bring one of the nation's largest highway systems to good condition.

Opponents of raising the state's gas tax — unchanged since 1987 at 16 cents per gallon — have blocked any increase, saying the DOT and infrastructure bank must be reformed first. The audit was requested last year by 24 legislators.

Critics, including Gov. Nikki Haley, contend politics, not priorities, determine which highway projects the infrastructure bank funds. Two of the board's seven members are legislators and two others are appointed by legislators.

"Today's audit is another reminder we must permanently reform the

See **AUDIT**, page 4A

THE NEXT CHAPTER BEGINS



ARIEL GILREATH | INDEX-JOURNAL

Abby Baldwin walks across Riegel Stadium to receive her diploma Thursday night at Ware Shoals High School.

Ware Shoals sends off graduating seniors

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

WARE SHOALS — Purple caps and gowns clustered together on the Riegel Stadium football field at Ware Shoals High School Thursday night while parents, family and friends filled the stands to watch the 67 seniors receive their high school diplomas.

There were 68 names on the ceremony program's list of seniors in honor of Rykevious Coates, who died several years ago and was a member of the 2016 graduating class.

Five seniors spoke at the graduation of their time in Ware Shoals and the lessons they learned along the way.

See **WARE SHOALS**, page 4A



ARIEL GILREATH | INDEX-JOURNAL

Superintendent Fay Sprouse, right, honors Ware Shoals High School's valedictorian Matthew Cox at the graduation ceremony on Riegel Stadium at the school Thursday night.



KATIE PEARSON | INDEX-JOURNAL

Graduating senior Darian Cribbs smiles as she receives her high school diploma Thursday night at Ninety Six High School.

Ninety Six graduates 115 students

By KATIE PEARSON
kpearson@indexjournal.com

A sea of maroon caps and gowns sat eagerly waiting to receive their diplomas Thursday evening at Ninety Six High School.

"This has been a great group of students," said Rex Ward, principal at Ninety Six High School, before the ceremony began. "It has been a great four years and I'm proud of them."

Before taking their seats, or even walking into the gym, the graduating seniors gathered in the hallway, laughing and joking for the last time as high school students.

Though many said they were looking forward to college, even more said they would miss being a Wildcat, including the valedictorian, Lana Warner.

"At the beginning of senior year I was ready to graduate, but now I'm going to miss it," she said in her speech addressing the class of 2016.

She also quoted her father's favorite movie Rocky.

"Let me tell you something you already know. The world ain't all sunshine and rainbows," she said, reminding her fellow students to always keep pushing forward in life no matter what they encounter.

See **NINETY SIX**, page 4A

Ladies Luncheon kicks off Festival of Flowers

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

Nearly 300 ladies gathered

Zimmerman told the audience that even though tending to roses can seem daunting, they are still just another plant.

kins to kind of be a horticulture expert and teach our consumers about roses," Ambrose said.

Lara Hudson, director of com-



Camlin Moore

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