

From: Symmes, Brian

To:

Date: 9/12/2013 9:22:08 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages - Thursday, September 12, 2013

SC Front Pages - Thursday, September 12, 2013



USC FOOTBALL

GOOD CATCH

Byrnes grad proving his worth

BUSINESS, 7A
Alternative
fuel cars in
spotlight

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2013
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

METRO

Record sales at Artisphere could serve as draw for more artists, 1B

Duke rates to rise 10%

Increase to be phased
in over 2 years

By Rudolph Bell
Staff Writer
dbell@greenvillenews.com

Duke Energy probably made a mistake by not increasing prices for nearly 20 years, then hiking rates three times in short order, according to a state law-

maker from the Upstate who plays a key role in utility policy. If Duke executives had done a better job of projecting costs, "Then we would not be caught up in the situation that we're caught up in now," said Rep. Bill Sandifer of Seneca, chairman of the House Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee, which has jurisdiction over utility matters. Duke's three rate hikes since

2010 "should have and could have been spread over a much longer period of time rather than occurring as rapidly as they have," Sandifer said Wednesday just before state regulators approved the latest price hike for about 540,000 South Carolina customers. Duke spokesman Ryan Mosier declined to respond to Sandifer's comments. Charlotte-based Duke hadn't

implemented a general price hike for 19 years before raising rates in 2010. Duke raised prices again in 2012 and Wednesday got permission for a third hike from the state Public Service Commission. The ruling means residential customers will pay more than 10 percent extra over two years. A monthly residential power

\$7.52

Increase on 2013 monthly residential power bill for 1,000 kilowatt-hours

\$2.79

Increase on bill in 2014

\$110.76

Total average bill after two years

See RATES, Page 3A

Diplomats move on 2 fronts on Syria arms

UN members draft resolutions; Kerry, Russians head to Geneva

By Edith M. Lederer
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Key international players were moving on two diplomatic fronts Wednesday to try to put Syria's chemical weapons under international control, and a fresh effort appeared to be underway to bring the government and opposition to peace talks.

The five veto-wielding members of the Security Council, who have been deeply divided over Syria, met late Wednesday to discuss what to include in a new resolution requiring that Syria's chemical weapons stockpile be secured and dismantled. They later left Russia's U.N. mission without commenting.

See SYRIA, Page 3A

UPSTATE MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF 9-11



MYKAL MCKELDOWNEY/STAFF

MAKING YOUR
VOICE HEARD

Fight brews over troubled state system

By Tim Smith
Staff Writer
tsmith@greenvilleonline.com

COLUMBIA — The state's long-plagued, computerized child-support enforcement system, which has already racked up more than \$100 million in federal penalties for delays, is still not running and state officials and the latest vendor are blaming each other.

The state has terminated its contract with Hewlett Packard State and Local Enterprise Services, a division of HP, and has asked that the company be barred from future state contracts, according to documents filed with the state's procurement office, which bears initial con-



PATRICK COLLARD/STAFF

The Furman University student organization Conservative Students for a Better Tomorrow placed flags at the front of the James B. Duke Library to remember the 12th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on Wednesday. At left, people gather at the Boiling Springs fire district for a service and remembrance.

INSIDE

» Family and friends of victims gather at sites of terror attacks for ceremonies. 2A

» President Barack Obama pays tribute to victims, families. 2A

MORE ONLINE

Watch 9-11 observances around the Upstate at GreenvilleOnline.com.

MARCUS WHO? USC's Mike Davis already has two 75-yard runs. 'He has some wheels on him.' C1

A NATION MOURNS

A wreath-laying ceremony was held in front of post headquarters Wednesday at Fort Jackson to remember the victims of 9/11. The ceremony included an overview of the events of 9/11, a missing persons display, a moment of silence and a 21-gun salute. Ceremonies were also held across the nation and at the sites of the three terrorist attacks. For a story on the national remembrances, see **Page A4**.



ONLINE

Go to thestate.com to see a photo gallery and video from the Fort Jackson ceremony.



Brig. Gen. Bradley A. Becker, Post Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin R. Benson and Staff Sgt. Benjamin Steele salute during the wreath-laying ceremony at Fort Jackson to honor victims of 9/11.

TIM DOMINICK/TIMDOMINICK@THESTATE.COM

The State

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 | THESTATE.COM

50 YEARS OF INTEGRATION

When USC opened its doors to all



GURRY MULLINDELL/GURRYMULLINDELL@THESTATE.COM

Henrie Monteith Treadwell and James L. Solomon Jr. retrace the steps Wednesday that they walked in integrating USC on Sept. 11, 1963, with USC president Harris Pastides.

By CAROLYN CLICK
cclick@thestate.com

The iconic black-and-white photograph of three African-American students integrating the University of South Carolina gave way Wednesday to a modern portrait of progress, as hundreds of people of

all races and backgrounds gathered to commemorate the 50-year anniversary of desegregation.

The memories were rooted in the past, but as Henrie Monteith Treadwell and James L. Solomon Jr. turned over spades of dirt for a USC

SEE USC PAGE A5

ONLINE

See photos from USC today honoring the students who integrated the school and also historic photos, at thestate.com/civil-rights

COLUMBIA COUNCIL

Ballot likely to include strong mayor

Council votes for Nov. 5 referendum; second vote will give citizens chance to change form of government

By CLIF LeBLANC
cleblanc@thestate.com

Columbia City Council's most senior member on Wednesday reversed himself and cleared the way for a historic referendum to allow residents to decide on Nov. 5 whether to approve a strong-mayor form of government.

"The (citizens') petition neutralized me," said Councilman Sam Davis, a longtime opponent of a council-authorized referendum on changing Columbia's tradition of a strong-manager form of government. "That petition said the voters have

said we want to vote."

"I'm not going to be perceived as someone who opposed a petition," Davis said before council voted 4-3 to place the issue on the same ballot that also could elect the capital city's first mayor empowered with administrative authority to run day-to-day operations and hire and fire all 2,300 city workers.

Council must vote a second time to finalize Wednesday's razor-thin decision — which flips by a similar one-vote margin two previous votes by

SEE COUNCIL PAGE A5

USC plans luxury student apartments

By JEFF WILKINSON
jwilkinson@thestate.com

The University of South Carolina is getting in the

INSIDE

Plans for the new USC Law School go before a city review panel Thursday. B4



CHARLESTONSCENE
Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band
 Actor talks about famous role and what it inspired. E18-20



Sapakoff:
 ACC football not elite yet, but getting closer
SPORTS, C1

The Post and Courier

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THURSDAY, September 12, 2013

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, North Charleston, S.C. ★★ \$1.00

Defendant in teen's killing gets deal



Julius Perrell Brown was accused of acting as a lookout.

Suspect cooperating in Lion case; it's 2nd time he's avoided a murder charge

BY ANDREW KNAPP
 aknapp@postandcourier.com

Early in the investigation into four West Ashley men implicated in the fatal shooting of 17-year-old Marley Lion, authorities feared for the safety of their informants.

One of the suspects, 33-year-old Julius Perrell Brown, had been charged with murder in the killing of a young mother more than a decade earlier, but the count was dropped when the main witness against him turned up dead.

One of the other suspects had been shot as he planned to testify against a murder defendant in a different case. Those histories played into Solicitor Scarlett Wilson's move last year to limit the evidence that the men can view in hopes that they wouldn't pressure the witnesses.

But this month, it is Brown who fears for his own safety if details of the plea deal he struck with prosecutors get into the public's hands. He pleaded guilty Sept. 4 to voluntary manslaughter, attempted armed robbery and obstruction of justice, allowing him to avoid a murder conviction for the second time in his life.



Marley Lion was shot and killed in his parked car on June 26, 2012.

Please see D10H, Page A6

Politics rule C of C?

Faculty Senate says it wants an academic leader for college's next president as some political names come to light



Randolph Hall appears to be a beacon at dusk Wednesday for students at the College of Charleston. The college soon will begin searching for a new president.

BY DIANE KNICH
 dknich@postandcourier.com

Faculty members at the College of Charleston were alarmed when they heard that local political figures were expressing interest in the soon-to-be vacant president's post. The Faculty Senate took action this week when it unanimously passed a resolution calling for the school's Board of Trustees to conduct a national search for its next president, and to hire some-



Former S.C. first lady Jenny Sanford said she's interested in leading the college, and state Rep. Chip Limehouse and Lt. Gov. Glenn McConnell also have been mentioned.



one knowledgeable and experienced in higher education. But while the faculty is

pushing for someone with academic experience, the local business community is hoping

for someone who understands economic development, and at least one legislator thinks the right local politician could make a great leader. George Benson, the school's current president, announced last month that he would step down in June 2014. Since then, former South Carolina first lady Jenny Sanford publicly has announced that she is interested in the job, and the names of State Rep. Chip Limehouse

Poll

From which field of endeavor should the next College of Charleston president come? Go to postandcourier.com to vote.

Mt. P. rezoning worries calmed

Few seem unhappy after plan reworked

BY DIETTE COURBOS GASSY
 dgassy@postandcourier.com

MOUNT PLEASANT — If crowd size was any indication of parents' dissatisfaction, then the vast majority of parents have come to terms with the new elementary and middle school rezoning plan that will take effect in the fall of 2015.

Fewer than 50 parents attended a Wednesday night community meeting about the changing attendance lines, which was in stark contrast to the more than 400 who showed up more than a year ago at a similar meeting where the initial proposal was unveiled.

The District 2 (East Cooper) constituent school board backed off that plan, regrouped and worked with parent and neighborhood representatives to come up with better options. Chairwoman Marty Bick said those efforts were worth it.

"It's more acceptable now," she said. "We had suggestions, and we tried to follow them."

School officials have said rezoning is necessary to relieve overcrowded schools and better balance enrollment among schools. The tone of his meeting was far more civil compared to last

Please see SCHOOLS, Page A5

On the web

The proposed maps can be viewed on Charleston County School District's website, www.ccsdshs.com. Click on the "constituent boards" link on the left-hand side of the page, then click "District 2." The district's website also has information sheets that describe the proposed changes for schools and neighborhoods.

Mount Pleasant preparing no-texting signs for roadways

BY NATALIE CAULA
 ncaula@postandcourier.com

"Don't text and drive. It's the law." Drivers will soon read this warning on state transportation message boards and signs around Mount Pleasant.

Police wasted no time in get-

Poll

Should there be a statewide ban on texting while driving? Go to postandcourier.com to vote.

ting the word out following Town Council's passage of a ban on texting while driving, making

Mount Pleasant the first Charleston-area town to take such action. At the police department's request, Wando High School, with approximately 3,200 students, was transmitting the message on its message boards Wednesday, according to Police Chief Carl Rindie. Plans to spread the mes-

sage on social media are also underway.

But officers aren't writing tickets just yet. At first, police are expected to issue warnings to drivers violating the ban.

"In the next month or two, we

If you go

State Rep. Wendell Gilliland is holding a meeting at 11 a.m. Thursday in North Charleston City Hall to build support for his bill that would ban texting behind the wheel statewide. The meeting is on the third floor in the Bust Conference Room at 2500 City Hall Lane.



Partly sunny
 High 69, Low 70.
 Complete 5-day
 forecast, B6

Bridge.....175
 Streets.....46
 Classifieds.....01
 Comics.....178-79

Coverage D5 177
 Editorial.....A10
 News.....179
 Sports.....19

Obituaries.....B4
 The South.....B1
 Sports.....C1
 Classifieds.....C30



East Coast Baseball Academy: One-month membership unlimited hitting and pitching for \$29 (reg. \$39). See A2



Cole Bros. Circus

to arrive in Aiken, Monday | 1C

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

THURSDAY, September 12, 2013

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 147, No. 255 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

Kroger honors first responders

BY DERREK ASBERRY
dasberry@aikenstandard.com

Kroger employee Rebecca Hamilton played "Taps" in front of a gathering at the front of the store during a 9/11 dedication ceremony.

Employees, customers, Aiken High School NJOCTC students and Aiken County officers were all present to pay homage to the victims and public safety officials from the 2001 tragedy.

"Events like this give us a chance to reflect back and remember our lost loved ones and also honor our officers," Hamilton said. "I've been playing trumpet since middle school, so it's great to be able to play during the ceremony and show my support."

Wagner-Salley honors 9/11 victims, 3A
Nation reflects on events of 9/11, 7-9A

play during the ceremony and show

As Hamilton alluded to, officers were given a round of applause by Kroger staffers and customers for their efforts. As store Inclusion Council Chair Shari Bechtold stated, first response officers operate on demanding work schedules and have made sacrifices for their respective communities.

"We have first responders from the police force and fire department present, and it's just to show

Events like this give us a chance to reflect back and remember our lost loved ones and also honor our officers.

Rebecca Hamilton, Kroger employee

them how much we appreciate their efforts," Bechtold said. "We went bigger with the program this year so we could reemphasize our faith

in this country and our respect for our officers and military."

Please see KROGER, Page 5A

INSIDE TODAY



Taekwondo instructor seeks to spread sport
Local News, 2A



K&M Food Mart reopens in Graniteville
Local News, 3A

Aiken Standard's
Word
of the day

The Aiken Standard
word of the day contest
Inside

AREA DEATHS

Claudia Evelyn Campbell Rector, Rabun Gap, Ga.
Elizabeth Wilson "Mickey" Montgomery, Atlanta, Ga.
Marie H. Grant, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER

Out to eat in Aiken County

Aiken provides an abundance of local dining options for all

BY DEDE BILES
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

The local dining experience is a tempting smorgasbord of flavors and experiences, according to residents. Even though Aiken is small by city standards, it has a variety of choices that aren't limited to fast food joints and big chain restaurants.

"Aiken has an excellent selection for its size, and that has a lot to do with the Winter Colony and the people who come and go with the horses," said Billy Benton of Fox & Hound Realty. "There are so many places where the owner is either meeting you at the door or is in the back cooking. The independent establishments are what really make Aiken very, very special."

Benton and Jane Gunnell, president of the Aiken Opera Society, dine out together often and enjoy visiting old favorites and trying out new eateries. The well-known breeders of Carolina dogs are especially fond of the restaurant at The Wilcox on Colleton Avenue.

"The Wilcox is a lovely place, and the people who own it are plugged into the community," said Gunnell, who founded and served as the president of the Legal Support Center in Virginia. "The clientele is such that



Tavy, left, and former football star Daryl Perry take a break at the Stoplight Deli on Laurens Street.

you know 70 percent of the people when you go there, which is always fun, and there are a lot of younger people there, which is fun, too. The food is very good; the filet and the lamb chops are excellent. The pale with the wine sauce (chicken liver pate with port wine gelée and toasted bread) is the best thing that we've gotten there."

According to Benton, "a place that has turned out nicely" is The Red Pepper in the Centre South Shopping Center on Silver Bluff Road. "They had fabulous mussels (a

Aiken has an excellent selection for its size, and that has a lot to do with the Winter Colony and the people who come and go with the horses.

Billy Benton, Fox & Hound Realty

seasonal special) the other day, and the quiche is good," he said. "They've got an outside patio with a tiki bar kind of thing going on, and

it attracts a very congenial kind of crowd."

Please see EAT, Page 5A

Schools getting new safety systems

BY ROB NOVIT
novit@aikenstandard.com

Aiken County School District administrators have looked at school safety issues for many years, and in the past year, they have explored another layer of safety. Deputy Superintendent David Caver said on Wednesday.

District staffers have introduced a buzzer/camera system at some schools, and Caver is optimistic

"Our places have done things where they could see the outside," he said. "With the camera and buzzer, this will standardize it. The folks in the offices can stay at their desks or move (the equipment) desk to desk."

Aiken High School began using the new system on Tuesday. Principal Karen Cofer said he was concerned that the parents who arrived at the entrance would consider it inconvenient.

it was great, and we're pleased when the community sees that safety is first and foremost for us."

He and Caver readily acknowledged that Aiken High is spread out and has many other accessible doors. The North campus actually was the separate North Aiken Elementary School before a new school opened in 1999.

"If funds become available, we would like to do something with those buildings," Cofer said. "But

...The number of compliments we got for having that system was incredible. They said it was great, and we're pleased ...

Garen Cofer, Aiken High principal



A little singing, a little rain

Spartanburg Little Theatre brings classic
to Chapman Cultural Center E1



Herald-Journal

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

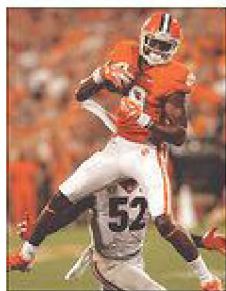
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HJ
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5 Things
to read
today



Torn ACL for Peake

The golden opportunity for former Dorman standout Charone Peake to become a force in No. 3 Clemson's passing attack ended with a torn ACL suffered during Tuesday's practice. **PAGE B1**

Recalled

Democratic voters in Colorado helped remove two state senators of their own party who voted for tighter gun control — an ouster that was a test of what can happen to lawmakers who support gun restrictions in battleground states. **PAGE A3**

Champ returns

Wofford graduate and "Jeopardy!" champion Ben Ingram is scheduled to return to his alma mater this weekend as the guest of honor at the college's first home football game. **PAGE C1**

50 years later

Fifty years to the day after James Solomon and Henrie Monteith broke the color barrier at the University of South Carolina, they retraced their steps to the door of the administration building to remember and to look ahead. **PAGE C3**

Fewer foreclosures

Lenders initiated foreclosure action in August against the fewest U.S. homes for any month in nearly eight years, a trend that should help reduce the number of homes lost to foreclosure in the months ahead. **PAGE C4**

'Obamacare' divisions may hit poor

Political battle
could mean care
varies state by state

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Having health insurance used to hinge on where you worked and what your medical history said. Soon that won't matter, with open-access markets for subsidized coverage coming Oct. 1 under President Barack Obama's overhaul.

But there's a new wild card, something that didn't seem so critical when Congress passed the Affordable Care Act back in 2010: where you live.

Entrenched political divisions over "Obamacare," have driven most Republican-led states to turn their backs on the biggest expansion of the social safety net in a half century. If you're uninsured in a state that's opposed, you may not get much help picking the right private health plan for your budget and your family's needs.

The differences will be more

glaring if you're poor and your state rejected the law's Medicaid expansion. Unless leaders reverse course, odds are you'll remain uninsured. That's because people below the poverty line do not qualify for subsidies to buy coverage in the markets.

"We are going to have a new environment where consumers may be victims of geography," said Sam Karp of the California Health-Care Foundation, a nonprofit helping states tackle practical problems of implementation. "If I'm a low-wage earner in California,

I may qualify for Medicaid. With the exact same income in Texas, I may not qualify."

The health care law is finally leaving the drawing boards to become a real program with citizens participating. But in many parts of the country, the decisions of Republicans opposed to the law will trump the plans of Democrats who wrote it.

Still, there is a new bottom line. Health insurance marketplaces in every state will provide options

◆ SEE DIVISIONS PAGE A7

Remembering 9/11



Izabella Gregory, 4, of Spartanburg waves a God Bless America flag during a Patriots Day ceremony Wednesday at Mary Black Hospital to remember the attack on America on Sept. 11, 2001. See more photos and coverage of 9/11-related events on pages A4 and C1 and at GoUpstate.com.



STAN HONDA/AP

Daniel Henry, a Port Authority of New York/New Jersey police officer, pauses during a moment of silence at 9:01 a.m. at the south reflecting pool at the 9/11 Memorial on Wednesday during ceremonies marking the 12th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York.

Loved ones pay somber tribute to victims

By MEGHAN BARR
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Life in lower Manhattan resembled any ordinary day on Wednesday as workers rushed to their jobs in the muggy heat, but time stood still at the World Trade Center site while families wept for loved ones who perished in the terrorist attacks 12 years ago.

For the fami-

Ceremony marks 12 years since terrorist attacks of 2001

Weather



INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 95, NO. 132

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

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Lisa Downey releases a dove at the 9/11 Cry Out America Prayer Rally on Wednesday in Uptown Greenwood. See photos from 9/11 events around the country on page 3A.

MATT WALSH
| INDEX-JOURNAL

ABBEVILLE 9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE



Cooper Chrisley sits inside Abberville Fire Department ladder truck 1941 Wednesday morning during the 9/11 Memorial Service.

FRANK BUMB | INDEX-JOURNAL

transcending GENERATIONS

"It is our generation's Pearl Harbor, but I truly believe it will transcend the generations."

Event brings community together to remember significance of day

By FRANK BUMB • fbumb@indexjournal.com

ABBEVILLE

9/11 Memorial Service organized by American Legion Post 2.

It took a boost to get him up into the tall

■ NINETY SIX SCHOOLS

Track project moves ahead

Board votes to open bids for new facility at old high school

By MICHELLE LAXER
mlaxer@indexjournal.com

NINETY SIX — The plan for a new track and field at the old Ninety Six High School site took one step toward reality during a board of trustees meeting Wednesday night.

The Ninety Six school district's board voted to open the project up for bids. Trustee Dayne Pruitt was unable to attend Wednesday's meeting.

Superintendent Mark Petersen said the district has seen several different quotes



MARK PETERSEN

See **TRACK**, page 7A

■ COMMUNITY-MINDED

Driving charity

Ballentine's donates more than \$30,000 to local agencies

By MICHELLE LAXER
mlaxer@indexjournal.com

The Item



SCISA FOOTBALL RIVALS COLLIDE: Wilson Hall looks to stay unbeaten while TSA aims for 1st victory **B1**



LOCAL: K.A.T.'s Special Kneads animal shelter seeks sponsors, prizes for 2nd-annual golf tournament **A2**

VOL. 118, NO. 278 WWW.THEITEM.COM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 | SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

FOUNDED OCTOBER 15, 1894 60 CENTS

MEMORIAL MARKS 12TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11 ATTACKS

RIGHT: Firefighters and EMS workers gather at the Sumter Fire Department on Hampton Avenue on Wednesday to remember their New York brethren who died during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. They also recognized those who died in the attack at the Twin Towers, Pentagon, in the Pennsylvania field and those who have lost their lives in military actions since then.

BELOW: Members of the Sumter County Sheriff's Office, city officials and citizens bow their heads in prayer during the 9/11 memorial service.



PHOTOS BY
JADE ANDERSON
/ THE ITEM



ABOVE: EMS and firefighters gather near the 9/11 monument at the Sumter Fire Department off Hampton Avenue to participate in a memorial service.

Boy, 2, shot, stable

Child's 3-year-old relative reportedly pulled the trigger

BY ROBERT J. BAKER
rbaker@theitem.com

A 2-year-old boy shot by a 3-year-old relative early Monday afternoon is recovering at a Columbia hospital.

Tosha Beaver said her son "has come a long way" since the shooting, which happened at a home on Paradise Road near the Jordan community of Clarendon County. According to reports, a 23-year-old woman listed as the victim's aunt was walking with the boys from a neighbor's home.

"(She) stated that the boys ran in the house ahead of her," reads a Clarendon County Sheriff's Office report obtained by *The Item* on Wednesday and verified by a family member of the victim. "Shortly after that, she heard a gunshot."

"(The aunt) stated she and her husband ... ran into the house to see what happened, and (saw) the 3-year-old with the gun in his hand and the 2-year-old lying on the floor," according

SEE BOY SHOT, PAGE A8

New standards may affect fire insurance rates

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT
bmarchant@theitem.com

Sumter County officials are starting to receive calls about new fire standards that could affect the rates homeowners pay on their fire insurance.

New ISO standards that come into effect this year will change the way fire risk to homes is assessed, potentially raising fire insurance rates on property owners who now find themselves outside the recommended

ADMS honors first responders from bus crash



Morning News

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly sunny, warm,
high 90, low 68
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Several downtown Florence projects line up

Royal Knight building among those listed to be redeveloped

BY GAVIN JACKSON
Morning News
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The city's downtown's development leader said Wednesday that projects are in the works to keep downtown's revitalization momentum going.

Florence Downtown Development Manager Ray Reich told members of

the Florence Design Review Board during its monthly meeting that several plans are nearing fruition.

One is at one of downtown's most notable intersections.

"We're also working on some large projects, some that I can't discuss," Reich said. "But I can tell you that we have entered into an agreement to sell the Royal Knight building to a group of developers and it will be redeveloped, so we're excited about that."

Reich said negotiations began last

See **DESIGN**, Page 6A



GAVIN JACKSON/MORNING NEWS

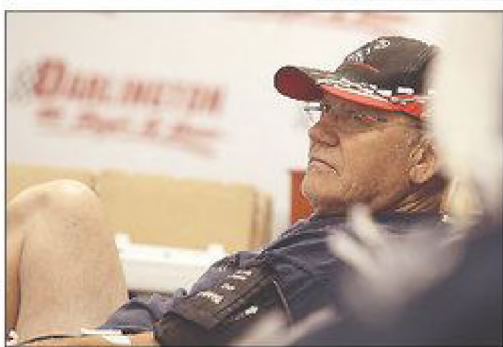
The Florence Downtown Development Corporation announced at Wednesday's Florence Design Review Board meeting that the Royal Knight building at the corner of West Evans and South Dargan streets is under agreement with a local investment group. Florence Downtown Development Manager Ray Reich said the contract is forthcoming and the building would undergo a multi-million renovation.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE



PHOTOS BY JOHN D. RUSSELL/MORNING NEWS

Florence Regional Airport fireman Jason Hathcock grimaces as he completes giving double red cells Wednesday during the Darlington Raceway Blood Drive. He said donating at the blood drive was something he wanted to do to remember fellow firefighters that died in the Sept. 11 attacks. Anyone who donated was able to take a few guided laps around the track. For more on Sept. 11 remembrances from around the country, see Page 4A.



NASCAR racing fan Dennis Haines donates blood on Wednesday during the eighth annual Darlington Raceway Blood Drive. Haines hails from Eau Claire, Wis., and is a regular blood donor. He was excited to have the chance to take some laps around the track.

Leatherman called out in county's response

Florence officials think penny tax suit is political

BY GAVIN JACKSON
Morning News
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — A Florence County lawyer said the state's lawsuit against the county's Capital Project Sales Tax referendum doesn't center on legal issues, but on whether state Sen. Hugh K. Leatherman can "control the expenditures of the funds generated by the tax."

In the 17-page response and request that the court deny the Attorney General's motion for an injunction, lawyer John C. Moylan III illustrates a situation that has been essentially threatened by Leatherman and not because of the statute's wording or intended use.

Moylan writes that the position of the state Attorney General's Office and the S.C. Department of Revenue against Florence County is unsupported and seeks to "...deny the citizens of Florence County an opportunity to vote on this issue notwithstanding the fact that the county has fully complied with the terms of the statute and notwithstanding the fact that the county will have honored its commitment from the 2006 referendum by raising at least \$148 million and committing all of those funds to the road projects listed in that referendum."

Since the council announced its intentions to seek renewal of the penny tax, questions have lingered of whether a new tax could be approved while the old tax is still active, or if a new tax could be raised until all projects scheduled to be constructed with the old tax are completed.

County lawyers have said the council is on solid legal footing, but the state wants the county to stop its referendum that is set to go before voters in November. With the county's response, the decision is now with the state Supreme Court.

Moylan, one of three lawyers representing the county, writes a "disgruntled, but powerful state senator" has "repeatedly expressed



Leatherman

Lions Club speaker shares reflections of 9/11

BY JOHN D. RUSSELL
Morning News
jrussell@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Many of us thought Wednesday about where we were when the terrorist attacks of 9/11 took place.



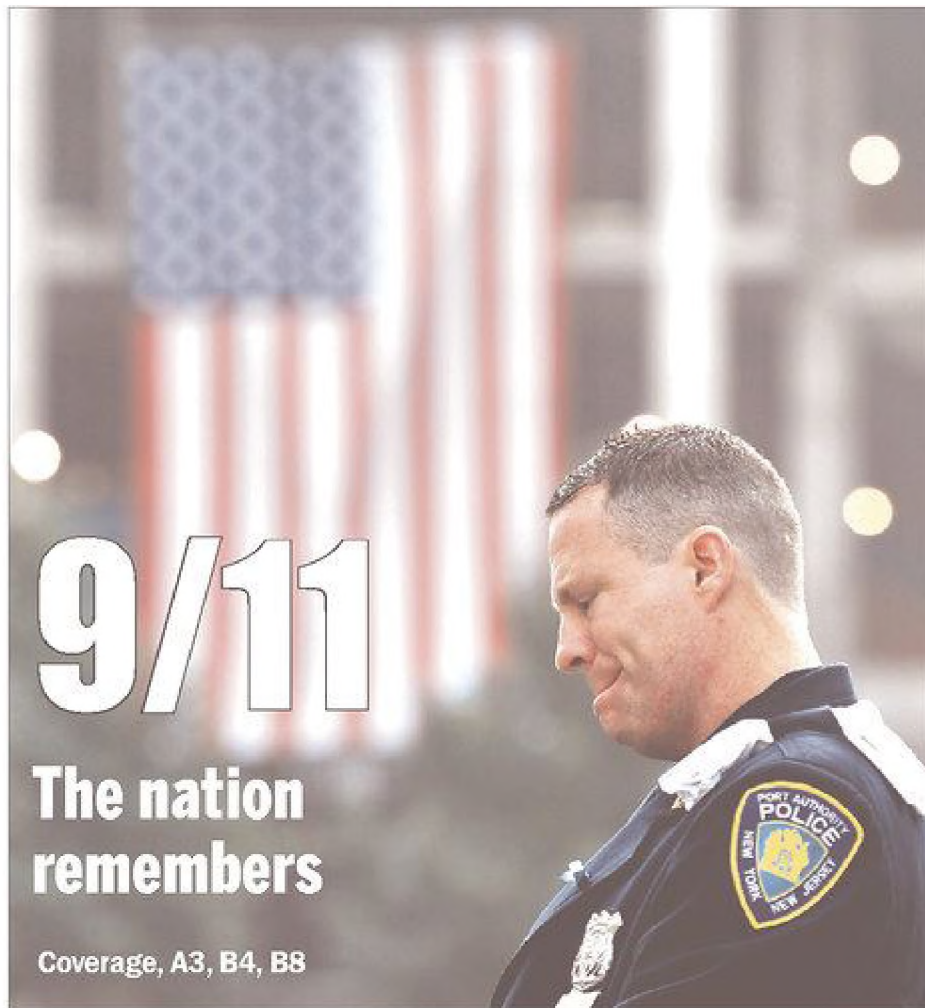
Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Bill Connor addresses the Florence Lions Club on Wednesday at the Florence



Odd

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

The Times and Democrat



9/11

The nation remembers

Coverage, A3, B4, B8

A Port Authority of New York/New Jersey police officer pauses during 9/11 remembrance services Wednesday.

Holly Hill native Frank Culbertson was on the International Space Station on Sept. 11, 2001. Hear him talk about that day and the photograph he took from space by visiting us at www.thetandd.com/news/local.

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2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES
• VOL. 132 • NO. 255

Branchville Town Council inaugurates new town hall

By PHYLLISA OVERSTREET
T&D Correspondent

BRANCHVILLE — Branchville Town Council held its first regular meeting in the newly-built Branchville Town Hall Monday night, Sept. 9. The new facility replaces the 117-year-old town hall that was destroyed in a tornado in March 2008.

The new \$1 million structure was built on the site of the old facility. It has offices for the mayor, town clerk, police chief, police captain and police clerk.

During the meeting, council agreed to lease space in the town's old rescue squad building to the D&R Music Academy to conduct music lessons for the community. The agreement will be a one-year lease, with monthly rent of \$100. The business will be responsible for utilities.

In other business, Mayor Glenn Miller reported on requests for Orangeburg County to spray for mosquitoes in the town. Miller noted the truck was scheduled to come last week but broke down before getting to Branchville.

He provided the phone number for county



T&D CORRESPONDENT PHYLLISA OVERSTREET

Branchville Town Council held its first meeting in the new \$1 million Branchville Town Hall on Sept. 9. Elected officials shown in the new facility are, from left, Mayor Glenn Miller and Council members Tom Jennings, Sam Whisenhunt, Amy Bryant, Chris Ott and Benita Gibbs.

See HALL, A3

READY TO WORK WITH MAYOR

After election, council prepared to address jobs, downtown, crime

By DIONNE GLEATON
T&D Staff Writer

Members of Orangeburg City Council say they stand poised to work with the city's new mayor on issues that are critical to Orangeburg's growth, including continued crime reduction and downtown development.

Orangeburg voters elected Michael C. Butler on Tuesday, making him the city's first African-American mayor. He will replace Paul A. Miller, who has been mayor since 2001.

District 2 Councilman Charlie Jernigan said while he was disappointed with the low voter turnout for Tuesday's election, he respects the result and looks forward to working with the new mayor. Only 14.5 percent of the city's voters cast ballots in the mayoral race.

"It's what the people wanted, and I will do my best to work with the new mayor. I really am sorry that Mayor Miller didn't go back in because I think he's done an excellent job and has been an asset to the city of Orangeburg and a good mayor," Jernigan said.

"Sometimes you can't really figure out why people vote the way they vote, but that's the reason we have elections and give the people the opportunity to put who they want in. I'll try my best to work with Mr. Butler as much as I can and get more things done for the city," he said.

Butler won a four-year term with 844 votes, or 53 percent of the vote, to Miller's 731. His term will begin Oct. 1.

Jernigan said while he doesn't know much about Butler's political background, as a councilman he is ready to continue working toward annexation to increase the city's size and recruiting more industry for job growth.

"I'm sure Mr. Butler will get in there and do the best job he can. He's hopefully got Orangeburg at heart. That's all you can hope for. We've got to keep Orangeburg moving forward. We've gained a lot of ground in the last several years and if we can continue this growth pattern we've got ... we can continue on the path that



Butler

T&D Editorial

After making election history, Michael C. Butler now must look to governance as a new mayor with a new council dynamic, but with many of the same big issues facing the city awaiting him.

Editorial, B4

See NEWS, A3

Retired county administrator Clark new spokesman for OCSD 5

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