

From: Veldran, Katherine
To: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 7/13/2015 11:35:25 AM
Subject: RE: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, July 8, 2015

When you have a chance can you send the Front Pages from last Thursday, Friday and Saturday? If you sent them, I apologize.

Thanks, KV

From: Symmes, Brian
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2015 11:21 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, July 8, 2015

SC Front Pages – Wednesday, July 8, 2015



SPORTS SERENA IN SEMIFINALS



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The Greenville News

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WEDNESDAY,
JULY 8, 2015
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY MIDDLE CLASS. WOMEN GETTING CAUGHT UP IN HEROIN EPIDEMIC PAGE 1B

Two die as fighter jet, small plane collide

SUZANNE M. SCHAEFER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONCKS CORNER — An F-16 fighter jet smashed into a small plane Tuesday over South Carolina, killing two people and raining down plane parts and debris over a wide swath of marshes and rice fields.

The two people on the smaller Cessna died, and the plane was destroyed. National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Peter Knudson said. The pilot of the F-16 ejected and "is apparently uninjured," he said. A press release from Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter said the pilot, Maj. Aaron Johnson from the 33rd Fighter Squadron, was taken to Joint Base Charleston's medical clinic.

The fighter jet crash-landed into woods around the famed Lewisfield Plantation, an estate dating to 1750.

"We heard the plane crash. And then we took off from where I was at, I guess I was about a half-mile from it, when we saw a cloud of smoke," said Leo Ramsey, who's worked at the plantation for about 30 years.

He and two other co-workers went out to the spot where the jet had crash into some of the woods around the plantation, Ramsey said. They found

See COLLISION, Page 5A



Emergency personnel from Berkeley County stand outside a campground near Moncks Corner after an F-16 fighter jet smashed into a plane over South Carolina.

CONFEDERATE FLAG BILL ON FAST TRACK



STAFF PHOTO BY STAFF

Jennifer Pinckney, Sen. Clementa Pinckney's widow, hugs senators Tuesday to thank them for passing the third and final vote on removing the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds.

House open debate today after Senate gives final OK to removing banner

NATHANIEL CARY AND TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITERS
HCARY@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

COLUMBIA — Democrats in the Legislature are urging House GOP members not to erect hurdles to removing the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds, following final approval Tuesday of a Senate bill to lower the flag.

That's unlikely to happen, though, since one Upstate representative already has filed more than two dozen amendments Tuesday with plans to file "another" more to turn the flag debate into a slog of attrition.

Rep. Mike Pitts, R-Laurens, invoked a Civil War analogy and said he would "fight until I have nothing left to fight with" unless the House comes to a compromise to put another Confederate-era flag in place of the Confederate bat-

See FLAG, Page 5A



PHOTO BY STAFF

Senator Lee Bright argues points for keeping the flag on the Statehouse grounds before the final vote on Tuesday.

City of Clemson moving to allow residential gameday parking

RON BARNETT
STAFF WRITER
RBARNETT@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

CLEMSON — Bold that Tiger, and save me a parking space.

Finding a place to park for Clemson home football games this fall could be a little easier as City Council moves to allow residents to rent parking spaces in their yards.

Not that it isn't being done already, li-

Some enterprising homeowners who live within walking distance of Death Valley already have made a business out of it, according to Todd Stedman, zoning and codes administrator.

"I know of two places that are making \$15,000 and \$30,000 a year," he said, by advertising and brokering reservations.

They should have to pay for a business license, Stedman said. The proposed ordinance would allow parking only on lots with a house, not vacant lots.

A separate ordinance up for a vote July 20 would make that practice legal.

Stedman handed out proposed gameday parking guidelines for council members to review before a work session to discuss it prior to a public hearing set for 6:30 p.m. July 20. It appears that gameday home rentals would be subject to the city's accommodations tax, and to the same kind of safety and sanitation inspections as hotels, he said.

"Our intention is to make this legal

ing gameday parking in people's yards was on the agenda Monday, but the council decided to hold off voting on it until the details are worked out. The city wouldn't have to implement regulations to go along with a gameday parking ordinance, but, "If not, it's the wild, wild West out there," Mayor J.C. Cook said.

City officials hope making parking in yards legal will cut down on illegal parking on sidewalks and right-of-ways.

The idea is to make the ordinance ap-

The Post and Courier

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Flag's defenders prepare last stand

Confederate banner debate moves straight to floor of S.C. House

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
and DWANE KNICH
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dknich@postandcourier.com

CHARLESTON — South Carolina voters gave final approval Tuesday to permanently removing the Confederate battle flag from a Civil War monument on Statehouse grounds, sending the bill to the House where the banner's defenders say they'll make their last stand.

The bill passed 18-3, with Senate Majority Leader Harvey Peeler, R-Charleston,

Danny Vindler, R-Laurens, and Lee Bright, R-Rockland, opposed. All three spoke against removing the rebel flag when the measure was debated on Monday.

Bright continued to argue Tuesday that taking the flag down would embolden those determined to whitewash the state's history by restoring monuments to the Confederacy or the statue on the Statehouse grounds of Benjamin Tillman, a former South Carolina governor, U.S. senator and a violent racist.

Online
For a tally of the votes on Confederate flag issue, go to postandcourier.com/flag-votes

"We're got a lot of history in our state and I'd hate to see it removed," Bright said. "But I think there will be a move to do that."

The House interested 99-17 to bypass sending the bill to committee, pulling it straight to the floor and setting it up for debate on Wednesday.

The bill received first reading in the House, but no vote can be taken until a bill has been on the calendar overnight.

Please see **PAGE 4**



Jennifer Pindney, widow of the late Sen. Clementis Pindney, was in the Senate chambers on Tuesday for the final passage of the bill to remove the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds.

F-16 fighter, Cessna collide over Berkeley

Jet pilot ejects, survives; IDs of 2 aboard private plane unknown



Parts of an F-16 Fighting Falcon, which collided with a Cessna 150C near Moncks Corner, unfolded on Tuesday at Lewis Field Education.

BY ANDREW KNAPP
BOPETERSEN and
RENEA RINTOGE
The Post and Courier

A Sturges-based F-16 fighter jet on test flight mission collided with a small airplane Tuesday morning in the sky over a Berkeley County rice plantation, killing two people on the private aircraft and scattering old metal parts that scattered over an 8-acre area near Moncks Corner.

Air Force Maj. Aaron Johnson, a career pilot from Shaw Air Force Base, survived after safely ejecting from the damaged F-16 Fighting Falcon and parachuting into a field miles to the south of the collision site.

Paramedics said he was alert and walking.

Both occupants of the Cessna 150C were presumed to be dead.

Please see **PAGE 4**

How the planes compare

F-16C Fighting Falcon

Crew: 1 pilot
Wingspan: 32 feet, 8 inches
Speed: 1,500 mph



Length
49 feet, 5 inches

Other F16 facts

Builder: Lockheed Martin Corp.
Engine: Single Pratt and Whitney F100-PW-220/229 or General Electric F110-GE-100/129
Thrust: 29,000 pounds
Cost: \$20.5M
First deployed: January 1979
Ceiling: above 50,000 feet
Max. takeoff weight: 32,900 pounds

Sources: www.f16.net; www.f16.net; www.f16.net

The Cessna 150C

Crew: 1 pilot, 1 passenger
Wingspan: About 31 feet
Speed: 125 mph



Length
About 24 feet

Other Cessna 150C facts

Builder: Cessna Aircraft Co.
Range: 327 miles
Model year: 1983
Cost: \$15,000-\$25,000
Ceiling: 15,000 feet
Gross weight: 1,500 pounds

Source: www.cessna.com

Roof faces additional charges

Alleged shooter also indicted on 3 counts of attempted murder

BY ANDREW KNAPP
aknapp@postandcourier.com

A grand jury on Tuesday indicted Dylann Roof on three attempted murder charges in connection with the two women and one girl who avoided injury during the shooting last month that killed nine others at a historic black church in downtown Charleston.

Roof, 21, had already been arrested on nine murder counts and a charge of using a firearm in a violent crime.

Please see **PAGE 4**

New sex ed curriculum stirs debate

Chas. County panel hears pros and cons

BY DEANNA BAIN
dbain@postandcourier.com

A new sexual education curriculum that would teach not only abstinence but also condom and contraceptive use drew heated discussion at a Charleston County School Board forum Tuesday.

More than two dozen people — including parents, educators, health professionals, lawyers, and journalists — showed up at the Strategic Education Committee meeting Tuesday to hear the debate on "Adolescent Preadolescent," an evidence-based sexual education curriculum that the district is considering adopting for grades 4-12.

Please see **PAGE 4**

Inside

LOCAL

Magazine names Charleston No. 1 in U.S. 3rd year in row, B1

FOOD

Purple straw wheat gets a chance to make comeback, D1



Partly cloudy.
High 94, Low 74.
Complete 5-day forecast, B10

Bridge	89	Car yards	81	Obituary	54
Business	81	Editorial	81	Sports	51
Classified	11	Real estate	81	Style	52
Index	85-9	News	87	Information	85



Peattie Vision
\$39 for \$200 of eyewear.
See A2

DICK SMITH: Two Notch Road Ford dealership moving to Garners Ferry Road. **B6**



SEC Takeover Thursday is all about great Gamecock moments, **B1**



Tomato season ripens as Tasty Tomato Festival draws near, **C1**

The State

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015 | THESTATE.COM

THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

The pressure builds in flag debate's final days

S.C. House battle is next step in fight to determine banner's future

By **CANNIE COFFE**
and **JAMIE SELF**
ccoffee@thestate.com
jsself@thestate.com

The Confederate flag could be days away from being removed from the State House grounds. The South Carolina House begins debate Wednesday on a bill approved by the Senate to

banish the Civil War icon that has flown at the Capitol for more than five decades. The bill needs two more votes to reach Gov. Nikki Haley's desk.

The flag could come down as early as Thursday. But the Confederate banner could remain flying a little longer.

SEE **FLAG** PAGE **A7**

INSIDE

Q&A with Jesse Jackson: Haley, Confederate flag and S.C. State. **A3**

Accused Charleston killer's attorney known for death penalty cases. **A3**

Flag brings back bad memories for ACC's first black athletes. **B1**

AT THESTATE.COM

Follow our live updates on the flag debate in the S.C. House.

WHAT'S NEXT

S.C. House will debate bill Wednesday

END IN SIGHT

Flag could come down Thursday

DELAY?

Some want an alternate flag

EXCLUSIVE



State Reps. Glicks Cold-Hunter and Rick Quinn, center, visit the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum with other lawmakers on Tuesday to discuss possible plans for the Confederate flag.

Lawmakers tour Confederate

LOWCOUNTRY

Fighter jet, private plane collide; two killed

F-16 smashes into Cessna; Air Force pilot apparently OK

From Staff and Wire Reports

MONROE CORNER — An F-16 fighter jet smashed into a small plane Tuesday over the South Carolina Lowcountry, killing two people and scattering down debris over a wide swath of marshes and rice fields.

The two people aboard the smaller Cessna were killed, and the plane was destroyed, National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Peter Knudsen said.

The pilot of the F-16 ejected and "is apparently uninjured," he said.

A news release from Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter said the pilot, Maj. Aaron Johnson from the 55th Fighter Squadron, was taken to Johns River Charleston's medical clinic for observation.

Johnson, an F-16C Fighting Falcon pilot, was an experienced pilot with hundreds of hours of flying time, said Col. Stephen Kost, commander of the 20th Fighter Squadron at Shaw Air Force Base.

The fighter jet crash-landed into marshes around the privately owned Lowfield Plantation, an estate dating to 1750.

"We heard the plane crash. And then we

SEE **JET** PAGE **A7**



DOUBLE TROUBLE

NEW COSBY WOES; SUBWAY VS. JARED

A 10-year-old deposition means more controversy for Bill Cosby. Meanwhile, Subway suspends ties with its spokesman Jared Fogle, right. **A2**

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

WEDNESDAY, July 8, 2015

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

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BELOW THE FOLD: Local legislators react to Senate decision on Confederate flag removal

Dash-cam footage released

Video shows aftermath of N.A. shooting



Blasley

BY MAAYAN SCHRECHTER
mschrechter@aikenstandard.com

The Aiken County Sheriff's Office deputy-in-training charged with manslaughter in the June 13 death of his wife told officers he was showing her his rifle

and didn't mean for the gun to go off inside the bathroom of their North Augusta residence.

Matthew Blasley, 24, was arrested last month and charged by the S.C. State Law Enforcement Division with involuntary manslaughter for the shooting death of his

VIDEO ONLINE

See video and hear audio from the case with this story at aikenstandard.com

wife, Candace L. Blasley, also 24. The 911 call and dash-cam video foot-

age and audio from the crime scene, obtained by the Aiken Standard, shows a heavily emotional Blasley outside of his 1901 Coulter Drive home coping with the loss of his wife.

Please see VIDEO, Page 12A

INSIDE TODAY



The Scoop: Corn is an amazing vegetable
Living on the Go, 1C



Nike Peach Jam brings more commerce to N.A.
Local News, 2A



Area junior golf series heating up
Sports, 1B

Victim's name released in fatal Aiken wreck
Local News, 2A

AREA DEATHS

Haywood A. McKie, Graniteville
Linda Sue Riley, Warnerville
Sandra Busbee Robson, Glenaville
Thomas G. Campbell, North Augusta
Virgie Harper, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

'Primary is won in S.C.'

Huckabee talks taxes, campaign in Aiken

BY DERRICK ASBERRY
dasberry@aikenstandard.com

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee said he figured out during his last White House bid that the route from the Republican Primary to the General Election goes through South Carolina and a handful of other states. "People in California or New York are not going to decide the Republican nominee,"

Huckabee said Tuesday during an Aiken Republican Party luncheon. "The people in Iowa, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Nevada—they will decide."

Huckabee's campaign is built on three main principles, including national security, economic growth and the "spiritual and moral mood of the country."

In addressing the economy, Huckabee said he is in favor of the FairTax, a proposal to replace all income, payroll, gift and estate taxes with a national sales tax.

Please see HUCKABEE, Page 12A



PHOTO BY DERRICK ASBERRY

Presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, left, spoke about his campaign Tuesday at Newberry Hall. Aiken mayor and candidate Rick Osborn also attended the event.



PHOTO GALLERY

See more photos from Huckabee's talk in Aiken at aikenstandard.com



PHOTO BY DERRICK ASBERRY

Linda Coleman won a door prize Tuesday at the Aiken Republican Party luncheon. She was awarded her prize by guest speaker and presidential candidate Mike Huckabee.

S.C. House expects tough debate on rebel flag



Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Kershaw, talks about his career for restoring the Confederate flag removed

BY DERRICK ASBERRY
dasberry@aikenstandard.com

Removing the Confederate flag from the South Carolina Statehouse appeared to be a no-brainer in the S.C. Senate, but legislators are expecting a much more controversial debate in the House.

In a 36-3 vote Tuesday, the Senate gave final approval to remove the flag from the grounds of the Capitol—an effort spearheaded by S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley after the killing of nine black people in Mother Emmanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston last month. But the

passed 37-8 including a "yes" vote from Lexington Democrat Sen. Nikki Seiler, who said there has been a "bipartisan effort to deal with this issue, and I think it's brought us anybody together."



Haley

senators, including S.C. Rep. Don Wells, R-Aiken, believe removal of the flag will be seen

House will have a harder time debating the issue than a Senate that only has 46 members.

Some proposed amendments that never made it to the final bill include an amendment to fly the flag on Confederate Memorial Day and one that would allow state residents to vote on the issue.

If the current version of the bill, which would remove the flag from the Statehouse and put it in the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum, passes, Wells said he would lean heavily toward supporting its removal. "I want to see the complete removal of the flag," he said.

THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Darlington County's News Leader Since 1893

50 CENTS

WEDNESDAY JULY 8, 2015

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scripps.com

Darlington

Cooper announces candidacy for mayor

BY CHRISTOPHER MCKAGEN
cmckagen@hartsvillemessenger.com

DARLINGTON — From the quaint parlor of his barbershop Monday afternoon, Darlington City Councilman James M. "Jimmy" Cooper III announced he will seek to become Darlington's next mayor.

Amidst a room-filling crowd of family and constituents, Cooper said his profession as a master

barber for the near 100-year-old shop gave him an exclusive insight into the community.

"For over four generations, this shop has grown into more than just a business," he said. "You know as a barber, I have had the unique opportunity to hear from custom-

ers, people who come from all parts of the community — male, female, black, white, Latino, Asian, young and those who are seasoned. This has given me the chance to hear the concerns of people, and it was this unique perspective that led me to work hard first in my church, my community and later in the city's planning commission and the Darlington Downtown Revitalization Association."

That perspective, he said, coupled with his four years' experience as a city council member, shaped him into a strong candidate for mayor, a position where he said he could be more "effective."

"(Council is) working hard to deal with issues like blight, crime and environmental issues like 'the ditch' that are plaguing our neighborhoods," he said. "Yes, we are moving forward here in

Darlington. But there is so much more that needs to be done. Tonight I ask for your support, but more importantly, I ask for your prayer that we work together and that we drive Darlington forward."

In referencing "the ditch," Cooper spoke at length on the city's efforts to rid residents around Chalmers Street, an area where

See COOPER, Page 3A

Darlington County Council OKs yard debris fee exemptions

BY JIM FAIRLE
jfairle@hartsvillemessenger.com

DARLINGTON — Darlington County Council gave final approval Monday to an ordinance establishing a fee schedule for a variety of county services and incorporating the schedule into the county's code of ordinances.

The ordinance includes exemptions for the cities of Hartsville and Darlington as well as the S.C. Department of Transportation (SCDOT) from a \$38.50 per ton yard debris fee for the environmental services department. The exemption does not, however, include the Darlington County School District or the Darlington County Water and Sewer Authority, both of which will be required to pay the fee. The fee was originally intended to apply to all intergovernmental agencies operating in the county, including the cities, SCDOT, the school district and the water and sewer authority.

Council voted to carry over to the next meeting a request by the school

See DEBRIS, Page 3A

FREEDOM FEST



TOP: Fireworks exploded over Darlington Raceway on Saturday during the climatic ending of Freedom Fest 2015. BOTTOM: Members of the band Sister Hazel perform on the infield of Darlington Raceway on Saturday.

Thousands celebrate Independence Day at Darlington Raceway

BY CHRISTOPHER MCKAGEN
cmckagen@hartsvillemessenger.com

DARLINGTON — An estimated 25,000 people turned out for Freedom Fest 2015, hosted by the Darlington County Chamber of Commerce at Darlington Raceway on Saturday — just the event's second year.

Rock group Sister Hazel

headlined the event, accompanied by bands Noah Stanley of Hartsville, Consumed of Hartsville and Morgan's Road of Florence.

Dozens of cars and trucks participated in the Cruise-in show and got the chance to take their wheels onto the track for several laps.

See FREEDOM, Page 3A



INDEX

121st Year: 12 pages

Happenings	2A
Obituaries	3A
Opinion	6A
State	8A
Sports	1B
Food	3B

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HARTSVILLE

Cohen named director of Tourism and Special Events

From local reports

Jessica Cohen has been named director of Hartsville's Tourism and Special Events, the

Cohen will lead Hartsville's newly created Tourism Office, a project of the city of Hartsville and

ville City Hall and serve as a resource for the area's events and recreational opportunities.

"I'm extremely fortunate for the learning experience and the

can't wait to help Hartsville's tourism reach the next level."

Cohen's focus areas will include sports tourism at local venues like the Dorney Park



TOURISTS BAIL ON GREECE

Cancellations begin to mount as
country's crisis worsens C4



Herald-Journal

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IN A HURRY
5 Things
to read
today



Fed gun used in S.F.

The gun used in the seemingly random slaying of a woman on a San Francisco pier belonged to a federal agent, a law enforcement official briefed on the matter said Tuesday. **PAGE A3**

Fogle's home raided

FBI agents and Indiana State Police raided the home of Subway restaurant spokesman Jared Fogle on Tuesday, removing electronics from the property and searching the house with a police dog. Two months after the then-executive director of Fogle's foundation was arrested on child pornography charges. **PAGE A3**

Plea withdrawn

A former Spartanburg High School teacher accused of sexually assaulting a student withdrew her guilty plea in Spartanburg County Circuit Court Tuesday. **PAGE C1**

Pit bull kills child

A dog attacked and killed a 6-year-old boy who climbed a fence to enter his neighbor's yard in Mountain Home, N.C., Tuesday afternoon. **PAGE D3**

Standing by Cosby

While many of Bill Cosby's accusers feel vindicated by his decade-old admission that he gave at least one woman quaaludes before sex, some of his Hollywood friends are reserving judgment. **PAGE A3**

2 dead in SC midair collision

Fighter jet pilot ejects to safety; occupants of small plane killed in crash

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER
The Associated Press

MONCK'S CORNER — An F-16 fighter jet smashed into a small plane Tuesday over South Carolina, killing two people and raining down plane parts and debris over a wide swath of marshes and rice fields.

The two people aboard the smaller Cessna were killed, and the plane was completely

destroyed, National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Peter Knudson said. The pilot of the F-16 ejected and "is apparently uninjured," he said.

A press release from Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter said the pilot, Maj. Aaron Johnson from the 53th Fighter Squadron, was taken to Joint Base Charleston's medical clinic for observation.

The fighter jet crash-landed into woods around the privately owned Lewisfield Plantation, an estate dating to 1750.

"We heard the plane crash. And then

● SEE COLLISION PAGE A4



Debris from a F-16 fighter jet and plane collision is strewn about the ground near Moncks Corner Tuesday.

911 CALLS FROM I-26 WRECK

'It's a fire right off of New Cut (Road). It looks like a car'

'Please hurry because I don't know if somebody's still in that truck or not.'

STORY BY DANIEL GROSS / PHOTOS BY TIM KIMZEY

The horror is evident in their voices.

In a series of 911 calls obtained from Spartanburg County Communications, frantic witnesses describe the fiery June 27 crash on Interstate 26 that claimed three lives.

A 911 caller, breathing heaving, tells a dispatcher, "It's on fire. ... God almighty, it's exploding now."

"Is there anybody in that vehicle?" the dispatcher asks.

"Yes, ma'am. Oh my God, yeah. ... There's three people that are, they're fully involved. There's three other people trapped in the car and they're dead," he replied.

"They're dead?" the dispatcher asks.

"Yes ma'am ... the gas is flowing down the interstate, too."

The 15 calls placed between 7:35 and 7:41 a.m., obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, present an array of eyewitness accounts. Some are from those directly on the scene where four vehicles, including a tanker truck, collided.

Others are from people who saw a thick plume of black smoke billowing into the sky from a distance.

"It's a fire right off of New Cut (Road). It looks like a car," one caller says.

"You've got a car on fire? Where is it at?" a dispatcher asks.

Crying, the woman says, "Yes, it's a car and it's



Above, a Regional One medical helicopter flies over the Interstate 26 wreckage on June 27. Below, firefighters with multiple departments battle the flames of the four-vehicle accident that left three people dead.

blowing up, that. ... Oh, wow, yeah you need to send somebody quick."

Flag bill sent to House

Some in GOP look for ways to preserve symbol at Statehouse

By JEFFREY COLLINS
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — The South Carolina Senate gave its final approval Tuesday to removing the Confederate flag from the Capitol grounds, but across the hall in the House, Republicans quickly sought a way to make a last stand to preserve some kind of symbol honoring their Southern ancestors at the Statehouse.

The House was scheduled to begin debate today on the bill to take down the flag and its pole and send the banner to the state's Confederate Relic Room. Gov. Nikki Haley and business leaders support the proposal.

To stress the chamber's unity after Tuesday's 36-3 vote, senators invited the widow of their slain colleague Clements Pinckney to the floor. She stood just inside the door in a black dress, only a few feet from her husband's desk, which was draped in black cloth with a single white rose on top. Every member stood as she entered and later walked up to her, offering condolences.

After the flag was pulled off the Statehouse dome 15 years ago, it was called a settled issue. The banner was instead moved to a monument honoring Confederate soldiers elsewhere on the Capitol grounds.

But the flag debate quickly



PANORAMA

Program nurtures expectant moms

CenteringPregnancy program a community of 'sisters' c1

Shaw pilot, Cessna crash mid-air

2 killed when F-16, small plane crash; airman safe

BY SUSANNE M. SCHAFER
The Associated Press

MONROE CORNER — An F-16 fighter jet smashed into a small plane Tuesday over South Carolina, killing two people and raining down plane parts and debris over a wide swath of marshes and rice fields.

The two people aboard the smaller Cessna were killed, and the plane was completely destroyed, National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Peter Knudson said. The pilot of the F-16 ejected and "is apparently uninjured," he said. A news release from Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter said the pilot, Maj. Aaron Johnson from the 55th Fighter Squadron, was taken to Joint Base Charleston's medical clinic for observation.

The fighter jet crash-landed into woods around the privately owned Lewisfield Plantation, an estate dating to 1750.

"We heard the plane crash. And then we took off from where I was at, I guess I was about a half-mile from it, when we saw a cloud of smoke," said Leo Ramsey, who's worked at the plantation for about 30 years.

He and two other co-workers went out to the flaming spot where the jet had crash-landed into some of the wooded acreage around the plantation, Ramsey said. They found intruding metal, splintered trees and a crater where the empty jet crashed, he said.

The NTSB is investigating the cause.

Debris was scattered across a wide swath of the sparsely populated area about 20 miles northwest of Charleston, though there



PHOTO PROVIDED

Wreckage of the mid-air collision between a Shaw Air Force Base F-16 fighter jet and a private Cessna passenger plane over Berkeley County on Tuesday is seen. The Cessna was completely destroyed in the crash, killing both people on board, while the pilot of the F-16, Maj. Aaron Johnson of the 55th Fighter Squadron, ejected to safety and was being evaluated at a Charleston-area medical facility.

Crash details emerge from local residents

FROM THE CHARLESTON POST AND COURIER

A Sumter-based F-16 fighter jet on a training mission collided with a small airplane Tuesday morning in the sky over a Berkeley County rice plantation, killing two people on the private aircraft and sheering off metal parts that scattered over an 8-mile swath near Monroe Corner.

Air Force Maj. Aaron Johnson, a career pilot from Shaw Air Force Base, survived after safely ejecting from the damaged F-16C Fighting Falcon and parachuting into a field miles to the south of the collision site.

Paramedics said he was alert and walking. Both occupants of the Cessna 150C were presumed to be dead.

A wallet was found amid the wreckage that

ONLINE

Former Sumter Mayor Steve Greesh, a former chairman of Sumter's Military Affairs Commission, reacts to the crash. See www.thefreemason.com.

felt near Lewisfield Plantation along the Cooper River about 25 miles north of Charleston. But crews were still looking for the victims' bodies on land and in the water, the county coroner said. They were not named.

The Cessna left minutes earlier from the Berkeley County Airport, which is about three miles to the northwest, the coroner said. Their plane had a cruising speed of 125 mph. The jet was likely traveling twice as fast, officials said.

HISTORY OF LOCAL CRASHES

Nov. 30, 2014 — Capt. William Dubois of the 77th Fighter Squadron was killed during a non-combat flight mission in the Middle East. The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

April 3, 2013 — Capt. James Stork, a member of the 77th Fighter Squadron, was killed when his F-16 crashed while he was making a descent into Bagam Air Field near Kabul, Afghanistan.

Oct. 15, 2009 — Capt. Nicholas "Black" Giffin of the 20th Fighter Wing

SEE F-16, PAGE A6

SEE DETAILS, PAGE A3

SEE CRASHES, PAGE A6

General Assembly overrides vetoes of local project funding



EPDS

EPDS COLD CASE

Inmates' conflicting testimonies lead to accessory conviction



THE ART OF SOUTHERN COOKING

ESL students get lesson in how to prepare favorites

Taste 7A

INDEX-JOURNAL

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In the House's hands

SC Senate gives final OK to take down Confederate flag

By JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — The South Carolina Senate gave its final approval Tuesday in removing the Confederate flag from

the Capitol grounds, but across the hall in the House, Republicans quietly sought a way to make a last stand to preserve some kind of symbol honoring their Southern ancestors at the Statehouse.

The House was scheduled to begin debate today on the bill to take down the flag and its pole and send the banner to the state's Confederate Relic Room. Gov. Nikki Haley and business leaders support the

proposal.

To stress the chamber's unity after Tuesday's 76-3 vote, speakers invited the widow of their slain colleague.

See HOUSE, page 4A



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senators, including Sen. Joel Lourie, D-Richland, pay their respects to Jennifer Pinckney, the widow of Sen. Clementa Pinckney, and The Rev. Kylan Middleton after voting Tuesday to pass the bill to remove the Confederate flag from the Statehouse grounds in Columbia.



Making himself AT HOME

Lander's 13th president getting to know everything about school

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

On his desk are papers — notes, schedules — spread out and thumbed through in the manner of a man on a mission.

Richard Cosentino, Lander University's 13th president, sat back in his office after his first

few days on the job: days filled with meetings, new faces and learning the ropes of the university that sits in the heart of Greenwood.

Cosentino spoke in his office, still furnished from his predecessor, Dan Ball, about his new beginnings in Greenwood. He is fervent about his

See HOME, page 4A

MADDY JONES | INDEX JOURNAL

Lander University President Richard Cosentino sits in his office Tuesday afternoon on campus. Cosentino officially assumed the position of Lander's 13th chief executive officer on July 1.

■ LONG-AWAITED RESULT

Hydrology study gets approved

County Council leaders laud FERC's decision for Lake Greenwood dam

By COLIN RIDDLE
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In the making for 25 years, Greenwood County Council welcomed news that could save millions of dollars for the county.

After the meeting was called to order Tuesday, Chairman Steve Brown moved things around by calling a manager's report before formal business took place. The report came from county engineer Rossie Corwen, who informed council that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved a hydrology study for the Lake Greenwood dam.

Nostalgia settling in the room, Brown turned the meeting over to the former chairman, Councilman Robbie Templeton, who was joined by council, former county engineer Larry Davis and former Councilman Patrick Moody on the floor of the council chambers during the announcement.

Davis shared that the project often lent struggles between the engineer and council with Moody harping on the collective efforts of all those



GONZA BRYANT

See STUDY, page 4A

Greenwood utilities prepare for Festival of Discovery

By MARY KATE MCGOWAN
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The water is flowing and the electricity is buzzing in anticipation for the Festival of Discovery.

Charlie Barmineau, Greenwood city manager, said barbecue teams will start rolling in today with their RVs and cooking equipment.

"We will be ready for them to take on

from other barbecue contests in how cooking teams access power and water.

"Typically, the festivals that provide water and power are above ground and in a conduit that is on the ground, so it becomes numerous trip hazards for pedestrians and festival-goers. It was as attractive, I guess," Barmineau said. "We really want it to be clean and presentable when kids come and visit."

The underground infrastructure is and

ROAD DETOUR PLAN FOR FESTIVAL

The Festival of Discovery road detour plan will begin 6 p.m. Thursday and will end noon Sunday. A color map detailing the closures is on page 9A.

■ Main Street/US 25 will close to vehicular traffic from Court Avenue (SC Route 518) to Seaboard Avenue (SC Route 356).

■ The detour on Main Street/US 25 is for both directions of vehicular traffic and will follow Court Avenue (SC Route 518) to Phoenix Avenue (SC Route 244) to Seaboard Avenue (SC Route 356).

■ Maxwell Avenue from Main Street west to Monument Street

■ Riley Avenue

■ Oak Avenue from Main Street west to Monument Street

■ Magnolia Avenue from Enterprise Avenue west to Main Street

■ West Court Avenue from Main Street west to the offices of Greenwood CPW

■ The intersection of Phoenix Street and Court Avenue East will be closed. Southbound traffic will turn onto Court Avenue



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Morning News

WEDNESDAY JULY 8, 2015

**TODAY'S
WEATHER**
Humid with times of
clouds and sun.
High 95, low 74.
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 CENTS

At least two dead in fiery crash near Hartsville

BY CHRISTOPHER MCKAGEN
The Hartsville Messenger
cmckagen@outlook.com

HARTSVILLE — At least two people are dead after a fiery Tuesday night crash on North Marquis Highway involving a car and an 18-wheeler.

A black four-door vehicle crashed into an 18-wheeler at the intersection of the highway and Swift Creek Road. The four-door became pinned beneath the truck, which ran off the roadway, dragging the vehicle, and coming to a stop in a field. The two vehicles then erupted into flames.

Darlington County Coroner J. Todd Hardee confirmed at least two deaths, a male and a female. The car beneath the truck was mangled so that Hardee said further investigation was necessary to make sure no one else was in the car.

The driver of the truck walked away from the crash, even though the cab was badly damaged. The 18-wheeler's engine was ripped from the frame, coming to rest about 10 feet from the truck.

The man who called 911 said he saw the car run a stop sign at the highway.



Agencies of law enforcement, fire and medical responders work a fatal two-vehicle collision Tuesday on North Marquis Highway and Hartsville.

See **CRASH**, Page 3A

Legislators override Pee Dee bills vetoes

BY GAVIN JACKSON
Morning News
gjack@thefoxnews.com

FLORENCE — The South Carolina House of Representatives and Senate overrode three vetoes from the governor to send \$850,000 for a variety of economic development projects in the Pee Dee.

The Senate also voted to override the governor's veto of the West Florence Fire District special purpose district bill. The House had voted earlier to override that veto.

The House and Senate voted Tuesday by larger margins than the two-thirds needed to overturn Gov. Nikki Haley's vetoes related to Marion and Williamsburg County economic development and Center Theater in Hartsville.

The \$7 billion budget the South Carolina legislature sent to Haley included one-time appropriations of \$500,000 for a Hartsville downtown revitalization project, \$250,000 for Marion County economic development and \$100,000 for Williamsburg County economic development.

In her veto message, Haley said the town should use available tax credits instead general fund appropriations. She said cities and towns shouldn't be singled out in the budget the way Hartsville was.

"It is not an appropriate way for this government to spend the taxpayers' dollars, and I ask that you join me in discontinuing this process," she said.

So far the city of Hartsville has paid for a new roof for the theater, while the Hartsville Community Center Building Commission, which owns Center Theater, is proposing a \$2 million bond for building improvements. The group wishes to make aesthetic improvements as well as upgrading flooring, roofing, lighting, audio and video equipment, restrooms, installing an elevator and making improve-

STATE POLITICS

SENATE: NO STARS & BARS



Thomas Wiggins of Columbia waves an American flag while showing support to take the Confederate flag off the South Carolina Statehouse grounds in Columbia on Tuesday. The push to remove the Confederate flag from the grounds of the South Carolina Statehouse cleared another hurdle as the view of a long-held symbol shifts across the South after last month's shooting.

Confederate flag issue now goes to House

The Associated Press

Statehouse.

COLUMBIA — The South Carolina Senate gave its final approval Tuesday to removing the Confederate flag from the Capitol grounds, but across the hall in the House, Republicans quietly sought a way to make a last stand to preserve some kind of symbol honoring their Southern ancestors at the

House was scheduled to begin debate today on the bill to take down the flag and its pole and send the banner to the state's Confederate Relic Room. Gov. Nikki Haley and business leaders support the proposal.

To stress the chamber's unity after Tuesday's 36-3 vote, senators invited the widow of their slain colleague Clement

to Puckney to the floor. She stood just inside the door in a black dress, only a few feet from her husband's desk, which was draped in black cloth with a single white rose on top. Every member stood as she entered and later walked up to her, offering condolences.

After the flag was pulled off the

See **FLAG**, Page 3A

New charges in shooting: Attempted murder

The Associated Press

Dylan Storm, 20, of Episcopal church. He Ruff's defense attorney



Cosby's image hurt
by moralizing **6A**



SC Senate
OKs removal **9A**

THE ISLAND PACKET

WEDNESDAY, July 8, 2015



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'Glad I made it out'

Massive tree splits Beaufort house, leaving owner homeless



JOSH MITELMAN • Staff photo

In this image taken from a video, Raymond Paige's home located on Southside Boulevard in Beaufort was nearly destroyed after a tree fell on it Friday morning.

By MATT McNAB • mcnab@islandpacket.com • 843-906-8125

Drifting off to sleep at 1 a.m. Friday, Raymond Paige heard what he thought to be the familiar crackling of thunder and lightning during a late-night rainstorm.

But when Paige failed to hear the subsequent boom of thunder, he immediately realized the source was much closer to home — the huge live oak tree in his front yard was finally collapsing.

Believed to be almost 150 years

old, the tree crashed down on his home on Southside Boulevard in Beaufort. The trunk crashed the living room, sending wooden beams through Sheetrock and collapsing the drywall ceiling. Two huge limbs cut through the roof

and pierced the far wall, cutting the living room nearly in half.

"It was certainly scary," Paige said. "I just thought to myself, 'Wow, I'm glad I made it out.'"

Immediately after realizing the crackling sound was coming from inside his home, Paige dropped to the floor, crawling out of his bedroom over broken bits of Sheetrock in the patch back to reach the front door. When the door wouldn't budge — jammed shut by

Please see HOUSE on 9A



Raymond Paige

2016 PRESIDENTIAL
CAMPAIGN

Debate process seen as wild card

Fox News to select
10 candidates based
on 5 national polls

By STEVEN YACCINO
Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — A month from now, 10 Republican presidential candidates will walk out onto a prime-time debate stage in Cleveland and confront each other face to face for the first time. If the debate were held today, Donald Trump would be one of them. Two sitting governors, a U.S. senator, the runner-up for the 2012 GOP nomination, and the first female CEO of a Fortune 50 company would all be excluded.

That's an estimate based on qualifying criteria described by Fox News, which will host the GOP's showdown in partnership with Facebook on Aug. 6 in Cleveland, using an average of five as yet unspecified national polls to determine the lineup. The network should be celebrating its coveted role of hosting the first debate of the Republican primary season, with the prestige and audience that it brings. But instead, the news organization may have stumbled into a political minefield.

In an unprecedentedly large field of 36 presidential contenders, at least half are statistically on the bubble of not qualifying for the debate stage, with only a month to differentiate themselves. The result is a campaign within a campaign, with very different imperatives from the ones the primary process is designed to produce. Campaigns that are in danger of not making the cut may try everything possible to improve their chances over the next four weeks — taking extreme, news-making positions, dumping opposition

Please see DEBATE on 9A

Hilton Head 'Soccer Grandma' earns her own World Cup trophy

It's not always easy being a soccer grandma.

"It's fun, though," said Marilyn Brian of Hilton Head Island. "I didn't have to do the driving."

And it's exhilarating almost beyond words when your granddaughter is



feeling to have someone in your family be part of it."

The soccer grandma recalls the first game she and her late husband, Vic, saw Morgan play. The team had both boys and girls, all about first-graders. All she remembers hearing



Marilyn Brian

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