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The Post and Courier

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Thursday, July 14, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Ruling: Pascoe in charge of Statehouse probe

What's next?

- Special prosecutor David Pascoe can now, officially, use the state grand jury to continue his public corruption investigation involving South Carolina lawmakers.
- Pascoe was originally sworn in to use the wide-ranging investigative tool by state grand jury clerk James Parks on March 18. Parks also signed subpoenas requested by Pascoe at the time.
- Members of Pascoe's staff will now be sworn in.
- Additional evidence, interviews and testimony will now be collected.

S.C. justices resolve solicitor's feud with AG; grand jury initiation 'lawful, valid'

BY GAVIN JACKSON
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COLUMBIA — The state Supreme Court ruled that 1st Circuit Solicitor David Pascoe may continue his Statehouse corruption probe through the use of a state grand jury, sending a stinging rebuke to Attorney General Alan Wilson.

In a 26-page decision Wednesday, the court said Pascoe has the clear authority to continue holding the power over the probe, discounting Wilson's attempt to wrestle it back.

The key finding affirmed that since

Palmetto Politics
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Wilson had made Pascoe his appointed substitute, control of the investigation was to stay in Pascoe's hands throughout.

"Since we find Pascoe was acting with the authority of the Attorney General when he signed the initiation of the state grand jury investigation, we hold the

initiation was lawful and valid," the justices wrote in a 4-1 decision. "Because we find Pascoe lawfully authorized the initiation of the state grand jury investigation, the Attorney General's purported termination of Pascoe after the initiation of the state grand jury was ineffective."

Wilson recused himself from the case due to an unspecified conflict of interest involving unidentified Statehouse lawmakers. He later claimed Pascoe illegally circumvented the Attorney General's Office by attempting to use the

Please see **RULING**, Page A6



Pascoe Wilson

Inside

S.C. Supreme Court ruling could affect political futures of attorney general, solicitor. A6

Charleston police aim to bridge 'trust gaps'

Community to have big role in changes; results may be model for nation



FILE/GRACE BEAHM/STAFF

Police Chief Greg Mullen greets community members after a prayer gathering of the Charleston Illumination Project at Emanuel AME Church in June. The Police Department has announced a plan for policy changes and trust-building initiatives.

BY PAUL BOWERS
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Echoing President Barack Obama's call for Americans to "reject despair" in the wake of police-involved shootings and the fatal ambush of officers in Dallas, local

leaders announced Wednesday that policy changes and trust-building initiatives could be underway at the Charleston Police Department as soon as October.

And once Charleston has a plan in place, leaders of the project said they hope to share what they

learned with police leaders nationwide, starting with a presentation at the White House.

The as-yet-unspecified changes, which would require approval by City Council, are the fruits of the Illumination Project, which gathered input from about 750 commu-

nity members over the course of 10 months' worth of listening sessions in the wake of the Emanuel AME Church shooting.

"We cannot continue down the road we're going today," Police

Please see **POUCE**, Page A6

Sen. Scott also felt targeted by police

Remembers 'anger, frustration, sadness'

BY EMMA DUMAIN
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WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Tim Scott was stopped by police officers seven times in one year. He's frequently told that he's suspected of driving a stolen vehicle.

While a local official back in Charleston, the hosts of a public event were reluctant to invite him inside. And as a six-year member of Congress, the South Carolina Republican has on multiple occasions been denied entry into congressional office buildings even though he wears an identification pin on the lapel of his suit jacket. "The pin I recognize. You, I don't," Scott recalled being told by one member of the U.S. Capitol Police. Scott was forced to produce further identification.

Please see **SCOTT**, Page A7



Scott

Inside

Obama meets with activists, leaders. A7

Inquest implicates 2 in death

Solicitor says she won't prosecute child abuse case

BY ANDREW KNAPP
aknapp@postandcourier.com

The Charleston County coroner's two-day inquest into the 2013 death of a Mount Pleasant toddler has implicated a man and his girlfriend, but the 9th Circuit solicitor said she would not prosecute the case.

Bryan Seabrook, 29, was already arrested and charged once with homicide by child abuse, but the charge was dropped by prosecutors for lack of evidence pointing specifically to him. Six jurors returned a decision Wednesday that Seabrook could again be held responsible for the crime and his girlfriend as an accessory, 48-year-old Marty Dixon, the grandmother of 2-year-old Elijah Washington.

Please see **INQUEST**, Page A4

Inside

BUSINESS

Long-awaited Dewberry hotel has abbreviated opening. B1

CHARLESTON SCENE

The Dead 27s gear up for major album release. E14-16

LOCAL

Cicadas have come out with the heat. A3

SPORTS

In SEC, Gamecocks not alone in rebounding from 2015. C1

'There's strength in every single voice'

Hundreds at Marion Square rally protest police violence

BY DEANNA PAN
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Hundreds rallied Wednesday night at Marion Square to demand justice following the recent deaths of two African-American men at the hands of police.

Protests have gripped several U.S. cities in past week, where crowds demonstrated against last week's fatal police shootings of Alton Sterling in Louisiana and Philando Castile in Minnesota.

Wednesday's demonstration in

Please see **RALLY**, Page A7



Crowds gathered Wednesday at Marion Square in downtown Charleston for a rally against police violence.

MICHAEL WISER/STAFF



Chance of storms.
High 92, Low 78.
Complete 5-day
forecast. B1D

Bridge B9 Crowds B14 Movies E11
Business B1 Dear Abby B7 Obituaries B4
Classifieds D1 Editorials A10 Sports C1
Comics B5-9 Local A2 Television B7

Charleston Deals today

East Cooper Gymnastics
\$112 for 1 week of summer
camp (valued at \$225).
See A2

SEC MEDIA DAYS

Fight for Fourth
an underrated
story line
in SEC East, 1B



GO COLUMBIA

Saluting one of our
summer favorites at this
weekend's Palmetto Tasty
Tomato Festival, Inside Today



THURSDAY JULY 14 2016

\$1.00

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TODAY: PARTLY CLOUDY; STORM POSSIBLE 11:00-LO 78
YESTERDAY: HI 88 LO 75 PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) 0.02"
FORECAST, BC

The State

AG VS. PROSECUTOR

Wilson
loses bid
to stop
Pascoe
probe

S.C. Supreme Court makes
it clear Wednesday that
David Pascoe continues as
special prosecutor

'Humiliating' defeat for
S.C. Attorney General Alan
Wilson, says government
watchdog John Crangle

BY JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

The S.C. Supreme Court
ruled, 4-1, Wednesday
that Attorney General
Alan Wilson can't stop
his special prosecutor, David
Pascoe, from investigating
possible corruption in the
General Assembly.

Although Wilson tried
to stop Pascoe - and appar-
ently slowed Pascoe's in-
vestigation for several
months - the Su-
preme Court made it clear in its
Wednesday ruling that
Wilson acted unlawfully in
trying to fire Pascoe and
in trying to keep him from
continuing his probe.

Pascoe is working with the
State Law Enforcement
Division on the investiga-
tion.

"We find ... Pascoe was
vested with the full au-
thority to act as the At-
torney General for the
purpose of the investiga-
tion," the opinion said.

Pascoe, as special prose-
cutor appointed by Wil-

SEE CONFLICT, 6A

FALLOUT OVER FACEBOOK POSTINGS

2 more firefighters fired, station closed

BY CLIF LEBLANC
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A total of three Columbia fire-
fighters now have been fired
over unprofessional Facebook
postings aimed at Black Lives
Matter protesters, and the city
closed one fire station where the
first post originated and put 31
others on precautionary lock-
down, fire chief Aubrey Jenkins
said Wednesday.

The Eau Claire fire station
closed about 1 a.m. Monday after
someone circulated its address
on social media following Sun-

Eau Claire fire station where firefighters' postings originated
was closed and 31 others across Richland County were locked down
after the address of the station was posted

Meanwhile, Richland County senior paramedic dismissed,
other ambulance workers under internal investigation; county
withholding details

day's protest, Jenkins said. It
reopened at 8 p.m. Wednesday,
he said.

Meanwhile, Richland County
announced Wednesday it had
fired a senior paramedic and said
other ambulance service workers

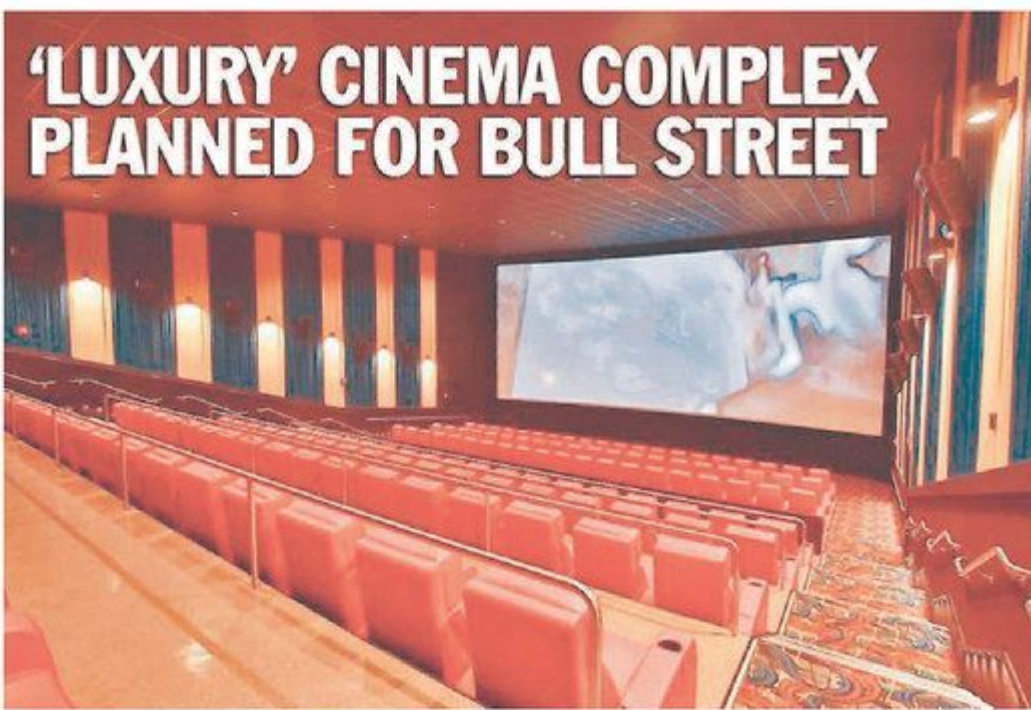
are under internal investigation
for making inappropriate com-
ments on social media. County
officials declined to identify the
paramedic or to disclose the
language in the postings or to say
who they were aimed at.

MORE INSIDE

Organizers of Sunday's Black Lives Matter
march that drew 800 people met with law
enforcement Wednesday. Page 3A

Jenkins said someone also
called the Eau Claire fire station
Monday to complain after now-
fired Capt. Jimmy Morris first
posted on Facebook his threats
to run over protesters who had
blocked the I-126 bridge during a
march that started at the State

SEE FIREFIGHTERS, 2A



'LUXURY' CINEMA COMPLEX PLANNED FOR BULL STREET

The Commons
at BullStreet
by the
Numbers

400,000
square feet of retail
space

This is a rendering of one of the theatres at Cobb Theatres' planned 'luxury' cinema complex
at The Commons at BullStreet in Columbia.

Theater will be main anchor of 85-unit retail complex,
could spur more announcements about retailers



BY JEFF WILKINSON
jwilkinson@thestate.com

LOCAL

CATCH 'EM IN
COLUMBIA

Want to get together



SPORTS, 1C CLEMSON MOURNS STITT



CITY PEOPLE, 1D Group aids women with addictions

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

THURSDAY,
JULY 14, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY WITH DAYS TO GO, GOP CONVENTION STRUGGLES WITH \$6M SHORTFALL PAGE 1B

BRUSHY CREEK ROAD



Cars drive past anti-rezoning signs along Brushy Creek Road.

HEIDI HELBRUNN/STAFF

FEARS DON'T STOP DEVELOPMENTS

Greer clears way for home construction

MICHAEL BURNS
MBURNS@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

Traffic around Greenville's Eastside and Greer is going to get busier, much to the frustration of residents who protested two new developments on Brushy Creek Road.

Greer City Council has voted to annex about 27 acres on the two-lane thoroughfare, clearing the way for the construction of 89 homes.

Local residents are worried that further development will compound congestion and strain infrastructure.

More than two dozen rallied against the construction with signs and fliers before the vote.

The original requests for annexation of property owned by Grace Christian Church and Irene Ponder asked for mul-

ti-family residential zoning that could've brought more than 150 townhouses to Brushy Creek Road south of its intersection with Alexander Road.

Developer Tim Elder, who holds contracts to purchase the properties, amended his requests after local residents voiced opposition at a meeting of the Greer Planning Commission.

Ultimately council unanimously approved single-family zoning for one of

See FEARS, Page 4A

SC high court rules for Pascoe

AG Wilson's termination of solicitor 'not valid'

TIM SMITH
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COLUMBIA - A state grand jury probe of legislative corruption will resume soon following a South Carolina Supreme Court ruling that State Attorney General Alan Wilson had recused himself from the probe and his removal of Solicitor David Pascoe from the case "was not valid."

The justices, in a 4-1 decision on Wednesday, found that Pascoe lawfully sought to initiate a state grand jury probe earlier this year of legislative corruption, that the law does not limit those who can seek such a probe to the attorney general, and that an attempt by Wilson to remove Pascoe as special prosecutor was therefore "ineffective."

"We conclude the General Assembly intended that the individual acting with the authority of the Attorney General may lawfully seek to impanel a state grand jury," wrote Chief Justice Costa Pleicones. "Accordingly, since we find Pascoe was acting with the authority of the Attorney General when he signed the initiation of the state grand jury investigation, we hold the initiation was lawful and valid. Because we find Pascoe lawfully authorized the initiation of the state grand jury investigation, the Attorney General's purported termination of Pascoe after the initiation of the state grand jury was ineffective."

The ruling resolves the dispute between Wilson and Pascoe over the case and could provide future guidance on who can initiate state grand jury probes.

"I'm very grateful for the South

See RULING, Page 2A

Pastor Perry Noble breaks silence in message to worshippers

MIKE ELLIS
MICHAEL.ELLIS@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

Former NewSpring Church senior pastor Perry Noble broke his silence Wednesday, in a live video message on Facebook.

Noble, the church's founder, started the message by acknowledging his unusual social media silence. A prolific



Perry Noble

social media user, it was his first Facebook post in more than two weeks.

He wasted no time in the three-minute-twenty-one second message, quickly telling people he bore no ill will after being dismissed from the church he founded.

"I. Still. Love. My. Church," Noble said, pausing after each word for emphasis. "I wanted to say 'Thank you' for the unbelievable support that you guys have shown me on Twitter."

The 45-year-old pastor was removed from his spot as the church's senior pastor effective July 1, but the congre-

See NOBLE, Page 2A

"I'm focused on getting better. I'm not bitter. My dependency on alcohol, I ran to it instead of Jesus and I was wrong and I am going to do whatever it takes to make it right."

PERRY NOBLE
FORMER NEWSRING CHURCH SENIOR PASTOR

INSIDE

Abby4D
Area news3A
Bridge4D
Classifieds5C
Comics5D
Crossword4D
Lifestyle1D
Lotteries2A
Obituaries6A
Television4D
U.S./World1B
Voices8A



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Low 75

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92 pages

JOHNSON AMONG FAVORITES AT BRITISH OPEN

SPORTS, B1

ACTORS AND PUPPETS TAKE CENTER STAGE

ESCAPE, D1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thursday, July 14, 2016



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TODAY **FRI** **SAT**

 96°/72° 92°/71° 88°/70°
 Complete forecast, B6

UPSTATE



Gowdy joins group that will assess police

Congressman Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., will be a part of a newly-formed congressional working group that will meet this week to examine police practices, and some leaders say Spartanburg County and the Upstate are already ahead of the curve when it comes to police and race relations. **C1**

Ex-NewSpring pastor Noble going to rehab

In his first public statements since being removed as senior pastor, NewSpring Church founder Perry Noble said he will check into a rehab facility to beat alcohol dependency. **C1**

CAMPAIGN 2016



Ginsburg's critique raises ethical quandaries

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's public criticism of Donald Trump is dividing legal experts over whether the leader of the court's liberal wing should recuse herself in any future case involving him. **A3**

SPORTS

Woodfin Ridge hosts tourney this weekend

It's a special weekend for Woodfin Ridge superintendent Lance Allen as the course hosts

POLICE SHOOTINGS DALLAS GUNMAN'S PAST

No explanation for discharge

By Will Weissert
 The Associated Press

DALLAS — Almost a week after the Dallas sniper attacks, it's still unclear how the gunman obtained an honorable discharge from the military even though Army officials sent him home from Afghanistan with a recommendation that he be thrown out of the armed forces.

An attorney appointed by the military to represent Micah Johnson in a sexual harassment case speculated last week that Johnson's behavioral record could be more serious. The

attorney says he's now under strict orders not to discuss the matter with reporters.

Johnson, 25, served in the Army Reserve for six years before the July 7 sniper attack, which killed five Dallas police officers.

"We are reviewing all of his records," Army spokesman Col. Patrick Seiber said Wednesday. He would not elaborate or discuss any aspect of the review.

Johnson's lawyer said he had prepared documents for a more severe other-than-honorable exit almost two years ago.

SEE DISCHARGE, A5



Law enforcement officials from several different agencies salute during the funeral service Wednesday for Dallas Police Sr. Cpl. Lorne Ahrens, one of five police officers killed last week by a sniper during a protest against police violence in Dallas. TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PANEL DISCUSSION

Building positive relationships

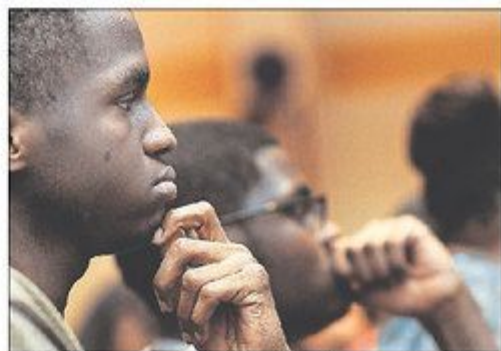
Residents, leaders discuss how to improve relations between police, community

By Allison M. Roberts
 allison.roberts@shj.com

Community leaders and activists came together at The Worship Center in Roebuck Wednesday night to talk about relations between the African

American community and law enforcement in Spartanburg.

The panel discussion included Michael Brown, Spartanburg County councilman and president of the Spartanburg chapter of the NAACP; Lt. Kevin Bobo, spokesperson



Rakim Jefferson, 23, and his brother Shakil Jefferson, 25, both of Gaffney, listen to the speakers on Wednesday evening at the Worship Center. PHOTOS BY ALEX HICKS JR./ALEX.HICKS@SHJ.COM

for the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office; Stephanie Priester, anchor with The NOW Network; and Russell Lynch, candidate for Spartanburg County sheriff.

Panel members fielded questions from the moderators,

Pastor Sharome Gentry and Chris Jefferson, before taking questions from the large crowd. Jefferson opened the conversation by asking how African American parents can

SEE DISCUSSION, A5





Morning News

THURSDAY JULY 14, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Intervals of clouds and sunshine.
High 99, low 74.
DETAILS 2A

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FMU Performing Arts Center

Folksy night to feature Judy Collins and Ari Hest



BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — To Judy Collins, age is just a number.

The 77-year-old Grammy award winner, who performs July 21 at the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center, lives her life with vigor. She tours regularly, exercises often and continues to put out new albums.

"I have to act like I'm 16 all the time. So mentally I am," she said, laughing.

"Silver Skies Blue," Collins' latest album with singer-song-

writer Ari Hest, was released in early June. He will join Collins for next week's show at the Performing Arts Center.

The collaboration of the two folksy voices feels natural. And for Collins, it was.

"It's very funny. I've never found someone that I sang with in a certain way that I really was so crazy about ... With Ari, I found something that's very unique and unusual and that I think both of us had good time doing," Collins said. "...It's interesting to have a seasoned performer and relatively younger artist together."

The July 21 show will include

an opening set from Hest, several duets, a headlining set from Collins and then several more duets. Called "An Evening with Judy Collins," the show provides an intimate experience for audience members in which the artist can share anecdotes and connect with the crowd. It will be Collins' second go-round at the PAC; she performed at the venue's opening gala in 2011.

At this point in her career, Collins forms a perfectly balanced set with ease.

"It comes naturally to me," she said. "And it's good, I have

See **COLLINS**, Page 3A

IF YOU GO

» **WHAT:** An Evening with Judy Collins and special guest opener Ari Hest

» **WHEN:** 7:30 p.m., July 21

» **WHERE:** FMU Performing Arts Center

» **ADMISSION:** Tickets range from \$37 to \$47.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.fmupac.org, call the box office at 843-661-4444 or visit the office in the lobby of the PAC. Telephone and in-person sales are available Monday through Thursday between noon and 5 p.m.

Florence One Supply drive benefits students

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The first day of school is right around the corner. Several organizations and businesses in Florence are working together to make sure that children in Florence School District One are prepared when they enter the classroom.

The Florence County Collaborative Council's school supply drive

WANT TO GO?

» **What:** Back to School Bash

» **When:** August 13, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

» **Where:** Florence Boys and Girls Club, 310 W. Roughfork St., Florence

will take place from now until July 29. Collection sites are set up around Florence at businesses, churches and nonprofit organizations.

State Rep. Terry Alexander, who heads the Florence County Collaborative Council, said he believes this drive is important because it provides necessities to people who may not be able to afford them.

"Some kids might not have the supplies they need and no way to get them," Alexander said.

Alexander said he knows some people take advantage of the generosity of others but hopes this effort will curb that and make sure those in need are getting help.

Dixie Youth tourney



Members of the Florence Angels softball team laugh as their teammates receive their awards for placing second in state after the game against Aynor on Wednesday.

Florence's Sarah Locklair pitches during the softball game against Dillon on Wednesday. The Debs won their first game of the night against Dillon 2-1.



Eight softball teams met at Freedom Florence on Wednesday night to compete in championship games for the Dixie Youth Softball X-Play State Tournament. The Aynor 9- and 10-year-old softball team won the state title over the Florence Angels, while three other area teams, including two from Florence, played for state titles later in the evening. Read more about the tournament on **Page 1D**.

Florence youth competes at Transplant Games of America

Michael Sprauve (left) says his mother, Machell, pushes him to work harder



BY JAKE CROUSE
Morning News
jcrouse@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Seven years ago, Michael Sprauve learned that one of his kidneys was failing and that

through the Transplant Games of America.

Earlier this month, Michael traveled with his mother, Machell, to participate in the 2016 Transplant Games of America and came home with some

LOCAL

Nonexistent gag order keeps school board members quiet 3A



THE LONG READ

How a vacation refreshed David Lauderdale's body and soul 1C



THURSDAY JULY 14 2016

75¢

VOLUME 46, No. 196
STAY CONNECTED ISLANDPACKET.COMFACEBOOK.COM/ISLANDPACKET
TWITTER.COM/ISLANDPACKETHILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTONPartly cloudy
90° 81° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

HILTON HEAD ISLAND

For Riley, Savannah out; Iowa still option

Hilton Head Island town manager Steve Riley not one of six finalists for Savannah job.

He's still up for job in Davenport, Iowa

Riley says he has received interest from other places as well

BY TERESA MOSS
tmoss@islandpacket.com

Hilton Head Island's long-time town manager Steve Riley is out of the running for the city of Savannah's top spot, but he continues to be in the running

for a similar job in Iowa.

Six finalists for the city manager job in Savannah have been notified of their status, said Colin Baenziger, of Colin Baenziger & Associates, the firm conducting the search.

Riley said Wednesday he did not receive a call, likely mean-



Riley

ing he is not a finalist. He confirmed late last month that he was one of 12 finalists for the position.

After 25 years as Hilton Head Island's manager, Riley has been zipping through a series of interviews throughout the country. He returned to work Wednesday after wrapping up a two-day interview process for the city administrator position in Davenport, Iowa, where he is one of three candidates for the

position.

The visit included private and public meetings with council members, administrators and the public, Riley said. He said it also included a public candidate panel discussion.

"It was very intense and interesting," Riley said Wednesday. "I have no idea how it will all turn out."

Davenport officials have said it could take two weeks for a decision on the position, Riley said.

Riley also was named as one of four candidates for a city manager position in Forney, Texas, but pulled out of the search soon after being announced as a finalist.

As for any other places Riley could be a finalist, he declined to comment.

"I have had some inquiries out, but nothing I want to confirm," Riley said.

Teresa Moss: 843-706-8152,
@TeresaIPBG



NATION

DR. PHIL TAKES ON TABLOID

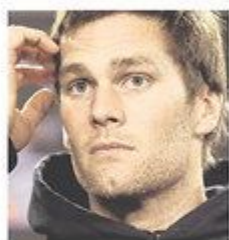
"Dr. Phil" McGraw sues The National Enquirer for \$250 million, charging the newspaper falsely accused him of being an abusive husband and a hypocrite. 7A



LOCAL

NONPROFIT GETS NEW LEADER

Alyson Barber takes the reins at Bluffton Self Help, replacing longtime executive director Lili Coleman, who has retired. 3A



SPORTS

TOM FEELING NOT SO TERRIFIC

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady loses his court ap-



David Spears stands on the ladder leading to the cockpit of his crane. Spears and his son, a construction worker, placed the pilings that support sections of the Bluffton Flyover, which is scheduled to open Friday.

BLUFFTON FLYOVER

Father and son drive 80-foot pilings like nails



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