

From: Taillon, Jeff

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Date: 2/7/2013 12:00:07 PM

Subject: S.C. Front Pages - Thursday, February 7, 2013



NATIONAL SIGNING DAY
Where are local athletes going? C1

What to do this weekend for less than \$15

CHARLESTON SCENE, E5

The Post and Courier

THE SOUTH'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER • FOUNDED 1803

THURSDAY, February 7, 2013

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

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

Police: Gun bought legally

Inside

Melanie Balogi
 Police plan could mean safer schools, communities. B1

Audio

Go to postandcourier.com/audio to listen to the 911 call.

Family of woman at Ashley Hall said she is mentally ill

BY ANDREW KNAPP
aknapp@postandcourier.com

More than two years ago, Alice Bolland stood at the front gate of Ashley Hall and started muttering to herself. She asked questions about the children who attended the private

school in downtown Charleston, according to a police report released Wednesday. She inquired particularly about the 5-year-old, but she didn't explain why. She was told never to come back. But on Monday, the 28-year-old Beaufort woman with a history of mental illness did come back. And

this time she came with a pistol she had bought at a gun shop days before, police said. She pointed it at a school administrator and a teacher as 50 students milled outside, and she squeezed the trigger — again and again, police said. The magazine of the palm-size .32-caliber pistol was loaded with

eight rounds, but she didn't have a round in the chamber. It didn't fire. She thought it was defective, but it wasn't. The gun was fully functional, police said. "We are extremely fortunate," said Dickie Schweers, a Charleston



Alice Bolland had one previous arrest but was not convicted.

Please see **GUN**, Page A6

Boeing's N. Charleston employees to receive sizable bonuses
 Business, B6



Mount Pleasant to Ridgeville to S'ville: Duke's wild journey
 Local & State, B1

'Ready, Set, Run' participants gear up for Bridge Run
 Your Lowcountry, Inside



Goodbye, iron. Hello, cat. Monopoly makes token changes
 People, A2



Back Home Bar & Grill: \$5 for \$10 food and drinks
 See A2

Showers, High 63, Low 50. Complete 5-day forecast, B8

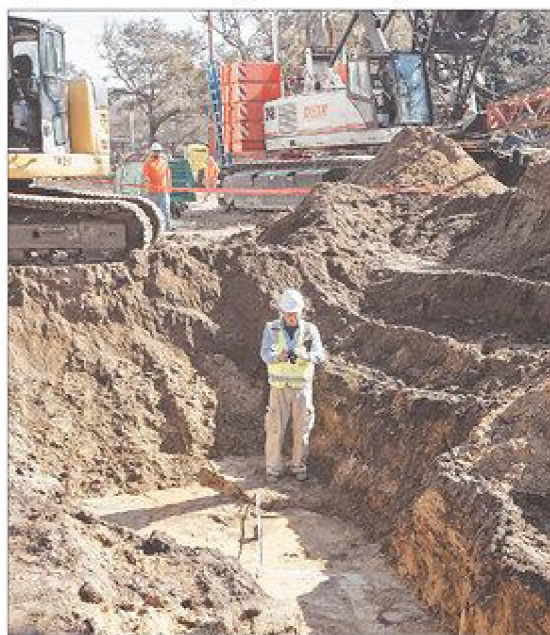
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 Setting the record straight A2

Remains could be part of graveyard



Archaeologist Eric Poplin, of Brockington Cultural Resources Consulting in Mount Pleasant, is leading the probe into the remains found at the Gaillard Auditorium construction site.

Several bones unearthed at Gaillard

BY SCHUYLER KROPP
skropp@postandcourier.com

Charleston wouldn't be Charleston if it didn't have a buried history. But in this case, it might be a mystery. An archaeologist confirmed Wednesday the discovery of two sets of human remains on the grounds of the Gaillard Auditorium construction site. For now, no one knows how old they are, their gender or who they might be.

What is known is that they were buried head-to-toe, indicating they could be part of a larger and more formal graveyard spread out around the performing arts center. Bolstering that theory is the fact that both sets of remains are facing east, aligning with the Christian belief of positioning the dead so they can rise and receive the second coming of Christ.

Please see **BONES**, Page A8

Developer plans plea in probe at S.C. State

Conspiracy to defraud is charge

BY GLENN SMITH
gsmith@postandcourier.com

Florida developer Richard Zahn is scheduled to enter a plea in federal court Friday in connection with an alleged scheme to sell property he owns to South Carolina State University in exchange for kickbacks to school officials. Federal prosecutors this week formally named Zahn in court papers, tying him to the corruption case. They accused Zahn's alleged involvement during a hearing last month, but he had been referred to in court documents only as "Person A."



Paperwork filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court lists a pending charge of conspiracy to defraud the U.S. government against Zahn. The 44-year-old developer is scheduled for an 11 a.m. plea hearing in Charleston. The paperwork is listed as "information," similar to how the case of former S.C. State Police Chief Michael Bartley was handled before he pleaded guilty to a conspiracy count in the alleged scheme.

Zahn is accused of conspiring on the land deal with Bartley and the university's former board chairman, Jonathan Pinson. The two officials allegedly pitched the sale to other school officials in return for bribes, according to court documents. Zahn's attorney, Andy Savage, has described his client as a cooperating party who had been assisting the government since the case began. Savage declined to comment Wednesday on the pending hearing or the paperwork. Prosecutors have said Zahn was looking to win a 121-acre spread known as Speerhusan's Retreat that he

Please see **ZAHN**, Page A8



COMING SUNDAY: SPECIAL REPORT

Forgotten South Carolina

A Legacy of Shame
 A Blueprint for the Future

South Carolinians exist in two parallel worlds. One where life reflects the modern national average on most measures, and a forgotten one that has been left behind as the rest of the state advances in education, health and economic opportunity. Reporter Doug Pardue spent eight months investigating how we got into this predicament and offers possible solutions. His four-part multimedia series begins Sunday with a 10-page special section and at postandcourier.com.



SHE COLUMBIA: ULTIMATE GIRLS' WEEKEND STARTS FRIDAY. **D1**

2013

SIGNING DAY

6 pages of coverage,
Section C

USC

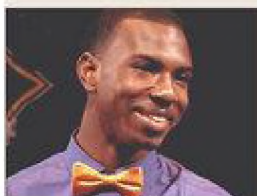
Coach Steve Spurrier
loads up beef for
offensive line in 2013
Class. **C8**



Profiles of Kelsey
Griffin, left, and Larenz
Bryant, **C8-9**

CLEMSON

Coach Dabo Swinney
proud of 2013
Class. **C10**



Lower Richland's
Marcus Edmond flips
for Tigers. **C10**

GOGAMECOCKS.COM

VIDEOS: Signing Day
ceremonies of Gerald
Turner, Ali Groves and
David Johnson and
Steve Spurrier's
reaction.

PHOTO

GALLERIES: Of
Kelsey Griffin and
Larenz Bryant.

LIVE CHAT: Signing
Day chat with Josh
Kendall today at 1 p.m.

POSTAL SERVICE

Saturday
mail delivery
ending

From Staff and Wire Reports

The financially struggling U.S. Postal Service is getting creative in its efforts to cut costs.

The service rolled out a plan Wednesday to cut mail delivery on Saturdays starting in August; package delivery – a growing segment for the post office – would continue on Saturdays. The savings would amount to about \$2 billion a year, officials said.

The service also is planning to open a series of village post offices in rural areas where it is phasing out regular post offices. The first of the new prototype village post of-

ONLINE

See our
series on
S.C. post
offices
marked for
closing.
thestate.com.

The State

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013 | [THESTATE.COM](http://thestate.com)

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS CHOICE

Clyburn pushed for transportation secretary

Letter asks president to select S.C. congressman, citing his 'legacy of public service'

By JAMES ROSEN
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The head of the Congressional Black Caucus is urging President Barack Obama to nominate House Assistant Democratic Leader Jim Clyburn of Columbia to become the next U.S. secretary of transportation.

U.S. Rep. Marcia Fudge of Ohio, chairwoman of the group of African-American lawmakers, made the request in a letter to Obama on Monday, a copy of which was obtained by McClatchy.

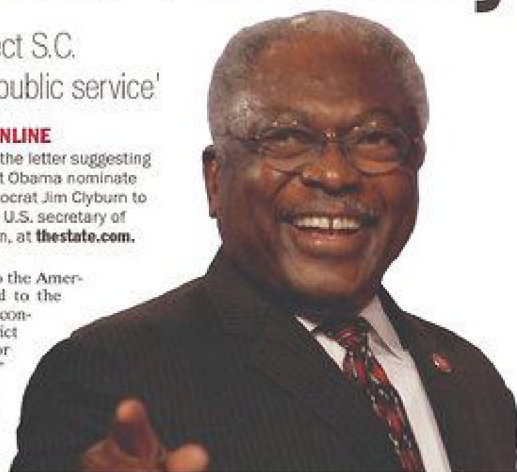
"Congressman Clyburn's legacy of

ONLINE

Read a copy of the letter suggesting that President Obama nominate Columbia Democrat Jim Clyburn to become the U.S. secretary of transportation, at thestate.com.

public service to the American people and to the citizens of his congressional district is one of honor and distinction."

SEE CLYBURN
PAGE A4



INTEGRATION AT CLEMSON COLLEGE



Harvey Gantt leaves the registrar's office at Clemson College in January 1963. Gantt was the first black student to be admitted to Clemson and the first black person to be enrolled in an all-white public institution in South Carolina.

FILM CHRONICLES GANTT'S JOURNEY

By OTIS R. TAYLOR JR.
otaylor@thestate.com

Harvey Gantt had local support when he integrated Clemson University 50 years ago.



"When I got to the door of the dining room, there was, I was greeted by an African-American," Gantt says in "The Education of Harvey Gantt," ETV's documentary film that premieres tonight. "And he was just very gracious."

ON THE AIR

"The Education of Harvey Gantt" will premiere at 8 tonight on ETV. The 30-minute film recounts Gantt's journey to becoming the first black student admitted to Clemson in 1963. Phylicia Rashad

S.C. HACKED

Senator: Monitor victims 10 years

Bill would have state pay for decade of credit report checks

By ANDREW SHAIN
ashain@thestate.com

Victims of the nation's worst computer hacking at a state agency would get 10 years of credit-report monitoring under a state Senate bill introduced Wednesday.

The 6.4 million consumers, children and businesses whose financial information was stolen from the S.C. Department of Revenue last year now are getting one year of monitoring from Experian. The state paid \$12 million for the service.

Experian has offered a second year of monitoring for \$10 million.

State Sen. Kevin Bryant, R-Anderson, who headed a special breach investigative

INSIDE

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Senator wants
legislators to
disclose all
income
sources,
Page B1

STRONG CLASS FOR CLEMSON, SPORTS SIGNING DAY 2013

METRO | CLYBURN PROPOSED FOR CABINET

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

METRO DHEC chief proposes limiting food stamp purchases of unhealthy foods, 1B

OFFICIALS: SHOOTING JUSTIFIED

Mother of man killed says she has questions about his death

By David Dykes
and Ron Barnett
Staff Writers

A 31-year-old man shot to death last month by officers firing 24 shots in the parking lot of the Law Enforcement Center was wielding a glue gun as a weapon and threatening to kill officers, authorities revealed Wednesday in calling the shooting justified.

Police Chief Terri Wilfong and Sheriff Steve Loftis have since the Jan. 14 shooting deflected questions about what happened in those pre-dawn hours and refused to say whether a weapon had been found on Wesley Kyle Swilling.

Swilling's mother, Bonnie Goin, told GreenvilleOnline.com that she has "a lot of questions" after hearing what was said at the press conference, where Wilfong and a spokesman for Loftis ended

three weeks of silence about the case.

"They said he kept advancing and they were hiding behind the cars," Goin said. "Why would you keep hiding and feel you were threatened if (he) wasn't shooting back?"

A deputy fired 22 shots at Swilling and a city police officer fired two, authorities said, and Swilling was struck by seven bullets.

The sheriff didn't attend the press

See SHOOTING, Page 5A



Maj. Shea Smith, holding a glue gun, and Police Chief Terri Wilfong discuss the shooting of Wes Swilling. KEN OSBURN/STAFF

SCHOOL PARTIES, FUNDRAISERS TEACH LIFE LESSONS IN LIVING WELL



A MOVE TOWARD HEALTHIER CHOICES

At Rudolph Gordon Elementary School, students born in January celebrate their birthdays. The once-a-month parties are part of a schoolwide effort to limit sugary snacks.

HEIDI HEILBRUNN/STAFF

THE REPLACEMENTS

3K RUN

School: Heritage Elementary
Instead of a cookie dough fundraiser, the school raised thousands with a running fundraiser.

SPIRIT ROCK

School: Monarch Elementary
For this fundraiser, families can rent the boulder for \$10 a day and paint a message that's seen by everyone who passes by. Along with birthday wishes, the rock is used to support school teams and to welcome home a parent from military deployment.

LETTUCE FUNDRAISER

School: Augusta Circle Elementary
Students sold lettuce they had grown to raise funds for a field trip.

HEALTHY PARTIES

School: Monarch Elementary
There are still classroom parties, but chocolate-covered strawberries or other fruit are offered instead of cup-



HEALTHY REWARDS

By Liv Osby | Staff writer | losby@greenvillenews.com

Sydney and Mac Street pull on rubber gloves, grab a cup of paint and head for the massive boulder in front of Monarch Elementary. School is out and a biting wind stings their faces, so they hurry, covering what's been dubbed Mount Monarch in green and orange patterns.

Though at first it may appear that they're defacing school property, they are instead involved in a new-style fundraiser, adorning the 7.5-ton stone with a message celebrating the first 100 days of one of the state's



newest schools.

Until recently, third-grader Sydney Street and her classmates would have been selling cookie dough to raise money for the Simpsonville school.

But the community made a conscious decision at the outset that Monarch, which opened last fall, would be dedicated to promoting children's health. And that goes for fundraisers, rewards and parties as well as the

See HEALTHY, Page 3A

Region looks at Mexico auto threat

Summit suggests alliance to be more competitive

By Rudolph Bell

Staff writer
dbell@greenvilleonline.com

Mexico has emerged as the Southeast's No. 1 competitor for automotive jobs, and industry experts are urging the region's automotive companies and their allies to band together to meet the growing challenge.

The experts say Mexico has recently replaced the Southeast as the North American region with the fastest-growing automotive industry, drawing \$11 billion in investment over 2010, 2011 and 2012, compared with \$7.5 billion for the Southeast over the same period.

Numerous published reports have identified BMW as among the automakers with plans to build new factories in Mexico, though the German automaker itself hasn't announced

See AUTOS, Page 3A

KIDS PAGE MOVES

The Kids Page featuring winning artwork and writing by local students moves to Thursdays, starting today, inside the Lifestyle section. It can be found on page 4D.

INSIDE

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Jumble	2D	Weather	8C



High 48
Low 39



Monopoly fans vote
to add cat, toss iron, 6C

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YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

THURSDAY, February 7, 2013

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Local athletes participate in National Signing Day
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St. Mary to auction off restored kids' desks
Living on the Go, 1C



Catholic Scouts awarded for efforts at convocation
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DHEC chief: Restrict food stamp items, cut obesity
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AREA DEATHS

Everett Daniel Towery, Aiken
Virginia Burris White, Aiken
Ralph B. Smith, Aiken
Catherine Elizabeth Flake Maddox, Warrenville
Elizabeth Woodward Sofge, Aiken
Dennis Smith Sr., Aiken
J. Calvin Melton, Williston
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

Clemson students visit Aiken PRT



STAFF PHOTO BY ROB NOVIT

Clemson parks and recreation major Daniel Rodriguez rides a lawn mower in Aiken on Wednesday. He and about 20 classmates visited with City of Aiken Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department personnel to learn about the profession. Rodriguez, 24, is an Army veteran, having served in Iraq and receiving injuries in Afghanistan. He was accepted as a football walk-on last spring.

BY ROB NOVIT
rnovit@aikenstandard.com

Clemson student Daniel Rodriguez smoothly drove a lawn mower around a short and challenging course across the street from the Aiken Visitors Center and Train Depot on Wednesday.

"Actually, that's the first time I've been on one of those tractors," he said with a smile.

Rodriguez and about 20 other Clemson parks and recreation majors met with Glenn Parker, the city's Parks, Recreation and Tourism director, and staff members to learn about their work. Rodriguez's early story has been well-documented, the 24-year-old Army veteran spent 15 months in Iraq and a year

in Afghanistan.

He didn't get into it much on Wednesday, but Rodriguez has been profiled in such publications as *The Washington Post*, *USA Today* and more. In Afghanistan he was wounded, but survived a horrific firefight in 2009 and later received a Bronze Star. After his discharge, Rodriguez had to work hard to get through emotional issues. Last summer, he walked on to the Clemson football team and in December won the 2012 Discover Orange Bowl-FWAA Courage Award.

"You can't let the horrors of war burden you without finding out what you enjoy," he said. "For me, it's football and getting my education. You realize life isn't as hard as it seems. I've got nothing to complain

about when men are overseas, fighting the war and putting their lives on the line."

Rodriguez enjoyed the opportunity to meet with Parker and his staffers. He's pleased with Clemson's parks and recreation major and wants to give back to the community by training athletes and possibly starting a sports facility of his own.

For several years, Parker and others—Athletic Superintendent Jeff Metz, Recreation Superintendent Kim Coleman and Parks Superintendent Phil Berley—have hosted Clemson PRT undergraduates to give them a real-world understanding of the careers available and the work that staffers do.

Please see PRT, Page 16A

SRR donates marker honoring first tank closure

BY MIKE GELLATLY
mgellatly@aikenstandard.com

The 1997 marker commemorating the operational closure of the nation's first Cold War-era nuclear waste tank has been donated by Savannah River Remediation to the Savannah River Cold War Artifact Collection.

In accepting the marker, Caroline Bradford, curator of the Savannah River Cold War Artifact Collection, called the donation a piece of history.

"The Savannah River Site has played a huge role in this nation's history and closing the first nuclear legacy waste tank is a very important part of that history," Bradford said. "We accept this marker to commemorate that event."

The waste tanks at SRS hold more than 30 million gallons of highly radioactive liquid waste created during Cold War nuclear weapon production.

The concrete marker was placed in front of Tank 20, the first tank closed, in 1997. It is being replaced by a new marker, which was unveiled during a celebration on Oct. 1, which commemorated the closing of the most recent tanks to be closed, Tanks 18 and 19, along with Tanks 17 and 20. In total, four radioactive waste tanks have been closed at the Site. The four tanks are located next to each other in the F Tank Farm, with the new marker located next to the area.

Tank 20 was certified closed by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control and the Department of Energy in July 1997.

Please see MARKER, Page 16A

Postal Service plans cuts to Saturday delivery

BY PAULINE JELINEK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Saturday mail may soon go the way of the Pony Express and penny postcards. The Postal Service said Wednesday that it plans to cut back to five-day-a-week deliveries for everything except packages to stem its financial losses in a world radically re-ordered by the Internet.

"Our financial condition is urgent," declared Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe. But Congress has voted in the past to bar the idea of eliminating Saturday delivery, and his announcement immediately drew protests from some lawmakers. The plan, which is to take effect in August, also brought un-

ferred a \$15.9 billion loss in the past budget year, said it expected to save \$2 billion annually with the Saturday outback. Mail such as letters and magazines would be affected. Delivery of packages of all sizes would continue six days a week.

The plan accentuates one of the agency's strong points: Package delivery has increased by 14 percent since 2010, officials say, while the delivery of letters and other mail has plummeted. Email has decreased the mailing of paper letters, but online purchases have increased package shipping, forcing the Postal Service to adjust to customers' new habits.

"Things change," Donahoe said. James Valentine, an antiques shop owner in Toledo, Ohio's two

Reactions to Postal Service changes



"It kind of stinks. I look forward to deliveries and checking the mail on Saturdays. It's a tradition." — Jessica Brilhante



"I won't get bills on Saturday anymore." — Roosevelt Crawford



"A lot of people are probably going to be aggravated about it, but most everybody does everything online. The only mail I will probably



The Beaufort Gazette

THURSDAY, February 7, 2013

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Established in 1897 50 cents

School board picks superintendent finalists

Names not released; open meetings expert says move to winnow list illegal

By **TOM BARTON**
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843-706-8169

The Beaufort County school board selected finalists Wednesday for the dis-

trict's top post behind closed doors and declined to release their names until the applicants agree to participate in another round of interviews with the board.

District officials said residents will

get a chance to meet the finalists for the superintendent's job at televised forums next week. Finalists also will meet with district teachers, administrators and school staff to answer their

questions, according to Board of Education Chairman Bill Evans.

Jay Bender, attorney for the S.C. Press Association and a freedom of information expert, said state law allows

school boards to discuss applicants in private, but must vote in public to narrow the list of candidates.

"If the list of applicants is narrowed at any time without a public vote, that is illegal," Bender said.

Please see **FINALISTS** on 7A

NEW STUDENT-ATHLETE GPA REQUIREMENT

NO FLAGS ON THE PLAY



SARAH WELLIVER • Staff photo

Family, friends, Hilton Head Island High School administrators and staff, and reporters gathered in the media center Wednesday night as 14 seniors signed letters of intent during the school's National Signing Day ceremony.

ON THE WEB

Click on this story at beaufortgazette.com to view the school district's report of middle and high school student-athlete GPAs, with breakdowns by sport and school. There's also videos of area athletes signing scholarships Wednesday.

IN SPORTS

National signing day brought plenty of activity to the Lowcountry on Wednesday. Turn to page 1B to find out where local athletes are headed.

Most county athletes meet raised academic standards

By **TOM BARTON**
tbarton@beaufortgazette.com • 843-706-8169

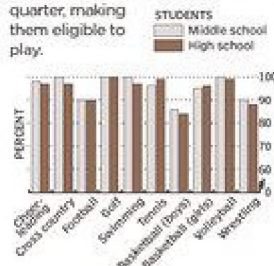
Most middle- and high-school athletes in Beaufort County's public schools maintained their academic eligibility to play sports this fall and winter despite stricter requirements.

Ninety-three percent of student-athletes met the 2.0 GPA requirement set by the Board of Education in 2011. That policy was designed to exceed academic requirements set by the S.C. High School League, the sanctioning body for public schools and a handful of private schools in South Carolina.

Please see **PLAY** on 7A

MAKING THE GRADE

Below are the percentage of students athletes in the Beaufort County School District who maintained a 2.0 grade point or "C" average in the 2012-13 winter quarter, making them eligible to play.



Source: Beaufort County School District Staff graphic

AREA WOMAN CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER

Police: Gun used bought legally

A spokeswoman did not reveal how Alice Boland acquired the weapon she allegedly tried to fire near a Charleston school.

By **ANNE CHRISTNOVICH**
achristnovich@beaufortgazette.com
843-706-8125

A Lady's Island woman facing an attempted murder charge after allegedly trying to shoot a Charleston school official Monday legally purchased the pistol, police said Wednesday.

Charleston Police spokesman Charles Francis would not say, however, where Alice Boland, 28, acquired the .22-caliber Taurus PT handgun police took from her when she was arrested in front of Ashley Hall in downtown Charleston.

A police report said Boland was pacing back and forth and mumbling to herself in the area where students gather for car pool pick-up. She drew the gun from a handbag when school officials approached her. Boland allegedly pulled the trigger several times, but the gun did not fire. She said during a bond hearing Tuesday that the gun was defective. Authorities said the



Boland

Please see **GUN** on 7A

ON THE WEB

Click on this story at beaufortgazette.com to see video of Alice Boland at her court hearing Tuesday.





New twist on an old tale

Youth Theatre rewrites classic children's story escape

Herald-Journal

THURSDAY

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HJ
IN A HURRY

5 Things to read today



Farm labor woes

Farmers are among those who welcomed a move last week by Congress to make immigration reform a legislative priority this year. But the promised changes may not be enough to solve chronic labor problems, which have been exacerbated by deportations and a stronger Mexican economy. **PAGE C4**

Vote postponed

A Senate panel on Wednesday abruptly postponed a vote on Chuck Hagel's nomination to be defense secretary as Republicans sought more information from President Obama's nominee. **PAGE A3**

Decision delayed

Caught in an ideological crossfire, the Boy Scouts of America is putting off until May a decision on whether to ease its policy of excluding gays. **PAGE A4**

Military tactics

In many ways, the rescue of a 5-year-old boy being held hostage in Alabama resembled more of a wartime situation than a domestic crime scene as civilian law enforcement relied heavily on military tactics and equipment to end the ordeal. **PAGE A5**

School calendar

Spartanburg County students won't be in schools when voters go to the polls for school board and some municipal elections this November, assuming the latest version of the school calendar is approved. **PAGE C1**

Official: Ban junk food on food stamps

State's health chief says tougher policy could curb obesity

By MEG KINNARD
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Putting restrictions on what people can buy with food stamps might be a way to cut down on South Carolina's growing obesity problem, the state's public health chief said Wednesday.

"I'm rather astonished that nobody has ever proposed it," Department of Health and Envi-

ronmental Control director Catherine Templeton told The Associated Press. "This is just a tiny part of the obesity epidemic."

Templeton's agency administers Women, Infants and Children, a federally funded program that helps pregnant women and mothers buy healthy food and covers about 130,000 in South Carolina. Under WIC, beneficiaries are limited to a list of purchases that includes items like milk, grains, and fresh fruits and vegetables.

It's that basic model that Templeton would like to see used for food stamps, or the Supplemental

Nutrition Assistance Program. Those SNAP benefits, which are also federally funded, are administered in South Carolina by the Department of Social Services. Aside from banning purchases of alcohol and tobacco, the benefits have no other limitations on consumable goods.

"The state of South Carolina would use the WIC list for SNAP recipients. Period. That would solve so many of the empty calorie issues," Templeton said. "We already do it at DHEC for children up to age 4. Why don't you expand that for households up to 17?"

At least 30 percent of South Carolina adults are considered obese, according to a 2011 survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That figure ties the state with Indiana for the seventh-highest obesity rate in the nation.

About 875,000 South Carolinians get benefits under the SNAP program, according to DSS. Agency officials said that number, which was about 630,000 in 2008, typically fluctuates with the state's unemployment rate.

Templeton said she doesn't sup-

◆ SEE FOOD STAMPS PAGE A8

Fire destroys 40 classic cars

Owner watches helplessly as lifetime collection burns

By JENNY ARNOLD
jennifer.arnold@shj.com

CHESNEE — A lifetime collection of vintage cars, mostly Studebakers, and other vehicles went up in flames at the Cherokee County home of Bantam Chef owner David H. Walker Wednesday.

Walker, 70, said a catalytic converter caught some grass on fire at about 11:30 a.m. near the large shed and garage where at least 40 classic cars he's collected over about 50 years were housed on the land where he's lived all of his life. The road is appropriately named Studebaker.

Walker thought he extinguished the fire with a garden hose. But it ignited leaves in the shed area and quickly spread.

"With the wind blowing, there was nothing I could do but look at it," Walker said.

There were also two Land Rovers, a Rolls Royce and a John Deere tractor that Walker had recently bought inside the shed.

When firefighters from Chesnee, Cherokee Creek, Macedonia, Mayo and Cliffside, N.C., arrived, they found about 40 cars on fire in the shed, plus a tour bus the family used for vacations. A small part of a wooded area also caught fire and S.C. Forestry responded, plowing a line around the fire to contain it, said Cherokee Creek Capt. Billy Bishop.

Firefighters had to shuttle water from the nearest hydrant, at least a mile away, Bishop said. When an oversized wrecker arrived from Patterson's Wrecker in Chesnee



TIM KIMZEY/TIM.KIMZEY@SHJ.COM

David H. Walker, left, looks over the damage after a fire at his home garage destroyed an RV and many of his classic cars in Chesnee on Wednesday. Walker, who owns the Bantam Chef restaurant in Chesnee, has collected and restored a number of classic Studebakers through the years.

their hoses to let the huge hauler get to the building.

After the bus was pulled out, firefighters used saws to cut a side of it off to continue fighting the blaze, which was burning through the interior and tires of the bus and sending black, acrid smoke into the air.

The Cherokee County Fire Investigation team was on the scene Wednesday afternoon. Bish-

op said firefighters remained on scene through the evening to put out hot spots.

The fire call came in shortly before fighters had eaten lunch. Several crews took breaks in the Walkers' front yard, eating Bantam Chef burgers and drinking Gatorade.

Walker's grandson, Phoenix Lawter, 10, who lives nearby on Studebaker Road, said he saw the

◆
"With the wind blowing, there was nothing I could do but look at it."

DAVID H. WALKER,
on the fire that destroyed a number of his vintage automobiles



**SIGNED,
SEALED,
DELIVERED, 1B**



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

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Paper requests more files

Former county attorney suggests there could be additional indistrict expense documents

By CHRIS TRAINOR

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The Index-Journal sent a Freedom of Information Act request to Greenwood County officials requesting any documents related to the controversial indistrict expense practice previously been released to the paper because of attorney-

client privilege.

On Tuesday, Greenwood County Council released to the newspaper a one-page memo from May 29, 2008, related to the indistrict expense funding received by several Council members from mid-2008 until early 2011. The memo was from then-county attorney Chuck Watson to then-county treasurer Ken Spate, with

then-county manager Vic Carpenter copied on the message.

The memo offered a timeline as to when the indistrict expense practice was to begin (the 2008-09 fiscal year) and noted the initiation of the indistrict expense practice was a decision of County Council.

The county released the document to the newspaper as a supplement to the

paper's sprawling June 2012 FOIA request regarding indistrict expense. Acting county attorney Stephen Baggett Jr. said the memo was only recently discovered, as a county employee found a paper copy of the document lying flat on the bottom of a drawer, beneath some drop files.



CHUCK WATSON

See FILES, page 3A

■ GREENWOOD

Baggett remains interim attorney

Council to re-evaluate position's future in July

By CHRIS TRAINOR

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Stephen Baggett Jr. will continue as Greenwood County's interim attorney until at least July, following a vote from Greenwood County Council.

Council considered the issue during Tuesday night's regular meeting. Council recently prolonged discussions on whether it wants to hire a full-time county attorney, or employ an attorney on a part-time basis.

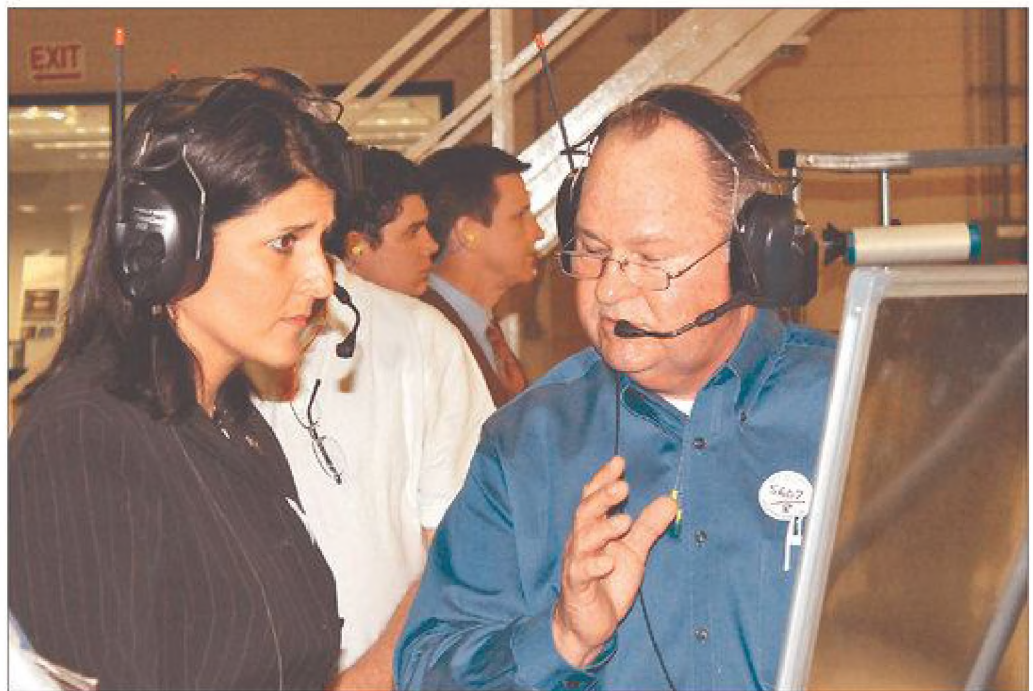
On Tuesday, Council unanimously agreed Baggett could continue as the interim county attorney, working on a part-time basis, until July. In July, Council will re-evaluate whether it wants to proceed with a full-time attorney or a part-time attorney.

Whichever direction Council takes on the attorney issue in July, the position will be advertised and attorneys who are interested will be able to apply for the post.

"Once we decide which direction we are going to go, we will have the (county) manager and HR draw up a job description and the requirements and those type of things, and then, we would put it out and we would advertise it for anybody that is interested in applying," District 6 Councilman Robbie Templeton said.

Baggett has acted as the county attorney, on a part-time basis, since July 2012. He has worked on a part-time basis at

GOVERNOR VISITS THE LAKELANDS



PHOTOS BY FRANK BUMB | INDEX-JOURNAL

Gov. Nikki Haley, left, listens to Tom Grubbs, process and product improvement manager, on production and quality control processes at the Sage Automotive Interiors Sharon plant in Abbeville. Haley and Grubbs are wearing protective earmuffs that also allow group communication at the press of a button.

DEFEND YOUR QUEEN

Governor says biggest plus for economy is to protect businesses already in SC

By FRANK BUMB

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ABBEVILLE here is no magic bullet to economic prosperity even in a favorable economic climate.

A proverbial, magic cannon

would probably be insufficient to defeat the 8.4 percent unemployment afflicting South Carolina.

In rural communities, such as Abbeville and McCormick counties, the affliction is even worse at 10.7 percent and 12.7

See HALEY, page 5A



Gov. Nikki Haley, right, hosts constituent services Wednesday at McCormick Town Hall with Lynne Oldford, of Savannah Lakes Village.



THE ISLAND PACKET

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2013

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Watch for showers and thunderstorms today. 6B

Out with the iron, in with the cat: Monopoly unveils new token 9A



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School board selects superintendent finalists

Panel withholds names in apparent violation of South Carolina law

By TOM BARTON

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The Beaufort County school board selected finalists Wednesday for the district's top post behind closed doors and declined to release their names until the applicants agree to participate in another round of

interviews with the board.

District officials said residents will get a chance to meet the finalists for the superintendent's job at televised forums next week. Finalists also will meet with district teachers, administrators and school staff to answer their questions, according to Board of Education Chairman Bill Evans.

Jay Bender, attorney for the S.C. Press Association and a freedom of information expert, said state law allows school boards to discuss applicants in private, but must vote in public to narrow the list of candidates.

Please see FINALISTS on 7A

MEET THE FINALISTS

Forums are scheduled from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Feb. 14 at district offices, 2900 Mink Point Blvd. in Beaufort. Finalists will make opening statements and take questions from the audience. The forums will be televised live on the Beaufort County Channel. Residents will be able to evaluate the finalists on the school district's website beginning Tuesday.



U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

No more Saturday delivery?

Post office seeks to end Saturday service for letters starting Aug. 5.

By MICHAEL A. MEMOLI

Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service announced plans to end Saturday mail delivery starting in August while maintaining six-day delivery of packages, a move that faces an unclear future in Congress.

Post officials said the action was critical to keeping the agency solvent. It would be the biggest change in mail delivery since the post office ended twice-daily service in the 1950s.

Please see POSTAL on 7A

RAISING THE BAR

Most area student-athletes meet 2.0 GPA requirement



SARAH WELLIVER • Staff photo

Family, friends, Hilton Head Island High School administrators and staff, and reporters gathered in the media center Wednesday night as 14 seniors signed letters of intent during the school's National Signing Day ceremony.

ATTEMPTED MURDER CASE

Police: Gun was legally purchased

By ANNE CHRISTNOVICH

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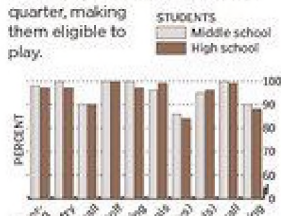
A Lady's Island woman, facing an attempted murder charge after allegedly trying to shoot a Charleston school official Monday legally purchased the pistol, police said Wednesday.

Charleston Police spokesman Charles Francis would not say, however, where Alice Boland, 28, acquired the .22-caliber Taurus PT handgun police took from her when she was arrested.

Boland
Lady's Island resident

MAKING THE GRADE

Below are the percentage of students athletes in the Beaufort County School District who maintained a 2.0 grade point or "C" average in the 2012-13 winter quarter, making them eligible to play.



By TOM BARTON

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Most middle- and high-school athletes in Beaufort County's public schools maintained their academic eligibility to play sports this fall and winter despite stricter requirements.

Ninety-three percent of student-athletes met the 2.0 GPA requirement set by the Board of Education in 2011. That policy was designed to exceed academic requirements set by the S.C. High School League, the sanctioning body for public schools and a handful of private schools in South Carolina.

Only one other state district, Richland County,

MORE COVERAGE

Signing day: National signing day brought plenty of activity to the Lowcountry on Wednesday. To find out where local athletes are headed, please see page 1B.

Soccer stars: For a video of a ceremony for nine Hilton Head Island High School soccer players who signed



Odd



SIGNING DAY

Brother signs to play with brother

Nation's No. 1 draft pick puts name on dotted line with Ole Miss. STORY AND MUCH MORE IN SPORTS

OTHER COVERAGE

- ♦ LAKE MARION'S MIKE WILLIAMS, B1
- ♦ CLEMSON CLASS CLIMBS, B3
- ♦ USC GETS LINEBACKERS, B3
- ♦ MISSISSIPPI HAS BIG DAY, B3

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Florida developer facing charge in SCSU scheme

By DALE LINDER-ALTMAN
T&D Staff Writer

A Florida developer will appear in court Friday on accusations that he offered a South Carolina State University official a Porsche for help in a land scheme.

Richard Zahn will have a plea hearing in federal court in Charleston. Zahn is facing a charge of conspiracy to defraud the federal

government, according to court documents.

The documents allege he conspired with former S.C. State Board of Trustees Chairman Jonathan Pinson to sell the university the \$3.2 million Sportsmans Retreat in Orangeburg County. Zahn's company owns the 120-acre property, which is located on Wild Heart's Road off Highway 301.

Pinson, business partner Eric

Robinson and the university's former chief of police, Michael Bartley, are facing federal corruption charges.

Bartley pleaded guilty and is out on bail while awaiting sentencing. Pinson and Robinson have pleaded not guilty. They are out on bail and awaiting trial.

According to filings by prosecutors, the scheme to sell the property to the university has been on-

going at least since 2010.

Using evidence gained through phone taps, and filings allege Zahn and Pinson discussed the issue over the phone on eight different occasions between September and November 2011.

The filings claim that during a phone call on Oct. 7, 2011, "Defendant Zahn agreed to provide Pin-

See CHARGE, A3



Zahn

Sellers faces DUI charge

By SEANNA ADCOX
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — A South Carolina legislator acknowledged Wednesday that he faces a drunken driving charge from a stop along Interstate 77 last October.

Rep. Bakari Sellers, D-Denmark, told The Associated Press that a sheriff's deputy stopped him in Chester County after the South Carolina-Georgia football game in Columbia. He said he was headed to Charlotte, N.C., after the Oct. 6 night game — which the Gamecocks won 35-7 — "to spend time with my family and go to church the next day."

"I'm not hiding from anything. I'm not running from anything," said Sellers, a 28-year-old rising Democratic star who's been



Sellers

See DUI, A3

DOGS ON ROOF



LARRY HANCO/T&D

Joe Hendrix of Orangeburg was found guilty Wednesday of two counts of mistreatment of animals. He was ordered to pay a fine and the cost of caring for the animals.

Man with 50-plus pets found guilty of neglect

By RICHARD WALKER
T&D Staff Writer

A guilty verdict was returned on an Orangeburg man charged with mistreating dozens of animals, some of which were found roaming over his roof.

Orangeburg County Chief Magistrate Derrick Dash spent about 45 minutes in chambers before deciding 50-year-old Joe Hendrix had not provided adequate care for more than 50 dogs and cats.

"The thing that sticks out the most to me about it is the inflicting of unnecessary pain," Dash said. "I think that the state has met the burden of proof, proving beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Hendrix did inflict unnecessary pain on the animals."

Dash found Hendrix guilty of two counts of ill-treatment of animals. One charge covered the 52 animals found on the former psychiatrist's North property in August. The second count was connected to another dog found on the property in January of the same year.

Animals were seized.

Hendrix was ordered to pay a fine of \$1,300 within 30 days or spend 60 days in jail. A civil judgment of more than \$9,100, reflecting the cost of caring for the animals, was also ordered against him.

Most of the animals, officials said, have been nursed back to health. They will be put up for adoption.

Other animals died during treatment or had

See NEGLECT, A3

Rep. Clyburn's name emerges for Cabinet post

T&D Staff Report

U.S. Rep. James E. Clyburn said through a spokesman Wednesday night he's "proud and honored" about being recommended for U.S. secretary of transportation, but he isn't seeking the position.

Clyburn is the assistant Democratic leader in the House. He has represented South Carolina's Sixth Congressional District — including a portion of Orangeburg County — since 1993.

"He's proud and honored that some of his colleagues think enough of him to recommend him for Transportation Secretary, but the only job change Mr. Clyburn is working on is once again becoming Majority Whip when the American people reject the Republicans' failed leadership and extreme partisan gamesmanship and Democrats win back the House," Patrick Devlin said in a statement to The T&D and other news media outlets.

McClatchy Newspapers reported Wednesday that U.S. Rep. Marcia Fudge of Ohio, chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, had written a letter recommending that President Barack Obama select Clyburn to succeed Ray LaHood, who has said he plans to leave the position. Neither Obama nor White House aides have responded yet, an aide to Fudge told McClatchy Newspapers.



Clyburn

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