

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 8/17/2016 8:41:18 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, August 17, 2016

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The Post and Courier

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Wednesday, August 17, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Obamacare customers losing Aetna

Options dwindle in S.C., other states as critics say insurers can't make profit

BY LAUREN SAUSSER
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Another health insurance company announced this week it will exit the Obamacare marketplace, a move that leaves South Carolina customers who rely on the federal law for coverage

with even fewer options next year. Aetna sells Affordable Care Act plans in 14 South Carolina counties, including Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester. Company officials announced Monday that Aetna will close this line of business in the state and in

pc Poll
Do you think Obamacare is working for you? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

only four states. United Healthcare, which also sells Obamacare plans in some South Carolina counties, made a similar announcement earlier this year. If nothing else changes, this leaves Affordable Care Act customers here with just two options for coverage next year: Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina or its subsidiary, BlueChoice.

"Companies have given it their best shot and can't sustain that business model, can't make a profit," S.C. Department of Insurance Director Ray Farnes said. "It does show that the Affordable Care Act has not worked, does not work and cannot work under this structure."

But government officials say the exchanges are improving and healthier people are signing up, which helps insurers balance the claims they get from sicker customers.

Please see AETNA, Page A6

Water supply shrinks in thirsty Carolinas

Conservation critical amid climate change, rising demand, drought



A lone tree that normally stands in water is seen during a drought in 2008 at The Hatchery on Lake Moultrie. Evaporation caused by global warming is adding to concerns about dwindling water supplies in the Carolinas.

BY BO PETERSEN
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FRANKLIN, N.C. — The abundant fresh water supply in the rainy Carolinas is apparently shrinking as demand has increased competition between a growing population and increased industrial pressure. Researchers at the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory have found the mountain streams that are a key source of water for the region are losing flow and have been since the 1970s. More than a quarter of the previous run has been lost to date at the lab's 200-acre mountain research basin where measurements have been recorded since 1934. "Stream flow increased through

pc Poll
How concerned are you about climate change in South Carolina? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

1970, then decreased," said Pete Caldwell, research hydrologist. "Some of it is forest change. More of it is climate change." Tests at the lab have shown that with the trend of warming air, trees are taking in more rain and releasing it as vapor before it can make it to the watershed.

Please see WATER, Page A7

Climate change 'one of most polarized issues in America'

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Temperatures are rising in America, along with the temperatures. Two decades ago, the issue of climate change wasn't as contentious. The leading U.S. Senate proponent of taking action on global warming was Republican John McCain. George W. Bush wasn't as zealous on the issue as his Democratic opponent for president in 2000, Al Gore, but

Inside
What local officials, business owners, lawmakers and coastal experts are saying. Page A7

he, too, talked of regulating carbon dioxide. Then the Earth got even hotter, repeatedly breaking temperature records. But instead of drawing closer together, politicians polarized.

Please see WARMING, Page A7

Travelers indicted on federal charges

22 Augusta-area residents accused in alleged schemes

BY MELISSA BOUGHTON
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Twenty-two Augusta area residents, many known as "Irish travelers," were named Tuesday in a 45-count federal indictment on charges of racketeering and other criminal activity related to the group's alleged scams.

According to allegations in the indictment, the defendants operated out of Murphy Village, near North Augusta in Aiken County, and committed a number of fraudulent schemes to obtain life insurance benefits, food stamps, Medicaid funds and fraud involving vehicle financing.

The travelers, which founded Murphy Village, self-identify as roving laborers and salesmen who offer an array of door-to-door services, according to the indictment. The men travel to other states during favorable weather to work in construction-related jobs, while the women usually remain in Murphy Village, described as insular and isolated.

"Many of the defendants are travelers and reside in Murphy Village where they own large homes, luxury cars, and expensive jewelry and clothes, which are often acquired through the fraud schemes or acquired with the proceeds of the fraud schemes described below," the indictment states.

The travelers preyed on "vulnerable and naive" victims through various crimes, including but not limited to theft, swindling and deceptive and fraudulent construction and service work, according to the indictment. Other victims included state and federal governments, financial institutions, lenders and automobile financing companies.

Please see TRAVELERS, Page A6

Inside



FOOD

New event brings renowned bartenders to Charleston. D1

NATION

Clinton hits Trump's foreign policy as he visits Wisconsin. A8

BUSINESS

Ports Authority uses survey to get input on cruise ships. B1

Runner overcomes red tape in last-minute race to Rio

Summerville grad achieves his dream, competes at Olympics

BY JEFF HARTSELL
jhartsell@postandcourier.com

Michael Phelps and Simone Biles won more medals, but few athletes at the Olympic Games have had a wilder Rio ride than Summerville High School graduate Carvin Nkanata.

Inside

Parade for Charleston Olympian Raven Saunders set. Page C2

Camacho-Quinn advances to semis of 100-meter hurdles. Page C1



Nkanata

Denied entry into the Olympic Village 10 days ago and sent back to the United States due to a passport glitch, Nkanata slashed through international red tape with the help of Charleston

attorney John Kern and won a last-minute reprieve on Monday. His eligibility restored, Nkanata grabbed a red-eye flight back to Rio to run the 200 meters for his father's home country, Kenya.

Nkanata fulfilled his dream of running in the Olympics on Tuesday, just hours after he arrived back in Rio. Officials didn't finally clear him to run until just 27 minutes before his heat, and Nkanata finished eighth in 21.43 seconds, not fast enough to advance to the semifinals.

"Man, these last 10 days have been challenging," Nkanata posted on Facebook. "Even when things seemed nearly impossible, I made it possible. I kept fighting and I never gave up. I went from being denied to compete to ultimately fulfilling my dream to run."

Please see OLYMPICS, Page A6



Partly cloudy.
High 91. Low 75.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B10

Bridge — B9 Crossword — B8, B4
Business — B1 Editorial — A10
Classifieds — C1 Food — D1
Comics — B8-9 Movies — E7
Obituaries — B4
Sports — C1
Sudoku — B7
Television — B6

Charleston Deals
today

Footlight Players
\$40 for 2 to "A Chorus Line."
See A2

USC SOCCER

USC opens the doors to its new Gamecock Soccer Complex, 1B



TRACY GLANTZ, tgantz@thestate.com

CLEMSON FOOTBALL

Clemson didn't forget fun in new football operations building, 1B

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17 2016

\$1.00

VOL. 126TH, No. 182
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TODAY: PARTLY CLOUDY; STORM CHANCE HI 96 LO 76
YESTERDAY: HI 96 LO 75 PRECIP. (as of 5 pm) 0.00"
FORECAST, 10C

The State

NORTH AUGUSTA AREA

Indictment targets Travelers for major financial crimes

Reclusive habits, exclusive homes:
Who are North Augusta's Irish Travelers?

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
croldan@thestate.com

AIKEN COUNTY

The reputation of Murphy Village's residents reaches far beyond the Palmetto State.

The North Augusta community, just past Interstate 20 in Aiken County, is home to one of the largest communities of Irish Travelers in the nation. According to the 2010 Census, about 1,400 Travelers live in Murphy Village. National counts of Travelers range be-

tween 10,000 and 40,000.

Nationwide, the community's residents have been associated with scams involving shoddy repair work. Most recently, Union County Sheriff David Taylor published an article in the local newspaper warning residents to be alert for Irish Travelers leaving their business cards around town.

On Tuesday, a federal grand jury returned an indictment of 45 counts against 22 people, most of them Travelers living in Murphy Village. The

SEE TRAVELERS, 6A

Alleged victims include state, federal governments and 'vulnerable' residents

BY JOHN MONK
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A sweeping 45-count federal indictment against 22 residents of the North Augusta area, including more than a dozen of the Irish Travelers' group, was issued Tuesday by a federal grand jury.

The indictment alleges that the defendants, most of whom live in Murphy

Village in Aiken County, were part of an organized crime ring. They are accused of committing major financial frauds, among them money laundering, as part of illegal schemes involving life insurance, food stamps, Medicaid funds and auto financing.

"Many of the defendants are Travelers and reside in Murphy Village where they own large

homes, luxury cars and expensive jewelry and clothes, which are often acquired through the fraud schemes," the indictment alleges.

Victims in the Travelers' alleged crime scheme include state and federal governments as well as various unnamed people who "appeared to be vulnerable and naive" and

SEE INDICTMENT, 6A



USC RECRUITING

BEST OF BUNCH

One of the top-rated players in N.C. commits to the Gamecocks' 2017 football recruiting class, 3B



TAKAOKI/IMAGU

Norman Arnold poses with his wife, Gerry Sue Arnold, in their living room. The photo was published in The State on May 18, 2003.



SPORTS, 1C GROWING THREAT



METRO, 3A Sprucing up home for children

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 17, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY

HIGHER PRICES LIKELY IN HEALTH INSURANCE MARKET SHAKEOUT PAGE 1B



Morris cruises to finals in pole vault

Greenville athlete among
12 women to seek medal

BRIA FELICIEN
BFELICIEN@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

Greenville's Sandi Morris qualified for the women's pole vault final at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Morris vaulted twice, easily clearing marks of 14 feet 6 inches and 14-9 to be among the 12 women who will compete for a medal on Friday.

Follow Sandi's Olympic experience in her blog, *Regards from Rio*, on GreenvilleOnline.com.

"Today has been amazing," Morris said. "I accomplished everything that I had wanted to coming out here. Just to have clean attempts at bars and to make it into finals with ease, I got that done."

The Greenville High graduate is tied for fifth place heading into the event finals.

Morris said competing in last year's World Championships at Beijing prepared her for the Olympics.

"Huge stadium, lots of fans, and kind of a foreign situation," Morris said. "It's very different being in a meet in the U.S. versus overseas anywhere. Numbers are in metrics, some officials don't speak English, they don't call out who's up, who's on deck and who's in the hole, so you just have to know where you are in line."

Joining Morris in Friday's finals is fellow American and 2012 gold medalist Jenn Suhr, who cleared 15-1 on her first attempt after missing on her first attempt at 14-9, but clearing her second.

Morris finished second behind Suhr at July's U.S. Olympics Trials in Eugene, Oregon, but Morris broke Suhr's outdoor American record of 16-1 with a 16-2 vault on July 24 in Houston.

"I went out there and I held my head high, and I knew what I was doing and I got it done."

The finals are set for Friday at 7:30 p.m. Eastern.

David Woods from *The Indianapolis Star* contributed to this report



SCHOOL OPENS



Dawn Hooker, principal at East North Street Academy, walks her children Sophie, 5, and Latham, 7, to their classrooms on Tuesday as the new school year opens. LAUREN PETRACCA/STAFF

Upstate classes get smooth comeback

A few bus delays, and
some traffic backups

NATHANIEL CARY
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AND RON BARNETT
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Greenville County Schools bus routes faced delays before and after school Tuesday with some afternoon routes up to an hour late as the state's largest school district opened the 2016-2017 school year.

Other than delayed buses, most students experienced a smooth return to school. Greenville Superintendent Burke Royster credited to teacher and staff preparation even as the district welcomed 13 first-time principals to its schools. Beth Brotherton, Greenville County Schools spokeswoman, said.

The district reported that 24 of its 361 school buses reported late by at least 15 minutes during the morning commute, citing school delays.





POINTERS FOR PREPARING A PEACHY DESSERT

FOOD & HEALTH, D1



BILES SHINES ON ANOTHER BUSY DAY IN RIO

SPORTS, B1 & B5

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Wednesday, August 17, 2016



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90°/71° 90°/70° 89°/71°

Complete forecast, B6

CAMPAIGN 2016

Clinton's fundraising spree

By Lisa Lerer
and Julie Bykowitz
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Scranton isn't a standard stop on the Democratic fundraising circuit. Yet Hillary Clinton put the working class Pennsylvania town on her itinerary — several times.

The Democratic presidential nominee and her family have made four visits to Scranton donors since launching her campaign last August, raising millions of dollars in a former industrial city more known for needing economic aid than giving it out.

"Last July, we were all pinching

ourselves and saying it's a once in a lifetime experience, but then she came back," said Grace McGregor, whose parents hosted an event Monday at their home.

Clinton is leaving no fundraiser behind as she crisscrosses the country scooping up cash. She's already been to 10 fundraisers in the first half of the month, and some of the biggest events are yet to come. In fact, she is on track to top the \$90 million she raised for her campaign and Democratic allies in July.

August has always been one of the best months to raise money because



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks at a campaign event Monday at Riverfront Sports in Scranton. CAROLYN KASTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEE CLINTON, A7

PANTHERS TRAINING CAMP TOPS 135K FANS

THAT'S A WRAP

Spartanburg practices finish with record attendance

By Alyssa Mulliger
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For the seventh consecutive year, the Carolina Panthers have drawn a record number of fans to their training camp in Spartanburg.

The defending NFC champions, who made their second Super Bowl appearance last season, attracted 135,371 fans to this year's camp held July 28-Aug. 16 at Wofford College. This is a nearly 75 percent increase — or 57,746 more fans — over the total attendance in 2015, according to data from the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Last year, a total of 77,625 people flocked to see the team's practices.

The Panthers have trained at Wofford every summer since the team's inaugural season in 1995.

Laura Corbin, spokesperson for Wofford, said she is thrilled that the 2016 training camp had a record year in attendance.

"I think it was a great camp and we provided an environ-



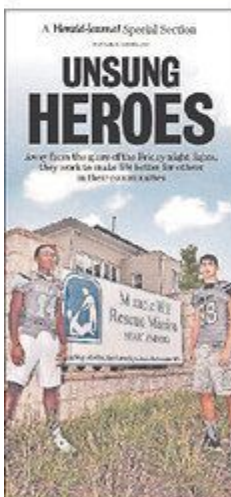
Charles Johnson poses for a photo with fans after the Carolina Panthers wrapped up training camp Tuesday at Wofford College. PHOTOS BY JOHN BYRUM/JOHNBYRUM@SHJ.COM

Leaps in attendance

Yearly visitors totals to the Panthers' training camp have risen dramatically since 2007.



INSIDE



High school football preview section

Find the Herald-Journal/GoUpstate Preps high school football preview inside today's paper.

UPSTATE

Council OKs Michelin distribution center

Plans to build a new Michelin distribution center along Highway 101 are moving forward. The Spartanburg County Council approved a third and final reading Monday on the project. County Councilman David Britt said Michelin and Panattoni Development Co. of Newport Beach, Calif., are expected to break ground on the facility later this year. C1

Belue named Cherokee County administrator

After eight years as assistant then acting administrator, Holland Belue was officially named administrator for Cherokee County. C1

NATION & WORLD

SPORTS

Bobby Ivey, Bill Pate to join S.C. Football Coaches Hall of Fame 1B



LOCAL

Smiles and a few tears mark first day of school in Rock Hill 3A



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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2016

75 cents

Chance of storms
93°/72° See 2C

The Herald

ROCK HILL

Group not backing down in bid for transparency

■ The Concerned Black Men of the city of Rock Hill answered questions and detailed plans of their mission to demand transparency from the Rock Hill Police Department at a forum Tuesday night.

BY DAVID THACKHAM
dthackham@heraldonline.com

ROCK HILL

The 30-day waiting period is up.

The serious discussions have only just begun for Brad Rawlinson.

The Rock Hill attorney spent an hour and a half Tuesday evening explaining and defending a list of 10 demands that he and his activist group gave to the Rock Hill Police Department last month that he hopes will create transparency into police actions.

"These are demands for a reason," Rawlinson said during a public forum held at the old Pix Theater on Oakland Avenue. "We're not going to drop it."

Rawlinson led a dialogue with around 30 attendees that touched on topics including cameras in patrol vehicles, changes in behavior and enacting change in black communities.

He and his group, the Concerned Black Men of the city of Rock Hill, last month marched downtown to the Rock Hill Police Department on July 16 to deliver a list of demands for action within 30 days. The group's leaders have since held meetings with Mayor Doug Echols and police Chief Chris Watts.

Officials have complied with several of the demands, including supplying data on use of force and public complaints. But other sticking points remain. Officials have been unwilling to commit to a monthly public forum or to equip all cars and all officers with dash or body cameras.

Rawlinson said he thinks that should be considered a priority, no matter the cost.

Now that the initial 30-day window has closed, Rawlinson said his group is considering new tactics: installing cameras on their own personal vehicles to monitor police actions, en-



Brad Rawlinson, an attorney and member of the Concerned Black Men of the city of Rock Hill, speaks at a public forum Tuesday evening.



An attendee at the Concerned Black Men of the city of Rock Hill forum asks a question about the group's demands to the Rock Hill Police Department as Cedric Caldwell, left, listens Tuesday evening.

courage others to speak out to the department and potentially considering litigation. The group released a second letter to the department, while planning for a second march in the coming weeks.

Rawlinson says he's received the most backlash over the term "demands." He says he shouldn't have to "ask nicely" to

ask the department to fulfill their vision statement, which includes building trust and respect in the community.

"I can tell you, as a person who's lived here most of my life, they've failed in that mission in parts of the city," he said.

"Women's rights, LGBT issues ... don't think that any of those groups asked nicely to get the

“THESE ARE DEMANDS FOR A REASON. WE'RE NOT GOING TO DROP IT.”

Brad Rawlinson, Rock Hill attorney

VIDEO

Watch a video with this story at heraldonline.com

things they wanted. People have to file lawsuits, get bitten by dogs. It's having a pretty rosy picture of how things work if you think you have to ask nicely."

Johnny Richey, a community activist, said the group's message was a little too vague. He heads an action group that provides a long-term program to help young people learn what to do during traffic stops in order to earn trust with officers and

SEE FORUM, 5A



LOCAL

YORK DOUBLE SHOOTING PROBE CONTINUES

York police are investigating a shooting that left one person dead and another injured. 3A



STATE

TROOPERS USE EMOJIS IN DUI AD

The S.C. Department of Public Safety unveiled a new PSA using emojis for its anti-drinking and driving campaign. 3A



SPORTS

YORK FOOTBALL LOSES 2 PLAYERS

The Cougars will be without Wally Wilmore and Brayden Hawkins, who are transferring. 1B

CHERRY ROAD

Shopping center plans to include Starbucks, Pet Supermarket



Pet Supermarket will lease 7,200 square feet at the proposed shopping center, and Starbucks will occupy

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

WEDNESDAY, August 17, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 230 Aiken, S.C. ★ 75¢

Sting operation nets 22

Suspects charged with racketeering in Murphy Village

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER
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Twenty-two North Augusta and Augusta residents have been indicted on racketeering and fraud charges stemming from incidents taken place inside Murphy Village near North Augusta.

Acting U.S. Attorney Beth Drake announced

the indictments Tuesday.

According to a statement, all 22 were charged in a 45-count indictment for racketeering and other crimes related to fraudulent schemes.

The indictment states the defendants operated out of Murphy Village, near North Augusta, and committed a number of fraudulent schemes in order to obtain life insurance benefits, food stamps, Medicaid funds and fraud involving au-

tomobile financing.

Those indicted from North Augusta are Hannah Carroll; Rose M. Mulholland; Kim Mulholland; Caroline Sherlock; Catherine Carroll; Anthony Carroll; Johnny M. Sherlock; Mary Rita Sherlock; Jimmy Gorman; Leslie Gorman; Leslie Ann Sherlock; Jimmy J. Carroll; Mary Costello; Mary Gorman Carroll; Renee Carroll; Rose S. Mulholland; Susan Sherlock; Tommy

Sherlock; William Carroll; and Johnny Mack.

Those indicted from Augusta are Leonard New and Angela Askew.

The indictment charges all defendants with racketeering conspiracy.

Other defendants have been charged with mail fraud, wire fraud, structuring monetary

Please see **STING**, Page 12A

Council sets millage rate, votes to add City fee on 2017 tax bills

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
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Aiken County Council rolled back millage rates at its meeting Tuesday night and also approved a resolution to add a new City of Aiken fee to County tax bills starting next year.

In its consent agenda, Council unanimously approved a resolution to establish millage rates for fiscal year 2017, which reduces the total County millage rate by 1.4 from 69.9 to 68.5, according to Aiken County Administrator Clay Killian.

Council member LaWana McKenzie was absent from the meeting.

Millage rates for fiscal year 2017 outlined in the resolution are as follows: County Operations, 54.0 mills; County Debt Service, 3.9 mills; Solid Waste, 6.0 mills; Roads, 1.5 mills; Aiken Technical College, 2.8 mills; USC Aiken, 0.3 mills; and College Acres Public Works District, 4.0 mills.

The County established rates based on the value of the mill. The value for County purposes is approximately \$621,000.

Please see **COUNCIL**, Page 12A.

The weather graphic on 12C is incorrect. The correct forecast for today includes a high of 96, low of 74 and a 30 percent chance of rain. The Aiken Standard regrets the error.

MEDAL COUNT

SUMMER GAMES 2016 MEDAL TRACKER		
As of Aug. 16 at 5:19 p.m.		
TOP 10 MEDAL WINNERS		
1.	United States	26 26 27
2.	China	15 15 18
3.	United Kingdom	18 17 10
4.	Russia	12 12 14
5.	Japan	7 4 18
6.	France	7 10 10
7.	Australia	7 8 9
8.	Germany	10 7 6
9.	Italy	8 9 6
10.	South Korea	6 3 5

AREA DEATHS

CITIZEN PRAISED FOR CHARITABLE EFFORTS



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY BARRY BORNSTEIN

Aiken resident Anne Campbell, right, reacts with excitement after learning that Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners will name a filly they own after her Monday night during Saratoga WarHorse's Blue Spangled Evening in Saratoga Springs, New York. The filly will be called Anne Dupree. Campbell's middle name is Dupree. Also pictured is Paul Orefice, immediate past chairman of Saratoga WarHorse. Campbell is a Saratoga WarHorse board member.

Anne Campbell honored in N.Y.

Saratoga WarHorse recognizes resident for work with charity

BY DEDE BILES
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An Aiken resident known for her involvement in the equine community and her support of charitable causes was the honoree at a major fundraiser Monday night in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Saratoga WarHorse recognized Anne Campbell during its fourth annual Blue Spangled Evening at the Hall of Springs.

"It was phenomenal, it really was," said Campbell in a telephone interview Tuesday morning. "There were about 250 people there, and the venue was absolutely

Campbell is a member of the Saratoga WarHorse board and also serves as the organization's Aiken community chairwoman. She was instrumental in starting a chapter of New York-based Saratoga WarHorse in Aiken.

Aiken Equine Rescue on Glenwood Drive is the home of Saratoga WarHorse Aiken, which is Saratoga WarHorse's first satellite operation.

Saratoga WarHorse offers veterans with emotional wounds the opportunity to interact and bond with thoroughbreds that have been retired from racing.

Since Saratoga WarHorse Aiken started offering classes in 2014, more than 130 veterans have participated.

"The community of Aiken has embraced this program," said Campbell in her speech during the Blue Spangled Evening. "Volunteers bring lunch to each class, they provide gift bags to each graduate, and they graciously entertain the veterans and staff in their homes with homemade dinners after each class."

Campbell also praised Jim Rhodes for his generosity in offering Aiken Equine Rescue as a site for classes after Campbell talked about Saratoga WarHorse's

Nuclear watchdog coalition sues DOE

Lawsuit requests environmental survey of waste

BY THOMAS GARDINER
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A coalition of nuclear and environmental watchdog organizations filed a lawsuit against the Department of Energy this week, seeking an injunction into planned shipments of liquid radioactive waste from Canada to the Savannah River Site.

The watchdog coalition that filed the lawsuit is comprised of seven different organizations, including Beyond Nuclear.

Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility.

Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contaminants, Environmentalists, Inc., Lone Tree Council, Nuclear Informa-

tion and Resource Service, Savannah River Site Watch and Sierra Club.

According to the coalition news release, the lawsuit charges that the Energy Department and National Nuclear Security Administration failed to provide a thorough public process as required under the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, to fully analyze the hazards of transporting liquid highly radioactive waste.

According to the release, the liquid high-level nuclear waste is a corrosive acidic mixture of dozens of highly dangerous radioactive materials including cesium, strontium, iodine, plutonium-239 and weapons-grade uranium-235, left over from the production of medical isotopes at Chalk River, Ontario, northwest of Ottawa.

Under NEPA, an environmental-impact statement must be prepared and made available for other federal agencies and citizens to review and comment on, including a discussion of alternative ways to deal with the nuclear waste.

The lawsuit alleges that the liquid form of the waste is impossible to contain in the event of a leak. The trucks will pass through some densely populated areas and pose a number of water-



Clements



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*A physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner is committed to working diligently to have you medically seen within 30 minutes of your arrival. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.

Morning News

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly sunny.
High 92, low 73.

DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents



TOP PERFORMER

► **Simone Biles** closed her Rio Games with more gymnastics gold, winning the floor exercise over teammate Aly Raisman, who took silver. Biles becomes the fourth Olympic gymnast to win four gold medals in a single Games. She has a bronze on the beam.

U.S. MEDAL HAUL



TODAY'S MUST WATCH

U.S., Netherlands battle in women's 200 meters

9:30 p.m. on NBC (live)

► Expect a good showdown between Dafne Schippers of the Netherlands and Tori Bowie of the U.S. in the 200 meters. Bowie is coming off a silver in the 100.

Forget Me Not 5K

Cheraw native to walk in honor of wife

RUN/WALK FOR A CAUSE

► **WHAT:** Forget Me Not 5K Color Run/Walk to Beat Alzheimer's
► **WHEN:** 8 a.m. Aug. 20, with day-of registration from 6:45-7:50 a.m.
► **WHERE:** on the grounds of the Southeastern Institute of Technology and Manufacturing Center on the Florence-Darlington Technical College campus
► **COST:** The 5K costs \$25 in advance and \$30 on the day of the race. To register in advance, visit florencecsrotary.org.
► **WHY:** Proceeds will go to the Alzheimer's Association to support local efforts against Alzheimer's.

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@fox17news.com

FLORENCE — Chip Ingram knows what it takes to care for someone with Alzheimer's; his wife, Teresa, was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's in 2011.

"Love, patience and acceptance are the ingredients to being an effective caregiver," Ingram said.

And it was his experiences caring for "T" — that's what he calls her — that led the 64-year-old Cheraw native to register for Saturday's inaugural Forget Me Not 5K Family Fun Color Run/Walk

to Beat Alzheimer's.

To be considered early-onset, a person's disease must be diagnosed before age 65. Teresa's Alzheimer's was diagnosed when she was 55, putting her in the fifth percentile of those diagnosed, Ingram said.

"That is what makes my journey different ... It does not only strike the older population," he said.

Ingram first began noticing a change in Teresa's work life. Teresa worked as a fifth-grade teacher at Cheraw Intermediate School



Chip Ingram of Cheraw holds a photo of his wife, Teresa "T" Ingram, who was diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's in 2011.

See INGRAM, Page 3A

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Racial Bridging Focus Group to hold pastors' breakfast today

BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY
Morning News
smccray@fox17news.com

FLORENCE — Pastors are invited to attend the Helping Florence Flourish Racial Bridging Focus Group's pastors' breakfast this morning.

The breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. at St. John's Church, 252 S. Dargan St., Florence, and will feature a performance by The Sensational Brown Brothers.

At the meeting, Savannah Grove Baptist Church pastor Ralph Canty will speak about a unity rally that was held at the church July 11.

"Reverend Canty will share briefly about what happened, and I think

See PASTORS, Page 3A

Cooks for Christ to host benefit for family's son

From staff reports

FLORENCE — The Cooks for Christ organization is sponsoring a chicken bog benefit Aug. 25 to help raise money for

Changing skyline



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA LLOYD/MORNING NEWS

Construction of the new Florence County Judicial Center is well underway.



Florence Judicial Center rising fast

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@fox17news.com

foot building is starting to take form on Irby Street.

The building is going up across from the 44-year-old Florence

LOCAL

The South's
common food to
get uncommon
treatment 3A



SPORTS

Ridgeland-
Hardeeville,
Hilton Head Prep
season previews 1B



WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17 2016

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TWITTER.COM/ISLANDPACKETHILTON HEAD ISLAND
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90°/77° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

HILTON HEAD TOWN COUNCIL

Leaders keep letter on 'lock-out' units private

Proponents and opponents of the rental unit practice asked Hilton Head Town Council members for transparency on the issue during a regular meeting Tuesday.

BY TERESA MOSS
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Hilton Head Island Town Council members ignored residents' requests to release a letter containing a legal opinion on "lock-out" units in condominium complexes prior to taking action on the issue during a

regular meeting Tuesday.

The controversial lock-out units divide a rental unit into two or more by locking or caulking a door shut. This allows the owner to collect more rent on the space. Opponents allege a safety risk because renters are unable to access electrical boxes.

A letter with a recommenda-

tion on whether the town should allow lock-out units was sent to officials by Columbia law firm Robinson, McFadden & Moore in July but has not been released to the public.

Both proponents and opponents of lock-out units have been asking for the letter to be released in recent weeks.

The units are common in Oceanwalk Villas near South Forest Beach Drive and in Xanadu Villas.

Bob Hopkins, an owner of a

lock-out unit in Oceanwalk, is among the residents who asked that the council release the document.

"I want, overall, more openness about what is going on from the town," Hopkins said.

Instead of responding to the request, Town Council instead approved a recommendation from the Public Safety Committee to have town staff meet with residents of Oceanwalk Villas along with reviewing the town's land management ordinance

“

I WANT, OVERALL,
MORE OPENNESS
ABOUT WHAT IS
GOING ON FROM THE
TOWN.

Bob Hopkins, lock-out owner

regarding lock-outs.

The action is similar to moves proponents and opponents have criticized in the past. Both sides have previously said the town is drawing out a multiple-year argument between the groups.

Henry Sanders, a resident with Xanadu Villas and opponent of the lock-outs, also said he wanted the letter released. Sanders and other opponents

SEE UNITS, 7A



RUNNING RAVENS MARK SCHOOL'S 10TH YEAR

Six-year-old Jacob Herrera, a first grader at St. Gregory the Great Catholic School in Bluffton, charges out of the school's library for the annual "Running of the Halls" to mark the first day of school Tuesday. St. Gregory followed schools in Beaufort and Jasper counties which got under way Monday. Tuesday also marked the school's 10-year anniversary.



See the students race the halls at islandpacket.com

SCHOOL BOARD

Nepotism policy may be changed

A superintendent's immediate family members could not work for the Beaufort County School District under a revised nepotism policy under consideration by the school board.

BY REBECCA LURIE
rlurie@islandpacket.com

A superintendent's immediate family members would not be allowed to work for the Beaufort County School District under a revised conflicts of interest policy that received preliminary school board approval Tuesday night.

That draft policy, approved by the Beaufort County school board on a second reading at Tuesday's meeting, includes the provision, "No member of the Superintendent's immediate family shall be eligible for employment within or as a contractor to the BCSD in any capacity."

The change comes days after Superintendent Jeff Moss admitted to ethical violations related to hiring his wife last September, and despite the fact that the board said Friday it would not do anything about the violations. On Tuesday, there was no board discussion about the

LOUISIANA

Cleanup, search for bodies in wake of flood



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Darlington County

School bond referendum headed for ballot

BY JIM FAILE
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The Darlington County Board of Education voted to move forward with a general obligation bond referendum for up to \$60 million Friday, adopting a resolution authorizing the referendum for the general election ballot in November.

If approved by Darlington County voters in November, the bond will provide funding for the construction of three new elementary schools to replace six existing and aging elementary schools by extending the existing 1-percent sales tax approved by county voters in 2003 for another 15 years.

The board considered two

referendum resolutions, one that included a component for technology upgrades using any excess money left over from the construction projects, and one without the technology component. By a 5-2 vote the board voted to go with the resolution leaving out the technology component.

Board Chairman Connell De-

laine said the next step will be to put together a campaign for the referendum. "We've got from now until election time," he said.

"I feel great, feel great," Delaine said after the meeting. "The Board of Education here in Darlington County has spoken." Jamie Morphis and Wanda Hassler cast the two "no" votes.

Morphis said after the meeting that his vote was not against a referendum, which he said he supports. But he said he would have preferred to see the technology element included in the resolution. Giving the school district the ability to use any excess funding from the bond

See BOND, Page 3A

Darlington County

Stewart has first meeting with council as interim administrator

BY JIM FAILE
jfaile@hartsvillemessenger.com

DARLINGTON — In his first council meeting as interim county administrator, Charles Stewart gave council a brief administrative report. Council appointed Stewart, the former Director of Emergency Services for the county, as interim administrator on Aug. 9, one day after former County Administrator Terence Arrington resigned.

Council never mentioned Arrington's resignation during the meeting, but said last week that it would issue a statement related to the resignation after Monday's meeting. After the meeting, Chairman Bobby Hudson provided a brief written summary of events related to last week's two special meetings and the resignation.

"At a special meeting on Monday, August 8, 2016, Darlington County Council went into closed executive session with members of Council, the County Attorney and the County Administrator. During the executive session there was discussion with the County Administrator reference his employment contract," it stated.

"No action was taken in the executive session; and at that time, the County Administrator intended to carry out the terms of his contract for the remaining six months.

"After the executive session, the County Administrator spoke with the County Council Chairman to obtain permission to seek further information from the County Chief Financial Officer and Human Resources.

"Later in the morning, the County Administrator advised the County Attorney that he had elected not to continue as County Administrator for the remaining six months of his contract. The County Administrator met with the County Attorney, the County Chief Financial Officer,

BACK TO SCHOOL



Enrico Pendegrass speaks with students prior to breakfast time on the first day back at Carolina Elementary School.



ABOVE: Aaleigh Robinson says her goodbyes to her mom, Shayla, at Carolina Elementary School Monday. LEFT: Thornwell Elementary School teacher Brittany Vasseur, left, speaks with a parent on the first day back to school for Hartsville campuses.

See COUNCIL, Page 3A

Phone scammers disguised

Hartsville



INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 91, NO. 145

indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 22 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Putting debt to a good cause

Wesley Commons announces plans to expand

By ADAM BENSON
abenson@indexjournal.com

Wesley Commons announced plans to refinance \$32 million worth of outstanding debt to help capture better financial terms as

it works toward construction of a new assisted living facility.

"This money is actually an enabler to take advantage of better interest rates and underwrite our ability to provide support at our new health facility," Wesley

Commons CEO David Buckshorn told Greenwood County Council on Tuesday night.

The Greenwood-based non-profit is required by state law to have a public hearing before it refinance the bonds. Buck-

shorn said Wesley Commons will absorb all costs related to the move — with no impact on the public.

"These bonds would be an enabler for us to continue our mission of service for hopefully another 45 years," Buckshorn said.

Also Monday, County Council Chairman Steve Brown said he

wanted to see the formation of an exploratory committee to find out how best officials can proceed on restoring the 42,000-square-foot Civic Center complex, which closed in 2009.

The site's Wilbanks Sports Complex is being targeted for

See DEBT, page 6A



STEVE BROWN

LAURENS SHERIFF RACE

Chastain endorses petition candidate to replace him

By DAMIAN DOMINGUEZ
ddominguez@indexjournal.com

Laurens County Sheriff Ricky Chastain threw his support behind the non-party-affiliated Stephanie Williams for sheriff.

Chastain lost his bid for a fourth term as sheriff against fellow Republican candidate Don Reynolds in the June primary. In a Facebook post Monday, Chastain said it was his honor to endorse and support Williams' bid for the office.

"I have had the privilege of knowing Stephanie Williams for over 23 years," Chastain said in a Facebook post. "I know Stephanie to be a true leader in the profession of law enforcement."

Williams wasn't available by phone Tuesday, and didn't respond to an email sent to his personal email address. His biography on the Stephanie Williams for Laurens County Sheriff page said he joined the sheriff's office in 1994, where he is works as a captain overseeing all investigative units.

Chastain, who could not be reached for comment, urged voters to take to the polls on

See ENDORSES, page 5A



Street parking on Lowell Avenue has made driving conditions difficult for some residents, they told City Council on Monday.

LOWELL AVENUE

Residents want

STILL GOING STRONG



Aline Barnes, executive director of Faith Home, shows off the greenhouse that makes up a small part of the 67-acre campus in Greenwood.

Faith Home celebrates 50th year

By KATIE PEARSON
kpearson@indexjournal.com

Danny Barnes used to say that you could look into the eyes of an addict as they entered the Faith Home and see hopelessness, according to his widow, Aline "Mama" Barnes. Within a few weeks, you could see a glimmer in their eyes — something he liked to call stardust.

"It's really blessed hope," Mama Barnes said.

Despite the stigma attached to alcoholism and drug addiction in 1966, Danny and Aline Barnes, along with Rex Craven, founded an organization that provided Christian-based treatment to those addicted to alcohol and drugs. This organization —



Faith Home assists people from all over the country seeking help recovering from

--

Camlin Moore

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