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SC Front Pages – Fri day, September 30, 2016

# The Post and Courier

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Friday, September 30, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

## Poll finds Trump has slight edge in S.C.

### Dems say they're making gains; Clinton seen as more capable, more dishonest

BY MAYA T. PRABHU  
and GAVIN JACKSON  
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COLUMBIA — Likely South Carolina voters said neither Democrat Hillary Clinton nor Republican Donald Trump is honest, but slightly more voters prefer the Republican businessman to lead the country, a Winthrop

University poll found Thursday.

Pollsters surveyed voters over eight days ending moments before Monday's presidential debate and found 42 percent prefer Trump, while 38 percent support former Secretary of State Clinton. A total 11 percent of voters remain on the fence or refused to answer.

"While Clinton is seen as the more capable candidate, she is also viewed

as more dishonest," Winthrop Poll Director Scott Huffman said, noting both are deeply unpopular.

"While Trump has the lead, these factors may contribute to why he is underperforming expectations of a hypothetical generic Republican versus generic Democrat matchup."

Libertarian Gary Johnson and Green Party candidate Jill Stein received 6 percent and 3 percent support, re-

spectively.

The overall results align closely with results from August Democratic polls that had Clinton and Trump tied at 39 percent and another giving Trump a 2-point lead. Like the Winthrop Poll, they are within the margin of error. A Reuters/IPSOS poll on Aug. 29 put support for both candidates at 46



Clinton

Trump

#### Inside

Trump attacks Bill Clinton's past, A10

Please see **POLL**, Page A6

## A time of tragedy, heroism in Townville

### Acts of courage praised after school shooting shakes community



MICHAEL PRONZATO/STAFF

Flowers remain under police tape strung around the perimeter of Townville Elementary School in Anderson County on Thursday.

BY DEANNA PAN and DERREK ASBERRY  
dpan@postandcourier.com  
dasberry@postandcourier.com

TOWNVILLE — The local news inside McAdam's Grocery replayed the horrific details of the past 26 hours.

A teenage gunman had killed his father before

attacking an elementary school less than a mile away down on S.C. Highway 24, wounding two students and a teacher. Meanwhile a 6-year-old was clinging to life at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

Terry Connolly stared up at the TV mounted to the wall with rapt attention.

"It hurt. It hurt," he said softly, shaking his

head. "If it was my own daughter, it would hurt, too."

The shooting Wednesday at Townville Elementary School has rattled this tight-knit rural community on the northwest edge of the state, where neighbors feel like family and the most

Please see **TOWNVILLE**, Page A4

## MUSC students press for inquiry

### Seek outside review of alleged cheating

BY LAUREN SAUSSER  
lsausser@postandcourier.com

Students at the Medical University of South Carolina want an independent group to investigate an alleged cheating scandal after College of Medicine Dean Raymond DuBois told them last week they "just don't have all the facts."



#### Poll

Should an outside agency investigate the MUSC cheating incident? Go to **postandcourier.com/polls** to vote.

A petition calling for the independent review was published on change.org at 7 p.m. Thursday. Students who wrote it specified that the investigation should be conducted by a group not affiliated with "MUSC, MUSC board members, or the South Carolina government."

The petitioners have asked this outside group to "gather all relevant facts," "make specific recommendations to improve the process" and "release a public disclosure of their findings."

The Post and Courier attempted to contact MUSC for a comment after the petition was posted but was not successful.

The newspaper learned last month that two medical school students were caught cheating on several tests and were referred to the MUSC Honor Council. That group voted to expel the students, but DuBois overturned the Honor Council's decision, allowing

Please see **STUDENTS**, Page A5

## Three arrested, charged in 2015 quadruple homicide

BY ANGIE JACKSON  
ajackson@postandcourier.com

On a quiet July night, three armed men barged their way into a home nestled behind tall pine trees on U.S. Highway 176 and gunned down everyone inside.

The five victims, the youngest being an 8-year-old boy, were shot in the head in the drug-related robbery attempt. The child was the sole survivor, but investigators say the gunman meant to kill him, too.

Deputies weren't alerted to the bloodshed until shortly after sunrise. Immediately, authorities knew people must have information about the heinous crime, but those individuals weren't speaking up.

Over a year later, and after chasing leads in several states, the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office on Thursday released news the Holly Hill community had been hoping for: three men have been arrested and charged in the July 15, 2015, quadruple homicide and attempted murder.

Anly Jermaine Scott, 35, and Derrick Warren Coleman, 27, were captured Tuesday in Foley, Alabama. Sheriff Leroy Ravenell announced at a press conference. A third man, Robert Lamont Bailey, 37, was arrested Tuesday in Eutawville. The men live in Eutawville.

They face four counts of murder as well as one count each of attempted murder.

Please see **ARRESTED**, Page A5

#### Inside



#### NATION

Crash at N.J. train stations kills one, injures at least 100. **A9**

#### LOCAL

Free bus rides to Food Lion after Bi-Lo closes. **A4**

#### BUSINESS

Port sues over alleged defects in terminal design. **B1**

## Exemptions a challenge for open-records battles

### SLED withholds footage in shooting

BY GREGORY YEE  
gyee@postandcourier.com

In the wake of recent police shootings, the public outcry for transparency has come head to head with law enforcement agencies' interpretation of freedom of information laws.

The statutes outline the public's right to records produced by government agencies but also include exemptions for law enforcement records. Those are meant for such situations as protecting the identity



#### Poll

Should SLED release the footage? Go to **postandcourier.com/polls** to vote.

of a confidential informant or keeping investigative techniques hidden from criminals.

When incorrectly used, however, the exemptions can result in records being kept out of the public eye.

Jay Bender, a Columbia-based lawyer who represents The Post and Courier, said the exemptions are broadly written and can be difficult to contest.

Please see **EXEMPTIONS**, Page A6



Sunny and clear  
High 85, Low 67.  
Complete 5-day  
forecast. **B10**

Bridge ..... B9  
Crosswords ..... B8, D1  
Movies ..... B7  
Business ..... B1  
Dear Abby ..... B7  
Obituaries ..... B4  
Classifieds ..... B1  
Editorials ..... A12  
Sports ..... C1  
Comics ..... B5-9  
Local ..... A2  
Television ..... B6



Palmetto Goodwill's  
Hippie Dash  
\$15 to register (\$20 value). **A2**



## THE FLOOD OF 2015

### What have we learned?

South Carolina, braced for a hurricane, was leveled by a flood instead. On Sunday, The State examines the factors that made the historic rainfall so destructive and considers what Midlands residents have learned in the year since. Online subscribers can read this content now at [http://bit.ly/Flood\\_Anniversary](http://bit.ly/Flood_Anniversary).

- Among the online-only features:
- What can parents do to prevent long-term trauma for their children?
  - See "before," "during" and "after" photos of flood-stricken areas.
  - View a video animation that shows the chain of flooding and dam failures.



FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30 2016

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YESTERDAY: HI 90 LO 69 PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) 0.00"  
FORECAST, D.C.

# The State

## ANDERSON COUNTY SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

### Official: 'This was more than just another call to us'



JAY REEVES/Associated Press

Fire Chief Billy McAdams speaks with reporters about the school shootings during a news conference in Townville.

BY KATE BRUMBACK  
AND JAY REEVES  
Associated Press

#### TOWNVILLE

When two firefighters rolled up to an elementary school shooting, they said they found only a wrecked black pickup truck at the playground. There was no gunman, and no one inside the truck.

Within minutes, though, they performed actions that led to them being hailed as heroes: One went inside to help treat the wounded and the other searched for the shooter.

"This was more than just another call to us. This incident occurred in the school where our children and the children of the community attend," Townville Fire Chief Billy McAdams said Thursday during a news conference, pausing to collect himself and he recalled the harrowing events of the day before.

Authorities say the teen shot his father at their home before driving the pickup to Townville Elementary School and opening fire on the playground.

SEE SHOTS, 5A

## 2016 ELECTIONS: WINTHROP POLL

### Poll sees a narrow lead for Trump in SC

■ Republican Donald Trump narrowly leads Democrat Hillary Clinton among S.C. voters, according to a new Winthrop Poll.

BY JAMIE SELF  
[jself@thestate.com](mailto:jself@thestate.com)

South Carolina voters prefer Donald Trump as their next president only slightly more than they prefer Hillary Clinton, according to a new Winthrop Poll.

But they mostly dislike both candidates.

Despite that, Palmetto State voters overwhelmingly say the outcome of the November election is important to their personal future and the future of the country.

Released Thursday, the poll shows Republican presidential nominee Trump with 42 percent support among likely S.C. voters. Clinton, the Democratic nominee, trails close behind at 38 percent.

Trump's lead is within the 4.5 percentage-point margin of error for the 475 likely voters who were surveyed from Sept. 18-26, ending before the first presidential debate.

On social media, S.C. Democrats lauded the poll's results as evidence November's presidential match-up will be compet-



Clinton



Trump

#### MORE INSIDE

- Details from the poll. **6A**
- Time for Trump to play the sex-scandals card? **4A**
- Did a Trump company violate the Cuba embargo? **6A**

## HEROES IN BLUE

### Four are helped by legacy of slain Forest Acres officer





# The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016  
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY INVESTIGATORS PROBE NEW JERSEY TRAIN CRASH PAGE 1B

## HEARTBREAKING

First-grader fights for his life; teen due in court for hearing today



HEIDI HEILBRUNN/STAFF

Family and friends of Jacob Hall, the Townville Elementary student who was in critical condition after being shot at his school, gather for a prayer circle in Powdersville on Thursday.

### 'We're waiting and hoping for a miracle'

NATHANIEL CARY  
NCARY@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

As 6-year-old Jacob Hall clung to life Thursday on life support in the intensive care unit at Greenville Memorial Hospital, family and friends gathered to pray for the boy his brother described as a happy, intelligent, God-fearing child who would pray every night for others.

The family said late Thursday that Hall had sustained a major brain injury due to the amount of blood he'd lost. He has been placed on life support, the family said in a state-



Jacob Hall

See JACOB, Page 9A

#### HOW TO HELP

Fundraising and messages of support are growing in the wake of the Townville shooting.

- » A GoFundMe page was set up by a family friend of 6-year-old victim, Jacob Hall, who was airlifted to Greenville Memorial Hospital Wednesday. The GoFundMe goal is \$75,000. More than \$59,000 had been raised by Thursday night, including a \$5,000 donation from the GoFundMe team.

- » LaFrance Elementary has a hat day today. Students, teachers and staff can wear hats to school if they donate a dollar for the victims.

- » The Townville Fire Department and The Blood Connection will host a blood drive to honor Hall on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### INSIDE

- » Townville fire chief praises community, 3A
- » Tragedy stays on minds of parents, 3A

### 14-year-old shooter's motives a mystery

NIKIE MAYO  
NIKIE.MAYO@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

One night this week, before life in rural Townville changed for so many, the teen accused of opening fire on an elementary school told his father goodnight and said he loved him.

That ordinary detail seems extraordinary now, as the same 14-year-old boy prepares to face a judge today in the Anderson County Courthouse. He is accused of killing his father, taking his truck, then shooting two children and a teacher at Townville Elementary School.

"The great question is: 'Why?'" said James South, a cousin of the teen and a Liberty minister. "Everyone, including us, wants to know the an-

See MOTIVES, Page 9A

## Gov. Haley approves GHS bond transfer

LIV OSBY  
LOSEY@GANNETT.COM

Gov. Nikki Haley on Thursday approved Greenville Health System's plan to move its \$600 million bond debt from the public nonprofit to its new

multi-regional health system. As a result, GHS leases its assets to an Upstate Affiliate Organization, which operates existing GHS hospitals and facilities, and the SCO makes decisions about the direction of the system and has the financial re-

classified the bonds from governmental to nonprofit and would not add any new debt, according to Michael Riordan, CEO of the SCO.

But failure to shift the bond debt would mean an extra \$167 million in federal interest be-

to the hospital and to legislators who opposed the transfer.

"If I do not approve this request, IRS regulations would cost GHS \$167 million in financing fees starting Oct. 1," she said. "For these reasons, I have approved the bond reclassification





## REGION PLAY KICKS OFF

D.W. Daniel and Wren look for hope in season's turning point. **1B**



LOCAL SECTION, 3A

ESPN TV time helps Clemson draw in students

# Independent Mail

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

## TOWNVILLE SCHOOL SHOOTING

# CHILD, 6, CLINGING TO LIFE



Family and friends of Jacob Hall, the Townville Elementary student who is on life support after being shot at his school, gather for a prayer circle in Powdersville on Thursday.

NATHANIEL CARY  
NCARY@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

As 6-year-old Jacob Hall clung to life Thursday on life support in the intensive care unit at Greenville Memorial Hospital, family and friends gathered to pray for the boy his brother described as a happy, intelligent, God-fearing child who would pray every night for others.

The family said late Thursday that Hall had sustained a major brain injury due to the amount of blood he'd lost. He has been placed on life support, the family said in a statement to *The Greenville News*.

Hall was shot in the leg Wednesday afternoon by a gunman who opened fire at first-grade students as they played on the playground outside Townville Elementary School in Anderson County.

He remained in critical condition late

"He's in ICU now where a team of doctors are working to stabilize him. Once stabilized, he will face yet another surgery."

ALAN CLEMMONS  
STATE REP. AND FRIEND OF HALL FAMILY

### Online

View a photo gallery of the prayer circle at [independentmail.com](http://independentmail.com)

Thursday afternoon, according to a statement released by the hospital, while family members begged the community to continue to pray.

"We're waiting and hoping for a miracle," said one of Hall's older brothers, Gerald Gambrell.

Hall was revived twice in the moments after the shooting, according to State Rep. Alan Clemmons, who said he is a friend of the family. In a widely shared post on Facebook, Clemmons said Hall had been shot in the femoral artery.

"He died twice, and was revived, during medical transport and again during surgery," Clemmons said. "He's in ICU now where a team of doctors are working to stabilize him. Once stabi-

See PRAYERS, Page 4A

Suspect, 14, due in court; relative says 'why' unknown

NIKIE MAYO  
NIKIE.MAYO@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

One night this week, before life in rural Townville changed for so many, the teen accused of opening fire on an elementary school told his father good-night and said he loved him.

That ordinary detail seems extraordinary now, as the same 14-year-old boy prepares to face a judge Friday in the Anderson County Courthouse.

He is accused of killing his father, stealing his truck, then shooting two children and a teacher at Townville Elementary School.

"The great question is: 'Why?'" said James South, a cousin of the teen and a Liberty minister. "Everyone, including us, wants to know the answer to that question."

In an interview with the Independent Mail, South painted a portrait of a boy who was a straight-A student and who went camping with his grandparents less than a month ago.

"Nobody saw this coming," South said. "There were no huge, weird family circumstances. He wouldn't do his chores sometimes, but that's about it."

South acknowledged that there was, however, a situation that led to the teen being homeschooled.

South said he had few details of what happened, but that he believed the teen had been bullied and "kicked into a urinal" at a school and that it caused him to make a "foolish choice."

South said speculation on social media about the teen and guns was wrong, but acknowledged that the teen played Airsoft. Airsoft involves players who shoot small, plastic pellets at one another with weapons that resemble real guns. South bristled at the notion that the teen's play led him to violence.

"He did Airsoft just like 80 percent of rural kids do ... but it's just asinine to say that led to this," South said.

Many questions remain about what happened before and during the Wednesday shootings.

Anderson County Coroner Greg Shore completed an autopsy of Jeffrey Osborne's body Thursday and confirmed that Osborne had been shot multiple times. Shore said it appears

## Residents looking for answers, solace

KIRK BROWN  
KIRK.BROWN@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

Mary Lee had trouble sleeping Wednesday night.

shooting.

"I couldn't help but just sit there and hold her all night," she said while waiting in her car to pick up her daughter from school Thursday afternoon.

Sharonda Greer also was thinking about the school shooting as she waited in the car line at Pendleton Elementary to pick up her four children, ages 4 to 11.

"Just all kinds of stuff goes through

See SUSPECT, Page 9A





## PREP FOOTBALL REGION PLAY GETS UNDERWAY

SPORTS, B1



## MANY WILL GET A BREAK IN POWER BILL

UPSTATE, C1

# Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Friday, September 30, 2016



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TODAY SAT SUN



78°/49° 79°/51° 81°/53°

Complete forecast, B8

### UPSTATE

#### Courthouse to fully reopen after cleanup

Spartanburg County courthouse operations should be back to normal by Monday as mold remediation finishes and employees move back to their respective offices. C1

### NATION & WORLD



#### Examining Chicago's alarming murder rate

There were 91 homicides in Chicago in August, the deadliest month in the city in two decades and the latest milestone for a metropolis becoming known for its murder rate. Already, killings here have jumped 46 percent over the same period last year, climbing past the 500 mark — a total larger than Los Angeles and New York combined. A6

### SPORTS

#### Orlando to host ACC football title game

The ACC is moving its 2016 football championship to Orlando's Camping World Stadium. Orlando emerged as a possible location after the ACC joined other sports leagues in pulling out of North Carolina amid backlash over controversial state House Bill 2. B1

### CAMPAIGN 2016

NEW JERSEY

## 1 dead, 100-plus hurt in train crash



People examine the wreckage of a New Jersey Transit commuter train that crashed into the train station during the morning rush hour Thursday in Hoboken, N.J. The crash caused an unknown number of injuries and witnesses reported seeing one woman trapped under concrete and many people bleeding. PHOTOS BY WILLIAM SUN VIA AP

#### Broke barrier at Hoboken station; engineer working with investigators

By David Porter and Karen Matthews  
The Associated Press

HOBOKEN, N.J. — A rush-hour commuter train crashed through a barrier at the busy Hoboken station and lurched across the waiting area Thursday morning, killing one person and injuring more than 100 others in a grisly wreck that renewed questions about whether long-delayed automated safety technology could have prevented the tragedy.

People pulled chunks of concrete off pinned and bleeding victims, passengers kicked out windows and crowded to safety, and



Structural damage is seen at the train station in Hoboken, N.J., after a New Jersey Transit commuter train crashed into the station during the morning rush hour, Thursday, Sept. 29.

wires just across the Hudson River from New York City.

The New Jersey Transit train ran off the end of the track as it was pulling in around 8:45 a.m., smashing through a concrete-and-

just didn't stop," said Tom Spina, who was in the terminal and rushed to try to help the victims.

Ross Bauer was sitting in the third or fourth car when the train entered the his-

'MORE THAN JUST ANOTHER CALL'

## Fire chief talks about school shooting

By Kate Brumback and Jay Reeves  
The Associated Press

TOWNVILLE — When two volunteer firefighters rolled up to an elementary school shooting, they said they found only a wrecked black pickup truck at the playground. There was no gunman, and no one inside the truck.

Within minutes, though, they performed actions that led to them being hailed as heroes throughout their tight-knit South Carolina hometown: One went inside to help treat the wounded and the other searched for the shooter.

"This was more than just another call to us. This incident occurred in the school where our children and the children of the community attend," Townville Fire Chief Billy McAdams said Thursday during a news conference, pausing to collect himself as he recalled the harrowing events of the day before.

Authorities say the teen shot his father at their home before driving the pickup 3 miles down a country road lined with chicken houses and pine trees to Townville Elementary School. He only had to make two turns to arrive at the red brick school, where he crashed the truck, got out and fired at a door as it was being opened for recess, authorities said.

Bullets struck two students and a first-grade teacher, and the building was immediately placed on lock down.

One of the wounded, 6-year-old Jacob Hall, remained in critical condition Thursday and was said to be fighting for his life. A sign outside a diner conveyed the sentiments of an entire community: "Pray for Jacob. Pray for Townville."

The teacher who was shot in the shoulder and another student who was hit in the foot were treated and released from a hospital, officials said. The teen was arrested minutes after



# Emerald football goes international

## Sports, 1B

# INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 24 PAGES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

# More than another call

## Chief talks about school shooting and quick response

By KATE BRUMBACK  
and JAY REEVES  
Associated Press

TOWNVILLE, S.C. — When two volunteer firefighters rolled up to an elementary school shooting, they said they found only a wrecked black pickup truck at the playground. There was no gunman, and no one inside the truck.

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"This was more than just another call to us. This incident occurred in the school where our children and the children of the community attend."

— BILLY McADAMS  
Townville fire chief on responding to the shooting

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where he crashed the truck, got out and fired at a door as it was being opened for recess, authorities said.

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One of the wounded, 6-year-old Jacob Hall, remained in critical condition Thursday and was said to be fighting for his life. A sign outside

See CALL, page 4A



ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Korrie Bennett hugs Heather Bailey after recovering their children following a shooting at Townville Elementary on Wednesday in Townville.

# A FAMILY AFFAIR

## Fairground owner hoping for good turnout this weekend

By CONOR HUGHES  
chughes@indexjournal.com

Last year's thousand-year flood forced Curtis Teems to cancel the Greenwood County Fair.

Now Teems, who owns the Greenwood County Fairgrounds, is hoping to make up for lost time.

The fair's opening night was rained out Tuesday and Teems said Wednesday he hoped for better weather the rest of the week.

"I'm looking for an awesome year because we got rained out last year the whole week," he said. "I think we're gonna have a great week as long as the good Lord is good to us with

See FAIRGROUND, page 4A



Parents and children ride the carousel Wednesday at the Greenwood County Fair.

CONOR HUGHES | INDEX-JOURNAL

## TOWNVILLE TRAGEDY

## United Way collecting cards, money

From staff reports

Crying elementary students. Shaken parents clutching their children.

Police tape strung across the schoolyard.

These images appeared in newspapers and on screens across the nation after a shooting at a school just 55 miles from Greenwood that sent two children and a teacher to the hospital.

The United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville Counties is giving those in the Lakelands a way to help their fellow South Carolinians in the wake of the shooting at Townville Elementary School. The nonprofit is accepting monetary donations as well as cards and letters to be delivered to Anderson County.

"We want to completely overwhelm the students and teachers with love and what better way to do this than to send uplifting notes of support," said Denise Manley, United Way president and CEO, in a press release. "Children understand when another child is hurting and drawing a picture is a way

See MONEY, page 4A

# Klauber's influence remains for GGC, family

From staff reports

Dr. Bill Klauber's presence is still felt at the Greenwood County

Through the Klauber Trust, Klauber continued to help GGC after his death through his estate providing funds for campus development.

versity. She worked in the Cytogenetics Laboratory in 2015 as an intern.

"My grandfather influenced him, and he influenced me. It definitely





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# Morning News

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

**TODAY'S WEATHER**  
Humid with some sun.  
High 88, low 60.  
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Ashleigh McIntyre (Left to right), Heather Harpe and Brittney Edwards, all of Raines Hospitality, were on hand Thursday evening at The Dispensary for a party hosted by the Florence County Economic Development Partnership.



JOE PERRY/MORNING NEWS

## Party gives sneak peek at rooftop bar

From staff reports

FLORENCE — The Dispensary was packed early Thursday evening for a party hosted by the Florence County Economic Development Partnership as attendees got a sneak peek at Florence's new

rooftop bar.

Suzy Ruffal of Community Broadcasters announced that a new TV and radio studio will take shape in the Kress Corner in the coming months and hopefully be ready by year's end.

Apartments and commercial

tenants are also part of the continuing project at the corner of West Evans and Dargan streets as the Town Hall restaurant underneath continues to bring in crowds to downtown's newest landmark.

The Dispensary is scheduled for a grand opening Oct. 6.

## Pee Dee Coalition to host Walk/Run

From staff reports

FLORENCE — The Pee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault is hosting the 4th annual Breaking Free 5K/15K Walk/Run on Saturday to recognize the start of

### IF YOU GO

» **WHAT:** Breaking Free 5K Walk/Run  
» **WHERE:** The event starts at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1021 S. Ebenezer Road  
» **WHEN:** Registration 8 a.m., walk/run 9 a.m. Saturday

Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Registration for the event will begin at 8 a.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church at 1021 S. Ebenezer Road in Florence. The walk/run is set to start at 9 a.m.

Jami Beams, communication director of the Pee Dee Coalition, said about 200 runners are expected to participate in this year's event, in addition to more than 50 volunteers.

All proceeds from the Breaking Free Walk/Run will benefit the Pee Dee Coalition safe shelter for women and children. Since the shelter opened in 1989, the coalition has provided more than 138,000 nights of emergency safe lodging and services to more than 6,800 women and children.

The event also brings awareness to Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which connects advocates across the nation who are working to end violence against women and children.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, an average of 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner. That is more than 10 million women and men each year. Throughout their lifetime, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men experience some form of physical violence at the hands of an intimate partner.

South Carolina has ranked in the top ten nationwide for homicides of women by men for the last 19

# Always have hope



MEGAN MAY/MORNING NEWS

John Isgett and Donna Isgett chat with Joey Saleeby before "An Evening of Hope" at the Florence Little Theatre on Thursday. Proceeds from the show benefited the HOPE Fund.

## Evening event benefits area cancer patients

BY MEGAN MAY  
Morning News  
mmay@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Hope was the theme throughout Thursday night at the Florence Little Theatre.

"An Evening of Hope" was

hosted by the McLeod Center for Cancer Treatment and Research, which benefited the HOPE Fund (Helping Oncology Patients Everyday). The organization helps cancer patients with a variety of services such as transportation, educational resources, medi-

cation needs and financial support. This year it also began a program called "We've Got You Covered," which gives cancer patients a voucher for a wig or head covering sold at McLeod.

Robin Aiken, chairwoman of the HOPE Fund advisory

committee, was there when the program started two years ago. She watched her sister go through pancreatic cancer for over two years in North Carolina and drew inspiration from that experience.

See HOPE, Page 3A



## Making an IMPACT

FMU women's basketball team hosts Draft Day for newest, youngest signee

BY JESSICA IMBIMBO  
Morning News  
imbimbo@florencenews.com

Ten-year-old Darlington native Toriana Douglas is now an



# THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Darlington County's News Leader Since 1893

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

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## Police respond to bomb threat, find nothing

From Staff Reports

The Hartsville Police responded to a call of a bomb threat at CareSouth Clinic in the 1200 block of South Fourth Street Thursday afternoon, according to Lt. Mark Blair of the Hartsville Police Department.

In response, all staff and patients were evacuated without incident, Blair said.

According to a CareSouth

spokesperson, about 50 staff, physicians and patients were walked to the east side of the property.

In an email sent out to employees, CareSouth commended its staff for their professionalism.

"At a little after 1 p.m. today, the Suite A Pediatric front office received a call on the 'back line,'" the email read. "The medical assistant in the front office received the call and handled the event per-

fectly, staying calm, getting as much information as possible, letting other staff know what was happening and insuring that the police were called. She was outstanding."

A bomb detecting dog and handler from Florence County assisted with conducting a thorough search of the building.

"The police response was extraordinary," the

See BOMB, Page 3A



Staff and patients of CareSouth Clinic, located in the 1200 block of South Fourth Street in Hartsville, were evacuated from the facility after receiving a bomb threat phone call shortly after 1 p.m. Thursday.

KENT MAHONEY/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

## Tournament of bands this weekend

From Staff Reports

The Hartsville High School band program will host the always exciting 30th Annual Dr. Ray Sowell Tournament of Bands at Kellytown Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 1, beginning with opening ceremonies at 1:45 p.m.

You'll remember that last year's event had to be cancelled due to awful weather. So, we are anxious to celebrate this year.

A total of 24 marching bands will perform, with the first performance beginning at 2 p.m. Hartsville High School's Red Regime will perform at 9:15 p.m. There will be a top class judging panel on hand.

Tickets will be \$7 for adults and \$4 for children, and concessions will be available. Kellytown Stadium is located at 216 Clyde Road in Hartsville, adjacent to West Hartsville Elementary School.

## Wilson Senior Care buys Myrtle Beach facility

From staff reports

DARLINGTON — Wilson Senior Care, headquartered in Darlington, announced the purchase of Grand Strand Healthcare, an 88 bed skilled nursing facility located at 4452 Scaestate Boulevard in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Wilson Senior Care (WSC) is an established healthcare provider focusing on senior care services for more than 50 years. The addition of Grand Strand Healthcare will allow WSC to serve the citizens of Myrtle Beach and surrounding areas.

"We were honored when the former owners approached us about purchasing Grand Strand Healthcare," said Dennis Lofe, president and CEO of Wilson Senior Care. "I am proud of Wilson Senior Care's reputation in the healthcare

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ARADIE ARVIDSON/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

The Hartsville Soup Kitchen, a mission of Wesley United Methodist Church, has received a \$60,000 grant from The Byerly Foundation to renovate its kitchen. The announcement was made at a dinner for volunteers at Wesley UMC on Sept. 15. From left, Greg Rogers, coordinator of the Soup Kitchen, the Rev. Fran Elrod, pastor at Wesley UMC, Frankie Bush, chairman Soup Kitchen Management Board, and Dick Puffer, executive director of The Byerly Foundation.

## Soup kitchen receives grant for renovations

BY ARADIE ARVIDSON  
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The Hartsville Soup Kitchen, a mission of Wesley United Methodist Church, recently received a Byerly Foundation grant for \$60,000 to renovate the kitchen and bathroom.

At the beginning of the year, Wesley had a planning session, where the committee chairman asked members for their God-sized dreams for the church.

"My God-sized dream was to

enlarge our soup kitchen," said Frankie Bush, chairman Soup Kitchen Management Board. "I told the Byerly Foundation that this was a God-sized dream, and they accepted our proposal."

Since 1998, volunteers have worked in a small 8' x 11' kitchen.

"Last year we prepared 22,000 plates of food in that space," she said.

The new kitchen will provide them with approximately 75 square feet more space to pre-

pare food.

Funds will also be used to renovate a bathroom to make it handicapped accessible.

The soup kitchen operates on donations with approximately \$25,000 dollars needed each year to purchase supplies and additional food products. All donations are tax deductible.

Currently, 21 churches and teams serve lunch on a rotating basis, serving three or four times a quarter.

More than 200 volunteers

support the mission with their time.

"We received contributions from Walmart, BI-LO, and Harvest Hope," Bush said. "Through our abundance of food we provide many pounds of food to the Carolina Kids for their backpack program and other local approved groups who need supplies."

Bush said any group or church that would like to form a serving team is invited. To do so, call Wesley Church at 843-332-1196.

Byerly Foundation Board approves \$100,000 in grants

SCHMOTZER BROTHERS SPEAK TO LIONS



# the Sumter ITEM

SPECIAL SECTION

Projects to tackle this autumn

Fall FIX-UP 2016, see page C1

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KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Sumter Police Chief Russell Roark and Sheriff Anthony Dennis talk about the chase and shootout with Dontrell Montese Carter and the efforts to apprehend him.

## Authorities still searching for Carter, asking for help

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
adrienne@theitem.com

Local authorities are seeking the public's help in locating 25-year-old Dontrell Montese Carter, who is wanted in a domestic violence incident and for firing at officers and civilians in the early hours of Sept. 18.

The incident began shortly after 12:30 a.m. when 911 dispatch received a call from the mother of Carter's girlfriend saying he was fighting her daughter at her daughter's residence on Sarah Glen Drive in Dalzell.

Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis said Carter struck the victim several times in the face before leaving the residence and traveling to her uncle's residence on Jerry Street, shooting at the house about 1:10 a.m. and driving away.

A Sumter police officer spotted Carter's Honda Accord at U.S. 521 and Alice Drive about 1:15 a.m., and a high-speed chase between Carter, a police officer and two sheriff's deputies began.

The vehicle pursuit came to a halt on U.S. 521 near Furman Field Road in Rembert when Carter

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## Flying high at Sumter fair



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Members of the High Flying Pages soar through the air Wednesday night during their performance at Sumter County Fair.

## Helicopter rides newest attraction for county fairgoers

BY JIM HILLEY  
jim@theitem.com

Something new at this year's Sumter County Fair is helicopter rides.

For \$20 passengers get a 4-minute ride and for \$40 an 8-minute ride. The helicopter has room for a pilot and three passengers.

Passengers can be taken around the fairgrounds or over Swan Lake-Iris Gardens, said Warren Hart Mayer, one of two pilots flying in Sumter this week.

Mayer, along with Patrick Schoolcraft, are the pilots offering rides.

The duo works for Carolina Helicopter Tours, 345 Hicks Road in



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emergency personnel work outside the rail station Thursday after a train crash in Hoboken, N.J. A commuter train plowed into the bustling rail station during the morning rush hour.

## Passenger train going to station crashes; 1 dead

HOBOKEN, N.J. (AP) — A rush-hour commuter train crashed through a barrier at the busy Hoboken station and lurched across the waiting area Thursday morning, killing one person and injuring more than 100 others in a tangle of broken concrete, twisted metal and dangling cables, authorities said.

People pulled concrete off bleeding victims and passengers kicked out windows and crawled to safety amid crying and screaming after the arriving New Jersey Transit train ran off the end of its track. It apparently knocked out pillars as it ground to a halt in the covered waiting area, collapsing a section of the roof onto the first car.

"All of a sudden, there was an abrupt stop and a big jolt that threw people out of their seats. The lights went out, and we heard a loud crashing noise — like an explosion — that turned out to be the roof of the terminal," said Ross Bauer, who was sitting in the third or fourth car when the train was pulling into the historic 109-year-old station for its final stop.

"I heard panicked screams, and everyone was stunned."

Gov. Chris Christie said a woman standing on the platform was killed by debris. A total of 100 others were injured, mostly on the train, Christie said; 74 were hospitalized.

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