

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 2/24/2016 9:30:20 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, February 24, 2016

SC Front Pages – Wednesday, February 24, 2016

SPORTS

TOURNEY MINDSET



LIFESTYLE

Ten fresh
pasta ideas
for dinner

Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 24, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY HOW BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES VIEW GITMO PAGE 1B

★ ELECTIONS 2016 DEMOCRATIC TOWN HALL

DIFFERENCES SLOW TO SHOW

AMANDA COYNE
THE GREENVILLE NEWS

Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Sen. Bernie Sanders dissected the differences between them at CNN's Democratic Town Hall on Tuesday at University of South Carolina in Columbia.

The two candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination agree on the general aspects of many issues — the criminal justice system needs to be reformed, college should be afford-

able, health care should be accessible for all — but have key differences in the details and applications of their policy.

One of those key differences lies in the candidates' higher education plans. Both want college to be affordable for all students. Sanders wants to provide free public college for every student, while Clinton wants tuition to be free for middle- and working class students, but not for "my family and Donald Trump's family," who have the means to pay for college out of pocket. Clinton also wants to subsidize tuition to private histori-



INSIDE

Democratic candidates discuss immigration issue.

Page 3A

cally black colleges and universities (HBCUs), while Sanders does not; 51 of the 100 HBCUs are public institutions.

Some have hit Sanders for his exclusion of private HBCUs, saying it would drive costs up and enrollment down; this is a criticism Rep. Jim Clyburn, who endorsed Clinton last week, has leveled. When asked about his college affordability plan by a first-generation student enrolled in a private HBCU, Sanders said his plan

See DEMS, Page 5A



No toeing the line with Stein

Easley property owner refuses settlement offer in Doodle Trail suit

RON BARNETT
RBARNETT@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

A painted white line runs down the middle of Jack Stein's driveway on Mauldin Road in Easley. The line marks the boundary of the property the federal government is "taking" from him as part of the right-of-way for the Doodle Trail. He can still drive across the line and mow the grass between it and the trail fence. But he can't build anything on it or make any improvements to it because, theoretically, it could someday become a railroad again. Stein, a disabled veteran, says he has no problem with the Doodle Trail running beside his house. But he says the government is only willing to pay him less than one-third of what he paid for that strip of property. And that, he has a problem with. "That ain't

"That ain't gonna happen because I'm not going to settle for that. I'll bring a Bobcat in and rip every bit of that asphalt out."

JACK STEIN



Young mom Lindsey Motley loses battle with cancer

LIV OSBY
LOSEBY@GANNETT.COM

Lindsey Motley, the brave young Greenville woman who shared her battle against colon cancer with readers of *The Greenville News*, passed away on Tuesday.

The Post and Courier

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Wednesday, February 24, 2016

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Leaders vow to keep terrorists out of S.C.

Say they'll fight any plan to transfer Gitmo prisoners here

BY EMMA DUMAINE
eduma@postandcourier.com

WASHINGTON — South Carolina Republicans in Congress are prepared to fight President Barack Obama on his plans to relocate Guantanamo Bay terror detainees to the U.S. — even without knowing for sure whether his administration favors the Navy brig outside Charleston.

Congress early Tuesday morning laying out its formal proposal to close the controversial Cuba detention center.

The 21-page document says there are 13 eligible facilities to host roughly 30 to 60 detainees, but it doesn't list those facilities by name or express any preferences as to which would be most suitable.

However, administration officials acknowledged that, as previously reported, they explored Naval Consolidated Brig

Charleston as a possibility, confirming the site remains an option, along with prisons in Colorado and Kansas.

The possibility that Charleston could be forced to host terrorist prisoners was enough to rile up members of the S.C. congressional delegation.

"There is simply no reason to put a target on an American community when we already have an isolated

Please see **GITMO**, Page A5



State leaders say they'll fight any plan to house terror detainees in the Navy Brig at the Charleston Naval Weapons Station in Hanahan.

Who has black vote?

As S.C.'s Democratic primary nears, many favor Clinton, whom they say would carry on Obama's policies, prevent loss of progress



Barber Thad Miller finishes up on customer Jewel Coan's hair as she discusses politics Tuesday at the Family Barber Shop. Coan said she is voting for Hillary Clinton because she brings experience and a different perspective to the table.

BY SCHUYLER KROPE
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Some of the sages who cut hair in Charleston's black community hear a lot of chatter about the upcoming Democratic primary. Most of it runs in favor of Hillary Clinton.

"I think she's taking the same path that (President Barack) Obama is taking," said Gerald Rivers Jr., who cuts hair at The Labbarbershop on Spring Street. "I think it's right on line with his views and what he started."

A few blocks away at the Family Barber Shop, veteran hair-cutter Kenneth Jordan says that under Obama's eight years in the White House, troops have come home from overseas, the economy has recovered from its 2008 low and gas prices are hovering around \$1.60 a gallon.

Please see **WTE**, Page A7

Palmetto Politics



Trump takes Nevada

Donald Trump won the Nevada Republican caucuses late Tuesday. For more, see **Page A6** and go to **postandcourier.com**.

Inside

S.C. senators look elsewhere after state's GOP primary. **A6**

AP Poll: Jobs, Social Security are key for next president. **A6**

Clinton, Sanders speak at Columbia town hall. **A6**

Clinton calls for probes of police-involved deaths

BY MAYA T. PRABHU
mprabhu@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — Hillary Clinton said police-involved deaths in the United States need to be independently investigated and announced a plan to provide federal resources to support state and local efforts to do so.

The comments from the presidential hopeful came during a forum to address gun violence and police-involved deaths. The event featured the mothers of Trayvon Martin, Sandra Bland, Eric Garner, Dontre Hamilton and Jordan Davis.

Please see **CLINTON**, Page A6



Hillary Clinton speaks next to Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin, at a campaign event Tuesday at Central Baptist Church in Columbia.

Charleston area might get Civil War flags

NAACP says it would oppose push to move relics from Columbia

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
crolan@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — Lawmakers renewed efforts to move the state's Confederate museum to the Charleston area, bringing a collection that would include the banner that was removed from the Statehouse grounds.

Reps. Brian White, R-Anderson, and Chip Linch, R-Charleston, offered wording in the state budget Tuesday instructing the Department of Administration to explore sites in the Charleston area for the Confederate Relics Room and Military Museum.

The move would include numerous Civil War artifacts, flags and other memorabilia in addition to the Confederate flag that was at the center of the ceremony last summer to remove it less than a month after the racially

Please see **FLAGS**, Page A4

Sea-rise data a wake-up call for coast

Danger for Charleston very real, study finds

BY BO PETERSEN
bpetersen@postandcourier.com

The sea is rising faster than it has in 28 centuries. We're causing it with carbon emissions. And it could mean the virtual loss of the Lowcountry coastal community.

The strength of the spike in sea rise and the link with climate warming surprised even the researchers who expected to find some connection in a landmark study released this week. Co-author Ben Horton, a marine and coastal science professor at Rutgers University, makes no bones about it.

"This is the first study to produce a record stretching over nearly 5,000 years," he said. "We can show the rate of sea level rise in the 20th century is faster than anything we've seen (in 2,800 years) anywhere along the East Coast, including your state."

Please see **SEAS**, Page A4

Inside

FOOD

New York City fine-dining pros relocating to Charleston in search of better quality of life. **D1**

STATE

Frustrations grow over roads filibuster in Statehouse. **A3**



NATION

Senate Majority Leader McConnell rules out action on any Obama nominee for Supreme Court. **A8**

CDC: 14 reports of possible Zika virus spread through sex in U.S. **A8**



Chance of storms. High 72, Low 45. Complete 5-day forecast. **B1D**

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Charleston Deals today

Damn Yankee Tours
Discounted two-hour guided walking tour of Charleston for 1-6 people. See **A2**

COLLEGE HOOPS

USC men trying to win SEC title and improve NCAA resume, 1B



HIGH SCHOOL HOOPS

Irmo, Spring Valley, Flora, CA Johnson boys win playoff games, 4-5B



WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 24 2016

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TODAY: CLOUDY, POSSIBLE STORMS 11-17 43-49
YESTERDAY: 11-16 41-43 54-58 PRECIP. (as of 5 pm) 0.00"
FORECAST: 10C

The State

PROSECUTOR ARRESTED AGAIN

Anti-DUI advocates want Myers to quit or get help

Myers left a gun behind in abandoned car, later told trooper he had one drink

Prosecutor, elected in 1976, is up for re-election this year

Myers is the last of the "Three Musketeers" in county law enforcement

BY TIM FLACH AND NOAH FEIT
tflach@thestate.com, nfeit@thestate.com

Donnie Myers told troopers investigating his car wreck that he had only one drink and that another car ran him off the road. The 11th circuit solicitor also left a gun in his wrecked and abandoned car, on the driver's

side floorboard, according to a Highway Patrol report on the accident that was released Tuesday evening.

Troopers smelled alcohol when they found Myers' car abandoned around 8 p.m. Monday, according to the report. It had crashed into a utility pole at Old Chapin and Beechcreek roads north of Lexington, about



Myers

a mile from Myers' Lake Murray home.

When a trooper went to Myers' house, Myers told him he had had one drink and hadn't had a drink since arriving home. The trooper said he escorted Myers

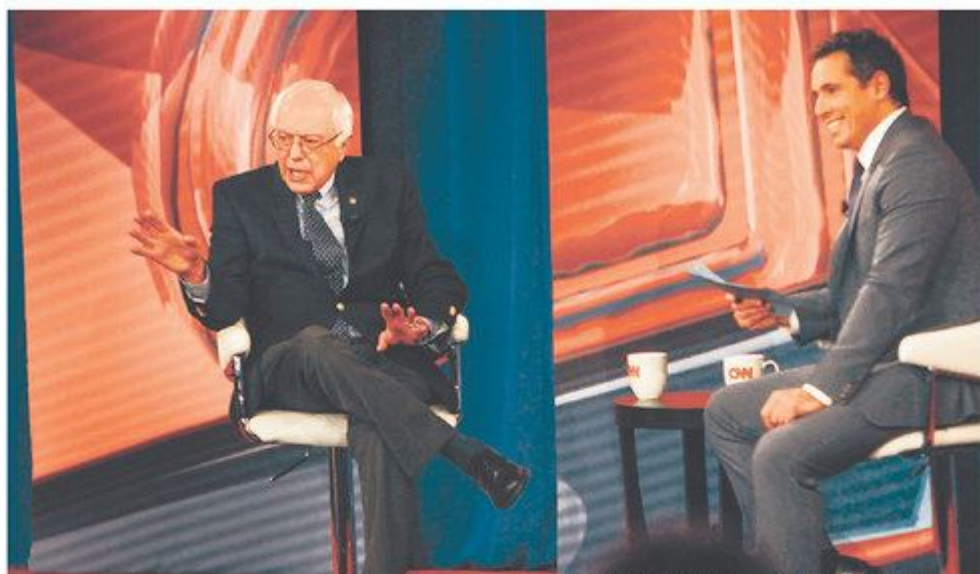
to the home's garage area, where Myers struggled when reciting the alphabet. He also failed other sobriety tests, the report says.

Meanwhile, anti-DUI advocates on Tuesday called for the veteran prosecutor either to resign or get help after his third arrest for an alcohol-related offense in a little more than 10 years.

"He should quit immediately," said David Longstreet, who led a successful push for stronger penalties for repeat DUI offenders. "I've heard people in the community express concern about his alcohol consumption." Longstreet is pressing Myers to quit by Wednesday or face a citizens' campaign demanding

SEE MYERS, 6A

THE SC DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY



Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton fielded questions from SC voters during a CNN Town Hall at USC.

Sanders campaign bracing for SC loss

AFTER THE FLOOD | DAMS

Lawmakers hesitant to crack down on owners

Speaker's effort to tighten law crumbling

House committee doesn't want to burden property owners

Chances of passage dwindling in Legislature

BY SAMMY FRETWELL
sfretwell@thestate.com

Four months after a massive flood exposed flaws in South Carolina's dam safety program, support for strengthening the law is eroding as legislators grow increasingly nervous about backlash from dam owners.

House Speaker Jay Lucas had proposed more frequent inspections of dams in heavily populated areas, increasing penalties for people who don't keep dams safe and requiring owners of high hazard dams to post bonds that would pay to remove the structures if the earthen embankments become dangerous to people.

But private dam owners are complaining — and members of a House panel agreed Tuesday to scale back the legislation.



COUNTDOWN TO SC

3

Days until Saturday's S.C. Democratic primary

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

WEDNESDAY, February 24, 2016

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Obama: Close Gitmo



Obama

S.C. politicians denounce Guantanamo plan

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
ccleveland@aikenstandard.com

Gov. Nikki Haley and multiple South Carolina politicians voiced Tuesday that the detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, should remain open, opposing President Barack Obama's plans to finally close the prison and transfer its detainees into a facility in the U.S.

INSIDE

Obama: Guantanamo Bay undermines security, 9A

U.S. officials said the plan considers, but does not name, 13 different locations in the U.S., including seven existing prison facilities in Colorado, South Carolina and Kansas, along with six other locations on current

military bases, The Associated Press reported.

One of the seven facilities reviewed by a Pentagon assessment team last year was the Consolidated Naval Brig in Charleston.

In a news conference Tuesday, Obama said the prison "undermines national security" and argued the Defense

Please see GITMO, Page 12A

INSIDE TODAY



Midland Valley advances to lower state finals

Sports, 1B



Joy Gillespie takes over as Capital Projects manager

Local News, 2A



Officials: No need to panic about Zika virus

Local News, 3A

Report: SRS resumes H Canyon operations

Local News, 2A

AREA DEATHS

Dr. Niren Vyas, Aiken
Ernest W. "Ernie" White, North Augusta
Robert B. Kay, Columbia
Willie E. Crafton, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER



Bill back in town



AP PHOTO/JOHN MINOCHILLO

Former President Bill Clinton campaigns for his wife, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, at the Clifton Cultural Arts Center on Feb. 12 in Cincinnati. Bill will be in Aiken on Friday to stump for his wife.

Former President Bill Clinton set to campaign in Aiken on Friday on behalf of Hillary Clinton

BY DEDE BILES
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

Bill Clinton is coming to Aiken. The former president will be here Friday to campaign for his wife, 2016 presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, ahead of South Carolina's Democratic primary on Saturday.

Stephanie Formas, South Carolina communications director for Hillary for America, confirmed Bill Clinton's visit Tuesday afternoon, but said details about the time and the venue still were being worked out.

While participating in a series of Get Out the Vote rallies, Bill Clinton will travel to Rock Hill, Spartanburg and Winnsboro on Thursday and Aiken and Bluffton on Friday.

All the events will be open to the public. Additional information will be released soon.

"As far as Bill Clinton coming to Aiken, I think that's great, and I also think that it's great for Hillary Clinton's campaign," said Moses Mims, communications director for the Aiken County Democratic Party. "You can't have a much more high-profile person come to



AP PHOTO/JOHN MINOCHILLO

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, right, waves on stage with her husband and former President Bill Clinton at a Nevada Democratic caucus rally Saturday in Las Vegas.

INSIDE

• Mormons could shape GOP caucus in Nevada, 11A

• Clinton, Sanders speak at S.C. Democratic town hall, 11A

what her plans are for the country in terms of governing. He knows about her goals and ambitions. He can probably answer any questions that anyone might have regarding what she wants to do if she is elected president."

ton spoke at the H. Odell Weeks Activities Center in November 2007. Bill Clinton, campaigning on her behalf, was in Aiken in January 2008.

So far during the 2016 presidential campaign, Hillary Clinton hasn't

COMING THURSDAY



INSIDE THURSDAY

Prosecutor in Craven case jailed for DUI

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER
mschechter@aikenstandard.com

Donnie Myers, the prosecutor involved in the high-profile case against former North Augusta Department of Public Safety officer Justin Craven, was arrested Monday night and charged with driving under the influence — his second DUI charge.

On Monday, South Carolina Highway Patrol responded to the scene of Old Chapin Road and Beech Creek Road in Lexington just before 8 p.m. to investigate a single-vehicle collision, according to a news release provided by Lt. R. Kelley Hughes, with the S.C. Department of Public Safety.

The responding trooper found a 2007 Lexus at the scene that had been traveling west on Old Chapin Road and attempted to make a left turn onto Beech Creek Road, according to a collision report. The vehicle ran off the roadway, striking a utility pole.

The incident report said the responding trooper opened the vehicle, and could smell a strong odor of alcohol and observed a pistol on the driver's side floor board.

Troopers went to Myers' home in Lexington and determined that he was the driver of the Lexus and was found to be driving under the influence at the time of the collision.

According to the incident report, Myers told the trooper he had an accident on the way home because an unknown vehicle ran him off the road. Myers also said he was not injured, and was the only occupant in the vehicle at the time of the collision.

Myers

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50 CENTS

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2016

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scn.com

Area hospitals recognized for maternity care

From Local reports

COLUMBIA — In an effort to help prospective parents find hospitals that deliver quality, affordable maternity care, BlueCross, BlueShield of South Carolina, and BlueChoice Health Plan of South Carolina announce the first hospitals in South Carolina to receive the Blue Distinction Center+ for Ma-

ternity Care designations under the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program. Hartsville Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center earned the designation Blue Distinction Center+.

Additional area hospitals earning distinction include:

Blue Distinction Center+

» Camden Kershaw Health

» Florence Carolinas Hospital System

Blue Distinction Center

» Florence McLeod Regional Medical Center

According to a joint release from the three organizations, Blue Distinction Centers meet "overall quality measures for patient safety and outcomes, developed with input from the medical community." Blue Distinction Centers+, such as Hartsville Car-

olina Pines, also meet cost measures that address consumers' need for affordable health care, said the release.

National criteria for BDC and BDC+ are displayed on bcbs.com and questions on a provider's in-network status or one's own policy's coverage should be addressed to providers before making an appointment.

The release stated that nearly

4 million babies are born in the United States annually, making childbirth the most common cause of hospitalization. In 2014, the latest year for which statistics are available, South Carolina had 57,617 births, of which 10.8 percent were preterm (prior to 37 weeks gestation).

"This new maternity care

See MATERNITY, Page 6A

Hartsville man candidate for Public Service Commission

From staff reports

Glenn M. Bell of Hartsville has applied as a candidate for the South Carolina Public Service Commission for District 7.

Public hearings before the State Regulation of Public Utilities Review Committee regarding the qualifications of candidates are tentatively scheduled to begin the first or second week of April.

See BELL, Page 6A

Hazardous storms could hit Pee Dee this afternoon

The National Weather Service is warning area residents of possible hazardous weather across the Pee Dee this afternoon.

In a Monday afternoon release, the NWS stated that a line of thunderstorms will move through the state around midday. The storms will bring wind gusts of up to 60 mph, meaning tornadoes will be possible. Hail can also be expected.

Updates received from the NWS regarding the storm line's strength and movement will be posted on www.hartsvillemessenger.com as they become available.



Dorothy Evans (center) could hardly walk a couple of years ago, until surgery was performed on her knees at Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center. Now she gives back to the hospital and pushes the "goodie" cart twice a week.

Surgery changes Dorothy Evans' life

BY AROIE ARVIDSON
aarvidson@hartsvillemessenger.com

quality of life has changed, said Dr. Bill Davis, her primary family doctor.

"After I got my knees done, I was so happy I wanted to give back to the hospital. I went to orientation and started working here about two years ago," Evans said while sitting in the office of Dr. Prashant Deshmene with Hartsville Orthopedics & Sports Medicine who performed the surgery.

Evans now volunteers at Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center on Mondays and Wednesdays with a big smile on her face as she pushes the "goodie" cart down the hall to patients' rooms or at the main desk on Thursdays greeting visitors.

Evans now volunteers at Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center on Mondays and Wednesdays with a big smile on her face as she pushes the "goodie" cart down the hall to patients' rooms or at the main desk on Thursdays greeting visitors.



ABOVE: Dorothy Evans stands between her doctors, Bill Davis, left, and Prashant Deshmene, right.



RIGHT: This photo shows Dorothy Evans, who



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PRAYER BREAKFAST DRAWS CROWD

UPSTATE, C1



NEW BREW TO SUPPORT PALMETTO TRAIL

BUSINESS, C4

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Wednesday, February 24, 2016



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65°/39° 52°/31° 53°/25°
Complete forecast, B6

ELECTION 2016

GOP hopefuls make late push

By Philip Rucker
The Washington Post

LAS VEGAS — The top three Republican presidential candidates made a late and vigorous push for support across Nevada as voters headed to caucus locations Tuesday evening in a contest expected to be dominated by Donald Trump.

The billionaire mogul has led every recent public poll by double digits. Enormous crowds pack his rallies, including one Monday night in Las Vegas that drew an estimated 8,000

people. Trump's nationalist call to deport illegal immigrants and wall them off has resonated with Nevada's working-class whites resentful of the booming Latino population.

But a Trump win is no done deal. The state's caucuses are peculiar and unpredictable — and Sens. Ted Cruz (Texas) and Marco Rubio (Florida) are laboring to spring a surprise on the businessman.

Cruz was scheduled to hold three rallies across the state Tuesday before attending a caucus site with his wife, Heidi,

in Sparks, a suburb of Reno. Rubio held a morning rally in the Las Vegas area before jetting on to afternoon and evening events in Minnesota and Michigan.

Still, Nevada was Trump's to lose.

"You've got to vote tomorrow," he told his Monday night crowd. "You've got to vote, vote, vote! . . . We have a big lead, and we don't want to blow it."

Unlike in New Hampshire and South Carolina, which had primaries, voters in Nevada have only a four-hour window — from

5 to 9 p.m. — to caucus at select locations. And unlike in Iowa, which held the first caucuses Feb. 1, there is no time-honored tradition of caucusing here.

In 2012, when Mitt Romney won the Nevada caucuses with 50 percent, just 32,894 Republicans participated — roughly 8 percent of the GOP electorate.

Trump made light of Nevada's arcane voting rules. "Forget the word 'caucus,'" he said at the rally. "Just go out and vote, okay?" He later said: "What

SEE ELECTION, A4

INSIDE

Closing Guantanamo

President Barack Obama's plan to close the detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, slammed into a wall of Republican opposition on Tuesday. **A5**



Transgender bathrooms spark controversy

North Carolina's largest city has legalized the ability of transgender people to choose public restrooms corresponding to their gender identity. The governor calls it a threat to public safety, and some state lawmakers are vowing to overrule the city. **A3**

NEWS DIGEST

Heavy rain, isolated tornadoes possible in Upstate

Heavy rain, strong winds and isolated tornadoes will be possible Wednesday as severe storms move across the Upstate.

A flash flood watch has been issued until 6 p.m. Wednesday in advance of the approaching system.

Doug Outlaw, a National Weather Service meteorologist at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport, said heavy rain was forecast to begin Tuesday night and carry into Wednesday morning.

"There's certainly a possibility of severe storms Wednesday morning with damaging wind," he said.

The worst of the storm should hit the Spartanburg area between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., Outlaw said.

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

Mothers share stories of loss, gun violence



Five mothers share their stories of loss and frustration during a forum at Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Spartanburg Tuesday. Featured speakers were Maria Hamilton, mother of Dontre Hamilton; Sybrina Fulton, mother of Trayvon Martin; Lucy McBath, mother of Jordan Davis; Gwen Carr, mother of Eric Garner; and Geneva Reed-veal, mother of Sandra Bland.

TIM KIMZEY/TIM.KIMZEY@SHJ.COM

High-profile cases recalled during forum

By Chris Lavender
chris.lavender@shj.com

The mother of Florida teenager shot and killed by a neighborhood watch volunteer pleaded for reforms to the

campaign of Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

Fulton recalled the events that led to her son's fatal shooting on Feb. 26, 2012. Martin was 17 years old when

just an average kid on his telephone when the incident occurred. Fulton said she believed her son was profiled and chased by Zimmerman because of the color of his skin.

"This has been a long journey for the family," Fulton

being accountable for killing our young people," Fulton said. "We all know that everybody matters, but we want to bring attention to black lives."

Fulton was among 12 families who had lost a child to gun violence or police incidents who met with Clinton pri-



Morning News

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 24, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

A few t-storms, some severe; windy.
High 76, low 42.
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Florence, Kingstree

Hillary Clinton to hold town halls



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks on Feb. 20 at Texas Southern University in Houston.

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton will be in Florence and Kingstree on Thursday to host town hall-style meetings ahead of Saturday's primaries.

According to Clinton's campaign, she will host a "Breaking Down Barriers" event with U.S. Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey at 2:15 p.m. on Thursday at the Cumberland United Methodist Church in Florence. Doors to the event open at 12:45 p.m.

Clinton is also scheduled to host a "Corridors of Opportunity" meeting

Want to go?

What: Hillary Clinton Corridor of Opportunity Town Hall

When: Thursday - Feb. 25 - 11:15 a.m. (Doors open at 9:45 a.m.)

Where: Williamsburg County Recreation Center

Address: 2084 Thurgood Marshall Hwy. - Kingstree, SC

Event is free. RSVP for the event at <https://www.hillaryclinton.com/events/view/1829645/>.

at 11:30 a.m., at the Williamsburg County Recreation Center in Kingstree. Doors to that event will open at 10 a.m.

Both events are free to the

Want to go?

What: Hillary Clinton Breaking Down Barriers Town Hall

When: Thursday - Feb. 25 - 2:15 p.m. (Doors open at 12:45 p.m.)

Where: Cumberland United Methodist

Address: 163 South Coit Street

- Florence, SC

Event is free. RSVP for the event at <https://www.hillaryclinton.com/events/view/1845901/>.

public, but anyone wishing to attend is asked to reserve a spot prior to the event.

Reservation information for the

See **CLINTON**, Page 3A

Cold front to bring strong winds to area

From staff reports

WILMINGTON, N.C. — A strong cold front set to pass through the Pee Dee today will not do so quietly as it will bring thunderstorms and high winds. A wind advisory has been posted for the Pee Dee for today.

The forecast led at least three school districts in the area to change their schedules.

Schools in Florence District One will be dismissed early; elementary schools at 12:10 p.m. and middle and high school at 1:30 p.m. Florence School District Two announced that Hanna-Pamplico schools would be on a half-day schedule, with dismissal at 11:30 a.m., and after-school activities would be canceled. Florence County School District Five (Johnsonville) also announced early closings for today. The elementary school will release students at 11 a.m. and middle and high schools will let students out at 11:45 a.m.

"The primary threat is for some locations receiving damaging wind gusts to 70 mph," said meteorologist Steven Pfaff in a bulletin issued by the National Weather Service's

See **WEATHER**, Page 3A

Pressure builds on Senate to pass roads bill

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — South Carolina Sen. Tom Davis' filibuster of the state's roads bill will continue for another day.

Davis spent nearly seven hours on the Senate floor Tuesday on his third full day of blocking the bill. The Beaufort Republican wants senators to change how the board that governs the Department of Transportation is appointed before giving the agency more money.

Pressure is mounting on senators. The South Carolina Chamber of

PURSE AND PEARLS



Members of the Women in Philanthropy group began donating jewelry and handbags Tuesday night. The donations will ultimately be auctioned off in a November event.

Women in Philanthropy kick off donations

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com



FLORENCE — Admittance to the Women in Philanthropy's "Purse and Pearls" kickoff event Tuesday evening did not come in the form of a ticket. Instead, attendees had to bring a new or gently used handbag or piece of jewelry.

All of the items collected at the gathering will be available in a silent auction at the "Purse and Pearls" ticketed dinner in November.

Women in Philanthropy is a giving circle of the Eastern Carolina Community Foundation. Through dues

THE LONG READ

Vietnam vets: Old warriors receiving new thanks for their service. 1c



LOWCOUNTRY LIFE

Eat like a noble with a menu from a 'Downton Abbey' tea 3c



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75c

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HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTON



Thunderstorms
68°/46° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

SCHOOL BOARD

**Will Moss hire wife?
He won't comment**

Director of Innovation job, briefly held by Darlene Moss, remains vacant

Circumstances around previous hiring created public outrage

Newly approved nepotism policy shows board wouldn't block hire

BY REBECCA LURYE
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Superintendent Jeff Moss refused to say Tuesday whether his wife might return to a position with Beaufort County schools now that a newly approved nepotism policy has seemingly cleared the way for her to do so.

Moss did not respond to three phone calls made since Feb. 2 seeking comment about whether Moss would try anew to recommend his wife for employment as the district's innovation director, a job she briefly held in the fall. Approached in person Tuesday at a school board committee meeting, Moss said he would not answer and said, "I do not trust your reporting."

Pressed several more times for comment, Moss repeated the same phrase over and over. The hiring of Darlene Moss, and the circumstances around it, created outrage in the community and led to Darlene Moss' resignation and eventually the resignation of school board Chairman Bill Evans as well. The refusal of many school board members to act on, or even comment on, the situation further exacerbated the public's anger and eroded trust in school leaders. The issue now lingers as a potential hurdle as Moss campaigns for public support of a 1-percent, sales-tax referendum.

Moss has been critical of the reporting by The Island Packet and The Beaufort Gazette. The papers broke the news that Moss had approved the creation of a newly restructured district position with the title of director of innovation and a \$90,000-a-year salary, and that he himself had deleted a clause in a nepotism rule addressing the hiring of the superintendent's family members.

Adding stoplights to US 278 gains traction

Plan would put 2, one-directional traffic lights near dangerous Windmill Harbour entrance

US 278 would be widened to 6 lanes from bridges to Squire Pope Road

Sea Pines Resort opposes lights, fears traffic jams

BY DON MCLOUD
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A plan to add two, one-directional traffic lights near Windmill Harbour is gaining support among Hilton Head Island leaders who have previously opposed the idea of adding stoplights to U.S. 278 on Jenkins Island.

The game-changer: U.S. 278 would also be widened from four to six lanes from the foot of the J. Wilton Graves Bridge

to Squire Pope Road on Hilton Head.

The plan was developed over the past year and completed in November by a consulting firm, which was hired by Beaufort County to address safety concerns on the unincorporated section of the highway on Jenkins Island. The town and the S.C. Department of Transportation have also been involved in the planning.

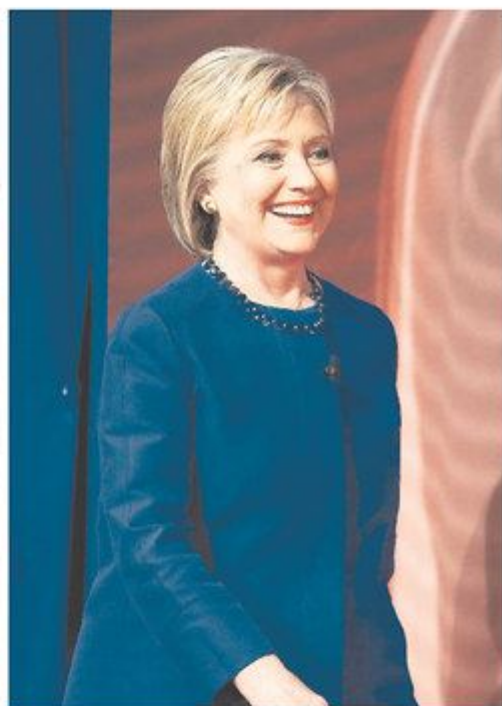
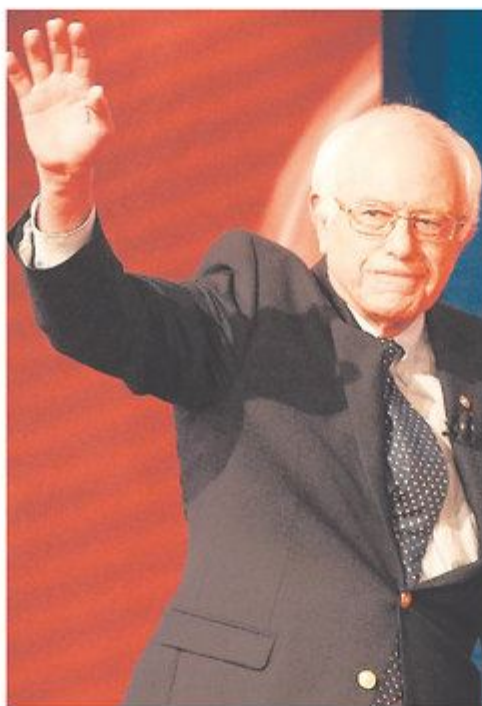
The widening of U.S. 278 would help prevent traffic jams at the stoplights, while also

making the road safer for residents of nearby communities, including Windmill Harbour, said Darrin Shoemaker, town transportation engineer.

"After much review, we are convinced the widening will more than negate the adverse impacts of the signals," he told the town's Public Facilities Committee, which endorsed the \$12 million plan Monday.

Each light would also only stop traffic going one direction: Eastbound traffic along U.S. 278 would hit a light at Blue Heron Point Road, which would allow westbound drivers to make U-turns or a left turn into nearby communities. Windmill Harbour residents would make a U-turn and then make a right turn into their neighborhood. Westbound traffic would con-

SEE LIGHTS, 7A



GERALD HERBERT AP

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES IN COLUMBIA FOR TOWN HALL

Democratic presidential candidate, Rep. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., left, and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrive to participate in a CNN town hall style televised event at the University of South Carolina School of Law, in Columbia on Tuesday.

Sanders campaign bracing for SC loss

Aide says primary "not going to be close"

Sanders narrowed Clinton's lead from as many as 70 points into 20s

Considering Clinton is "one of the most famous political names in the country," Sanders gaining support among black voters would "bode well for how well we perform in states

southern and western states, said Furman political scientist Danielle Vinson. "They're behind by a good bit in South Carolina, and they're worried about that crush of primaries that come right after South Carolina."

But Sanders' two-day absence from South Carolina

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