

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>

To:

Date: 3/16/2016 8:37:32 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages - Wednesday, March 16, 2016

SC Front Pages – Wednesday, March 16, 2016

MEN'S BASKETBALL

USC cruises past High Point in first round of NIT, **1B**

Five USC players suspended before start of tourney, **1B**



PALMETTO
Hit SC's beverage trail to satisfy your thirst, **1C**



WEDNESDAY MARCH 16 2016

\$1.00 VOL. 126TH No. 28 STAY CONNECTED THESTATE.COM

[FACEBOOK.COM/THESTATENEWS](https://www.facebook.com/thestatenews)
[TWITTER.COM/@THESTATE](https://twitter.com/thestate)

TODAY: MOSTLY SUNNY HI 95 LO 52
YESTERDAY: HI 86 LO 54 PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) 0"
FORECAST, **8C**

The State

2016 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES

Trump, Clinton again rule races; Rubio out



Trump Clinton

BY JULIE PAGE AND THOMAS BEAUMONT
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND

Hillary Clinton triumphed Tuesday in the Florida, Ohio and North Carolina presidential primaries, putting her in a com-

manding position to become the first woman in U.S. history to win a major party nomination. But the night did not bring the same clarity to the Republican race, with Donald Trump winning big in Florida but falling in Ohio to the state's governor, John Kasich. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio

ended his once-promising campaign after his devastating home-state loss, so the GOP primary is now down to three candidates: Trump, Kasich and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz. Trump also picked up wins in North Carolina and Illinois, and was locked in a close race with Cruz in Missouri.

He told a victory rally, "This was an amazing night." But it was far from clear if he can reach the 1,237 delegates needed to clinch the GOP nomination, ratcheting up the prospects of a contested convention.

SEE ELECTION, **8A**

- ➔ MORE INSIDE**
- Analysis: Rubio's demise is the last gasp for the Republican reboot, **8A**
 - Kasich hangs on, but now it's likely Trump vs. Cruz for GOP nomination, **8A**

SPRING FOOTBALL PRACTICE

GAMECOCKS GET BACK ON THE FIELD



GERRY MLENDEZ gmlendz@thestate.com

South Carolina's quarterbacks run through drills on the first day of spring practice Tuesday. The battle for the starting QB spot is one of many intriguing story lines in Will Muschamp's first spring as Gamecocks' coach.

- ➔ MORE INSIDE**
- Gamecocks replacing one hybrid defender with another, **1B**
 - Muschamp's 'typical' first practice a high-tempo shock, **4B**

DONNIE MYERS' DUI CASE

Hubbard to run for solicitor's seat

Former top deputy, who left Myers' office last year, expected to run for the Lexington seat

Hubbard would not run against former boss, state senator says

BY ANDREW SHEAIN
asheain@thestate.com

A former deputy's decision to seek the 11th circuit solicitor's seat suggests Donnie Myers will not seek re-election less than a month after his third alcohol-related charge since 2005. Rick Hubbard is resigning from his job in the S.C. Attorney General's office Wednesday to try to become the top prosecutor in Lexington, Edgefield, Saluda and McCormick counties, a source with knowledge of the situation told The State. Hubbard spent two decades working for Myers and was one of his closest deputies before leaving in June. "I've heard often that Rick Hubbard would not run if Donnie was running," state Sen. Katrina Shealy, R-Lexington, said. Efforts to reach Myers and Hubbard were unsuccessful Tuesday. Filing for state and local elections begins at noon Wednesday.

SEE HUBBARD, **8A**

Offshore drilling plan scrapped

Meanwhile, the U.S. military also expressed reservations, saying offshore drilling could



SPORTS
FLYING HIGHER



LIFESTYLE
Chocolate
cake gets
Irish kick

The Greenville News PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 16, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY NO END IN SIGHT DESPITE TUESDAY'S PRIMARY VOTES **PAGE 1B**

Special needs people to live with SWU students



James Kennedy, better known as Radio, shows Elaine Thena, left, executive director of the Pickens County Disabilities and Special Needs Board, and Dr. Lisa McWhorter with Southern Wesleyan University a sketch of the proposed project at Southern Wesleyan University.

RON BARNETT
RBARNETT@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

CENTRAL - In what is being described as the first collaboration of its kind, a special needs housing program is being developed on the campus of Southern Wesleyan University that will give people with intellectual disabilities and head or spinal cord injuries a chance to be a part of the life of the college and community.

The university is working in partnership with the Disabilities and Special Needs Boards of Pickens and Anderson counties and their state board to plan a residential community in which students who are studying special education and other such topics will be roommates with adult special needs people.

"It's going to open up a lot of new opportunities for individuals with disabilities," said Elaine Thena, executive director of the Pickens County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs. "Their worlds are going to kind of explode because they're going to be part of the university community as well as the surrounding area."

See **SPECIAL**, Page 12A



MYKAL MCELDOVNEY/STAFF
Greenville Health System's main campus is on Grove Road.

Hospital cuts 400 jobs in face of \$16M shortfall

LIV OSBY
LOSSEY@GANNETT.COM

Greenville Health System plans to eliminate more than 400 positions in the face of a \$16 million shortfall, officials said Tuesday.

To address the loss, which accrued in the first quarter of the fiscal year ending Jan. 31, GHS has developed a plan that also includes reducing the capital budget by \$39 million, officials said.

"The initial action plans call for eliminating roughly 410 positions," said Greg Rusnak, chief operating officer, "but more half of these positions will be the result of normal attrition, not filling open vacancies and the possible implementation of a voluntary exit incentive program."

Rusnak said positions don't necessarily mean people, adding the number could fluctuate depending on the financial outlook and cost-cutting measures.

GHS, which has about 15,000 employees, has spent hundreds of millions acquiring physician practices, expanding its provider network, and installing a new IT system among other investments.

The Epic IT system alone — which was purchased to allow the hospital to

See **HOSPITAL**, Page 7A

SUNSHINE WEEK

SC legislators cite exemptions from public records law

SEANNA ADCOX
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA - South Carolina's top legislators declined to provide emails and schedules requested by The Associated Press, citing the public records exemption the General Assembly carved for itself in state law.

Gov. Nikki Haley, who has no such exemption, released a detailed public

schedule and provided access to more than 450 emails, though they show she conducts no business through government email subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Several hundred constituent emails to Haley contained a wide array of requests, complaints and commendations. But there was no correspondence with elected officials, Cabinet directors or other political players. There was also no

substantive exchange with staff, as the vast majority of inter-office emails contained news clippings and weather reports.

Asked how Haley communicates, spokeswoman Chaney Adams said the office's legislative affairs team is in "constant contact" with legislators.

And "the governor frequently meets with elected officials, agency heads, legislators, business leaders and others in

person and talks to them by phone," she said.

The request to South Carolina lawmakers for a week's worth of documents in February was part of an AP open-government project in all 50 states, which found more denials than approvals. Legislators sent letters in South Carolina included Senate President Pro Tem Hugh

See **SUNSHINE**, Page 4A

INSIDE

Abby.....2A	Classifieds.....5C	Lotteries.....2A	U.S. World.....1B
Area news.....3A	Comics.....3D	Obituaries.....14A	US Sports.....8C
Bridge.....2D	Crossword.....2D	Sports.....1C	Voices.....16A



**High 80
Low 48**

www.greenvilleonline.com
Circulation hotline
800-736-7136
Classified Ads 298-4221

Greenville News-Piedmont Co.
A Gannett Newspaper
142nd year No. 26 • 36
pages

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

WEDNESDAY, March 16, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 76 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

Clinton, Trump dominate



Clinton Trump Kasich

Kasich wins in Ohio; Rubio drops out

BY JULIE PACE AND THOMAS BEAUMONT
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Hillary Clinton triumphed Tuesday in the Florida, Ohio and North Carolina presidential primaries, putting her in a commanding position to be-

GALLERY

See more photos from the elections around the country at www.aikenstandard.com

come the first woman in U.S. history to win a major party nomination. Donald Trump strengthened his hand in the Republican race

with a big win in Florida but fell in Ohio to that state's governor, John Kasich. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio ended his once-promising campaign after his devastating home-state loss, so the GOP primary is now down to three candidates: Trump, Kasich

Please see **ELECTION**, Page 12A

Connecting a campus



RENDERING COURTESY USCA AIKEN

This rendering shows the new pedestrian bridge to be built over the I18 bypass to connect USC Aiken's east and west campuses. Construction on the bridge began in early March. The bridge should be finished by late 2016.

USCA takes first steps on bridge construction

BY LARRY WOOD
lwood@aikenstandard.com

Construction has begun on the pedestrian bridge that will connect USC Aiken's east campus and the Convocation Center to the west.

Construction on the bridge over the I18 bypass began March 3, and excavation started March 7, said Joe Sobieralski, vice chancellor for finance and administration at USCA. The bridge should be finished by late 2016. The budget for the project is \$1.8 million.

"The project is on schedule, and we anticipate that it will be complete by the end of the fall semester," Sobieralski said.

The construction crew is driving piles now for the bridge's foundation. Excavation should begin for the walls that form the abutments near the edge of the bypass in April and May.

"We'll probably see some erecting of the bridge in mid-to-late June," Sobieralski said.

GALLERY

See more photos from the bridge build at www.aikenstandard.com

eralski said.

The bridge will be fabricated off site and delivered in three different pieces. Sobieralski said most of the work to install those pieces of the bridge should be planned for the evening.

He added that he does not expect any traffic delays, but while the construction crew is on site, motorists should be aware of changes in the speed limit on the I18 bypass.

"We're doing everything we can to minimize traffic disruptions," Sobieralski said.

When complete, the pedestrian bridge will give students safe walking access over the bypass from the school's classrooms and student residence halls on the east side of campus

Please see **BRIDGE**, Page 11A



STAFF PHOTO BY CINDY KUBONIC

The foundation takes shape for the new pedestrian bridge over the I18 bypass that will connect USC Aiken's east and west campuses at the Convocation Center. Construction began in early March and should be complete by late fall 2016.



MCC PHOTO

Candidates in South Carolina will begin filing at noon today.

General election filing set for today

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
ccleveland@aikenstandard.com

In the following weeks, voters will learn more about the candidates entering the political ring for November's general election.

Candidates in South Carolina will begin filing at noon today for state and countywide offices, many of them likely held by incumbents.

In Aiken County, candidates who have so far announced they will file include Henry "Hank" Sams, assistant chief/major with the Batesburg-Leesville Police Department, who plans to run against Aiken County Sheriff Michael Hunt, who has been in the role since 2003, and Clay Adams, a forensic lieutenant with the Sheriff's Office, running

Please see **FILING**, Page 11A

INSIDE TODAY

Arthurs is 'perfect fit' as shelter manager
Local News, 2A

AREA DEATHS

Ann Frances James Doswell, Jacksonville, Florida
Sylvia Deane Sosa, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER

Suspect arrested, charged for suspicious fires



BY TRIPP GIRARDEAU
tgirardeau@aikenstandard.com

Fire investigators with the Aiken Department of Public Safety arrested a 53-year-old man Tuesday afternoon for his alleged involvement in two suspicious fires in Aiken last month.

Public Safety has charged Michael Anthony Odom Sr. with possession of a stolen automobile valued at more than \$2,000, but less than \$10,000, and three counts of third-degree arson. He was picked

with Public Safety. Odom is charged with setting fires to the Aiken County Public Defender's Office, 410 Barnwell Ave. N.W., and to a Crosland Park home, 619 Aldridge St., on Feb. 28.



Odom Sr.

Officers were called to the second fire in Crosland Park while putting out the fire on Barnwell.



SOUTH CAROLINA WINS BIG IN NIT OPENER

SPORTS, B1



DEBATE CONTINUES OVER MARKERS

UPSTATE, C1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Wednesday, March 16, 2016



GoUpstate.com

75¢



GoUpstate



@GoUpstate

TODAY THU FRI



82°/46° 74°/45° 68°/40°

Complete forecast, B6

SPORTS



Byrnes' shutout streak continues

The Byrnes softball team ran its shutout streak to eight straight games as the Rebels beat Region II-4A opponent Wade Hampton 10-0 in five innings on Tuesday. **B1**

UPSTATE

Tearing down old housing

The Spartanburg Housing Authority wants to continue redevelopment efforts in the Highland community by tearing down 78 of the remaining units at Cammie Clagett Courts. **C1**

Schools honored

Two Spartanburg County schools — Holly Springs-Motlow Elementary School in Spartanburg School District 1 and Boiling Springs Middle School in Spartanburg School District 2 — received Palmetto's Finest honors Tuesday afternoon. **C1**

NATION/WORLD



US weakens

NEW SCHOOLS

Voters say yes to District 7 building plan



District 7 Superintendent Russell Booker, center, speaks with a group of referendum supporters at the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce as it is announced that the measure passed. ALEX HICKS JR./ALEX.HICKS@SHJ.COM

Bond referendum approved during special election Tuesday

By Zach Fox
zach.fox@shj.com

Spartanburg School District 7 voters overwhelmingly agreed Tuesday to pay for the district's \$185-million building plan.

The final vote total showed a higher-than-expected turnout of more than 23 percent. A total of 4,524 people, or 63 percent, voted for the plan. A total of 2,667 people, or 37 percent, voted against the plan and its 10-mill tax increase.

The vote totals will be officially certified by the Spartanburg County Elections Office on Thursday.

"To have such a wonderful turnout and to have a large number of supporters just speaks to this community and the value it places on education," said District 7 Superintendent Russell Booker. "There are no winners. There are no losers in

"To have such a wonderful turnout and to have a large number of supporters just speaks to this community and the value it places on education."

— District 7 Superintendent Russell Booker

Spartanburg High School, a new elementary school to replace both Houston and Chapman elementary schools and the moving of McCracken Middle School into the newer portions of the existing high school building.

Taxes will increase by 10 mills, roughly the equivalent of an additional \$40 on a home valued at \$100,000. The increase also adds an estimated \$6 on a car valued at \$10,000 and about \$60 extra on a business valued at \$100,000.

The millage increase will last until 2022, when bonds from the 1998 building referendum will be paid off. Then, the district's debt service tax rate will be 74 mills, similar to the current rate.

High), and I don't think the district spends their money wisely," Margaret Savako said.

Maintenance concerns also factored into her decision. "They didn't take care of the old school, would they take care of this one," she said.

Laronda Caldwell, a voter at the E.P. Todd School, said her three children all graduated from District 7. She said if more taxes are what it takes to provide better facilities, so be it.

"I think they need a new school," she said. "I pay enough in taxes anyway, just add it on. It's for a good cause."

The new Spartanburg High, the most expensive portion of the plan, will cost about

CAMPAIGN 2016 'SUPER TUESDAY II'

Clinton, Trump widen leads

Rubio bows out after crushing loss in Florida

By Julie Pace
and Thomas Beaumont
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Hillary Clinton triumphed Tuesday in the Florida, Ohio and North Carolina presidential primaries, putting her in a commanding position to become the first woman in U.S. history to win a major party nomination. Donald Trump strengthened his hand in the Republican race with a big win in Florida but fell in Ohio to that state's governor, John Kasich.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio ended his once-promising campaign after his devastating home-state loss, so the GOP primary is now down to three candidates: Trump, Kasich and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

Trump also picked up wins in North Carolina and Illinois, and was locked in a close race with Cruz in Missouri.

The billionaire businessman told a victory rally in Palm Beach, Florida, "This was an amazing night."

Trump is the only Republican candidate with a realistic path to the 1,237 delegates needed to clinch the nomination before the July convention. But his loss in Ohio kept hope alive for mainstream Republicans dismayed by his candidacy and suggesting the real estate mogul can still be stopped in a convention fight.

"The campaign goes on," Kasich declared at a victory rally. Now thrust into the



SUPER TUESDAY

Pivotal moment
One of the primary season's biggest days plays out in 5 key battleground states A5

U.S. bars Atlantic drilling

Obama finds a surprise ally on ruling in Sanford

BY MATTHEW DALY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a major reversal, the Obama administration said Tuesday it will bar oil drilling off America's Atlantic Coast, a move cheered by environmentalists and consistent with the president's aggressive steps to combat climate change.

Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said the decision "protects the Atlantic for future generations." She said the administration had listened to thousands of people in coastal communities from Florida to New England who said, "Now is not the time to start leasing off the Atlantic



JEWELL

Coast."

However, business groups and most Republicans criticized it as another example of what they call executive overreach.

Despite a surge in oil and natural gas production in the past seven years that has helped push gasoline prices below \$2 a gallon, Republicans and industry groups have criticized Obama for imposing what they say are unnecessary regulations on drilling, especially on federal lands. Most of the drilling boom has occurred on state and private lands and in the Gulf of Mexico, long the center of U.S. offshore oil production.

Obama found an unlikely ally in Rep. Mark Sanford, R-S.C., a former governor who opposes Atlantic drilling and led a bipartisan effort to stop it.

"This is fantastic news for the coast of South Carolina," Sanford said. "Residents along our coast should be proud of the way they united on this issue and sent a compelling message to Washington."

Rep. Tom Rice, R-S.C., whose district includes Myrtle Beach, the heart of the state's \$19 billion tourism industry, said the decision was not surprising.

"As more and more recoverable oil has been located onshore due to advancing technology" such as hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling, "tapping new reserves in the Atlantic has become less and

SEE OFFSHORE, PAGE A6

Jobs picture holds steady

JIM HILLEY
jim@thetitem.com

South Carolina shed more than 10,000 jobs in January, but still has gained more than 43,000 jobs compared to one year ago, according to seasonally adjusted numbers released Monday by South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce. The unadjusted numbers reveal a 44,300 drop in the number of non-farm jobs from December

2015 to January 2016.

The official unemployment rate, which is based on seasonally adjusted numbers, remained steady at 5.5 percent.

Cheryl Stanton, executive director of the SCDEW, found solace in the seasonally adjusted numbers.

"Once again, we have a record number of people working with nearly 11,000 people finding work in January," Stanton said. "In this robust economy, we also are seeing more

and more people deciding to enter the job market, either for the first time or re-entering after time away. As they join the workforce, it is exciting to see that people are able to find work and are able to provide for themselves."

When broken down by county, every single county in the state showed an increase in the unemployment rate when not seasonally adjusted.

In the tri-county area, Lee County's

SEE NUMBERS, PAGE A6

Wild Game Night 2016 at First Baptist Church

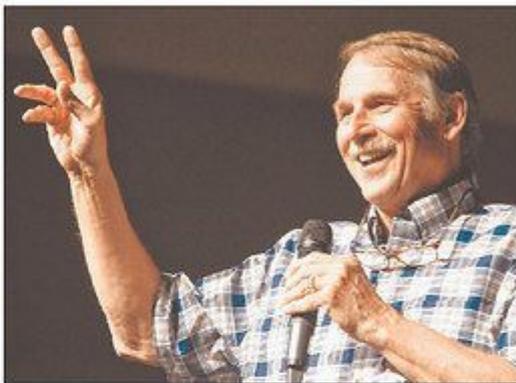


Six lines of food allowed the Wild Game Night 2016 to move 900 people through in less than 30 minutes. First Baptist Church of Sumter hosts the annual male-only event that allows participants to taste a variety of wild game.

Below, left, Cross Anchor Quartet singer Mary Atkinson performs Monday as a stuffed wild boar appears to launch an attack.

Hank Parker, the first angler to win what's called the grand slam of bass fishing, tells the crowd of more than 900 men and boys about how he started his fishing career on Lake Marion as a young, long-haired "hippie." Parker was the keynote speaker.

PHOTOS BY RICK CARPENTER/
THE SUMTER ITEM





Old Bay goes with a variety of food. **Taste, 6A**

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 97, NO. 303

indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 22 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Judge hears motion on war memorial suit

By **MATTHEW HENSLEY**
mhensley@indexjournal.com

Can you sue the state to change something you don't own?

Answering that question might decide if five local veterans have standing to sue the state and several top officials so American Legion Post 20 can change the Uptown war memorial, replacing plaques that list veterans who fell in the two world wars as "white" and "colored" to plaques that would instead list them alphabetically, as is the case with the monument's two other plaques

honoring those who died during the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Attorneys for each side made their case Tuesday to Judge Frank Addy at an afternoon hearing on whether to dismiss the case. Addy will issue a ruling at a later date.

The suit, which asks for an injunction to the Heritage Act that would allow the city to install the new plaques, was filed last year. The Heritage Act, which was made law in 2000 as a compromise to removing the Confederate flag from the Statehouse, prohibits altering or changing any war memorial or monument on public property.

The memorial is owned by Post 20 and sits on city property, but neither Post 20 nor the City of Greenwood are plaintiffs in the case. Addy said the issue of ownership makes the state's case to dismiss stronger than if the post or city had filed suit.

Attorney Armand Derfner, who represents the veterans who filed suit, said asking the city to join the suit could strain the city's relationship with the state and make it difficult for the city to make requests to the state. Since American Legion is a larger organization with multiple levels, he

See **MEMORIAL**, page 3A



Judge Frank Addy listens to arguments Tuesday about a 2000 law that requires a two-thirds vote from the Legislature before a local government can change any historical monument.

■ PRIMARY TUESDAY

Clinton, Trump win big, Kasich carries Ohio

By **JULIE PACE** and **THOMAS BEAUMONT**
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Hillary Clinton triumphed Tuesday in the Florida, Ohio and North Carolina presidential primaries, putting her in a commanding position to become the first woman in U.S. history to win a major party nomination. Donald Trump strengthened his hand in the Republican race with a big win in Florida but fell in Ohio to that state's governor, John Kasich.

Florida Sen. Marco Rubio ended his once-promising campaign after his devastating home-state loss, so the GOP primary is now down to three candidates: Trump, Kasich and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz.

Trump also picked up wins in North Carolina and Illinois, and was locked in a close race with Cruz in Missouri.

The billionaire businessman told a victory rally. "This was an amazing night."

Trump is the only Republican candidate with a realistic path to the 1,237 delegates needed to clinch the nomination before the July convention. But his loss in Ohio kept hope alive for mainstream Republicans dismayed by his candidacy and suggesting the real estate mogul can still be

CUTTING IT IN GREENWOOD



Reality TV star visits area to promote extension line

By **MARY KATE MCGOWAN**
mmcgowan@indexjournal.com

A link to Greenwood brought We TV's "Cutting It in the ATL" reality show star Mushiya Tshikuka to town Monday and Tuesday.

As part of her Taste of Damn Tour, Tshikuka, founder and creative director of The Damn Salon in Atlanta, promoted her salon and its high-fashion natural hair extension line Runway Curls at Joscyntia Mason's Shears 2 U Luxury Salon, 448 B Calhoun Ave.

Tshikuka said people have been waiting for a curly and kinky hair extension line, and the tour, which includes doing hair and events, also offers stylists the opportunity to join the Runway Curls program.

She will travel to various cities, including Washington D.C., later in March, but Tshikuka said it is important to visit small cities such as Greenwood to expose consumers to opportunities and products they might not have because they do not live in a big city.

"Even small cities have consumers that are often left ignored," she said.

Shears 2 U owner Mason has been in Atlanta for about a year and is the master stylist at Purple Door Salon Atlanta. Continuing her salon in Greenwood, Mason said she chose to move to Atlanta so she could continue to grow as a stylist.

See **CUTTING**, page 3A

■ PIEDMONT TECH

College prevails in accreditation appeal

By **ARIEL GILREATH**
agilreath@indexjournal.com

After initially being denied accreditation for its occupational therapy assistant program in November, Piedmont Technical College successfully appealed and is back at pre-accreditation status.

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) denied the college accreditation for the program Nov. 30 after conducting an on-site visit.

The program was approved for accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, the school's main accreditor but denied by the ACOTE, which the students need approval from before graduating and taking the certification exam.

Without graduating from a program accredited by the ACOTE, students would not be able to take the exam, according to the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, and therefore would not be certified to enter the workforce.

Students who were slated to graduate in December were told to wait until the school could appeal the decision, which resulted in 11 students being unable to graduate.

Since then, Ray Brooks, president of Piedmont Tech, said a team from the school appealed the denial of accreditation in early March and was successful.

"The basis of the initial appeal, our appeal, was that the team that was here did not do a comprehensive and thorough review of the course material and the documentation that was provided that showed the program did meet their accreditation standards,

THE HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Darlington County's News Leader Since 1893

50 CENTS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 16, 2016

WWW.HARTSVILLEMESSENGER.COM

schoenow.com

Tax incentive for historic properties gets preliminary OK

BY JIM FAILE
jfaile@hartsvillemessenger.com

A proposed ordinance to adopt a special property tax incentive aimed at encouraging rehabilitation of historic properties received unanimous first-reading approval from Hartsville City Council.

The ordinance to adopt the incentive, known as the Bailey Bill — state legislation adopted in the

early 1990s to provide for the incentive — will come up for a final vote on second reading in April.

Council members heard a presentation on the measure during council's work session on March 1. Attorney Lawrence Flynn of the law firm Pope Flynn presented information to council regarding the Bailey Bill.

The Bailey Bill is a specific authorization that is intended to

incentivize the rehabilitation of historic properties by allowing local governments in South Carolina to offer special property tax assessments to owners of eligible properties for rehabilitated historic properties.

Though the incentive has been available to local governments for some time, few have taken advantage of it, Flynn said. A growing number are now looking

into adopting it, he said.

"This is kind of like adding another tool to your economic development tool box," Flynn said.

City council, in the city's Hartsville 2020 Comprehensive Plan, determined that adoption of the Bailey Bill will help achieve several goals for the city, including encouraging the restoration of historic properties, promoting community development and re-

development, encouraging sound community development, and promoting the general health, welfare and safety of the city.

The Bailey Bill will allow owners of eligible properties that have been designated as historic and who desire to rehabilitate their properties can apply to the city for the incentive. However, owners are not required to apply for the incentive.

Two arrested for burglary

From staff reports.

LAMAR — More than \$10,000 in stolen property was recovered from a Dovesville Highway residence last week when Darlington County Sheriff's deputies and officers from the Lamar Police Department executed a search warrant.

According to a Friday release, the deputies arrested two Hartsville residents on March 8 and charged both with seven counts of burglary in the second degree, grand larceny, unlawful neglect of a child and criminal conspiracy. Sheriff J. Wayne Byrd said in the release that additional charges are being filed by the Lamar Police Department and that the investigation continues and more charges could be forthcoming.

The two arrested suspects, Maria Gilbert, a 23 year old white female, and Calvin Jackson, a 47 year old black male, remain in custody at the Darlington County Detention Center. Both have been set bonds totaling \$63,000.

Chamber Business Expo moves to main gym at Coker

From staff reports.

The response from businesses and organizations wishing to participate in the Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce Business Expo and Career Fair Thursday night has been overwhelming. With nearly 50 businesses and organizations signed up, the chamber has decided to move from the auxiliary gym in the DeLoach Center at Coker College to the main gym. The event is from 5:30-7 p.m. and is open to the public.

In keeping with the theme, "Connected together, Moving forward," the chamber brings businesses and nonprofit organizations to potential customers and employees during its Business Expo and Career Fair presented this year by North Industrial Machine.

"The Business Expo is a valuable tool for our members, as the benefits of connecting with other businesses

See EXPO, Page 6A

YOUNG MUSICIANS BAND TOGETHER



PHOTOS BY ARDIE ARVIDSON/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Students from Darlington County School District participate in the All-County Music Festival on Thursday at Coker College. Conducting the band students is Guest Clinician Stacy Coker, director of bands for the Hilton Head Island High School Band Program.

Students attend All-County Music Festival

BY ARDIE ARVIDSON
arvidson@hartsvillemessenger.com



More than 130 high school intermediate and advanced music students from the Darlington County School District, along with their music teachers, came together at the Elizabeth Boatwright Coker Performing Arts Center on the Coker College campus Thursday for the Second Annual 2016 All-County Music Festival hosted by the College's music program. The festival included a day of clinics with guest clinicians for chorus, band and strings. The event culminated with a performance Thursday evening in the Watson Theater.

Serena Hill-LaRoche, associate professor of music at Coker College and site coordinator of the event, said in a Coker release that the goal of the festival was to "celebrate the extraordinary musical talent being cultivated right here in Darlington County."

She said that during the event the young musicians would have the opportunity to work with guest clinicians "who are passionate about music education in our schools."

"The Coker College campus and Elizabeth Boatwright Performing Arts Center are the perfect back-

LOCAL

Beaufort plans to host Pat Conroy Literary Festival 3A



NATION

Trump, Clinton triumph in Florida; Rubio drops out 7A



WEDNESDAY MARCH 16 2016

75¢ VOLUME 46, No. 76 STAY CONNECTED ISLANDPACKET.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/ISLANDPACKET TWITTER.COM/ISLANDPACKET



HILTON HEAD ISLAND BLUFFTON



Increasing clouds -77/62 See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

US bars drilling for oil along Atlantic coast

Proposal last year would have opened up sites off Carolinas, other states

Announcement in line with Obama's work to build environmental legacy

Drilling would have conflicted with military interests, Pentagon says

BY MATTHEW DALY Associated Press

WASHINGTON

In a major reversal, the Obama administration said Tuesday it will bar oil drilling off America's Atlantic Coast, a move cheered by environmentalists and consistent with the president's aggressive steps to combat climate change.

Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said the decision "protects the

Atlantic for future generations." She said the administration had listened to thousands of people in coastal communities from Florida to New England who said, "Now is not the time to start leasing off the Atlantic Coast."

However, business groups and most Republicans criticized it as another example of what they call executive overreach.

Despite a surge in oil and natural gas production in the past seven years that has helped push

gasoline prices below \$2 a gallon, Republicans and industry groups have criticized President Barack Obama for imposing what they say are unnecessary regulations on drilling, especially on federal lands. Most of the drilling boom has occurred on state and private lands and in the Gulf of Mexico, long the center of U.S. offshore oil production.

The decision reverses a proposal made last year in which the administration floated a plan that would have opened up a broad

swath of the Atlantic Coast to drilling. That January 2015 proposal would have opened up sites more than 50 miles off Virginia, North and South Carolina and Georgia to oil drilling no earlier than 2021.

Obama, in his final year in office, is working to build an environmental legacy that includes a global agreement to curb climate change and an ambitious plan to reduce carbon pollution from coal-fired power plants. He also has imposed stricter limits on smog-causing pollution linked to asthma and has rejected the Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada.

The proposal on Atlantic drilling is likely to become an issue in the 2016 presidential campaign. Both Democratic candidates

SEE DRILLING, 7A

MORE INSIDE

Local officials led calls against drilling, 7A

BEAUFORT COUNTY

School start time change approved for 2016-17

Middle and high schoolers outside of Hilton Head will begin class at 9 a.m.

BY REBECCA LURYE rlurye@islandpacket.com

Most Beaufort County middle and high school students will enjoy later start times next year following a school board vote Tuesday night.

The Beaufort County school board voted to change the start times for middle and high schools, aside from the Hilton Head Island cluster, back to about 9 a.m. from 8 a.m. The new bell schedule for the 2016-17 school year also moves elementary school classes up to 8 a.m. from about 8:30 a.m.

The change passed by a vote of 10-1, with board member Michael Rivers abstaining.

Hilton Head Island school start times will remain the same, as they were already changed in a pilot initiative that began two years ago. The success of that experiment and a host of research that shows adolescents perform better academically with more sleep, convinced officials make the change district-wide.

"We're seeing fewer students late to school, fewer disciplinary referrals and more students on the honor roll," said Milton Head



The Budweiser Clydesdales paraded through Old Town Bluffton on Tuesday.

JAY KARR jkarr@islandpacket.com

OLD TOWN PARADE

Clydesdales draw crowd

Parade organizers estimated about 3,000 people turned out for the event — the second time in as many years the Clydesdales have clomped through town.

"The community came out in full force," Old Town Dispensary owner Thomas Viljac said. "Everyone is getting their photo (opportunities). There are a lot of kids, and moms and dads here — that's what it's all about."

Eric Trafton brought his daughters Garner, 11, and Spencer, 8, to the parade.

The girls saw the Clydesdales last year, "but I couldn't make it," Trafton said. "I wasn't going to miss it this time."

Garner was thrilled to get another chance to see the giant animals up close.

"I ride horses, so horses are really big in my life," she said.

Spencer's favorite part of the parade wasn't the Clydesdales but their companion and co-star, Barley the Dalmatian.

The horses and their canine compatriot took about five hours primping and preparing for Tuesday's event, Dave Thomas with Budweiser said.

"There are a lot of moving parts getting something like this organized," he said.

The Clydesdales team, which is based in New Hampshire, spends about 45 weeks per year on the road and makes up to five appearances per week.

While the schedule might be grueling, the conditions for the horses are anything but, Thomas said.

"They are very pampered. They have a very, very good life."

If you missed Tuesday's parade, there are other opportunities to see the Clydesdales in the area later this week.

The horses will make an ap-

AUCTION - Sat. March 19th - 10:AM

254 N. Flea Market Rd, Florence SC 29506 (in the Florence Flea Market Complex)

KITCHEN CABINETS & REMODELING

10+ Solid Wood Kitchen Cabinets Sets in several styles and configurations to be offered at auction to the highest bidders. Doors, Toilets, Lighting, Rugs, Tools, Faucets, Tubs & 100's more items at auction. During this auction our Hardwood, Laminate & Engineered Flooring will be discounted to our lowest wever sale price.

www.MyrtleBeachAuction.com • 843-828-4601 • SCAL 2905F • Buyers Premium 10% w/Cash Pmt, 13% w/CC or Debit

Morning News

WEDNESDAY MARCH 16, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly sunny.
High 87, low 51.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents



ELECTION ROUNDUP

For results and details about Tuesday's primary elections, see Page 6A.



Florence County

Sheriff seeks 4th term

From staff reports

FLORENCE — Florence County Sheriff Kenney Boone announced plans Tuesday to run for re-election.



Boone

Boone has served as sheriff for 12 years and said that during that time, the Florence County Sheriff's Office has become fully self-sufficient with the additions of a modern drug lab and aviation program. Boone said his goal is to further expand

See **BOONE**, Page 3A

Deputy treasurer to run for office

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Florence County Deputy Treasurer Laurie Walsh Carpenter announced Tuesday that she will seek the office of Florence County treasurer this year.



Carpenter

The current treasurer, Dean Fowler Jr., who has held the office for 16 years, announced earlier this month he will not seek re-election as treasurer but will run for South Carolina Senate

See **CARPENTER**, Page 3A

Councilwoman to seek re-election

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Florence City Councilwoman Octavia Williams-Blake announced Tuesday that she will run this year for a third term in one of the council's at-large



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA LLOYD/MORNING NEWS

Operators of big trackhoes are tearing down old structures to prepare the site of a new Florence County courthouse.

Demolition in full swing near downtown Florence

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com



Storefronts and office buildings across from the Florence City-County Complex on Irby Street are being demolished to make room for a new 120,500-square-foot judicial center.

FLORENCE — Demolition of storefronts across from the Florence City-County Complex on Irby Street is moving along quickly. The site will soon sit vacant in preparation for a new 120,500-square-foot judicial center.

Officials expect the demolition to wrap up before the month ends and have scheduled a groundbreaking for 10:30 a.m. on April 8.

Florence County Council Vice Chairman Kent Caudle said no time is being wasted on the new courthouse, and officials are still predicting an 18-month completion window.

"They're making pretty good time on it," he said. "When you get ready go, there's no use in wasting any time. If we get a lot of rain like we did last year, that could throw it behind, but we're still saying about 18 months."

Caudle said Florence See **DEMOLITION**, Page 3A

Pee Dee nonprofits get security tips during lecture

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com



FLORENCE — Representatives of several nonprofit groups got some tips Tuesday on how to improve security.

The Eastern Carolina Commu-

nonprofit world," Shelley said. "We usually don't have time to address it though, other than to lock the door, close the computer files and put the money somewhere."

Purpura, who worked in the criminal justice field for several decades as a teacher and then as

Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044