

Title: **Strange day for a game**
 Author:
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Strange day for a game

Well, it's Sunday morning. And it's ... gameday? Yes, as weird as it seems, for the University of South Carolina and University of Georgia football teams and their fans, today is the day for their annual game/grudge match. It's the first time in my life I can remember the Gamecocks playing a regular season football game on a Sunday.

The reason the teams are playing today is Hurricane Matthew, the powerful storm that ravaged Haiti last week, then socked Florida on Friday before sweeping along South Carolina's coast on Saturday.

If you followed the news out of Columbia late last week, you know there was some political drama about when and where today's game should be played.

While she ultimately left the decision up to USC, it was clear Gov. Nikki Haley had great reservations about a sold out SEC football game being played in the Capital City this weekend. Not necessarily because of the storm itself, which was expected for the most part to spare Columbia, but because of the resources and emergency personnel that are needed on assignments related to the hurricane.

In fact, Haley was set to not provide any South Carolina Highway Patrol personnel to work the ballgame, as she did not want to take state officers away from any hurricane-related efforts. Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott

said he had deputies who could step in and handle the duties.

Meanwhile, the university seemed hell-bent on having the game in Columbia this weekend. Heck, up until very late in the week it was still scheduled for Saturday night at 7:30. Thankfully, the decision was ultimate-

ly made to move it to today.

Now, I'm still not sure playing the game in Columbia this weekend was the right move. We'll find out this afternoon. But I am sure that keeping the game on Saturday night would have been a bad decision.



**CHRIS
TRAINOR**

COLUMNIST

USC's home game against LSU was moved from Columbia to Baton Rouge because of the flood. Officials didn't want to take that kind of fiscal hit again. I get it. Still, choosing to play the game today, after the storm that was set to hit the coast on Saturday, was a very serious decision. There are more than few fingers crossed that all goes to plan at Williams-Brice today, from a logistics and safety standpoint.

OK, NOW THAT WE'VE GOT all that out of the way: Indeed, it is gameday.

South Carolina football on Sunday? Seems like a perfect match to me. If ever there's ever been a team that needed prayer, it's my beloved Gamecocks this season. Prayer, confession, communion, an altar call, Wednesday night Bible study, a circle meeting, a pot luck fundraiser for the youth group, you name it, we need it.

That said, I don't expect too many pastors to explicitly include prayers for the Gamecocks in their services this morning. That is especially true of the Rev. Nicholas Beasley of

Greenwood's Church of the Resurrection, who is unfortunately a Georgia fan.

Of course, after last week's heartbreaking loss to Tennessee, a "Hail Mary" is probably the last thing most Georgia fans want to hear about.

Since I know you've come here for expert analysis on who's going to win today, I'll give you some.

Though Georgia (3-2) has dropped its last couple of contests, and has some close calls among its wins, it still has a dangerous team. Highly recruited freshman quarterback Jacob Eason seems to be figuring things out, and they have a pair of scary running backs in Sony Michel and Nick Chubb. If healthy, Chubb can be hell to handle.

On the other hand, Georgia's got a coach named Kirby. Now, back in the late 1980s and early 1990s, South Carolina had a coach named Sparky.

So we beat them in the "coach with a dog's name" race by about a quarter century.

Meanwhile, South Carolina (2-3) comes into this Sunday matinee struggling mightily on offense, scoring just 14 points per game. The captain of your high school chess club scored more than the Gamecocks this year. Coach Will Muschamp says he's going to give both Perry Orth and Brandon McIlwain a try at quarterback today. I'm thinking running backs A.J. Turner and Rico Dowdle (and maybe David Williams) are going to have to shoulder a heavy load if USC is going to make any headway against the Bulldogs.

On the other hand, USC's defense has been decent and, at times, opportunistic. The Gamecocks have intercepted five passes and recovered four

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fumbles so far this season. Darius English is second in the SEC with five sacks.

PREDICTION: The Bulldogs should win this football game. They should. But, our state just got swiped by a hurricane, so I can't kick the Palmetto State while it's down. South Carolina 20, Georgia 17.

Chris Trainor is a contributing columnist for the Index-Journal. Contact him at ChrisTrainorSC@yahoo.com. You can follow him on Twitter @ChrisTrainorSC. Views expressed in this column are those of the writer only and do not represent the newspaper's opinion.

Title: **Storm evacuees move**
 Author: BY DEDE BILES dbiles@aikenstandard.com
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Storm evacuees move

Aiken County returning to normal; schools reopen as shelter relocates

BY DEDE BILES

dbiles@aikenstandard.com

Aiken County is starting to get back to normal after Hurricane Matthew made landfall on the South Carolina coast over the weekend while knocking down trees and causing power outages locally.

On Sunday, the Aiken County Public School District issued a press release stating that schools would reopen today (Monday) after a three-day shutdown ordered by Gov. Nikki Haley last week.

South Aiken High School served as a shelter for more than 250 evacuees from coastal

areas. On Sunday morning, the evacuees were moved to the H.

Odell Weeks Activities Center after City of Aiken officials offered accommodations there.

The evacuees will be able to remain at the Weeks Center until it is safe for them to go back to their homes.

"We appreciate everyone's patience as we examined roadways and facilities for safety and made plans to relocate evacuees," said School District Superintendent Dr. Sean Alford. "We are extremely grate-

ful to our accommodating city officials who worked with us to relocate the evacuees and open school back up on Monday."

Alford also praised school groups and school employees along with American Red Cross volunteers, church members and others in the community for stepping up to help the evacuees and showing "a real spirit of hospitality."

Haley announced that evacuation orders had been lifted for all residents in Charleston, Dorchester, Berkeley and Colleton counties early Sunday. Evacuation orders were lifted for Beaufort and Jasper counties Sunday evening. However,

evacuations remained in effect for zones in Georgetown and Horry counties because officials there were still assessing those areas for potential dangers.

A press release from Haley's office encouraged coastal residents returning to their homes to "exercise patience and expect lengthy travel times, blocked roadways and detours back to evacuated areas." The release also asked them "not to drive around barricades or use emergency lanes that are needed for first responders."

In addition, the release

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INSIDE

More on Hurricane Matthew, **4A**

STORM

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warned motorists heading back to coastal areas "to be prepared for fallen trees, downed power lines and standing water in and around roadways."

Power outages in counties where there were evacuations could last for several days or weeks, the release stated.

Included in the release were the following safety tips:

- Avoid flood waters or standing water. Do not use area streams, rivers or the ocean for drinking, bathing or swim-

ming due to the possibility of bacteria, waste water or other contaminants. Avoid wading through standing water due to the possibility of sharp objects, power lines or other hazardous debris that may be under the surface.

- Do not use generators indoors. Running generators in homes, garages or other closed areas can lead to increased levels of carbon monoxide, which can be fatal and may cause death.

- Be sure tap water is safe to consume. Watch for boil water advisories on your local news or call your water utility. Use only bottled or stored water until it is determined that the water is safe to drink. If water is not safe to drink, boil water vigorously for at least one minute, then let it cool before use.

To see a list of road closures, visit www.scdot.org. To check the status of conditions on Interstate 26, visit www.511sc.org. For general information,

visit www.scemd.org.

As of early Sunday night, SCE&G was reporting only three customers with power outages in Aiken County. Aiken Electric Cooperative wasn't reporting any outages in Aiken County.

Dede Biles is a general assignment reporter for the *Aiken Standard* and has been with the newspaper since January 2013.

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STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BENGTON

Groceries and supplies arrived around noon Sunday at the H. Odell Weeks Activities Center, largely courtesy of Millbrook Baptist Church, as the Hurricane Matthew shelter operation was relocated from South Aiken High School.

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STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BENGTON

Jennifer Woolf and daughter Kelby, 3, both from Johns Island, were out for some playground time at mid-day Sunday in Virginia Acres City Park.

Title: **Three dead in S.C. floods from hurricane as state begins recovery**
 Author: BY JEFFREY COLLINS Associated Press
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HURRICANE MATTHEW

Three dead in S.C. floods from hurricane as state begins recovery

BY JEFFREY COLLINS

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Three people have died in South Carolina from Hurricane Matthew, including a Richland County man who was pinned after falling from his electric wheelchair into a puddle of standing water, authorities said.

The other two deaths occurred in vehicles swept off flooded roads in Florence County, Sheriff Kenney Boone said Sunday.

Gov. Nikki Haley couldn't guarantee those would be the only deaths. Search and rescue teams were still checking remote areas and waiting for flood waters to recede.

But as the sun came out Sunday, South Carolina turned toward recovery. Crews re-opened all the interstates and were working to remove trees or inspect bridges along the 250 or so roads that remained closed.

Haley lifted evacuation orders in Berkeley, Colleton, Charleston and Dorchester counties, saying it will be up to local officials in Beaufort, Jasper, Georgetown and Horry counties to tell her when to allow coastal residents back into those places.

"A lot of people are going to try to go home today," the governor said. "Do not drive through the barricades. It's dangerous for law enforcement, it's dangerous for you."

In Richland County, 66-year-old David L. Outlaw drowned after he was found under his electric wheelchair in standing water at the National Health Care facility in Columbia around 7:45 a.m. Saturday, Coroner Gary Watts said. A person who answered the phone at the skilled nursing center Sunday hung up on a reporter after saying she could not comment.

A witness in Florence County called 911 after seeing a vehicle disappear around noon Saturday. But the swift current and heavy rain prevented rescuers from getting to the vehicle for about four hours, Florence County Emergency Management spokesman Andrew Golden said.

Also in Florence County, divers on Sunday found the body of a man who drove into waters that had washed away a bridge, Boone said in a news release. The coroner hadn't released the

names of the two victims.

More than 10 inches of rain fell in parts of the county, which was trying to recover from numerous roads closed from downed trees and flooding. "I talked to first responders, and a lot of them are saying this was worse than (Hurricane) Hugo," Golden said.

There was a lot of good news, too. All 100 people on Daufuskie Island who ignored pleas from emergency officials to leave were safe. The island, assessable only by boat, suffered structural damage from the storm surge, the governor said.

Power crews are also hard at work. There were 625,000 customers without electricity Sunday afternoon, down more than 200,000 outages from the peak as Hurricane Matthew came ashore near McClellanville.

A Charleston County Sheriff's Office bomb squad was called to Folly Beach on Sunday after Civil War-era cannonballs were found on shore, washed up by the hurricane, Maj. Eric Watson said.

The squad had to wait for the tide to go back out before they could make sure the cannonballs were safe, Watson said.

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AP PHOTO/DAVID GOLDMAN

Kyle Simmons wades through water to check on the home of his grandmother following Hurricane Matthew in Edisto Island on Sunday. A deteriorating Matthew was stripped of hurricane status Sunday morning and began making its slow exit to the sea.

Title: **SIGNS OF RECOVERY**
 Author: BY KELLY MEYERHOFER kmeyerhofer@islandpacket.com
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AFTER HURRICANE MATTHEW

SIGNS OF RECOVERY

Cleanup process continues across county

BY KELLY MEYERHOFER
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In the 24 hours since Hurricane Matthew battered Beaufort County, photos of fallen trees and debris-filled streets abound on social media, but few specifics are yet known about the extent of damage to homes, businesses and schools.

Here's what we do know:

CHECKPOINTS FUNNEL SOME FOLKS HOME

Beaufort County residents returning home have been directed to one of two checkpoints — Bluffton High School for those living south of the Broad and Whale Branch High School for those living north of that river, Beaufort County Sheriff P.J. Tanner said Sunday.

Residents at addresses where power and water has been restored will be allowed to go home. No list of safe neighborhoods was provided.

Others — including all residents of Hilton Head and other barrier islands —

must stay at the Bluffton school temporarily. Food and water are available at the shelter. Pets are allowed.

In terms of a specific time and date when all residents can come home, the news was not encouraging.

"I wish we had a time frame, but we don't," Tanner said.

Long lines of cars clogged U.S. 278 Sunday with would-be returnees. That means the school shelters will fill up quickly. Local officials encourage those farther away to stay put.

During a Sunday morning news conference, Gov. Nikki Haley asked for "patience, patience, patience" as the re-entry process begins.

Communication issues over the checkpoints have already arisen.

Town of Bluffton spokeswoman Debbie Szpanka wrote incorrectly on Facebook that Bluffton residents can go directly home.

Not true, said Capt. Bob Bromage of

the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.

All Beaufort County residents must

SEE CLEANUP, 7A

INSIDE

- Curfew remains in place as northern Beaufort County recovers. **2A**
- What are conditions like on the barrier islands in northern Beaufort County? **2A**
- Savannah airport to open Monday while Beaufort County schools hope to open Wednesday. **4A**
- Three dead in S.C. floods from hurricane as state begins recovery. **5A**
- Updates on power and water outages. **6A**
- Matthew kills nine in North Carolina, leaves historic flooding in its wake. **6A**

ONLINE

Get the latest news and find more photos and video of the storm's aftermath at beaufortgazette.com and islandpacket.com.

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CLEANUP

report to a checkpoint.

SECURITY BACK AT SOME GATED COMMUNITIES

Water and sewer service is still spotty, so Hilton Head officials have not established a timeline for re-entry onto the island.

But Hilton Head Mayor David Bennett is optimistic.

"I'm pushing for tomorrow, but I would be shocked if it's beyond Tuesday," he said Sunday.

Security at Sea Pines, Indigo Run, Palmetto Dunes and Hilton Head Plantation is in place, said town manager Steve Riley.

SCHOOLS CLOSED THROUGH TUESDAY

Beaufort County School District hopes to reopen Wednesday, Superintendent Jeff Moss said at a Sunday afternoon news conference.

The call will hinge on whether schools have power and whether the checkpoints are still in place, he said.

Hurricane Matthew damaged several schools, Moss said. The hardest-hit were Beaufort High School and H.E. McCracken Middle School with leaking roofs and some structural damage from fallen tree branches

and debris.

At Hilton Head Elementary, water blew in under the doors and still sat in the corridors on Sunday. But the classrooms stayed dry, Moss said. He hoped outside clean-up would finish by the end of Monday. Clean-up of standing water could take longer.

St. John Paul II Catholic School in Ridgeland is also closed Tuesday.

WIDESPREAD POWER OUTAGES CONTINUE

Power outages continue to blanket Beaufort County.

SCE&G, which serves customers north of the Broad, reported a peak of around 47,000 outages in the county Saturday night into Sunday. Roughly 42,000 are still without power, according to the company's outage map.

All SCE&G customers in Bluffton are without power, said Bluffton Mayor Lisa Sulka. "And I'm one of them," she said.

Depending on the extent of the damage at some substations, the power may not come on for three to seven days, Sulka said she was told in a briefing.

Palmetto Electric, which serves customers south of the Broad, reported al-

most 32,000 outages in Beaufort County and more than 3,000 in Jasper County.

There are a handful of significant lines still down, including one that cuts across the center of Hilton Head, Bennett said.

The utility workforce will be almost tripled from normal staffing levels

Monday, spokeswoman Missy Santorum said.

SOME STORES REOPENING

Shuttered storefronts are slowly reopening, including the Piggly Wiggly on Hilton Head, where customers were limited to five items Sunday.

In Bluffton, Ace Hardware and the Parker's gas station on Buckwalter Parkway were open, Sulka said.

So was the Publix at Buckwalter, but the grocery store's supply hadn't been replenished since the storm.

Sulka reported there was no meat, a bit of bread and plenty of vegetables and salads.

HOSPITALS RESUME LIMITED SERVICE

Both Beaufort Memorial Hospital and Coastal Carolina's emergency rooms reopened Sunday at noon.

Beaufort Memorial

plans to reopen outpatient testing and services Tuesday.

Coastal Carolina had no specific timeline for re-opening other services, spokeswoman Lydia Hill said.

Contrary to Haley's remarks Sunday when she said Beaufort Memorial had sustained structural damage, the hospital had only minor leaks, which have been repaired, spokeswoman Courtney McDermott said.

Hilton Head Hospital is accessible, and Hilton Head Public Service District is working to restore water service to the building, Bennett said.

Staff reporter Rebecca Lurye contributed to this article.

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“

I'M PUSHING FOR TOMORROW, BUT I WOULD BE SHOCKED IF IT'S BEYOND TUESDAY.

Hilton Head Island Mayor David Bennett on when residents will be allowed to return home

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Author: BY KELLY MEYERHOFER kmeyerhofer@islandpacket.com
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Courtesy of Daniel Riley

Flooding is shown in Hilton Head Plantation.

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JAY KARR jkarr@islandpacket.com

Members of the 1263rd Forward Support Company of the South Carolina Army National Guard remove trees that have fallen across U.S. 278 from Hurricane Matthew.

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CAITLIN TURNER Staff photo

Officers patrol the entrance of U.S. 278 near the Jasper County-Beaufort County border on Sunday morning.



JOSH MITELMAN Staff photo

Members of the South Carolina National Guard work on Sunday to clear massive trees blocking U.S. 278, just west of Museum Street.

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Town of Hilton Head Island

An aerial view of Palmetto Bay Marina on Hilton Head Island is shown.

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 Author: BY WADE LIVINGSTON wlivingston@islandpacket.com
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Evacuees still being sent to shelters

BY WADE LIVINGSTON

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The good news: Gov. Nikki Haley lifted Beaufort County's evacuation order Sunday evening.

The bad news for evacuees eager to return home: That doesn't change the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office safety checkpoint system keeping them away a little longer.

As hundreds of vehicles backed up along U.S. 278, the Red Cross opened two temporary shelters to serve the northern and southern parts of the county.

Instead of holding motorists at the county line, evacuees are now being diverted to the temporary shelters at either Battery Creek High School or Bluffton High School, where food, water

and other amenities are available. Pets are allowed.

It's uncertain when county residents will be allowed to leave the shelters and return home, said Beaufort County Sheriff P.J. Tanner during a Sunday news conference.

SEE SHELTERS, 7A

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SHELTERS

"Re-entry for inland area residents is anticipated ahead of barrier island residents," said a statement from the Sheriff's Office.

Tanner also hinted that certain allowances could be made for residents who could contribute to clean-up and recovery efforts. He did not offer details.

Residents who live on Hilton Head Island, Lady's Island and the county's barrier islands are guaranteed no entry at this time, according to Bob Bromage, spokesman for the Sheriff's Office.

The system is infuriating many evacuees, including Josh Gibson and his family, who started their drive back home to

Beaufort on Saturday.

They were stopped that day at a checkpoint while trying to get into the county and had to make arrangements at a hotel in Savannah. They were

there with other evacuees from coastal Georgia and other parts of South Carolina, all of who returned home Sunday.

Gibson watched Tanner's news conference Sunday, learned about the two shelters being set up and decided not to even attempt to drive to Beaufort.

He was confused.

"What I can't understand is what we're supposed to do, those of us who are stuck outside,

with the information that, when we get to the checkpoint ... that we may or may not be able to get back into our homes."

"(Other counties in South Carolina) seem to want to get their people back as fast as they could," he continued. "Every other municipality and county has managed to find a way to work with their utilities and citizens in a way that works for everybody."

He said he felt like someone who'd traveled abroad without a passport who would be forced to talk his way in.

The "fiasco" that has been re-entry will factor into his decision to evacuate for a future hurri-

cane, he added.

"I'm not getting burned again," he said, "and I'm not going to have to answer again to the whims of these county officials."

Gibson said others will likely be thinking the same thing, and that, next time, evacuation numbers will "plummet."

"And that's going to cost people's lives," he said. "Guaranteed."

Tanner urged patience Sunday, adding that it is not known when a return for all will be possible.

"I wish we had a time frame, but we don't," Tanner said.

The best thing people can do right now is stay put — wherever they are,

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Tanner said, adding that the county hoped to have a “trickle effect” of people returning home.

The less traffic on the road, the better work crews are able to do their jobs, he said, adding that “three times” as many power line workers were on Beaufort County’s streets Sunday compared to the day before.

Staff reporter Kelly Meyerhoffer contributed to this article.

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Title: **Crews working on roads, power lines**
 Author: BYSTEPHEN FASTENAU sfastenau@beaufortgazette.com
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NORTHERN BEAUFORT COUNTY

Crews working on roads, power lines

■ **Beaufort Memorial Hospital reopened its emergency room Sunday. Beaufort and Port Royal firefighters and building code officials are assessing building damage.**

BY STEPHEN FASTENAU
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There is an emergency room and some power, and businesses are creeping back into operation as northern Beaufort County works to return to normal following a devastating Hurricane Matthew.

Sunday brought the sound of chainsaws as crews and residents continued to clear roadways and yards of trees. Utility

crews worked on power lines in Beaufort, Port Royal and the Sea Islands.

A 7 p.m. curfew remained in place Sunday evening throughout Beaufort County.

State transportation officials cleared all of northern Beaufort County's bridges for travel except Harbor River Bridge.

Government offices and Beaufort County schools will be closed through at least Tuesday. Beaufort's City Council meeting scheduled Tuesday was canceled.

Beaufort Memorial Hospital's emergency room reopened at noon Sunday.

Opening the facility and restoring power to essen-

tial areas were among the

SEE ROADS, 4A

FROM PAGE 2A

ROADS

issues Beaufort County emergency personnel addressed ahead of re-entry.

Power crews worked throughout northern Beaufort County to clear trees from power lines and restore the power grid.

Beaufort Memorial Hospital experienced some leaking due to rain, but the issues have been repaired, hospital spokeswoman Courtney McDermott said Sunday. The hospital is running on full power, and outpatient medical services could reopen by Tuesday, president and CEO Russell Baxley said.

Gov. Nikki Haley at a news conference Sunday said the hospital sustained structural and flooding

damage.

Beaufort-Port Royal firefighters went door-to-door assessing damages to homes and businesses, keeping a log at their Ribaut Road headquarters. The city's building code contractor will follow up on the list and arrived Sunday morning to begin looking at flood damage in problem areas like Mossy Oaks and the Point neighborhood downtown.

Port Royal's building inspector will conduct a similar process, but there is less damage than in the city, Town Manager Van Willis said.

The highest water mark they had found as of lunchtime Sunday was 2 1/2 feet in a garage on Battery Creek Road.

The Port Royal Public Works Department worked with the Greenery to clear about 30 locations where trees are blocking roads, Willis said. In most cases, there is access to homes and businesses, he said.

Greenery employees picked up debris in Naval Heritage Park and throughout Old Village on Sunday.

The town remains under a 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. curfew.

Meanwhile, some businesses began showing signs of life.

The Shell gas station at First Boulevard and Ribaut Road began pumping Sunday, and some gas was reported on Boundary Street. Lady's Island Publix was open Sunday,

restricting the number of customers initially.

Lowe's, Walmart and Golden Corral on Robert Smalls Parkway were working to reopen Sunday. Beaufort Pharmacy and Compounding across from Beaufort Memorial Hospital is open.

Emergency officials expect medical calls to begin once people return and begin working around their homes or living near trees weakened by the storm.

"Beware you might come back to a home you can't stay in," Beaufort-Port Royal Fire Chief Reece Bertholf said.

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A tree rests on a light pole and power lines near Kmart on Boundary Street in Beaufort.

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BRENT SHARP Submitted

A tree rests on a pickup in Beaufort.

Title: 'Daufuskie 100' OK after riding out hurricane on island with horses
 Author: BY WADE LIVINGSTON wlivingston@islandpacket.com
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HURRICANE MATTHEW

'Daufuskie 100' OK after riding out hurricane on island with horses

■ The residents of Daufuskie Island weathered Hurricane Matthew. Melrose Landing and the Haig Point community dock were destroyed.

BY WADE LIVINGSTON
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They're calling themselves the "Daufuskie 100" – the residents of Daufuskie Island who chose to stay behind and successfully weathered Hurricane Matthew.

Erica Marie Veit is one of them. She and some of the other island residents gathered at the Sportsman's Lodge at Melrose Resort on the small sea island where, according to Veit, they were on 16 acres of land – cleared land, no trees – about 22 feet above sea level.

They made it. And so did their comrades on other parts of the island.

Gov. Nikki Haley, who pleaded with island's 400 residents to evacuate the island ahead of the storm, confirmed the news at a Sunday news conference.

"We're very pleased and relieved to say that everyone's been accounted for, and there's no injuries," Veit said on Sunday morning. "Even in the cleanup efforts yesterday, everyone was safe, and no injuries were reported."

Veit, executive director of the Daufuskie Marsh Tacky Society, was worried about her Marsh

Tacky horses.

The breed is native to South Carolina's barrier islands and is the state heritage horse. There are about 20 of the animals on the island, she said, split up between a few owners. The horses, too, survived unscathed.

Daufuskie itself didn't fare as well.

The storm hit them from the north, Veit said, so the north end of the island was most damaged.

Melrose Landing and the Haig Point community dock were both destroyed, she said, adding the Haig Point ferry survived, as did Freeport Marina.

Most residents lost their boats, Veit said, and river- and ocean-oriented homes at Haig Point had four to five feet of water underneath them.

Many parts of the island still have one to two feet of standing water from the storm surge, Veit said, but the water appears to be receding.

"It's definitely devastating here. The island will never be the same," Veit said.

She said fuel and generators were needed so residents could continue

cleanup efforts.

The U.S. Coast Guard is continuing to survey the area that includes Daufuskie, according to spokesperson Lt. James Zorn.

"I know that area got hit pretty hard down there by Hilton Head," he said, "And a lot of those marinas down there had extensive damage."

Zorn confirmed that the ferries themselves did not sustain significant damage, but he did not know if they had resumed operation.

The damage assessment is ongoing, he said,

but the area Daufuskie is in was "hit harder than a lot of other areas in South Carolina."

Veit said cell phone service was spotty on the island. Residents have been venturing down to Freeport to make calls.

Veit stood there Sunday morning looking at a boat that had washed up onto the concrete pier. That boat had previously been on a boat lift, she said, illustrating the storm surge the island experienced.

On Thursday, as Matthew was still making its

approach, between 40 and 50 Daufuskie residents met out front of the General Store near Marshside Mama's, Veit said.

"Dave Hutton led the meeting," she said, "and we all took each others' names and recorded where everyone would be (during the storm) so we knew where everyone was. We spoke about concerns and talked about good places to go and bad places to go."

"And I think that contributed to the success of everyone weathering the storm," she said.

While her horses contributed to her decision to stay, she also worried it would be a long time before she could get back to Daufuskie if she evacuated on the last two ferries to leave the island, on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, respectively.

Veit understood Haley's concerns but said residents' decisions to stay came down to calculated risks.

"I think it's (Haley's) job to communicate with the public and err on the side of caution," Veit said. "And in that case I think

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Author: BY WADE LIVINGSTON wlivingston@islandpacket.com
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everyone was informed enough to make their own decision.

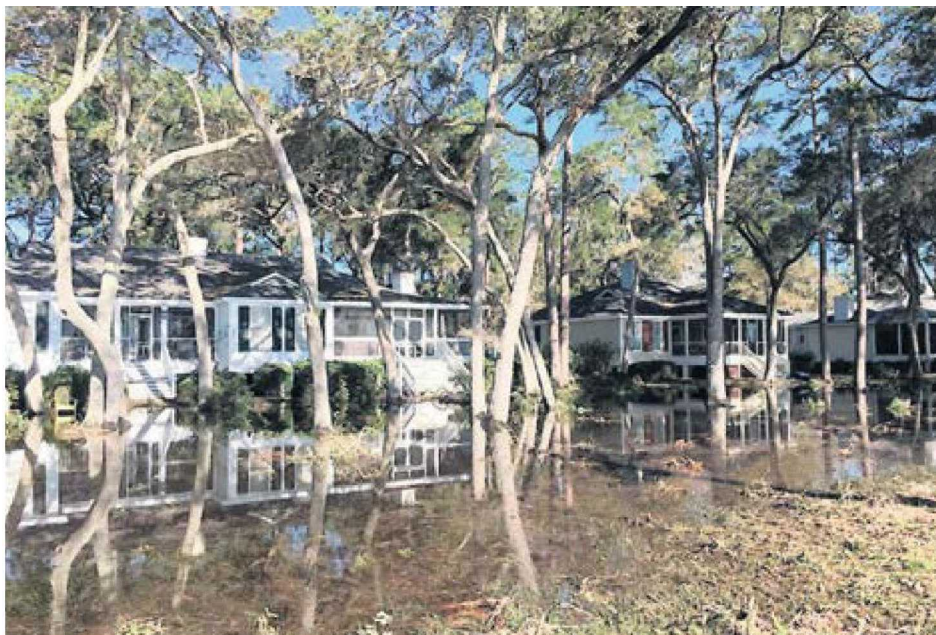
“At the time we were taking very calculated risks,” she said. “And I wouldn’t personally recommend that most people stay. ... Mandatory evacuation was warranted.”

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“

**IT’S DEFINITELY DEVASTATING HERE.
THE ISLAND WILL NEVER BE THE SAME.**

Erica Marie Veit, Daufuskie Island resident



Many of the residents decided to stay on the island and ride out the storm.

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Photos by Daufuskie Marsh Tacky Society

Hurricane Matthew ripped up trees and caused flooding on Daufuskie Island. Residents took in the damage Sunday.

Title: **Sons of Confederacy to host event at York Tech, upsetting many in area**
 Author: BY ANDREW DYS adys@heraldonline.com
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Sons of Confederacy to host event at York Tech, upsetting many in area

■ Sons of Confederate Veterans plan S.C. convention on public Rock Hill campus; college administrators didn't know about the event.

BY ANDREW DYS
adys@heraldonline.com

ROCK HILL

Hundreds of Confederate flags will be on display at York Technical College early next year – despite the potential for controversy and even protests a year after the flag was dumped from the South Carolina state-house – as the school hosts the annual South Carolina convention of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans not only use the Confederate flag in their materials, logos and banners, the group refuses to acknowledge that the Civil War was fought over the South wanting to keep blacks in slavery. The group opposed all efforts to take down the flag in South Carolina.

Student enrollment figures at

York Technical College for the decade leading up to this year show generally the student body of more than 5,000 students is about one-quarter black each year.

But until The Herald told top administrators at the school that its Baxter Hood Center had contracted with the group to host the convention, administration officials didn't even know that their conference center had inked a deal to host the convention in March.

More, some area leaders say Rock Hill and York County hosting a convention for a group that flies such a divisive and inflammatory flag could damage the image of the area. Rock Hill has an official motto: "No Room for Racism" and honors civil

rights protesters in its road signs. In 2015 Rock Hill reversed convictions of Friendship Nine protesters from 1961 in an event that was national news.

"With all the unrest going on in this country, it would not be a good look for York Tech or Rock Hill and York County," said

William "Bump" Roddey, a York Tech alumnus who is the only black member of York County Council. "We have come a long way in this area, and this re-inflames what we are trying to get past."

School officials have determined that the Sons of Confederate Veterans – which believes that the Southern cause in the Civil War was both just and

SEE DYS, 5A

FROM PAGE 1A

DYS

proper – has a first amendment right to assemble. The Hood center is owned and operated by the college, a state run school supported by taxpayers.

"We are aware of their

emblem as potentially controversial, but we are apolitical," said Melanie Jones, vice-president for college advancement at York Tech.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans has a legiti-

mate right to lease the space for the convention March 17 and March 18, Jones said. Other groups, such as the NAACP and political candidates, have previously leased space at the Hood center.

However, those groups do not arrive with a phalanx of Confederate flags in tow.

The school, after being told of the event booking, said it has reviewed the

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contract and with a Friday afternoon and Saturday function in March, and does not see any disruption of the campus or students going to school by the event, Jones said. The school must balance its core mission of serving students with any event on campus, but for this event, York Tech “does not see a situation where that balance is off-balance,” Jones said.

The Confederate flag has been a state and national controversy for decades. For more than 15 years, the NCAA and ACC banned sports events after the NAACP urged a boycott over South Carolina flying the Confederate flag.

South Carolina in 2015 took down the same Confederate battle flag that the Sons of Confederate Veterans use in all their materials and as part of their logo. That was done by legislators, after a push by Gov. Nikki Haley, after nine blacks were murdered at a Charleston church. The suspect is a white supremacist and Confederate flag supporter who wanted to start a race war.

Roddey, the York County Council member, said tuition and fees from students and tax dollars from the people of York County and South Carolina support York Tech.

“This is not the image we want in York County,” Roddey said.

For millions of Americans, the Confederate flag is a symbol of slavery and racism. More, it is generally accepted – except by Con-

federate heritage groups such as the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and hate groups that also fly the Confederate flag – that the war was fought because the Southern states wanted to maintain and expand the slavery of blacks and rejected the authority of the federal government to prohibit slavery.

It is clear that private individuals and groups such as the Sons of Confederate Veterans have every right to fly the Confederate flag. But the March 2017 convention will be on a campus of a public school supported by tax dollars, Roddey said, and the public and student body are sure to see the flags that many find offensive.

Just last month, a federal judge in a Mississippi flag dispute wrote that the Confederate flag is an “emblem of slavery, lynchings, pain and white supremacy.” More, the judge wrote that not just blacks are appalled by the Confederate battle flag.

South Carolina taking down the Confederate flag from its Statehouse was a major news event all over the world – and yet taking down the flag was excoriated by the Sons of Confederate Veterans. On its website, the Sons of Confederate Veterans say of the Confederate flag in South Carolina: “One comes down, many go up.”

Yet the Sons of Confederate Veterans say there is no concern over their annual meeting – despite there being no doubt that the Confederate flag is among the most contro-

versial symbols in America – if not the most divisive. The convention includes Confederate flag backdrops, sales of Confederate flag items, and its participants carry the flags. More, the group is not open to the public – only descendants of Confederate soldiers are eligible for membership.

After the Charleston killings in June 2015 – but before the state legislature and governor approved taking down the Statehouse Confederate flag – the Sons of Confederate Veterans denounced the killings at a news conference hastily assembled under the Confederate flag, but continued to support the flag and fought the bill that took it down. The group also has had skirmishes with anti-flag groups in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and other states after people opposed the flag.

Bucky Sutton, commander of the Micah Jenkins camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans based in Rock Hill and host for the state convention, said that there is no concern about potential protests or anything else, and that the group is about celebrating the heritage of its members. Sutton said that “I am not ashamed” of his heritage of 44 Confederate soldiers that promotes the Confederacy and denies the war as being about slavery.

Sutton conceded that the Confederate flag is controversial but said “there is controversy in almost anything. Black Lives matter is contro-

versial,” Sutton said.

More, Sutton said he is “quite puzzled” why anyone would even bring up any potential problems with the group renting the space. The group believes its heritage is under siege from those who would rewrite history – despite overwhelming scholarship that refutes the groups contention that the war was not about slavery. The group has 3,000 members statewide but it remains unclear how many will attend in March.

The S.C. Board for Technical College Education, which provides oversight for the state’s 16 technical schools, has not faced any such situation before where a group that espouses the controversial Confederate flag rents space for an event, said Kelly Steinhilper, spokesperson for the state board. The local colleges have “autonomy” to handle their own affairs such as hosting events, Steinhilper said, and there “is no policy” at the state level concerning hosting a group that uses as its banner and logo a symbol that so many South Carolinians find offensive.

Roddey, the York Tech alum and councilman, said no one should be surprised if there are protests against the event.

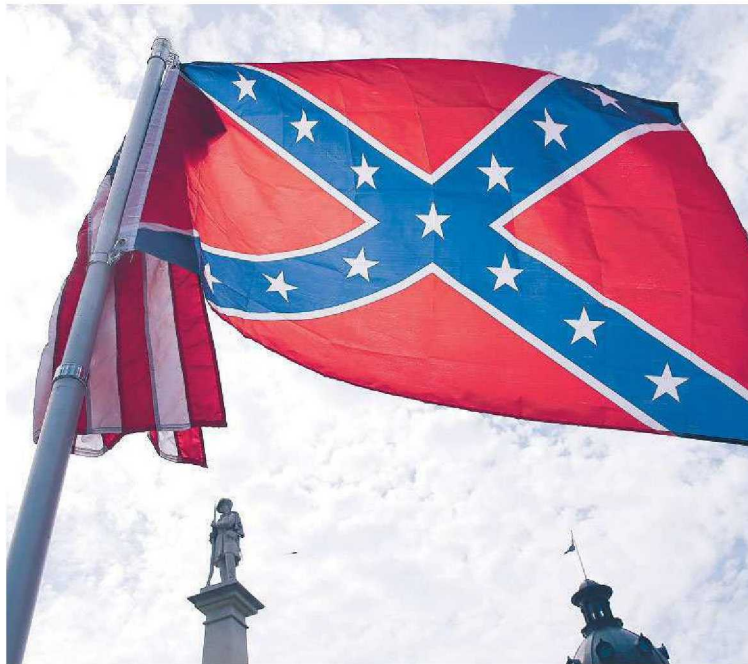
The campus sits in the city of Rock Hill, but Rock Hill police have not yet received any request for extra security, a department spokesman said.

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“**THIS IS NOT THE IMAGE WE WANT IN
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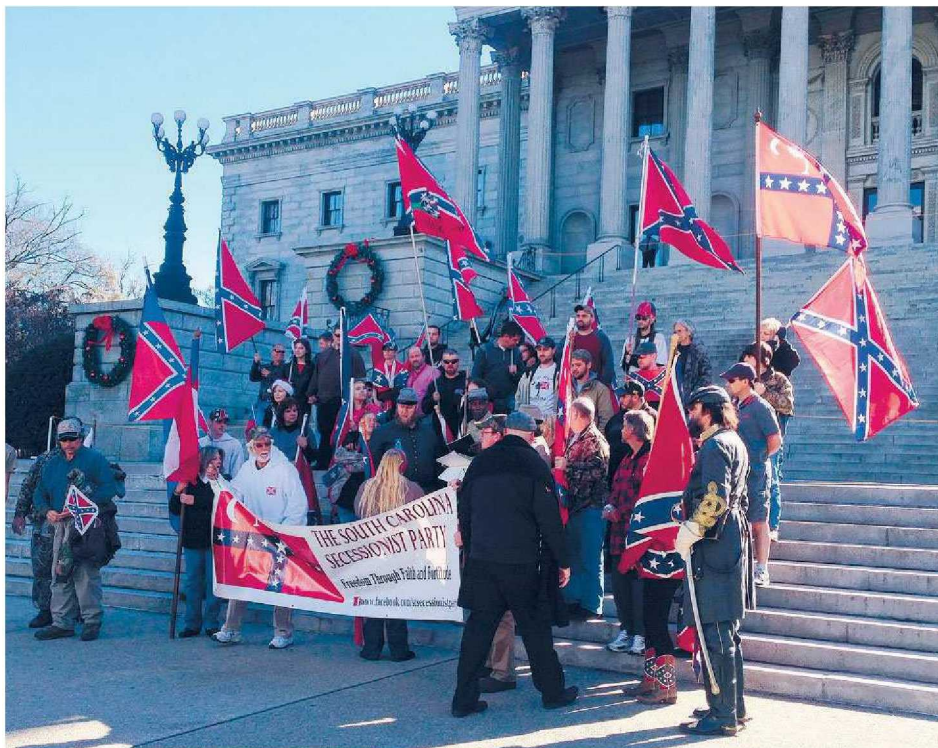
*William Roddey, a York Tech alumnus and York
County councilmember*



JOHN BAZEMORE AP

A protester waves a Confederate battle flag in front of the South Carolina statehouse in Columbia to protest the removal in 2015 of the emblem that had flown there for more than 50 years. Sons of the Confederacy fought all efforts to have the flag taken down.

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SEANNA ADCOX AP

Members of the South Carolina Secessionist Party rally at the Statehouse in Columbia late last year. The Confederate battle flag has become a rally point for many who see it as part of the state's history, while others see it as a hurtful symbol of the slave trade.

Title: **Power outages, but no serious damage locally**
 Author: BY TEDDY KULMALA tkulmala@heraldonline.com
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HURRICANE MATTHEW

Power outages, but no serious damage locally

■ Power outage maps were lit up throughout the day for York, Chester and Lancaster counties, but no serious accidents or damage were reported.

BY TEDDY KULMALA
 tkulmala@heraldonline.com

More than half a million power outages were reported across South Carolina late Saturday afternoon as Hurricane Matthew continued creating havoc on the East Coast.

York and Chester counties were released from a flood watch as skies cleared Saturday afternoon. However, the area remained under a wind advisory until 2 a.m.

Most of the area received between 2 and 3 inches of rain between Friday and Saturday, according to Lauren Visin, a meteorologist with the National

Weather Service in Greenville.

The peak wind gust in Rock Hill Saturday reached 40 mph, Visin said, but there were no reports of tornadic activity.

The S.C. Emergency Management Division reported 762,000 power outages around the state late Saturday afternoon.

At one point, more than 3,000 customers were without power in Fort Mill after an outage that began around 9:30 a.m. Power for those customers was restored before noon.

Clusters of local outages spotted Duke Energy's map throughout the day Saturday. A

Duke spokesperson said it high winds were sending trees and limbs down onto power lines around the Charlotte area Saturday.

Duke Energy reported at 6 p.m. that it had more than 525,000 customers affected, including 156,800 in South Carolina.

Nearly 70 customers near South Market Street in Lancaster lost power around 5:45 a.m. and were still in the dark at 5:30 p.m.

SEE MATTHEW, 7A

FROM PAGE 1A

MATTHEW

One outage near Lancaster Super Speedway around 1:50 p.m. cut off power for 260 customers. Duke Energy's website attributed the outage to "fallen trees or limbs damaging our equipment."

Some of the damage from Matthew can be extensive, and outages may last for a considerable amount of time, said Bobby Simpson, Duke Energy's storm director.

"In some of the harder hit areas, we expect to

have to rebuild portions of our system before we can restore power, and that takes time," he said in an email Saturday. "We ask our customers to stay safe and be patient. Tomorrow may be a bright, sunny day, but that won't erase the damage being done today."

Simpson said line crews can begin repairs as soon as the storm passes and wind speeds drop below 39 mph. However, for safety reasons, crews

cannot perform elevated work in bucket trucks if wind speeds are more than 30 mph.

York Electric Cooperative had spotty outages throughout the day, and was reporting 180 members without power at 6:45 p.m. Saturday.

State and local officials were urging residents to beware of a cyber scam related to Hurricane Matthew. The email messages ask the victims to click on a link to get more infor-

mation about outages and damage.

"Attackers are sending out emails regarding updated storm information such as lists of flooding areas, projected paths and damage images," the York County Sheriff's Office said in a Facebook post Saturday. "The emails attempt to get the user to click a link that is actually infecting the users with malware."

Gov. Nikki Haley warned residents about

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the email scam during her press conference Saturday.

"If you do not know the person sending you the email, delete it," she said.

No major accidents or damages were reported around York County as of late Saturday. Deputy Chief Mark Simmons said the Rock Hill Fire Department responded to five calls for power lines down or trees down on power lines.

No road closures have been reported in the area so far, according to the S.C. Department of Transportation.

The hurricane continued its march along the Atlantic coast Saturday, lashing two of the South's most historic cities and some of its most popular resort islands, flattening trees, swamping streets and knocking out power to hundreds of thousands.

The storm was blamed for at least 10 deaths in Florida, Georgia and North Carolina. In its long wake, it also left at least 470 dead in Haiti in one hard-hit district alone,

according to officials, with other stricken areas still unreachable four days after the disaster struck.

Matthew raked Georgia and South Carolina with torrential rain and stiff winds, and – for the first time in its run up the U.S. coastline – its storm center blew ashore, making landfall north of Charleston, near the town of McClellanville, where it caused serious flooding.

Up until then, the center, or eye, mercifully stayed just far enough out at sea that coastal communities didn't feel the full force of Matthew's winds. As the storm passed one city after another, the reaction was relief that things were nowhere near as bad as many feared.

"We are all blessed that Matthew stayed off our coast," Florida Gov. Rick Scott said. "We are blessed that we didn't have a direct hit."

As of 2 p.m., Matthew – by some measures the most powerful hurricane to menace the U.S. in more than a decade – was just barely a hurricane,

with winds of 75 mph, and was hitting Myrtle Beach, and Wilmington, N.C. Its winds were down from 145 mph when it roared into Haiti.

From there, the storm was expected to veer out to sea and loop back around through the Bahamas and toward Florida, though as a barely noticeable wave.

North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory warned people not to let their guard down just because Matthew was losing steam.

As the hurricane began making its exit, it looked as if forecasters had gotten it right. Matthew stayed near the middle of the National Hurricane Center map's "cone of uncertainty" as it scraped the coast. Forecasters defended the large-scale evacuations.

"What would you rather have as the alternative?" said Colorado State University meteorology professor Phil Klotzbach.

In Savannah, Ga., a historic town of moss-draped squares and antebellum mansions, flood-

waters several feet deep submerged a long stretch of President Street, which links downtown to the highway to Georgia's Tybee Island. A homeless woman was seen staggering through waters up to her neck.

The shivering woman made it to the water's edge. A bystander handed her a sheet, which she wrapped around her neck.

A Coast Guard helicopter crew rescued a man stranded on a sailboat in a river near Tybee Island. North Carolina officials said they had to rescue several people from cars and homes.

Matthew also brought some of the highest tides on record along the South Carolina coast. Streets in Charleston – a city of handsome pre-Civil War homes, church steeples and romantic carriage rides – were flooded.

Wire services contributed to this report

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TRACY KIMBALL tkimball@heraldonline.com

Michelle and Billy Brown fight to get their umbrella down after a gust of wind turned it inside out Saturday as the couple walked to their car at Target.



MICHAEL PRONZATO AP

Christopher Dangerfield, Michael Lanning, Jamey, Rick, and Joe Bannon stand on their porch after Hurricane Matthew caused flooding on Saturday in Charleston. Major damages kept to the coast while York, Lancaster and Chester counties mostly escaped with power outages.

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TRACY KIMBALL tkimball@heraldonline.com

Four-year-old Story Warner, center, and 6-year-old Knox Warner walk hand-in-hand through the rain at Target Saturday while shopping with their grandmother.

Title: **Hackers use storm to attack computers**
Author: KIRK BROWN KIRK.BROWN@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM
Size: 8.06 column inches
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Hackers use storm to attack computers

KIRK BROWN

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COLUMBIA - Hackers are using Hurricane Matthew as a ruse to access the computers of South Carolina residents, Gov. Nikki Haley announced Saturday morning.

"We have a cyber situation that is going on," Haley said during a briefing at the state's

Emergency Operations Center in West Columbia.

She said people are receiving emails offering to provide updates on power outages.

When people click on a link in the emails, Haley said, the hackers "get into your computer."

"If you do not know the person sending you the email, delete it," she said.