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To:
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Subject: SC Front Pages – Monday, September 28, 2015

SC Front Pages – Monday, September 28, 2015

SunTrust CEO: Greenville full of promise

Leader of bank's transformation talks about future of local market

DAVID DYKES
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When Bill Rogers looks out from a fifth-floor conference room onto downtown Greenville, he sees a city full of promise and part of a Southeast region that fits neatly into his banking map.

Rogers, chairman and CEO of Atlan-

ta-based SunTrust Banks, is bullish on Greenville.

One indicator of the Upstate's economic health, he said, is the recent announcement that a company with a long history in Greenville County is considering at least a \$100 million expansion that won't directly lead to new jobs but holds promise for new technology. The company hasn't been identified.

Still, "that's a good example of the things that make this market attractive," Rogers said.

In a wide-ranging interview at the One complex on Main Street, Rogers

talked about the Greenville market, challenges to the banking industry and how his company intends to remain independent.

Five floors down was a banking irony — Certus Bank's headquarters lobby.

Greenville-based Certus is winding down its banking operations while Rogers' flagship subsidiary, SunTrust Bank, plans to capitalize on changes within the industry.

Rogers, appointed president and CEO

in June 2011 and who became chairman and CEO in January 2012, has led a significant transformation of SunTrust, building its client-first culture and increasing the focus on operating returns and efficiency.

Now 57, he began his career in 1980, joining the company's commercial banking division. He held senior positions in corporate and commercial banking, corporate finance, retail banking and mortgage prior to being named president in 2008 and chief operating officer in 2010.

See **SUNTRUST**, Page 5A



Bill Rogers

Pilgrimage to see pope 'life-changing'



More than 50 students from St. Joseph's Catholic School, along with chaperones, made the pilgrimage to Philadelphia to see Pope Francis.

St. Joseph's students share their experiences from trip to Philadelphia

ANGELIA DAVIS
 DAVIS@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

A pilgrimage from Greenville to Philadelphia this past weekend was among the best and the saddest of times for Robby Matlock.

It was the best of times in that Matlock, 16, got to experience Pope Francis' first U.S. visit by going on the pilgrimage with his classmates at St. Joseph's Catholic School.

It was the saddest in that the sophomore, for the first time, was among those targeted by anti-Catholic protesters.

"I saw several groups of protesters yelling at us and saying, 'Roman Catholicism is the devil's work' and things like," Matlock told *The Greenville News* Sunday. "It's very, very sad. You never think you're going to experience that. Once you do it's very different."

Philadelphia was the final city Pope Francis visited during his visit in the U.S.

The group from St. Joseph's went to Pope Francis at the Festival of Families on Saturday and at the Papal Mass for World Meeting of Families on Sunday.



Students at St. Joseph's Catholic School toured part of Philadelphia during their pilgrimage to see Pope Francis

in that it would be "physically demanding."

Their bus arrived in Philadelphia Friday night. They slept on the floor of a community center and walked miles to get to and from the gatherings with the Pope.

On Saturday morning, they celebrated mass with a small group from Georgia Tech, Matlock said. The

Lawmakers from state helped usher out Boehner

Reps part of group who targeted House Speaker

ANDREW SHAIN
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South Carolinians were behind another civil war.

U.S. Reps. Mick Mulvaney and Jeff Duncan, a pair of Palmetto State lawmakers, are among the conservative Republican congressmen credited with — or blamed for — helping push out House Speaker John Boehner, the Ohio Republican who said Friday he will resign next month.

Mulvaney and Duncan, elected in the Tea Party wave of 2010, have worked to upset the status quo within the GOP in Congress since their first days in Washington. They targeted Boehner, who rose through the Republican Party's leadership ranks, for compromising too much with Democrats and on the GOP's conservative principles.

"We have moved the bar somewhat with this," Duncan, a Laurens Republican, said Friday of Boehner's resignation. "I'm not reveling in it. We have an opportunity to get someone (in leadership) who is more of a constitutional conservative and will stand up for the legislative branch."

Mulvaney was among of group of conservative Republicans from the House's Freedom Caucus who met with Boehner on Thursday, the day before his resignation. The conservatives pushed to preserve their plan to shut down the federal government, which Boehner opposed, unless Congress cut off money to Planned Parenthood.

The Indian Land Republican said Friday he did not see Boehner's resignation as a victory. But, he added, he hopes the next speaker will push House Republicans "a little further to the right."

South Carolina's conservative congressional upstarts helped make Boehner's life uncomfortable, contributing to his sudden departure, Furman University political scientist Danielle Vin-

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Monday, September 28, 2015

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Can Mt. Pleasant tolerate taller towers?

Plans for nearly 150-foot-tall buildings 'out of character,' some say

BY ALLISON PRANG
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MOUNT PLEASANT — A local developer wants to build offices and hotels almost twice the height of what's currently allowed near the Mount Pleasant Pier, worrying some residents that the move could set an unwanted precedent.

Michael Bennett, owner of Charleston-based Bennett Hospitality, is seeking permission to construct buildings up to 150 feet tall for a large

pc Poll

Should Mount Pleasant allow developers to build up to 150 feet, nearly twice the current height limit, near the Ravenel Bridge? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

mixed-use development that would include offices, restaurants, hotels, retail space and some residences. The current height limit is 80 feet.

One of the buildings planned south of the Ravenel Bridge would be a 118-foot-tall office building, Bennett said. Adding the design of the roof, that comes to 142 feet. Another office building he estimates would be around the same height.

"It can always be redesigned and lowered," he said. "We think it's really handsome the way it is."

Bennett said that while the requested would

Please see **BUILDINGS**, Page A4



A developer wants permission to build structures up to 150 feet tall near the Ravenel Bridge.

Corn profits drying up

Lowcountry farmers hurt after summer drought sweeps S.C.



Farmer Billy Walker of Summerville said he doesn't have a big enough operation for crop insurance. Local farmers are feeling the pinch from this summer's drought.

BY BO PETERSEN
bpetersen@postandcourier.com

The spring rains kept the fields so wet Billy Walker didn't bother to plant most of his corn acreage. Michael Kemmerlin never got to half of his in the soggy ground. Then the June heat crippled what they did plant, just as it tasseled to pollinate. But at least the Summerville and the Ridgeville farmer brought in a crop.

Across the Lowcountry and state, the corn

harvest has been a disaster. And the farther inland you go, the worse the drought and heat was. For example, Greenville had its third-driest summer in the past half century. Acre after acre of corn stalks stunted and dried out.

As the last of the crop comes in, 35 of the 46 counties across the state have been declared a natural disaster by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, qualifying farmers to apply for low-interest loans to offset losses.

It won't help, "unless growers want to take on

more debt," said Rebecca Hellmuth, Clemson University Extension agent for Berkeley and Dorchester counties. Corn growers will definitely lose money on the crop, she said.

"Farmers' primary source of relief will come from crop insurance — if they have purchased it," she said. "The large farmers most likely did, but the smaller guys who are growing a little bit of deer corn probably didn't."

Please see **DROUGHT**, Page A4

Frugality begins to pay off for S.C. State

Students make small sacrifices to help save school

BY DEANNA PAN
dpan@postandcourier.com

ORANGEBURG — There's a small controversy brewing on campus between students and administration at South Carolina State University.

Under new cost-cutting measures at the financially troubled college, administrators have changed the student meal plan policy so they can no longer use "swipes" at the most popular dining spot on campus, the Pitt at the K.W. Green Student Center, with its bevy of takeout options.

For students, that means fewer sub sandwiches and chicken wings and more time in the crowded dining hall, or Caf, as they call it. And it stinks.

"That's what we use," said 21-year-old Demetrius Bassett, a junior majoring in early childhood education on a Thursday afternoon inside the Caf. "It'd be so packed in here, when it's time to go to class, we'd still be waiting in line."

In the past several years, South Carolina's only historically black public college has suffered massive deficits, lay-off turnovers, waning enrollment and a public corruption scandal that landed its former board chairman in prison.

Please see **FRUGALITY**, Page A4

Obama promotes world aid amid evolving crises

Addresses U.N. on poverty, hunger

BY CARA ANNA
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UNITED NATIONS — President Barack Obama on Sunday committed the U.S. to a new blueprint to eliminate poverty and hunger around the world, telling a global summit that a sweeping new development agenda is "not charity but instead is one of the smartest investments we can make in our own future."

It was the first of two addresses Obama is making at the United Nations. His second on Monday morning, to the annual U.N. General Assembly of world leaders, will be a broader examination of world issues, especially the ever-more complicated conflict in Syria and the related refugee crisis.



Obama

As Secretary of State John Kerry put it after a meeting on the sidelines Sunday: "It would be a complete understatement to say that we meet at a challenging time."

Obama offered a powerful defense of a 15-year development agenda that will require trillions of dollars of effort from countries, companies and civil society.

He told delegates that 800 million men, women and children scrape by on less than \$1.25 a day and that billions of

Please see **OBAMA**, Page A9

Inside



SPORTS
Newton's three touchdowns help hold off Saints, C1

SPORTS
Nunez's debut as starter for Gamecocks memorable, C1

NATION
Pope ends visit to U.S. with big open-air Mass, A6

Summerville neighbors fight plan for connector

BY BRENDA RINDGE
brindge@postandcourier.com

Some residents in Summerville aren't happy that the town wants to build a major road through their neighborhood.

The proposed Bear Island Road, which will connect U.S. Highway 17A to the planned Sheep Island Parkway, will go through the 750-home Weatherstone community.

Sheep Island Parkway will be at the new Exit 197 from Interstate 26.

"This is a very closely packed, highly populated subdivision," said resident Thaddeus Kciuk. "This proposal will add safety concerns, traffic, noise pollution and crime to the neighborhood, not to mention devalue housing."

The road will divert traffic from Main Street, often gridlocked during

Please see **CONNECTOR**, Page A4

Proposed road

Residents of Weatherstone subdivision are upset that the proposed Bear Island Road will cut through their neighborhood.



SOURCES: BERKELEY COUNTY ESRI, STAFF



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forecast, B8

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Comics B6,7 Obituaries B2 Television B4

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Spurrier:
Nunez
'had to
win the
game for
us,' 1B



Swinney
happy with
Watson's
play as
Clemson
QB, 1B

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TODAY: CLOUDY, CHANCE OF RAIN 61-79 LO 68
YESTERDAY: 10-34 LO 58 PRECIP. 6.6 of 5 pm 1.00"
FORECAST: BC

The State

LOCAL

EX-SCHOOL DIRECTOR ORDERED TO JAIL

Federal Judge
Terry Wooten
has ordered ex-
Lee County
charter school
director Benita
Dinkins-Rob-
inson, right, to
report to prison
Tuesday, 3A



PALMETTO VOICES

TIME TO BE PROACTIVE

Chapin Mayor Skip Wilson says the time
is right to reinvest in the growing com-
munity, 1C

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LEXINGTON COUNTY

Officials studying road needs before seeking penny tax hike again

BY TIM FLACH
timflach@the-state.com

The push for a 2016 referendum
on a penny sales tax increase for
road improvements has slowed as
Lexington County officials await an
estimate on upkeep for 1,200 miles
of routes.

County public works officials are
developing a package of repairs
needed on 650 miles of dirt roads
and 550 miles of paved streets they
maintain, some of which could wind
up in a new tax plan submitted to
voters.

That package is expected to be
sent to County Council later this fall
as its nine members decide whether
to pursue the referendum.

Moving forward with a referen-
dum devoted solely to roads "is

Study looking at tab for upkeep for
1,200 miles of roads

County Council wants it solely for
roads

Sales tax would go from 7 cents to 8
cents on the dollar for many
purchases

still on (our) radar," Councilman
Todd Cullum of Cayce said.
"There's a lot of preliminary work
that has to be put in place."

It is estimated a sales tax increase
from 7 cents to 8 cents on the dollar
countywide would raise nearly \$300
million during the eight years it
would last before coming up for
renewal. The tax increase wouldn't
apply to groceries and prescription

medicine.

This would be the county's sec-
ond attempt to win approval of a tax
county leaders say is the only way to
ease traffic congestion created by
steady growth.

A plan earmarked mostly for
roads lost at the polls by a margin of
2-1 last year after complaints about
inclusion of water and sewage pro-
jects, walking paths, sports fields,
civic centers and parks.

"It was a mistake to add those
other projects," Council Chairman
Johnny Jeffcoat of Irmo said. "This
time, it should be only roads."

The choice of projects for a new
referendum rests with an advisory
panel. But council members can
stop a referendum from happening
if they don't like the package pro-

SEE TAX, 7A



The Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center on Lincoln Street in the Vista

THE STATE FILE PHOTOGRAPH

COLUMBIA'S PROPERTY DISPUTES

City out nearly \$2 million in legal fights on Vista sites

Hotel/convention center fight has run up \$1.7 million in legal fees to
taxpayers so far

City, architectural firm still tussling over additional interest costs

the jury's decision and refused
the city's request for a new trial,
said Dick Harpootlian, who
represented Stevens & Wilkin-
son. Still to be decided by Judge





Flu shots available

Influenza vaccine best bet in seasonal battle | 1C

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

MONDAY, September 28, 2015

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

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INSIDE TODAY



Atlanta Falcons run over Cowboys for 39-28 win
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Program helps readers start with digital library
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Chocolate fest showcases talents of school, parish
Local News, 2A



Vitamin Shoppe open for business on Whiskey Road
Local News, 3A

AREA DEATHS

No new deaths
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER



The 11 a.m. service nears its end in St. John's United Methodist Church's newly renovated sanctuary Sunday.

St. John's faithful enjoy renovations

BY DEDE BILES
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For the congregation of St. John's United Methodist Church, Sunday was an important and much anticipated day.

After a major renovation of the sanctuary, worship services were held there for the first time since May. There was one at 8:30 a.m. and another at 11 a.m.

"Everything is lovely," said Dorothy Poe, who has been a St. John's member for 63 years, as she looked around at the new choir loft and new stained glass windows.

Other changes included pews that had been stained a brighter color, new lighting and a new wooden floor in the chancel area.

"I think it's wonderful," said the Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon, who is St.

GALLERY

See more photos from St. John's at
aikenstandard.com/photos

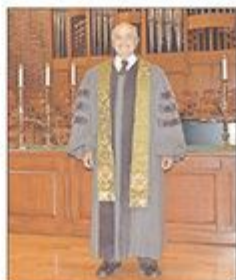
John's senior pastor. For him, the biggest concern was the decision to replace the clear glass in the windows with stained glass.

"I had some doubts at first because we have a contemporary modern structure, and I was afraid stained glass would take something away from it," McClendon said. "But the stained glass is marvelous. The windows are understated and elegant."

McClendon also was pleased with the sanctuary's overall appearance. "It was beautiful before, but now it is more welcoming," he said. "It has a warmer feeling."

McClendon is the church's senior pastor.

Please see FAITHFUL, Page 10A



STAFF PHOTO BY DEDE BILES
The Rev. Dr. Tim McClendon stands in St. John's United Methodist Church's newly renovated sanctuary before the start of the 11 a.m. service Sunday. McClendon is the church's senior pastor.

Officials: Langley Dam will take time to repair

BY DAN BROWN

dbrown@aikenstandard.com

Langley Pond has been nearly drained, and will remain empty for the foreseeable future, with its fate now in the hands of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, according to Aiken County officials.

"We have completed a study that we forwarded to DHEC," Aiken County Administrator Clay Killian said. "The water is lower and the dam is dry, but we have not heard from DHEC on what they're requiring for us to do."

Included in the repairs and maintenance would be the removal of the remaining tree stumps and the sandbars. Also included would be the removal of the exposed railroad trestle.

"We're working with DHEC to find a solution they're comfortable with," Killian said. "We have several options available to us ranging from relatively inexpensive to relatively expensive, and we're going to have to get creative when it comes to paying for all the repairs."

Killian said the gates on the concrete spillway need to be replaced.

"The concrete structure needs some major work," he said. "And the earthen structure is 150 years old and there's no 'how-to' schematic around to reference, but DHEC has been very good with us so far. We haven't come to a conclusion yet."

Please see LANGLEY, Page 10A

STAFF PHOTO BY DEDE BILES

Aiken offers variety of waste disposal options



BY BILL BENGTON
bbenton@aikenstandard.com

Disposing of tires, old TV sets and cans of wet paint sometimes poses a puzzle for local residents, in terms of looking to abide by the law, and local officials have some guidance to offer.

Aiken County has 10 drop-off sites not only for such recyclable items as cardboard and plastic, but also for more challenging material, including motor oil, cooking oil and — in some cases — computer equipment, known as "e-waste."

One of the biggest puzzles is medications, according to Jason Sikes, supervisor of the North Augusta Material Recovery Facility. Among the goals is to keep drugs from entering the water system, as can occur when they are flushed down toilets or poured down drains.

"All that water goes back into the

include a medication disposal day ("Drug Enforcement Administration Take-Back Day") set for Saturday in North Augusta, focusing on "expired or unused medication for safe and legal disposal." Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the host site is Parks Pharmacy, at 437 Georgia Ave.

North Augusta's municipal government also sets aside one day a year — usually a Saturday in the second week in May — for pick-up of hazardous material such as mercury and pesticides. City residents also can call for pick-up of oil, or bring it by the recovery facility, at 61 Claypit Road. For more information, call 803-441-4331.

"Gasoline is another thing that's hard to get rid of," Sikes said. "It's really considered hazardous waste, and that would have to be taken with the hazardous waste. Diesel and kerosene, we can take, but gasoline is so volatile it has to be classified



Greenwood's Norman seals win **Sports 1B**

INDEX-JOURNAL

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

NEVER FORGOTTEN



MADDY JONES | INDEX-JOURNAL

Jack Simmons examines his pepper plant in his garden at his home in Greenwood on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015.

War hero recounts time as POW in Korean War

By **DAMIAN DOMINGUEZ**
ddominguez@indexjournal.com

Jack Simmons has always been an outdoors person. He retired in 1992 after two decades working as a driver for the Greenwood Motor Line. Since then, the 84-year-old said he's spent a lot of time outside either fishing, hunting or tending to his potted garden.

"I don't like being indoors," he said. "I try to spend six or seven hours every day out in the backyard."

He shares his time with his wife of 67 years, Doris. On Sept. 19, Jack Simmons was inducted into the Greenwood County Hall of Heroes for his service in the Korean War. He was captured and held as a prisoner of war for 32 months.



JACK SIMMONS
War Veteran

In 1949, at age 18, he enlisted in the Army. After basic training, he said he was in the Army reserve for six months before the Korean War broke out in 1950.

"I felt like any other 18-year-old would in that situation," he said, laughing. "But we did what we

had to do for our country."

After living in Greenwood his whole life, Simmons said he was flown to Fort Hood, Texas, then to California and Japan before arriving in Incheon, South Korea.

"We landed right around Thanksgiving," he said. "I remember we had Thanksgiving dinner on the boat on the way to Incheon."

He was assigned to Company L in the 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Division, he said.

"By that time, our troops had pushed them back to the Chinese border," he said. "We pushed a little, they fought back, and there was nothing else we could do."

It didn't take long before the Chinese forces overwhelmed the front, he said.

See **POW**, page 4A

■ CHARLESTON PORT

Court takes up SC cruise terminal

By **BRUCE SMITH**
Associated Press

CHARLESTON — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is sorting through hundreds of comments and the South Carolina Court of Appeals has set arguments for later this year in the ongoing dispute over a proposed \$35 million passenger cruise terminal in Charleston.

The South Carolina Ports Authority envisions the terminal in a renovated waterfront warehouse and wants a federal permit to place five additional clusters of pilings beneath the structure where there are now more than 1,000.

Opponents went to court challenging an initial permit issued in 2012 and a federal judge threw it out, saying regulators had not considered the larger impact of the terminal on historic Charleston.

Preservation, conservation and community groups opposed to the new terminal, first proposed five years ago, worry it will cause more congestion and pollution and hurt property values in the city.

The Ports Authority has now applied for a new permit and the Corps received about 250 comments before the public comment period closed last week. Corps spokesman Sean McBride said the comments will be considered before deciding whether a full environmental impact statement, which can take a year, should be compiled.

The Ports Authority provided 40,000 pages of documents to the Corps.

"If these 40,000 pages show anything, it is that a project of this magnitude, and at this location, will have a significant impact on the human environment," said a comment filed with the Corps by attorneys for the Southern Environmental Law Center which represents two groups opposing the terminal.

The attorneys suggested alternatives be considered, including renovating the existing terminal or building the new terminal in North Charleston, upriver from the planned site. They also said

See **TERMINAL**, page 4A

Former state Sen. John Drummond celebrates 96 in Ninety Six

By **COLIN RIDDLE**
criddle@indexjournal.com

along with Capt. Glenn Hamm.

After which, Drummond said heartily, "I hope every one of you gets

"He was looking for ways to do things that were significant," said Gerald Dorn, a local resident who





PANTHERS SNATCH WIN FROM SAINTS

SPORTS, B1



KENSETH CLAWS OUT A VICTORY IN N.H.

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Monday, September 28, 2015



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TODAY **TUE** **WED**

75°/68° 76°/68° 75°/60°

Complete forecast, A10

NATION & WORLD



Development pledge

President Barack Obama on Sunday committed the U.S. to a new blueprint to eliminate poverty and hunger around the world, calling it "one of the smartest investments we can make in our own future." **A3**



Ripping the right

House Speaker John Boehner warned Sunday against "false prophets" in his own party making unrealistic promises, saying his resignation had not averted the GOP's broader battle over how to wield power. **A3**



On the defensive

Hillary Rodham Clinton on Sunday again defended her use of a private email server while she was secretary of state, comparing the investigations to probes into her husband's administration. **A4**

Court showdown looms

Faith-affiliated charities, colleges and hospitals that oppose same-sex marriage are

POPE IN AMERICA

Visit concludes with open-air Mass

By Nicole Winfield
and Rachel Zoll
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Pope Francis urged hundreds of thousands of the faithful gathered Sunday for the biggest event of his U.S. visit to be open to "miracles of love," closing out his joyful six-day trip with a message of hope for families, consolation for victims of child sexual abuse and a warning to America's bishops.

The wide Benjamin Franklin Parkway overflowed with the jubilant, who stood in line for hours and endured airport-style security checks to see

history's first pope from the Americas celebrate an open-air Mass in the birthplace of the United States.

The Mass — the last major event on Francis' itinerary before the 78-year-old pontiff took off on the flight home to Rome — was a brilliant tableau of gold, green, white and purple in the evening sunlight of a mild early-autumn day.

Riding through the streets in his open-sided popemobile, the pontiff waved to cheering, screaming, singing, flag-waving crowds and kissed babies as he made his way to the altar at the steps of the columned



Pope Francis celebrates Mass on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway on Sunday in Philadelphia. ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEE POPE, A7

UNION HOUSING AUTHORITY

Program gives kids place to go after school



Carolyn Rutherford, the resident services director with the Union Housing Authority, listens as Zy'ana Jeter, 7, left, Kailyn Salter, 5, center, and Trinity Canty, 5, right, go over their homework with her. PHOTOS BY TIM KIMZEY/TIM.KIMZEY@SHJ.COM

Agency partners with Y to offer on-site care

By Allison Roberts
allison.roberts@shj.com



"We just want to be a community organization that reaches outside of our four walls to help

US IMMIGRATION PATTERNS STUDY

Asians to become largest group

By Jesse J. Holland
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a major shift in immigration patterns, Asians will surge past Hispanics to become the largest group of immigrants heading to the United States by 2065, according to estimates in a new study.

An increase in Asian and Hispanic immigration also will drive U.S. population growth, with foreign-born residents expected to make up 18 percent of the country's projected 441 million people in 50 years, the Pew Research Center said in a report being released today. This will be a record, higher than the nearly 15 percent during the late 19th century and early 20th century wave of immigration from Europe.

Today, immigrants make up 14 percent of the population, an increase from 5 percent in 1965.

The tipping point is expected to come in 2055, when Asians



SPORTS Matt Kenseth wins 2nd race of NASCAR's playoffs. **Page 1B**

Morning News

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

The Voice of the Pee Dee

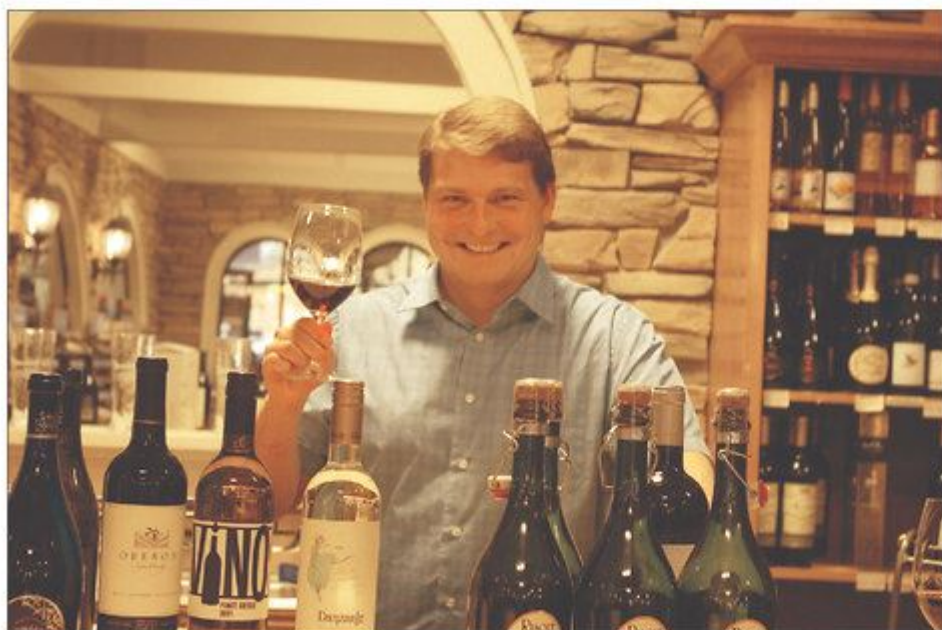
TODAY'S WEATHER

Clouds giving way to some sun.
High 86, low 69.
DETAILS 2A

CHEERS



Dennis Fraley pours a glass of La Vieille Pinot Noir.



Dennis Fraley, who recently earned a Level 4 diploma from the Wine and Spirit Education Trust, raises his glass for a toast. In the history of the program, Fraley says, only about 8,300 people worldwide have received a diploma from the WSET.

Florence nurse anesthetist earns wine certification

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dsweingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — When Dennis Fraley first became interested in wine, he said, the Wine and Spirit Education Trust certifications weren't even on his radar. Fast-forward roughly 15 years, and Fraley has a diploma in wine and spirits from the trust, a certification that he said only an estimated 8,300 people worldwide have obtained since the program's inception in 1969.

The Wine and Spirit Education Trust was established in London, and classes were not offered in the United States until the early 1990s. It is one of two major wine education bodies in the world, Fraley said. The other is the Court of Master Sommeliers, which has a larger emphasis on service than the trust.

He went for the Wine and Spirit Education Trust instead because it offered more of a globalistic, business view



Each Monday, the Morning News features a good news story on a person, place or organization in the Pee Dee. If you have a suggestion for someone or something to profile, send it to news@scnow.com.

of wine.

"They also really focused on viticulture, and you know, I was a chemistry major in college," Fraley said. "So that chemistry behind wine that sort of checks that chemistry, geeky box for me, too."

But Fraley's "wine epiphany" happened more than a decade ago in Pittsburgh when he was in nursing school working for an oral surgeon who invited several friends over for a five-course dinner.

Each course was carefully paired with wine, Fraley said, and as his employer guided him from course to course, explaining the specific tastes and intricate flavors of each wine sample, something just clicked.

"Before then, if you asked me what wine tasted like, I'd say, 'Well, it tastes like wine,'" he said. So, the next day he went to nearest wine store and bought multiple bottles without giving it much thought or doing any research.

See **FRALEY**, Page 3A

Domestic Violence

Luncheon to observe alternatives program

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dsweingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The Pee Dee Coalition will host a luncheon for the 20th anniversary of its Alternatives to Violence (ATV) program on Oct. 29 at the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center in downtown Florence.

ATV is an offender intervention program with the goal of reducing relationship violence. It offers a variety of services, including assessments, 26-week group sessions, criminal and legal coordination and case tracking.

IF YOU GO

» **WHAT:** Alternatives to Violence 20th anniversary luncheon
» **WHEN:** 11:30 a.m. Oct. 29
» **WHERE:** Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center
» **ADMISSION:** \$15. Register by Oct. 23 at pee-dee-coalition.org

A number of organizations work with victims, but not as many also do offender work, said Ellen Hamilton, executive director of the Pee Dee Coalition.

The ATV program mostly covers seven counties in the Pee Dee: Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion, Marlboro and Williamsburg.

The luncheon will feature a keynote address from Glenn Smith, the watchdog and public service editor at the Post and Courier in Charleston.

Smith worked on "Till Death Do Us Part," the paper's Pulitzer Prize winning package on domestic violence in South Carolina.

The package originally began because of South Carolina's No. 2 nationwide ranking in the rate of women murdered by men. Since then, the state has moved to No. 1 in the nation in a study done by the Violence Policy Center.

"We'll be able to hear what they accomplished and how critical it was," Hamilton said. "It was huge."

Smith also will talk about current state initiatives, including Gov.

See **LUNCHEON**, Page 4A

The American Heritage Festival ends on high note



BY DIANNE OWENS
The Weekly Observer
dowens@florencenews.com

LAKE CITY — Going into The American Heritage Festival, organizer Paul Graham hoped to create an event that would showcase the area's role in the American Revolutionary War. Now that the festival is over, he just wants to



a colonial balladeer, said Sunday afternoon before taking up his lean-to. The musician entertained with his German lute, made in 1780, and an Irish whistle.

"The bands we had out here were awesome," Graham said of the nightly entertainment.

He said he regrets that weather and other local activities might have kept



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SAY 'MEOW'



Cat photographer works to make felines more adoptable



DELAUNA EARLEY • Staff photo

Sandy Dimke, a professional photographer based in Beaufort, distracts one of the cats at Tabby House while she takes its picture on Sept. 18 in Beaufort.

Pope leads Sunday Mass

Hundreds of thousands attend the last and biggest event of the pontiff's U.S. trip.

By NICOLE WINFIELD
and RACHEL ZOLL
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Pope Francis urged hundreds of thousands of the faithful gathered Sunday for the biggest event of his U.S. visit to be open to "miracles of love," closing out his six-day tour with a message of hope for families, consolation for victims of child sexual abuse and a warning to America's bishops.

Organizers had predicted a crowd of 1 million for Francis' open-air Mass, and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway overflowed with the jubilant. They endured hours-long lines and airport-style security checks to see history's first pope from the Americas celebrate the faith in the birthplace of the United States.

The Mass — the last major public event on Francis' itinerary before the 78-year-old pontiff left for the airport to return to Rome — was a brilliant tableau of gold, green and white in the slanted evening sunlight of a mild early-autumn day.

Riding through the streets in his open-sided popemobile, the pontiff waved to cheering, screaming, singing, flag-waving crowds as he made his way to the altar at the steps of the columned Philadelphia Museum of Art.

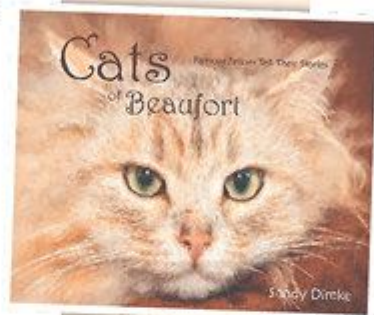
With a towering golden crucifix behind him, Francis told his listeners that their presence itself was "a kind of miracle in today's world," an affirmation of the family and the power of love.

"Would that all of us could be open to miracles of love for the sake of all the families of the world," he said to the hushed crowd spread out along the tree-lined boulevard before him.

MORE INSIDE

• Pope meets family who drove 13,000 miles to see him. 7A

• Stories from people who attended the Mass. 7A



'CATS OF

Please see POPE on 7A

When you're a woman who thinks cats are great, you sometimes have to be careful what you say in mixed company.

Among true friends, for instance, I can openly and unironically ask "Which bowtie should my cat wear on Easter this year?" without the worry they'll misread my question as mid-stop on a downward spiral.

Among regular friends and acquaintances, though, I must first check my



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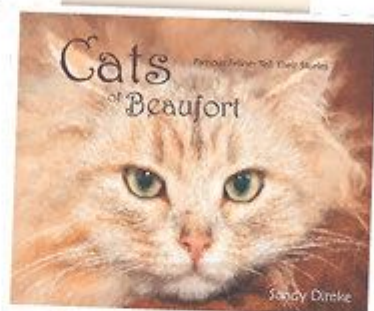
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'CATS OF
BEAUFORT'

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