

From: Taillon, Jeff
To: Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 11/6/2012 11:23:37 AM
Subject: S.C. Front Pages - Tuesday, November 6, 2012



USC VS. ARKANSAS

Skidding Razorbacks look to history, hopeful for win this Saturday. **B1**

The State

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012 | THESTATE.COM

>>> KEY ISSUES FOR VOTERS

It's Election Day

S.C. voters have their say today. Among the decisions they are making: Who will lead the country? Which coalition of Republicans will lead the S.C. Senate? And, in Richland County, will residents vote to increase the sales tax to pay for transportation?

COVERAGE TODAY AT THESTATE.COM

Live coverage of Election Day in South Carolina and results from all local races after the polls close. Follow us on Twitter: @thestate

INSIDE

A recap of The State's endorsements in today's elections. **Page A9**

S.C. absentee voting sets record

Record turnout, long lines expected at polls today

By ADAM BEAM
abeam@thestate.com

Today is Election Day, but more than 375,000 South Carolinians already have voted absentee — the most ever in state history.

State election officials say that points to a record turnout at the polls today, fueled by a too-close-too-call presidential election nationally and an unusual slate of local elections, including hundreds of petition candidates. In addition, S.C. voters will decide whether to amend the state Constitution to allow the governor and lieutenant governor to be elected on the same ticket as the president and vice president are nationally.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. To vote, you will need one of three things: an S.C. driver's license, voter registration card or an ID issued by the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles.

SEE VOTING PAGE A4



1. With a razor-thin lead in several national polls — and ties in others — can President Barack Obama hold on to win re-election?

2. For GOP challenger Mitt Romney, a quest for the presidency that started more than four years ago ends today — win or lose.

3. Will Democrats hold on to control of the U.S. Senate? And will Democrats cut into the GOP majority in the U.S. House?

4. The informal coalition of moderate Republicans and Democrats that controls the S.C. Senate could fall in today's elections. Who will control the Senate in January?

5. Are Richland County voters willing to pay higher taxes for the next 22 years for roads, bus service and other improvements?

6. In Richland 2, the Midlands' largest school district, the school board election is a referendum on Superintendent Katie Brochu's administration.

Preservationists decry demolition of Palmetto Compress warehouse

They say razing site for private USC dormitory sets precedent for other Columbia properties

tions with developers, particularly upcoming decisions about historic buildings on the old State Hospital

IN THE NEWS

Government leaders are turning their attention to the next crisis unfolding in the aftermath of superstorm Sandy: finding housing for potentially tens of thousands of people left homeless. **A3**



CLEMSON OFFENSE SEEKS MORE



BUSINESS TD Bank among top SBA lenders

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 6, 2012
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

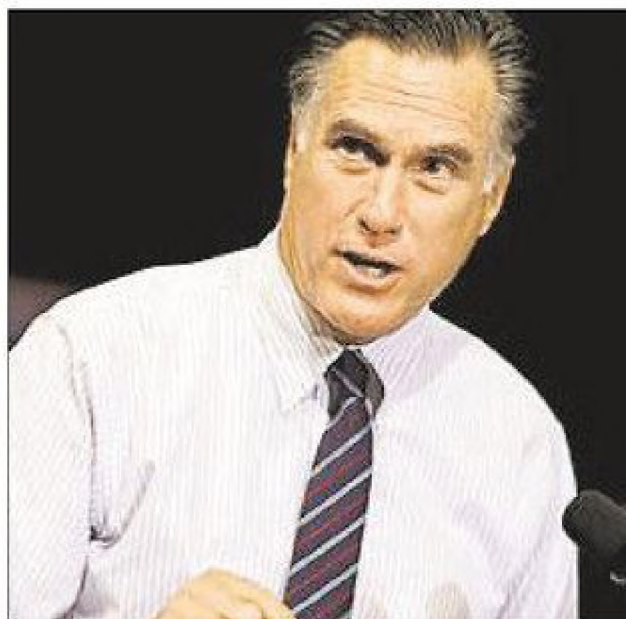
LOCAL Man surrenders after standoff at Travelers Rest Walmart, 3A

FINAL EDITION

CANDIDATES RACE TO THE FINISH



Democratic President Barack Obama speaks at a campaign event at Nationwide Arena in Columbus, Ohio, on Monday. TONY DEJAKUP



Republican candidate Mitt Romney speaks at George Mason University in Virginia on Monday. DAVID GOLDMAN/AP

Romney, Obama scramble on last day before Americans head to the polls

By Kasie Hunt
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney raced through a final full day of campaigning on Monday through Ohio and other battleground states in a tight race for the White House.

"Our work is not done yet," Obama told a cheering crowd of nearly 20,000 in chilly Madison, Wis., imploring his audience to give him another four years.

Romney projected optimism as he neared the end of his six-year quest for the presidency.

"If you believe we can do better. If you believe America should be on a better course. If you're tired of being tired ... then I ask you to vote for real change," he said in a Virginia suburb of the nation's capital.

The presidency aside, there are 33 Senate seats on the ballot on Tuesday. In the House, Democrats need to grab 25

seats to gain control.

More than 30 million absentee or early ballots have been cast, including more than 3 million in Florida. The state also had a legal controversy, in the form of a Democratic lawsuit seeking an extension of time for pre-Election Day voting.

There were other concerns, logistical rather than legal.

Officials in one part of New Jersey delivered voting equipment to emergency shelters so voters displaced by Superstorm Sandy last week could cast ballots. New York City made arrangements for shuttle buses to provide transportation for some in hard-hit areas unable to reach their polling places.

In his longest campaign day, Romney raced from Florida to a pair of speeches in Virginia to Ohio and then an election eve rally in New Hampshire.

See ELECTION, Page 5A

Greenville
Online.com

Go to
GreenvilleOnline.com/politics for
the latest in Election 2012
information. Check
GreenvilleOnline from your
computer, smart phone or tablet
today for the latest election
results, precinct-by-precinct
breakdowns, photos and
complete coverage of local, state
and national races.

UPSTATE TURNOUT

Heavy voting expected

By Woody White

Staff writer
wwwhite@greenvilleonline.com

Heavy voting is expected in the Upstate and across South Carolina today even with a record in absentee voting and cool and possibly rainy weather.

Palmetto State voters will vote for president, Congress, state House and Senate, and a number of local races.

Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m., although anyone in line at closing will be allowed to vote, according to election officials.

The National Weather Service has forecast a 30 percent chance of rain in the Upstate, mainly before 3 p.m., with temperatures in the upper 40s.

See TURNOUT, Page 5A

INSIDE

Abby 8A | Obituaries 4A

Company added to hacking lawsuit



The Beaufort Gazette

TUESDAY, November 6, 2012

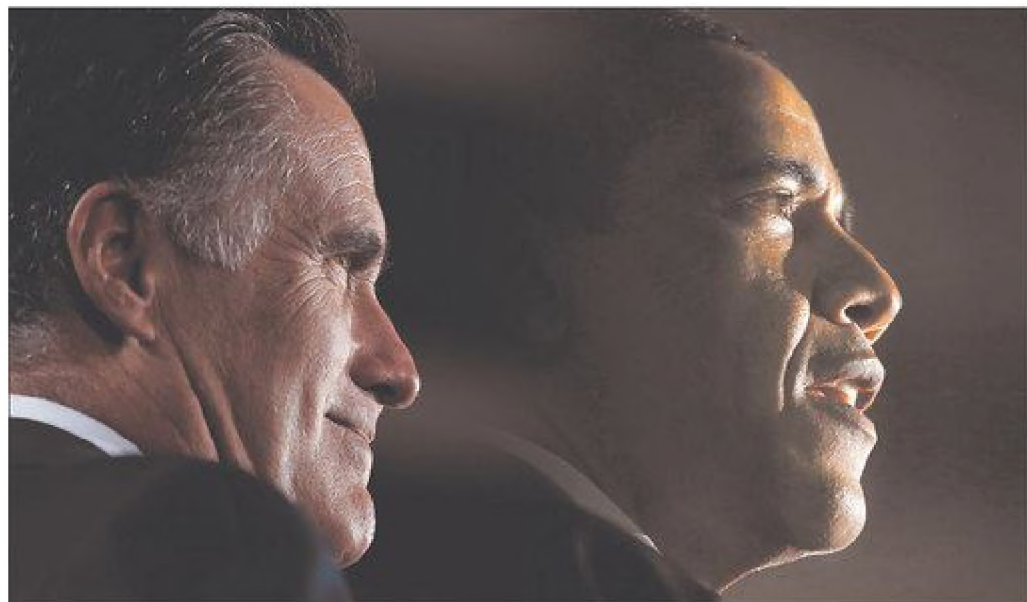
beaufortgazette.com

Established in 1897 50 cents



CAMPAIGN 2012: ELECTION DAY

FOUR MORE OR SHOW HIM THE DOOR?



Former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney faces off against President Barack Obama in today's presidential election. Staff illustration • Associated Press photos

Obama holds slight lead in key states, but victory still within Romney's reach as voters head to polls

By PAUL WEST • Tribune Washington Bureau

After a final cross-country campaign whirl by both candidates, President Barack Obama heads into Election Day riding a slim lead in enough key states to secure a second term, while Mitt Romney remains competitive and could yet unseat him.

National polling showed late voter movement toward Obama, raising the possibility that the election might not drag out for days and weeks of wrangling over disputed ballots, as some feared. The president continued to

maintain a slight edge in the vast majority of swing-state opinion polls, though his advantage typically remained within the surveys' margins of error.

An Obama re-election would mean continued divided government in Washington. If Romney prevails, 2012 would become the fourth national change election in a row, including the Democratic takeover of Congress in 2006, Obama's 2008 victory and the Republican return to power in the House in 2010.

Please see ELECTION on 7A

ON THE WEB

■ Experts say that if there's a voting dispute, it will most likely be in Ohio.

■ Voting question? Perhaps you'll find an answer in our Election Frequently Asked Questions.

For those stories and updates throughout the day, go to beaufortgazette.com/election.

ALSO INSIDE

For a list of area polling places and a rundown of candidates and ballot issues, turn to 7A.

Cyber firm added to class-action hacking suit

By STEPHEN LARGEN
postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — The state and a cybersecurity company acted negligently in allowing a state database to be hacked and then failing to notify the public for more than two weeks, a former state senator suing the state over the breach alleged Monday.

John Hawkins, a Republican attorney from Spartanburg, last week filed a class-action suit against Gov. Nikki Haley and the S.C. Department of Revenue, the agency whose database was hacked.

PROTECT YOURSELF

Have you signed up for identity protection yet?

Turn to 7A to find out how.



Please see HACKING on 7A

Sons of Beaufort Lodge unveils renovations

By ERIN MOODY
emoody@beaufortgazette.com
 843-706-8184

The Sons of Beaufort Lodge 36 are proud to announce their comeback.

In many ways, their lodge building announces it for them.

The organization has been named the top lodge in the 1st Masonic District, which is composed of 26 lodges in the Charleston region.

Please see LODGE on 7A

BEFORE



Historic Beaufort Foundation

This shot of the exterior of the Sons of Beaufort Lodge 36 at 607 West St. was taken in 2008. Beams and chains were used to level the foundation.

AFTER



Area candidates, election workers make final push

By CASEY CONLEY
cconley@islandpacket.com
 843-706-8147

After months of advertising



BY THE NUMBERS: VOTING FIGURES

109,000

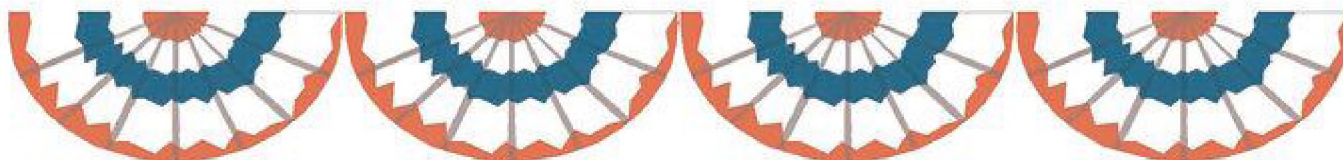
County voters reg-

17,600

County absentee ballots received

65-70 PERCENT

Projected voter turnout for this



■ Polls are open

7 a.m.-7 p.m.

If you are in line at 7 p.m., you can vote.

■ Where to vote?

See a list of precincts and polling places in York County • 4A



For updates from the polls throughout the day and results after 7 p.m., visit:

heraldonline.com

SERVING YORK • CHESTER • LANCASTER COUNTIES

The Herald

75 CENTS

TUESDAY November 6, 2012

Rock Hill • South Carolina

heraldonline.com

YOU DECIDE TODAY



MELINA MARRA - WASHINGTON POST



CAROLYN KASTER - AP

Candidates make final appeals to voters in several swing states on the eve of Election Day. At left, Republican presidential candidate former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney greets supporters at a campaign event in Sanford, Fla. At right, President Barack Obama, a Democrat, points to the crowd as he arrives to speak at a rally at Nationwide Arena in Columbus, Ohio.

■ **PRESIDENT** – After an exhaustive and often-contentious campaign, voters are being asked whether to rehire Democratic President Barack Obama or give Republican Mitt Romney a chance to lead the country.

■ **YORK COUNTY COUNCIL** – Two years ago, York County voters swept out a wave of incumbents. Today, we'll find out whether those newcomers will get a second term or will be turned out themselves.

■ **SCHOOL BOARDS** – Voters in York County will decide who is best qualified to lead their schools during uncertain financial times.

■ **LEGISLATURE** – One state senator from Rock Hill faces his first opposition in 20 years, while another representing western

York County is running in a markedly changed district.

■ **CONGRESS** – The incumbent in the 5th Congressional District rode a wave of anti-incumbent sentiment into office two years ago. His challenger worked for the man he unseated.

■ **REFERENDUMS** – Voters will decide whether South Carolina's governor and lieutenant governor should run as a ticket, whether York County residents should be able to buy beer and wine on Sundays, and whether restaurants in Lancaster County can serve alcohol on Sundays.

MORE ELECTION COVERAGE

- Find your precinct or polling place • 4A
- What to watch for on Election Day • 2A
- Absentee voting in S.C. hits record high • 4A
- Previous coverage of local, state and national races at:

heraldonline.com



Andrew Dys
Columnist

160 absentees in Afghanistan 'so everyone else can vote'

Each of the thousands of absentee ballots that will be counted at the York County elections office counts the same.

One person, one vote. But about 160 of these ballots seem to matter a little bit more – even if the votes count just the same.

The ballots hold votes for politicians who decide whether fathers and sons and husbands, wives and mothers and daughters, go to war.

Those 160 voters are, today, in bunkers dug into desert and rocky hillsides. They are wearing flak jackets and helmets and carrying M-16 rifles.

INSIDE

3 N.Y. soldiers killed in Afghanistan were under command of 178th • 8A

The people on the other side of the mountain are trying to kill these

voters.

These absentee voters are the soldiers of the S.C. Army National Guard 178th Combat Engineers, based in Rock Hill. All these 160-plus men and women are deployed in Afghanistan.

"The vote sure matters to these soldiers," said Leanne Pressley, wife

of Colin Pressley, a chief warrant officer with the unit. "That's what they are fighting for."

Before the 178th left in July, workers with the York County Voter Registration and Elections Office went to the

ELECTION DAY

Herald-Journal

TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 2012
SPARTANBURG, S.C.
50 cents

www.GoUpstate.com

HJ
IN A HURRY

5 Things to read today



Golf finalist

Spartanburg senior golfer Katy Funk has been named a state winner for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award. She and Summerville's Carson Davis will next compete for a chance at the national award, which will be announced on Dec. 7 in New York City. **PAGE B1**

New voting rules

One New Jersey county was delivering ballots to emergency shelters Monday while New York City was lining up shuttle buses to ferry people in hard-hit coastal areas to the polls so they can vote today. **PAGE A3**

Global sanctions

The U.N. committee that oversees sanctions against the Taliban imposed global sanctions Monday of the Pakistan-based Haqqani network, a major threat to U.S. and allied forces in Afghanistan. **PAGE A3**

Zias talks education

State Superintendent of Education Mick Zais visited three Cherokee County elementary schools Monday to discuss local successes and challenges with education leaders. **PAGE C1**

Hacking lawsuit

Spartanburg attorney John Hawkins added Trustwave and the Division of State Information Technology to a lawsuit he filed last week over the massive security breach at the state's tax collection agency. **PAGE C3**

Weather

Expect long lines at polls



ALEX C. HICKS JR./ALEX.HICKS@SJH.COM

Voters came to the Spartanburg County Office of Registrations and Elections Monday to take care of last-minute voting issues before today's election.

Record-breaking number of absentee ballots already in

By ANDREW DOUGHMAN
andrew.doughman@sjh.com

Voting begins at 7 a.m. today and runs through 7 p.m., the time by which voters must be in line at the polls.

This year, residents can expect to be greeted by long lines, said Henry Laye, director of the Spartanburg County Office of Registrations and Elections.

This is a presidential election year, so the elections office expects turnout among Spartanburg County's 160,000 registered voters to be higher than during elections these past few years.

Already, a record-breaking number of South Carolina voters have voted absentee, including

What do I need to vote?

Remember: Take your South Carolina driver's license, DMV-issued identification card or voter registration card with you when you go to vote. For more information about where to vote, visit www.scvotes.org.

nearly 20,000, or about one in eight registered voters, in Spartanburg County.

The state Election Commission said about 367,500 South Carolina residents had voted absentee by midday Monday, which is about 25,000 more than the previous high set in 2008.

Absentee ballots are due at the county election office by 7 tonight.

Laye's office, however, was able to recruit less than half of the 1,000 poll workers it had hoped to deploy at the county's 128 polling places today.

Comparing the situation to a Walmart check-out line at which there are too few cashiers, Laye said the shortage inevitably will slow down the process for voters.

Laye's office already has seen many signs of great interest in the election this year. Voters eager to cast absentee ballots waited in line for an hour and a half Monday at the Spartan-

◆ SEE VOTING PAGE A7

Chapman students go to polls

Mock election results: Lesson on democracy big winner for school



Americans face status quo in Congress

House: Republicans; Senate: Democrats

By DONNA CASSATA
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A barrage of negative ads, more than \$2 billion



Hicks is a
playmaker, 1B



Inside today's edition

News: City, county OK landfill deal, 3A

Sports: Clemson easily beats Lander, 1B

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

www.indexjournal.com

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 94, NO. 109

Suspect pleads guilty to attack

Jones gets 23 years in prison for assault of 3 Lander students

By MICHELLE LAXER
mlaxer@indexjournal.com

One of two teenagers arrested in connection to the sexual assault of three Lander University women in March pleaded

guilty to seven related charges Monday morning.

Cameron Keaton Jones, 19, of Mauldin, pleaded guilty to one count of first-degree burglary, three counts of kidnapping and three counts of first-degree crim-

inal sexual conduct before Judge Frank Addy.

Jones was sentenced to 23 years in prison, a negotiation down from the steep penalties attached to his charges that included a possible 30 years to life in prison

for the criminal sexual conduct charges.

He will receive credit for time in jail since March 30, but he must serve at least 85 percent of his 23-year sentence. When he is released, Jones must add his

name to the sex offender registry.

In the courthouse Monday, Jones stood between 8th Circuit Deputy Solicitor Andrew Hodges, on behalf of the state,

See **GUILTY**, page 3A



CAMERON K. JONES

SENIORS IN POLITICS

HELPING THE CAUSE



Longtime Republican Mattie Rhoads, 91, served in Barry Goldwater's campaign.

PHOTOS BY MATT WALSH | INDEX JOURNAL

Seniors look back to campaigns past; contribute in the present

By FRANK BUMB
fbumb@indexjournal.com

Mattie Rhoads, 91, had never been that involved with politics. She and her husband, Fred Rhoads, rarely discussed politics.

Between raising children and working as a medical secretary in Florence, there was little time to contemplate politics. But then, in 1956, she was

ence County Republican Party offering her a job as party secretary.

"I remember Fred was hesitant because politics had not been important up until then," Rhoads said. "But then we talked about it, and he said, 'Maddie, the Republicans need you, so you go do it if you want to.' And I did."

Rhoads, a resident of Wesley Commons in Greenwood, fondly remembers her time as a political operative on Barry Goldwater's unsuccessful 1964 bid for the presidency.

headquarters in Florence," Rhoads said. "We organized everything, helped organize the precincts. We were busy with them all the time. It was a sad day in that office when Goldwater lost."

Rhoads' memories of campaigns past and current activism are indicative of the Lakelands' seniors. In the 2008 election, 12,927 residents 65 years old or older in Abbeville, Greenwood, McCormick and Saluda

POLITICAL DRAMA

Stumbo claims his signs were changed

By MATT BRUCE
mbruce@indexjournal.com

David Stumbo, the Republican nominee in today's 8th Circuit Solicitor race, alleged Monday he was targeted by a smear campaign during the weekend.

Stumbo's campaign sent out a press release Monday afternoon saying several yard signs were planted near schools and along major roads throughout the circuit falsely portraying his stances.



DAVID STUMBO

Stumbo campaign workers said the signs, which read "Make Guns Legal in Public Schools — David Stumbo," were made to look as if they were produced by the Stumbo camp and included the candidate's cellphone number.

Stumbo, on Monday, lambasted the 11th-hour tactic, unveiled on the eve of today's election. He described the attacks as "slandorous" and called on his Democratic opponent in the race, Ben Shealy, to publicly condemn the posts.

"My campaign has always been about keeping our families safe," he said in a prepared statement. "I hope Mr. Shealy

See **SIGNS**, page 4A



MATT BRUCE | INDEX JOURNAL
This sign is one candidate David Stumbo said was put



More on today's election

■ Abbeville looks to change its county form of government. 2A

■ Lander to have classes on Election Day. 3A

■ District 50 school board election full of write-ins. 9A

■ Presidential contenders not making during early hours. 9A



THE ISLAND PACKET

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

islandpacket.com

SERVING THE LOWCOUNTRY • 50¢

58° 41°

Don't let the rain keep you from the polls. 4B

New report: Netanyahu ordered Israel to prepare for 2010 Iran attack 10A

Treat your feet: \$17 pedicure at Tranquil Skin & Nails — go to dealsaver.com/HiltonHead

HILTON HEAD CRIME

Sheriff, town: Bail set too low

Law enforcement and town officials say judge is too lenient in bond hearings — and many suspects commit crimes while out on bond.

By TOM BARTON
tbarton@islandpacket.com
843-706-8169

A local judge has been too lenient in setting bail for criminal suspects who often are charged with more crimes while they are free and awaiting their trials, Hilton Head Island and Beaufort County Sheriff's Office officials said Monday.

Town Councilman Bill Harkins, chairman of the council's Public Safety Committee, lamented "a revolving door" of criminals after sheriff's Capt. Toby McSwain said deputies often make arrests in robbery and burglary cases one day, only to arrest the same suspects days or weeks later after they post bond.

Their criticism focused on Judge Ralph E. "Ned" Tupper.

Please see CRIME on 7A

THIRD-QUARTER CRIME STATISTICS RELEASED

Reported murders, rapes, robberies and assaults on Hilton Head Island were up in July, August and September compared to last year's third quarter. Thefts and burglaries declined.

• **One murder** occurred in the third quarter of 2012, compared to none in the same period last year. No murders were reported during the third quarter in 2010 and 2009.

• **Three rapes** were reported (one was later deemed unfounded) compared to none for the third quarter of 2011. Three each was reported in 2010 and 2009.

• **Nine more robberies and seven more assaults** were reported during the third quarter of 2012 than in 2011.

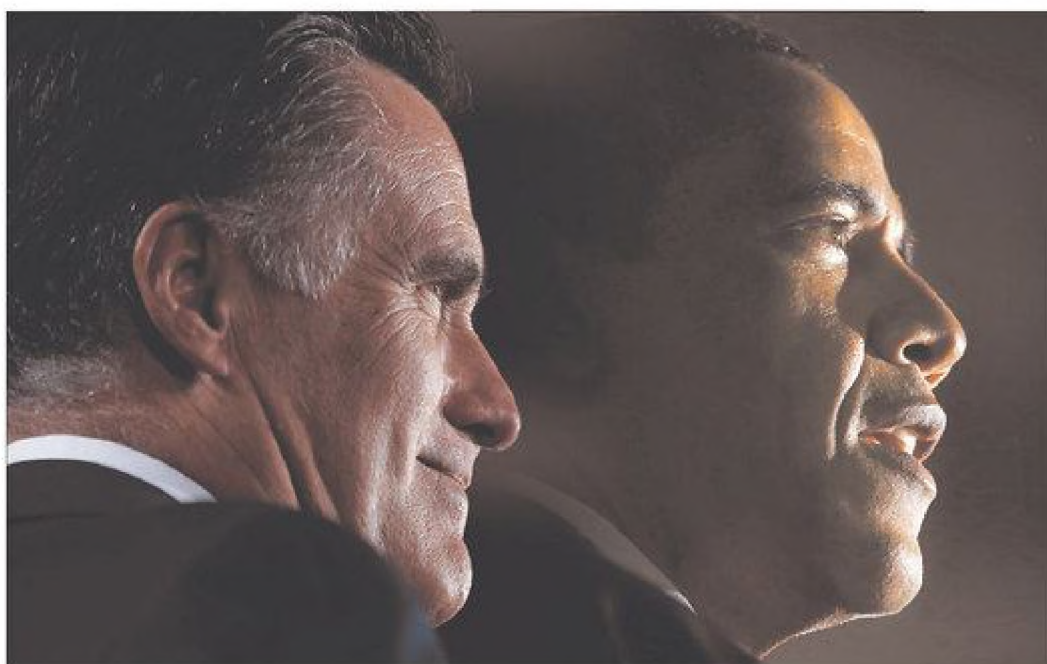
• **Burglaries and thefts**, including car thefts, fell to 382 in the third quarter, compared to 503 for the same period last year.

Source:

Beaufort County Sheriff's Office



2012 CAMPAIGN

ELECTION DAY
OBAMA OR ROMNEY? TIME TO CHOOSE

Staff illustration • Associated Press photos

Former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney faces off against President Barack Obama in today's presidential election.

Candidates blitz key states in final hours

By PAUL WEST
Tribune Washington Bureau

After a final cross-country campaign whirl by both candidates, President Barack Obama heads into Election Day riding a slim lead in enough key states to secure a second term, while Mitt Romney remains competitive and could yet unseat him.

National polling showed late voter movement toward Obama, raising the possibility that the election might not drag out for days and weeks of wrangling over disputed ballots, as some feared.

Please see BLITZ on 7A



MORE COVERAGE

■ For a list of polling places and candidates who will be on today's ballot, see 7A.

■ For answers to some frequently asked Election Day questions, go to islandpacket.com/election

■ For more coverage of local, state and national races, go to islandpacket.com/election.

County candidates, election workers make final push

Beaufort County voter turnout projected to be 65-70 percent — a decline from 2008 levels.

By CASEY CONLEY
cconley@islandpacket.com
843-706-8147

After months of advertising debates and polls, Election Day is here. Although most of the attention has been on the presidential race, more than a dozen contests for local offices will be decided today.

Ten of the 11 seats on the Beaufort County Board of Education are up for grabs, and there's one contested seat on County Council. Voters also will be asked to decide referenda that could reshape county government and its priorities. The Town of Hilton Head Island will fill seats on its council.

About 700 poll workers have been trained and more than 350 voting machines tested, according to Scott

Marshall, county elections executive director. The county has about 109,000 registered voters, he said, up from about 90,000 in 2008.

Already, the county has received about 17,600 absentee ballots and is on pace to surpass the 19,070 received in 2008, the last presidential election year.

Weather could affect today's turnout. Temperatures across Beaufort County aren't expected to rise above 60, and rain is likely.

"Historically, there is a correlation between poor weather and diminished turnout," Marshall said. "Voters are less likely to turn out in inclement weather."

County elections officials believe about 65 to 70 percent of voters will cast ballots. That would represent a decline from 2008, when turnout was about 75 percent.

Please see COUNTY on 7A



KIDS@PLAY Local youths take to cross country running. **Page 10B**

Morning News

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2012

TODAY'S WEATHER
Cloudy with a little rain, with 54 high, 36 low.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
A woman holds a box of food she picked up at an American Red Cross station in the Coney Island section of Brooklyn on Monday. The region is still cleaning up a week after Superstorm Sandy.

Where can Sandy's victims find shelter?

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Government leaders are turning their attention to the next crisis unfolding in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy: finding housing for potentially tens of thousands of people left homeless.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency said it has already dispensed close to \$200 million in emergency housing assistance and has put 34,000 people in the New York and New Jersey metropolitan area up in hotels and motels.

But local, state and federal officials have yet to lay out a specific, comprehensive plan for finding them long-term places to live, even as cold weather sets in. And given the scarcity and high cost of housing in the metropolitan area and the lack of open space, it could prove a monumental undertaking.

For example, can enough vacant apartments be found? Will the task involve huge, Hurricane Katrina-style encampments of trailer homes? And if so, where will authorities put the trailers? In stadiums? Parks?

Authorities cannot answer those questions yet.

"It's not going to be a simple task. It's going to be one of the most complicated and long-term recovery efforts in U.S. history," said Mark Merritt, president of Witt Associates, a Washington crisis management consulting firm founded by former FEMA director James Lee Witt.

See **SANDY**, Page 7A

Record turnout predicted in SC, Pee Dee

Election officials ask voters to be patient; turnout to mirror crowds of 2008

BY JOHN SWEENEY

Morning News
jsweeney@florencenews.com

Be Patient

High turnout is expected for today's election. Polling places across the state open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. All voters in line at 7 p.m. will be allowed to cast a ballot.

FLORENCE — It may have felt like it would never come, but Election Day 2012 has finally arrived.

For the thousands across the Pee Dee planning on heading to the polls today there's one thing

election officials want you to remember.

"Be very, very patient," said David Alford, Florence County Voter Registration and Election director.

Alford said poll workers and volunteers in Florence County were expecting a heavy turnout on Tuesday. Based on absentee ballot numbers that seems a fair prediction.

Florence County received

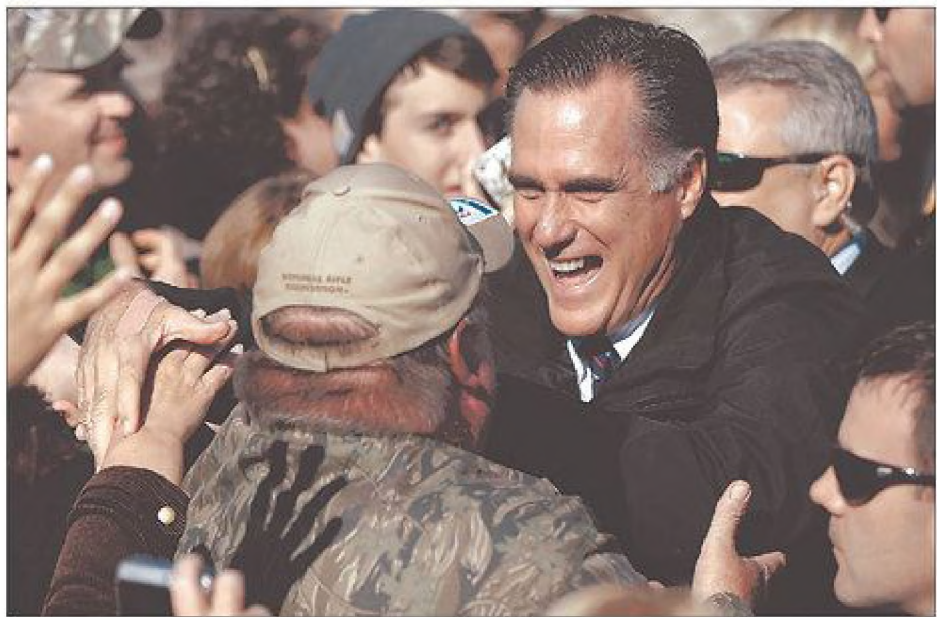
close to 14,000 in-person absentee ballots as of Monday, Alford said. The office saw close to 2,000 people vote on the final day absentee ballots could be cast.

It was a similar story across the entire state.

Absentee voting in South

See **TURNOUT**, Page 10A

Time to decide



PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, greets supporters at a Virginia campaign rally at Lynchburg Regional Airport, in Lynchburg, Va., on Monday.

Candidates make their final pitches

The Associated Press

LYNCHBURG, Va. — President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney made last-minute pleas for votes Monday, employing their last vestiges of energy, celebrity boosters and plenty of jet fuel to encourage every supporter and the few remaining undecideds to tip the 2012 election in their favor.

National polls of the eve of Election Day showed a neck-and-neck race. But the winner will be determined by which man gets 270 electoral votes,

and Obama had more paths to get there.

Ohio looms large in both of their victory plans — it was the only state both candidates were visiting Monday. And Romney's campaign announced in the afternoon that the GOP nominee would come back on Election Day for a rally in the Cleveland area. Romney also planned a Tuesday stop in the Pittsburgh area.

The incumbent and the challenger, both fighting

See **FINALE**, Page 10A



President Barack Obama stands with singer Bruce Springsteen as he arrives to speak at a campaign event in Madison, Wis.

MORE INSIDE: Election Wrapup, page 10A, State By State, what to expect, 8A

Lawsuit over SC tax security hack expands

The Associated Press

the Division of State Information has "violated and mismanaging what the agency paid the state for its security services. The lawsuit seeks class-



CMYK



Odd

The Times and Democrat ELECTION DAY

NOVEMBER 6, 2012

VOTE

75 CENTS ★ ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA | THETANDD.COM | 4 SECTIONS, 34 PAGES ★ VOL. 131 ★ NO. 311

NO REST IN FINAL HOURS



Delphine Warren, temporary employee for the Orangeburg County Election Commission, assists Tabitha Johnson with casting an absentee ballot in the general election. Johnson waited in line for about an hour at the Orangeburg County Administrative Centre on Monday to cast her vote.



President Barack Obama speaks Monday at a campaign event at Nationwide Arena in Columbus, Ohio.



GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney speaks Monday at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

Contenders keep up push on last day

By JULIE PACE
and KASIE HUNT
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The White House prize, President Barack Obama and Mitt Romney raced through a final full day of campaigning on Monday through Ohio and other battleground states holding the keys to victory in a tight race. Both promised brighter days ahead for a nation still struggling with a sluggish economy and high joblessness.

"Our work is not done yet," Obama told a cheering crowd of nearly 20,000 in chilly Madison, Wis., imploring his audience to give him another four years.

Romney projected optimism as he neared the end of his six-year quest for the presidency. "If you believe we can do better. If you believe America should be on a better course. If you're tired of being tired... then I ask you to vote for real change," he said in a Virginia suburb of the nation's capital. With many of the late polls in key states tilting slightly against him, he decided to campaign on Election Day in Ohio and Pennsylvania, where he and Republicans made a big, late push.

The presidency aside, there are 33 Senate seats on the ballot Tuesday, and according to one Republican official, a growing sense of resignation among his party's rank and file that Democrats will hold their majority.

The situation was reversed in the House, where Democrats made no claims they were on the verge of victory in pursuit of the 25 seats they need to gain control.

National opinion polls in the presidential race made the popular vote a virtual tie.

In state-by-state surveys, it appeared Obama held small advantages in Nevada, Ohio, Iowa and Wisconsin — enough to deliver a second term if they endured, but not so significant that they could withstand an Election Day surge by Romney supporters. Both men appealed to an ever smaller universe of undecided voters.

More than 30 million absentee or early ballots have been cast, including in excess of 3 million in Florida. The state also had a legal controversy, in the form of a Democratic lawsuit seeking an extension of time for pre-Election Day voting.

There were other concerns, logistical rather than legal.

Local lines signal strong interest

By LEE HENDREN
T&D Government Writer

For weeks, months, even years, the candidates have spoken. Now it's the voters' turn to speak.

Today is Election Day, and polls across South Carolina will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for registered voters who haven't already cast absentee ballots.

Many have. "We are up to 1,828," said Dixon Paulling of the Calhoun County voter registration office. That's out of "a little over 10,000" registered voters in the county.

"We had a line out the door when we opened this morning, and it's been a steady line all day," Paulling said Monday, adding that her colleagues have said the number of absentee voters is "way higher" than it has been in the past.

In Orangeburg County, the number was nearing 12,000 Monday afternoon, a "significant" increase of 40 percent to 50 percent

over 2008, said Howard Jackson, director of voter registration and elections. The county has about 62,000 registered voters.

Because many congressional and legislative districts have been redrawn, officials mailed new registration cards to every Orangeburg County voter. Also, every polling place will have at least one laptop computer. Those moves should speed up the check-in process on Election Day, he noted.

"Interest is just up" for this election, Jackson said. In anticipation of that, the elections office offered absentee polling places in North and Vance during October, in addition to Orangeburg.

"But everybody waited until the last day," Jackson said.

A few people who wanted to vote absentee at the county administrative center Monday left when they found out the anticipated wait time was 90 minutes to two hours. Others ran quick errands and returned in time to claim

See LOCAL, A3

ONLINE AT
TheTandD.com

STAY
INFORMED

Follow the election from the
voting to the counting.

IN PRINT

More election coverage.
NEWS, A3, A5, B8

SCSU professor to report on election for BBC

By GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer



Rahman

South Carolina State University professor Dr. Shaifur Rahman has done just about everything in the field of journalism.

He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in communications and broadcast television in his native land of Bangladesh before receiving his doctorate in communications while in Canada.

He has managed radio stations, started up a television station at Mississippi's Alcorn State University and served as television producer and director for Bangladesh Television.

Seven years ago, he arrived at S.C. State as a journalism professor and, just four years ago, helped start the university's mass communication program.

And today he will serve as a commentator on the United States presidential election for Bengali listeners of the British Broadcasting Corporation's

World Service broadcast.

"This is a wonderful and a very exciting thing and a really good thing for South Carolina State University," Rahman said from Washington, D.C., as he conducted early research for his broadcast. "We are small in Orangeburg and this is a wonderful opportunity... for publicity and our student recruitment."

Rahman has contracted with BBC

See REPORT, A3

See CONTENDERS, A3

Jeff Taillon

(803) 734-5129|Direct Line

(803) 767-7653|Cell