

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>  
To:  
Date: 3/5/2014 10:52:04 AM  
Subject: SC Front Pages – Wednesday, March 5, 2014

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## **SC Front Pages – Wednesday, March 5, 2014**



## LIFESTYLE AT THE SOURCE

METRO, 3A  
Elephant's  
memory to  
live on at zoo

# The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 5, 2014  
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY PUTIN MAY BE SOFTENING STANCE PAGE 1B

FINAL EDITION

## City's police chief to retire

Wilfong says she's moving back to Kentucky after 33-year career in law enforcement

By Anna Lee

Staff writer  
alee@greenvillenews.com

Six years and 11 months since she took over as head of the Greenville Police Department, Chief Terri Wilfong is retiring to move back to her home state

of Kentucky.

Wilfong made the announcement on Tuesday after a 33-year career in law enforcement.

"Everybody says you know when it's time, and it's time," she told *The Greenville News*. "It's time to turn the reins over to someone else."



Wilfong

Louisville Metro Police, where she was a third-generation police officer.

Wilfong, 56, came to Greenville in 2007 after a nationwide search to replace retiring chief Willie Johnson. She was previously deputy chief of the

Wilfong also held the distinction of being the city's first female police chief. Gender aside, she said in an interview with *The News* that she wanted to "put my best foot forward and do the best that I can."

Her tenure came as downtown Greenville faced growing pains and a youth curfew was introduced. The Police Department's training facility underwent a \$250,000 renovation, and

additional officers were hired to bring the force to 199 sworn personnel.

"She's been the face of Greenville on a lot of fronts, and I think she's served our community well," said City Manager John Castile.

News of Wilfong's retirement surprised Mayor Knox White, who said her attention to

See WILFONG, Page 5A

## 'IT DOES GIVE YOU HOPE'

GHS LAUNCHES  
RARE TUMOR  
CENTER WITH  
GIFT FROM  
EX-CHAIR



Mat Smith, a laboratory scientist and technical supervisor, works in the Selah Genomics Center at ITOB. Selah Genomics is one of the partners involved in establishing a Rare Tumor Center at Greenville Health System's Cancer Institute. HEIDI HEILBRUN/STAFF



Jerry Dempsey

By Liv Osby

Staff writer  
losby@greenvillenews.com

After her oncologist told her he had nothing left to treat her rare thyroid cancer, Judy Roberts understandably lost hope. "When they tell you that

### MORE ONLINE

Watch as Dr. Jeffery Edenfield explains why a rare tumor center is needed.

limited.

Greenville Health System hopes to change that by establishing a Rare Tumor Center at

"It's frustrating to look at a family and say you have no idea what to do. Now,

## Berea Middle teacher mourned

Authorities: Man questioned in death

By Ron Barnett  
Staff writer

Deputies in Banks County, Ga., said they thought for sure the man was drunk or on drugs as he crept along at 30 mph in the left lane of Interstate 85.

Then, when he didn't seem to know where he was or where he was going and took a swing at one of the officers, continuing to fight even after they stunned him with a Taser, they were even more certain they were dealing with someone under the influence of powerful narcotics.

But he wasn't, they said. As it turned out, the man who Greenville County authorities said they are questioning in connection with the death of a Berea Middle School teacher found in a motel after a fire Monday, was distraught, a Banks County Sheriff's Office spokesman said.

"They believe he was just emotionally distraught," said Sgt. Carissa McFaddin.

He was driving a car that belonged to Laurie Patton, 39, of 12 S. Poinsett Highway, Travelers Rest. She had died earlier in the day and was found in a fire-damaged room at a Quality Inn motel on South Pleasantburg Drive in Greenville, burned beyond recognition.

Patton was a special education teacher who taught emotionally handicapped students, according to Greenville County Schools.

How she came to be at the motel at that time, authorities weren't saying. They did say there may be more than one sus-





# The Post and Courier

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WEDNESDAY, March 5, 2014

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## Card withdraws from CofC search

Former White House chief of staff's exit leaves 3 candidates for top job



BY DIANE KNICH  
dknich@postandcourier.com

The field of candidates for the job of president of the College of Charleston is down to three. Former White House official

Andrew Card has withdrawn as a finalist. Card was one of four finalists the board announced Monday, after a month-long search.

A Tuesday news release from the college did not state a reason for

Card's decision to withdraw his name. Card could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

Greg Padgett, chairman of the school's Board of Trustees, said, "It is not uncommon for candidates to stand down from con-

sideration in a presidential search, and we thank Mr. Card for his interest."

Padgett also said he is pleased with the experience and qualifications of the three remaining finalists: Lt. Gov. Glenn McCon-

nell, Jody Encarnacion, an international businessman and former professor at Harvard University, and Martha Saunders, the provost and a professor at the University

Please see CARD, Page A6

## Leaky boat a symbol for sinking way of life

Mrs. Judy Too's captain among Shem Creek's last struggling shrimpers



Mrs. Judy Too's owner, Tommy Edwards, heads to the wheel to use of the 70-foot shrimp boat Tuesday morning. The boat started taking on water at its Shem Creek dock late Monday, but emergency responders were able to keep it from sinking completely.

BY BO PETERSEN  
bpetersen@postandcourier.com

MOUNT PLEASANT — Tommy Edwards bought Tuesday to patch his shrimp boat, while worrying about how he was going to pay to repair it. He just couldn't stop the leak.

He might as well have been trying to patch up the foundering fleet. The Mrs. Judy Too is among the last of the shrimp boats that have been a Shem Creek mainstay and a Lowcountry emblem for decades. And it's been about 10 years since a run of old boats. Two months ago, Rocky Magwood's Lady Eva sank at dock on the creek, not far away.

The Wando Shrimp Co. at the creek mouth is shutting down after more than a half century.

More than a livelihood, this is a way of life slipping away in front of our eyes.

Only a half-dozen boats remain tied along piers where once nearly 100 were tied rail to rail. Last year's fall catch was down 30 to 40 percent because of heavy flushing rains, said Larry DeLauncie, of the S.C. Department of Natural Resources.

After a good start in 2012, the total catch was only about half of what it had been the year before. Cold spells in the 2010-11 winter killed so many shrimp that DNR

Please see BOAT, Page A5



The remaining water from inside the hull of the 70-foot shrimp boat Mrs. Judy Too is pumped out Tuesday morning.

## Judge hits cruise foes with sanctions

SPA says decisions will speed plans

BY TY BONE RICHARDSON  
trichardson@postandcourier.com

Several groups that have sued to block a new cruise ship terminal in downtown Charleston have drawn the ire of the judge presiding over their case.

S.C. Administrative Law Judge Ralph Anderson III ruled that the coalition of neighborhood associations, preservation organizations and conservationists acted improperly when they refused to the Administrative Law Court to reverse a state permit allowing work to begin on the \$35-million project.

Anderson also issued sanctions, ordering the opponents to pay \$9,300 to the State Ports Authority for legal fees. That's \$11,672 less than the amount initially requested, according to court records.

Please see CRUISE, Page A6

## Comeback reality for Ravenel?

Southern charmer eyes battle for Senate

BY SCHUYLER KROFF  
skroff@postandcourier.com

Thomas Ravenel has gone from budding reality TV star to likely political candidate in less than 24 hours.

Fresh off the premiere of his "Southern Charm" reality show, the Charleston native said he's preparing for a run for the U.S. Senate this year. "If Lindsey (Graham) wins the nomination, I will probably throw my hat into the ring," Ravenel, 51, said Tuesday.

Please see RAVENEL, Page A5



Rain  
High 47, Low 45.  
Complete 5-day  
forecast B12

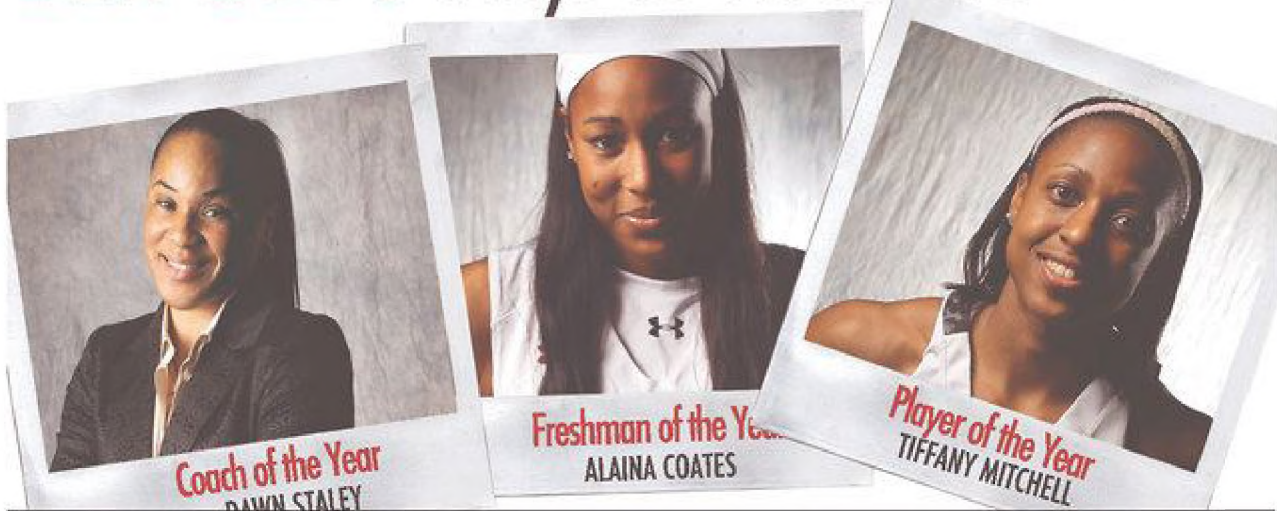
Bridge...B11  
Business...B6  
Classifieds...C1  
Comics...F10-11  
Counselors...E10-14  
Editorial...A14  
Food...B1  
Homes...D9  
Obituaries...D4  
The South...B1  
Sports...C1  
Television...D8

Charleston  
Deals today

Carvel Ice Cream  
Pay \$10 for two \$10 trips to Carvel.  
See A2



# SEC superlatives SPORTS



## The State

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014 | THESTATE.COM

# Council approves stadium contract on first reading

4-3 council vote comes despite opposition from many in public

By CLIF LeBLANC  
clifblanc@thestate.com

Columbia tentatively authorized a contract to build a publicly funded stadium Tuesday despite months of increasingly vocal disagreements from

residents and reluctance among a council minority.

On a 4-3 vote, City Council gave the first of two required approvals to a deal with Atlanta-based Hardball Capital to bring a minor-league baseball team to the Capital City to

play in a projected \$35 million, year-round ballpark.

The contract calls for Hardball to put \$6 million toward construction costs as well as to sweeten the deal for the city by pledging to assume greater fi-

nancial risk should the stadium fail to attract the promised number of visitors or to become the catalyst for construction in the surrounding Bull Street neighborhood.

SEE STADIUM PAGE A4

### EXCLUSIVE

## IBM, Fluor looking at USC Innovista building

Both are exploring leasing space in research campus

By ANDREW SHAIN  
ashain@thestate.com

Tech-titan IBM and construction-giant Fluor reportedly are looking to lease a large portion of a new office building, planned for the University of South Carolina's campus, to do research and information technology work, a source familiar with the project told The State on Tuesday.

The companies initially would employ 50 workers but add another 450 people within a few years at the school's Innovista research campus.

The \$144 million research campus, meant to marry university faculty work with businesses, has fallen short of expectations since being announced nearly a decade ago because of the poor economy and troubled leadership.

But the school found a private developer, Atlanta-

SEE INNOVISTA PAGE A4

## Pro-Medicaid rally ends in arrests



### S.C. seeks disaster status

Gov. Nikki Haley has asked the federal government for a disaster declaration in the wake of the February winter storm that caused \$54 million damage to government agencies and



# Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

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## Obama budget threatens MOX



Obama

### Proposal looks to put SRS project on 'cold stand-by'

BY DERREK ASBERRY  
dasberry@aikenstandard.com

**Editor's note:** This story will be followed up in Thursday's edition with the views of interest groups and Congressional leaders.

The MOX project currently under con-

struction at the Savannah River Site could be put on a "cold stand-by" if Congress agrees to President Barack Obama's budget proposal.

Obama's fiscal year 2015 budget proposal would essentially freeze funding for the MOX project, while officials explore less costly options.

#### INSIDE TODAY

Obama's budget: Election-year themes to rally Democrats. 8A

"As part of an ongoing analysis of options to dispose of surplus plutonium, the budget provides funding to place the Mixed Oxide

(MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility in cold stand-by, while the NNSA (National Nuclear Security Administration) evaluates alternative plutonium disposition options that will achieve a safe and secure solution more quickly and cost-effectively," the budget states.

Please see **BUDGET**, Page 12A

#### INSIDE TODAY



**Fondues:** Play with your food, add some chocolate  
Living on the Go, 1C



**USCA Pacers use power to sweep Flying Fleet**  
Sports, 1B



**Veteran cyclist holds dedication at USC Aiken**  
Local News, 2A

**USCA men highlight All-Peach Belt honors**  
Sports, 1B

#### AREA DEATHS

Angela Coon, Beech Island  
Frances Prickett Odum, Aiken  
Lloyd Freeland, Aiken  
William "Bill" Lee Beckwith, Aiken  
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

#### WEATHER

## THE COST OF water

### City rates likely to rise as revenue falls short

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER  
mschechter@aikenstandard.com

**T**he City of Aiken currently boasts the second lowest water and sewer rates in the state. Soon, however, those rates may rise.

At City Council's annual Horizons Retreat last month, City staff reported that due to last summer's higher than normal rainfall, the City water and sewer revenues are projected to be 10 percent less than projected.

Each year, water rates for individuals water customers are set based on consumption during the months of February, March and April – a period that typically marks the highest water consumption for the year.

Usage was down considerably due to heavy rains in 2013, City staff said.

Council was expected to hold a first reading and vote on whether to raise water and sewer rates last month, but Council tabled the vote for further discussion despite acknowledging the Water and Sewer Enterprise fund has a 10 percent revenue shortfall.

"Most people in the City do understand why we need to raise rates," City Council member Reggie Ebner said. "But some don't. If we don't, we will have other issues."

City Manager Richard Pearce agrees.

"At the current rate level, we're not going to be able to pay these bills that we know are coming," Pearce said. "Instead of sitting around, we can put this in place so we will have that money."

**Water consumption and its effects on rates**

... When people don't use water because of so much rain ... our estimates or good faith predictions don't come true because people didn't use water. We didn't have the revenue to cover the expenses.

Kim Abney,  
City of Aiken director of finance

#### ONLINE POLL

Do you agree that the City should raise rates?  
Vote in our poll at [www.aikenstandard.com](http://www.aikenstandard.com).

City Director of Finance Kim Abney.

Water rates are based largely on consumption, with additional costs for helping to maintain infrastructure and water treatment.

Revenue estimates and consumption projections are largely based on history, Abney said.

The City estimated consumption for 2013-14 to be 300 million cubic feet, which is about 3 billion gallons. That estimate is based on six months of actual consumption from July to December 2013, and then projections for the rest of the budget year from January 2014 to June 2014.

Actual consumption for the first seven months of the fiscal year, July through January, came in at about 199 million cubic feet (1.5 billion gallons). Abney said the City estimates about 100 million cubic feet (755 million gallons) for the remaining five months of the fiscal year.

Because usage was not what City staff anticipated, revenue estimates won't be met, Abney said. Even with a 10 percent rate increase, revenues would still likely fall short. Abney told Council

## Alleged copper bandit shocked

BY TEDDY KULMALA  
tkulmala@aikenstandard.com

An Aiken man received the shock of his life while he was allegedly trying to steal copper wiring from an electrical box, according to the Aiken Department of Public Safety.

The incident happened at the Walmart on Whiskey Road about 10 a.m. on Monday, according to an incident report.

Officers spoke with a store manager when they arrived at the scene. "The complainant stated he heard a loud noise and saw smoke coming from behind the store," the report stated. "He then saw a white man screaming for him to call an ambulance. The subject then ran into the woods toward Neilson Street."

Officers found the suspect in front of a business on Dougherty Road.

He had visible charring on his chest and arms and was immediately transported by EMS, according to the report.

Please see **SHOCK**, Page 16A

## Wagner man faces charges of animal cruelty

BY TEDDY KULMALA  
tkulmala@aikenstandard.com

An elderly Wagner man was jailed on animal cruelty charges after he allegedly shot and killed two dogs at his home, according to the Aiken County Sheriff's Office.

Edward Smith, 83, of Eagerton Road in Wagner, was placed in the Aiken County detention center on a hold.

Officers were called to Eagerton Road about 10:20 a.m. on Monday after residents reported hearing gunfire, according to a sheriff's report.

When police arrived, they saw Smith sitting on the front porch and unloading a weapon.

Smith told officers the Department of Social Services advised him that, in order for his wife to continue living at the home, the two dogs they owned would have to leave, so he shot and killed them.



Ebner



Pearce



Smith



# Out of the classroom

Spartanburg Day students take a week to get real-world education C1



# Herald-Journal

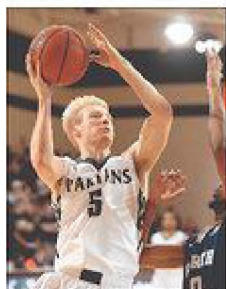
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**HJ**  
IN A HURRY

**5** Things to read today



## USC Upstate wins

No. 3 seed USC Upstate saw North Florida rally from a 15-point second-half deficit Tuesday night, but the Spartans still held on to win 80-74 in the semifinals of the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament.

PAGE B1

## Cooling tensions

Stepping back from the brink of war, Vladimir Putin talked tough but cooled tensions in the Ukraine crisis Tuesday, saying Russia has no intention "to fight the Ukrainian people" but reserves the right to use force. PAGE A3

## Election-year budget

President Barack Obama's election-year budget seeks to rally fellow Democrats with new help for the working poor and fresh money for road-building, education and research. PAGE A4

## Giving up K-9

Lyman Town Council voted unanimously and without public discussion Monday night to give a former Lyman police officer currently under indictment a valuable department resource — the town K-9. PAGE C1

## Expansion

Canada-based Bericap North America, a specialty plastics maker, celebrated the expansion of its Cherokee County plant on Tuesday, holding a grand opening for the \$29 million, 90,000-square-foot addition. PAGE C3

# Officer shoots, kills woman



Law enforcement personnel work the scene of an officer-involved shooting in Duncan on Tuesday.

## Duncan chief says victim had put a police car in gear

By KIM KIMZEY  
kim.kimzey@shj.com

A Duncan police officer responding to a disturbance Tuesday fatally shot a woman who authorities say got behind the wheel of his patrol car and put it in gear.

Duncan Police Chief Ryan Cothran said the officer responded around 10:20 a.m. to a disturbance call from Value Place hotel, which is near Interstate 85 and Highway 290. Cothran said the officer was attempting to speak with a man who then fled on foot. When the officer turned to get into his car, the

woman was inside the vehicle and began backing up, the chief said.

Cothran said the officer "took action."

The chief said it was not immediately clear what the disturbance was about. The man who fled, later identified as John Allen Rockwood, 27, of 110 Current Drive, Greenville, is facing several charges in connection with the incident.

Captain C.E. Long wrote in an email that the Duncan Police Department charged Rockwood with failure to stop. Pending charges include two counts each of car-jacking and car breaking, as well as one count of possession of a stolen vehicle. Rockwood was jailed Tuesday afternoon.

◆ SEE SHOOTING PAGE A5

## Out-of-this-world experience



Former astronaut Buzz Aldrin delivers a lecture Tuesday evening at Wofford College. See more photos at GoUpstate.com.

# Aldrin, second man on moon, inspires crowd with space talk

By JENNY ARNOLD  
jennifer.arnold@shj.com

Retired astronaut Buzz Aldrin gave an out-of-this-world lecture at Wofford College on Tuesday about his experiences with the Apollo 11 mission and moonwalk.

As the 84-year-old scientist pointed out, he was

Beach, Fla., before he boarded the command module that fateful morning. With 7 million pounds of thrust, the 3,000 tons of spacecraft, fuel, equipment and "three very lucky guys (Aldrin, Armstrong and Mike Collins)" launched into space.

"It was calculated later that we were getting about 7 inches to the gallon," Aldrin said.

# Protesters arrested near SC Statehouse

## 11 participating in Truthful Tuesdays

By JEFFREY COLLINS  
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Eleven protesters who want South Carolina lawmakers to accept federal money to expand Medicaid and spend more on education and other programs got themselves arrested Tuesday as they blocked a road leading into the garage at the Statehouse.

The well-orchestrated protest was part of the Truthful Tuesday demonstrations the South Carolina Progressive Network and other organizations have staged since lawmakers returned to Columbia in January. But this was the first time members of the group went away in handcuffs for their cause.

About a dozen police officers were on hand as the group stepped off a sidewalk and into Pendleton Street. Some officers quickly blocked off access into the garage, while interim Columbia Police Chief Ruben Santiago approached and told the group they were breaking the law.

"I understand your position, but you can't block the road,"





# INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

## ASBESTOS FOUND INSIDE



MADDY JONES | INDEX-JOURNAL

Greenwood County Council passed a measure Tuesday night authorizing the removal of asbestos from Greenwood County Courthouse. The work will be paid for using money from fund balance.

"It is not hazardous now and we don't believe it has ever been hazardous before. But it could become hazardous if it is disturbed."

**STEPHEN BAGGETT JR.**  
Greenwood County attorney



### County officials pass measure to begin removal process

By **CHRIS TRAINOR**  
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

Greenwood County Council passed a measure Tuesday night which will clear the way for the removal of asbestos from Greenwood County Courthouse.

On Tuesday afternoon, acting county attorney Stephen Baggett Jr. talked about the discovery of the asbestos.

"Recently, in accordance with a requirement of OSHA that the county maintain public buildings and buildings in which its employees work safe and, to the extent possible, free of asbestos, the county had our Greenwood County Courthouse tested for asbestos," Baggett said. "That was done in January. ... The official results came back on February 26.

They showed that there is asbestos fiber present in certain locations in the courthouse, most significantly in certain ceiling tiles."

County officials also noted there is some asbestos present under some floor tiles and in some locations that essentially are inaccessible. Baggett said the locations with asbestos are "sporadic" and in various areas of the courthouse.

Baggett said air monitoring was done at the courthouse during the weekend. He said the courthouse is safe for the public to be in.

"We are very fortunate in that the monitoring showed no dangerous airborne concentration of asbestos," Baggett said. "So, it is important for everyone to understand that no one is currently in any danger of breathing a dangerous level of asbestos in our courthouse."

That said, Baggett noted the asbestos needs to be removed. As part of Tuesday night's ordinance, up to \$500,000 is authorized to be used for the removal process. County manager Toby Chappell said the money for the project will come out of the county's fund balance. The

See **ASBESTOS**, page 4A

## Council takes first step on debt payoff

Capital projects sales tax funds  
might be used to pay bonds

By **CHRIS TRAINOR**  
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

Greenwood County Council took the first official step toward using funds generated by a capital project sales tax to pay off the county's bonded indebtedness and capital leases.

Council heard first reading on the issue at Tuesday's regular meeting. Second reading on the ordinance will be at council's March 18 meeting.

In 2006, Greenwood County voters approved a capital projects sales tax to collect funds to construct a new library on South Main Street and to make then-federally mandated refurbishments at Buzzard Roost Dam.

In all, about \$42 million was collected for the library construction and the dam work. The new

See **DEBT**, page 4A

### ■ GREENWOOD

## Kidnapping suspect has criminal history

Hostage situation  
details released

By **MATT BRUCE**

mbruce@indexjournal.com

More details emerged from a hostage situation to which Greenwood County authorities responded Monday night, converging upon a house along Maplewood Court in South Greenwood.

The situation unfolded after Greenwood police received reports someone was holding a woman against her will at knife-point inside the unit at 112-A Maplewood Court. Greenwood County SWAT responded to the scene and peacefully resolved the situation, with no reported injuries.

Officers took Marquis Anderson, 20, of 112 Maplewood Court, into custody following the incident. According to reports, the suspect refused to let the woman leave and threatened to kill her and her infant child if she contacted law enforcement.

City of Greenwood court records showed Anderson faces charges of criminal domestic violence of a high and aggravated nature, kidnapping and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime in connection with Monday's situation. Officials said he went before a municipal judge Tuesday morning and his bond was denied on those offenses as well as prior arrest warrants.

Records showed Anderson has a trail of violence in his past even before Monday's alleged kidnapping. Officials said he was wanted on charges tied to a slew of separate incidents, including a bench warrant for a prior criminal domestic violence and arrest warrants for attempted murder and possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime.

Records showed the bench warrant stemmed from a June 2013 incident during which Anderson is alleged to have attacked a 17-year-old pregnant woman

See **SUSPECT**, page 3A



**MARQUIS  
ANDERSON**

## Fake doctor with Gwd. ties faces prison time after guilty plea

Ernest Addo posed as another man in scheme

From staff wire reports

tigators. Addo worked one week at two Greenwood medical facilities,

so he could obtain work as a doctor. U.S. Marshalls arrested Addo at his Georgia home Aug. 24, 2012. Records show he was incarcerated

a license and illegally distributing controlled substances. State prosecutors handling the case could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

ment of Mental Health before being matched with Agape Senior Primary Care.

Addo attended medical school in







# the Sumter ITEM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014 75 CENTS

PANORAMA: Paxville native, Nashville singer back for concert **C1**

## Ultimate goal within reach

Lady Knights work toward 1st girls basketball state title **B1**

# 'Stakeholders' to decide penny tax list

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT

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(803) 774-1272

After discussing possible penny tax projects across several forums for months, the group assigned with drawing up the final list will begin meeting Thursday.

The "stakeholders" drawn from the nine separate groups compiling suggestions since last November are set to meet at noon in county council chambers, the first of what is expected to be several meetings to hammer out the proposal that

voters will be asked to approve in a public referendum this fall.

Stakeholders include government officials, business leaders, educators, emergency responders and ordinary citizens involved in identifying needs to be met by a new seven-year sales tax that will go into effect in 2016.

The new group will have to work fast to keep the successor to Penny for Progress on schedule. Later this spring, the stakeholders' proposal must go to a combined city-county commission for final approval, then Sumter County Council must pass

the project list in three separate readings along with the wording of the referendum question by Aug. 15, the deadline for finalizing November's ballot.

"Last time we got started in September," said County Councilman Charles Edens, who worked with stakeholders ahead of the Penny for Progress vote in 2008.

Edens will again represent county council on the 2014 stakeholders' group, along with Council Chairman Larry Blanding.



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Workers carry panels on top of the Family Court Building in early December. Renovations to the building were paid for by Penny for Progress.

SEE TAX, PAGE A6

## Events will help with health care questions

BY JADE REYNOLDS

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(803) 774-1250

The final countdown is on, and it's not a reality TV show.

March 31 marks the deadline to enroll for insurance — be that personal, with your job or with the Health Insurance Marketplace — and be able to avoid paying fines associated with the Affordable Care Act.

Because of this, local Certified Application Counselors say they have been hopping, and it's about to get busier with Sumter Family Health Center holding a number of

SEE HEALTH CARE, PAGE A8

### HEALTH CARE EVENTS

These gatherings are free and open to the public. Reservations are not required, nor are documents.

**WHERE:** Sumter Family Health Center, 1278 N. Lafayette Drive  
**WHEN:** March 5, 19 and 26 from 1 to 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** St. Mark United Methodist Church, 1090 Oswego Highway  
**WHEN:** March 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**WHERE:** Kingsbury Church of Christ, 215 Kingsbury Drive  
**WHEN:** March 22 from 9 a.m. to noon

**WHERE:** YWCA, 246 Church St.  
**WHEN:** March 22, noon to 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Sumter Family Health Center, 1278 N. Lafayette Drive  
**WHEN:** March 29 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Convention draws comic book lovers



PHOTOS BY MATT WALSH / THE SUMTER ITEM

Courtney McClam, dressed as an apocalyptic Little Red Riding Hood, won the costume contest at the first Sumter Fan Con held Saturday.

## More than 500 attend 1st Sumter Fan Con

BY MATT WALSH

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(803) 774-1227

Courtney McClam was milling around amongst Batman, Robin and the Joker with gashes in her face at the Elks Lodge in Sumter on Saturday.

She won first place in the cosplay contest dressed as an apocalyptic Little Red Riding Hood for the first

event's artists, comic book vendors and publishers came from all over the country and attracted more than 500 fans to the lodge.

The event was put on by the Nuklear Comic staff in Sumter after laboring to attract vendors and celebrities for six months, the store's comic manager, Brad Hyde, said.

The idea to have a comic



Comic book fans and collectors look through thousands of comic









**NEW FACES**  
Swinney, Tigers  
open spring practice  
under unfamiliar  
circumstances. **C1**

**CELEBRATING SEUSS:** Local libraries, schools observe author's birthday. **B1**  
**UKRAINE AID:** U.S. prepares to send \$1 billion to troubled nation. **D1**

## Winkopp project gets OK

**'I have a high concern for those neighbors. This is a huge, huge impact on those neighborhoods.'**

**Gina McLellan**  
Clemson Board of Architectural Review member

**BY GREG OLIVER**  
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — Members of the Clemson Board of Architectural Review (BAR) appeared uncomfortable at times Tuesday night when addressing the controversial Dukes Center project on College Avenue proposed by local developer Tom Winkopp.

Facing local residents who nearly filled the seats inside council chambers — the vast majority in attendance to show their displeasure with the project — board members spent nearly an hour listening to

changes presented by Winkopp and an architect as well as questions posed by board member Gina McLellan.

Finally, BAR member Wayne Leftwich made the motion to approve the project, seconded by Dave Moorhead, and its 4-1 passage, with McLellan opposing, brought an apparent end to the controversy.

Leftwich's motion included conditions that planning and zoning staff receive plans for a conservation easement before issuing a certificate of occupancy and that a landscape buffer plan is approved by staff

and presented to the board as information.

Winkopp told board members he had made several changes designed to ensure the multi-story, mixed-use building doesn't harm College Avenue or area residents. He agreed to reduce the building height from five stories to four, expand the buffer area between the building and the neighborhood from 25 to 60 feet, hire a landscape architect and arborist to "protect the buffer," revise the landscape plan to provide more diverse plantings, allow a tree survey to be conducted to

determine which trees would be removed and which would be allowed to stay, remove a retaining wall and replace it with a slope, and reduce noise, including the elimination of balconies.

Winkopp said he met with affected residents on several occasions to discuss possible changes.

"Some would prefer I wouldn't build the building, and I understand that," he said.

A number of neighborhood residents appeared at Mon-

SEE PROJECT, PAGE A3

## Right place, right time



United States Postal Service rural carrier Kayla Miller has been nominated for the Hero Award after she found a woman trapped between two cars on Feb. 19, called for help and stayed with the woman until paramedics arrived.

## Postal carrier delivers in more ways than one

**BY JOSIE RABBITT**  
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — "Help! Help!" It was a Wednesday morning, and Oconee County rural mail carrier Kayla Miller was running behind schedule delivering mail

on her daily route.

On Feb. 19, Miller heard two "desperate" cries of a woman wedged between two cars, she said.

"I thought it was a joke," Miller said. "But no, there was a woman freaking out — as anybody would

be in that situation. She was wedged between two cars, but I didn't know how bad it was until I got closer."

JoAnn Hill of Seneca was trapped between a van and another

SEE CARRIER, PAGE A5

## Council to seek reconsideration in zoning lawsuit

**BY NORMAN CANNADA**  
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — Oconee County Council voted unanimously Tuesday night to seek a "compromise" before filing any motions in a legal dispute with property owners who won a court ruling in December over

a disputed zoning designation.

However, some of the property owners at the meeting did not sound as if compromise was an option for them.

After nearly an hour in executive session, Councilman Paul Corbett made

SEE SUIT, PAGE A6

## County to start process for Sunday alcohol sales

**BY NORMAN CANNADA**  
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — Voters could soon get the opportunity to make Sunday alcohol sales legal throughout Oconee County, much like they have been for more than a year inside the City of Seneca.

Oconee County Council members directed Administrator Scott Moulder and County Attorney Tom

Martin to work together to draft a proposed ordinance to present to council that could put the issue of Sunday alcohol sales to the voters in the form of a referendum in the November general election. Moulder told council he had checked the time line and there is time to get all of the necessary approvals for the process.

SEE ALCOHOL, PAGE A6

### SENECA ELECTION

## Should Clemson grad students design plans for Kellett?

THE JOURNAL STAFF

SENECA — The city's plan to use the former Kellett Elementary School as the home for Seneca Light and Water met with

committee has been looking at the next use for the Kellett property, with a suggestion that Clemson students be used to help put together a plan.

ing his first term on City Council and is an owner of Ted's Hair-styling and Sure Shot Firearms. He has been a downtown businessman since 1993.

Durham:

results to make an intelligent decision on who could provide this service. Whether we allow recommendations of Clemson graduate students or we allow some other professional, every-

graduate of Seneca High and Tri County Technical College. He has lived in Seneca for 41 years and is a plumber and electrician.







**FOOD**

Losing weight takes strategy when eating out, cooking and shopping. **1C**

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# Morning News

WEDNESDAY MARCH 5, 2014

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

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**McLEOD MEDICAL CENTER**

## Coming out on top



McLeod Health Vascular Surgeon Dr. Chris Cunningham applauds with other department heads during a news conference Tuesday to announce 23 awards presented to McLeod Health by Healthgrades, an independent health care ratings company. McLeod received Top 100, Top 5 and 10 percent awards for various health care disciplines including patient experience.

### McLeod receives 23 national awards from Healthgrades

BY JOHN D. RUSSELL  
Morning News  
jrussell@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — McLeod Regional Medical Center has hit a virtual grand slam with the announcement of 23 national awards for 2013-14, out of 31 designated by Healthgrades, a leading online resource for physicians and hospitals.

As part of the Healthgrades

*"We have embarked on a quality journey that continues to receive national recognitions. For us, this is confirmation we're on the right path."*

Rob Colones,  
McLeod Regional Medical Center president

2014 American Hospital Quality Outcomes study, McLeod was named in the Top 100 Best Hospitals for Cardiac Care, General Surgery and Spine Surgery.

"Outcomes matter to our team and to our patients," McLeod President Rob Colones said during the announcement Tuesday. "We have embarked on a quality journey

that continues to receive national recognitions. For us, this is confirmation we're on the right path."

McLeod is not the only one to win the 2013 Outstanding Patient Experience Award or the Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence in the state, but it is clear McLeod is the only hospital in the region to win those awards

See **MCLEOD**, Page 4A

**Marlboro County**

## Two teens die in head-on collision

From staff reports

BENNETTSVILLE — Two Marlboro County High School teenagers died Monday after the pickup they were in collided head-on with an 18-wheeler hauling logs at about 1:25 p.m.

Marlboro County Coroner Tim Brown said he pronounced Allison English and Jeremiah Dean Adams, both 16, dead at the scene of the wreck.

"It is just a tragic accident," Brown said.

The crash occurred on S.C. 79 when the Mazda pickup truck, traveling north, crossed the center line and struck the southbound log truck head on. The impact of the wreck left the Mazda destroyed and caused the 18-wheeler to catch on fire.

English was wearing a seat-belt at the time of the accident but Adams was not, according to S.C. Highway Patrol Cpl. Sonny Collins.

The driver of the log truck was release with minor injuries, and no charges are being brought against him as the accident occurred as a result of the Mazda, Collins said.

## Heidler named Florence's new police chief

BY TRACI BRIDGES  
Morning News  
tbridges@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Interim Florence Police Chief Allen Heidler is now Florence Police Chief Allen Heidler.

Florence City Manager Drew Griffin announced Tuesday afternoon that Heidler accepted the chief's position, effective immediately.

During his 30-year tenure with the Florence Police Department, Heidler has served in several capacities including patrol, traffic and investigations. Most recently, he served as inspector under the supervision of Chief Anson Shells



Heidler

## CELEBRATING PANCAKES FOR A CAUSE

Shavonne Gee serves pancakes on Tuesday — National Pancake Day — at JHOB off of









# SLED: Suspect said fatal stabbing accident

By RICHARD WALKER  
T&D Staff Writer

A woman accused of murdering Branchville Fire Chief Alan Oakley has said his death was an accident, according to testimony given during a preliminary hearing Tuesday.

Investigators say 47-year-old Ann Anderson and two other women, including Oakley's wife, conspired to murder him.

During an interview with investigators, Anderson said she climbed onto Oakley's bed but charged her mind, State Law Enforcement Division agent Jeff Croft said.

She said the stabbing was accidental, caused by her slipping to get off the bed, he said.

Orangeburg County Magistrate Rob Clari-

day on Tuesday bound the case against Anderson over after deciding the state had presented enough evidence for the charges to be considered by a jury in General Sessions Court.

Anderson, along with Carrie Brown, 25, and Melody Oakley, 40, are each charged with murdering Alan Oakley on Dec. 28.

Oakley and Brown have also filed for preliminary hearings. No date has been set in either of those cases.

A preliminary hearing is not to determine innocence or guilt but to decide if a case should move forward for trial.

With Clarity's decision, Anderson's case will be moved to General Sessions for any further hearings.

The three also face a charge of conspir-

acy, with authorities claiming they planned Oakley's murder. Testimony during Tuesday's hearing indicated that plan had been in the works for several weeks prior to the fire chief's death.

Prosecutor Ashley Cornwell presented the state's case that is based on an investigation conducted by SLED, Branchville police and Orangeburg County detectives.

Authorities were called in early Dec. 29 where they found Oakley inside his Old Street residence with what appeared to be a stab wound to the neck.

The ensuing investigation determined that the night Alan Oakley was killed, two neighbors saw a small red car pull onto the Oakley

See SUSPECT, A3



RICHARD WALKER/TSO  
Defense attorney Peggy Hinds, left, sits next to 47-year-old Ann Anderson. Anderson is one of three women accused of murder in the death of Branchville Fire Chief Alan Oakley.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014

## The Times and Democrat

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### CHASING DREAMS



Author Holly Herrick autographs a cookbook for Vivian Glover at the Page Turner Book and Author Luncheon and Silent Auction on Tuesday in Orangeburg. Glover, an Orangeburg resident attending the luncheon for the second time, is the author of "The First Fig Tree."

### Authors dish out stories at Page Turner luncheon

By MARTHA ROSE BROWN  
T&D Staff Writer

If years were chapters, then the latest installment of the Page Turner Book and Author Luncheon and Silent Auction was like reading a book you can't put down.



of the Albemarle Foundation, said it was his second time attending a Page Turner event.

He enjoys the Page Turner luncheon because he "likes hearing the authors' stories."

And St. James and Herrick are both authors of books

### Man guilty of stealing Orangeburg doctor's ID

By MEG KINNARD  
Associated Press

A man accused of stealing an Orangeburg physician's identity and treating hundreds of patients by doing checkups and prescribing drugs pleaded guilty Tuesday.

Ernest Osei Addo, 51, stole the identity of a friend who was a doctor and he worked for several medical clinics before his scheme was uncovered, authorities said. Police believe Addo, who was heavily in debt, was motivated by money.

Addo, dressed in a red jail uniform, pleaded guilty to using someone else's identity to commit health care fraud. He faces two years in prison and \$250,000 in fines when he is sentenced in June.

He also faces state charges of practicing medicine without a license and illegally distributing controlled substances. His attorneys declined to comment.

Addo met Dr. Arthur Kennedy at a political rally in Ghana, where both were born, according to federal authorities. Kennedy served as CEO of Family Health Centers until 2007, when he went to Ghana for an unsuccessful run for president.

In court Tuesday, Assistant U.S. Attorney DeWayne Pearson said the men planned to open a medical clinic in the United States.

Kennedy gave Addo documentation of his



Addo

See FALSE, A3

### Haley seeks disaster funds for counties

T&D Staff Report

The T&D Region could be in line to receive federal disaster funding relief following February's ice storm.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley sent a let-



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