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To:
Date: 3/27/2014 10:03:09 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Thursday, March 27, 2014

SC Front Pages – Thursday, March 27, 2014

CHARLESTONSCENE

SECTION E

Busy weekend coming up

Folly Sea & Sand fest, Family Circle Cup, more



No more tents on Myrtle Beach
SOUTH, B1

The Post and Courier

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THURSDAY, March 27, 2014

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TRI-COUNTY A HOT SPOT FOR GROWTH

Headaches, opportunities in the forecast as Charleston metro area displays third-highest growth rate on Atlantic Coast



Berkeley County's population grew by more than 4,000 people from mid-2012 to mid-2013, helping to make Greater Charleston one of the fastest-growing metro areas on the U.S. Atlantic Coast. Camilo Martinez (left) and Janis Lara work on the front porch of one of many homes being constructed Wednesday at Carnes Crossroads in Berkeley County.

BY DAVID SLADE
dslade@postandcourier.com

South Carolina was home to all three of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas on the Atlantic Coast in 2013, new Census Bureau estimates say.

Greater Charleston is the largest of those metro areas, and it has accounted for nearly a third of the state's population growth since the last census in 2010.

Each month, roughly 1,250 more people call the Charleston metro area home, living in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties.

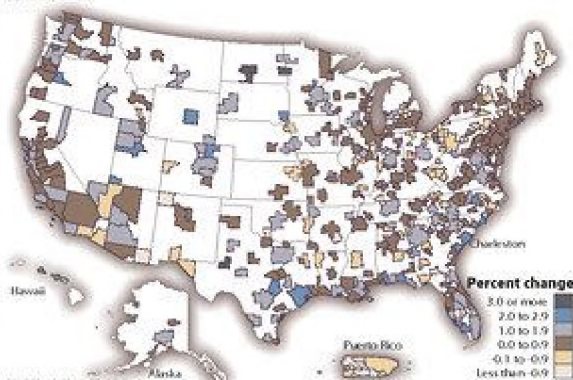
Those population gains gave the tri-county area the third-highest growth rate anywhere on the Atlantic Coast, according to a Census Bureau report released Thursday morning. The metro areas that include Myrtle Beach and Hilton Head, were ranked first and second for growth between June 2012 and June 2013.

"It's almost a no-brainer forecast that we are going to be more congested, and growing more," said College of Charleston Professor of Economics Frank Hefner. "I've been saying that for 20 years."

Pretty quickly, all that growth adds up. The tri-county region has lately been adding about 15,000 more people each year. And those

South Carolina coast a growth hot-spot

Census Bureau estimates say South Carolina was home to the three fastest-growing metropolitan areas on the Atlantic Coast in 2013. The bureau estimated population changes from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.



people need homes, schools, roads, jobs, health care, and more somewhere to park at the beach.

Please see GROWTH, Page A5



Poll

What do you think about the tri-county area's growth rate of about 15,000 residents per year? Find this story at postandcourier.com to vote.

Bridge	1-24	Crossroads	D5, E17	Obituaries	B4
Business	B6	Editor's	14	The South	B1
Classified	D1	Horoscopes	E79	Sports	C1
Comics	128-29	Notes	108	Teletalk	E36

Beaufort County still tops in health

Tri-county area in state's top 10

BY LAUREN SAUSSER
lsausser@postandcourier.com

Charleston County residents are fairly healthy compared with residents in other South Carolina counties, but we can't seem to beat Beaufort.

Beaufort County was ranked healthiest in the state for at least the fifth year running, according to the new County Health Rankings released Wednesday. Marion County took 1st place this year.

"The top five and bottom five are pretty similar to last year," said Allison Rapp, a research associate for the S.C. Institute of Medicine and Public Health. "They've moved within each other, but there are no major surprises in terms of which counties are at the top and which counties are at the bottom."

County Health Rankings are released annually by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. The County Health Rankings website includes data dating back to 2010. Beaufort County has been ranked first in South Carolina every year since then.

Please see HEALTH, Page A1

CofC may spend \$50K in tourney

Women's basketball scores strong support

BY ANDREW MILLER
amiller@postandcourier.com

The College of Charleston's athletic department could spend as much as \$50,000 playing in the Women's Basketball Invitational tournament, but Cougar athletic director Joe Hull says it is money well spent.

The Cougars, who will play Stephen F. Austin Thursday night in the WBI semifinals at TD Arena, have already paid out \$32,000 to host three games in the tournament. A win over Stephen F. Austin could see that figure jump to more than \$50,000, depending on where the championship game is played.

Unlike the NCAA basketball tournament, in which teams play at neutral sites and are reimbursed for travel expenses, tournaments such as the WBI and the Women's National Invitation Tournament routinely charge teams to host games.

The Cougars paid \$10,000 per

In Sports
Tolbert sparking Cougars' C1
Gene Sapakoff: CofC, USC lead women's basketball surge. C1

Please see BASKETBALL, Page A5



Partly sunny
High 67, Low 54.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B6

Charleston Deals today

Lowdown Oven and Bar
\$10 for \$20 worth of food and drinks. See A2



LIFESTYLE, 1D 'PRODUCERS' TAKES STAGE



METRO, 3A Internet gambling ban sought

The Greenville News

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THURSDAY,
MARCH 27, 2014
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY SLEEP AID BEING USED AS 'RAPE DRUG' PAGE 1B

FINAL EDITION

Testimony raises more questions about DSS



Kathryn Martin testifies before a Senate panel on Wednesday about the death of her 3-month-old daughter at a Greenville County in-home day care. Martin urged tighter rules for such facilities. TIM DOMINICK/THE STATE

Senate panel hears about child deaths, abuse

By Tim Smith
Staff writer
tsmith@greenvillenews.com

COLUMBIA — The state's child welfare agency is once again facing questions after another Senate hearing in which witnesses testified about child deaths, child abuse and overwhelmed caseworkers.

The hearings by a Senate oversight panel are examining how the state Department of Social Services is handling cases of child abuse and neglect but have also included testimony on

nounced that DSS Director Lillian Koller, who has been recovering from a stroke since December, would appear before the panel April 16.

Wednesday's testimony include a tearful plea from Kathryn Martin, the mother of a 3-month-old girl who authorities have said suffocated last month at a Greenville County in-home day care, that lawmakers tighten the laws concerning such facilities.

In-home centers aren't required to be licensed or inspected by DSS but are limited to six children. Martin's daughter died in a facility that had 23

"As parents, we are fighting for stricter DSS laws for day care centers and after-school programs."

KATHRYN MARTIN, the mother of a 3-month-old girl who died in an in-home day care

just because they find the name of a day care on the DSS website doesn't mean the facility is licensed.

A Greenville woman was charged

Student adds to storied streak

Upstate teen wins top writing prize

By Amy Clarke Burns
Staff writer
aburns@greenvilleonline.com

For the fifth year in a row, a South Carolina student has seen her name go from the first line of a school essay to the top of an acceptance letter from the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities and then to a truly remarkable place — the "pay to the order of" line of a \$10,000 check.



Trice

Seventeen-year-old Jackson Trice is the latest in a years-long run of Governor's School creative writers who have taken home one of the most prestigious and coveted awards for young authors — the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards gold medal for writing portfolio.

See TRICE, Page 4A

Hacking probe a 'priority'

Law enforcement, Secret Service still investigating

By David Dykes
Staff writer
ddykes@greenvillenews.com

A criminal probe by state and federal investigators is continuing to determine who hacked into South Carolina Department of Revenue files in 2012, exposing millions of taxpayers' personal data, and one federal official Wednesday called it a "priority investigation."

Investigators said they won't discuss the probe because it is ongoing. But state Treasurer Curtis Loftis Jr. said he is confident investigators can identify the person or group responsible.

Loftis, in interviews with *The Greenville News*, said he and other state officials have been briefed on how the state files were breached, but they were sworn to a level of secrecy that prevents them from disclosing full details.

"Do I know the fella's name? No," Loftis

POTENTIAL STAR? USC running back David Williams showing flashes, C3



FILE PHOTOGRAPHY/THE STATE



A/E NETWORKS



FILE PHOTOGRAPHY/THE STATE

A WINNING WEEKEND

{ Circus, Classic and Carolina Cup. Life&Style, **Page D1** }

The State

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2014 | THESTATE.COM

CONVICTED LEXINGTON LAWYER

Breibart gave heavily to politicians



Breibart

Most recipients
returning or
donating
contributions from
swindling attorney

By JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

Convicted swindler and former Lexington lawyer Richard Breibart contributed heavily to state and local politicians in recent years, during the same time he was stealing

millions from clients and taking money from other clients and failing to do work for them.

According to State Ethics Commission records, Breibart and his law office gave more than \$45,000 to more than a dozen candidates for elections

and primaries from 2007 to 2012.

Current state Attorney General Alan Wilson was the biggest recipient of Breibart's generosity, raking in some \$28,000 from Breibart and his law office — each of which gave the maximum \$3,500 per elec-

tion cycle.

Others getting money from Breibart include current Democratic candidate for governor Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-Kershaw (\$3,000); state Senate President Pro Tem John Cour-

SEE BREIBART PAGE A7

SOCIAL SERVICES TURMOIL



TIM DOMINICK/TIMDOMINICK@THESTATE.COM

Kathryn Martin, with her husband, testifies Wednesday about the death of their daughter, Kellie Rynn Martin, who suffocated while being cared for at a home day care center.

HOW BMW HAS TRANSFORMED S.C.'S ECONOMY

BMW'S MAJOR S.C. EXPANSIONS

1992: BMW Manufacturing said it would invest \$600 million in new facilities for a 1.5 million-square-foot assembly plant in Greer, hiring up to 2,000 workers by the year 2000
1994: Sept., first U.S.-made BMW 318i produced
1995: BMW Z3 begins production
1997: M Roadster begins production
1998: Z3 and M Coupe begin production; plant expands for X5 production
1999: X5 production begins
2000: \$300 million investment announcement
2002: Z4 Roadster production begins; \$400 million additional investment
2003: X5 (2004 model) production begins
2004: X5 4.8is production begins
2006: Updated Z4 Roadster begins; Z4 Coupe, M Coupe begins; "Next Generation X5" begins; \$50 million investment announced
2007: X6 Sports Activity Coupe begins
2008: \$750 million investment to add 1.5 million square feet, bringing 500 new jobs increasing production capacity to 240,000 vehicles by 2012
2010: BMW X5 (2011) begins; X3 (2011) Sports Activity Vehicle; BMW X3 begins
2012: \$900 million investment in S.C. plant expected to generate 300 jobs as BMW expands X-model family; also celebrates 2 millionth vehicle since 1994 start and 7,500 workers in 4.4 million-

By RODDIE BURRIS
rburris@thestate.com

BMW has put \$6.3 billion into manufacturing luxury cars in South Carolina's Upstate, and it has put close to 8,000 people to work in the state in the past two decades.

The international carmaker has long-since exceeded public expectations — dwarfing the \$600 million capital investment and 2,000 jobs it promised when it announced in 1992 it would open its only North American manufacturing plant in Greer. The ripple effect of that announcement 22 years ago and the growth that has come have had a profound impact on the

INSIDE
Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt talks about BMW's effect on S.C.
Page A5

SEE BMW PAGE A5

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

THURSDAY, March 27, 2014

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Vol. 148, No. 86 Aiken, S.C. ★ ★ 75¢

I-20 repairs begin in April

Repaving planned for westbound stretch in Aiken County

BY DEDE BILES
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

Repair work that local legislators say is greatly needed will begin on a portion of westbound Interstate 20 in Aiken County later this spring.

The S.C. Department of Transportation Commission recently approved the contract for the nearly \$1.7 million project.

Satterfield Construction of Green-

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wood will fix the 9.7-mile stretch of road that runs from a point located between mile markers 22 and 23 to mile marker 13.

"It's terrible," said S.C. Rep. Bill Taylor, R-Aiken, of the condition of the interstate in that area. "The surface really blew apart during the win-

ter. When you're driving on it, it feels like that there is a gravel truck ahead of you dropping gravel."

Taylor and S.C. Rep. Bill Hixon, R-North Augusta, reported receiving numerous complaints from constituents about westbound I-20. Many vehicles, they said, suffered damage to their windshields, undercarriages and tires while traveling on the interstate.

Please see **REPAIRS**, Page 5A



Hixon



Taylor

Local fans cheer Pacers to Final Four

USC Aiken advances, students relish win

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER
mschechter@aikenstandard.com

The mood in the USC Aiken Convocation Center likely wasn't as intense as in Evansville, Ind., but Pacer fans made sure to cheer on their men's basketball team in loud fashion.



ALSO
Tweets from the game, 14A

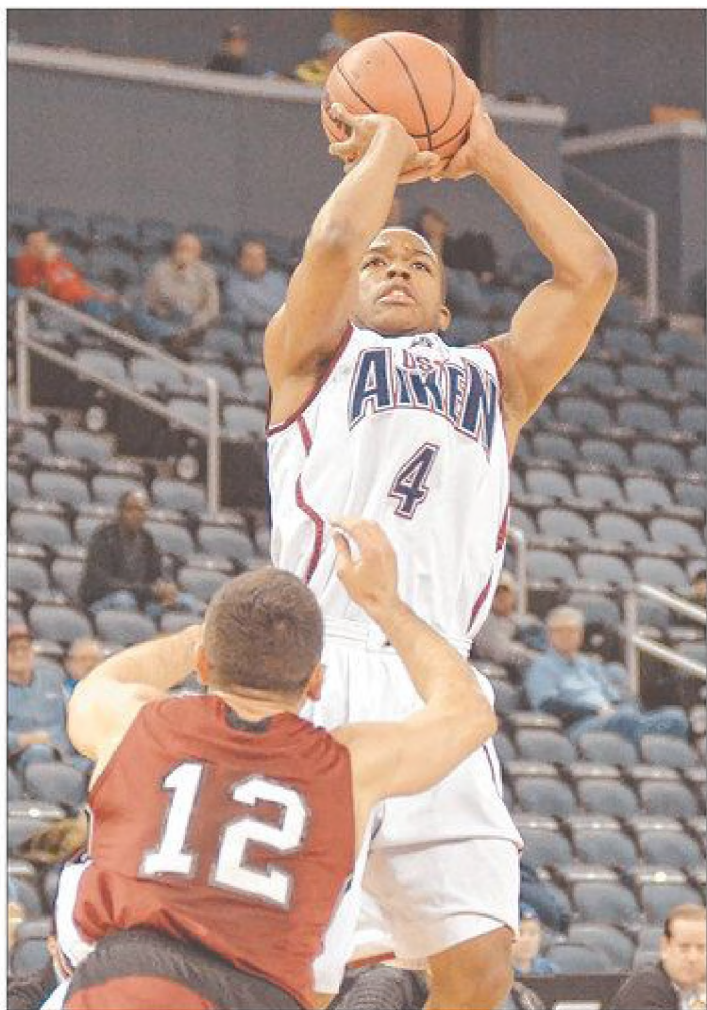
View our photo gallery online!

of students showed up in sweats, with homework in tow, to cheer on their home team.

Staff set up two giant screens in the middle of the basketball court at the USCA Convocation Center to accommodate the number of students, faculty, staff and Aiken residents.

Season ticket holders Terri Butler and son Matt were originally going to stay home and watch the game online, but couldn't figure out how to load the link on the NCAA's website, so they showed up to hang out with other fans.

At half-time, USCA was up 38-33 against Chico State. The overwhelming consensus from fans – get more rebounds.



STAFF PHOTO BY JEREMY TIMMERMAN

USC Aiken's DeVontae Wright (4) pulls up for a jumper against Chico State.

School Board aims to expedite facilities

Board agrees to replace schools pending possible sales tax increase

BY ROB NOVIT
rnovit@aikenstandard.com

The Aiken County Board of Education made a huge decision on Tuesday: Rebuilding, in their entirety, two of the School District's most prominent schools over the next decade – or more specifically, the possibility of such an initiative.

In conjunction with a sales tax referendum that may or may not materialize, the School Board has agreed to fully replace Aiken High School and North Augusta High School during that 10-year period.

It would come at a combined cost of about \$125 million – almost all of it from the revenue that would be generated for at least 10 years by a one-cent sales tax increase.

That increase would raise the current sales tax from 7 cents to 8 cents, but the School Board's plans won't work if the S.C. General Assembly doesn't authorize the Board's ability to call for the referendum.

Currently, the School District's only source of revenue for facilities and maintenance is through its "8 percent" money. That's the debt limitation based on the assessed value of all taxable property.

The "8 percent" money can and has been used as another term for five-year plan money.

The School District had a long list of facility needs in mind when a property tax referendum was rejected by voters.

"These needs haven't gone away, year after

INSIDE



S.C. Sen. Tom Young optimistic on legislation to aid School District, 5A

MORE INSIDE

Zimmerman leads Pacers past Chico State, 1B

Tuskegee, the only Elite Eight team USC Aiken





HIGH: 58
LOW: 58
Weather, 6B

\$39 for an anti-aging, crystal-free microdermabrasion —
\$90 value dealsaver.com/Beaufort

CANNABIDIOL OIL BILL

Bill that would allow children with epilepsy to obtain an oil extracted from marijuana to help control seizures moves to SC House 3A



The Beaufort Gazette

THURSDAY, March 27, 2014

beaufortgazette.com

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BEAUFORT DOWNTOWN
MARINA PARKING LOT

Partners present written vision

Developers include
boutique hotel,
residences in plan

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

Light on details but heavy on ideas, Beaufort residents got an inkling Wednesday of what developers could put in the Beaufort Downtown Marina parking lot.

"In the future, our goal would be visitors see no demarcation from where historic downtown ended and River Place started," developer Jim Chaffin said.

Chaffin, along with Steve Navarro, make up the Historic Marina Partners group the city will work with to develop the 4.2-acre site.

They presented a written vision for the parking lot — including a boutique hotel,

Please see MARINA on 11A

FOUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Developer Jim Chaffin listed four guiding principles for the plan:

- Incorporating the historic nature of downtown
- Enhancing the business community
- Connecting to the water
- Using sustainable designs and materials

CIVIC MASTER PLAN

Council seeks residents' support

Beaufort City Council focuses on how to implement the master plan.

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

Now that the Beaufort Civic Master

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION BEAUFORT

F-35B JETS COULD HELP ENSURE AIR STATION'S SURVIVAL

By CASSIE COPE • The (Columbia) State

The arrival of the first F-35B fighter jets at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort in June positions the base well to survive an upcoming round of military budget cuts, officials said Wednesday.

The jets give the air station an advantage as the U.S. military downsizes following 13 years of war in Iraq and Afghanistan, they said.

"We think (the arrival of the jets) positions Beaufort extremely well," said Jim Wegmann, a new executive committee member of the Military Base Task Force.

Across-the-board cuts mandated by Congress as a result of the 2011 debt ceiling fight, called the sequester, will kick in automatically if they aren't repealed by 2016. And the

military likely will ask Congress for permission to conduct another round of base closings as early as

next year.

South Carolina officials have been working to put the state in a position to weather the cuts and possibly gain missions as bases in other parts of the country close. Keeping the military strong in South Carolina is important because it pumps nearly \$16 billion into the state's economy each year.

The state has been working to pass military friendly initiatives — such as tax breaks for military homeowners — that the Department of Defense takes into consideration when deciding which bases to close.

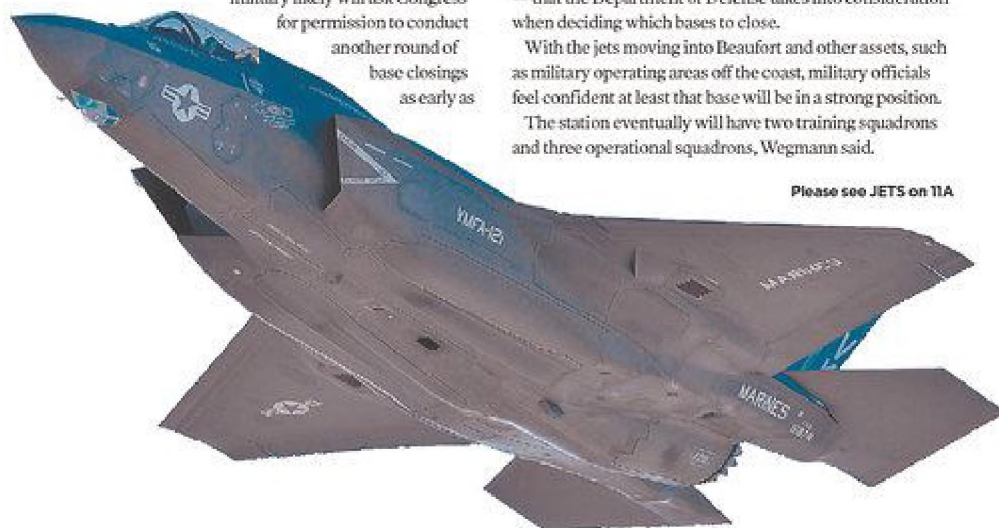
With the jets moving into Beaufort and other assets, such as military operating areas off the coast, military officials feel confident at least that base will be in a strong position.

The station eventually will have two training squadrons and three operational squadrons, Wegmann said.

SQUADRON TIMELINE

Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort eventually will have two training squadrons and three operational squadrons, said Jim Wegmann, a new executive committee member of the Military Base Task Force. And every F-35B Marine pilot will be trained in Beaufort, he said.

The first class of eight to 10 pilots will begin training in the fall, said Col. Bill Lieblein. In a few years, as operations are slowly ramped up, Lieblein expects about 70 pilots a year to be trained in Beaufort and up to 88 jets eventually could be based at the station.



Please see JETS on 11A

HEALTH CARE LAW

Enrollment deadline comes with flexibility for some

A "special enrollment period" gives people extra time to finalize insurance purchases that were initiated before March 31 on HealthCare.gov.

By TONY PUGH

'SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIOD'

The "special enrollment period" mirrors the extended period that the administration approved in December, when millions waited to enroll in coverage that began on Jan. 1. It's the latest



viously to get coverage.

"Most people are truthful when applying for those benefits," she said.

While officials insist the March 31 enrollment deadline remains in effect, consumers nationwide will



Spartanburg Soaring! International Kite Festival / Escape

Inside: A step-by-step guide on how to make a kite from today's newspaper

Herald-Journal

THURSDAY

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IN A HURRY

5 Things
to read
today



Common traits

There are characteristics great American presidents have had in common throughout history. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jon Meacham told an audience at the University of South Carolina Upstate Wednesday. **PAGE C1**

Extra time

Millions of Americans could get extra time to enroll for taxpayer-subsidized coverage this year under President Barack Obama's health care law. That would let the administration boost sign-ups. **PAGE A3**

Convicted

Osama bin Laden's son-in-law was convicted Wednesday for his role as al-Qaida's spokesman after 9/11 — a verdict prosecutors said vindicated the Obama administration's strategy of bringing terror suspects to trial in civilian court. **PAGE A4**

Reversal

Facing a firestorm of protest, the prominent Christian relief agency World Vision on Wednesday dropped a 2-day-old policy that would have allowed the charity to hire Christians in same-sex marriages. **PAGE A4**

Mayor arrested

Less than six months on the job, the mayor of Charlotte, N.C., was arrested Wednesday and accused of accepting more than \$48,000 in bribes from undercover FBI agents posing as businessmen who wanted to do work with the city. **PAGE A7**

Upstate moms want DSS reform

Women testify in Columbia about adoption, day cares

By MEG KINNARD
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — A Greenville woman told lawmakers Wednesday that Department of Social Services officials misinformed her family about the difficulties of adopting a teenage boy out of foster care, a situation she said has caused them immeasurable strain.

"Families are being pushed to adopt older children without being fully informed about the extent of

the social needs and brokenness of these older children," Winton Swanson testified before a special Senate subcommittee. "This has been a game changer for our family and has just about torn us apart."

Swanson spoke to members of a Senate panel conducting a series of hearings on the Department of Social Services. Chairman Tom Young, R-Aiken, said Wednesday that DSS director Lillian Koller would testify at a hearing April 16.

Swanson said one of her two biological children is hyperactive and has learning disabilities. Given that, Swanson said she and her husband told DSS they were will-

ing to take on another child with challenges, filling out a questionnaire to that effect but receiving little other information from DSS.

They were matched with a 13-year-old boy who had been at a children's home for five years and had failed twice to be adopted, Swanson said. While living in their home, Swanson said the boy shoplifted, stole from them, abused animals and hit another child.

"We would have never brought a child into our home with these types of issues, as we knew it could harm our family," she said, describing "crippling" stress and guilt for how her other two children have been treated. "DSS con-

tinually told us that things would get better."

The teen will be returning to a children's home next month, Swanson said. She claimed DSS pushed the adoption.

"They only tell you what you want to hear," Swanson said. "Not one time did anybody tell us, 'He is not the right fit for your home.'"

After the hearing, Jessica Hanak-Coulter, DSS' deputy director for human services, told reporters she had no specifics on the Swanson case but said the agency does ongoing assessments during the adoption process.

◆ SEE DSS PAGE A7

'LOST BOYS OF SUDAN'

No longer running for his life

Kidnapped child turned Olympian tells students to make your breaks

By JENNY ARNOLD
jennifer.arnold@shj.com

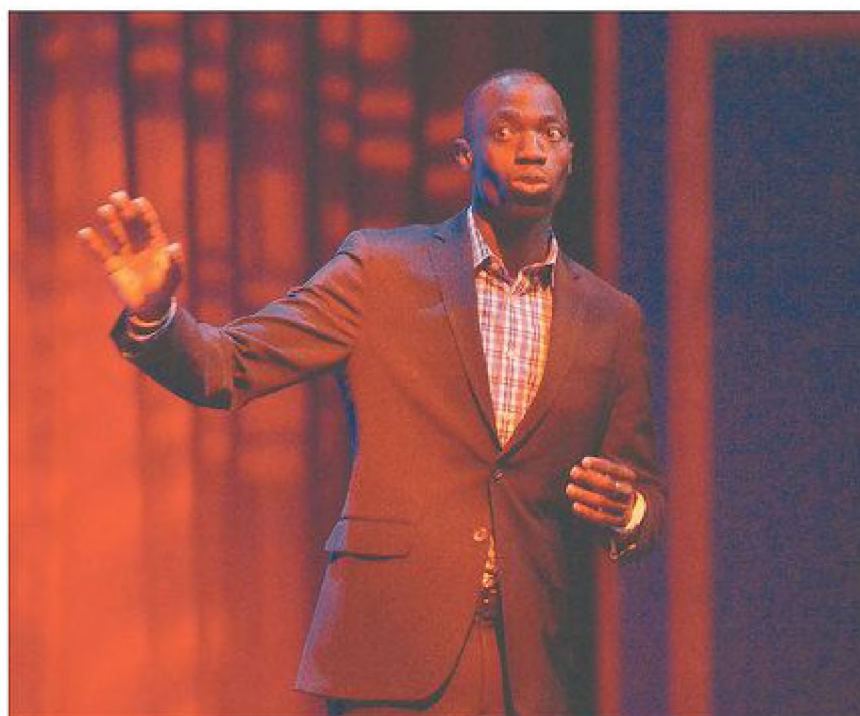
At the age of 6, Lopez Lomong began running for his life.

While he was at church one day in 1991, singing songs of praise and having fun with children from other villages in southern Sudan, Lomong's happy childhood came to an end. His village, Kimotong, was attacked by rebel soldiers of the Sudan People's Liberation Army.

"The soldiers came in, pointing their guns," said Lomong, speaking to students ranging in age from elementary school to college at the University of South Carolina Upstate Wednesday. "They ordered everyone to lay down at gunpoint. They said, 'All the kids, out.' My mom didn't want to let me go. A soldier ripped me away from her."

Lomong remembers the children and mothers all crying, as the soldiers took the children from their families and piled them in a large truck, the bed covered in canvas so the children couldn't see where they were going.

The kidnapped children ended up in an overcrowded rebel camp, where they didn't get enough to eat. Lomong watched as children died slowly of disease and malnutrition.



MICHAEL JUSTUS/MICHAEL.JUSTUS@SHJ.COM

Lopez Lomong, professional runner and Olympian, tells his story to students Wednesday at the University of South Carolina Upstate as part of the college's Diversity Conference. At 6 years old, Lomong was taken from his family in Sudan by rebel soldiers. He spent the next 10 years of his life in a rebel camp before escaping to a refugee camp in Kenya.

"We started running," Lomong said. "That's when my race started."

The boys ran through the

were detained by authorities. The boys were placed in a refugee camp, where Lomong lived for 10 years.

about what he would do if he were able to come to the United States. His essay so moved the charity that he was chosen to become

INDEX-JOURNAL

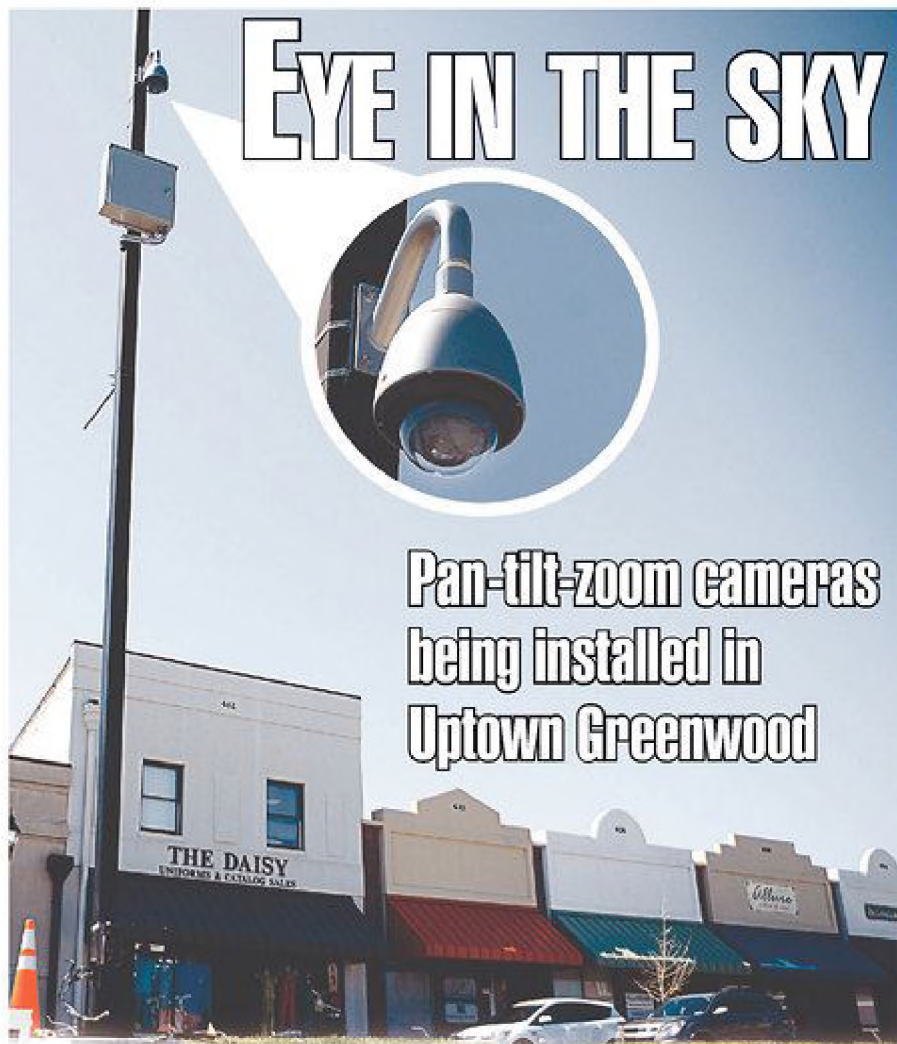
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DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50



EYE IN THE SKY

Pan-tilt-zoom cameras being installed in Uptown Greenwood

MADDY JONES | INDEX-JOURNAL

By CHRIS TRAINOR
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

The eyes in the sky are starting to go up in Greenwood.

Greenwood CPW workers were busy Wednesday installing new "pan-tilt-zoom" cameras for the City of Greenwood in the Uptown area. One camera is mounted on a new pole just in front of Howard's on Main and another will be perched on a pole closer to the Uptown fountain.

The installation of cameras in Uptown is one of the last pieces of the Main Street/Oak Avenue streetscape project. That project, which was funded mostly through Community Development Block Grant money, included all of the requisite curbing, paving and aesthetic touches of previous streetscape projects in Uptown.

The City of Greenwood started installation of pan-tilt-zoom cameras in Uptown Greenwood. The installation is one of the last pieces of the recent Oak Avenue/Main Street streetscape project.

City manager Charlie Barrineau said, in applying for the CDBG funding through the South Carolina Department of Commerce, the city noted it would install security cameras as part of the project.

"I think the technology has gotten so much better," Barrineau said of the pan-tilt-zoom cameras. "It just adds another element of safety for us to have. ... It is a requirement of those federal grants that we are getting that you also have a community policing component (as part of the grant application). So, with the Court Avenue grant, we put in the (police) call box. With this (Oak/Main streetscape) grant, we are putting in the pan-tilt-zoom cameras.

"With more people (utilizing Uptown) you just want to ensure, to the best of our ability, public safety."

Danny Byrd is the information technology director for the City of Greenwood. He said the new cameras likely will be very effective.

"These are pan-tilt-zoom cameras, which means that they will be able to detect motion and follow motion," Byrd said. "Of course, when you have a whole lot going on up there, like at the Festival of Discovery, we will probably turn that feature off, to where they can just pan back and forth

See EYE, page 4A

"Every plant has a specific need and purpose."

ANN BARKLOW
horticultural crew chief,
City of Greenwood

■ HORTICULTURE

Westview students help city finish life-sized topiary

By KATE HRUBY
khruby@indexjournal.com

Seventh-grade students at Westview Middle School learned about chewing the cud and horticulture as they helped plug topiaries Wednesday morning.

Students in Westview teacher Rhonda Thorpe's art class assisted City of Greenwood horticultural crew chief Ann Barklow to finish up beloved "Milkshake," a life-sized cow topiary that will be on display on the city square during the annual Festival of Flowers.

Barklow is in charge of the maintenance and care of the topiaries, or ornamental-shaped plants.

"We need to get all of the plants in now and it's a lot of work for us, so we appreciate all of your help," Barklow told the students of the task of plugging and preening 41 topiaries for the festival.

Milkshake will take the form of a black-and-white-spotted cow with cerastium for the white portions and Persian chocolate lysimachia for the black.

Barklow emphasized the need to vary plants on the large topiary, not only in consideration of what it is designed to imitate, but also thinking ahead to when the topiary will be outside on display.

"What might grow good on Milkshake's nose might not grow good here," Barklow said, pointing to the body of the cow. "Every plant has a specific need and a purpose."

Students worked to fill the front part of the neck, the head and the shoulders of Milkshake with the plugs.

According to Festival of Flowers executive director Ellesor Holder, Milkshake has been part of the festival for four years and is sponsored by Chick-fil-A of Greenwood.

Westview is one of a long list of schools throughout Greenwood that have aided in the plugging process. According to Holder, the topiary project has been a collaboration between the festival and Greenwood School District 50 since its incarnation in 2008, when it boasted eight topiaries. In six years, that number has increased by more than a factor of five.

"The Topiary Project cultivates an appreciation of horticulture and natural environments by helping school children (grades) K through 12 experience a hands-on educational program (on campus) that is fully interactive with local Master gardeners and the city's horticultural experts," Holder said. "This outreach program into our local schools promotes horticulture awareness to our youth and provides learning through math, science, and art applications."

According to District 50 community services coordinator Jonathan Graves, the project also serves to promote life skills in terms of working hard on a project, following through and seeing it to fruition.

The students can reap the rewards of their hard work in viewing the topiaries on display at the festival.

"Hopefully they can apply that back to their lives," Graves said.

Student Tramon Kennedy said the plugging provided a welcome change.

"It was fun because I like to work with plants and animals, and it changed our pace for the classroom today," he said.

Student Casey Merritt said he planned to go to the festival for the first time this year to see Milkshake in full bloom.

Human remains found in Clinton ID'd as missing woman



SAMANTHA SMITH

From staff reports

The Laurens County Sheriff's Office identified the remains of Samantha Renee Smith, found in a wooded area near Highway 308 in Clinton, the agency said through a media release Wednesday.

Smith, a then-22-year-old Piedmont Technical College student, disappeared from her Leila Street residence in Clinton in November of 2006.

According to a Nov. 14, 2010, Index-Journal story, Jennifer Burnett, Smith's older sister, said Smith and

her boyfriend, with whom she was living, reportedly got into an argument at the residence, at which point Smith walked out of the home and was never seen again.

The Laurens County Sheriff's Office is working in cooperation with the Clin-

ton Department of Public Safety, the Laurens County Coroner's Office, SLED and others to further investigate this matter, the release stated.

Anyone with any information is urged to contact the Laurens County Sheriff's Office at 864-984-4967.

the Sumter ITEM

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2014 75 CENTS

SERVING SOUTH CAROLINA SINCE OCTOBER 15, 1894

2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES | VOL. 119, NO. 138



New face, same goals

LMA has a new coach, but maintains expectations **B1**

IN NEWS



Sumter coroner speaks at hearings for DSS handling of child abuse

A8

DEATHS, B4

Jean P. Cummins	Elder Richard Jenkins Jr.
Johnny Lee Rufus	Barbara Johnson-
Grady M. Johnson	Prescod
Ann G. Jones	Sam Ho Choi
Cleo T. Dickey	Virginia C. Geddings

WEATHER, A10

NOT SO CHILLY TODAY

Partly sunny and warmer during the day; some clouds at night.

HIGH 64, LOW 48

INSIDE

Classifieds **B6**
Comics **B5**
Lotteries **A10**
Opinion **A9**
Religion **A6**
Television **A5**

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Man killed over brandy

26-year-old dead, 50-year-old arrested in shooting incident

BY JADE REYNOLDS

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(803) 774-1250

It started over a bottle of alcohol, brandy to be precise.

It ended with one man dead and another in custody.

Shamarr Howell, 26, was pronounced dead on scene in the first block of Murphy Street about 10:48 p.m. Tuesday, said Sumter County



ANDREWS

Coroner Harvin Bull-ock. An autopsy was being conducted Wednesday morning, but the suspected cause of death is a single shot to the head, he said.

Jeffrey Dana Andrews, 50, of 12 Murphy St., was arrested and charged with murder and possession of a weapon during a violent crime.

When Sumter County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to the scene, they found the deceased on the porch and the suspect on scene.

The suspect admitted to shooting Howell, according to a press release from the sheriff's office. The incident report also states the suspect saying the victim started pushing and hitting him.

SEE **ANDREWS**, PAGE A10

Elderly woman dies in blaze



PHOTOS BY BRADEN BUVICH / THE SUMTER ITEM

Family members of Earthy L. McCray console each other outside the home on Goins Place in Summerton. Fire struck the family home around 9 a.m. Wednesday, killing McCray.

House fire claims Alzheimer's sufferer, 83

BY JIM HILLEY

jim@theitem.com
(803) 774-1211

SUMMERTON — Earthy L. McCray, 83, of 1098 Goins Road in Summerton, died Wednesday morning in a fire at her residence in Clarendon County.

While the cause of the fire is still under investigation, reports on the scene indicated the blaze could have started with an electrical problem.

Willie Starks, the victim's brother, said McCray was suffering from Alzheimer's Disease. He said he was concerned his sister may have been unable to escape the fire if she was unable to get past any locked doors.

"I warned them about it many a time that this could happen," Starks said, although he did not say who was acting as a caregiver for McCray at the time of her death.

Clarendon County Deputy Coroner Bucky Mock said the victim was found lying next to a door in one of the rooms in the



Officials with the Clarendon County Coroner's office arrive at the scene of a fatal house fire on Goins Place in Summerton on Wednesday afternoon.

were locked or not. He said it appeared she was already dead when firefighters found her. The cause of death will be released pending an autopsy.

Unconfirmed reports indicated that McCray was not found when firefighters made their initial sweep of the house, but she was found on the second sweep.

Kenneth Clark, an investigator with the Clarendon County Sheriff's Department, said early Wednesday evening the county's fire investigator,

investigator from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Department would also investigate the case.

"That is not unusual. They always get involved," Clark said.

Clark said there were no criminal charges pending, but the situation was still under investigation.

A spokesperson for the Clarendon County Fire Department said Fire Chief Frances Richbourg was also at the scene Wednesday evening.

A call center represen-

ters who need help with the burden of caring for disabled family members can contact the association at 1-800-272-3900.

Many programs are available to assist caregivers, the representative said, but the amount of help available can vary depending on the state. She also advised caregivers to contact their local agency on aging. Caregivers in Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee and Sumter counties can call Santee-Lynches Area Agency on Aging at (803) 775-7381, or visit the



**ORANGE
TO APPLE**
*Overachieving
Tigers prepare for
NIT semifinal in
New York. C1*

CREATIVE COLLAGE: Pickens County museum offering spring workshops. **B1**
CLUES SURFACE?: Floating objects seen in area of search for missing plane. **D1**

Inabinet chides Cain on flyer

'I've been through five elections and I've not seen any flyers that have attacked the other person with unfounded or misleading statements.'

Andy Inabinet
County Council District 3 candidate

BY CARLOS GALARZA-YEVE
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — School Board Chairman Andy Inabinet previewed Wednesday a campaign flyer he's mailing out that touts his experience and qualifications in Tuesday's primary race for the District 3 County Council seat against fellow Republican Paul Cain. Inabinet contrasted his mail-out, which focuses on his strengths, with one put

FOR MORE

The Journal asked County Council candidates Paul Cain and Andy Inabinet a series of questions related to their candidacy for the open District 3 seat. To read their responses to a question relating to potential millage increases, turn to page A3.

out by Cain, which Inabinet criticized as being unfair and misleading.

Inabinet slammed Cain's

flyer depicting him as a "tax and spend liberal" who favors giving the school board the ability to raise taxes and accusing him of leading the fight to increase county taxes by \$3.7 million in 2012 and increase taxes on senior citizens.

Inabinet scoffed at the charge that he's for raising taxes on senior citizens. "I'm one of them (seniors),"

SEE FLYER, PAGE A6

Oconee ranked 27th in country

Top 'micropolitan' community in state

BY NORMAN CANNADA
THE JOURNAL

Oconee County was recently recognized as one of the top "micropolitan" areas in the country, based on rankings of non-urban communities for the number of economic development projects in 2013.

The Seneca micropolitan community, which includes all of Oconee County, was ranked 27th out of 576 communities nationwide — and No. 1 of 13 micropolitan communities in South Carolina — by Site Selection Magazine. Orangeburg was ranked the second highest South Carolina micropolitan at No. 70 nationally.

Micropolitan areas are identified as non-urban communities anchored by a town of no more than 50,000 people. Oconee's

SEE OCONEE, PAGE A5

Sheriff's office: Man killed by single gunshot

BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

DACUSVILLE — The quiet community of Dacusville has been rocked by another shooting — the third to occur there in the past 10 months.

Pickens County Coroner Kandy Kelley said Wednesday that Travis Scott Whitman, 47, died from a single gunshot wound to the chest. Whitman, of Franklin Finley Road, was found dead inside the home Tuesday evening by sheriff's deputies investigating reports of a gunshot victim. Whitman was married to Katherine Ann Henderson, 29, who also lived in the home.

Two firearms were recovered from the scene by the Pickens County Sheriff's Office and will be forensically tested to confirm if one of them may have been used to fire the fatal shot.

Pickens County Sheriff Rick Clark said the investigation is still ongoing.

"We will continue to gather any historical information that may help to explain or identify the events that led up to the shooting, to include past criminal histories or prior intervention by law enforcement," Clark said.

SEE GUNSHOT, PAGE A5



(JESSICA NELMS) THE JOURNAL

Blaze burns Walhalla home

A firefighter works inside a home at Playground Road and South Lovin-good Ave. in Walhalla on Wednesday. Firefighters from four stations helped contain the blaze, which burned about half the home. Firefighters from Walhalla, Westminster, West Union and Station 21 responded to the blaze around 1 p.m. No one was in the home at the time of the fire. Walhalla Fire Department Capt. Mark Hollifield said late Wednesday that the cause of the fire had not been determined.

OMC to close unit

BY NORMAN CANNADA
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — Oconee Medical Center's (OMC) Clinical Decision Unit, which serves some of the patients in the hospital for observation, will be closed permanently next week due to a low patient load.

OMC chief operating officer Hunter Kome said Wednesday that the final decision to close the unit was made Monday. The closure will become effective Tuesday and will save the hospital about \$500,000 in salaries, equipment and support services.

The unit serves patients who do not meet Medicare criteria for inpatient admission, but need to be in the hospital for

Pew to visit Rock Hill as superintendent finalist

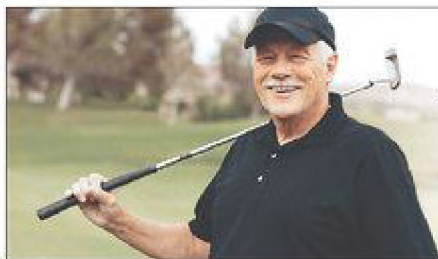
BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

EASLEY — School District

ances today, consisting of two school visits, a media session and a forum with stu-

superintendent in Pickens County School since 2012, joins Edison (N.J.) Public Schools superintendent Richard

System in North Carolina. A final decision has been delayed by at least a week, as O'Malley's visit was delayed due to a



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Morning News

THURSDAY MARCH 27, 2014

**TODAY'S
WEATHER**

Partly sunny, warmer,
high 66, low 45
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

County gets on-site health care clinic

Employers report savings by sick workers getting medical treatment faster

BY GAVIN JACKSON

Morning News
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — McLeod Occupational Health nurse practitioner Amanda Coleburn knows that she changed the lives of several people in her career in worksite medical care, people who may otherwise not have taken the time out of their days to visit the doctor.

And beginning Monday, she'll be addressing the medical needs of county employees and their families in a newly redeveloped clinical space complete with an examining room, office and waiting room on the second floor of the County Complex.

"We have more problems with presenteeism, people coming to work sick, than we do with absenteeism," Coleburn said. "And presenteeism is actually defined in the occupational literature as people the come to work sick and they can't do their job. So you're sick, you wake up this morning, you really don't feel good, you

See **CLINIC**, Page 4A



Amanda Coleburn, a nurse practitioner for McLeod Occupational Health, is bringing her 34 years of medical experience to the 800 Florence County employees and their families in a newly renovated clinical space in the County Complex. She will provide a variety of medical services, similar to those offered by primary care physicians, but in less time and cost to patients.

GAVIN JACKSON/MORNING NEWS

AREA 1 SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPRING GAMES



PHOTOS BY LINDSEY'S BUCHANAN/MORNING NEWS

Kaye Herring with the Marion School of Practical Nursing pins a second-place ribbon on contestant Travis after he ran a 200-meter dash Wednesday during the Special Olympics at Darlington High School. Volunteers from area businesses and schools assisted with the games and cheered on contestants.

& Smiles Ribbons

Darlington hosts special day for area Olympians

BY BOB SLOAN

Morning News
rsloan@florencenews.com

DARLINGTON — Matthew Easterling was all smiles as he carried the torch Wednesday toward the Area 1 Special Olympics cauldron. It mattered little that the brisk wind had actually put out



Contestant Jalteem Brown concentrates hard as he goes for a long jump Wednesday during the Special Olympics event at Darlington High School. Brown came in third in his group.

Election 2014

Two more locals file for SC races

Breazeale seeks adjutant general post; Gallagher runs for superintendent

BY GAVIN JACKSON

Morning News
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Two Florence County residents have filed for statewide office this week.

Former Florence County Democratic Party Chairwoman Sheila Gallagher is part of the field of 10 candidates running for state superintendent of education and is only the second Democrat to file so far.

"I've had conversations with teachers, and they're looking for some type of leadership at the state department (of education) that is really looking out for the students," Gallagher said. "The thought had been in my mind in some previous years, and I was really quite pleased when Frank Holleman wanted to run (in 2010) and disappointed when he didn't make it, but it's been on my mind."

Gallagher was a physical education and health teacher in Florence School District 1 for 30 years. She taught at McClenaghan High School, Wilson High School and Williams Middle School and has been president of the S.C. Education Association, the public school teacher's union.

"You have to really want to believe you can make some changes for our students, and you do that because you're going to work with other people, those superintendents and those teachers in the classroom," Gallagher said. "And you have to listen."

She joins seven Republicans, an American Party candidate and Democrat Montrio Belton in the race.

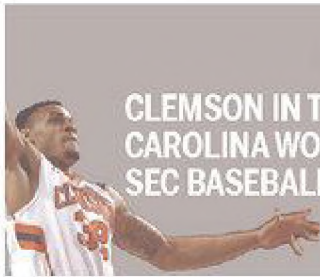
Belton also has never held public office and is so far Gallagher's con-



Odd

PALMETTO STATE PRIDE

CLEMSON IN THE APPLE: Tigers wait to find out NIT semis opponent
CAROLINA WOMEN: UNC up next, plus 5 things to know about Sweet 16
SEC BASEBALL: Carolina may be No. 2 in the nation but is tied with four teams for the division lead. Sports, B1



THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2014

The Times and Democrat

75 CENTS • ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA



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| 3 SECTIONS, 22 PAGES • VOL. 133 • NO. 86

"It's like kids taking over NPR for a day."

— CHRIS COFFEY, INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY COACH, BAMBERG SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE

'Raider Town Radio'



Richard Carroll Elementary School students, from left, Elnsey Sanders, Emma Bridges and Riley Johnson edit an interview using the Garage Band program on the computer. Working with "Raider Town Radio" has allowed them to develop skills outside the regular classroom.

T&D CORRESPONDENT MINNIE MILLER

New student-led station on the air

By MINNIE MILLER
T&D Correspondent

BAMBERG — It is 3:15 on a Tuesday afternoon and there is a busy hum coming from the main computer lab at Richard Carroll Elementary School in Bamberg. About a dozen students are typing away at their keyboards or having quiet discussions, tossing around ideas. Their advisor mingles among them, letting them take the lead on their work.

For an hour each week, this lab is converted into a newsroom and home base for "Raider Town Radio", 100.7 FM, an on-campus station. The project is the brainchild of Chris Coffey, instructional technology coach for Bamberg School District One.

"It's like kids taking over NPR (National Public Radio) for a day," Coffey says.

Though Coffey initiated the project, his goal is to let



RCE student Turner Davis and instructor Chris Coffey check out the "Raider Town Radio" website, which contains archived programs and other information about the school's activities.

T&D CORRESPONDENT MINNIE MILLER

porter for Raider Town Radio?"

He emphasized that it would take dedication and commit-

ment to current news stories.

It's a win-win situation all around. The students involved

in Raider Town Radio.

"It's been really interesting to interview people for the

Stores cited for underage alcohol sales

By MARTHA ROSE BROWN
T&D Staff Writer

An undercover effort led to several eastern Orangeburg County businesses receiving citations for selling alcohol and tobacco to minors during "checks" conducted last weekend.

"We do not want businesses to view this as an opportunity for law enforcement to shut down their business. Instead, we want them to view this as a partnership with us and local law enforcement to help keep our teens safe so they can grow, mature and thrive in our community," Tri-County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Executive Director Mike Dennis said.

The Tri-County Commission worked with local law enforcement agencies to conduct the alcohol and to-

bacco sales checks. During such checks, minors are sent into stores to see if they can purchase alcohol or tobacco.

In the Friday evening alcohol and tobacco sales check, the Eutawville Police Department issued one citation for selling tobacco to a minor and another for selling liquor to a person under age 21. The Santee Police Department issued two citations for selling tobacco to a minor and three citations for selling beer/wine to a person under age 21.

On Saturday, the operation continued after the Ellmore Trials with the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office issuing one citation for a minor in possession of alcohol, two citations for simple possession of marijuana and one citation for selling beer/wine to a per-

See SALES, A3



CHRISTOPHER HURTADO

Calhoun County Council voted Monday night to continue the renovations and improvements to the John Ford Center, authorizing execution of the final construction contract. Several entities have contracted with the county to use space at the old school facility, including the Boys & Girls Club, the Regional Medical Center and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College.

Council OKs final construction contract for John Ford Center

By MARTHA ROSE BROWN
T&D Staff Writer

Improvements and renovations to Calhoun County's John Ford Center will move

forward with the county to use space at the John Ford Center, such as the Boys & Girls Club, the Regional Medical Center and Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College.

Brian Symmes

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