

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>

To:

Date: 6/14/2016 8:28:43 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages – Tuesday, June 14, 2016

---

SC Front Pages – Tuesday, June 14, 2016



USC BASEBALL, 1C  
**BETTER THAN EXPECTED**



LIFESTYLE, 1D  
**Inlay helps improve near vision**

# The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

TUESDAY,  
JUNE 14, 2016  
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

**USA TODAY** DALAI LAMA LEADS SILENT PRAYER FOR ORLANDO MASS SHOOTING VICTIMS **PAGE 1B**

## Haley vetoes proposed moped bill

Legislation would require license tags, safety vests

**TIM SMITH**  
TSMITH@THEGREENVILLENWS.COM

COLUMBIA - Gov. Nikki Haley has vetoed a bill regulating mopeds, telling legislators that requirements for helmets and safety vests amounts to "government overreach."

The bill would require owners to purchase license tags, register their vehicle, obtain either a moped license or a driver's license and follow traffic laws.

It would also require operators to wear reflective vests at night and for those under 21 to wear helmets.

"I believe adults over the age of 18—who are allowed to vote and serve our military—should decide for themselves what they should wear for their personal safety," Haley wrote in her veto message Monday.

The Senate on June 2 voted 41-1 to give the bill final approval without debate. The House concurred by a vote of 68-31.

The governor wrote that while she supports safety laws for children and requirements in the bill for working lights on mopeds at night, other provisions "go too far in regulating the behavior of adults."

"State moped laws should continue to allow for this kind of inexpensive, reliable transportation for citizens, but this bill goes too far," she wrote.

Haley said she would work with lawmakers next year in crafting a moped

bill that defines mopeds, provides regulations and "balances public safety with personal responsibility."

Sen. Greg Hembree, an Horry County Republican and former prosecutor who shepherded the bill through the Senate, said he disagrees with Haley.

He said the helmet requirement is the same as that for those riding motorcycles who are under 21. He said the safety vests can be bought for as little as \$5.

"The moped operators who are killed are killed at night and usually are hit from behind because you can't see them," he said. "That's the whole point."

He said while the governor in her message is comparing mopeds to "other low-speed vehicles," some mopeds can reach speeds of 50 mph.

"It's not like a bicycle," Hembree said. "Obviously I disagree with her."

He said her staff had objected to a provision requiring moped operators to carry liability insurance, which was removed.

"Had that been the issue, it would have been easier to understand," he said. "But the safety part, I guess it's just different viewpoints."

The legislation, years in the making, was the result of concerns by law enforcement and a spike in moped-related accidents.

According to the state Office of Highway Safety, 55 people died in moped accidents in 2015, up from 35 in 2014, a 57 percent increase.

That compares to about a 16 percent increase in traffic deaths overall near the end of 2015.

#UNSEENGREENVILLE



Dr. Dana Parker, left, a dentist with Bon Secours St. Francis' mobile dental unit, prepares to examine patient James Joyner. Leanna Craft, right, is a fourth-year dental student at the Medical University of South Carolina. HEIDI HELBRUNN/STAFF

## Mobile dental unit fills a need in Greenville

**LIV OSBY**  
LOSBY@GANNETT.COM

**D**r. Dana Parker often thinks about the woman whose bite was so deformed she couldn't eat solid food. And the man who finally got a job after his rotten teeth were fixed.

In the uninsured and underserved areas of Greenville, patients like these



"We're excited that we're able to be out in the community [...] helping the underserved and uninsured who are struggling to get to a place

## Business resells horses for slaughter

**TONYA MAXWELL**  
TMAXWELL@CITIZEN-TIMES.COM

COLUMBUS - Not far from an equestrian center that caters to some of the finest horses to enter a show ring, a Polk County man started his own horse enterprise late last year, though one that hinges on a practice little known outside the equine industry.

Justin Scott White, 26, has made no secret of his business or equines featured on his Carolina Feedlots Facebook page. The big Belgian draft workers, the steady quarter horses, the paints dappled in white and brown, sometimes an Arabian with its crescent head or a Tennessee Walker, celebrated for being sure of foot and smooth in gait, are all destined for a particular fate. White bought the horses to resell for slaughter, unless a buyer steps forward to save them from a journey that ends at a processing plant in Mexico.

Until 2007, that journey might have ended at a slaughterhouse in Texas or Illinois, until focus on the issue forced the shutdown of those plants.

Since starting in December, White estimates he's resold 150 or 200 horses, keeping them out of the slaughter chain. But he's come under fire in some corners of the Internet by horse lovers who fear he's mistreating the animals. White's been reported to county animal control and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, and often, critics stop in front of his property, taking photos of pens out front on suspicion that the horses are neglected.

"Everything we do here, we tell the truth, and sometimes people get their feelings hurt by the truth. Nobody wants to know horses go to slaughter," he said to a reporter who stopped by unannounced, where animals penned near an aged white barn had access to water and hay. "Everyone that says these things, they're not hurting me, they're hurting the horses."

But the law also has concerns about White. In South Carolina, he has five pending charges of ill-treatment of animals brought by the Laurens





# Morning News

TUESDAY JUNE 14, 2016

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Mostly sunny and more humid.  
High 94, low 74.  
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

**City of Florence**

## Council moves forward with TIF district extension

BY JOSHUA LLOYD  
Morning News  
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The city of Florence unanimously voted Monday to extend its tax increment financing district borrowing into the year 2046 — a plan that is expected to generate approximately \$35.8 million in revenue over the course of its lifetime.

The original TIF borrowing was expected to generate about \$13.3 million through 2026.

Officials said the agreement will not increase taxes for city residents and property owners.

In short, TIF is an overlay district that allows a fixed amount of school district and county tax dollars for assessments on property to go to the city. The district is essentially the downtown Florence area.

Florence County opted to remain out of this extension agreement.

The new guidelines tentatively are scheduled to go into effect in October. They will include a partnership between the city and Florence School District One.

Dollars from the TIF district revenue will go toward several projects in conjunction with Florence One, including financing for the proposed improvements to the McClenaghan building, the Poyner building and the Beck Early Childhood Center. That plan will be paid for by the city of Florence through \$12 million of TIF borrowing.

Other monies are slated for the development of a food hub and farmers market, an upgrade to the downtown business incubator, public transportation updates, streetscaping, public park work, parking needs and infrastructure.

The money will be paid back with 5 percent interest through 2046.

Florence Mayor Stephen J. Wukela said this financing mechanism is a huge resource that fosters growth.

"This isn't a change in millage, but what it does is direct revenue to improvements within this area," he said. "What we voted on today extends the life of that district, doesn't change its geographical boundaries but provides the school district participation in the district, while the county has chosen not to. We're excited about the projects to come from this, and certainly the school district is excited to move forward aggressively with their plans."

The first reading on the ordinance passed unanimously on Monday.

# Election Day is here



PHOTOS BY JOE PERRY/MORNING NEWS

Dorthea Sipp places a sign Monday afternoon in front of the Transfiguration of Our Savior Greek Orthodox Church on South Cashua Drive to let voters of the Delmae No. 2 precinct know where to cast a ballot.

## Voters in the Delmae No. 1 precinct will see a familiar face

BY JOE PERRY  
Morning News  
jperry@florencenews.com



Randolph Butler has been involved with elections for nearly 30 years as a precinct manager and clerk. He's been at Delmae Heights Elementary for most of that time and enjoys doing his part for democracy.

**WHO WON?**

Keep an eye on the Election 2016 page at **SCNow.com** tonight for primary results that will be updated as precincts report their numbers from 24 contested elections that we will be covering in the Pee Dee.



FLORENCE — Randolph Butler came to Florence in 1966 from Mullins to work for the railroad.

"When I started it was ACL," he said, referring to Atlantic Coast Line, "and when I ended it was CSX."

Spanning a 35-year career, he served as a yard foreman, switchman, brakeman, flagman and conductor, and he also worked in the safety department.

When voters head to the polls at 7 a.m. today for primary elections, Butler will be back at a familiar spot in the cafeteria at the Delmae No. 1 precinct at Delmae Heights Elementary School as a precinct clerk, using his wide-ranging skillsets to ensure there are no derailments of the democratic process.

"I enjoy doing it or I wouldn't do it," he said as he and poll manager Dick Mayer set up a trio of voting machines. "We sure don't do it for the pay. As Americans, we've got to give back; we can't just take."

Butler, 72, is one of 63 clerks in Florence County watching over polling places and poll managers as voters make their picks for a variety of elected offices. Florence County

See **ELECTION**, Page 3A

**ELECTION DAY DETAILS**

**WHO:** The Democratic and Republican parties will hold primaries today.  
**WHEN:** Polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.  
**WHAT:** Voters will be asked to provide one of the following photo IDs at their polling place:  
• S.C. Driver's License  
• ID Card issued by S.C. Department

of Motor Vehicles  
• S.C. Voter Registration Card with Photo  
• Federal Military ID  
**WHERE:** For a detailed list of precinct locations in your county, visit [www.scvotes.org/data/Precincts](http://www.scvotes.org/data/Precincts).  
**MORE:** Visit [scnow.com/news/election\\_2016](http://scnow.com/news/election_2016) for more information on candidates in this election.

**Florence School District One**

## Board OKs changes in administration

From staff reports

FLORENCE — Two school sites in Florence School District One will have new administrators next year.

The Florence One board of trustees ap-



## World of experience

### The King's Academy welcomes new leadership

BY MELISSA ROLLINS  
Morning News  
mrollins@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The King's Academy has new leadership for the 2016-2017 school year. David Wolff's first official day was Monday.



# Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

TUESDAY, June 14, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 166 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

## Vote in statewide primaries today

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND  
ccleveland@aikenstandard.com

Statewide primaries are today. Running in the primary in Aiken County are Democrats Arik Bjorn and Phil Black for U.S. House District 2. The party winner will face longtime U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., and American Party candidate Eddie McCain this fall.

Republicans incumbent Sen. Shane Massey and John Pettigrew, a local businessman out of Edgefield, are running for the S.C. Senate District 25 seat.

Local attorney Chris Austin, Realtor and former Aiken GOP Chairman K.T. Ruthven, financial consultant Jeremy O'Donnell and local businessman Bart Blackwell — all Republicans — are running for the S.C. House of Representatives District 81 seat.

In the Aiken County Coroner race are Republicans Graniteville businessman Thomas Scott, incumbent Tim Carlton and Clay Adams, a forensic lieutenant with the Aiken County Sheriff's Office.

Republicans Lee Bodie, a U.S. Army veteran, and Jason Goings, incumbent, will run for Aiken County Treasurer.

The Aiken County Council District 3 race includes Republicans Earl Clinton Jr., an electrical equipment company salesman of Warrentonville; Danny Feagin, a Burnetown Council member; and Don Turmo, an operations manager at the Savannah River Site.

Polling places will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. today for the primary and also for the June 28 runoff, according to the state Election Commission. Voters in line by 7 p.m. will still be allowed to vote.

For more information on the primary and voting precincts, visit [scvotes.org](http://scvotes.org).

To contact the Aiken County Registration and Election Office, call 803-642-2028.

Christina Cleveland is the county government reporter at the Aiken Standard. Follow her on Twitter @ChristinaCleve.

### How to vote

- Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- You are allowed to vote if you're in line by 7 p.m.
- Some form of photo ID is required to vote.
- Precincts can be found in today's edition on 11A, or by visiting [scvotes.org](http://scvotes.org).

### AREA DEATHS

Elfriede George, Aiken  
Al Watson, Batesburg  
James S. "Jim" Keener Jr., Aiken  
Lee Johnson, Aiken  
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

### WEATHER

## As mass shootings plague U.S., survivors mourn lack of change



AP PHOTO/MARK LERERMAN

Zoe Feldman kneels in front of a makeshift memorial in front of New York's Stonewall Inn, on Monday to remember the victims of a mass shooting in Orlando, Florida. Morris was college friends with Kimberly Morris, who was working at the nightclub and died in the massacre. "A lot of my friends knew her and we all are just devastated," said Feldman. A gunman opened fire in a crowded Orlando nightclub early Sunday killing dozens of people.

## Tragedy keeps happening 'because we allow it'

BY SADIE GURMAN  
Associated Press

DENVER — The deadliest shooting in modern U.S. history has people around the world wondering why mass violence keeps happening in America.

For those who have lived through mass shootings, and for the law enforcement officers trying to prevent them, the answer is self-evident.

"Because we allow it," said Sandy Phillips, whose daughter was among 12 killed at a Colorado movie theater in July 2012.

The nation began the week mourning the 49 people killed early Sunday when a gunman wielding an assault-type rifle and a handgun opened fire inside a crowded gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida. Authorities are investigating whether the assault was an act of terrorism, a hate crime, or both. Politicians lamented the violence as tragically familiar despite its staggering scale.

The causes of mass shootings are as disparate as the cases themselves, but those involved in other tragedies couldn't help but feel the similarities.

President Barack Obama called the latest massacre "a further re-



AP PHOTO/JESSICA HILL, FILE

White roses with the faces of victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting are attached to a telephone pole near the school in Newtown, Connecticut. The deadliest shooting in U.S. history has people around the world wondering why mass violence keeps happening in America. For those who have lived through mass shootings, and for the law enforcement officers trying to prevent them, the answer is self-evident. "Because we allow it," said Sandy Phillips, whose daughter was among 12 killed at a Colorado movie theater in July 2012.

mind of how easy it is for someone to get their hands on a weapon that lets them shoot people in a school, or in a house of worship,

or a movie theater, or in a nightclub. "And we have to decide if that's the kind of country we want to be." Although the Orlando shooter's

motives, and allegiance to Islamic extremism, aren't yet clear, the massacre already sparks echoes of last year's attack on a social services center in San Bernardino, California.

For Ryan Reyes, whose boyfriend was killed in that case, the shootings have less to do with gun control and more to do with highly charged political rhetoric and how people treat each other.

"The issue is American society," he said. "We are to blame, and the fact that we refuse to accept the fact that we are to blame just makes it worse. It's what we do to each other that causes these people to get to the point where they feel this is the only option."

Still, guns get their share of the blame. Laws that allow almost anyone who has not been convicted of a felony to purchase guns have made it too simple to get weapons and ammunition, Phillips said. That includes semi-automatic rifles like the Orlando gunman's AR-15, a common denominator in many of the worst recent mass shootings; Newtown, Aurora and San Bernardino, to name a few.

Please see VIOLENCE, Page 12A

## Trump, Clinton at odds over Orlando attack

BY JULIE PACE, JILL COLVIN AND LISA LERER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Donald Trump vowed Monday to impose a broad ban on immigration from areas of the world where terrorism is prevalent and suggested some Muslims in



attack in Orlando. Hillary Clinton, Trump's presidential rival, was more measured in her own remarks, warning that demonizing all Muslims



in the Middle East — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar — for not stopping terror funding emanating from their countries and called for tougher gun control legislation.

"Believe weapons of war have no place on our streets," Clinton said. Though she drew implicit contrasts with Trump, she never mentioned him by name, saying "Today is not a day for politics." Trump clearly disagreed, criticizing Clinton harshly and often. "The two candidates' denials of





## CAVALIERS LIVE TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY

SPORTS, B1



## APPLE'S SIRI GETTING AN UPGRADE

BUSINESS, C5

# Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Tuesday, June 14, 2016



GoUpstate.com

75¢



GoUpstate



@GoUpstate

TODAY WED THU



92°/71° 87°/73° 96°/73°

Complete forecast, B6

ORLANDO NIGHTCLUB MASSACRE THE AFTERMATH

# Why?

As the nation mourns with Orlando, law enforcement officials dig into the motivations of Omar Mateen, who is being described as a 'homegrown extremist'

## LOCAL/STATE



### Hot post office

Employees and customers at the main post office in downtown Spartanburg say they've been working up a sweat the past several weeks. That's because the main air conditioning unit has been broken. **C1**

### City OKs budget

Spartanburg City Council unanimously passed a nearly \$37.2 million budget for the 2017 fiscal year, following no discussion on a second reading of the budget Monday night. **C1**

### Governor vetoes moped safety bill

Gov. Nikki Haley has vetoed a moped safety bill, saying it is government overreach to require reflective vests for nighttime driving and helmets for drivers under 21. **C1**

## NATION/WORLD



Jose Hernandez, center, joins hands with Victor Baez, right, as they visit a makeshift memorial Monday in Orlando, Fla., to mourn the loss of their friends Amanda Alvarez and Mercedes Flores, who were killed Sunday in the mass shooting at the Pulse nightclub. DAVID GOLDMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## FBI: No indication that gunman was part of anti-US network

By Jason Dearen and Terrance Harris  
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The gunman whose attack on a gay nightclub left 49 victims dead appears to have been a "homegrown extremist" who espoused support for a jumble of often-conflicting Islamic radical groups, the White House and the FBI said Monday.

As Orlando mourned its dead with flowers, candles and vigils, counter-

Comey said the bureau is also trying to determine whether Mateen had recently scouted Disney World as a potential target, as reported by People.com, which cited an unidentified federal law enforcement source.

"We're still working through that," Comey said.

The FBI chief defended the bureau's handling of Mateen during two previous investigations into his apparent terrorist sympathies. As for whether there was anything the FBI should

ORLANDO HORROR

## Pride March & Festival safety considered

Unitarian church plans vigil on Wednesday

By Daniel J. Gross  
daniel.gross@shj.com

Organizers of Upstate Pride SC's annual March & Festival in Spartanburg will consider whether security needs to be



# INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 91, NO. 25

indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016

DAILY 75¢ SUNDAY \$1.50

## COUNTRY GRIEVES WITH ORLANDO



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Several hundred supporters, led by Laura Kanter, at right, marched to Sasser Park after a vigil at Calle Cuatro Plaza in support of the Orlando shooting victims Sunday in Santa Ana, Calif.

### Killer appears to have been 'homegrown extremist'

By JASON DEAREN and TERRANCE HARRIS  
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The gunman whose attack on a gay nightclub left 49 victims dead appears to have been a "homegrown extremist" who espoused support for a jumble of often-conflicting Islamic radical groups, the White House and the FBI said Monday.

As Orlando mourned its dead with flowers, candles and vigils, counterterrorism investigators dug into the background of 29-year-old Omar Mateen, the American-born Muslim who carried out the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

"So far, we see no indication that this was a plot directed from outside the United States, and we see no indication that he was part of any kind of network," said FBI Director James Comey. But he said Mateen was clearly "radicalized" at

least in part via the internet.

Comey said the bureau is also trying to determine whether Mateen had recently scouted Disney World as a potential target, as reported by People.com, which cited an unidentified federal law enforcement source.

"We're still working through that," Comey said.

The FBI chief defended the bureau's handling of Mateen during two previous investigations into his apparent terrorist sympathies. As for whether there was anything the FBI should have done differently, "so far, the honest answer is, I don't think so," Comey said.

Despite Mateen's pledge of fealty to the Islamic State, a murky combination of other possible motives and explanations emerged, with his ex-wife saying he suffered from mental illness and his Afghan-immigrant father suggesting he

See KILLER, page 4A

### Greenwood clergy, LGBT community mourn shooting deaths

By ADAM BENSON  
abenson@indexjournal.com

One day after a gunman killed 49 people inside an Orlando, Florida gay club in what has been labeled the country's largest mass shooting in history, local clergy are joining with Greenwood's LGBT community in calling for an end to such violence.

"It's just a very, very scary time right now, and I guess I'm looking to my faith to restore some of my hope in humanity because at times like this, I feel overwhelmed," said Maurice "Bojangles" Blanchard, a Greenwood native and openly gay Baptist minister now living in Louisville, Kentucky. "The

only way to overcome this is to actually show up in solidarity with groups and minorities that are victimized over and over again. We can no longer have complacent love."

Blanchard, 38, rose to national attention in April 2015 when he was plaintiff in Bourke v. Beshear, a U.S. Supreme Court case on marriage equality that began with a challenge to discriminatory laws in Kentucky.

See GREENWOOD, page 4A



MAURICE BLANCHARD

### ■ ABBEVILLE

### County approves penny tax, millage increase, pay raise

By DAMIAN DOMINGUEZ  
ddominguez@indexjournal.com

Abbeville County will be counting pennies alongside other counties that have approved a one-cent capital projects sales tax.

County Council on Monday unanimously approved the penny tax, which will fund 21 projects throughout the county decided by a committee.

Along with the ordinance came an amendment that would give Council the option to take out and up to \$9.6 million general obligation bond, to be paid for with capital projects tax revenue, in order to fund projects associated with the tax. This would allow Council to pay for projects to start and be funded simultaneously, rather than waiting for a project to be completed before starting the next one.

An amended budget was also passed that would include a three-mill tax hike and pay raises for county employees. The three-mill increase, Chairman Bryan McClain said, is to avoid having to borrow money while awaiting property tax revenues next year.

"I think it's our responsibility to do that to avoid a huge mill increase down the line," Councilman Charlie Stone said.

County resident Jim Erwin spoke out against the millage increase. He said approving a mill increase alongside the penny tax was double-dipping from the public's pocket, and with the City of Abbeville's existing one-cent hospitality tax the tax burden was going too high.

The budget ordinance included amendments to give a 3-percent raise to all county employees making less than \$30,000 a year, and a 2-percent increase for all others. This pay raise does not include probate and magistrate judges, who get legally mandated raises. The raises will go into effect at the start of the new fiscal year in July. Stone said the raise will help retain the county's lowest-paid employees, who have a higher turnover rate than others.

County also unanimously passed an ordinance borrowing \$1.2 million to pay for county operations while awaiting property tax revenues.

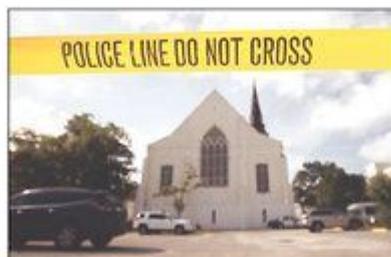
See APPROVES, page 4A

## Born Learning Trail officially opens at Burton Center

By KATIE PEARSON

The Born Learning Trail at the Burton Center, in what we want to see," said





It's been a year since  
**9 parishioners died**  
In that time, not much has  
changed around Charleston

A5

# Tri-county voters head to polls

BY JIM HILLEY  
jim@theitem.com

Primary Election Day has arrived, and Democratic and Republican voters can take the opportunity to decide which candidates will represent their party in the Nov. 8 General Election.

**READ MORE**

Find your polling place

A3

Congressional, legislative races

A3

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

As has been the case for the past two years, voters casting ballots in person will need a photo ID to cast their ballot. Approved IDs include a South Carolina driver's license, a Department of Motor Vehicles ID card or a voter registration card with photo. Voters may also present a U.S. military ID

or passport.

Registered voters who do not have a photo ID may cast a provisional ballot, which will count only if they are able to provide an approved photo ID to the county Voter Registration Office before certification of the election. Those who are unable to ob-

tain a photo ID may bring their non-photo voter registration card to the polling place and cast a provisional ballot after signing an affidavit stating why they have a reasonable impediment to obtaining a photo ID.

SEE VOTE, PAGE A7

## The world's best jumpers come to Sumter



Members of the O Shin Double Dutch team from Japan perform their freestyle routine for the judges during the American Double Dutch League World Invitational Championship at Sumter County Civic Center on Saturday.

Members of the Mini Jazzy Jumpers from New York perform their freestyle routine during the competition.

PHOTOS BY KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM



## Gunman at Orlando club appears to be an extremist

BY JASON DEAREN  
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Orlando mourned the 49 people slaughtered in the attack on a gay nightclub, as the White House and the FBI portrayed the killer Monday as an apparent "homegrown extremist" who espoused support for a jumble of often-conflicting Islamic organizations.

The last of the bodies were removed from the nightclub late Sunday, and vigils and makeshift memorials to the victims of the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history began to take shape as counterterrorism authorities delved into gunman Omar Mateen's background and defended their handling of their previous contacts with him.

Wielding an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle and a handgun, Mateen, a 29-year-old American-born Muslim, opened fire at the crowded Pulse Orlando club early Sunday. He was killed in a gun battle with a SWAT team after police used explosives and a small armored vehicle to punch a hole in a wall and allow dozens of club-goers to escape, police said.

The tragedy shocked the nation and cast a pall over Orlando, known all around the globe as the home of Walt Disney World and other theme parks. "We will not be defined by the act of a

SEE GUNMAN, PAGE A7

## Summer Restore volunteer says life is about serving others

BY JIM HILLEY  
jim@theitem.com

Betsy Noyes, a volunteer for United Ministries' Summer Restore from Church of the Holy Comforter, said she believes serving other people is what life is all about.

Summer Restore is a ministry in the summer where teens from youth groups throughout Sumter come to

Volunteers such as Noyes tear off all the previous shingles and tar paper and then roof the house, making repairs and replacing wood along the way.

While Summer Restore is mainly about construction work, it is



"Volunteers have the opportunity to bring the image of Christ to the homeowners, and we learn what it is truly like to serve as He did," she said. Workers are called to give ev-

erything they have for a week,

ending up exhausted.

"Then we get to see the finished product of our hard work: a new roof that leaves its owner leak and worry free," Noyes said. "My five summers of participating in Summer Restore have blessed me beyond measure."

Noyes is not completely positive what it is, she said.

"There is something that is attractive to me about sweat-

ting so dirty that it takes multiple showers to be actually clean again," she said.

"Maybe it's the community. I've met some of my closest friends from working on roofs with them," she said. "But I think it's the principle of it all. I never feel more alive than when I'm serving other people."

"I think we don't truly live until we live to help other

Camlin Moore

Cell: 803-206-8236

Office: 803-734-8044