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SC Front Pages – Fri day, October 7, 2016

The Post and Courier

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Friday, October 7, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

HURRICANE MATTHEW

'This is a scary storm'

Matthew's swirling power could push pulse of seawater onto the coast, flooding low-lying areas as hurricane tracks closer to Charleston



BRAD NETTLES/STAFF

Surfers make their way down the beach Thursday morning on Folly Island. Police allowed only residents onto the island.

BY TONY BARTELME
tbartelme@postandcourier.com

South Carolina may escape a direct strike, but Hurricane Matthew's swirling mass will still send an enormous pulse of seawater toward us, an ocean flood that could put vast swaths of the Lowcountry under water.

Inside

How Matthew surge might affect your neighborhood. A4

Forecasters on Thursday said there's a strong chance that Matthew's surge will exceed 5 feet in the Charleston area.

If that holds true, the Atlantic could flood both sides of peninsular Charleston, according to computer-generated maps used by emergency officials.

Areas close to the marsh on James and Johns islands will be under water, as well as lower-lying areas in Mount Pleasant and Daniel Island. The National Weather Service

Please see SURGE, Page A4



LEROY BURNELL/STAFF

Rick Reinert (left) and Bob Sneed install boards on the windows and doors of Reinert's business Thursday on King Street.

Stormy decision: Haley, USC play political football

BY ANDY SHAIN
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COLUMBIA — Hurricane Matthew's powerful winds have disrupted much of South Carolina with a coastal evacuation, but the fierce storm has not blown away the state's major college football game this weekend.

The University of South Carolina will play the University of Georgia at Williams-Bricer Stadium on Sunday, a day later than scheduled — and against the wishes of Gov. Nikki Haley. No game time was announced Thursday.

A rift over holding the Southeastern Conference contest has formed with the different

Impacts Hurricane Matthew is expected to have on each side on Interstate 95. The coast is predicted to get pelted with intense winds and storm surge on Saturday — in some areas worse than 1989's Hurricane Hugo.

Meanwhile, areas west of I-95 will receive

Please see USC, Page A6

Inside

Lowcountry shebers fill in ahead of Matthew. A3

Floyd fiasco spurred I-26 evacuation plan. A5

Storm threat shuts down Charleston tourism. B1



Online

For more photos and videos, go to postandcourier.com

App

Download The Post and Courier app for updates and notifications on Hurricane Matthew.

Lowcountry in Matthew's crosshairs

BY BO PETERSEN
and GREGORY YEE
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gyee@postandcourier.com

Gov. Nikki Haley said the time is fast approaching where there will be nothing left to do but pray.

Hurricane Matthew is getting dangerously close to the Lowcountry, bringing heavy rain, severe wind and flooding.

"This is a scary storm. This is a storm that should be taken seriously," Haley said. "We have started having a chaplain in our conference meetings because now is the time for the state to pray."

She begged residents who had not followed the evacuation order to leave coastal areas before the closing of roads, bridges, gas stations and stores begins. The Ravenel Bridge and others will be closed once winds hit 40 mph on Friday.

The storm was packing 130 mph winds late Thursday, according to

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LOCAL

Man killed in police shootout had lengthy record. A7

SPORTS

Clemson not underestimating Boston College. C1

SPORTS

Triumphant Citadel remains unbeaten. C1



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Charleston Deals today

DocDoor Garage Door Services
\$75 for garage door conditioning package. A2



Clemson Gameday guide: Dabo not happy about having to play a Friday night game, 1B

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7 2016

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YESTERDAY: HI 81 LO 64 PRECIP. (as of 5 pm) 0.00"
FORECAST, 10C

The State

HURRICANE MATTHEW

Coastal SC in peril as hurricane looms

Storm surge might exceed that of killer storm Hugo in 1989, governor warns



BY SAMMY FRETWELL
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Hurricane Matthew bore down on the South Carolina coast Thursday, becoming a major threat to the state and prompting urgent warnings for people to leave seaside communities before the powerful storm arrives this weekend.

The hurricane at one point looked as if it would spare South Carolina substantial damage, but the forecast changed as Matthew crossed the Bahamas and approached the Florida coast.

Forecasts showed the storm, packing sustained winds of up to 140 mph, coming dangerously close — perhaps 50 miles — to Hilton Head Island and Edisto Beach south of Charleston on Saturday, before gradually moving offshore.

Hurricane warnings extended Thursday along much of the state's 187-mile-long coast, meaning that hurricane conditions are expected in the area.

The storm's eye wasn't expected to make landfall in South Carolina, but it would be close enough to the coast to cause problems through early next week, forecasters said. An expansive storm that has been building for weeks, Matthew could be carrying winds of at least 110 mph when it reaches the Hilton Head Island area, according to the National Weather Service.

Unless the hurricane's path changes dramatically, state officials said South Carolina faces danger beginning Saturday from high winds, crashing seas and heavy rain. Some beachfront homes could be wiped out.

Forecasters said potentially deadly storm surges south of Charleston might be more substantial than the surges those areas experienced during Hurricane Hugo, the 1989 storm that leveled parts of the South Carolina coast.

The highest surges could occur at Hilton Head Island, Hunting Island, Folly Beach,

Virginia Harmon opens the door to a UHaul of dogs from Pawleys Island. The dogs from shelters at Pawleys Island were stacked on top of each other in crates and bused to Pets Inc. in Columbia Thursday.

Columbia is home away from home for nervous evacuees

BY TIM FLACH AND CLIF LEBLANC
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clifblanc@thestate.com

Hurricane Matthew evacuees who fled to Columbia as the storm advances shared their accounts Thursday of hitting the road to safety.

Some found the ride stressful. Others said that, compared with the interstate mess in 1999 caused by Hurricane Floyd, the trip was manageable.

All are stressing about what the storm surge from Matthew might do to their coastal homes — while members of a bus-tour group from Arkansas just hate

they didn't get a chance to visit Charleston.

"It took me five hours to get up here," said Marilyn Smith, a retired travel agent from Connecticut who moved to Mount Pleasant 2½ months ago. "Me and my GPS — not knowing where Columbia was. Do I stop? Do I tinkle? Do I not tinkle?"

The cost of her four-night stay in a hotel room, which Smith called "outrageous," is more than she can handle for much longer. "I'll have to get a job," she joked as she walked Columbia's Vista entertainment dis-



TIM DOMINICK tdominick@thestate.com

Sterlin Casseus, 20, of Charleston, passes time at the Red Cross shelter in White Knoll High School.

SEE EVACUEES, 7A

SEE HURRICANE, 6A



SPORTS
**FRIDAY
FACEOFF**



METRO
**Townville
students
return**

The Greenville News
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 7, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY FLORIDIANS SEEK SHELTER PAGE 1B

HURRICANE MATTHEW

TIME RUNNING OUT



**Officials warn
residents against
riding out storm**

ELIZABETH LAFLEUR, TIM SMITH
AND ROMANDO DIXSON | THE GREENVILLE NEWS
TONYA MAXWELL | ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES

Gov. Nikki Haley pleaded with residents to evacuate ahead of a Category 4 hurricane that battered Florida on Thursday night as it took dead aim on South Carolina.

Haley, warning that the storm surge from Hurricane Matthew has the potential to be worse than Hurricane Hugo in 1989, begged residents to "understand the seriousness of the storm."

"When we're looking at storm surges that surpass Hugo, you know it's a problem," Haley said.

As if to reiterate the threat, President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency in South Carolina ahead of the storm's arrival.

Officials said roughly 280,000 people had evacuated the coast as authorities implemented lane reversals on Interstate 26 to aid with moving people from the eastern part of the state. The lane reversals will end Friday, Haley said, and officials plan to shut down high bridges once winds pick up.

The evacuations depleted hotel space in Greenville, Spartanburg and Asheville, North Carolina. Haley said there were limited hotel rooms in Anderson County and in Charlotte.

Evacuations from the Charleston region slowed to a trickle Thursday as hundreds of buses

See **STORM**, Page 2A

SEE ALSO

- » Communities throughout state put final touches on preparations. **Pages 4A and 9A**
- » For updates on Hurricane Matthew throughout the day, visit GreenvilleOnline.com

**Some choosing to
stay despite orders**

TIM SMITH | THE GREENVILLE NEWS
TONYA MAXWELL | ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES

On Pawleys Island, a picturesque sliver of land almost certain to flood under the fury of Hurricane Matthew, Paul Saylor has given official notice that he plans to welcome the storm from the most precarious of positions.

By Thursday afternoon, he was the only one residing among the 600 homes on the island to sign an evacuation refusal document that makes clear the price for staying.

"I have been informed that Town of Pawleys Island is under an evacuation given by the governor of the state of South Carolina," it reads. "I have refused to comply with the evacuation and leave the island."

And then it asks for next of kin information. "I said to these guys, 'What do you want to do? Give me a tag for my big toe?'" Saylor said of the

PHOTOS BY HEIDI HEILBRUNNSTAFF
Above: Shannon Nelson loads sandbags at the doors of a closed business on King Street in Charleston's historic district Thursday. Below: Dave Victorine, left, Tim Shannon and Emily Riggsby board up buildings in Charleston.



BACK TO SCHOOL

Townville Elementary students resume classes Thursday. **3A**



SPORTS, 1B

BHP
crushes
Pickens
45-3

Independent Mail

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2016

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS IN NEW ENGLAND

Tigers looking for sixth consecutive win over Eagles

No. 3 Clemson at Boston College

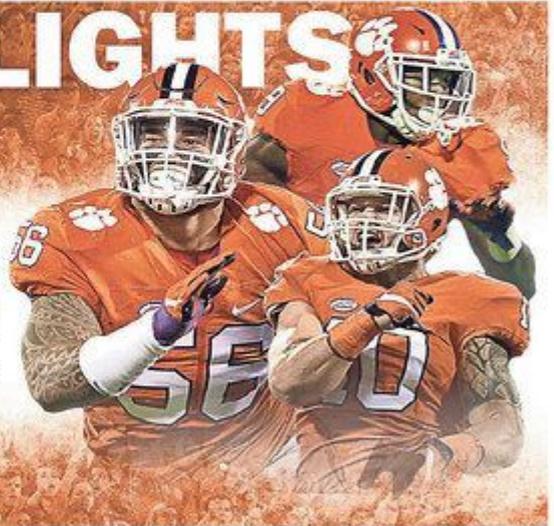
When: 7:30 p.m. Friday on ESPN

Where: Alumni Stadium, Chestnut Hill, Mass.

What to watch: Coming off an emotional top-5 win over Louisville last Saturday, Clemson takes an offense that averaging 35.2 points per game up to

Boston College to face the nation's top-ranked defense.

Who will win? The heavily favored Tigers are looking for no letdown in an ACC Atlantic Divisional game on a rare Friday night showing for Clemson. For complete coverage of Clemson football, see the sports section on **1B** or visit orangeandwhite.com.



Lowcountry horses finding shelter in Anderson area

Upstate stables help with animal evacuees

FRANCES PARRISH
FRANCES.PARRISH@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM AND
ABE HARDESTY
ABE.HARDESTY@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

Upstate residents are opening their stall doors to horses evacuated from the Lowcountry because of the threat of Hurricane Matthew.

Social media helped connect people from Charleston to those in the Upstate with extra room to house animals.

A Facebook page, called Animal Evac-

uation from Hurricane Matthew Needs, has been created to help people in finding places for their animals.

Linda Kriegel took in a man's two horses after social media friends connected them.

The Easley resident received a Facebook message earlier this week from a friend asking for her help. Her friend asked if Kriegel could take in horses owned by Greg Grochowski.

See HORSES, Page 7A

"If they love horses, they're decent people. It feels good to help. I wish I could help more. I would want someone to offer that to me if I was in their situation."

LINDA KRIEDEL
EASLEY RESIDENT

Townville suspect may be tried as an adult

MIKE ELLIS
MIKE.ELLIS@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

Anderson County prosecutors are seeking to try 14-year-old Jesse Dewitt Osborne as adult in the Sept. 28 shooting at Townville Elementary School that killed a 6-year-old boy.

Osborne has been charged with two counts of murder in the deaths of the child, Jacob Hall, and his father, 47-year-old Jeffrey Osborne.

The 10th Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office filed the motion Thursday to prosecute Osborne as an adult on those charges, as well as three charges of attempted murder and five charges of possession of a weapon during the commission of a violent crime. Osborne is already charged as a juvenile on those offenses.

A hearing on the motion will be set by the Anderson County Family Court following an evaluation of the teen, according to the solicitor's office.

Osborne is accused of fatally shooting his father before going to the Townville Elementary, where he allegedly shot two students and a teacher and a third student suffered minor related injuries. Jacob died of his injuries Saturday. The other students and the teacher were treated the day of the

See ADULT, Page 4A





LOCAL HISTORY EMERGES FROM OVERGROWTH

UPSTATE, C1



DORMAN RALLIES FOR WIN AT GAFFNEY

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Friday, October 7, 2016



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TODAY SAT SUN



69°/66° 73°/57° 77°/51°

Complete forecast, B8

ONLINE EXTRA



Video, more photos

To view more images from this week's top stories, please visit GoUpstate.com.

UPSTATE

Questions surround Bass Pro Shops plan

Bass Pro Shops' planned \$100 million "mega outdoor store" along Interstate 85 in Spartanburg County is officially still alive, but if and when it actually will be constructed remains uncertain. **C1**

SPORTS



Tigers prep for rare Friday night game

After an emotional win against Louisville, No. 3 Clemson guards against a letdown when visiting Boston College in an ACC contest tonight. **B1**

NATION WORLD

Supreme Court seat far from decided

SEVERE WEATHER HURRICANE MATTHEW

'A MONSTER'

■ Several Southern states brace for hurricane

■ Obama declares multiple emergencies

■ More than 100 dead across Caribbean



The first outer bands of rain from Hurricane Matthew pass over downtown Orlando, Fla., Thursday evening. More than 2 million people in the southeast were urged to flee further inland. JOE BURBANK/ORLANDO SENTINEL VIA AP

Hurricane Matthew closes in on Florida

By Mike Schneider and Kelli Kennedy
The Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Leaving more than 100 dead in its wake across the Caribbean, Hurricane Matthew steamed toward Florida with potentially catastrophic winds of 140 mph Thursday, and 2 million people across the Southeast were warned to flee inland.

It was the most powerful storm to threaten the U.S. Atlantic coast in more than a decade.

"This storm's a monster," Gov. Rick Scott warned as it started lashing the state with rain and wind around nightfall. He added: "I'm going to pray for everybody's safety."

As it moved north in the evening, Matthew steamed

Hurricane Matthew

Forecasters were expecting landfall overnight around mid-state on Florida's east coast.



Source: nhc.noaa.gov; maps4news.com/eHERE

GATEHOUSE MEDIA

Hotels booked as evacuees arrive

Plenty of space remains at Expo Center shelter

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

Evacuees from the South Carolina coast began trickling into the Spartanburg Expo Center Thursday as Gov. Nikki Haley pleaded with residents to get out of the way of the approaching Hurricane Matthew.

In the corner of a mostly empty room filled with blue cots and neatly folded bedding, a family from Beaufort County played games to pass the time.

Angel Roman, 25, and sister-in-law, Precedi Olivo, 16, laughed over a game of Uno. Two toddlers ran around kicking a soccer ball. Roman's wife, who is 35 weeks pregnant, rested nearby on a fold-out cot.

Despite the seemingly relaxed mood, the storm wasn't far from anyone's minds.

"It's stressful. You get out of your routine," Roman said. "I'm just wondering when we get back if everything is going to be OK."

Only about 50 evacuees had checked into the emergency shelter run by the American Red Cross by 3:30 p.m. Thursday. The shelter is set up to accommodate 3,300 people.

By Thursday night, that number had dropped to 28. Keith Frazier, spokesman with the Red Cross, said volunteers were expecting more people to arrive later in the night. He said 100 more cots had been ordered for the shelter.

SEE SHELTER, A3



Thursday Night Lights: Check out the winners from high school games **Sports, 1B**

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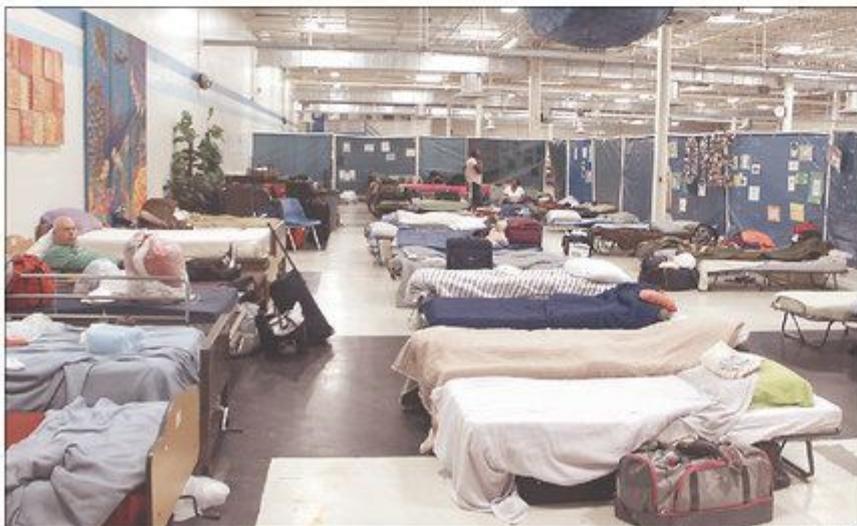
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2 SECTIONS, 20 PAGES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

LAKELANDS READY FOR MATTHEW EVACUEES



PHOTOS BY ADAM BENSON / INDEX JOURNAL

The Burton Center gymnasium has been converted into a mobile living facility for 80 consumers and staff members from the Beaufort County Disabilities & Special Needs Department.

Burton Center opens door to Beaufort residents

By ADAM BENSON
abenson@indexjournal.com

After an arduous daylong trek across the state on a clogged interstate, emotions finally got the better of Bill Love in the wee hours of Thursday morning.

"This is corny, I know this is corny but about two o'clock, I was in tears because from the moment we started, everything just worked," Love, director of Beaufort County's Disabilities and Special Needs Department, said. "From the moment we got started, it was an amazing experience."

Among the half million coastal residents heading inland to avoid Hurricane Matthew were 55 clients and 13 staffers from Love's department, who pulled into the Burton Center's Greenwood campus at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday with a 15-vehicle convoy that left at 10 a.m.

"We both have the same mission to take care of vulnerable people, and that's what we're going to do," Burton Center executive director Jimmy Burton said. "It's disruptive to pull people from their homes,



Burton Center employees Louise Robinson, left, Donna Harter, center and Wanda Hays of the Beaufort County Disabilities & Special Needs Department chat Thursday morning at the Greenwood facility, which is hosting more than 80 coastal evacuees.

and our job is to make it as pleasant as possible."

The evacuees might have to stay in Greenwood through the weekend. Love said officials will monitor the track of the storm before deciding on a departure time.

Beaufort County and the Burton Center have had a memorandum of agreement in place for nearly 20 years in the event of an emergency, but this week is the first time it has ever been implemented.

See **BURTON**, page 7A

Greenwood County's guide for the displaced

By ADAM BENSON
abenson@indexjournal.com

For coastal evacuees hunkering down in Greenwood to wait out Hurricane Matthew, there are plenty of offerings to make the stay a bit more enjoyable.

City Manager Charlie Barriereau and Angelle LaBorde, CEO of the Greater Greenwood Area Chamber of Commerce, suggest the following:

The Mighty Auto Drive-In, located at 3109 Highway 25 South, is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Its 40-foot-tall, 90-foot-wide screen is one of the largest on the east coast. Digital sound is available via car radios, and tickets to all shows are \$5 through Oct. 9.

Movies show on three screens. Gates open at 6:30

p.m. and shows begin at 7:30 p.m. For information, visit 25drivein.com or call 864-942-9871.

For those who brought their pets to Greenwood for the weekend, the Grace Street Park at 112 Merryswood Drive is the perfect place for a walk. It boasts assorted play areas, but all dogs must remain on-leash going to and coming from the areas. For a complete list of park rules and regulations, visit cityof-greenwoodsc.com.

Magnolia Park at 244 Magnolia Avenue sits on three acres and includes a walking trail, playground and picnic area. There's also the 11-acre West Cambridge Park at 451 Grove St., with an open air pavilion, public bathrooms and a walking/biking trail.

See **GUIDE**, page 7A

Abbeville, Laurens are attractions for people from coast

By CONOR HUGHES
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As Hurricane Matthew approaches South Carolina, evacuees from the coast are finding lodging across the Upstate.

Those from the coast seeking to take their minds off the hurricane might want to visit some of the area's attractions.

Abbeville County

In Abbeville County, there are a number of historic sites that could help visitors pass the time as they wait to return home, said Missy Wines, executive director of the Greater Abbeville Cham-

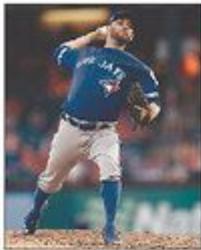
ber of Commerce.

"During the weekend, on Friday and Saturday, both of our historical houses are open for tours, which are the Burt-Stark Mansion and the McGowan-Barksdale-Bundy," Wines said. "They can tour the Trinity Church, the Belmont Inn, the Opera House."

All of those historic sites are located on or within walking distance of the City of Abbeville Town Square.

There is also a walking tour of the City of Abbeville, with maps available the Greater Abbeville Chamber of Commerce. See **ATTRACTIONS**, page 7A





Morning News

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Some wind and rain.
High 80, low 69.
DETAILS 2A

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Stormy skies ahead

Heavy wind, rain expected in Pee Dee

BY MATTHEW ROBERTSON
Morning News
MRobertson@snow.com

WILMINGTON, N.C. — Hurricane Matthew's greatest threat to the Pee Dee this weekend will be heavy wind and rain, and the possible flooding and power outages associated with it.

"As far as the bumped-up rainfall totals, we're now looking at seven to maybe even 13, 14 inches for parts of the coastal areas," Steven Pfaff, warning coordination meteorologist for the Wilmington office of the National Weather Service, said during a Thursday morning conference call. "The highest areas will be along Georgetown County and southern Horry County. Still very significant amounts even inland."

By Thursday evening the projected rainfall amounts had increased and tropical storm warnings had been posted for Williamsburg, Georgetown and Horry Counties in South Carolina.

"You can see pretty much from Kingstree up through just east of Elizabethtown we're showing 10-12 inches to maybe 5-6 inches back toward Marlboro County," said Reid Hawkins, science officer for the National Weather Service office in Wilmington, during a Thursday evening conference call on the storm.

"It still appears it'll be

See **MATTHEW**, Page 4A

SCNOW.COM ACCESS FOR ALL

So we can keep our community well-informed about Hurricane Matthew, content on SCNow.com will be free while the storm threatens and the community recovers.



Richard Schafer and Rebecca Smiley with the American Red Cross laid out snacks and water bottles for evacuees at the South Florence High School hurricane shelter on Thursday afternoon.

PHOTOS BY JESSICA IMBIMBO/MORNING NEWS

Florence shelters open for coastal, local evacuees

BY JESSICA IMBIMBO
Morning News
jimbarbo@florencenews.com



The hurricane shelter at South Florence High School was virtually empty on opening day Thursday, but Principal Carol Hill said she expected the cafeteria to be full of evacuees by Friday night.

FLORENCE — Florence County opened five storm shelters Thursday to accommodate the potential flood of people evacuating after Governor Nikki Haley announced that coastal counties would begin their evacuations at noon.

South Florence High School was one of the five shelters that opened in Florence County, and as of 3:30 p.m. Thursday, just two evacuees had moved into it. But Principal Carol Hill said she is expecting the school's cafeteria to be heavily occupied by Friday evening.

"What usually happens is the weather gets bad and then people come," Hill said. "(Friday) night, we'll probably be full."

The American Red Cross will be

See **SHELTER**, Page 4A

Darlington Humane Society

ACS Technologies hosts fundraiser for charity

BY JOE PERRY
Morning News
jperry@florencenews.com

ware company as the Darlington Humane Society helped ACS Technologies celebrate customer service week in proper feline and



FLORENCE — As part of

Carver's teachers 'break out of the box' with STEM session

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com

(science, technology, engineering and math) work session, using a game

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50 CENTS

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Cancellations piling up ahead of storm

Darlington County opens shelter for coastal evacuees

DARLINGTON — Darlington County opened a shelter Thursday at Darlington Middle School, 150 Pinedale Drive, in Darlington.

This shelter will operate under Darlington County Emergency Management with the support of Darlington County School District, Department of Social Services, and the Pee Dee Chapter of the American Red Cross. Pets are not allowed at this shelter.

Those using the shelter should come prepared with identification, medications, change of clothes, cellphone and electronic device chargers, bedding, infant and baby supplies, and small toys and games to entertain children. Additionally, you may want to include spare batteries, foods for special dietary needs, and important legal documents.

The Darlington County EOC is continuing to monitor the weather and will make changes as needed.

BY KENT MAHONEY
kmahoney@hartsvillemessenger.com

The impending arrival of Hurricane Matthew has tossed a major monkey wrench into the list of scheduled events in and around Hartsville.

From school closings to entertainment-type events, the cancellations are stacking up faster than a stalled car on I-95 at rush hour.

Once Gov. Nikki Haley canceled schools for the majority of the week, any thought of Hartsville having a normal 2016 homecoming went right out

the window.

According to HHS athletic director Phyllis Griggs most of the activities have been rescheduled.

In concert with the state athletic officials, the high school football season has been extended one week.

"We have rescheduled the Lakewood game to Nov. 4," she said. "There will be no game this week and the rest of the schedule remains the same."

That means that a week from today, Hartsville will travel to Lugoff-Elgin and come back home on Oct. 21 for a game against Crestwood. Then the Red Foxes

will travel 13 miles down SC 151 to Darlington for the county rivalry game, and return home the last week.

Any additional activities that would need to be rescheduled will be announced at the schools.

Additional Hartsville-area cancellations include:

- » Thursday's Downtown Block Party with PaperWork
- » Thursday's Centennial Farmers Market in Centennial Park
- » Saturday's Hartsville Farmers Market

See **MATTHEW**, Page 3A

Darlington recreation complex plans stalled

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com

DARLINGTON — A new recreation complex in Darlington is still up in the air after a city council meeting Tuesday night.

With the impending threat of severe weather, Chuck Oates, who was scheduled to speak about the environmental report on the Lawson Road property being discussed as a possible location, was unable to appear before council.

Recreation Director Lee Andrews told council about a third possible site to consider alongside the Lawson Road and the Old Florence Highway properties.

"Since we have started this process of finding a place for a recreation complex, we have been charged with finding different sites for different things," Andrews said. "(The Phillips Street property) is 37½ acres, and then there are another 7½ acres that we would have to purchase from two individuals... We have had this land appraised. The 37½ acres comes in right at \$125,000."

The property on Lawson Road would cost \$195,000 to purchase but has 100 acres. The Old Florence Highway property would be \$750,000 for 30 acres. Neither Lawson nor Old Florence would be suitable for building on all of the acreage. Some wetlands would be used for green space and walking trails.

"The drawback to (the Phillips Street) property is that it is not as much land as Lawson Road; it is not even as much land as it is at Old Florence," Andrews said. "It does put you in a diverse neighborhood. It is easier to get to. If we do end up somehow inheriting some school district property at Brunson-Darlington, we can connect to it. There are

See **RECREATION**, Page 3A

Lifetime caregiver



ARJIE ARVIDSON/HARTSVILLE MESSENGER

Linda George has been a midwife for more than 20 years, serving patients in Hartsville and surrounding communities.

Hartsville midwife serves women's health throughout their lifespan

BY ARJIE ARVIDSON
aarvidson@hartsvillemessenger.com

For National Midwifery Week, October 2-8, it is important to understand what midwives do. Most midwives in the United States are health care providers who offer services to women of all ages and stages of life, not just pregnant women. A certified midwife is a registered nurse who has received additional training in midwifery.

Linda George of Hartsville is one of the specially trained.

George is a certified midwife who works with Women's Care of Hartsville.

See **MIDWIFE**, Page 3A

the Sumter ITEM

HURRICANE MATTHEW

Clarendon County preparing for rain and wind

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2016 | Serving South Carolina since October 15, 1894

75 cents

A2



SOURCE: NOAA

AP

Flooding main threat

President Obama declares state of emergency

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

With Hurricane Matthew predicted to barrel up the Southeast coast, Gov. Nikki Haley ordered residents of Jasper and Colleton counties to evacuate as the storm surge threat has increased and the forecast has been updated.

President Obama has declared a state of emergency, she said, making federal resources available to local officials.

Haley said more than 280,000 people had been evacuated as of Thursday afternoon, and Interstate 26 would be returned to two-way traffic by noon today.

In addition, Haley announced Beaufort Memorial Hospital has been ordered to evacuate with patients being moved to other hospitals, mainly in South Carolina.

Forecast models have Hurricane Matthew making a hard right turn as it moves along the Atlantic Coast, but as it does so, its movement will slow, increasing the potential for heavy rainfall.

The Sumter area can expect strong winds and significant rains through Saturday night, according to National Weather Service forecasts.

SEE FLOODING, PAGE A6

Extra patrols will monitor roads, property

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Sumter County Sheriff Anthony Dennis has ordered double patrols effective immediately to help protect county residents and prepare for the effects of Hurricane Matthew.

"In some cases we have tripled the patrols," Dennis said. "The safety of our residents is our top priority."

The sheriff said he is in contact with representatives from South Carolina Emergency Management and Sumter County Emergency Management Director Erik Hayes, and the sheriff's office will adjust its plans accordingly.

Although the latest model from the National Weather Service shows that the Sumter area should expect about 3 inches of rain, Dennis said the agency is preparing for a scenario that the hurricane comes ashore instead of going out to sea.

"This should not be anywhere near the amount of rainfall we had last year," Dennis said. "But we are preparing just in case."

He said the agency's off-road vehicles are prepared in case they are needed.

"In addition to the four-wheel-drive vehicles, we also have military-styled vehicles that we had to use during the floods last year," he said. The sheriff said his agency also has additional water supplies.

According to a news release from Sumter Police Department, the agency is coordinating with local and state emergency officials to

SEE PATROLS, PAGE A6

Different type of takeout



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Javier Boscio, general manager of Willie Sue's, serves chicken steak stew Thursday at Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce's Porches event. The event featured 12 porches serving food by local restaurants and amateur cooks as well.

Sumter lends hand to storm evacuees



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Antoinette Walker, manager of Palmetto Residential Care and Evergreen Residential Care in Charleston, talks Thursday with one of her residents after they were relocated to McElveen Manor in Sumter to escape Hurricane Matthew.

BY IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

When her phone rang at 11:45 p.m. Wednesday with an urgent plea for help, Beckie Cunningham, the regional director of operations for the Affinity Living Group, didn't hesitate. South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control was looking for shelter for the evacuated residents of two assisted living facilities in Charleston — and their staffs and some family members.

Cunningham said "yes," called McElveen Manor Executive Director Ginger Benson, and a little more than two hours later, McElveen Manor Assisted Living and Memory Care had more than 18 new temporary residents.

"We're honored to be called upon to host other assisted living folks in their time of need," Cunningham said.

She said the group was very tired when they arrived at McElveen Manor, which is a member

SEE EVACUEES, PAGE A6

EMERGENCY KITS FOR YOUR HOME

Check your supplies and be sure to have the following items in an easy-to-find location:

- Flashlights with extra batteries
- Portable radio with fresh batteries
- First-aid kit
- Canned or packaged food that can be prepared without cooking or refrigeration
- Several days' supply of drinking water
- Portable (and fully charged) cellphone charger
- Prescription medication

Charge all electronic device including cellphones, computers and other electronic devices in advance of the storm to stay connected to important safety and response information.

Determine alternative plans. Families who have special medical needs or elderly members should closely monitor weather forecasts and make plans for potential alternate arrangements should an extended outage occur. Register for outage updates. Duke Energy customers

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