

From: Taillon, Jeff
To: Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: S.C. Front Pages - Friday, December 14, 2012

Breastfeeding vs. formula

Make your own baby food. D1



GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEES

A2

The Post and Courier

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FRIDAY, December 14, 2012

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Shop for the whole family without breaking the budget
Savvy Shopper column, D1

Ashley Hall's Nami Summerall repeats as tennis player of the year
Sports, C1



Generator issue causes more problems for Boeing's Dreamliner
Business, B7

Coming Sunday

How much do the top state employees make? Which state agencies pay best? Find out in Salary Spotlight, a new Post and Courier project that shows how much our public servants earn.



Senior Tequila
\$15 worth of dinner and drinks for \$7
See A2



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Setting the record straight... A2



County to finish I-526

Council gives hotly debated parkway green light in packed meeting

BY DIANE KNICH
dknich@postandcourier.com

The long-stalled completion of Interstate 526 shifted back into gear Thursday when Charleston County Council voted to build it. Council members voted 5-4 in favor of completing the road across

Johns and James Islands, a project that has been on the books since the 1970s. Councilman Elliott Sumner presented a resolution to move forward with the parkway plan for the project, also known as Alternative G. That plan includes an overpass at Folly Road on Johns Island, an overpass at East Shore Lane in West Ashley and a consistent speed limit of 45 mph. Councilwoman Anna Johnson submitted amendments to the plan, and council approved those. They included safety improvements in some James Island neighborhoods, mitigating noise, light and emissions; improve-

ments to some intersections on Johns Island; and compensation for a drop in property value for some residents who live within 1,000 feet of the road. Even though the \$558-million project was approved, it will be

Inside

Reactions, A4
How they voted, A4
Editorial: Wrong turn on I-526, A14
Please see I-526, Page A4

Audit: Ships need boatload of cash



The Legislative Audit Council examined Patriots Point and offered wide-ranging advice, including how much the state should give to expand the Medal of Honor museum (above).

Evaluation explores challenges, solutions for Patriots Point

BY ROBERT BEHRE
rbehre@postandcourier.com

MOUNT PLEASANT—A new audit of the Patriots Point Development Authority makes several recommendations about how the state-owned attraction can raise more money. It also reiterates the obvious: Without doing so, Patriots Point cannot maintain the aircraft carrier Yorktown and its other ships over the long term.

Executive Director Mac Burdette said Thursday he was pleased with what the Legislative Audit Council did not find,

such as any evidence of fraud, theft, waste or ineffective leadership.

"We know the long-term stability of Patriots Point with regard to maintaining our ships is the big elephant sitting in the room," he said. "Nobody can dodge that one."

U.S. Gov. Glenn McConnell asked for the audit to evaluate Patriots Point's business plan, revenues and its ability to repay a \$9.2 million state loan for repairing the destroyer Laffey.

"The audit indicates that there are some unknowns and a rough road ahead," he said, "but the response of the agency to the audit is very positive."



MULTIMEDIA

Go to postandcourier.com/videos to see Patriots Point Executive Director Mac Burdette react to the Legislative Audit Council's report. Go to postandcourier.com to read the audit.

What the audit found

Here are some audit findings — and responses from Patriots Point:



Medal of Honor Museum

Earlier this year, the Patriots Point board agreed to support moving the Medal of Honor museum from inside the Yorktown to a nearby site on land. The authority would not build it, but would offer about 3.5 acres at a very reduced cost. The audit recommends charging the museum group full market price, but Burdette disagreed.

"The Medal of Honor Museum is probably the best that we have at a game changer," he said. "Sometimes you have to incentivize a project to make it work."



Laffey loan

One immediate challenge facing the authority is figuring out how to repay a \$9.2 million state loan that funded emergency repairs to the destroyer Laffey two years ago.

Burdette said he is working with state lawmakers on a plan to pay back that loan over 25 years. "We've determined we can pay back \$500,000 a year without it doing any damage to what we're doing. Our revenues are going up," he said.

S.C. flu season getting nasty

Numbers support call to vaccinate

BY DIETTE COURREGÉ CASEY
dcourreg@postandcourier.com

South Carolina appears to be at the beginning of a more serious flu season than it's seen in recent years, and health officials are encouraging the public to vaccinate their families as soon as possible.

The potentially deadly virus has claimed seven Palmetto State residents' lives since Sept. 30. The state had only one flu-related death during last year's flu season, which ran from October 2011 through July 7 of this year.

The state's number of flu cases shot up dramatically in the most recent count, with 8,459 cases in one week. That's more than half of the 14,581 total reports for this entire flu season, and those figures far exceed last season's 2,552 reported cases, according to the state.

"The best protection is to avoid guessing what's going to happen and get the flu vaccine to prevent it," said Dr. Linda Bell, acting epidemiologist for the state Department of Health and Environmental Control.

South Carolina is one of eight states where the virus is considered to be "widespread," and state health officials said the virus has arrived earlier than usual and is spreading fast.

"We're seeing it on the front lines," said Dr. Keith Borg, division chief of pediatric emergency medicine for the Medical University of South Carolina. Borg's hospital saw 10 cases last week, up from 11 the previous week and two the preceding week. The numbers are a huge, but the curve is significant. "It went from almost nothing to straight up," he said. And it's following the statewide trend.

In addition to it being flu season,

Please see R10, Page A4

Flu prevention tips

- Get a flu vaccination each year.
- Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Stay home if you are sick until you have been symptom-free without taking fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours. Children who have the flu may return to school 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of fever without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Eat a healthy diet, exercise and get plenty of rest.

—Source: DHEC

Read more findings on Page A5

IN WEEKEND: Local artists get crafty for Crafty Feast.

COLLEGE BOWL PREVIEW

Ron Morris ranks the bowl games as either strikes, spares or gutter balls. **SPORTS, C1**

The State

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2012 | THESTATE.COM

S.C. HACKED

Firm offers more monitoring

Experian wants \$10 million for 2nd year of credit-report checks

By **ANDREW SHAIN**
ashain@thestate.com

The company getting \$12 million from the state of South Carolina to provide a year of credit-re-

port monitoring free to victims of a massive data breach wants to offer another year of coverage at a small discount.

Experian has given Gov. Nikki Haley's office a proposal to offer

a second year of credit-report monitoring for \$10 million, Mark Kapczynski, the company's corporate development vice president, told a special state House committee investigating the hacking on Thursday.

The state is weighing whether to give Experian a contract for a second year of fraud monitoring for up to 5.7 million consumers

and their children whose tax information was stolen from the S.C. Department of Revenue in September.

Credit-report monitoring is a cornerstone of \$20 million in solutions offered thus far by Haley and the Revenue Department in response to what is thought to be the largest-ever hacking of a state agency nationwide.

One other key protection — encrypting data at the Revenue Department — is not finished, legislators were told Thursday. Two months after the breach, the Revenue Department still is negotiating a \$4 million contract to encrypt data with a computer firm. Meanwhile, state consumer

SEE HACKING PAGE A6

Election mess creates weird political dynamics



FILE PHOTOGRAPHY/THE STATE

ADVOCATING FOR CHANGE

“We make ourselves look worse as a community when we are not willing to hold ourselves accountable.”

— **Anton Gunn**, an official with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

“I think it would be very difficult to go forward with Ms. McBride in that

Fissures erupt in Democratic Party over whether McBride should go

By **JOHN MONK**
jmonk@thestate.com

It's not every day you see a U.S. congressman getting involved in county elections.

But U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., has stepped forward to become a prominent defender for embattled county elections chief Lillian McBride, whose office's mismanagement of the election caused an unknown number of Richland County residents to lose their right to vote Nov. 6.

That's just one of several odd political dynamics roiling the Richland County Legislative Delegation of four senators and 11 representatives as the controversy continues over McBride's handling of what is widely believed to be the most bungled county election in modern state history.

Other dynamics are:

■ A split in part along generational lines among African-American Democrats that pits some prominent state lawmakers supporting McBride against youn-

SUPPORTING MCBRIDE

“I am reserving a decision on what to do about her situation until we get the facts in Steve Hamm's report.”

— **Sen. Darrell Jackson**, D-Richland

“It may surprise you to know that we had just as serious problems in Ohio, in Florida, as we had here in

PALMETTO COMPRESS

Student housing project nixed

By **JEFF WILKINSON**
jwilkinson@thestate.com

The future of a \$40 million, 800-bed private student dorm project in Columbia's Vista is uncertain after a city design board shot it down 8-1 Thursday, granting a reprieve for the historic Palmetto Compress building on the site.

Members of the Design, Development Review Commission said the plans did not conform to the Innovista Design Guidelines, which encourage high density, mixed-use development and structured parking. The project by Columbus, Ohio-based Edwards Communities is a suburban-style apartment complex with multiple three- and four-story buildings and surface parking.

“It's an absolutely terrible project” for the

SEE TURNED DOWN PAGE A13

Federal spending cuts will affect your wallet

By **LESLEY CLARK**
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Don't mess with Big Bird. And don't even think about touching Medicare.

INSIDE What federal spending pays for in Midlands counties, Page A12

CLEMSON FOOTBALL
RELIEF GREET
MORRIS
NEWS



METRO
Field taken
off house
arrest

The Greenville News

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FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 14, 2012
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

METRO Plans advance for downtown mixed-use development, 1B

FINAL EDITION

MORE MONITORING QUESTIONED



MAKING YOUR
VOICE HEARD

Lawmakers want
expense examined
before extension

Cyber security officials testified before a
House panel Thursday. NATE STEWART/ALTX



By Tim Smith

Staff writer
tsmith@greenvilleonline.com

COLUMBIA — Some lawmakers say they want state officials to take a hard look before agreeing to spend \$10 million with Experian for a second year of credit monitoring of taxpayers in the wake of a massive data breach at the Department of Revenue.

Mark Kapczynski, a vice president at

Experian, told two legislative committees Thursday that his firm has made an offer to Gov. Nikki Haley's office for a second year at a cost that is \$2 million less than the first year.

Otherwise, he said, taxpayers will be offered a 50 percent discount, or \$79.95, for a year of service once the current contract expires.

He said Haley's office hasn't respon-

See MONITOR, Page 6A

Secretary of state hopeful pulls out

Rice says decision hers,
cites furor over Benghazi

By Karen DeYoung and Anne Gearen
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice withdrew her name Thursday as President Barack Obama's leading candidate for secretary of state, saying the administration could not afford a "lengthy, disruptive and costly" confirmation fight over statements she made about the extremist attack in Libya that killed four Americans.



Susan Rice

Rice called Obama on Thursday before sending him a letter officially withdrawing from consideration. Rice said in an interview that she had concluded this week that what she and Obama considered "unfair and misleading" charges against her over the Sept. 11 attack in Benghazi, Libya, would impede Obama's second-term agenda.

"This was my decision," Rice said. When asked if Obama had tried to dissuade her, she said that he "understood that this was the right decision, and that I made it for the right reasons."

Her withdrawal leaves Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman John Kerry, D-Mass., with no apparent competitors to take over from Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. A senior administration official said that "something strange

See RICE, Page 3A

Nuclear impact of failure would be immense, they
say; Duke says safeguards in place



OUR NATURAL
BEAUTY



OFFICIALS: SHARE DAM RISK

By Eric Connor (Staff writer)
econnor@greenvilleonline.com

If the Lake Jocassee Dam were to violently break and send an inland tsunami of water downstream, life as we know it in the Southeast would be at stake.

The likelihood of such a nuclear catastrophe and the ability of regulators and the power company to contain it? It depends on who you ask — and the answers are, in more ways than one, shrouded in secrecy.

The government and Duke Energy insist that plans to keep Oconee running during a massive flood are "adequate" and that information held back describing the threat are in the interest of security.

Two federal regulators of the nu-



INSIDE



Aiken full of festive events this weekend

See Living on the Go, 1C

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

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Suspects sought in armed robbery

BY TEDDY KULMALA
tkulmala@aikenstandard.com

Authorities are looking for two suspects in an armed robbery and shooting in Beech Island that took place on Wednesday night.

According to a report by the Aiken County Sheriff's Office, the robbery happened at Moe's Convenience Store on Sand Bar Ferry Road just

after 6:30 p.m.

A store employee was shot once in the top of the head and was taken to Georgia Health Sciences University, where he was treated for minor injuries, according to the report.

A black man and a black woman entered the store wearing all black clothing and black ski masks, according to the report. The victims told officers the woman went to the front

register and demanded money from a female employee, while the man went into the back office where two male employees were and demanded money from them while wielding two handguns.

One of the male employees "confronted" the suspect and a struggle ensued, according to the report. The male suspect pushed the employee to the ground and began firing shots at

him, striking him once in the top of the head.

The two robbers then fled on foot with an unknown amount of cash from the register and were last seen heading down Urquhart Drive.

No arrests had been made on Thursday, and investigators were unable to obtain surveillance footage from the incident.

Anyone with information about

this crime is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at (800) 922-9709, or CrimeStoppers of the Midlands at (888) CRIME-SC. Callers can remain anonymous and will be eligible for a cash reward between \$50 and \$1,000.

Teddy Kulmala covers the crime beat for the Aiken Standard. He is a graduate of Clemson University and hails from Williston.



Williston-Elko takes down Branchville
Sports, 1B

Cumberland Village hosts third Festival of Lights
Local News, 2A

AREA DEATHS

Margaret Anne Addison, Aiken

Louise Virginia Williams, Johnston

Dorothy Eubanks Bryant, Aiken

Wayne Isom, North Augusta

William Anderson Daniel, Edgefield

Randall Allen Blevins, Conyers, Ga.

Lillie Bell Jenkins Quattlebaum, Salley

Charles Willie Patterson, Aiken

Mary Hallman, Aiken

Peggy Kennedy, Lakehills, Texas

A.B. Rawls Sr., Wagener

USCA honors 2012 graduates



USCA Graduate and Outstanding Senior awardee Robert Murphy speaks at Thursday's graduation.

Marine veteran named as Outstanding Senior student

BY CHRIS WALSH
cwalsh@aikenstandard.com

Robert Murphy isn't your typical college student — actually, non-traditional doesn't even do him justice.

But on Thursday night, the Outstanding Senior award-winner was joined by more than 200 of his classmates in receiving a hard-earned diploma from USC Aiken.

"There's no logical reason

I should be here," said Murphy, a 26-year veteran of the Marine Corps. "It's something I never



USCA students take part in their graduation ceremony on Thursday.

SRS plan proposes storage, recycling facilities

BY MIKE GELLATLY
mgellatly@aikenstandard.com

The United States has 65,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel without a permanent or interim home.

At Thursday's Governor's Nuclear Advisory Council meeting, Paul Murray, AREVA Federal Services technology director, outlined a plan of interim storage and recycling of spent fuel at the Savannah River Site.

Murray's presentation was not of a single theory centered around SRS, but rather an overview of several options, including several parts where the DOE-owned facility near Aiken has a history of accomplishment.

"SRS has a long track record of safely looking after special nuclear materials," Murray said.

When addressing the issue of safety, Murray stated that the recycling — or reprocessing — was very safe. But also that the current wet and dry stored fuel at SRS was also safe.

The recycling facility, based on work that has been ongoing by AREVA in France for decades, "would be just an add-on" to already planned and operated programs currently at SRS, Murray stated.

Recycling of the spent fuel could utilize H-canyon facilities and supply the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility.

Murray was not advocating for all spent fuel to come to SRS, but that several options and several sites should be used. However, the location of the "final geological repository will influence fuel cycle development," he said.

In the public comments portion of the meeting, Clint Wolfe, executive director of Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness, described not using SRS for this project as "fally."

"It would be folly to reproduce



The Beaufort Gazette

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Established in 1897 50 cents

Man charged in Seabrook robbery

Travon Lamar Williams, 20, had evaded police since October 2011



Williams

By ANNE CHRISTNOVICH
achristnovich@beaufortgazette.com
843-706-8125

A Beaufort man was arrested Tuesday night in connection with an armed robbery at a Seabrook home last year in which two peo-

ple were held at gunpoint and one was assaulted.

Travon Lamar Williams, 20, had eluded arrest since the home invasion on Oct. 6, 2011. He was named a suspect in July and arrested on the robbery charges

after he was pulled over Tuesday for a traffic violation, according to the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.

Williams and Douglas Paul Major Jr., 26, are accused of entering the home on Seabrook Road,

holding two residents at gunpoint and stealing \$375 in cash and a \$50 cellphone.

Major hit a 27-year-old man over the head with the butt of a

Please see ROBBERY on 11A

SEARCH FOR THE NEXT SECRETARY OF STATE

Rice won't be Obama's nominee

The U.N. ambassador removed herself from consideration, saying the confirmation process would be costly to the country.

By ANITA KUMAR and WILLIAM DOUGLAS
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice took herself out of the running Thursday to be the next secretary of state, bowing to a torrent of criticism by Republicans on Capitol Hill over remarks she made after a deadly attack on U.S. diplomatic facilities in Benghazi, Libya.



Rice

Rice wrote in a letter to President Barack Obama that she was confident she could serve in the nation's highest diplomatic post but that she wanted to spare the nation what would have been a contentious confirmation process at the onset of Obama's second term.

"If nominated, I am now convinced that the confirmation process would be lengthy, disruptive and costly — to you and to our most pressing national and international priorities," she said. "That trade-off is simply not worth it to our country."

Obama never said he would appoint Rice, but she had been considered one of the president's top choices to replace Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, who plans to leave once a successor is named. The most prominent name mentioned as a possible nominee now is Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and his party's 2004 presidential nominee. As a member of the Senate, he likely would win easy confirmation from his colleagues.

Rice will continue to serve as ambassador and in Obama's Cabinet — she will meet with him at the White House

Please see RICE on 11A

DADDY'S HOME!



DELAYNA EARLEY • Staff photo

Sgt. James Linton hugs daughters Brittany, 9, right, and Tiffany, 12, on Thursday afternoon at Lady's Island Elementary School during the "Gullah Christmas" program. Linton, who had been deployed to Kuwait as an Army National Guard reservist for the last nine months, surprised his daughters by coming home early. The girls hadn't expected to see him until after Christmas. For a video of the reunion, go to blogs.islandpacket.com/lowcountrylens.

Entitlement cuts problematic in 'fiscal cliff' discussions

Cutting entitlement-program spending would affect about 150 million Americans, including many in Beaufort and Jasper counties.

By LESLEY CLARK
McClatchy Newspapers

As President Barack Obama and Congress debate ways to avert a pending fiscal crisis, the country broadly agrees that they need to cut federal budget defi-

MORE INSIDE

A high number of residents in Beaufort and Jasper counties rely on benefits from the federal government for their personal income. 11A

WHO RECEIVES BENEFITS?

The chart below shows the percent of households, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, that received federal government benefits from 2007 to 2011.

Percent	Beaufort County	Jasper County

Obama, Boehner hold 'frank' debt negotiations

By ANDREW TAYLOR and JIM KUHNRENN
The Associated Press



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INDEX-JOURNAL

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CHRIS TRAINOR | INDEX-JOURNAL

Convicted cop killer Steven Bixby, left, chats with attorney John Mills on Thursday during Bixby's post-conviction relief hearing.

■ STEVEN BIXBY

State calls witnesses in hearing

PCR action for convicted cop killer ends for now

By CHRIS TRAINOR
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

ABBEVILLE — The first portion of a post-conviction relief hearing for convicted cop killer Steven Bixby concluded Thursday at Abbeville County Courthouse.

Bixby, who is on death row for the Dec. 8, 2003, shooting deaths of Abbeville County Sheriff's Office Deputy Danny "Danny Boy" Wilson and Constable Donnie Ouzts, was in Abbeville this week for the PCR proceedings. Post-conviction relief actions are typically made to get convicted criminals a new trial, particularly those who received the death penalty.

While this phase of the PCR hearing ended Thursday, the proceedings are not yet finished. The hearing will continue sometime in January in Lexington County, according to Judge Knox McMahon. The state is set to call at least two additional witnesses at that point.

Throughout the early part of this week, Bixby's current legal team — attorneys John Mills and Dan Westbrook — called a variety of witnesses, including mental health professionals,

Thursday's witnesses

■ The state's witnesses included Dr. Richard Frierson, of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, and Dr. Marla Domino, the chief psychologist in forensic science at the South Carolina Department of Mental Health.

lawyers, a pastor and others. On Thursday, the state's attorneys — Melody Brown and Don Zelenka, of the state Attorney General's office — had their first opportunity to call witnesses at the PCR hearing.

The state's witnesses included Dr. Richard Frierson, of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, and Dr. Marla Domino, the chief psychologist in forensic science at the South Carolina Department of Mental Health.

Frierson and Domino were seemingly positioned as the state's answer to witnesses called earlier in the week by Bixby's team, including neuropsychologist Dr. Ruben Gur and noted forensic psychiatrist Dr. Shawn Agharkar.

See **STATE**, page 4A

Pair plead guilty

Two were connected to fraudulent test-taking ring

By MICHELLE LAXER
mlaxer@indexjournal.com

Two people tied to a fraudulent test-taking ring at Piedmont Technical College admitted their involvement in a Spartanburg federal court Thursday, according to United

States Attorney Bill Nettles' office.

Flasha A. Paul, 26, of Due West, and Tashikia P. Pickens, 27, of Anderson, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud. They appeared before U.S. District Judge Mary G. Lewis.

Paul and Pickens were two of 10 indicted

by a federal grand jury in September for their roles in the financial aid fraud at Piedmont Tech's Abbeville County campus.

A release from Nettles' office said the maximum penalty for Paul and Pickens is a

See **GUILTY**, page 9A

JUDICIAL LEADERS HONORED

BACKBONES OF STEEL



MATT WALSH | INDEX-JOURNAL

Judge Bubba Griffith, left, and the family of former Justice James E. Moore unveil a portrait of Moore in the Greenwood County Courthouse. Along with Moore, portraits of judges Francis Nicholson and Tommy Hughston Jr. were also unveiled.

3 judges' portraits unveiled at courthouse

By MATT BRUCE
mbruce@indexjournal.com

Three circuit court judges were immortalized in the lore of the state's Eighth Judicial Circuit, during a dedication Thursday at the Greenwood County Courthouse.

Thronged of legal and political dignitaries from across the state filled the courtroom as portraits of judges James Moore, Thomas Hughston Jr. and the late Francis Nicholson were unveiled.

The three men's collective tenures on the bench in the judicial district reaches back to the current Greenwood County Courthouse's completion in 1967, and were remembered as the founding adjudicators of the circuit court's modern era.

"What a grand, grand honor it is for me to be here to pay tribute to three South Carolina jurists for the ages who have come from Greenwood County."

— Jean Toal
S.C. Supreme Court chief justice

"What a grand, grand honor it is for me to be here to pay tribute to three South Carolina jurists for the ages who have come from Greenwood County," said chief justice of the S.C. Supreme Court Jean Toal, who delivered the keynote speech. "Each of these three has a characteristic of becoming modesty and a backbone of steel."

William Nicholson, a private litigator based in Greenwood, remembered his uncle Francis Nicholson as a gentleman of the

robe. Francis Nicholson became a senator at the age of 31 in 1960 and served six years at the Statehouse. In 1967, he was elected to the Eighth Circuit bench, and served there until he died from a form of bone cancer in 1985. He was also a founder of Faith Home, a faith-based drug and alcohol rehab center in Greenwood, 144 Faith Home Road, William Nicholson recalled.

See **STEEL**, page 4A



THE ISLAND PACKET

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2012

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SERVING THE ISLAND 50¢

63° 44°

Could it be trying to warm up for the weekend? ☀

\$35 for BYOB paint and party for 2 at IDEA Studio
dealsaver.com/HiltonHead**Superstorm Sandy doesn't swamp retail holiday spending 12A**

Hilton Head resident killed in yard

Deputies recover gun near Marshland Road scene

By ALLISON STICE
astice@islandpacket.com
843-706-8138

A 19-year-old Hilton Head Island man was shot to death Wednesday night in his front yard on Marsh-

land Road, leaving investigators searching for a suspect and a motive.

The Beaufort County Sheriff's Office said a relative heard gunshots about 7 p.m. and found Cesar Reyna-

Reyna on the ground.

Reyna-Reyna was pronounced dead at Hilton Head Hospital at 7:47 p.m., said county Deputy Coroner David Ott.

Another man was with Reyna-Reyna in the yard just before the shooting, and investigators are working to identify him, Sgt. Robin McIntosh said. In a news released issued late Thursday night, Sheriff's Office officials described the man only as African American.

Please see KILLED on 11A

Rice ends bid for secretary of state

The U.N. ambassador removed herself from consideration for the nomination, saying she wanted to avoid a contentious confirmation process.

By ANITA KUMAR
and WILLIAM DOUGLAS
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice took herself out of the running Thursday to be the next secretary of state, bowing to a torrent of criticism by Republicans on Capitol Hill over remarks she made after a deadly attack on U.S. diplomatic facilities in Benghazi, Libya.

Rice wrote in a letter to President Barack Obama that she was confident she could serve in the nation's highest diplomatic post but that she wanted to spare the nation what would have been a contentious confirmation process at the onset of Obama's second term.

"If nominated, I am now convinced that the confirmation process would be lengthy, disruptive and costly — to you and to our most pressing national and international priorities," she said. "That trade-off is simply not worth it to our country."



Rice

Please see RICE on 11A

AN EARLY CHRISTMAS GIFT THEY'LL NEVER FORGET



DELAYNA EARLEY • Staff photo



ON THE WEB

For a video of the reunion, go to blogs.islandpacket.com/42587.

Sgt. James Linton hugs daughters Brittany, 9, right, and Tiffany, 12, on Thursday afternoon at Lady's Island Elementary School during the "Gullah Christmas" program. Linton, who had been deployed to Kuwait as an Army National Guard reservist for the last nine months, surprised his daughters by coming home early. The girls hadn't expected to see him until after Christmas.

Bed-tax board denies airport, lecture series

The Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee awarded about \$1 million in grants pending Town Council approval.

By BRIAN HEFFERNAN
bheffernan@islandpacket.com
843-706-8342

Two prominent organizations asked the Town of Hilton Head Island for a slice of the accommodations-tax grant pie and walked away Thursday with none.

APPROACHING THE 'FISCAL CLIFF'

Why is federal spending so tough to cut? There's 150 million reasons

By LESLEY CLARK
McClatchy Newspapers

As President Barack Obama and Congress debate ways to avert a pending fiscal crisis, the country broadly agrees that they need to cut federal budget deficits.

There's solid support for raising taxes on the wealthy, but those tax increases alone wouldn't solve the problem.

And cutting spending is extremely difficult. Look in the

MORE INSIDE

■ See a chart showing how many people in Beaufort and Jasper rely on federal benefits to supplement their income. 11A

■ President Barack Obama and Speaker John Boehner met Thursday night. 11A

PERCENT WHO RECEIVE FEDERAL BENEFITS

The chart below shows the percent of households, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, that received federal government benefits from 2007 to 2011.

Percent of households with ...
somebody on

Beaufort County Jasper County

Self Help covers gap in paychecks

A couple and their two children moved to the Bluffton area after the father got a job transfer. However, three months later, he was laid off.

No severance package was offered, and he immediately started searching for another job. His wife got a part-time job in the evenings.

He soon found work, but it would be three weeks before he got his first paycheck.

The family came to Bluffton Self Help, which helped pay their rent.

Bluffton Self Help provides a broad range of social services for poor working families, the disabled, sick and elderly.

To see a list of today's contributors, turn to page 11A.

TO CONTRIBUTE

Those who wish to partic-





ANGELS SIGN HAMILTON Slugger leaving Texas as baseball deals continue. **Page 1D**

Morning News

FRIDAY DECEMBER 14, 2012

TODAY'S WEATHER

Mostly sunny and milder with 61 high, 32 low.

DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

FSD1 APTs not registered as charities with state

Measures to prevent financial fraud missing in wake of embezzlement

BY ELLEN MEDER
Morning News
emed@foxnews.com

FLORENCE — Before you sign up to buy 75 chocolate bars from the parent booster club fundrais-

er to benefit your child's school — to help the kids, obviously — the state's consumer protection department recommends you research any group you're donating to, which is especially good advice in Florence.

Monday's arrest of former Greenwood Elementary School APT treasurer Sharon Kirby for pocketing \$20,000 over four years marks the second known incident of embezzlement from a Florence School District 1 parent organization in as many years.

The situation came to light after a set of newly elected APT

board members conducted a self-audit, but now that the case is in the hands of law enforcement, the situation is drawing little attention from the district.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Randy Koon, who helped look into missing money from Savannah Grove's APT in 2011, said all parent groups, whether they call themselves

an Association of Parents and Teachers (APT) or a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), are completely independent of the district. Though each group typically works closely with a school's principal, and some even turn their fundraising money over to the district to spend as the

See **APT**, Page 7A

Two new school names in FSD1

First Moore Middle, then Rush for former Byrnes School site

BY ELLEN MEDER
Morning News
emed@foxnews.com

FLORENCE — In a surprise move, the Florence School District 1 took the final vote to name two schools Thursday night.

In a unanimous vote the board chose to name the new middle school being built off Ebenezer Road, which will house the students and staff of the Moore Intermediate School for the next eight to 10 years beginning next fall, after John W. Moore, thus keeping the name.

In the same motion the board agreed to name the school formerly known as the Byrnes School on East Ashby Road, which the district bought this year, after the middle school naming committee's second choice, Alfred Rush.

There were also concerns brought up by the public and members of the committee, as well as board member Alexis Pipkins, Sr., about the fairness of the naming process. Pipkins raised concerns about the final racial composition of the committee, but after some discussion, he said he was most disappointed the members of the committee did not get final board approval and that two of his recommendations were not included.

"The committee finalization should have come back to us because when it came back after the fact, it was not what we looked at," Pipkins said.

District Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Randy Koon, who presided over the committee meetings, clarified that initially too many African-Ameri-

Economic Christmas cheer



S.C. Secretary of Commerce Bobby Hitt addresses the crowd at the annual Florence County Economic Development Partnership meeting at the Southeastern Institute of Manufacturing and Technology.

Hitt: 'We might have good times in 2013'

BY TUCKER MITCHELL
Morning News
tmitchell@foxnews.com

FLORENCE — S.C. Commerce Secretary Bobby Hitt told a Florence audience Thursday that 2013 could be a pretty good year, maybe a very good one, when it comes to economic development.

The reason behind Hitt's thinking?

All the turmoil and uncertainty that's turned 2012 into kind of a stinker.

"Nobody likes uncertainty," Hitt told members of the Florence County Economic Development Partnership during the group's annual luncheon meeting at the Southeastern Institute of Technology. "So everyone's been holding back, not doing things they know

they need to do; not making decisions they know they need to make. That's understandable and as a result we've got about two years of projects queued up statewide, ready for something to happen.

"When all that finally breaks loose — and it will — we might just have some pretty good times around here," said Hitt.

Later, Hitt said he wanted to make clear that whatever anyone else might have thought of 2012, he thought it "wasn't a bad year."

"We're (the commerce department) just saying we think 2013 might be better," he said. "We know we're not going to have every decision go our way. But with so many projects out there, we think we'll get our share. We do this economic development stuff pretty well."

Hitt said the job announcements in 2013 will likely be smaller than what the state experienced the past few years. Most projects are expansions, and employers are doing more with fewer employees, or with more technology.

"That shouldn't be a surprise to anybody," he said. "That's just the way it is today. It just means we have to do even more to keep up."

Hitt said the state has been adding about 1,000 manufacturing jobs a month over the past 20 months. That leads the nation and is part of the state's drive to return manufacturing to a larger place in the state business world.

He lauded Florence for mirroring the state's aggressive,

Harbor Freight might add 200 jobs in Dillon

BY GAVIN JACKSON
Morning News
gjackson@foxnews.com

DILLON — Economically struggling Dillon County is getting a shot of Christmas cheer.

Harbor Freight Tools is on the verge of a major expansion of its Dillon County distribution center, which is already one of the county's largest employers.

Dillon County Council Chair Aaron Gandy confirmed that a \$60 million project, which might bring as many as 200 jobs to Dillon and the surrounding area, is an expansion of the Harbor Freight Tools complex in the I-95 Gateway Industrial Park in Dillon. The project has been given the name "Project Tool Shed" during discussions at public meetings in recent months. It's a multi-county initiative, involving Dillon, Marlboro and Marion counties. All three have been hard hit with regard to jobs during the great recession.

Gandy said the project was "the early stages of Harbor Freight (Tools) building an additional million square-foot building, which has been presented at committee meetings."

Dillon County Economic Development director Tony McNeil did not confirm the identity of the proposed tenant for "Tool Shed." He said a few more details have to be finalized before the Dillon County Council could approve a third reading of the "Project Tool Shed" Fee In Lieu of Tax (FILOT) agreement, which would extend some incentives to the company for expanding the facility.

The Marion County and Marlboro County councils both

See **HITT**, Page 7A

See **DILLON**, Page 7A

Audit: Budget woes might sink USS Yorktown

The Associated Press

CHARLESTON — A state audit suggests that, without outside sources such as state





Odd

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2012

The Times and Democrat

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3 SECTIONS, 36 PAGES • VOL. 131 • NO. 349



Investigators comb the charred ruins of the Barnes Street home of 55-year-old Carolyn Jeanette Scales Thursday night. The wheelchair-bound Scales died in the blaze.

Wheelchair-bound woman dies in Holly Hill home fire

By MARTHA ROSE BROWN
T&D Correspondent

HOLLY HILL — A 55-year-old wheelchair-bound woman perished in a fire that engulfed her Holly Hill home Thursday afternoon.

Orangeburg County Coroner Samuella Marshall identified the victim as Carolyn Jeanette Scales of 1333 Barnes St.

"It's still under investigation at this point," Marshall said of Scales' death. An autopsy is scheduled for Friday.

Providence Fire Department Assistant Chief Carl Thompson, the scene manager of the fire investigation that lasted into the evening, said firefighters from the Holly Hill Fire Department were the first to arrive at the residence after the call went out at 2:05 p.m.



Thursday's fire is still under investigation, but Holly Hill Fire Chief Walter Kinsey says it doesn't appear suspicious.

By the time Providence firefighters arrived, the "fire was burning pretty good, and we all quickly got it under control," Thompson said.

The firefighters were "notified that there was a possibility that someone was in the building," he said. Scales' body was discovered

on the floor of a front room in the house, he said.

Holly Hill Fire Chief Walter Kinsey, who assisted in the investigation, said, "The cause of the fire is undetermined at this time."

He said the fire "doesn't appear to have been suspicious," pending the outcome of the probe. The victim's daughter, Decole Scales of Charleston, stood near the charred ruins of the house where her mother had lived for 10 years Thursday night. She said her mother was confined to a wheelchair after suffering a brain aneurysm about three years ago.

"She was a fun-loving person. She loved to play cards," Decole said. "She kept the street alive."

Decole's brother lived with their mother at the Barnes Street home. She

said her brother is "coping as best as he can right now. She was his backbone."

Her mother attended Lovely Hill Baptist Church, just a few blocks from her home, Decole said.

"She was a good person and a nice person," said Scales' friend, Jackie Finley of Holly Hill.

"I've known her for 10 years," Finley said.

Five fire departments battled the blaze at the single-story residence. Also responding to the scene were the Orangeburg County Coroner's Office and the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office.

The State Law Enforcement Division was also notified as is protocol in a fatal fire, Thompson said.

■ Contact the writer: mar-farace@aol.com.

Guilty!

Stabber gets life

By RICHARD WALKER
T&D Staff Writer

Anthony Williams said his murdered sister had to be buried with her hands in front of her.

"I had to buy a bouquet to put in her hands because they would not go down," he said. "I've been tortured by that since."

It was appropriate, though, Williams and other family members describe his sister as a bouquet of the community.

On Thursday after a three-day trial, her killer was sentenced to never see the outside of a prison again.

Circuit Court Judge Jack Early sentenced Cleophus Edwards, a Floridian and college dropout, to life in prison on charges of murder and first-degree burglary. He was sentenced to five years on a weapons charge.

"Mr. Edwards, the jury has spoken, the evidence is overwhelming," Early said, cutting short Edwards' court address that he was trying to help police when he confessed multiple times.

"I've been practicing 30 years and I have never seen evidence so overwhelming," Early said.

Edwards was charged with entering the Golf Avenue home of 44-year-old Carolynne "Janese" Hanton before stabbing her 55 times.

The day care worker was found within hours of her death on Feb. 3, 2011, lying face down. Her arms were in a position that made it appear she was trying to push herself back up.

Prosecutors say she probably tried to fend off her attacker to protect the four children in the home at the time.

Juries spent just over three hours deciding whether Edwards' videotaped confession and written statement were the truth.

Prosecutors introduced evidence that indicated Edwards went into the residence after seeing a vehicle leave. He was confronted by Hanton.

"As I walked in, a lady saw me and screamed. I backed up to the door. I was trembling, I was scared," prosecutor Don Soerenson said, reading from Edwards' statement to police. "Cleophus Edwards' own words. It's almost unbelievable to me that he has the nerve to talk about fear."



Cleophus Edwards



Carolynne Hanton

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Carolynne Hanton

Cash-Green's request to not extend her contract approved

By MARTHA ROSE BROWN
T&D Correspondent

board. This is an action item and I re-



Rice bows out of running for position; Kennel likely



Jeff Taillon

(803) 734-5129|Direct Line

(803) 767-7653|Cell