

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
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The Post and Courier

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Monday, June 27, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$2.00

Racial disparity in S.C. prisons in spotlight

Study explores why blacks more often wind up behind bars

BY DAVE MUNDAY
and ANDREW KNAPP
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aknapp@postandcourier.com

Blacks in South Carolina are more than twice as likely to be in prison as whites, according to a new study.

Advocates who released the report about racial disparities among African Americans see promising signs from South Carolina's prison system, while

defense attorneys say litigation, social services for black communities and strict sentencing guidelines will need to be addressed.

South Carolina's rate of incarceration for black people is the state among the lowest nationwide, according to "The Color of Justice: Racial and Ethnic Disparity in State Prisons." The study was done by the Sentencing Project, a Washington, D.C., research and advocacy group.

In New Jersey, the highest rate, black

people are 12 times more likely than whites to go to prison. The national average is 3.1, above South Carolina's average of 4.3.

Still, the Palmetto State has the sixth-highest ratio of black prisoners to white inmates, the groups report on 2014 data.

The state's efforts in recent years to draw down the local prison population through sentencing reforms has

Please see P.10 S.06, Page A5

Prison population

The percentage of total inmates in South Carolina prisons, as well as the total prison population, has eased slightly since 2012. These are the percentages of black and white inmates. The remaining percentage each year was made up of other races.

Period	Inmates	Black	White
2012	22,161	64 percent	33 percent
2013	22,108	64 percent	33 percent
2014	21,504	64 percent	34 percent
2015	21,253	62 percent	35 percent
June	20,605	61 percent	36 percent

—Source: S.C. Department of Corrections

Restoring an old jewel

1898 park inspires plan to revitalize 70 acres of former Navy base



Cousins Cyndie Robinson (left) and Jocelyn Esdy share a swing at North Charleston's Riverfront Park in March 2012. A new plan to revitalize a 70-acre tract on the old Navy base in North Charleston calls for new parks, event venues, cafes and hotels.

BY RAINDY BUNGE
brunge@postandcourier.com

One day in the not too distant future, North Charleston's Riverfront Park area may be a destination not only for those wanting to stroll along the river but also for those looking to have a concert, get a bite to eat or, in some cases, to make love.

That's the vision emerging from a new city effort to plan for the future of the most scenic portion of the former Charleston Naval Base. And it's a vision partly rooted in the past. At the end of the 19th century, Charleston began

creating Chitrea Park here — a sort of Lower East Side version of New York's Central Park, but one that quickly expanded when President Teddy Roosevelt wanted to establish a naval base here.

Fast forward more than a century and a quarter, when the city of North Charleston hired landscape architect Steve Dudausk of Thomas and Hutton to create a master plan for the 70-acre tract on the base's northern end — an area that already has seen a few other plans since the base closed two decades ago.

North Charleston City Council recently gave Dudausk's outline for new parks, streets, event

venues, restaurants, cafes and housing in the Chitrea Park area, which he called "one of the greatest and most precious jewels in this whole area."

'We owe it to the next generation'

The area is roughly half the size of the nearby planned \$200-million Palmetto Railways rail yard, scheduled to open in late 2019.

But unlike the rail yard, the Chitrea area includes rolling hills, historic houses and a scenic creek.

Please see P.10 S.06, Page A5

Shortfall a painful lesson for schools

Cutting \$18.3M to have big impact on classrooms this year

BY PAUL BOWERS
pbowers@postandcourier.com

When Charleston County schools welcome an estimated 1,400 additional students in August, a rough estimate of the school district's budget shortfall will be asked to be made with less.

Classroom sizes will grow. Departmental cuts will be made. The workers left behind will need to pick up the slack.

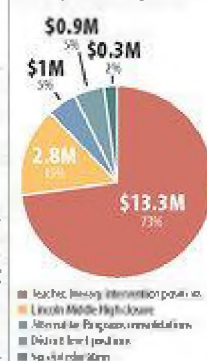
Overall, the General Operating Fund — the largest portion of the budget used on local day-to-day operations — will grow from \$416.2 million to \$434.2 million, the smallest increase in recent history. The district was obligated to increase spending in some areas, including utility costs, printing, school supplies, and state-mandated increases in teacher salaries and benefits.

pc
Poll
Should the school board have made more cuts at the district office to save long-term positions? Do you postandcourier.com polls to vote.

Please see S.06 P.10 S.06, Page A5

Budget cuts

In order to balance its General Operating Fund budget for next school year, the Charleston County School District made \$18.3 million in spending cuts across several areas. Nearly three-quarters of the savings came from reducing teacher or teacher-in-training positions.



SOURCE: CHS 40 SCHOOL DISTRICT

Inside

SPORTS
Winning ways continue for former Stingrays coach C1BUSINESS
Survey finds local job market among top in nation D1

Jubilant Panama opens revamped canal

Expansion helped spur \$2 billion in Charleston port projects

BY JUAN CAMARANO
and KATHIA MARTINEZ
jcamarano@postandcourier.com

PANAMA CITY — Fireworks exploded as a huge container ship made its inaugural passage through the newly expanded Panama Canal on Sunday, formally launching the Central American nation's multimillion-dollar bet on a bright economic future despite tough times for global shipping.

The Chinese-owned Cosco Shipping Co. ship passed through the Atlantic lock at Agua Clara in the early morning and in the afternoon completed the 50-mile journey to the Pacific at the Coco Canal near the capital, stewarded by tugboats and cheered by dignitaries and citizens at crowds of thousands.

The \$5.2-billion project was outlined nearly two years after construction delays, labor strife and government concerns, but officials were still bullish and in a celebratory mood as they welcomed the expanded canal

open for business.

"This is an achievement that all of us in Panama must be proud of," President Juan Carlos Varela said at the inaugural ceremony on the outskirts of Panama City. "Today marks a historic moment in our history, in our hemisphere and the world."

The new 14-meter wide is the tip of the iceberg in making Panama an asset in the logistics, entry of the American "road" administration Jorge Luis

Please see P.10 S.06, Page A5

Partly cloudy:
High 81, Low 61.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B4

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Layout	45	Visual	B1	Sedillo	B1
Layout	25	Visual	B1	Kim Kim	B1

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 See A2

COLLEGE WORLD
SERIES

Road
to the
finals for
Coastal
Carolina,

1B



Columbia fans on Coastal Carolina's CWS bid: 'They're our team now'

BY GREG LUNG FLAUGAN
glflugan@thestate.com

Columbia is traditionally Gamecocks territory, but these days, many baseball fans are

throwing their support behind Coastal Carolina, as the team plays its opening game Monday in the College World Series finals.

Thirty Fellow, a pizzeria and pub on Gadsden Street

less than a mile from the Gamecocks' baseball stadium, has seen a lot of diners cheering for the Chanticleers in recent days, said Cam Shealy,

SEE COASTAL, 6A

MONDAY JUNE 27 2016

\$1.00

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30DAY: PARTLY CLOUDY, 1-STORM CHANCE 10-14
YESTERDAY: 16-21 to 22-23°C (61-72 to 72-74°F)
FORECAST: 6C

The State



Visitors to Finlay Park encounter disrepair like this.

PHOTOGRAPH BY TIA O'BRIEN FOR THE STATE

FINLAY PARK

Mayor drafting plan for park renovation

Benjamin says he will propose creating a small tax district to fund work

BY GUY BEBLING
gbebling@thestate.com

A multimillion-dollar renovation of Finlay Park and a pedestrian-friendly remodeling of parts of two major downtown streets might be within reach if local governments will agree to a controversial financing plan being floated by Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin.

Benjamin said last week that he's working on a proposal to create a small taxing district that would capture property taxes on buildings along Assembly Street stretching north to Laurel Street, west to just behind the rundown park and south to Washington Street.



Erosion and disrepair plague Finlay Park as shown in this image of a tree in a terraced area.

Richland County library, Benjamin said.

"The thought is to use TIFs, tax increment finance-

"I'd like to see it happen to help create the revitalization of Finlay Park."

In addition to overhauling the park, the proposal is

ONLINE

THESTATE.COM: See more photos of the dilapidated Finlay Park. Watch a video of the mayor explaining his plan to pay for repairs.

workable park, more pedestrian-friendly streets nearby, presumably more people wanting to live and work in an increasingly vital downtown, and rising tax values all around the area, which should benefit the city in the long run.

Benjamin said he will submit the idea to City Council as soon as one of his August meetings. Council is scheduled to meet only once in July. City manager Teresa Wilson said city staff has been working on the plan and would be ready to bring it to council in August.

HOUSE DISTRICT 79

Turnout crucial in tight runoff

Richland 2 school board member
faces pastor in Democratic primary runoff

Voter turnout expected to be light

Getting core supporters back out to
vote will be key, pundits say

BY AVERY O. WILSON
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Pastor Ivory Thigpen is knocking on doors and sending out new mailings. Richland 2 school board member Monica Elkins is contacting some of the thousands of students and parents who she met in more than two decades as an educator.

Both candidates know that after months of campaigning and tens of thousands of dollars spent, voter turnout - or the lack thereof - will decide Tuesday's House District 79 Democratic primary runoff.

"I would venture to say that most people don't even know there's a runoff," Richland County Democratic Party chairman Jay Pambley said. "They have to go back to their core, core supporters that they have developed during their campaign, and you have to impress upon them why (they) need to go back and vote."

Pundits expect voter turnout to be light - likely less than 10 percent of the eligible voters - in the race for the seat that state Rep. Mia McLeod, D-Richland, is vacating to run for state Senate.

Less than 10 percent of voters in heavily Democratic Richland County cast ballots in the June 14 primary, with Thigpen finishing just 31 votes ahead of Elkins. Tuesday's runoff is one of just two races on Richland County ballots.

"Every vote matters," said Thigpen, whose platform hasn't changed since the primary.



Thigpen



Elkins



COLLEGE WORLD SERIES, 1C CC READY FOR FINALS



METRO, 3A Regulating events at Capitol

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

MONDAY,
JUNE 27, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY

BRITISH POLITICS IN DISARRAY AS 'BREXIT' FALLOUT CONTINUES PAGE 1B

What you need to know about June 28 runoffs

Senate, council, sheriff spots are up for grabs

AMANDA COYNE
THE GREENVILLE NEWS

Voters in Greenville and Pickens Counties have another opportunity to cast their ballot on Tuesday, June 28, when multiple county and state offices are up for runoffs.

All registered voters in these counties are eligible to vote in runoff elections. The only restriction is that those who

voted on June 14 must vote for the same party's candidates — if you voted for Republicans in the primary, you may only vote for Republicans in the runoff, and the same is true for those who voted for Democrats.

To find who your legislators are in the S.C. House of Representatives and Senate, go to sestatehouse.gov/legislators-search. To find who your Greenville County council member is, go to greenvillemetro.org/council and click "Find your representatives." Pickens County does not have an online tool to find which district or representative is

yours, but county council districts are largely divided by towns. We've broken down each runoff race, from state senate to county council, below.

Senate
District 2: Pickens County
Incumbent Sen. Larry Martin won the most votes in the primary — 6,284, or 45.09 percent — but fell short of the 50 percent required to win outright. He will face the second-place finisher, former state Rep. Rex Rice, who received 4,641 votes, 33.3 percent. Army veteran Don

See RUNOFFS, Page 5A



COURTESY PHOTO

County and state offices are up for runoffs.

Man dies after being shot in Greenville

Lollis was checking on scene of crash

ROMANDO DIXSON
RDIXSON@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

A man died early Sunday after he was shot outside his home in Pelzer, the Greenville County Coroner's Office said.

Ferry Lee Lollis, 62, died at 2:06 a.m. Sunday while in surgery, the Coroner's Office said. The Sheriff's Office described him as a third party in a chain of events that started with a fiery car wreck.

Dmarion Jaquay Gilmore, identified as the 19-year-old driver of the car, was charged in connection with the shooting. He is being held at Greenville County Jail under no bond.

Lollis' only child, MacKenzie Lollis, spoke to Gilmore at his bond hearing Sunday afternoon. She cried as she lamented that her 5-year-old son will never get to see his grandfather again.

"I'm still in complete shock about what happened," Lollis said. "I did not expect my dad to die that way."

Witnesses called 911 to report that a car struck a telephone pole and caught fire about 10:40 p.m. Saturday in the 1700 block of State 418, the Sheriff's Office said. The driver of the car was able to exit the vehicle, the Sheriff's Office said, and told bystanders not to call police.

"The driver was told that police were already on the way and a verbal altercation ensued," Sgt. Jennings Aubrey said in an email.

During the argument, one of the witnesses presented a bat and the driver of the car presented a fire-



Dmarion
Gilmore



Berea junior sprinter Kennedy Dennis leads the pack during a team practice in March.

KART BOATWRIGHT/STAFF

SPRINTING FOR HOME

Friends lend a hand to give Berea High sprinter hope of competing on home track

ANGELIA DAVIS
DAVIA@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

One of Berea High School's most accomplished track athletes has never had the pleasure of competing on her home track. That may change before sprinter Kennedy Dennis graduates in 2017.

Alumni and supporters of Berea High are raising money to ensure it happens.

YOU CAN HELP

Donations to the Berea High Track Team fundraiser can be mailed to The Friends of Berea High School, Inc., 201 Burdine

Friends of Berea High School, Inc. are working to raise \$35,000 to buy equipment for the track team so that it can host meets again. But the drive is to enable Dennis, who has five individual state championships, to run a



See SHOOTING, Page 2A





Morning News

MONDAY JUNE 27, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Sunny to partly cloudy and humid.
High 94, low 71.

DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

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Fireworks are reflected in the hood of a pickup truck as they fill the air above Darlington Raceway on the fourth of July last year.

Local officials share tips for firework safety

Avoid backfires during July 4 celebrations

BY JESSICA HINDS
Usineg News
jhind@9news.com

FLORENCE — The fourth of July holiday goes hand-in-hand with setting off fireworks and lighting sparklers to celebrate America's independence. Unfortunately, fireworks also are synonymous with a high number of injuries around this time of year.

In 2014, an estimated 10,500 people were injured by fireworks nationally. Nearly 70 percent of those injuries occurred during a nine-month study period from June 20 to July 20. An average of 230 people each day are sent to the emergency room during the month surrounding July 4, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

The National Fire Protection Association said that sparklers alone account for more than one-fourth of fireworks injuries. Sparklers are often a product that is considered safe for young children. The seemingly harmless firework burns hot enough to melt glass and can reach temperatures near 1,200 degrees.

For people who are planning to light up the sky with consumer fireworks this weekend, city officials have released a few tips to keep firecrackers from backfiring on the summer holiday.

When purchasing fireworks, make sure they are clearly labeled with the name of the product, the manufacturer's name, a warning label describing necessary safety precautions and instructions for safe use. Never attempt to create your own fireworks at home, and do not use any products that advertise for assembling fireworks.

The use of consumer fireworks within the city of Florence is illegal, but fireworks are permitted for use in Florence County. Anyone who violates the city ordinance could face hundreds of dollars in fines or 30 days in jail, according to Maj. Carlos Raines of the Florence Police Department.

Permissible fireworks in the county include Roman candles, bottle rockets, fountains, sparklers and firecrackers. These approved fireworks should contain no more than 50 milligrams of powder. Once purchased, fireworks should be stored in a cool, dry area.

The CPSC recommends that adults not allow young children to play with fireworks. Adults may allow older children to use fireworks under close supervision. West Florence Fire Marshal Dwight Mobley said many adults will let their teens light fireworks unsupervised.

"That's where a lot of the problems occur," Mobley said. "You take for granted that teenagers are going to be safe, but be-

City of Florence

'Ed Robinson Way'

A sign marks the start of Edward "Ed" Robinson Way at the intersection of Pine and Church streets in Florence.



ART BY SHARON DUNN/STREET ART

Stretch of Pine Street renamed in his honor

By JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@9news.com

FLORENCE — Long-serving Florence City Councilman Ed Robinson has been laid to rest, but

his name will live on in the city's second district — figuratively as a champion for the downtrodden and literally as a street has been renamed after him.

See **ROBINSON**, Page 3A



Each Monday, the Morning News features a good news story on a person, place or organization in the Pee Dee. If you have a suggestion for someone or something to profile, send it to news@9news.com.

'Healing Waters'



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH SWEARTINGEN/9NEWS

John Leum poses next to one of the paintings in his "Healing Waters" series.

Florence veteran finds solace in art, fly fishing

BY DEBORAH SWEARTINGEN
Morning News
dsweart@9news.com

FLORENCE — John Leum thought he would never fish again.

The 68-year-old veteran of the Air Force, Navy and Army lost most of his shoulder mobility late in 2005 when he was injured in combat.

"When I came back after 2006 and I found that I couldn't use my arms like I used to, I sold everything,"



POLITICS

Hillary Clinton considers the idea of two women on the ticket 6A



LOWCOUNTRY LIFE

Events in Beaufort County set to celebrate nation's freedom 5B



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75¢

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HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BUFFET



Partly cloudy
66°/75° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Company to manage staffing substitutes

Atlanta-based company Source4Teachers to take over substitute placement

Company promises 95 percent fill rate and on-site sub training

District's costs shouldn't go up, officials say

BY REBECCA TURVE
rturve@islandpacket.com

Next school year, principals will only have to make one call to get substitute teachers into their empty classrooms.

Source4Teachers will do the rest.

The Atlanta-based company will begin managing the Beaufort County School District's substitute and miscellaneous staffing programs in July, prom-

ising it will fill at least 95 percent of empty classes, a drastic improvement from the district's 73 percent fill rate this past school year.

If Source4Teachers doesn't meet that goal, Beaufort County can sever its contract — which is still being finalized — at any time.

The agreement should cost the district the same as its current substitute services, about \$2 million per year, because Source4Teachers' surcharge is about the same as the benefits

the district was paying its subs, according to district chief finance and operations officer Phyllis White and spokesman Jim Foster.

School board member Earl Campbell worried at Tuesday's regular meeting that contracting with the company would not solve the district's severe substitute shortage because it doesn't increase sub pay or expand the pool of available employees.

But fellow board member Geri Kinton responded that the time to talk salary increases had passed — the 2016-17 budget is under review by Beaufort County Council — and White reassured him that if Source4Teachers does not meet expectations, the district can walk away.

The district has been grappling with empty classrooms for years, and had 22 long-term

SEE SUBSTITUTES, 4A



LOCAL

APPEAL WORRIES RESIDENTS

Hilton Head Island property owners fear they could be listening to the grind of a tree chipper for years to come. 3A



JEFF KASS / jeffkass.com

Messy fun at Mud Run

TOP: Mud flies as a pickup truck charges through the 225-foot-long mud pit at the Hampton County Watermelon Festival Mud Run on Sunday. The annual event, in



SPORTS

NAVAL ACADEMY GRADUATE WINS

Billy Hurley III wins his hometown Quicken Loans National at Congressional for his first PGA Tour victory. 1B



NATION

STATE PREPARES FOR MORE RAIN

As West Virginians con-



STEWART BREAKS 3-YEAR DROUGHT

SPORTS, B1



COASTAL CAROLINA GOING FOR TITLE

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Monday, June 27, 2016



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TODAY **TUE** **WED**

90°/69° 82°/65° 88°/68°

Complete forecast, A8

ONLINE EXTRA



Visit GoUpstate.com to see photo galleries from the Miss South Carolina Pageant on Saturday night in Columbia, as well as from Sunday's news conference featuring Miss South Carolina 2016, Rachel Wyatt (above, right) and Miss South Carolina Teen 2016, Makayla Stark (above, left). Wyatt is from Piedmont; Stark is from Inman.

TIP SHEET

Today

- Spartanburg School District 5 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the district office, 100 N. Danzler Road, Duncan.
- Spartanburg City Council meets at 5:30 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall, 145 W. Broad St., Spartanburg.

Tuesday

- Spartanburg County Land Management Board of Appeals meets at 4:30 p.m. at the County Administration Building, 366 N. Church St., Spartanburg.

Thursday

- Floyd's Passion Band will perform during Music on Main, a free concert from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Morgan Square in downtown Spartanburg.

INSIDE

Expanded Panama Canal open for business

Fireworks exploded as a huge

UK REFERENDUM

Turmoil deepens after vote

By Gregory Katz
The Associated Press

LONDON — Britain's shocking decision to remove itself from the European Union brought more political turmoil Sunday as Scotland's leader threatened to block the move and the opposition Labour Party's leader faced a coup attempt from his own legislators.

The sense of unease spread as European leaders stepped up the pressure on Britain to begin its complex exit from the

28-nation EU immediately, rather than wait several months as British Prime Minister David Cameron prefers.

The vote to leave sent the pound and global stock markets plunging. Britain's Treasury said finance minister George Osborne would make an early morning statement Monday "to provide reassurance about financial and economic stability" before the London Stock Exchange reopens.

The leaders of the successful campaign to leave the EU stayed

largely out of the public eye, as opponents accused them of lacking a plan to calm the crisis the result has triggered. In his first statement since Friday morning, "leave" leader and former London Mayor Boris Johnson used his column in the Daily Telegraph newspaper to urge unity and say "the negative consequences (of the vote) are being wildly overdone."

He said Britain would forge "a new and better relationship with the EU — based on free trade and partnership, rather

than a federal system."

The vote, however, risks causing a political schism in the United Kingdom. Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said she would "consider" advising the Scottish Parliament to try to use its power to prevent Britain from actually leaving the EU. She said Scottish lawmakers might be able to derail the move by withholding "legislative consent" for a British exit, or Brexit.

SEE TURMOIL, A4

MILITARY TRADITION

'Proud to have served my country'

Sill family dedicates bricks at American Legion Post 28

By Chris Lavender
chris.lavender@shj.com

Two vintage World War II aircraft flew over the site of American Legion Post 28's Veterans' Commemorative Walk in Spartanburg on Sunday, honoring those who have served in the military.

The fly-over was part of a ceremony held by members of the Sill family, which dedicated 23 bricks at the walk. The first to serve was Elijah Sill, who volunteered to fight in the War of 1812. According to Philip Sill of Orlando, Fla., Elijah had 90 acres of land just outside Camden when he went off to fight.

Elijah's four sons — O. William Sill, Edward Sill, J. McCorkle Sill and John H. Sill — later fought in the Civil War. Their names were among the 23 unveiled at the brick walk.

The walk also features Robert E. Sill, Joe Lee Sill, Geri Sill and J. Thorny Sill — who served in the military during WWII. Thorny survived the sinking of the USS Gambier Bay in the Battle of Iwo Jima and received the



The Sill family dedicated 23 bricks Sunday at American Legion Post 28 in honor of their family, which has a tradition of U.S. military service dating back to the War of 1812. Kevin Sill, an officer in the Army from Spartanburg, and family member John Sill, a Navy veteran, unveil their family bricks at the American Legion Post. PHOTOS BY ALEX HICKS JR./ALEX.HICKS@SHJ.COM



INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Lakelands under a dry spell

Residents urged to use caution during July Fourth festivities

By ANNA KATHRYN STODDARD
astoddard@indexjournal.com

Drought conditions are creeping into the Lakelands.

"The drought spans from northern Abbeville, Greenwood and Laurens counties to southern Oconee County. The period of dry weather has had negative effects on the area's life."

"The Greenwood-Abbeville area is

abnormally dry," said Scott Krentz, a meteorological intern with the National Weather Service's Greenville-Spartanburg office. "There are five levels of droughts, and most of the Upstate is in the Drought 1 level."

Drought 1 is the second level on the drought-severity scale. Areas in the Drought 1 phase experience lower water levels because of low precipitation.

Some farms in the area have been affected by the lack of rain. "Local crops, such as hay, have suffered a year of poor production," said conservationist Heather Benjamin said. "Ponds have become murky and unfit for animals to drink, forcing farmers to provide new water sources for their livestock."

For the rest of the area's residents, the drought means increased danger of fire. With the Fourth of July approaching,

fireworks are increasingly hazardous. The use of fireworks in dry weather requires extreme caution in order to avoid sparking a fire.

The dry spell could also affect Lake Greenwood's water level.

"We regulate the water level of the lake by controlling how much is released into the Saluda River," said county engineer Ronnie Corbett.

Fluctuation in water levels is normal,

but boat owners should be aware that lake levels could be lower than usual and use caution when operating a boat near the shore.

"The rainfall for the month of June in Greenwood this year is 1.16 inches, which is less than 50 percent of the long-term average," state climatologist Wes Tyler said.

The National Weather Service does not predict an escalation in the drought's severity, but advises people to use fire and water carefully until the season of dryness ends.

CAMPAIGN FINANCING

Who's paying for those ads?

Report: It's harder to know where the money comes from

By GEOFF MULVHILL
Associated Press

It's getting harder to know who is funding political advertising at the state level as more money becomes anonymous or is funneled from one political action committee to another, a new study finds.

In 2014, the last year in which statewide elections were widespread across the country, only 29 cents of every \$1 of independent political spending could be tracked easily to its original individual donor, according to the Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School of Law. The center found that dark money and what it calls "gray" money are rising even faster in state elections than in federal races.

In places where the costs of elections can be cheaper because word is distributed by direct

mail rather than television ads, the spending can have a larger impact.

"Dark money can outspend all," said Larry Norden, deputy director of the Brennan Center's program on democracy.

Dark money comes from nonprofit advocacy groups that spend on political purposes but are not subject to campaign finance disclosures. Its rise is one of the effects of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United ruling, which removed caps on how much corporations, unions and interest groups can spend on advocacy communications that do not specifically call for the election or defeat of candidates.

That category of spending grew from less than \$600,000 in 2006 to nearly \$2.2 billion in 2014 in the states the study evaluated.

Despite that rise, the majority of state political spending overall remains from traditional channels where most large contributions must be disclosed: candidates' official committees and party organizations.

One election with heavy dark money spending was the 2014 Arizona race for two seats on the Public Utilities Commission, which was in the throes of a debate over solar power policy.

More than \$3 million in dark money poured into that race through social welfare nonprofit groups that in turn donated to PACs that made independent expenditures. That was up from just \$3,000 in total outside spending in a similar race in 2008 — and all the money at that time was linked to specific donors.

'There are days I leave thinking, 'I hope I made everybody proud' — not just my dad, everybody.'

— Chip Stockman III



PHOTO BY DAMIAN DOMINGUEZ FOR INDEX-JOURNAL

Chip Stockman III, right, became president of Stockman Oil in 1992 when his father, Pierce Stockman, handed over control of the company.

A WELL-OILED MACHINE

CHIP STOCKMAN III
Stockman Oil president

Even closer

Name: Chip Stockman III, third-generation president of the family-owned Stockman Oil.

Third-generation owner of family business in Greenwood discusses legacy, history

By DAMIAN DOMINGUEZ
ddominguez@indexjournal.com

Before accepting the 2016 Small Business Person of the Year award, Chip Stockman III was described as having exceptional leadership skills and having owned a successful



Camlin Moore

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