

From: Symmes, Brian

To:

Date: 12/12/2013 9:23:09 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages - Thursday, December 12, 2013

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## **SC Front Pages – Thursday, December 12, 2013**



NATION

## EASING OFF

Some cancer treatments can be skipped

LIFESTYLE

Step into history on home tour

# The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

THURSDAY,  
DECEMBER 12, 2013  
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

METRO

Paralyzed USC student may be home in time for Christmas, 1B

FINAL EDITION

## Luxury car exports probed

Agents say BMW, other high-end auto brands targeted by brokers using 'straw buyers'

By David Dykes

Staff writer  
ddykes@greenvilleonline.com

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See EXPORTS, Page 3A



## COUNTY LOOKS FOR SQUARE DEAL

Headquarters site offers developers prime piece of downtown real estate

By Rudolph Bell

Staff writer  
rdbell@greenvilleonline.com

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See SQUARE, Page 3A

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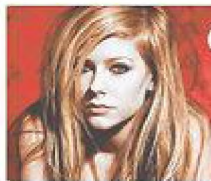
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## CHARLESTONSCENE

### Jingle Bell Ball

Avril Lavigne, The Fray, more featured in 95.9 show. INSIDE



## All about Wisconsin: USC's bowl opponent

SPORTS, C1

# The Post and Courier

THE SOUTH'S OLDEST DAILY NEWSPAPER • FOUNDED 1803

THURSDAY, December 12, 2013

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, North Charleston, S.C. ★★ \$1.00

## Hundreds hungry, homeless in city

Charleston included in report highlighting nationwide problem



Anthony Scott and Wenonah Orsio talk outside the Crisis Ministries soup kitchen as their 10-month-old daughter Amber Wallace rests in a stroller. The engaged couple from Philadelphia are seeking a permanent home in Charleston so they can leave the shelter.

BY SCHUYLER KROPP  
skropp@postandcourier.com

Anthony Scott relocated to Charleston from Philadelphia three months ago, hoping the job climate would be better.

So far that's not been the case. He looks for work every day, but at age 51, nothing has materialized, leaving him homeless and living in a shelter with a fiancée and a 10-month-old to care for.

"We thought when we came here it wouldn't be that long," said Scott, who said he is 280th on a waiting

### Inside

A closer look at the hunger and homelessness report. A4

list for space with the local housing authority.

"I can do just about anything," he added of his desire for work.

Scott's story is one of the hundreds tied to being homeless or going hungry in Charleston. And while an annual report released Wednesday by the U.S. Conference of Mayors lists several accomplishments being made to combat both issues locally,

it also says finding enough to eat or a safe place to live remains elusive for thousands.

"One hundred and fifty-six people sleep here last night," said Amy Zeigler, vice president for development at the Crisis Ministries shelter on Meeting Street. "And the reality is that 156 people will be sleeping here tonight."

Charleston is one of 25 U.S. cities of all sizes included in the report. It assesses homelessness and hunger nationwide, from Philadelphia to

Please see HOMELSS, Page A4

"One hundred and fifty-six people sleep here last night. And the reality is that 156 people will be sleeping here tonight."

Amy Zeigler,  
Crisis Ministries

## Crunch time for health care site

Many could see coverage lapse

BY RICARDO ALONSO ZALDIVAR  
and LAURIE KELLMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With time running short, the nation's health care rolls still aren't filling up fast enough. New sign-up numbers Wednesday showed progress for President Barack Obama's health care law, but not enough to guarantee that Americans who want and need coverage by Jan. 1 will be able to get it. Crunch time is now, as people face a Dec. 23 deadline to sign up if they are to have coverage by New Year's.

That means more trouble for the White House, too, after months of repairing a dysfunctional enrollment website. Next year could start with a new round of political recriminations over the Affordable Care Act, "Obamacare" to its opponents.

The Health and Human Services Department reported that 164,682 people had signed up for private coverage under the law as of Nov. 30. That is more than three times the October figure but still less than one-third of the 1.2 million that officials had projected would enroll nationwide by the end of November. The administration's overall goal was to sign up 7 million people by next March 31, when open enrollment ends.

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius assured Congress on Wednesday that "we are seeing very, very positive trends" now that HealthCare.gov is working reasonably well. She also announced that she'd asked the department's inspector general for an independent investigation into contracting and management factors that contributed to the technology failure.

Yet the revamped federal website serving 36 states continues to have issues, and some states running their own sites also face problems. Oregon had signed up only 44 people as of Nov. 30.

Please see HEALTH, Page A7

## Zoning request raises fresh worries for road builder's uneasy neighbors

Lake Palmetto fears heavy-industry designation

BY DAVID SLADE  
dslade@postandcourier.com

It's hard to find people today who think it was a good idea to build 125 lakefront townhomes in North Charleston next door to a round-the-clock construction company that makes asphalt and crushes cement.

"We made a mistake by allowing that complex to go there in the first place, right by a construction company," said Councilwoman Dot Williams, who represents the area, not far from the Tanger outlet mall.

### Poll

Should North Charleston rezone land for Banks Construction? Find this story at [postandcourier.com](http://postandcourier.com) to vote.

The first of the Lake Palmetto townhomes went on the market nearly 10 years ago, and they remain the uneasy neighbors of Banks Construction, whose motto is "paving South Carolina since 1948." Banks' work includes taxpayer-funded road projects such as Palmetto Commerce Parkway and the

repairing of roads in Charleston and Mount Pleasant.

Not surprisingly, Lake Palmetto residents have issues with the noise and dust generated by Banks, often throughout the night. Banks Construction has taken steps to limit the noise and dust, and residents concede there have been improvements.

But now there's a larger issue on the table, and North Charleston has put it on the fast track for approval. The city's long-term land-use plan calls for the roughly 40 acres occupied by Banks Construction and affiliated

Please see ZONING, Page A4



Residents of Lake Palmetto in North Charleston have gotten used to the noise and dust from Banks Construction but worry what a zoning change to heavy industry would do to their neighborhood.



Mostly sunny High 56, Low 27. Complete 5-day forecast. B6

Bridge...B20 Crossroads...D4, D7 Obituaries...B4  
Business...B6 Editorials...A10 The South...B1  
Classifieds...B1 Homepages...C29 Sports...C1  
Comics...E26-29 Movies...F9 Television...C10

Charleston Deals today

Baskin Robbins  
Two boxes of cake bites for the price of one. Only \$10.99 for a \$21.98 retail value. See A2





# USC'S TOP 10 PLAYS OF THE YEAR

SPORTS, C1



CRAFTY

FEAST

2.0

The best indie crafts, Sunday in Columbia, D1

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INSIDE SOME EDITIONS OF TODAY'S PAPER

## The State

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013 | THESTATE.COM

### HOME FOR CHRISTMAS?

USC freshman paralyzed in Five Points shooting is making great progress, Atlanta doctor says



Martha Childress, 18, of Simpsonville, has a physical therapy session with therapist Drew Oswald at the Shepherd Center in Atlanta.

## HARD AT WORK DESPITE PAIN

By NOELLE PHILLIPS  
nphillips@thestate.com

A University of South Carolina freshman who was paralyzed in a

in Atlanta, where Martha Childress, 18, has been undergoing rehabilitation for a spinal cord injury, said they are pleased with her progress.

ONLINE

Scan the code found on Page A2 to view a photo

### RICHLAND 2 SCHOOL BOARD

## Threat furor results in censure

Board member allegedly made remarks about grandson's coach

By CAROLYN CLICK  
cclick@thestate.com

Richland 2 school board chairman Bill Flemming said he hopes the public censure of board member Melinda Anderson will put an end to the controversy that began in October when Anderson allegedly was heard making threatening statements about a head football coach in the district.

The board voted 5-2 Tuesday to censure Anderson, after Flemming read a statement in which he said the board "considers itself compromised and must address the matter." Barbara Specter made the motion to "censure Mrs. Anderson

for her words and actions referenced in her statement," which was seconded by board member Susan Brill.

"I think this gave us the opportunity to make another statement and move on," Brill said Wednesday. "It was a very unfortunate series of events."

Anderson and board member Monica Elkins-Johnson cast the two no votes. Efforts to reach Anderson Wednesday were unsuccessful, while Elkins-Johnson declined comment in an email.

The board had reprimanded Anderson after she vented frustration about her grandson's foot-

SEE CENSURE PAGE A9

### Boeing, BMW updates

Boeing is reportedly in serious talks with union representatives in Washington to keep the new





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### INSIDE TODAY



#### First meeting held in push for states' convention

Local news, 3A



#### Nativity scene festival will be held this weekend

Local news, 3A



#### Zac Brown Band playing Augusta; get tickets

Living on the Go, 1C

### AREA DEATHS

Ann Lomax Coward, Aiken  
Charles Marty Carroll Sr., Williston  
Hazel Link Cagle, West Columbia  
James A. Mayberry, Aiken  
James Vaughn, Aiken  
Jewell P. Burckhalter, Aiken  
John "Bo" Rucker, Langley  
Mertis Lee Harley, North Augusta  
Richard Dean Battle, Aiken  
**Deaths and Funerals, 6A**

### WEATHER

## N.A. resident files complaint in regard to Project Jackson

BY SCOTT RODGERS  
[srodgers@northaugustastar.com](mailto:srodgers@northaugustastar.com)

**NORTH AUGUSTA** — River Club Homeowners Association President Steve Donohue, as well as the association, have filed a complaint alleging, among other things, that the amended Tax Increment Financing district ordinance approved in November by North Augusta City Council is invalid.

The complaint was filed against the City of North Augusta, Mayor Lark Jones and City Council.

According to the complaint, Donohue and the River Club HOA are challenging the validity of the ordinance that amended a 1996 ordinance estab-

lishing the Tax Increment Financing district — or TIF district — to finance a portion of Project Jackson.



Donohue

The TIF district — comprised of lands bordered by Hammond Ferry Road, Buena Vista Avenue and Martintown Road — permits tax increment bonds to finance public improvements in line with a redevelopment plan for that area.

"If they want a baseball stadium so bad they can do it in three ways,"

Donohue said. "Way one is that the guy who owns the team goes to the bank, borrows the money and buys it. I don't have much to say there. Am I happy about it? No ... There's another way they can build it. The City can go to the voters and ask if they want to vote in a bond. They can run a bond election, and it will have to be election because any time you take on more than 8 percent of debt, in the South Carolina Constitution, you have to get approval ... But they decided to use the TIF statute. Why did they decide to use the TIF statute? They thought it was really slick. They already have a TIF in place and it was due to expire in 2016."

The City has 30 days to respond to the complaint. When asked for comment, North Augusta Mayor Lark Jones wrote in an email that the City's policy "is not to comment on pending litigation and let the courts be the ultimate arbiter."

The complaint cites South Carolina law dictating that TIF ordinances may be adopted because a redevelopment area is blighted, because property values would remain static or decline without substantial public intervention, and because the redevelopment is in the interest of the general welfare of citizens.

Please see **COMPLAINT**, Page 14A



William Treacy III, back row, second from left, was on the field for the coin toss ceremony before the ACC Football Championship Game at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, N.C., on Dec. 7.

## Aiken vet has big night at ACC championship

BY DEDE BILES  
[dbiles@aikenstandard.com](mailto:dbiles@aikenstandard.com)

It was a big night for Florida State football when the top-ranked Seminoles trounced Duke's Blue Devils 45-7 in the Atlantic Coast Conference



## Farm's request sparks concern

Local potato farm proposing to take water from river

BY AMY BANTON  
[abanton@aikenstandard.com](mailto:abanton@aikenstandard.com)

A potato farm in Aiken County is proposing to withdraw water from the South Edisto River for its irrigation system, which if approved would be the second request to do so this year.

According to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, it's in the process of conducting the safe yield analysis for this request from Walther Farms, located in Windsor, to withdraw up to 805 million gallons of water per month.

Lindsey Evans, spokeswoman for SCDHEC, said that Walther Farms applied for a "surface withdrawal agricultural registration," which is required by law, and the first request





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See SQUARE, Page 3A

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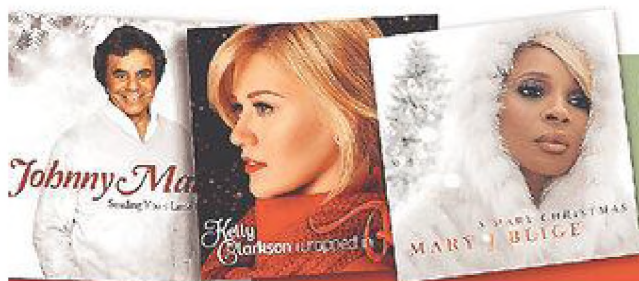
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## Sounds of the season

New Christmas CDs add to holiday soundtrack  
**escape**

# Herald-Journal

**THURSDAY**

DECEMBER 12, 2013

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### Return of No. 3

The late Dale Earnhardt's famed No. 3 will be back on track in the elite Sprint Cup Series next season with Austin Dillon using the number. The move has been long anticipated because car owner Richard Childress has allowed his grandson to use the No. 3 as he's moved through NASCAR's ranks. **PAGE B1**

### Gaining ground

A newly minted budget deal to avert future government shutdowns gained important ground Wednesday among House Republicans who are more accustomed to brinkmanship than compromise. **PAGE A3**

### No seat belt

If you've ever been pulled over by a police officer for not wearing a seat belt, there's a decent chance the officer also wasn't buckled up either, an upcoming study indicates. **PAGE A4**

### Fatz founder dies

Jimmy Rogers, founder of the Fatz Café and Copper River Grill restaurant chains died at his home Wednesday morning after a battle with cancer. He was 66. **PAGE A6**

### Outlet quality

When you buy something at an outlet mall, do you know what you're getting? Can you be sure it's a top-quality, brand-name product at a deep discount? **PAGE C4**

Weather

## Northside gets \$1M toward center

Mary Black Foundation announces grant to help fund child development facility

By DUSTIN WYATT  
dustin.wyatt@shj.com

The Mary Black Foundation announced a \$1 million lead grant Wednesday toward the construction of a child development center on the city's Northside.

This is the latest advancement in the Northside redevelopment initiative, an ongoing effort to rejuvenate and transform a community that has long struggled with poverty and crime.

Ruth Cate, chairwoman of the Mary Black Foundation, made the announcement during the non-profit's annual grantee celebration breakfast at the Piedmont Club. She said the Northside area lacks an early education facility, and she hopes a new center will benefit the area's current and future residents and attract other individuals into the community for training.

"The Northside initiative is in the midst of a master planning

process," Cate said. "And while it is not complete, there is no doubt that a high-quality child development center will be critical to the success of the transformational plan."

Cate added, in a statement, that "our children are our most valuable asset, and a child development center in the Northside will ensure that children in the area are ready to succeed in kindergarten and all subsequent grade levels."

The Mary Black Foundation hopes the lead gift will encourage others to invest in the effort. An anonymous donor has already committed an additional \$500,000,

according to the foundation.

Molly Talbot-Metz, vice president of programs for the Mary Black Foundation, said a total project cost hasn't been determined, and the entire process, including center construction, could take three to five years. Steps will include completing the capital campaign, securing a location on the Northside and deciding how the center will be managed.

"We are really excited with everything that has been going on in the Northside," Talbot-Metz said. "It's clear that education is

◆ SEE NORTHSIDE PAGE A5

### Mr. & Mrs. Claus



MICHAEL JUSTUS/MICHAEL.JUSTUS@SHJ.COM

Santa and Mrs. Claus brought more than 350 food items to the pantry at Middle Tyger Community Center on Wednesday and visited the children at the center's child care facility. The food items, along with some monetary donations, came from the Hatcher Garden's "Santa in the Garden" event. See a photo gallery at [GoUpstate.com](http://GoUpstate.com).

### HEALTH CARE DEADLINE NEARS

## Rolls aren't filling up fast enough

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With time running short, the

Year's.

That means more trouble for the White House, too, after months of requiring a dysfunctional enrollment

### AT JONESVILLE FACILITY

## Belk adding 170 jobs

Department store chain is planning \$32M investment

By ZACH FOX  
zach.fox@shj.com

Belk Inc. is expanding its facility in Union County, a \$32 million investment expected to create 170 jobs by the end of 2015.

The Charlotte, N.C.-based department store giant is expanding its e-commerce distribution and fulfillment center in Jonesville. Belk already spent \$9 million to upgrade additional space at the 500,000-square-foot facility this year and added 124 jobs in 2012, according to a statement from the S.C. Department of Commerce.

Union County Supervisor Tommy Sinclair said the news of Belk's expansion shows a belief in Union County.

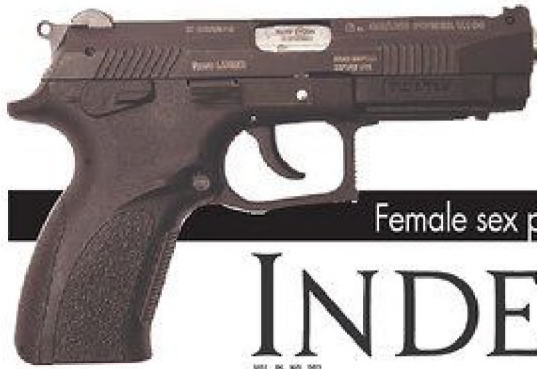
"It really shows confidence in the future of Union after some of the issues we had a few years ago," he said.

Union County has seen unemployment rates fall from about 20 percent to 10.4 percent as of October, according to the Department of Employment and Workforce. Sinclair said Belk played a big part in the numbers declining.

Joe Nichols, chairman of







Gun control groups  
keep up hope, **7A**

Female sex pill in limbo, **8A** ♦ Orange Bowl coaches show respect, **1B**

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VOL. 85, NO. 207

www.indexjournal.com

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50



**ZANKI-  
ROUS  
HURLEY**



**CALVIN  
HARRISON**

## 2 arrested in murder probe

By **MATT BRUCE**  
mbruce@indexjournal.com

Authorities made two arrests this week in a murder investigation from

Super Bowl Sunday when a Greenwood man was found beaten to death inside his home.

According to a statement issued Wednesday morning by the multi-

jurisdictional Violent Crimes Task Force, two Greenwood men face charges in the death of Vincent Leon Hurley, a 42-year-old Emerald City native.

Zankiourous Hurley, 17, of 110 Rebecca Drive, and Calvin Harrison, 26, of 225 Booker St., were each

See **ARRESTED**, page 4A



PHOTOS BY CHRIS TRAINOR | INDEXJOURNAL

State Sen. Floyd Nicholson, right, tells Mayor Welborn Adams the proper way to flip a burger during Wednesday's annual mayor's cookout for City of Greenwood employees.

## Adams, Nicholson host cookout for City of Greenwood employees

By **CHRIS TRAINOR** ♦ ctrainor@indexjournal.com

Years ago, state Sen. Floyd Nicholson, who was then the mayor of Greenwood, began a tradition of hosting a cookout, on his own dime, for City of Greenwood employees each December.

It's a tradition current Greenwood Mayor Welborn Adams carries on, with an assist from Nicholson.

The annual mayor's cookout was Wednesday afternoon at the city barn, just off Phoenix Street. All city employees were invited to the event, and were treated to hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, dessert and soft drinks. Nicholson even brought a pot of his

"famous" chili, the recipe for which allegedly is a closely guarded secret. Adams, who funded Wednesday's cookout, said it is merely a small representation

See **COOKOUT**, page 4A



State Sen. Floyd Nicholson, right, puts some of his "famous" chili on Greenwood Police officer Brandon White's burger during Wednesday's annual cookout for City of Greenwood employees.





ONE  
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ROUND



SHS football senior preps for North-South challenge as he finishes his high school career this weekend

B1

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# Shaw releases Nativity statement

Controversy sparks branch-wide review of holiday display protocol

BY RAYTEVIA EVANS  
revas@theitem.com

The removal of a Nativity scene near Memorial Lake at Shaw Air Force Base has prompted bases throughout the military branch to contact headquarters in Washington, D.C., for clarifications on holiday display guidelines.

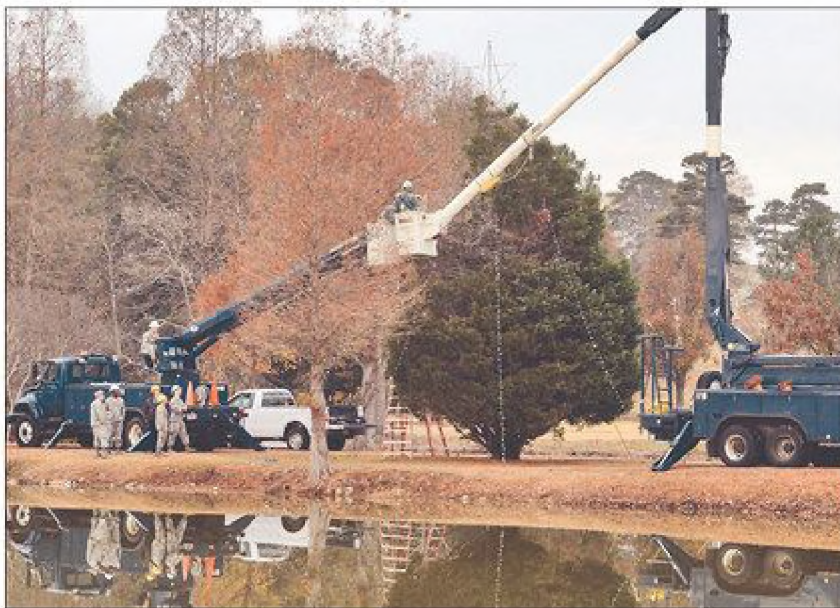
According to Shaw Public Affairs Officer Lt. Keavy Rake, top Air Force officials took the

time to specify what bases everywhere could do regarding holiday displays.

"Our headquarters put together a memo for base chaplains and base legal teams to clarify and make sure everyone is uniform across the board," Rake said.

In the memo, the Air Force clarified that items such as Nativity scenes and menorahs

SEE NATIVITY, PAGE A4



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JONATHAN L. BASS / SPECIAL TO THE ITEM  
Airmen string lights on the Shaw holiday tree at Memorial Lake recently at Shaw Air Force Base. The annual tree-lighting ceremony, hosted by the 20th Fighter Wing Chapel, was held Dec. 6.

Legislators gather for breakfast forum

## Infrastructure top issue at annual meet

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT  
bmarchant@theitem.com

When county residents went to meet with their legislators on Wednesday, many of them were apparently thinking about the pavement under their feet.

Sumter County's infrastructure needs took up much of the discussion time at the annual legislative breakfast at Central Carolina Technical College's Health Sciences Center. Most of the questions submitted by the audience ahead of time focused on roadwork in the county, and members of Sumter's legislative delegation agreed it's a major issue.

Road work isn't just an incon-



PHOTOS BY BRISTOW MARCHANT / THE ITEM

Sumter County legislators had a meal and a cup of coffee Wednesday at the annual legislative breakfast. From left are Reps. David Weeks, Murrell Smith and Grady Brown, Sens. Kevin Johnson and Thomas McElveen and Rep. Robert Ridgeway.

venience for drivers locally; it could also have an impact on the area's economic development.

"521 could be Sumter's super-highway," state Sen. Thomas

McElveen, D-Sumter, said of the U.S. highway running between Interstate 95 and Interstate 77,

SEE BREAKFAST, PAGE A10

## Pinewood plans special election for mayoral post

BY TYLER SIMPSON  
tysimp@theitem.com

Pinewood Town Council will hold a special election on March 4, which is 13 Tuesdays after council members received a letter of resignation from former Mayor Al Pridgen as required by state law.

According to a letter from Bill Taylor, field services manager for the Municipal Association of South Carolina, the date for the special election should be determined by the date the resignation letter was received, since the letter does not contain an effective resignation date.

Instead, Pridgen's declaration says it is effective "upon receipt of this letter," even though the letter is dated Oct. 31, indicating the former mayor had been contemplating resigning for some time.

"After prayerful thought, the recent death of my wife, Gladys G. Pridgen, the health problems I'm having, and the changes in my life, I feel I can no longer fulfill the duties of Mayor for the town of Pinewood," Pridgen's letter reads.

Under state law, the filing by candidates for the election will be opened at noon on Dec. 20, the third Friday after council received Pridgen's letter, and will be closed 10 days later.

According to Pinewood Town Clerk Felicia



PRIDGEN

## Senator files bill targeting offenders on bond

BY BRISTOW MARCHANT  
bmarchant@theitem.com

Criminals who commit new offenses after making bond on their first charge could face extra time behind bars

considered by the S.C. Senate.

State Sen. Thomas McElveen, D-Sumter, has pre-filed a bill for the legislative session beginning in January that would give prose-

Tuomey CEO sees changes ahead.

A10

ability to add time to the sentences of criminals who commit their

McElveen's proposal would allow 40 percent of the maximum sentence for the crime to be added to their time.

"We've seen recent high-profile cases of





## BUILDUP BEGINS

Swinney, Meyer  
meet ahead of  
Orange Bowl  
showdown. C1

**FAMILY:** Westminster residents, history buffs work to restore historical homes. B1

**WORLD | NATION:** Pope Francis named Time's Person of the Year. D1

## Officer cleared in teen's death

BY NORMAN CANNADA  
THE JOURNAL

WESTMINSTER — A Westminster Police officer was scheduled to be back on road patrol Wednesday night after she was cleared of wrongdoing.

in a police pursuit Nov. 29 that resulted in the death of a 14-year-old driver.

Police chief Dean Awalt said officer Lauren Sandberg was being taken off administrative leave after the investigation by Westminster Police and the

S.C. Highway Patrol determined she acted appropriately in the incident.

"Everything back on her is good," Awalt said. "She's cleared."

Sandberg was attempting to stop a car with four teenagers

inside that had run a stop sign and almost hit a car near the intersection of S.C. Highway 183 and U.S. Highway 123. The car did not stop for Sandberg's patrol vehicle, and the chase

SEE DEATH, PAGE A6



## Local Toys For Tots numbers down

BY MONICA KREBER  
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — The Seneca Marine Corps League is hoping more toys are in boxes this Friday when its Toys For Tots program wraps up.

Officials say right now toy donations are down significantly.

TO DONATE

For a listing of local places where you can drop off a new, unwrapped toy to donate to this year's Toys For Tots campaign, turn to page D2.

Callahan said compared to where numbers were last year, toy donations are down 25 percent, and the number of children needing toys is up 10 percent.

The Journal has been running a list of Toys For Tots drop-off locations in every Saturday edition this month.

Callahan said he fears if donations do not start rolling in soon, many children are not going to have much of a Christmas this year.

"They'll have something," he said. "They'll have a Christmas, but it won't be a nice Christmas."

For more information about how you can help, contact local coordinator Jim Stone at (864) 324-3501.

kreber@upstatetoday.com | (864) 971-4465  
Follow on Twitter @mkreber

## New year, new boss

New Clemson  
president confirms  
Jan. 1 start date

BY NORMAN CANNADA  
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — On his third trip to Clemson University since he was elected the school's new president, Jim Clements confirmed that his official starting date will be Jan. 1 and his first official duty will be attending the Orange Bowl game against Ohio State in Miami.



"I have a very tough first assignment," Clements joked in a speech to attendees of the annual Public Service Activities (PSA)/Extension Conference at the Madren Center Wednesday. Clements, who is finishing up his tenure as president of West Virginia University

SEE PRESIDENT, PAGE A6

## STAYING CONNECTED

SDPC set to allow electronic devices in classes

BY GREG OLIVER  
THE JOURNAL

PICKENS COUNTY — Teachers and administrators have typically frowned at the sight of students displaying technological devices during class sessions, often warning and eventually confiscating such items if they aren't put away.

However, school districts these days are more accepting to students who bring such devices to class. In Pickens County, a new program proposed by administrators, called "Bring Your Own Device," if approved by the board, could go into effect before the end of the current school year.

If approved by the school board, allow-

able student technology devices would include laptops, netbooks, notebooks, iPads, e-readers (Kindle, Nook), iPod Touch, tablets/slides, cellphones, smartphones, Nintendo DS and Sony PSP. Cellphones and smartphones are not available for elementary students.

"This type of technology didn't exist four years ago," said Barbara Nesbitt, early childhood, elementary and instructional technology coordinator for the

school district. "This is technology that makes kids think and do work."

George Manley, a teacher at Forest Acres Elementary who presented a demonstration to school board members at a recent meeting, said

SEE DEVICES, PAGE A6



JESSICA NELSON / THE JOURNAL

## Long-awaited Sewer South gets 'historic' groundbreaking

BY CARLOS GALARZA-VEVE  
THE JOURNAL

FAIR PLAY — District 5 County Councilman Reg Dexter is not often known for cheerful humor, but on a day that many called "historic" to describe a ceremonial groundbreaking on the more than \$7 million Sewer South project, he looked like a

Winchester, director of the Oconee Joint Regional Sewer Authority (OJRSA), Hank Field, chairman of the Economic Development Commission, and Seneca Mayor Dan Alexander had stolen his thunder.

"Dan Alexander, I had a great closing until you spoke," Dexter said, eliciting laughs. "I'm here

appointed," he said. Then, Dexter turned a more serious tone.

"I've heard it's a great day," he said. "I'm just going to lower that a little bit, don't want to put a damper. I'm going to call it a good day. It will become a great day when I can turn into this street here and see some building coming up, because









# Morning News

THURSDAY DECEMBER 12, 2013

**TODAY'S  
WEATHER**

Cool with times of clouds  
and sun, high 52, low 22

DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

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## Trust buster

City board approves demolition of historic downtown building

City of Florence Design Review Board members Nathaniel Mitchell, Chairman Cary Andrews and Billy Poston listen to Phillip Lookadoo, director of planning, research and development for the city, speak during Wednesday's meeting.



GAVIN JACKSON/MORNING NEWS

BY GAVIN JACKSON  
Morning News  
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The city of Florence Design Review Board voted 6-1 Wednesday to approve the certificate of appropriateness for the demolition of the 96-year-old historic Trust building.

The hearing, delayed since October, consisted of more than four hours worth of presentations from 25 individuals. Speakers included downtown property owners, Florence City-County Historical Commission members and supporters, city and county council members, representatives from Francis Marion University (FNU President Dr. L. Fred Carter was

present but did not speak), engineers and other interested parties in the dilapidated building that sits in the heart of downtown that will now be demolished with the land being conveyed to FMU for a new health sciences facility.

Florence City Manager Drew Griffin provided the board and audience with clarity on the charge before the DRB and the importance of the decision.

"One of the key tenets of successful economic redevelopment is that the city and those involved who are involved in economic redevelopment take advantage of opportunities when they come to you," Griffin said. "The Francis Marion

See **TRUST**, Page 6A

## Volunteers needed for Habitat's new house

Officials try to get Florence family in home by Christmas

BY TRACI BRIDGES  
Morning News  
tbridges@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Greater Florence Habitat for Humanity wants Chris and Jennifer Suggs and their children to spend this Christmas in their new home.

But to make that happen, they'll need some help — this weekend, for starters.

"We need skilled laborers, contractors, really anyone that

### WANT TO HELP?

Those who are interested in helping on the build are encouraged to call the Habitat office at 843-665-1624.

can hammer a nail," said Wanda Fields of the local Habitat of Humanity agency. "We're going to need people who know how to put up vinyl siding. We need plumbers, electricians, painters, people who know heating and air, people who know flooring, people to install cabinets in the kitchen. There's still a good bit of work to be done on the house, and we have jobs for anybody who's willing to volunteer their time. We really need people to come out and help if we're going to get the Suggs in their home by Christmas. And if we can't make it by Christmas, we at least want to have them there by the first of the new year."

Habitat officials broke ground on the new house in Pointe South subdivision in south Florence in September — the first Habitat build in Florence in more than two years.

The Suggs and their three

## Giving Christmas joy



PHOTOS BY JOHN RUSSELL/MORNING NEWS



The Angel Choir sings Wednesday during the annual First Presbyterian Living Nativity event in Florence. For more than 40 years the event has featured the story of Christmas and includes children acting out the story and singing. Pastor Barry Jenkins said the event is open to the community as well as church members and serves to bring joy to the community. To view





## Orange talk with Dabo and Urban

SPORTS, B1



## SHAGGING TO REMEMBER

in memory of

*Karen J. Williams*

and

*Frances Dell Jennings*

LEISURE, A8

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2013

# The Times and Democrat

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3 SECTIONS, 28 PAGES • VOL. 132 • NO. 346

## Ex-funeral home bookkeeper pleads guilty to embezzlement

### Woman gets probation, must pay back \$12,000

By RICHARD WALKER  
T&D Staff Writer

A former Dukes-Harley Funeral Home bookkeeper accused of taking part in embezzling \$200,000 from the business has been sentenced to probation and restitution.

Joan Sanders, 42, entered a guilty plea to a charge of breach of trust over \$10,000 in General Sessions Court on

Wednesday.

Circuit Judge Ed Dickson sentenced the former bookkeeper to 10 years in prison, suspended to time served and five years of probation.

Sanders was also ordered to turn over her retirement fund held with the funeral home and repay the business \$12,000.

Jim Adcock, former Orangeburg County coroner and ex-funeral home employee, was also charged in connection with the embezzlement. Prosecutors say his case is pending. No date has been set for Adcock's trial.

Both Sanders and Adcock were arrested in March after an auditor found serious discrepancies in the funeral home's finances a month earlier.

Prosecutor Sarah Ford said that audit and the ensuing investigation turned up evidence that money had been siphoned out of the family-owned business since 2003.

Ford said investigators found Sanders had altered check amounts and converted the differences to her personal use. Ford said it was the state's opinion the amount taken from the business topped \$200,000.

"Do you agree with what she said?" Dickson asked Sanders.

"Yes, sir," Sanders replied, dabbing at her eyes with a tissue.

Defense attorney Frank Quattlebaum told the court the actions "were so unlike (Sanders), to do something like this. She is so ashamed."

Quattlebaum said the stealing began years ago when Sanders would pay for company expenses with her own personal financial cards. She was then given access to a company card, which she began using for small personal expenses that got out of hand, he said.



T&amp;D FILES

Joan Sanders in court earlier in 2013.

See BOOKKEEPER, A5

### 'WE NEED DOCTORS NOW'



LARRY HARRIS/T&D  
Ruth Mustard addresses the concerns of an Orangeburg County veteran at a town hall meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 11. Mustard is the associate director for patient care and nursing services at the William Jennings Bryan Dorn VA Medical Center in Columbia.

## VA 'aggressively' seeking physicians for Orangeburg clinic, officials say

## Brother denied bond in killing of businessman

By RICHARD WALKER  
T&D Staff Writer

Bond was denied for one of two brothers charged in the September shooting death of Orangeburg businessman Mike Carter, whose body was found inside a burned vehicle.

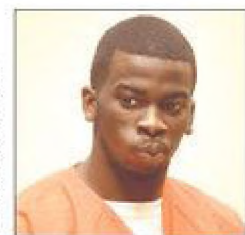
Circuit Judge Ed Dickson denied bond for 25-year-old Leroy Glover, who, along with his brother, Jason Glover, is charged with murder in Carter's death.

Jason Glover, 23, was not present to make a request for bond. He is still being held at the county jail.

Carter's body was found in a burned vehicle on Antioch Road near Santee after firefighters were called to extinguish a vehicle fire near a wooded area. Law enforcement was called in when fire crews found a body inside the burned Toyota Land Cruiser.

Prosecutor Harrison Bell said the state's belief is that the brothers lured Carter to a Country Colony mobile home just outside of Orangeburg where he was killed. Carter's body was then driven to a remote location near Santee, and his vehicle was set on fire, Bell said.

Phone records indicate Carter had received a phone call from Glover's



LARRY HARRIS/T&amp;D

Bond was denied Wednesday for Leroy Glover, the 25-year-old who, along with his brother, Jason Glover, is charged with murder in the death of businessman Mike Carter, whose body was found in his burned vehicle.

phone just prior to his departing for the Country Colony residence, Bell said.

Within an hour of the Santee vehicle fire and discovery, Orangeburg firefighters were called to the Country Colony home Leroy Glover rented from Carter, the prosecutor

See KILLING, A5

## Man gets 17 years for raping man at gunpoint

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