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To:

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Subject: SC Front Pages – Tuesday, June 16, 2015

SC Front Pages – Tuesday, June 16, 2015



SPORTS, 1C BOBSLEDDER FINDS SUCCESS



LIFESTYLE, 1D Help kids stay safe in the sun

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

TUESDAY,
JUNE 16, 2015
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY

SPOKANE NAACP LEADER RESIGNS AMID SCRUTINY OVER RACE PAGE 1B

Board stands by parking charge

All GSP patrons must pay
required posted rate

ANGELIA DAVIS

STAFF WRITER
DAVISAL@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

The Greenville-Spartanburg Airport's operational decision to end free parking for disabled patrons was supported in full by its board of commissioners, Minor Shaw, board chairwoman, said Monday.

In February, GSP ended its policy of offering free parking to people with a handicap. Now, all passengers, including the handicapped, are required to pay the posted parking rate.

Peter Roberts, who is disabled and uses handicapped parking at GSP as he travels in his work as an advocate for people with cancer, has publicly opposed the parking fee change.

He is asking state lawmakers to update the code for free handicapped parking by adding wording that would include districts such as the airport.

Roslyn Weston, spokeswoman for GSP, said the change was made in an effort to be fair to all GSP passengers.

Shaw said while the decision was operational, it was discussed for some time with commissioners.

"They did a lot research on it and benchmarked other airports, too," Shaw said. "The commission was comfortable with the decision."

Airports such as Charleston International Airport and Columbia Metropolitan Airport still offer free parking to the disabled, spokeswoman from those airports said.

However, some other airports, such as Florida's Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport and Palm Beach International Airport, don't exempt people with disabled placards from paying parking fees.

Tri-Cities Airport in Tennessee announced in spring 2014 that it would no longer allow handicapped customers to park for free. A spokeswoman at the time cited increased usage.

Like Shaw, GSP Commissioner Bill Barnett said the issue of charging for handicap parking spaces was studied for some time before it was recommended by the staff.

"Our staff is a very thoughtful group of people who have studied a lot of tough issues over time and are trying to do what's right for all the people who use the airport," Barnett said.

"There have been, historically, some abuses by folks using handicap markers to park their cars for extended periods of times."

South Carolina requires municipalities to provide free handicapped parking in most public parking lots.

I-85: A PATCHWORK OF PROBLEMS



Commissioner: Problems caused by original design

TIM SMITH

STAFF WRITER
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COLUMBIA — Deteriorating pavement under a stretch of Interstate 85 was the result of the road's original design but was not picked up by core samples taken before a contractor began a \$44 million paving project that was halted earlier this year, a state highway commissioner says.

A spokesman for the state Department of Transportation, meanwhile, says the core samples taken were looking for other things, not the problem that halted the project.

"Bottom line is that we have not in the past performed the tests on cores taken to determine delamination of underlying layers, but for strength and structural numbers only," spokesman Pete Poore told *The Greenville News*. "This decision was based on historical performance on the underlying layers on the interstate system for numerous years."

State Department of Transportation Commissioner Woody Willard, who represents Greenville and Spartanburg counties, told *The News* that he has been told the protocols followed on the I-85 project were the same as those followed on all other interstate projects in the state.

Asked whether the problems that halted the project could have been found before earlier this year, Willard said they could have been, in theory.

"I think the answer to that, in hindsight, would be yes," Willard said. "The answer to that at the time the decisions

Asphalt patches line the southbound lane of Interstate 85 near exit 59.

See I-85, Page 4A

The Post and Courier

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Tuesday, June 16, 2015

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Episcopal Church offers \$500M deal

High-ranking cleric says settlement to end split 'unanimously rejected'

BY JENNIFER BERRY HAWES
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The Episcopal Church and its local diocese have pitched a settlement offer that would allow 35 parishes that defected in 2012 to take roughly \$500 million in church properties with them in a bid to end the long-

running ecclesiastical split that has reached the state Supreme Court. The parishes haven't formally responded, but a high-ranking cleric said the offer branch will not be accepted. "It was unanimously rejected by all the parties to the litigation," the Rev. Jim Lewis said. The offer to end a protracted legal

pc Poll

What do you think of the settlement offered to the breakaway diocese by the Episcopal Church? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

battle would include some of Charleston's most historic colonial parishes: St. Philip's and St. Michael's churches in downtown Charleston, Old St. Andrew's in West Ashley and Christ

Church in Mount Pleasant.

In exchange, the national church would keep the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina name and identifying marks, along with St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, the bishop's residence and trust funds worth several millions.

The Rt. Rev. Charles von Rosenberg, bishop of the diocese that remains with the national church, said he hopes the offer is a step toward reconciliation.

"You be who you are, and we be

who we are, and let's be brothers and sisters in Christ," vonRosenberg said.

However, Lewis sees little reason to negotiate given a Circuit Court judge ruled strongly in their favor earlier this year, saying they had the right to leave and take their properties and the Diocese of South Carolina name and marks with them.

The S.C. Supreme Court set Sept. 23 to hear arguments in the lawsuit.

Please see **EPISCOPAL**, Page A6

Lowcountry shows its steamy side again

Monday ties record with 98 degrees, and the misery's here to stay



GRACE BRAHAM/STAFF

"I checked my car; it said 101. I'm trying to hide from the sun," said David Carter of D.C. Painting, as he worked Monday on the renovation of the Olde Village Market and Deli on East Montague Avenue in North Charleston.

BY BO PETERSEN
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High humidity arrived a bit later than usual, but it turned up over the weekend arm in arm with the heat. And they're not about to leave.

Monday's high of 98 at the National Weather Service, Charleston office in North Charleston tied an official daily record, and forecasters issued heat advisories for the Lowcountry.

National Weather Service forecasters in Charleston are predicting heat indexes into the 100s with mid- to upper-90s temperatures until the weekend, at least. Night-time temperatures will be a warm mid- to upper 70s.

pc Poll

How do you handle the intense heat of Lowcountry summers? Go to postandcourier.com/polls to vote.

There's not even an isolated thunderstorm in sight for relief, at least until later in the week.

"The next couple of days look really hot," said Weather Service meteorologist John Quagliarello. A few hints from the Weather Service and myriad other sources: Keep cool is the golden rule. Slow down. Seek shade.

Please see **HEAT**, Page A5



WADE SPEED/STAFF

Travis Blankenship guides a crane-suspended air conditioner into place on the roof of the new Nordstrom Rack store on Monday in Mount Pleasant. "It's hot, but somebody's gotta do it, right?" he said.

Cautious visitors return to beach

Two lose limbs in N.C. shark attacks

BY EMERY P. DALESIO
and EMILY MASTERS
Associated Press

OAK ISLAND, N.C. — Beachgoers cautiously returned to the ocean Monday after two young people lost limbs in separate, life-threatening shark attacks in the same town in North Carolina.

A 12-year-old girl lost her left arm below the elbow and suffered a leg injury Sunday afternoon; then about an hour and 20 minutes later and 2 miles away, a shark bit off the left arm above the elbow of a 16-year-old boy.

Both had been swimming about 20 yards offshore, in waist-deep water.

A shark expert says the best response after one of these extremely rare attacks is to temporarily close beaches that lack lifeguards. Local officials acknowledged Monday that they didn't make a concerted effort to warn people up and down the town's beaches until after the second attack.

Please see **SHARK**, Page A5

U.S. health data raises privacy concerns

Can the wrong person gain access to your Obamacare info?

BY RICARDO ALONSO ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A government data warehouse stores personal information indefinitely on millions of people who seek coverage under President Barack Obama's health care law, including those who open an account on HealthCare.gov but don't sign up for coverage.

At a time when major breaches have become distressingly common, the vast scope of the information — and the lack of a clear plan for destroying old records — have raised concerns about privacy and the government's judgment on technology.

"A basic privacy principle is that you don't retain data any longer than you have to," said Lee Tien, a senior staff attorney with the Electronic Frontier Foundation. "The more data you keep, the more harm an attacker or unauthorized person can do."

Please see **HEALTH**, Page A12

Inside

SPORTS

McKissick's grandson Joe Call ready to carry on legacy, C1

YOUR HEALTH

10-year-old saves friend from choking in Goose Creek, D1

LOCAL

Wounded Berkeley County deputy back in hospital, A6

Ex-Eutawville chief's second murder trial begins in killing of unarmed black man

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
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COLUMBIA — A former South Carolina police chief went on trial again Monday in the killing of an unarmed black man in a case that drew national attention in the aftermath of racially charged deaths around the country.

Richard Combs, who is white, is charged with murder in the May 2011 shooting death of Bernard

Bailey. His first trial in Orangeburg ended in a mistrial after the jury was unable to reach a verdict.

Neither the defense nor the prosecution has said race played a factor in Bailey's death during the first trial or in opening statements for the second trial, which was moved to Columbia.

Wally Fayssoux, the attorney representing the former Eutawville police chief, said Monday the defense would again argue that Combs shot

Bailey in self-defense under South Carolina's "Stand Your Ground" law.

That claim was countered by the prosecutor, 1st Circuit Solicitor David Pascoe, who told jurors Combs acted with "malice" and "reckless disregard" when he confronted Bailey with a "trumped-up" warrant for an obstruction of justice charge on May 2, 2011.

Please see **COMBS**, Page A6



Mostly sunny.
High 99. Low 76.
Complete 5-day
forecast, B10

Bridge — B9 Crossword — B6, C8 Sports — C1
Business — B1 Editorials — A10 Sudoku — B7
Classifieds — C5 Movies — B7 Television — B6
Comics — B8, 9 Obituaries — B4 Your Health — D1

Charleston Deals today East Cooper Gymnastics
Half off 1 week of summer camp
See A2



SC
BY THE
NUMBERS

Where the
Palmetto
state ranks,
from beaches
to barbecue
Page C1

BASEBALL ALL YEAR ROUND:

With three teams
in 2016, fans can
watch baseball
from February
until September
Page B1



The State

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015 | THESTATE.COM

Slaying suspect offered plea deal

Man is 3rd person charged in 2013 killing of mother
as she worked alone at Columbia bakery

By HARRISON CAHILL
hcahill@thestate.com

A plea deal was offered Monday for the third suspect charged in the 2013 shooting death of a 33-year-old mother of four at a Columbia bakery.

In a deal negotiated be-

tween prosecutors and defense attorneys, assistant solicitors Luck Campbell, Dolly Garfield and Nicole Simpson offered to reduce the murder charge against 20-year-old Troy Stevenson to voluntary manslaughter for his alleged involvement in the death of

Kelly Hunnewell.

The deal, assistant prosecutors said, is only good until 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, when jurors are sworn in.

The offer includes a 20-year prison sentence with no chance at parole, but Stevenson would have a chance to leave after 17



Hunnewell

years served for good behavior.

But it would be unlikely that Stevenson would leave prison, since

he also is facing charges in the killing of second-degree burglary, attempted armed robbery and kidnapping, which

carry a total maximum sentencing of 60 years. He is being represented by attorney Aimee Zmroczek.

If Stevenson takes the plea deal, he would be sentenced on all the charges at the same time.

Monday, a jury of seven blacks and five whites was seated. Shortly after Circuit Judge Robert Hood dismissed the jury around 4 p.m., the prosecution off-

ered Stevenson the deal.

Two of Stevenson's co-defendants, Lorenzo Barnes and Trenton Young, were both found guilty of murder last year.

Around 3:45 a.m. July 1, 2013, Stevenson, then 18, is accused of being the "look-out" for his younger half-brother Barnes, then 16, and Young, then 18, as they

SEE DEAL PAGE A6



Latta Police Chief Crystal Moore hugs Wanda Braxton in the Latta Police office. Moore was fired by the mayor because of her sexuality. The town rallied behind her and the Town Council reinstated her in 2014.

Documentary details small-town saga of gay SC police chief

'I'm just a true Southern girl, trying to make a living, and who I love shouldn't matter'

By JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

and allow gays to get married, folks in the small Pee Dee town of Latta had already taken their own

because she was involved in a romantic relationship with another woman, citizens flocked to the polls and stripped the mayor of his powers. Town Council then hired Chief Crystal Moore back.

Tuesday night, this unlikely sa-

theater along Main Street in downtown Columbia.

"I didn't know you could fire somebody because they are gay," said Moore, 43, widely called Miss Crystal. "All I wanted was to be treated equally. I worked here

High marks for new speaker; Senate split on new leader

'Got to start taking some votes'

By JAMIE SELF
jsself@thestate.com

The glaring failures of this year's Legislature happened under the watch of new leadership in the South Carolina House and Senate. But House Speaker Jay Lucas and Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leathman faced very different challenges and produced very different results, lawmakers say.

INSIDE House members generally say Lucas, a Darlington Republican, is doing a great job — building consensus

and passing a proposal to update the state's ethics laws and a roads funding bill that could have withstood Gov. Nikki Haley's veto threat.

Lucas also has made good on his promise to make the House more open and democratic, a pledge he made when he succeeded Bobby Harrell after the Charleston Republican re-

Local sharks 101

What 5 sharks are most commonly found in our waters?

By REBECCA LURYE
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Despite shark attacks that severely injured two teenagers in North Carolina over the weekend, experts say it's rare for local beachgoers to encounter aggressive species.

MORE INSIDE
For more on the shark attacks in North Carolina, go to 7A.

Only once in a while do people on Hilton Head Island spot bull sharks, the most dangerous of local shark species and one of the top three species in the world responsible for unprovoked shark attacks, said George Burgess, director of the International Shark Attack File at the Florida Museum of Natural History.

It was not clear Monday what type of shark or sharks are implicated in the pair of attacks Sunday in the beach town of Oak Island, N.C., about 35 miles from the South Carolina border.

Please see SHARKS on 7A



JAY KARR • Staff photo

Beachgoers play in the ocean waters of Hilton Head's South Forest Beach on Monday. For video from the beach, click on this story at beaufortgazette.com.



File • Staff photo

Robert Smalls International Academy will shelve this logo that some found offensive and historically inaccurate.

School to redo logo for mascot

Robert Smalls International Academy will scrap an emblem that some found offensive and historically inaccurate.

By STEPHEN FASTENAU
sfastenau@beaufortgazette.com
843-706-8182

Robert Smalls International Academy will shelve a mascot logo some found offensive and historically inaccurate and will move forward with selecting another option.

Members of the Robert Smalls Association met last week with Beaufort County School District superintendent Jeff Moss and Robert Smalls school principal Nicole Holloman to discuss the association's objections to the logo, which was being considered to represent the school's mascot, the Generals.

Members of the association, which includes Robert Smalls School alumni, felt the logo with a half-black, half-white face and Revolutionary War-era hat was an affront to Smalls, an escaped slave who became a Civil War hero and five-term congressman.

Association president Linda Robinson said the meeting was productive and there is an agreement not to consider the logo moving forward. She also was assured the school's alma mater would not change, after hearing the school might have been writing a new song.

"At least we got rid of what was unfavorable, demeaning — I think we're back on track," Robinson said.

A mat with the logo inside the school entrance has been removed.

The logo remains on the school's website.

Please see LOGO on 7A

HOW TO IDENTIFY THE FIVE MOST COMMON SPECIES OF SHARKS FOUND IN OUR WATERS:

Blacktip

- Gray body with black markings on all but the rear bottom fin, closest to the tail.
- Grows up to 6 feet and lives longer than 10 years.
- Found off the East Coast from New England to Mexico, but most commonly between North Carolina and Texas. Uses shallow in-shore waters from South Carolina to Texas as nursery areas for its pups in the spring and summer.



Shark photos from NOAA

Atlantic sharpnose

- Brownish-gray body with scattered white spots.
- Grows to about 4 feet and lives up to 12 years.
- Lives in coastal, shallow waters from New Jersey to Florida, often near surf zones, enclosed bays, sounds or harbors and marine to brackish estuaries.



Blacknose

- Yellowish-gray to brown- or greenish-gray body, with a dusky, black blotch on the tip of the snout and possibly on the second dorsal fin.
- Grows to about 4.5 feet and lives up to 19 years.
- Lives in inshore coastal waters from North Carolina to Brazil. They nurse in coastal bays such as Bulls Bay off Awendaw in Charleston County.



Spinner

- Nearly identical to the blacktip, spinners are distinguishable by a longer snout and black coloring on the rear bottom fin, a marking the blacktip lacks.
- Grows to about 9 feet and lives up to 20 years.
- Found in coastal waters from Virginia to Florida.



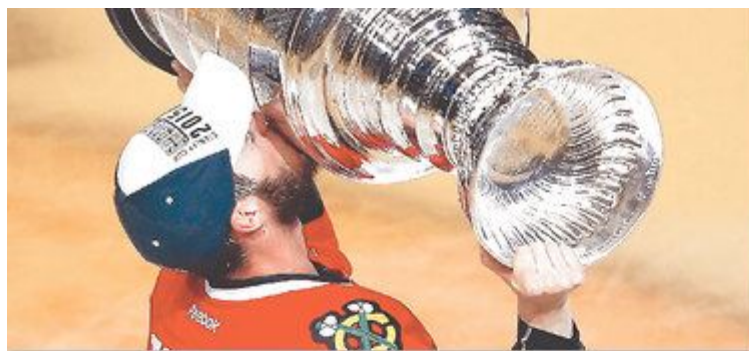
Smooth hammerhead

- Gray body, characterized

SHARK BITES RARE IN BEAUFORT COUNTY WATERS

No one has reported being bitten by a shark in the waters off Beaufort County since May 2014, confirmed shark attacks off Hilton Head Island were in 2006. A 7-year-old girl was injured





HARD-WON VICTORY

Chicago Blackhawks defeat Tampa Bay to win Stanley Cup B1

Herald-Journal

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HJ
IN A HURRY

5 Things to read today



On the trail

Presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham spent Monday afternoon at a Greer aerospace facility. The senator used the stop at Honeywell International to talk about his three biggest priorities. **PAGE C1**

2 charged in fatal

An argument that escalated to gunfire outside a mobile home in Union left a woman dead Sunday night. Union County deputies later arrested two suspects. **PAGE C1**

Wary of the water

Beachgoers cautiously returned to the ocean Monday after two young people lost limbs in separate, life-threatening shark attacks in the same town in North Carolina. **PAGE A3**

Bush enters race

Vowing to win the Republican presidential nomination on his own merits, Jeb Bush launched a White House bid months in the making Monday with a promise to stay true to his beliefs — easier said than done in a bristling primary contest. **PAGE A3**

Identity in question

Rachel Dolezal resigned as president of the NAACP's Spokane chapter Monday just days after her parents said she is a white woman posing as black — a dizzyingly swift fall for an activist credited with injecting new energy into the civil rights organization. **PAGE A4**

ROOMS WITH A VIEW



The planned AC Hotel by Marriott at the corner of West Main Street and Daniel Morgan Avenue will include 114 rooms, a rooftop bar with an outdoor terrace, an outdoor pool and a landscaped garden at street level, among other features. PROVIDED

Developers aim high with plans for downtown hotel

By JENNY ARNOLD
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It will be easy for visitors and locals alike to "feel the city" when OTO Development's \$20 million dollar, 10-story AC Hotel by Marriott towers over downtown Spartanburg.

OTO Development CEO Corry Oakes and Spartanburg businessman George Dean "Geordy" Johnson III unveiled details for the project during a reveal party Monday at Indigo Hall. Plans to build downtown were announced in February. The *Herald-Journal* first reported the hotel's brand, the catchphrase for which is "Feel the City" last week.



Panel to look at gun issue

Speakers protest idea of putting limits on firing of weapons

By CHRIS LAVENDER
chris.lavender@shj.com

Several residents told Spartanburg County Council Monday the county doesn't need a new ordinance to regulate where firearms can be discharged.

The residents spoke out against the council's decision to form a citizen's advisory committee to study whether people should be allowed to fire guns in densely populated county neighborhoods. Unlike the city of Spartanburg, which has an ordinance prohibiting the discharging of a firearm within city limits, there are no such restrictions in the county.

The council selected one resident from each council district to serve on the committee. The committee members include Paul Wilford, Brent Glover, Cibby Krell, David Chapman, John Barton Jr., Sonny Justice and Sabrina Gist. The committee also includes Deputy County Administrator Jim Hipp, County Deputy Attorney Ginny Dupont and Capt. Tim Metz from the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office. Hipp was named as the committee's temporary chairman.

Council Chairman Jeff Horton said that no ordinance setting guidelines on where firearms can be discharged in the county has been drafted. He also said there is no timeframe on when the committee would report its findings and recommendations to the council.

Horton said the need to review the issue was not initiated by the council but rather raised by concerned county residents, who believe the matter should be addressed. The issue is a public safety matter and not an infringement on Second Amendment rights by the council, Horton said.

Horton said he believed that some in the public have spread false information about what was happening and what the committee was tasked to do. The council



REGION

2 children hurt in shark attacks

Each victim loses 1 arm on North Carolina beach A3

2 men drown at Lake Marion

BY KONSTANTIN VENGERSKY
konstantin@thetitem.com

Two men drowned during the week-end in separate incidents on Lake Marion in Clarendon and Orangeburg counties.

The first incident occurred Friday evening in Orangeburg County when a boat crashed, according to Capt. Robert McCullough of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The body of Olin Nelson Tindal Sr., 78, of Orangeburg was recovered by DNR's dive team on Sunday about 9 a.m. Dive teams are still looking for the boat and motor, McCullough said. No other details of the incident were available.

The second incident occurred in

SEE DROWNINGS, PAGE A9

Car show will honor sophomore

Proceeds will help provide scholarship named for teen

BY KONSTANTIN VENGERSKY
konstantin@thetitem.com

Katie Carter was one of those people who lit up a room with her smile upon entering it. She was described as one who touched the lives of every person she met and was a young woman of strong faith who always placed the needs of others before her own.



Katie died from a sudden illness May 3. She was 16 and a sophomore at Sumter High School.

To honor her memory and to raise money for a scholarship fund in her name, several Sumter High students and faculty are organizing a car and

SEE KATIE, PAGE A9

REVITALIZATION WORK

Downtown hotel prep continues



BOCK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Carolina Wrecking Inc. of Columbia began knocking down the building at 10 N. Main St. next to the proposed location of the unidentified downtown hotel across the street from Sumter Opera House on Monday. The crew should complete the demolition of that building and the building at 8 N. Main St. by the end of the week or the beginning of next week. The buildings being demolished are across the street and a little south of the Sumter Opera House, seen in the background.

Construction will begin after 2 North Main Street buildings demolished

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@thetitem.com

Construction of the yet to be disclosed hotel on Main Street is set to start before the end of the year after the demolition of two buildings on North Main Street this month.

Mayor Joe McElveen said the city has been planning to demolish the two buildings at 8 and 10 N. Main St. for a number of years.

"Those buildings need to come down," he said.

In particular, he said the building at 10 N. Main St. was in such bad shape that it would be unfeasible for the city to repair. According to a report from Sumter City Planning Department, it would cost the city about \$1.6 million to rehabilitate the building.


Sumter County Fire Chief Karl Ford submitted a letter to the planning department declaring the building unsafe and recommended it be demolished, according to the report. The building at 8 N. Main St. is

considered to be an intrusion in the downtown area because it detracts from the area's sense of time, place and architectural designs, according to another report from the planning department.

That report said the building was constructed about 1868 and was the site of one of the first jewelers in the city.

Sumter Historic Preservation Design Review Committee gave approval

SEE DOWNTOWN, PAGE A4



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MORE DETAILS ON PAGE 3A

Morning News

TUESDAY JUNE 16, 2015

**TODAY'S
WEATHER**

Very hot, partly
cloudy and warm.
High 103, low 78.
DETAILS 2A

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FLORENCE ROTARY CLUB

Boeing SC official talks progress, expansions



Mark Fava (left), chief counsel of Boeing South Carolina, spoke to members of the Florence Rotary Club about business progress and expansions Monday at Victor's in Florence.

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The Florence Rotary Club got an inside look at the work taking place at Boeing's South Carolina operation from some of the company's chief executives for the state during the club's weekly meeting Monday at Victor's.

Mark Fava, the chief

counsel of Boeing South Carolina, told the group of local leaders that the Charleston Boeing facility has more than 1,000 orders for the Dreamliner 787 from 60 customers across the world. He noted that Boeing expects more than 3,000 planes of this particular model to hit the market in coming years.

"We're much more than just a company that builds airplanes," Fava said. "We'll

unquestionably be here for future generations of employment."

He said the planes being built at the North Charleston site are designed with the traveler in mind, focusing on safety and comfort for longer trips.

"We wanted to design an airplane for the passenger that was more comfortable than anything else on the market," Fava said. "The planes coming out of the

North Charleston facility are a great example of that."

Fava said Boeing South Carolina employees 7,500 people and will expand to more than 8,000 after several facility expansions. The company has invested more than \$2 billion dollars since 2009.

"We have phenomenal state support, not only

See **BOEING**, Page 3A

West Florence Fire District

Haley vetoes fire bill

BY GAVIN JACKSON
Morning News
gjackson@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — A veto by Gov. Nikki Haley on a bill strengthening the West Florence Fire District special purpose district could be overturned this week when legislators return to Columbia.

The bill addresses several issues with the special purpose district that the county outlined in a lawsuit against the WFDD and the state last September. It proposed adding some 90 parcels, from the High Gate subdivision off Hoffmeyer Road in Darlington County, into the WFDD special purpose district.

This was a larger move than what the law, which created the special purpose district, did last year when three parcels of Darlington County, served by the Palmetto Rural Fire Department, were added.

By including a portion of another county, lawmakers can get around prohibited single-county legislation.

"It is illogical, unfair and unprecedented to shuffle residents between service providers in this manner," Haley said in her June 13 veto message.

"First, this bill is the subject of, and response to, a pending lawsuit. The bill singles out a neighborhood in Darlington County currently well served by the Darlington County Fire District and annexes these residents into a different fire district in a neighboring county.

"Second, this bill includes a five-year sunset provision which would

FLORENCE



Rich Kopituk (left) and his wife, Mary (center) speak with Steven C. Smith about the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta's signing on Monday evening in the Stukes Meeting Room at the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation Library.

Historians celebrate Magna Carta signing

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — "It's not the historic document itself that we must remember, but the founding principles set forth by the Magna Carta that remain alive in western civilization today."

This was the thought that

resonated amongst a group gathered to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta's signing on Monday evening in the Stukes Meeting Room at the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation Library.

Steven C. Smith, chancellor of the revived Henricus College (1619), organized the gathering and commented on the decline of teachings on

the Magna Carta's importance in recent decades.

"The Magna Carta is an instance in history that is extremely important but it's often neglected here because it came from another country and happened 800 years ago," Smith said. "The 'so what' is western civilization. It inspired the freedom loving documents that we abide by

today."

The accord was signed on June 15, 1215, in Runnymede, England by King John. The document established that the king was subject to the law and protected fundamental rights of society.

Smith said America's founding fathers drew inspiration

See **MAGNA**, Page 4A

Construction spawns parking dilemmas, city offers solutions

BY GAVIN JACKSON
Morning News
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spots sit behind buildings on North Irby Street, across from

Mayor Stephen J. Wukela and downtown development man-

to do is develop a plan to deal with that and to make sure ev-

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