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The Post and Courier

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Friday, April 8, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Haley slams McMaster over ethics measure

Says 'there is no good excuse' for move to kill income-disclosure requirement

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
croltan@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley stung out the state's second-in-command Thursday — Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster — for striking down

an ethics reform bill amendment that would require elected officials to disclose their private sources of income. Haley posted on social media that she never thought McMaster, who is also a Republican, would help to "kill income disclosures."

Palmetto Politics
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"We have fought for this for four years because people deserve to know who pays their elected officials — including the part-time ones, like the legislators and the lieutenant governor."

Haley wrote, "Income disclosure was killed by (Democratic Sen.) Gerald Malloy and Henry McMaster," she added. "There is no good excuse for what happened today — and how incredibly sad we are for our state."

The bill pending before the Senate — in its original form from the House — called for independent investigation by an outside panel to look into lawmaker misdeeds. But Sen. Larry Mar-

tin, R. Pickens, made several changes to the bill. While it still included the independent investigations mandate, it had become so reworked to include the private income disclosure requirement that the new version of the bill was ruled out of order on a technicality.

McMaster, abiding by the rules of the Senate, said he found the changes were not relevant to the original bill.

Please see ETHICS, Page A8

Time to catch the fun

Bill Murray, Mayor Tecklenburg clown around at RiverDogs opener



Bill Murray, actor, comedian and part-owner of the Charleston RiverDogs, caught the ceremonial first pitch from Mayor John Tecklenburg to kick off the 2016 baseball season at Riley Park, where the RiverDogs took on the Columbia Fireflies. Below, Murray and the RiverDogs mascot try — unsuccessfully — to hoist Tecklenburg after the first pitch.

BY GRACE RAYNOR
graynor@postandcourier.com

Bill Murray was standing outside the Charleston RiverDogs' dugout Thursday night, sporting a backward catcher's hat, shades and a coat and tie when he took a quick survey of the crowd at Riley Park.

Three flags whipped behind him, all perfectly in sync — the American flag, South Carolina state flag and City of Charleston flag — as the sun set over The Joe in the outfield for the RiverDogs' opening day.

It's one of the best times of year in the actor's opinion — "baseball season is starting again" — and Murray



Inside
Coverage of the RiverDogs' season opener vs. the Columbia Fireflies. C1



Online

For more photos and a video from the RiverDogs' season opener, go to postandcourier.com.

Please see RIVERDOGS, Page A8

Toll could help pay for I-526 shortfall

Council offers ideas to cover over \$300M

BY DIANE KNICH
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Charleston County's plan to break the logjam on the completion of Interstate 526 across Johns and James islands came in several days late and many dollars short.

County Council voted 5-3 Thursday in favor of a resolution in response to a December ultimatum from the S.C. Transportation Infrastructure Bank board. Council members Colleen Condon, Dickie Schweser and Joe Qualey were opposed.

Some state and local leaders said the county's response wasn't really responsive because it didn't include a clear and specific financial plan for moving forward. Other council members said they have done everything they have been asked to do to move the project forward, and they are being bullied by the state Department of Transportation and the Infrastructure Bank board.

Thursday marked the first time council discussed I-526 since December, when the Infrastructure Bank board passed a resolution calling for the county by March 30 to submit a plan to cover an estimated \$305 million to \$353 million funding shortfall from "specified, dedicated funding sources."

If the county didn't meet the deadline, it was at risk of losing the \$420 million set aside for the project. The estimated cost has risen to more than \$700 million.

The resolution that council passed stated that while the project's contract

Please see I-526, Page A8

Just can't tolerate Trump? You've got lots of company

BY JULIE PACE
AND EMILY SWANSON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For Americans of nearly every race, gender, political persuasion and location, disdain for Donald Trump runs deep, saddling the Republican front-runner with unprecedented unpopularity as he tries to overcome recent campaign setbacks.

Seven in 10 people, including close to half of Republican voters, have an unfavorable view of Trump, according to a new Associated Press-GFK poll. It's an opinion shared by majorities of men and women; young and



Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a campaign rally Wednesday in Bethpage, N.Y.

Please see TRUMP, Page A8

Inside LOCAL

Spoleto poster for 2016 unveiled, features image by Jonathan Green. A4

STATE

Graham agrees to "courtesy" meeting with Obama's Supreme Court pick. A7

SPORTS

VCO defending champ Kerber cruises into quarterfinals. C1

BUSINESS

Bill to save Mt. Holly jobs may be doomed from start. B1

Haley: S.C. doesn't need a battle over restrooms

Bill seeks limits for transgender people

BY CYNTHIA ROLDAN
croltan@postandcourier.com

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley spoke out against the bill that would block local governments from expanding use of gender-designated public restrooms to transgender people, saying it is not needed in South Carolina.

"While other states are having this battle, this is not a battle that we have seen in South Carolina," Haley said Thursday. "And it's not something that we see the citizens are asking for in South Carolina."

The measure, filed by Sen. Lee



Haley

Bright, R. Roebuck, on Wednesday, requires transgender people to use bathrooms matching the gender on their birth certificates, not how they may identify themselves. He has stressed the measure's importance is in the name of public safety, unrelated to differing bills and laws in other states concerning religious liberty.

Please see RESTROOMS, Page A8



Partly cloudy.
High 73, Low 44.
Complete 5-day
forecast. B10

Bridge — 89 Criticisms — 88, 88 Movies — 87
Business — 81 Dear Abby — 87 Obituaries — 84
Classified — 81 Editorials — 82 Sports — 81
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Charleston Deals
Today

Footlight Players
\$35 for two tickets to
Lend Me a Tenor.
See A2

THE MASTERS

Defending champion Jordan Spieth picks up where he left off. 1B



ONLINE

See a photo gallery and video from Thursday's first round at thestate.com



MATT WALSH mwalsh@thestate.com

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TODAY: PARTLY CLOUDY HI 67 LO 41
YESTERDAY: HI 73 LO 53 PRECIP. (in of 5 pm.) 0.46"
FORECAST, TDC

The State

WEST COLUMBIA

Drinking water change proves costly

West Columbia mayor says system didn't work as expected

Mayor pledges to make whatever improvements necessary

City, state officials say water remains clean, despite system problems

BY SAMMY FRETWELL
AND TIM FLACH
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tflach@thestate.com

A day after the state declared West Columbia's drinking water system unsatisfactory, Mayor Bobby Horton acknowledged Thursday that a method of providing chlorine to disinfect the

water didn't work as expected.

State and local officials say West Columbia's water is safe to drink for the city's nearly 50,000 customers - but Horton said the city is seeking to replace the 10-year-old chlorine production method with another, more reliable system.

A March 23 state inspection,

released to the public Wednesday, found that the existing chlorine system was failing and unable to produce enough of the material to disinfect water during times of peak demand. That is not a problem now, but could be at some point in the future if

SEE WATER, 7A

Transgender bathroom bill not needed, Haley says

BY ANDREW SHAIN
ashain@thestate.com

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley said Thursday that a proposed law to limit the bathrooms that transgender people can use is not needed.

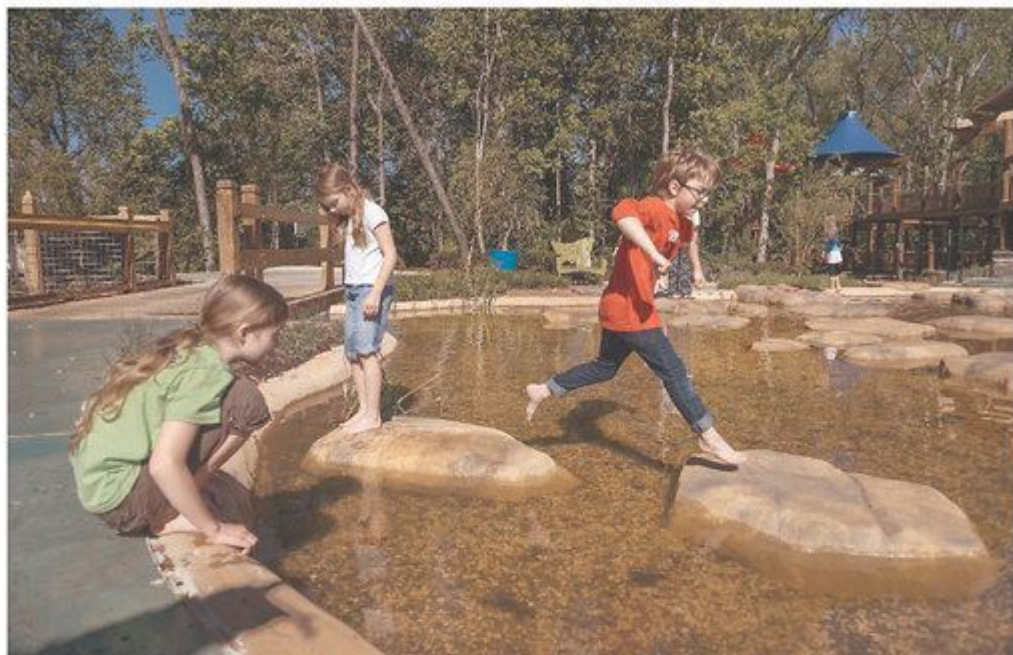
Haley said her office has not received any complaints about the issue, adding South Carolinians are respectful to people of different backgrounds.

"I don't believe it's necessary," the Lexington Republican told reporters. "There's not one instance that I'm aware of."

"When we look at our situation, we're not hearing of anybody's religious liberties that are being violated, and we're again not hearing any citizens that are being violated in terms of freedoms," she said. "Like it or not, South Carolina is doing really well when it comes to respect and when it comes to kindness."

SEE TRANSGENDER, 6A

A SPLASHIN' GOOD TIME AT RIVERBANKS ZOO



TRACY GLANTZ tglantz@thestate.com

MORE INSIDE

PALMETTO

ONLINE

THESTATE.COM

Ruth, 9, and Emily Snyder, 7, and their cousin Gabriel Waite, 6, explore in the bullfrog





● **USATODAY** FIVE REASONS WHY WALL STREET RALLY HAS STALLED **PAGE 4B**

Bathroom bill in SC bad for business?

Other states have paid price in restricting transgenders

AMANDA COYNE
THE GREENVILLE NEWS

A bill filed in the South Carolina Senate that would restrict transgender people's access to restrooms and changing rooms could bring business problems that have plagued other states that have

enacted similar legislation, experts say.

Senate Bill 1203, filed by Sen. Lee Bright, R-Spartanburg, would bar local governments and school boards from passing laws or enacting policies allowing people to use multiple occupancy restrooms and changing facilities that correspond with the gender with which they identify. It would also mandate that state-run parks, museums and other facilities only allow people to use the restrooms and changing facilities that corre-

spond with their biological sex at birth.

By Thursday afternoon, three Upstate senators had joined the bill as co-sponsors: Sen. Kevin Bryant (R-Anderson), Sen. Larry Martin (R-Pickens) and Sen. Mike Fair (R-Greenville), all of whom are facing primary opponents. Bright, who also represents parts of Greenville County, is also facing a primary challenge, with three candidates running to unseat him.

The Greenville Chamber of Com-

merce came out

against the bill Thursday, saying it does not promote economic inclusion, growth or competitiveness.

"This legislation simply opens a contentious debate on a problem we do not have here in our state," said Carlos Phil-

Inside

Senator slams Bright's restroom bill, **Page 3A**

See **BATHROOM BILL**, **Page 4A**

Winds fan Cherrydale blaze



Firefighters battle a fire at Changing Your Mind Ministries on Beth Drive in Cherrydale on Thursday. Story, **Page 3A**

LAUREN PETRACCA/STAFF

LAC calls crumbling highways time bomb

TIM SMITH
TCSMITH@GREENVILLENEWS.COM

COLUMBIA - The cost to repair South Carolina's crumbling infrastructure is a "time bomb," a Legislative Audit Council official told House lawmakers Thursday.

But members of the House panel that heard results of this week's massive audit of the state Department of Transportation took no action on whether to concur with the Senate's roads bill that House leaders have criticized as inadequate to meet the state's long-term funding needs.

The panel, which last year drafted the House roads plan, spent five hours listening to LAC and DOT officials talk about the massive audit released Tuesday that found problems with DOT's governance model, its prioritization of road projects and its operations, as well as its funding shortfall.

But Rep. Gary Simrill, a Rock Hill Republican who chairs the panel, told the panel afterward that Thursday's meeting was to gather information about the audit, not to recommend what to do about the Senate bill.

That didn't stop some lawmakers from trying.

Rep. Russell Ott, a Calhoun County Democrat, said he felt the LAC information is "very compelling that the last thing we need to do is concur with what the Senate sent us."

Rep. Joe Neal, a Richland County Democrat, said the audit's result show "we don't have enough resources."

Neal said while he thinks neither the House nor Senate plans provide enough funding, he favors the House version.

Graham, Tillis seek aid for Middle East

Say countries' economies fragile, need more support

MARY ORNDORFF TROYAN
WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON - The United States urgently needs to send billions more in aid to its allies in the Middle East to stabilize economies and combat terrorism, according to a key lawmaker

encouraging varying degrees of distress over their fragile economies, a menacing Iran, refugees fleeing war in Syria and Islamic State terrorists.

Graham, chairman of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations, recently returned from a congressional tour of the region, meeting with leaders in Saudi Arabia, Israel, Turkey and Egypt.

"I was stunned at how things have deteriorated," he told reporters

seeking would be in addition to the normal allotment for foreign assistance.

Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., who joined Graham on the Middle East trip, also said the U.S. needs to ramp up its role there, especially in shoring up the Egyptian economy and supporting President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi.

"We need to figure out what more we can do to provide them with the capabilities to take the fight to ISIS and to allow the president to continue to

LOCAL

Gators: They're always hungry, and everything's on the buffet 3A



SPORTS

Jordan Spieth takes aim at Masters history after opening 66 1B



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75¢

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HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTON



Partly cloudy
71°/49° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

ARTS CENTER OF COASTAL CAROLINA

\$575K sought for new stage lights

Failing 20-year-old system would be replaced with modern, LED technology

Mayor asks town staff to research funding options and verify need

Replacing all the facility's lighting systems could cost more than \$1.15 million

BY REBECCA LURVE
rlurve@islandpacket.com

The Arts Center of Coastal Carolina is asking the Town of Hilton Head Island for about \$575,000 to replace their failing performance light system, warning that the theater would take a major financial hit if the stage goes dark.

But town officials said this

week they're hesitant to hand over any cash to fix the aging facility, in part because the future of the center is the subject of ongoing debate.

In 2013, the arts center, which has operated in the red for years, raised \$5 million to pay down its debt and make building improvements. The center has sought an additional \$1 million in donations and bequests since then but has raised

only \$270,000, according to its marketing vice president Andrea Gannon. The center's leaders also suggested the town buy the facility and pay for its annual maintenance costs and much-needed repairs, such as a \$2.5 million roof and exterior replacement.

While the town is considering such a purchase, it wants to build a new arts and entertainment center on the island and said this month it is seeking \$30 million of the total cost from the Beaufort County Capital Sales Tax Commission, a panel developing a potential 1 percent sales tax referendum for the November ballot.

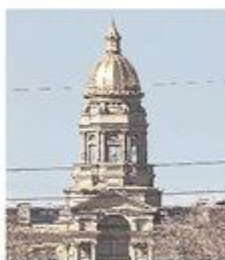
Regardless of a solution to the arts center's long-term solvency, it will need new performance lights, said chief operating

SEE LIGHTS, 7A

BUSINESS

YO HO HO AND A BOTTLE OF ...

Hilton Head Distillery plans to offer a variety of rums and vodkas when it opens on Cardinal Road this summer. 7B



THE LONG READ

SCANDAL LASSOS COWBOY STATE

As revelations about offshore banking practices fuel new outrage, Wyoming emerges as an unlikely player. 1C



LOWCOUNTRY LIFE

SWEET MUSIC TO OUR EARS

The Duke Symphony Orchestra will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday at the University of South Carolina Beaufort. 3C



Wednesday's inaugural Plaid Party had Bluffton and Hilton Head Island competing to see which community wore more plaid for the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing Mayor's Tartan Plaid Challenge. Bluffton Mayor Lisa Sulka, left photo, accepted the win by 14 votes.

Submitted



SPIETH SETS TONE AT THE MASTERS

SPORTS, B1



INMATES' ART ON DISPLAY AT CONVERSE

UPSTATE, C1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Friday, April 8, 2016



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TODAY SAT SUN



62°/40° 56°/30° 61°/43°

Complete forecast, B8

CAMPAIGN 2016

Clash over qualifications

Clinton, Sanders spar over who should be president

By Ken Thomas and Errin Haines Whack
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — With accusations of lying, hustling for money and failed leadership, the race for the Democratic nomination took a decidedly

negative turn, with Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders exchanging a series of barbs over qualifications for the presidency.

The testy exchanges underscored the heightened stakes for both sides as the race turns to New York, with Sanders hoping to turn his recent winning streak into concrete momentum



Clinton



Sanders

toward the nomination. Clinton, meanwhile, is looking to the April 19 contest to put an end to a primary race that many in her campaign worry will only amplify her weaknesses heading into the general election.

Sanders path to the nomination remains narrow: The Vermont senator must win 68 percent of the remaining

delegates and uncommitted superdelegates if he hopes to clinch the Democratic nomination. That would require blow-out victories by Sanders in upcoming states big and small, including New York.

Lagging in delegates and under fire from a frustrated Clinton, Sanders is shifting away from his pledge to avoid negative attacks and stinging her with direct accusations.

SEE CAMPAIGN 2016, A5

TACKLING TRASH IN SPARTANBURG

'We have a big problem...'



Spartanburg County Environmental Enforcement Officer William Roman explains the process of investigating illegal dumping cases such as one found on a frontage road off Business 85 involving a small boat. PHOTOS BY ALEX HICKS JR./ALEX.HICKS@SHJ.COM

Officers take '1 mile challenge' to fight litter in the county

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

85 where a small boat had been dumped. Hatten went



UPSTATE



2 charged in Polk County homicide

Two South Carolina men have been charged with murder in connection with a homicide last week near Polk County (N.C.) High School, part of what Sheriff Donald Hill called "a pretty good crime spree" that spanned multiple cities and counties in both Carolinas and ended in Florida. C1

Reliable source of road funding

South Carolina House members said Thursday that an audit of the Department of Transportation verifies that fixing the state's crumbling roads requires additional money — and a lot of it — from a reliable, dedicated source of money like the gas tax. C1

FAITH & FAMILY

Gender gap

Who's more religious, men or women? According to new data released by Pew Research Center, women around the globe are more likely to be religious than men, especially among Christians. D1

ONLINE EXTRA



Day 1 @
Augusta

Coverage of the opening round



Sports
1B



An interview
with a legend

Sports, 1B

INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Powell's path to appeal uncertain

Known conservative was not certified to run as Democrat

By MATTHEW HENSLEY
mhensley@indexjournal.com

Longtime conservative Mark Powell still hopes to be on November's ballot as a Democrat even after the South Carolina

Democratic Party decided not to certify him as a candidate for the District 4 state Senate race.

"I'm not going away," Powell wrote in a text message. "I'm going to fight this till the cows (DINOs) come home."

DINOs, in this case, refers to Democrats-in-name-only.

Powell, a Williamston resident who calls Democrats "dimocrats" and has sought office as a Republican in the past, said in a Facebook post he filed to run as a

Democrat "to bring attention not only to how our broken election system allows candidates to run, but to the need to qualify voters at the primary level." He favors closed primaries.

Powell said he's not sure how to

appeal, "but I'll find out."

Chris Whitmire, public information officer for the State Election Commission, said there's "nothing formal in the law" for

See POWELL, page 4A



MARK
POWELL

ROCKIN' OUT AT UPTOWN LIVE



The Anna Leigh Band performs at Countybank Plaza on Thursday during Uptown Live.



Tom Jackson, left, and Taylor Reed, of Inn on the Square, sell assorted cupcakes and pastries on Thursday at Uptown Live in Greenwood.

DISTRICT 52

Students, parents complain about lunches

By ARIEL GILREATH
agilreath@indexjournal.com

NINETY SIX — A photo that circulated on social media of a Ninety Six High School lunch from Tuesday gained attention in the Upstate Wednesday.

The photo showed two sausages, cabbage and cornbread served at the high school that several parents and students criticized and shared on Facebook.

But the school says students had other options if they didn't want the meal, and the system has menus online and in the newspaper so students can bring their lunch on days with meals they don't want.

Crystal Parks, whose son attends the school, said she saw the photo after her son complained about his lunch.

"I just think that's just ridiculous for them to go to school and that's all they had for lunch," Parks said. "I know we're a small town, but even with budget cuts, I think we could serve them a better lunch than that."

Parks said she's heard complaints about students having spoiled milk as well.

"Everybody complains about lunch food, but this is really a problem if this is what they're serving the kids," Parks said.

Anna Price, a junior at Ninety Six High School, said the quality of food has gone down through the years after the Healthy, Hunger-Free

See LUNCHES, page 4A

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8PM IN THE UPTOWN BALLROOM
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Morning News

FRIDAY APRIL 8, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER
Periods of sun, a shower; breezy.
High 70, low 41.
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Florence School District One

Board debates role of officers

BY SHAMIRA MCCRAY
Morning News
smccray@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The trustees of Florence County School District One are considering what roles law enforcement officers should have in school discipline.

At a retreat Thursday evening, trustee board member Alexis D. Pipkins Sr. proposed to have a policy that specifically addressed the role of such school resource officers, or SROs.

A draft of a proposed policy states that "An SRO's primary role is to investigate allegations of criminal incidents and make referrals of students to juvenile authorities when necessary. These referrals may result in students being charged and transported or released to their parents."

Trustee Pat Gibson-Hye Moore said district leaders need to find a way to keep students in school, not keep them out. She said there are other ways to discipline and "calm" a child down.

"You don't always have to threaten them with a badge," she said.

Moore said SROs sometimes act as if they're street officers within the schools. She said too many children are being taken out of the schools.

"SROs are there for a particular reason, but sometimes they go beyond that authority," Moore.

The policy's purpose is to establish the basic structure for the district's relations with law enforcement authorities, and the draft includes sections about professional

See FSD1, Page 4A

SOUTH FLORENCE HIGH SCHOOL



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN FOR MORNING NEWS

Walter Graham, a South Florence High School graduate, conducted the All-City Junior Chorus in its Thursday performance.

All-City Junior Chorus performs

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com



Students from Williams, Southside and Sneed middle schools joined together for the All-City Junior Chorus concert on Thursday evening.

FLORENCE — Walter Graham, a 1994 South Florence High School graduate, returned to his old stomping grounds Thursday evening as he served as a guest conductor for the Florence School District One's All-City Junior Chorus.

Graham, who is in his fourth year as director of choral studies at Dreher High School in Columbia, worked with the group of more than 70 singers during the school day to perfect the six songs chosen for the performance.

He said it felt wonderful to be back in the Pee Dee working at his old high school with students from Florence School

See CHORUS, Page 3A

Florence Fashion Week began with social media

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — The inaugural Florence Fashion Week, a three-day event featuring runway shows,

Orr, a fashion lover and Esab employee, regularly posted pictures of her outfits and accessories on Tumblr and Instagram. Eventually, she said, people started reaching out to her asking for advice

Downtown party draws crowds to businesses

BY JOE PERRY
Morning News
jperry@florencenews.com



FLORENCE — Buddy Brand never thought he'd see downtown flourish the way it has.

Brand, a native of Florence, is a financial adviser and is the city's mayor pro

Brand was among the roughly 250 people who took part in Thursday evening's downtown showcase event sponsored by the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce to celebrate all the new retail development and expansion.

"We've been here about two and a half months

Camlin Moore

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