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Date: 4/26/2016 8:50:52 AM
Subject: SC Front Pages – Tuesday, April 26, 2016

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The Post and Courier

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Tuesday, April 26, 2016

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Roof friend to plead guilty, testify

Meek, who's accused of failing to warn of deadly plot, could get reduced penalty

BY ANDREW KNAPP
aknapp@postandcourier.com

Seeking a lighter sentence, a friend of Dylan Roof's has agreed to plead guilty to federal charges and testify against the man accused of the

deadly mass shooting at Emanuel AME Church, an agreement stated Monday.

Joey Meek, 21, failed to warn authorities of Roof's plot to carry out the alleged hate crime and later lied to agents investigating it, federal of-



Meek

ficials have said. With the agreement that he and prosecutors signed, the Lexington County man admitted guilt to counts of misprision — or withholding details before a crime happens — and making false statements after the June 17 attack in downtown Charleston. He and Roof, 22,

had been close since childhood but rekindled their friendship before nine black parishioners were slain during a Bible study.

The charges carry up to eight years in prison, but Meek's deal might get him much less time if he cooperates fully in state and federal prosecutions of Roof. Ultimately, it will be up to U.S. District Judge Richard Gergel to accept the agreement and decide the penalty.

Meek, who has been free on bail

since November, is expected to change his plea during a hearing at 1 p.m. Friday in downtown U.S. District Court. His sentencing likely will come after Roof is tried.

A brother of Cynthia Hurd, one of the slain churchgoers, said Monday that he put his faith in the prosecutors who made the deal but that he still hoped for a stiff penalty against Meek.

Please see **MEEK**, Page A7

Perilous playground

Ocean paddlers, swimmers urged to know risks, seek safety training



Guide Dallas Baker of Coastal Expeditions carries kayaks to the water as he prepares to lead a tour Wednesday on Folly Beach.

BY PRENTISS FINDLAY
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Kayaking or swimming in the ocean can seem easy enough on a calm day, but when wind, waves and currents pick up, it's important to weigh your abilities, experience and preparation against the conditions, experts say. Otherwise, a paddle or swim that was a piece of cake can turn into a fight for survival. "Safety is obviously the most important thing," said Steve Hutton, director of recreation for the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission. "Coming home at the end of the day is more important than anything else."

Rip current dangers

The American Red Cross recommends swimming at beaches where lifeguards are on duty. Locally, that means county parks at Folly Beach, Kiawah Island and Isle of Palms. Stephen Fernandez works for PRC's safety program and helps train about 70 lifeguards who work at those three locations between Memorial Day and Labor Day. "Probably 80 percent of our rescues or swim assists are from rip currents," Fernandez said. A rip current is a channel of water that goes away from shore out to sea but not necessarily straight out.

Please see **KAYAK**, Page A7

Lifeguard responses

2015 lifeguard responses at Folly Beach, Isle of Palms and Kiawah Island county parks:
RESCUES: 12
SWIM ASSISTS: 92
PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS: 37,525
STINGS: 274
EMS CALLS: 32



Video
To see a video, go to postandcourier.com/videos.

Experts say base closures unlikely

Factors in S.C.'s favor include political race, split over size of force

BY EMMA DUMAIN
edumain@postandcourier.com

WASHINGTON — The confluence of political infighting, a looming presidential election and disagreement over the size of U.S. troop strength makes it unlikely Congress will agree this year to another round of military base closures.

That's good news for Joint Base Charleston — for now. South Carolina stakeholders who monitor congressional chatter related to Base Realignment and Closure, or BRAC, will remain vigilant, especially throughout the spring season. The House and Senate Armed Services committees, which could authorize a BRAC, are starting to move on their respective bills to renew Department of Defense programs for the upcoming fiscal year.

The House panel will consider its fiscal 2017 National Defense Authorization Act on Wednesday.

Please see **BRAC**, Page A7

Will city's 'Hail Mary' save I-526 project?

Seeks time to develop plan that may include toll option, sales tax

BY DIANE KNICH
dknich@postandcourier.com

It's going to be a pivotal week for the completion of Interstate 526 across Johns and James islands, one that could either sound the project's death knell or jump-start it with a toll road plan. Charleston City Council on Tuesday will vote on a resolution to support asking for eight more months to develop a plan to cover the project's more than \$500 million shortfall. And that plan could include a toll road and a sales tax increase.

The highway extension also will be discussed Thursday by the S.C. Transportation Infrastructure Bank Board. That group previously gave Charleston County until March 30 to come up with a solid plan to cover the long-stalled project's shortfall or risk losing the \$420 million the bank has set aside for building it.

Please see **INTERSTATE**, Page A6

Inside



NATION
Cleveland settles lawsuit over Rice shooting for \$6M. **A9**

STATE

Hearing gets heated for next S.C. top court chief justice. **A4**

BUSINESS

Airport unveils nearly finished areas after makeover. **B1**

SPORTS

NFL quarterbacks rule, starting with Goff, in mock draft. **C1**

Some want academy leader fired

Teen girl allegedly forced to sit on bus without pants on

BY PAUL BOWERS
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Parents and community leaders are calling for the firing of Septima P. Clark Corporate Academy's program director after he allegedly forced a 16-year-old student to sit on a school bus in her panties following a dress code check Friday. Charleston County School District spokesman Daniel Head said Program Director Andrew Halevi has been placed on paid administrative leave. "This is an ongoing investigation," the spokesman wrote in an email. "Once the investigation has concluded, we will take all necessary and appropriate corrective action."



Halevi

According to a report filed with the Charleston County Sheriff's Office, Halevi approached the student on Friday about her dress, "which he believed to be an inappropriate length." The student agreed to change into sweatpants provided by the school. At the end of the school day, Halevi told an employee to stop all school buses from leaving because he wanted the sweatpants back, according to an incident report. The school resource officer wrote that Halevi entered a school bus and then exited it with the sweatpants in his hands. "At this time," the deputy wrote, the student "stuck her head out the

window crying and began screaming that he was making her ride the bus without any pants on."

Halevi re-entered the bus and spoke to some students, then left the bus without the sweatpants. The officer boarded the bus and found the student in the back row with the sweatpants next to her wearing a T-shirt, a zip-up sweatshirt and panties. Students on the bus said another student had the dress. The officer wrote that she told Halevi the student's mother would need to be called, and Halevi agreed. "Halevi re-entered the bus to speak with the students and advise them he didn't know she wasn't wearing the dress," according to the report. A Sheriff's Office spokesperson said the case is still active but that no arrests have been made and no charges are pending.

Please see **HALEVI**, Page A6



Clear, High 82, Low 63. Complete 5-day forecast, **B10**

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



Trophy Lakes
BOGO on wakeboarding.
See **A2**

NFL DRAFT

Can you name the Gamecocks' best draft class ever? 1B



USC FOOTBALL

Kendall: In the SEC, new head coach has all the cards, 1B



TUESDAY APRIL 26 2016

\$1.00

VOL. 126TH No. 49
STAY CONNECTED THESTATE.COMFACEBOOK.COM/THETATENEWS
TWITTER.COM/THETATETODAY: PARTLY CLOUDY HI 84 LO 63
YESTERDAY: HI 85 LO 58 PRECIP. (as of 5 pm) 0.00"
FORECAST: BC

The State

Schools, counties to be shorted in state budget

House, Senate Finance Committee did not fully fund local government, schools

Local taxpayers will get fewer services, county advocate says

BY CASSIE COPE
ccope@thestate.com

With \$1.2 billion in additional money to spend this year, S.C. lawmakers are preparing to short-change S.C. schools and counties by \$600 million.

Meanwhile, S.C. colleges will get \$75 million less than they received before the Great Recession.

As a result, S.C. residents likely will get fewer services from local governments and college students will face more tuition hikes.

State law sets how much money K-12 schools should get per pupil from the state. State law also requires local governments — largely counties — be given state money for the services that they provide for the state.

SEE BUDGET, 7A



BUSINESS

A PARADISE FOR TRUCKERS?

Two major truck stop/travel centers are

CHARLESTON CHURCH SLAYINGS

Roof friend to plead guilty to federal charges

Meek expected to testify in any trial involving accused killer of nine

BY JOHN MONK
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Joseph Meek, the friend of accused killer Dylann Roof, has agreed to plead guilty to two federal charges in connection with the massacre of nine African-American

icans at a Charleston church.

Meek, 21, has agreed to plead guilty to concealing information about a crime and one count of lying to an FBI agent, according to documents made public Monday.

Roof, an avowed white

supremacist from Columbia, stayed at Meek's mobile home in the Red Bank area of Lexington County before the killings June 17.

Meek will be expected to testify in any trial involving Roof, facing the death penalty on murder charges in state court. Roof's trial on

those charges is set for January.

Besides providing information about Roof's whereabouts before the killings, Meek will be able to testify that the killings were premeditated and planned.



Meek

SEE MECK, 7A

GARNET, BLACK AND RED (CARPET)



GERRY MELENDEZ gmelendez@thestate.com

MORE INSIDE

Awards were passed out over dinner at the Gamecocks Gala, with Aja Wilson claiming female athlete of the year

ONLINE

GoGamecocks.com: Video and photo gallery from the

Members of the USC track and field team walk the red carpet as they participate in the annual Gamecock Gala at Colonial Life Arena on Monday.



SPORTS, 1C GAMECOCKS TO MEET NO. 1



LIFESTYLE, 1D Artwork helps kids get therapy

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

TUESDAY,
APRIL 26, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY EDITOR OF LGBT MAGAZINE HACKED TO DEATH IN BANGLADESH PAGE 1B

Gun used to kill Jacobs traced to teen

Police: Pistol was stolen from youth's grandfather

ROMANDO DIXON
RDIXON@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

A Taylors teenager has been charged with stealing a gun that Deontea Mackey used to shoot and kill Greenville police officer Allen Jacobs.

Tristan David Merritt, 17, is charged with unlawful carrying of a pistol, and is being held at the Greenville County Detention Center without bond, according to a warrant and jail records. Merritt was arrested on March 23 by the State Law Enforcement Division.

The charge is a misdemeanor and carries a penalty of up to one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine.

Merritt is accused of possessing a Glock model 23 .40 caliber pistol that he had stolen from his grandfather, authorities said.

Merritt had a previous relationship with Mackey, said Solicitor Walt Wilkins.



Officer Allen Jacobs

Tristan Merritt

Merritt and Mackey were together at a party, Wilkins said. At some point, Mackey ended up with the gun, Wilkins said.

Merritt also is charged with petit larceny, according to Wilkins and jail records.

Police were searching for Mackey on March 18 in the Nicholstown Community because they heard that Mackey had been trying to acquire a gun. Police have said that Mackey fatally shot Jacobs during a foot pursuit. Mackey then shot himself.

See PISTOL, Page 5A



Greenville City Police Chief Ken Miller speaks to the media on Monday regarding the outcome of the SLED investigation into the deaths of Officer Allen Jacobs and Deontea Mackey.

#UNSEENGREENVILLE



Specialty Registered Nurse Shawna McMahan checks the breathing of one-year-old Dylan Cannon during a checkup at the Center for Pediatric Medicine's new location on West Main Street in Greenville last week.

New Westside clinic targets local residents

LIV OSBY
LOSBY@GANNETT.COM

The doors of the Center for Pediatric Medicine — West had barely opened last Monday before the lobby began to fill with mothers toting babies and

The center opened last week to offer care to children who were previously seen at the clinic on Faris Road, making it far more convenient for parents than packing up the kids, strollers and diaper bags and climbing on a bus to go to the doctor.

For many people in this community,

Community health

The Westside once flourished economically thanks to cotton and textile mills, but it became depressed after most of those mills closed, according to Moran.

Today, the region is plagued by

Bright hunts for bathroom bill votes on committee

TIM SMITH
TCSMITH@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

COLUMBIA — Sen. Lee Bright is three votes shy of getting his controversial transgender bathroom bill out of committee heading into the week when lawmakers face a deadline to pass bills to the other chamber.

Bright told *The Greenville News* he has six votes plus the possible vote of another who says he will vote for it if two more Republicans on the 17-member Senate General Committee do. He said he needs nine votes to advance the measure to the Senate floor.

"We've come a long way from where we started," the Spartanburg County Republican said.

The bill would bar people from using public bathrooms, changing rooms and locker rooms that do not correspond with their biological sex and prevent local governments from passing legislation allowing such use.

The legislation is similar to a recently enacted North Carolina law. North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory issued an executive order several weeks ago addressing some provisions in the law though leaving unchanged the most talked about part that requires people to use bathrooms of their sex at birth.

Bright is attempting to pull the bill out of committee instead of asking for a traditional committee meeting. In polling, Bright is asking Republicans on the panel to sign a sheet saying they approve of the bill.

The committee is made up of 10 Republicans and seven Democrats.

Two of the Democrats, Sen. Joel Lourie of Columbia, and Sen. Marlon Kimpson of Charleston, have vowed to procedurally object to the bill, re-

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

TUESDAY, April 26, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 117 Aiken, S.C. ★ 75¢

She's born to teach



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL SMITH

North Augusta High School English teacher Elisabeth Hardy became overwhelmed with emotion Monday evening after receiving keys to a new Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Freedom Edition outside of Newberry Hall in Aiken, her reward for being named the Aiken County Public Schools teacher of the year. She gets to keep the vehicle for two years.

N.A. High's Hardy named Teacher of the Year

BY LARRY WOOD

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Broadway's loss was education's gain.

Dr. Elisabeth Blumer Hardy, Aiken County Public Schools' 2016-17 Teacher of the Year, jokes with her students that her first love probably was Broadway and a life on the stage, not in the classroom.

"Then I tell them that, unfortunately, I didn't have the talent, so they get me five times a day for 50 minutes as a captive audience," she said and laughed Monday evening after a banquet at Newberry Hall honoring her and the teachers of the year from each school in the District.

An educator for 23 years, Hardy has taught AP literature and English II at North Augusta High School for four years. She also facilitates the school's Real-Life 101 Class.

Hardy said education is her passion. "It is where differences are made on a daily basis," Hardy said, although the tears and emotion of being named Teacher of the Year were causing her voice to break up. "It's where doctors and lawyers and plumbers and electricians and nurses and caregivers and mothers and fathers are made. And we need the best people there."

In introducing Hardy, Tomiko Smalls, the District's director of Human Resources, told a story that demonstrated Hardy's belief that education deserves the best.

Hardy once interviewed for a summer program in high school and was asked about her future plans, Smalls said.



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL SMITH

North Augusta High School English teacher Elisabeth Hardy, right, receives congratulations from Aiken County School Board members Monday night after being named the Aiken County Public Schools teacher of the year for 2016-17.

When Hardy responded that she planned to be a teacher, the interviewer asked if there wasn't something better she wanted to do with all her talents.

When Hardy responded that she planned to be a teacher, the interviewer asked if there wasn't something better she wanted to do with all her talents.

Please see **TEACHER**, Page 12A

Proposed Northside park to cost \$57 million

BY DAN BROWN

dbrown@aikenstandard.com

If the proposed park on Aiken's northside lives up to the potential of its master design, it will become one of Aiken's crown jewels, according to design consultant Patrick Graham.

Aiken City Council got its first look at the proposed design of the \$57 million Northside Park during a work session before its Monday meeting.

Graham, a design consultant with CHS, presented Council with its master design based on Council's desires during a work session.

The ambitious multi-phase development will be located on a 112-acre parcel of land on Columbia Highway/U.S. 1 near Shaws Creek in Aiken.

"This is a plan for the future," Graham told Council during the work session presentation. "Yes, this is expensive, but the design price covers many phases that are completed over a period of time, not all at once."

Once the park is completed, it will include a 4,000-seat football stadium with track and artificial turf surface football field, a recreation center, six multi-purpose soccer/football fields — two of which also are artificial turf surfaces, tennis courts, playground, buddy sports field, an amphitheater and more than 2 miles of walking trails.

"The artificial turf fields are designed to provide you with fields that can withstand year-round use," Graham said. "There are three things grass needs, water, sunshine and rest, and without an artificial surface field, these grass fields would not get these things."

Graham proposed a Phase I design for Council to consider, a \$2.8 million initial construction project that includes the amphitheater, playground and picnic area.

Please see **PARK**, Page 12A

Budget, York Street bridge on Aiken agenda

BY DAN BROWN

dbrown@aikenstandard.com

In a special 7 p.m. Wednesday meeting, Aiken City Council will hear final design specifics by the S.C. Department of Transportation for the historic York Street bridges.

Council called its third meeting of the week at the City Municipal Building, 214 Park Ave., to consider a municipal agreement from the SCDOT.

Council will consider a vote to approve the agreement in order for the SCDOT to meet a construction schedule that would have the bridges reopened for traffic in either December or January, according to a memo to Council by City Manager John Klimm.

Council also will meet today at 5 p.m. for a

Please see **COUNCIL**, Page 12A

AREA DEATHS

Horace T. Lamback Sr., Martinez, Georgia

Louise Yonce, Johnston

Mildred Addie Thomas (Tyler), Jamaica, New York

Ethel Mae Sanders, Barnwell

Francis Wyman Knight, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Deaths and Funerals, 6A





WOODRUFF TEEN SENTENCED IN FELONY DUI CRASH

UPSTATE, C1



PANTHERS TALK ABOUT NORMAN'S DEPARTURE

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Tuesday, April 26, 2016



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TODAY WED THU



83°/60° 86°/63° 82°/60°

Complete forecast, B6

UPSTATE

Haley preps inmates for life after prison

Gov. Nikki Haley told prisoners Monday a better life beyond the barbed-wire fencing starts with a legal job, and it's her job to help them find one. **C1**

SPORTS



Wofford hires Garrity as women's coach

Jimmy Garrity, who coached at Anderson University the past three seasons, has been hired as the Wofford women's basketball head coach. **B1**

Patriots' Brady has suspension reinstated

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady must serve a four-game "Deflategate" suspension imposed by the NFL, a federal appeals court ruled Monday. **B1**

NATION & WORLD



Controversial law spurs demonstrations

Demonstrations encircled North Carolina's statehouse Monday, for and against a Republican-backed law curtailing protections for LGBT people and limiting public bathroom access for transgender people. **A3**

CAMPAIGN 2016

Anti-Trump pact unites rivals



Republican presidential hopefuls, Ohio Gov. John Kasich, right, and Sen. Ted Cruz, left, debate March 10 in Coral Gables, Fla. ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Cruz, Kasich defend alliance as GOP front-runner fumes

By Steve Peoples
and Will Weissert
The Associated Press

BORDEN, Ind. — Declaring the Republican presidential contest at "a fork in the road," Ted Cruz and John Kasich defended their extraordinary new alliance on Monday as the party's last, best chance to stop Donald Trump, even as the New York billionaire surged toward another big delegate haul.

front-runner, lashed out at what he called collusion by desperate rivals, intensifying his attacks on the GOP presidential nomination system on the eve of today's round of primary elections in the Northeast.

"If you collude in business, or if you collude in the stock market, they put you in jail," Trump said as he campaigned in Rhode Island. "But in politics, because it's a rigged system, because it's a corrupt enterprise, in politics you're allowed to collude."

"It shows how pathetic they are," he said of his Republican rivals.

Trump, the Republican

SEE CAMPAIGN, A6

TRYON RESORT

Equestrian center grows

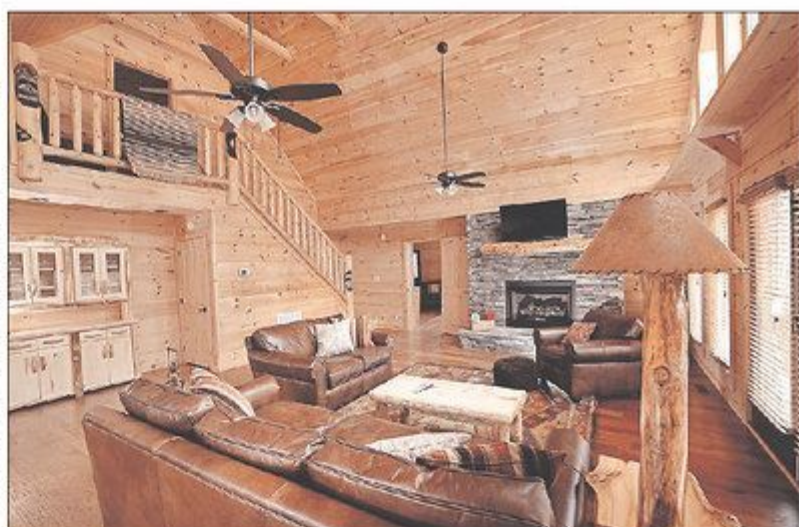
More lodging now
available; further
construction ongoing

By Alyssa Mulliger
alyssa.mulliger@shj.com

The Tryon International Equestrian Center is growing, pushing Tryon Equestrian Partners to add more lodging options to accommodate the number of competitors and spectators visiting the center.

The resort, which opened in June 2014, sits on more than 1,400 acres off Pea Ridge Road in Mill Spring, N.C. The resort is building a 180-room resort hotel, a 40-unit condominium building and nearly 30 additional log cabin homes, but more may be necessary.

Molly Oakman, community relations manager at the equestrian center, said plans have been finalized to push back John Shehan Road and Pea Ridge Road toward Highway 74 to develop some of the additional lodging. "We have acquired additional land and we will have approximately 47 acres to develop," she said. "This site will include



Log cabin cottages already complement the equestrian center's show grounds. Molly Oakman, community relations manager at the equestrian



ENTERTAINMENT

Don't miss Shenandoah

Head to Sumter Opera House on Friday night **A2**

Girl in abuse case may lose foot

7-year-old's grandmother arrested Friday, charged

BY JIM HILLEY
The Sumter Item

A 7-year-old girl taken to a Camden hospital Thursday may lose her foot, Sumter

County Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer Ken Bell said Sunday.

The woman who took her to the hospital and said she was the girl's grandmother was



RAYSOR

arrested Friday by sheriff's office deputies and charged with unlawful conduct toward a child.

Medical personnel told investigators the girl's burn injury happened before Tuesday, when the woman, the girl and a 9-year-old boy

arrived in the Sumter area.

Investigators have since learned that Jaqueline Raysor, 55, who moved here with the children from Louisiana, has previously faced child abuse charges in both Louisiana and Mississippi.

The injured girl is being treated at Palmetto Children's Hospital in Columbia for her injuries, which are said to in-

clude an "immerse burn" to the girl's foot, such as would be suffered from having it immersed in scalding water, the sheriff's office reported.

The child also reportedly showed signs of having been beaten, with various bruises and other marks on her body. She was listed in "guarded"

SEE ABUSE, PAGE A7

Pentagon, Congress at odds about closing bases

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon thinks it has a winning argument for why Congress should allow a new round of military base closings. The case goes like this: The Army and Air Force have vastly more space for training and basing troops than they need, and trimming the surplus would save money better used to strengthen the military.

Congress, however, has its own logic: Closing bases can hurt local economies, which can cost votes in the next election. Besides, some lawmakers say, the Pentagon has cooked the books to justify its conclusions or at least has not finished doing the math.

Lawmakers are fiercely protective of bases in their district or state and generally prefer to ignore or dismiss any Pentagon push to close them. Nearly every year the Pentagon asks Congress for authority to convene a base-closing commission. The answer is always the same: Not this year.

And probably not any time soon, either. In a little-noticed report to congressional leaders this month, the Pentagon offered a detailed analysis — the first of its kind in 12 years — that concludes the military will have an overall 22 percent excess of base capacity in 2019. The Army will have 33 percent surplus, the Air Force 32 percent and the Navy and Marine Corps a combined 7 percent, the report says.

Base capacity is the total amount of acreage or work space available to support military forces at places such as a training range, an air base, a weapons storage site or an office building.

"Spending resources on excess infrastructure does not make sense," Deputy Defense Secretary Robert Work wrote to leaders of the relevant congressional

SEE BASES, PAGE A7



ANNUAL STRIPED BASS FESTIVAL



PHOTOS BY ROCK CARPENTER / THE SUMTER ITEM

Tori Beth Weeks, left, and another jumper flip over a trampoline at the amusement park area of the Striped Bass Festival on Saturday. While it may appear they would collide, they were each jumping within separate areas of the ride which had a trampoline on the ground and suspended bungee cords and straps to keep them within their areas. See more photos of the festival on page A3 and online at www.theitem.com.

Annual event attracts about 20K

BY KONSTANTIN VENGEROVSKY
konstantin@theitem.com

MANNING — The 37th Annual Striped Bass Festival attracted more than 20,000 people to the weekend festivities, according to organizers.

vendors came out Saturday for the festivities. Vendors included local businesses, churches, schools, organizations and political candidates.

Sumter residents Carnell and Betty Dukes, of Dukes Peanuts and Variety, were selling boiled peanuts, pork rinds and pork skins and other homemade foods.

This was their fourth year at the festival.



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Morning News

TUESDAY APRIL 26, 2016

**TODAY'S
WEATHER**
Sunny to partly cloudy.
High 87, low 60.
DETAILS 2A

WWW.SCNOW.COM

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

NASCAR

Darlington track boss moving to Daytona

Wile will be president at historic race track

BY SCOTT CHANCEY
Morning News
schancey@florencenews.com

DARLINGTON — Chip Wile already knew the NASCAR business. As the president of Darlington Raceway, he learned so much more.

He will take that knowledge with him to Daytona International Speedway. On Monday, Wile announced he is moving on to be the president at NASCAR's most sacred asphalt, the home of the Daytona 500.



Wile

At Darlington, where Wile has been the track's president since August 2013, he learned to connect with the track's employees.

"There's not a single person in this building that I don't know intimately," Wile said. "And I think that's one of the reasons we've been successful as a group. We believe in one another."

While directing that team, Wile

See **WILE**, Page 4A

FamilyFest

Inaugural event to offer bed race, fun for the family

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Beds will race through downtown Florence on Saturday for the inaugural FamilyFest.

Hosted by Family Promise of Florence,

IF YOU GO

» **WHAT:** FamilyFest
» **WHEN:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday
» **WHERE:** Downtown Florence on South Dargan Street
» **ADMISSION:** Free

the event is a revitalized version of the artisans fair held by the organization in years past. "I think that it was a natu-



Un-galleries

Event turns commonplace venues into unlikely displays for art

BY JOSHUA LLOYD
Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com



Milton Miles, owner of Miles of Style Salon on Sauls Street in Lake City, is not just a cosmetology craftsman. He also is a painter. He said his passion for creating art on both hair and canvas makes his shop a natural place for ArtFields pieces.

LAKE CITY — If you stroll around Lake City during ArtFields, you'll see some type of artwork at almost every turn — often in unexpected places.

Beyond the larger showrooms at venues such as the R.O.B. and the Jones-Carter Gallery, ArtFields art can be seen in restaurants, barbershops, boutiques, banks and more.

Caroline Tarantini, a local artist and owner of Olio Studio, said the beauty of these uncommon exhibits is the exposure it brings to both artist and observer.

"It's a great opportunity for other artists to exhibit their art for people who regularly would not go into

See **GALLERIES**, Page 3A

Artist spotlight

Tyrone Geter

BY DEBORAH SWEARINGEN
Morning News
dswearingen@florencenews.com

LAKE CITY — Through art, Tyrone Geter reflects his roots.

"I like to think that everything I do is connected with where I came from," he said.

The 71-year-old artist grew up in Alabama with a mother who worked as a housekeeper. She seldom complained, Geter said, but life as a mother and a poor, domestic worker in small, rural town was far from easy.

"She had a third-grade education, but boy was she smart," Geter said.

College was never a question for Geter and his siblings, because his mother made sure her children understood their worth.

ABOUT THIS ARTIST

» **From:** Elgin, South Carolina
» **Age:** 71
» **How many years working as an artist?** About 30 or 40 years.
» **Has he submitted to ArtFields previously?** He was a juror last year and competed the previous year.
» **Favorite artistic medium to work in:** Charcoal, pastels, oils.



Charcoal drawings titled "Mother Nature's Last In-House Domestic Servant."

These childhood experiences ultimately inspired Geter to create "Mother Nature's Last In-House Domestic Servant," his entry in the 2016 ArtFields competition.

Every aspect of the set of three charcoal pieces is intentional — from the women's

See **ARTIST**, Page 3A

Lake City businesses

Alex Palkovich's "Father of the Nation" piece depicting George Washington is on display at Bold and Sassy Boutique, where



'Like Christmas rolled into nine, 10 days'

BY JOE PERRY

Fields, and it's awesome.

Abbeville house burns down, News, 3A

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 99, NO. 42

indexjournal.com

2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

■ ADDRESSING ISSUES

Fines coming if street numbers aren't visible

By **MATTHEW HENSLEY**
mhensley@indexjournal.com

Having a street number visible from the road could save your life, or at least help first responders find your house in an emergency, but having a street number that can't be seen could cost you, according to Sandra Ellenberg, senior GIS analyst and address coordinator for Greenwood County.

The county is in its third round of checking homes for compliance to an ordinance requiring all property owners to have their number visible from the street, regardless of the direction someone is traveling in.

The ordinance, which has been praised by first responders and utility workers, addresses an issue emergency personnel sometimes had finding houses that did not have clear markings.

It's been more than a year since the first round of checks on the homes turned up 7,800 people that weren't in compliance.

"We were not prepared for the onslaught we go," Ellenberg said, "... but it turned out pretty good."

When the county did a second round of checks, the number dropped to 1,800.

Ellenberg is more than halfway done with her third round and has spotted more than 200 homes that need visible street numbers.

After this batch of leaving notices, code enforcement will visit the homes to see if they comply.

"It's kind of like a final warning to get in compliance," Ellenberg said.

Those who don't fix this issue could face a \$200 fine. Buying a reflective sign, however, costs as little as \$10.

Fire departments selling the signs include:

- Lower Lake, \$15, 864-543-2528
- Highway 34, \$20, 864-227-3432
- Coronaca, \$10, 864-223-4222
- Epworth/Phoenix, \$15, 864-227-2519

County GIS also sells the signs for \$10 each. For information on signs and other GIS-related questions, call 864-942-8659.

Contact Matthew Hensley at 864-943-2529 or follow him on Twitter @IMatHensley.

How to display address

Search for man finally ends

By **DAMIAN DOMINGUEZ**
ddominguez@indexjournal.com

After more than 15 years, the search for John Henry Dubose has ended.

Dubose, then 31, was reported missing Sept. 25, 2000 after his family had not seen him in days. The 5-foot-9 man, who also went by Zookeeper, hadn't been to Mohawk Industries Rocky River Plant, where he worked, either.

On Saturday, his remains were found under Lake Russell's waters, in a submerged car near the Beer Garden boat ramp in Calhoun Falls. He would have turned 47 last

month.

Arlene Dubose, his niece, said the family is trying to adjust. On Saturday night, when family members first saw the car pulled from the lake, she said they immediately knew it was him.

"It does provide some closure, but there are still questions," she said. "The family has questions and the community does too."

She said her uncle was a loving father, uncle and husband and a

hard-worker. Despite the remains being identified, she said the family still has weeks to go before getting any more answers, as they wait on toxicology and DNA test results.

An autopsy Monday found no trauma to the remains, and Dr. Mark Horton was able to identify the remains from dental records, said Deputy Coroner Ronda Nance. The cause of death cannot be determined at this time, and toxicology and DNA have been sent to the State Law Enforcement Division for further testing.

In 2000, law enforcement searched the lake after leads suggested he was having marital prob-

lems and might have been suicidal.

His car, a 1995 Chevrolet Corsica, was recovered about 4 p.m. Saturday after a fisherman found something on his depth finder. A dive team later pulled a submerged Chevrolet from the lake, and found the remains inside.

An investigation by SLED, the Abbeville County Coroner's and Sheriff's Offices and the Calhoun Falls Police Department will continue.

Contact Damian Dominguez at 864-634-7548 or follow on Twitter @JDDOMINGUEZ.



JOHN HENRY DUBOSE

SPORTING ORANGE



Clemson University's head basketball coach, Brad Brownell, left, and head football coach, Dabo Swinney, center, pose with Ellie Williams at the Prowl and Growl on Monday evening at the James Medford Center.

Clemson fans gather for event in Greenwood

By **ARIEL GILREATH**
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More photos

■ See more photos of the event at indexjournal.com

Hundreds of orange-clad fans waited in line at the James Medford Center where Dabo Swinney and Brad Brownell were signing their autographs and answering questions.

Swinney, Clemson University's head football coach, and Brownell, the head basketball coach, met Monday evening with more than 600 fans at the event hosted by the Greater Greenwood Clemson Club.

Swinney answered questions from the crowd after signing autographs,

and said he's excited and ready for the upcoming season.

"I'm pumped," Swinney said. "I think that we've got a good nucleus coming back. We obviously lost some really good players, but we've got a good nucleus of guys back that know what it takes — they've got good experience, but we've got a lot of good young talent as well that, to me, brings

See **CLEMSON**, page 4A

PHOTOS BY ARIEL GILREATH | INDEX-JOURNAL

Head football coach Dabo Swinney, right, signs a Clemson University football helmet replica at the Prowl and Growl on Monday night at the James Medford Center.

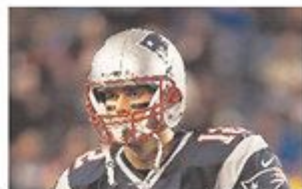
LOCAL

Memorial service set for Pat Conroy in his beloved Beaufort 3A



SPORTS

Tom not feeling so terrific about court ruling on 'Deflategate' 1B



TUESDAY APRIL 26 2016

75¢

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HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTON



Partly cloudy
77°/66° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET

CALLAWASSIE

Woman found dead in golf course pond

Victim identified as Evelyn Scott, 76

Her golf cart was found near the women's tee

BY CAITLIN TURNER
cturner@islandpacket.com

An Okatie woman was found dead in a pond at a Callawassie golf course Saturday, according to a Beaufort County Sheriff's Office report.

The body of Evelyn Scott, 76, was discovered floating face down by two other golfers on the Callawassie Island Clubhouse course at the intersection of Callawassie Drive and Sugar Mill Drive around 2:50 p.m.

The golfers told deputies they did not see her play through

ahead of them and discovered her golf cart parked near the women's tee before finding her body, according to the Sheriff's Office report.

No indication of foul play was found, according to the report.

When Scott's husband was notified, he informed deputies that his wife was afraid of water and did not know how to swim.

Beaufort County Coroner Ed Allen said Monday a cause and manner of death will be determined by an autopsy.

Efforts to reach the golf club and the victim's husband were unsuccessful Monday.

Caitlin Turner: 843-706-8184, @Cait_E_Turner



NATION

TRUMP SLAMS TAG TEAM EFFORT

Donald Trump bristles at a Ted Cruz-John Kasich collaboration designed to unite the anti-Trump vote. 10A



ON HILTON HEAD ISLAND

Sea turtle protectors: Turn off lights to save hatchlings' lives



LOCAL

PUTTING THE PAST ON TRACK

Beaufort County is searching for ways to help restore the interior of the historic Yemassee train depot. 3A



NATION

LGBT LAW FUELS N.C. RALLIES

Supporters and opponents

THE LINK

Connecting Chesterfield County, One Week At A Time

www.thelinkpaper.com

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

75¢

Lawsuit filed against former sheriff

Chesterfield County Chief Deputy Rob Lee, Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office named in suit

JOAN YATES
Editor - The Link

Former Chesterfield County sheriff's deputy Dana Wallace has filed suit against Chesterfield County Chief Deputy Rob Lee, the Chesterfield County Sheriff's Office and "John Doe," defined as employees of Chesterfield County, for alleged actions that took place in 2014, according to the suit, which was filed April 21.



Chief Deputy Rob Lee

Among the allegations are that Lee had deputies perform work on his personal prop-

erty, destroyed evidence in an investigation of then-solicitor Jay Hodge and wrongfully discharged Wallace from his position with the sheriff's office.

The suit further alleges Lee took "business" related excursions as a cover for relationships with persons to whom he was not married.

In addition, the suit alleges that Lee is racist and created a hostile environment that led Officer James "J.D." Dixon

to take a leave of absence from the sheriff's department. It alleges Lee created rumors that Dixon was fired so as to discourage citizens from voting for Dixon in the sheriff's election at the time and created an atmosphere of hostility between candidates Dixon and Mike Ervin.

The suit also alleges reports were materially altered under Lee's supervision, over the objection of the investigating officer.

The causes of action named in the suit are slander, wrongful discharge, Payment of Wages Act, civil conspiracy, false imprisonment, battery, false arrest and violation of public trust/public policy.

Chesterfield County Sheriff Jay Brooks released the following statement about the lawsuit: The Sheriff's Department will not comment on matters related to pending litigation. The response to the suit will be filed by our

lawyers, and the suit will be handled in the proper manner, which is through the court system.

Wallace was accused of filing a false report in April of 2014. He was subsequently terminated from the sheriff's office and arrested by the State Law Enforcement Division in July. According to the arrest warrant, Wallace claimed to have responded to two separate incidents during the same time frame.



Dianne Driggers/Staff Photographer

House fire creates explosions, fireworks

JOAN YATES
Editor - The Link

A house fire on Bomar Gardens Lane in Cheraw last week resulted in loss of property and a pet but no other loss of life or injury, according to Cheraw Fire Department Chief Marvin Murray.

"We received the call at 9:41 p.m. and stayed at the home until about 3:45 a.m. The fire started in the garage, which is attached to the house, and went up into the attic," said Murray.

Murray went on to say three automobiles and an ATV in the garage were totally destroyed. The roof was damaged on the side and front, but most of the damage to the home came from smoke and water.

"The call came in about 30 minutes after we'd finished a training meeting so nearly everyone was able to re-



Dianne Driggers/Staff Photographer

Above, remains of the house fire on Bomar Gardens Lane in Cheraw last week.

spond. We had 28-30 personnel on scene. This was the biggest response we've had in a long time," Murray continued.

The fire was recorded and posted on Facebook. Neigh-

bors reported hearing explosions and seeing what looked like fireworks.

"There was ammunition in the house and, we were told,

See Fire, 3

McBee man facing criminal charges

REBECCA ROLLINS
Staff Reporter

Two McBee residents are facing criminal sexual conduct charges involving a minor, according to the Chesterfield County Sheriff's Department.

On April 8, the CCSD received a call from an employee at the Care House of the Pee Dee, located in Florence, about an alleged case of sodomy involving an

eight-year-old girl. The child was in the custody of the Care House, referred to them by the Department of Social Services. The child disclosed that Edward James Dewitt, 49, of 818 7th St., McBee, sodomized her while her mother was in the room. The incident al-



Dewitt

legedly occurred at Dewitt's home Jan. 1, 2015.

Dewitt was arrested April 12 and charged with criminal sexual conduct with a minor.

According to police reports, the child's mother is still wanted. The mother faces charges of accessory after the fact of criminal sexual conduct of a minor in the first degree along with cruelty to children.

Cheraw Council considers possible industry expansion

JOAN YATES
Editor - The Link

Cheraw Town Council held a special meeting April 19 and approved the second reading of an ordinance authorizing the sale of town-owned houses as part of the demolition grant.

Council also approved a resolution authorizing the submittal of a grant application to the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department for a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant to be used at Riverside Park and Laney Landing. The grant will be for \$250,000, and the town will provide \$276,000 from the Hospitality Fund.

In other business, council approved a request to hire the consulting firm DP3 for \$11,600 to conduct a master plan for Arrowhead Park. The report is expected to be

submitted within 90 days.

In addition, Council approved hiring a consultant to update the Cheraw Preservation and Maintenance Manual. The major concerns with the existing manual had to do with possibly outdated policies regarding a limited use of vinyl siding and signage in the Historic District of the town.

Council also approved a request to fund "Market on Market" for \$3,246 for May and June. A separate request for funding will be made for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Money to get the market started will come from the Hospitality Fund.

Market on Market is an idea that has been in the works for a while. Council approved holding it on the third Saturday of the month in front of Theatre on the Green, with overflow going to Centennial Park.

Market on Market will be an opportunity for local entertainers, crafters, farmers and other vendors to sell their goods in an outdoor setting. Prohibited items will be firearms, yard sale-type goods and political purposes. Anyone selling food will be responsible for meeting all DHEC regulations and paying applicable taxes on the proceeds.

The May theme will be "Cycling and Recycling," in recognition of National Bike Month and the town's anti-litter campaign.

Town Administrator Mike Smith informed council that two different companies have requested to cut timber at the Cheraw Municipal Airport. He recommended putting the timber up for bid and placing the proceeds into the airport account for future

See Cheraw, 3

Bicyclist killed on Highway 9

JOAN YATES
Editor - The Link

James Bernard Campbell, 37, was killed in Cheraw Saturday afternoon when he was

hit by a truck on Highway 9 East, according to Chesterfield County Coroner Kip Kiser. Kiser said the accident occurred around 1 p.m. in front of Founders Credit

and was reported hearing explosions and seeing what looked like fireworks.

The accident is under investigation by the S.C. Highway Patrol, and the Multidisciplinary Accident

JOAN YATES
Editor - The Link

Late Saturday night or early Sunday morning someone took a drink machine from Curtis Land and Timber in Chesterfield and a trailer from Jeff Zearfoss.

Due to prompt response of the Chesterfield Police De-



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