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To:

Date: 1/26/2016 9:51:18 AM

Subject: SC Front Pages – Tuesday, January 26, 2016

SC Front Pages – Tuesday, January 26, 2016



CLEMSON BASKETBALL, 1C BANKING ON FREE THROWS



LIFESTYLE, 1D Teaching kids how to Live Well

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

TUESDAY,
JANUARY 26, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY HIGH COURT OFFERS REPRIEVE TO JUVENILES WHO COMMIT MURDER PAGE 1B

County schools giving fewer zeros

Middle-schoolers receive new homework approach

NATHANIEL CARY
NCAR@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

Used to be, when a student didn't turn an assignment in on time, they got a zero. Not anymore. At least not at middle schools in Greenville County.

Principals at all 19 middle schools have begun to take a new approach to late- or poorly done, homework this school year. No longer are teachers allowed to just hand out a zero on an assignment and allow the student to move on. That time-honored tactic was no longer having the desired effect, said Greenville County Schools Superintendent Burke Boyster.

Instead, principals have told teachers to make their students do the work any-

way, even if it's late and even if the students still get a failing grade on the assignment, said Phillip Davie, GCS assistant superintendent for middle schools.

The goal, Davie said, is to eliminate the devastating impact zeros have on student grades while also showing whether students have learned the material.

It's a change that's not without controversy, especially among teachers who've had their own policies of not accepting

late work, Davie said.

But it's a change he said would better reflect the goal of the state's grading policy that grades should reflect a student's understanding of material.

And it's already having the desired effect, he said.

Fewer zeros

Last school year, Kelli Farmer's first

See ZEROS, Page 4A

GHS UNVEILS NEW ICU

\$32 million renovation introduces new technologies to area



PHOTOS BY GARY BLUMENFELDT/STAFF

RH Joyce Griffin, Dr. John Kudlak and director of nursing for Critical Care Services Wanda Foster cut the ribbon on Monday.

LEW OSBY
LOSBY@CAROLINA.COM

Greenville Health System unveiled the first phase of a \$32 million intensive care unit renovation Monday that will bring new technologies to Greenville Memorial Hospital.

The project, which is scheduled to be completed by June 2017, will include 15 new rooms and 16 renovated rooms, in addition to the 36 that already exist, bringing the total number of adult ICU beds to 117, officials said.

"As a tertiary referral center, Greenville Memorial provides highly specialized care to patients who suffer from a serious injury or illness," said



DOT chief ties cost to fix roads to needs, wants

Hall maps out several options for lawmakers

YIM SMITH
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COLUMBIA - The state's transportation chief says it would cost \$1.2 billion more in funding per year to do everything that is needed to fix the state's existing roads and bridges but she is giving lawmakers options to see what they would get if they spent hundreds of millions of dollars less.

For \$400 million more per year, Interim Transportation Secretary Christy Hall says, taxpayers would get 95 percent of interstate pavement improved to good condition over 30 years. But under that plan, she said, only 35 percent of roads in the state's primary system, which receive about half the state's traffic, would be improved to good condition and about half the structurally deficient bridges on primary and secondary routes would be repaired.

For \$800 million, the state's motorists would not only get improved interstates but half of primary roads and 40 percent of the state's secondary roads eligible for federal aid would be improved to good over the next decade. All structurally deficient bridges on primary routes and interstates would be repaired or replaced, load restricted bridges elsewhere in the system would be improved and 70 miles of interstate and 85 miles of primary and secondary routes would be widened.

"If the question is, how much money do you need? My answer is going to be, what's the desired outcome 30 years from now?" Hall told an audience Monday at an annual conference hosted by the South Carolina Alliance To Fix Our Roads.

That's a new approach from that proposed over the past two years, in which the state Department of Transportation board used a long-term study to argue the system needed almost \$1.5 billion more a year and Gov. Nikki Haley responded by saying the state could get by with \$400 million more.

It surfaced as senators prepared to



How to blend the recruiting classes of **Spurrer, Muschamp, 1B**

What to know about **Super Bowl 50**, including SC's Josh Norman, **1B**

TUESDAY JANUARY 26 2016

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YESTERDAY 41-45 28-35 WIND: 10-15 mph
FORECAST: B

The State

Midlands sports bookies roll legal dice as retrial begins

Jack Parker and Doug Taylor undergo retrial this week

2012 double murder near Imo hangs over trial, but won't be mentioned

BY JOHN BRONK
jbronk@thestate.com

It is not every day that two of America's biggest gambling events — the Super Bowl and March Madness — get a mention in an ongoing trial in federal court in Columbia.

But that happened Monday as a federal trial opened in which lawyers mentioned both events and a federal prosecutor promised jurors an inside look at illegal sports betting operations in the Midlands, especially during two months in 2012 from just after the Super Bowl in February to March

Madness in April.

"Jack Parker and Doug Taylor are bookies," assistant U.S. Attorney Winston Holliday told the jury as the trial got under way at the U.S. courthouse.

Parker, 74, and Taylor, 63, are charged with violating federal laws by running a sports gambling ring conducted by five or more people. They do not deny they were involved in a gambling operation.

The current trial is the second one on the same charges for Parker and Tay-

lor.

In 2013, a federal jury convicted them of running an illegal sports operation. But last year, a 4th Circuit Court of Appeals panel ruled that prosecutors had failed to disclose evidence in a timely fashion in the case and awarded the two men a new trial.

With a few exceptions, prosecutors are calling the same witnesses and making the same arguments as at the first trial. Last trial, nei-



Parker



Taylor

SEE RETRIAL, 7A

BUSINESS

JILLIAN'S IN THE VISTA CLOSES

The restaurant couldn't overcome setbacks from October's floods, attorney says, **6B**



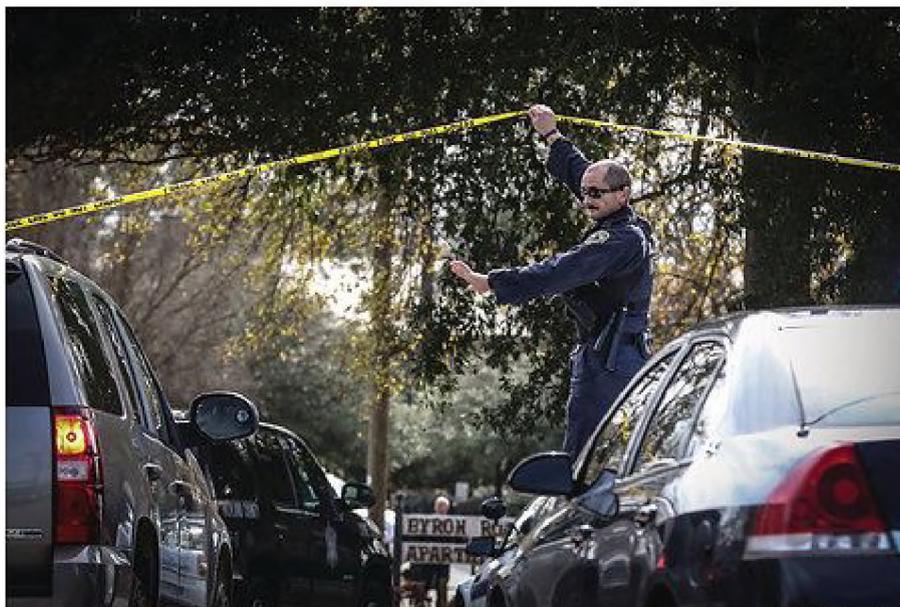
GAMECOCKS BASKETBALL USC NEEDS OFFENSE

Coach Frank Martin trying to get Sindarius Thornwell and Gamecocks offense back on track, **1B**



ONLINE SHOOTOUT CAUGHT ON TAPE

AT THESTATE.COM: Hear an account from a Next Up barber and watch as his co-worker and customer fire at two robbers Saturday night.



SUSPECT FATALLY SHOT NEAR VA HOSPITAL

MORE INSIDE
More details, **3A**

Columbia Police officers, U.S. marshals and S.C. Law Enforcement Division agents work a scene on the 300 block of Byron Road, near Gamers Ferry Road, where a Texas murder suspect opened fire on officers and eventually was shot and killed Monday.

Want to fix SC roads? A look at what you can do with

Report: South Carolinians rank low on financial security

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

TUESDAY, January 26, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 26 Aiken, S.C. ★ ★ 75¢

INSIDE



Annual antiques and art fundraiser returning Feb. 4
Living on the Go, 1C



Third quarter fuels win for Fox Creek over Whitmire
Sports, 1B



Burns Night Celebration honors Scottish heritage
Local News, 2A



God It Made Ranch breaks new ground
Local News, 3A

AREA DEATHS

Carlos Starlings, Jackson
Cori Johnson, Aiken
Jeffrey Michael Vuick, Aiken
John Wilson Scurry, Atlanta
Marion Plumb Anawalt, Aiken
Robert Joseph Meyer Sr., Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER



Mayor Rick Osborn shares a proclamation with Philip Winsor proclaiming February as Men of Hearts month.
STAFF PHOTO BY DAN BROWN

Solution is reached for Gem Lakes roads issue

BY DAN BROWN
dbrown@aikenstandard.com

There is a light at the end of the tunnel for the residents of Gem Lakes extension area in regard to its long-standing roads issue, and it's not an oncoming train.

City Manager John Kilman presented a report to Council on the Gem Lakes extension area roads issue during its Monday night meeting. Kilman offered a solution to the long-suffering road problems at Gem Lakes. Council reached a consensus to move forward with a hybrid full depth reconstruction of Hiram and Mountain Roads.

Hybrid full depth reconstruction uses full depth road replacement for the most distressed areas of Hiram and Mountain Roads, combined with the traditional patch and seal coat repair for less distressed areas, according to Kilman.

The amount will be financed over a 10-year period. Kilman expects the road repairs will be completed by the end of 2016.

"Seven years is long enough for the people of Gem Lakes to wait," Kilman said.

The Gem Lake extension area



Dwight Bradham, Aiken County's newly appointed Veterans Affairs Officer, was invited to lead Aiken City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance during its Monday night meeting.
STAFF PHOTO BY DAN BROWN

Seven years is long enough for the people of Gem Lakes to wait.

City Manager John Kilman

roads have been a problem for residents since 1999 when cracks were

first discovered along Mountain and Hiram roads.

Kilman laid out the financing over a 10-year period, which includes assistance from the developers Todd Gaul and Steve Kriner.

"We will borrow from our reserves for the total project amount and pay back reserves over a 10-year period," Kilman said. "We have met with the developers and they have agreed to share the load in paying for the

roads have been a problem for residents since 1999 when cracks were

Please see COUNCIL, Page 10A

Sanders, Clinton appeal to voters at forum

BY JUDIE PAGE AND CATHY ERINE LUCRY
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Wowing undecided Iowa voters, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders on Monday night each cast themselves as lifelong champions for tackling economic inequality, but offered differing visions for addressing the nation's problems.

Sanders, who is riding a burst of enthusiasm in Iowa, repeated his calls for free tuition at public colleges and universi-

ties and implementing a single-payer health care system that would cover all Americans, even though he'd raise taxes to pay for the latter proposal. "Yes, we will raise taxes," said Sanders, an admission rarely heard in presidential campaigns. "We may raise taxes, but we are going to eliminate private health insurance premiums for individuals and businesses."

Sanders and Clinton spoke separately at a CNN town hall forum, Feb. 2.

Please see FORUM, Page 11A

GOP candidates misstate spending

BY RICHARD LARDNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Republican presidential candidate Jeb Bush says the Obama administration has "gutted" every weapons system in the U.S. military's inventory. GOP rival Donald Trump says the military is a "disaster." Florida Sen. Marco Rubio maintains that President Barack Obama is more interested in providing money to Planned Parenthood than for the nation's armed forces.

Gutted? Disaster?

Tracking Obama and arguing that he has failed to spend enough on defense has become a staple for Republican presidential hopefuls. At the debates and campaign stops, they've cast him as a reckless commander in chief, standing idly by

Please see SPENDING, Page 7A

Departments detail transportation projects

BY BILL BENGTON
bbenton@aikenstandard.com

Members of the planning and development departments of Augusta and Aiken County were on hand for a public meeting focusing on the Augusta Regional Transportation Study on Monday evening at the Aiken County Government Center, to get input and answer questions about projects and proposals relating to business, roads, bridges, bicycle

Want to go?

WHAT: Public meetings
WHEN: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday
WHERE: Tuesday at Evans Government Center in Build-

ing A's auditorium, 630 Royal Reagan Drive; Wednesday at Augusta-Richmond County Municipal Building, first floor, 535 Telfair St., Augusta

Carletta Singleton, with the Augusta Planning and Development Department, was one of the organizers and speakers at

of projects, guided by agencies such as the transportation departments of Georgia and South Carolina, as well as the federal



Carletta Singleton, long-range planning manager of the Augusta Planning and Development Department, explains Augusta Regional Transportation Study priorities during a meet-



VIKINGS' SCOTT BOUND FOR EAST KENTUCKY

SPORTS, B1



RIVERA WON'T CHANGE WINNING FORMULA

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

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55°/43° 50°/30° 48°/30°

Complete forecast, B6

UPSTATE



Incumbent, challenger debate in Senate race

Sen. Tom Corbin, R-Travelers Rest, said he doesn't believe his challenger, Spartanburg attorney John B. White Jr., knows how things get done in the state Senate. White said Corbin is not effective in the Senate. C1

No more water complaints

Spartanburg Water announced it's received no customer complaints about foul taste and odor in its tap water in January. The agency used an environmentally friendly algacide last year to combat a byproduct of a blue green algae which caused a musty taste in drinking water. C1

NATION



Chance to seek freedom

More than 1,000 prison inmates, some behind bars more than 50 years for murders they committed as teenagers, will get a chance to seek their freedom under a Supreme Court decision announced Monday. A3

BUSINESS

WARMING TREND



ABE Zampell, 3, feeds the ducks at Milliken pond on Monday afternoon with some snow lingering on the ground. JOHN BYRUM/JOHN.BYRUM@SHI.COM

Snow, ice continue to melt

By Zach Fox
zach.fox@shj.com

Normal activities are resuming for many across Spartanburg County as snow and ice begin to melt.

Six of Spartanburg County's seven school districts were closed Monday, but most businesses and government offices returned to a normal schedule.

The impacts of the storm were still being felt in some areas, however.

Spartanburg District 1, which encompasses an area that saw some of the heaviest snowfall during Friday's storm, will be closed again Tuesday.

District 1 Superintendent Ron Garner said some roads in the area are still dangerous. "We still have many secondary roads in the district that are extremely hazardous," he said in an email. "In the interest of the safety of our students and the families in District 1, we have made a decision not to have school tomorrow."

Districts 2, 5 and the Cherokee County School District are all operating on a 2-hour

"Obviously, the warmer temperatures will speed up the melting process."

— Jeffrey Taylor, National Weather Service meteorologist at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport

delay Tuesday.

Districts 3, 6 and 7 each announced that Tuesday would be a normal schedule.

District 4 in Woodruff was the only county district to run on a normal schedule Monday. Superintendent Kallie Liston said the area saw very little precipitation, which made the decision to open schools on Monday an easy one. "We weren't too concerned, and we had good attendance today," he said.

District 5 officials announced that students would attend school on Feb. 15 and March 11. Both days were previously scheduled as teacher work days.

The two days were built into all seven Spartanburg County district calendars as potential make-up days for inclement weather.

Temperatures warmed into the low-to-mid 50s Monday afternoon, said Jeffrey Taylor, National Weather Service meteorologist at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport.

"Obviously, the warmer temperatures will speed up the melting process," he said.

Forecasts called for a low of 34 degrees Monday night into Tuesday morning. The temperature wasn't predicted to fall below freezing again until Thursday night.

Duke Energy reported less than 10 outages across the county as of Monday afternoon.

Director of the Spartanburg County Office of Emergency Management Doug Bryson said most county roads should be clear Tuesday.

"I haven't been made aware of any issues with roads or anything," he said.

Bryson, however, urged drivers who come across patches of ice or snow in the road to be smart. "Just use caution and common sense," he said.

— Follow Zach Fox on Twitter @ZachFoxSHJ

STORM AFTERMATH

Workers dodge mounds of snow

By Michael R. Sisak
and Verena Dobnik
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — East Coast residents clobbered by the weekend blizzard trudged into the workweek Monday amid slippery roads, spotty transit service and mounds of snow that buried cars and blocked sidewalks after some cities got an entire winter's snow in two days.

In Brooklyn, only one teacher at the Bedford-Stuyvesant New Beginnings Charter School called out, despite more than 2 feet of snow across New York City.

"A lot of teachers are taking the train instead of driving," said Wanda Morales, director of operations at the school, standing outside while maintenance workers spread salt and parents dropped off their children.

In Arlington, Virginia, just across the Potomac River from Washington, there were signs of normalcy: shops were open, and main roadways were mostly cleared, dotted with large piles of snow.

Matthew Mason, 29, was riding the train into Washington to go to his job at a hotel. The part-time law student said he figured he should be there, though things would likely be a little slower.

"I've sat in my house too much already," he said.

Dave Lenowitz was perched on a snowbank in Philadelphia near what's normally the stop for the bus that takes him to his job as the director of a nonprofit.

"Normally I bicycle, but it's a little too slippery," he said. "There's not enough snow, otherwise I'd ski. It's only seven miles."

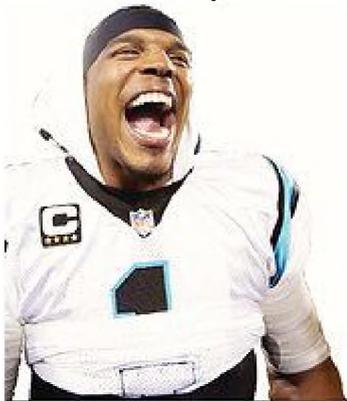
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2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES | VOL. 121, NO. 86

SPORTS

Broncos, Panthers headed for Super Bowl matchup B1



NATION

East Coast digs out from blizzard Residents head back to work after weekend storm A5



DEATHS, B4 and B5

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Rhonda Jaynes Wilkes | Kenneth Driggers |
| Samuel Holmes | John W. DuBoise |
| Edwin W. Litaker | Johnny Lee Tindal |
| Cecil Bundy Bell | Annie Mae Barrineau |
| Michael Jackson | Raymond McCray |
| Frances Compton | Carol Ann Bruce |
| James Bolden | Russell Tindal Jr. |
| Eddie L. Arrants Jr. | |

WEATHER, A10

SUNNY AGAIN TODAY

Some sun, then clouds; cloudy tonight
HIGH 66, LOW 49

INSIDE

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Sumter pastor will head Mother Emanuel church

Woman will lead in Charleston where 9 died

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@thesumter.com

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bishop Richard Franklin Norris has appointed the Rev. Betty Deas Clark, formerly pastor of Mount Pisgah AME Church in Sumter, to be pastor at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, the historic church where nine people, including pastor Clementia Pinckney, were killed June 17. Pinckney was also a state senator.

Dylann Roof, a 21-year-old accused white supremacist from the Columbia area, has been charged with the killings. The shootings at Mother Emanuel attracted national attention, and President Obama spoke at a memorial service for the victims.

The deaths also led to the removal of the Confederate flag from the grounds of the Statehouse in Columbia after Gov. Nikki Haley announced her support for the flag to be taken down.

Katli Britton, president of the AME Northeast Conference Lay Association, said Clark's appointment was made Saturday at a meeting in Columbia.

"It is well deserved," he said.

Clark's first service at Mother Emanuel was Sunday, he said.

Clark became the first female minister at Mother Emanuel, but that is nothing new to Clark, as she has been the first female minister for a number of the churches she has led. She succeeds the Rev.

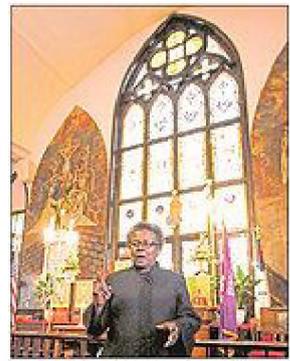


PHOTO BY JIM HILLEY FOR THE SUMTER ITEM
Pastor Dr. Betty Deas Clark, formerly pastor at Mount Pisgah AME Church in Sumter, has been appointed pastor at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston.

SEE PASTOR, PAGE A7

Youth pack church for annual event



PHOTOS BY JIM HILLEY FOR THE SUMTER ITEM
The crowd attending the Over the Top Youth Event sings along to the music of Jimmy Needham during a concert at Alice Drive Baptist Church on Saturday. The annual event came together eight years ago.

Annual fellowship began with couple's trip to conference

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@thesumter.com

Hundreds of Sumter's youth attended the eighth annual Over the Top Youth Event at Alice Drive Baptist Church on Saturday to share an evening of fellowship and music.

Before the event kicked off, Chad and Stephanie Dowling told the story of how the event came together eight years ago.

Stephanie told the "story behind the story" and said it all started 11 years ago when she recognized that the Lord was working on her heart.

"The mother of two said she had a burden for her daughters, to invest in them spiritually more than she was already doing.

Nine years ago Stephanie purchased tickets for her family to attend the Forward Conference youth event in Atlanta. She said at first her family did not relish the idea of going to the conference, but her husband eventually agreed.

"Chad had no idea what was hanging on the balance of his 'yes,'" Stephanie told the audience.

After seeing how the youths

spoke during the event in Atlanta, Chad thought something similar could do well in Sumter.

Some time later, the Dowlings, along with five other local couples, came together to organize the first event in 2008.

During the event, the couple's daughter Caroline came on stage to interview a recent high school graduate, Sara Catherine Jones, who has chosen to take a mission trip with The World Race Gap Year during the Mission Moment portion of Saturday's program. During the mission, Jones will spend three months in three countries, providing assistance

SEE EVENT, PAGE A7

Senators will focus on road funding

Republican, Democrat plan to craft bill to fix state's infrastructure

BY JEFFREY COLLINS
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA — A pair of senators — a Republican and Democrat who are not seeking re-election — plan to spend this week trying

But they are confident they can pull together a bill that business leaders and pothole-fixing drivers have been clamoring for.

"I think you'll see all of us try to take baby steps toward consensus," said

elsewhere and reform how the Department of Transportation is run.

But the 11 senators seem to have 16 different ideas. Conservative Republicans are leery about raising the gas tax without a signifi-

be changed at all. The budget is made up of members picked by lawmakers and an at-large appointment from the governor.

"The road funding piece, that's pretty black and white. Either you

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Morning News

TUESDAY JANUARY 26, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Some sunshine giving way to clouds.
High 64, low 45.

DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Florence County Sheriff's Office helicopter trial underway

BY JESSICA IMBINO
AND JOSHUA LLÓYD
Morning News
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jllloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — A trial involving the two pilots arrested by Florence County deputies for flying a helicopter allegedly owned by the sheriff's office began Monday.

Dusan Fridl and Hemming Hemmingsen were indicted in April on felony charges for unlawful entry of an aircraft that was allegedly owned by the Florence County Sheriff's Office at the time of the incident.

The Lake City pilots were arrested after flying the Bell OH580 helicopter, now known as Raptor 2, on April 6 without permission from the PCSO.

Fridl and Hemmingsen pleaded not guilty to the charges, and previous motions to dismiss the charges were turned down by the court.

The pilots maintain they were authorized to fly the aircraft for preventative maintenance purposes and that the machine was not officially signed into ownership of the PCSO until April 7. The defense says the Lake City Police Department had owner-

ship of the helicopter at the time of flight.

Attorney Rick Hoefler, the state's representative, said Monday during his opening statement that "the defendants think they were entitled to go into the aircraft, using it and removing equipment from it."

Hoefler called two witnesses to the stand: Lake City Administrator Shawn Bell and former Lake City police Chief Jodi Cooper.

Bell said after Fridl and Hemmingsen's first maintenance flight in January 2015, he told the pilots not to fly it again for liability and insurance reasons.

Cooper said he was aware that Bell had wanted the aircraft grounded for insurance reasons, but to his understanding, it was allowed to be taken up for preventative maintenance purposes.

Fridl and Hemmingsen operated under the jurisdiction of the LCPD and worked for the Lake City Municipal Airport. Fridl is the chairman of the airport's commission and, according to Cooper, played a major role in Lake City's acquisition of the helicopter.

The pilots helped LCPD

See HELICOPTER Page 3A



Hemming Hemmingsen (left) and Dusan Fridl (center) watch the proceedings on the first day of trial Monday. The two were indicted in April for unlawfully flying a helicopter allegedly owned by the Florence County Sheriff's Office. In the foreground is Patrick McLaughlin, who is the defense attorney for Fridl and Hemmingsen.

Johnson Controls to merge with Tyco

Frank Staff and wire reports

A mega-merger announced Monday has Johnson Controls Inc. joining Tyco in a \$3.9 billion deal to form Johnson Controls Plc.

Locally, Johnson Controls' facility in Florence recycles and distributes car batteries. Florence County Economic Development Director Joe W. King estimates between 300 and 350 people are employed by the Milwaukee-based company.

"I can't say it's good news. I don't think it's bad news," King said. "I just think it's news, but I don't think there's a negative effect in Florence."

See MERGER Page 3A

FREE WHEELIN'



Jay Swinney, 23, of Florence, took advantage of some sunny weather Monday afternoon and enjoyed the skateboarding area at David H. McLeod Park all to himself.

FLORENCE

Monday afternoon saw temperatures in the mid-50s, and Jay Swinney wasn't about to waste the opportunity to practice his skating moves at David H. McLeod Park. The 23-year-old Florence resident said it had been a couple of weeks since he last skated. "It feels great," he said. "The 50s feel warm."

2016 economic outlook solid for Pee Dee

BY JOE FLARY
Morning News
jflary@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Doug Wintchized is a glass-half-full kind of guy.

As the director of research at USC's Almon School of Business, he delivered his economic outlook for 2016 during the yearly "Review

velopers that he brought good news to share. Economic growth is strong and broad-based, and a solid 2015 has built momentum for a robust 2016, he said.

Statewide, he sees the Pee Dee region and the Grand Strand as the "top performers," he said. "Our economy is



A dirty way to learn

Program introduces students to agriculture

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
mrollins@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Students in South Carolina are about to get their hands dirty. The Bonnie Plants Cabbage Program is back for another year.

science classes.

All Saints Episcopal Day School in Florence has been a participant in the program. Third-grade teacher Mary Lea Stone said the program is always an exciting one for students.

The third-graders are

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016

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■ GREENWOOD

City receives 2nd National Heritage Corridor grant

By COLIN RIDDLE
criddle@indexjournal.com

Another \$100,000 could be making its way to the city for The Museum's efforts in renovating the Railroad Historical Center off South Main Street.

City Manager Charlie Barrineau told City Council on Monday of a grant award from the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor.



CHARLIE BARRINEAU

The grant award is the second the city has received for the multi-phase large scale renovation, which includes seven railcars and a replica of the Union Station Depot that once served as a central meeting place in Greenwood.

The center has already covered a restored steam locomotive and executive car, which received asbestos removal, lead paint abatement and fresh coats of paint, bringing them back to their early-1900s condition.

The Museum started the plan to reinvigorate the depot and train in 2012.

The city had previously committed \$100,000 to match a South Carolina National Heritage Corridor grant. The Museum also used more than \$175,000 in donations for the first phase of the project that included new fencing, ground-work, gutters, air conditioning, asbestos removal and paint.

The new grant also requires a \$300,000 match to the grant and will go toward restoration of the first four cars, including the diner, sleep, passenger and electrical rail cars.

See GREENWOOD, page 4A

■ NINETY SIX

Town looks for new judge

From SBP reports

Ninety Six is advertising for a municipal judge position after judge Robert Cone did not get his job renewed.

Mayor Mike Bone said the job was up for renewal, and the town looked to alternatives other than giving Cone another term.

"It was just something that was offered," he said. "To go in

THE LAST PITCH



PHOTOBY ASSOCIATED PRESS

Democratic presidential candidates, Hillary Clinton, left, and Sen. Bernie Sanders, right, speak separately during a CNN town hall Monday at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

Candidates discuss their policies in town hall forum

By JULIE PACE
and CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Bernie Sanders defended his call for raising American taxes in exchange for lower health care costs, as he opened a candidate forum Monday night that served as a platform for Democratic presidential hopefuls to make a closing argument to voters one week before the Iowa caucuses.

"Yes, we will raise taxes," said Sanders, an admission rarely heard in presidential campaigns. "We may raise taxes, but we are going to eliminate private health insurance premiums for individuals and businesses."

Sanders would replace the nation's existing employer-based system of insurance with one in which

the government becomes a "single payer," providing coverage to all. It would eliminate co-pays and deductibles, and Sanders argues, bring health care spending under control.

A self-described democratic socialist, Sanders cast his governing philosophy Monday as one reflecting that "the right for economic security should exist." But he sidestepped a question about whether his policies would mean an era of big government.

Sanders was the first of three candidates to address voters at the CNN town hall at Iowa's Drake University. Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton and former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, who has struggled to gain traction in the race, were to

appear later in the event.

All three have been zig-zagging the state in recent days, trying to show up support before the Feb. 1 caucuses. While Clinton has led the field for months, she's being challenged anew in Iowa, as well as in New Hampshire, which votes second in the primary contest.

The latest Des Moines Register/Bloomberg Politics poll found Clinton with 42 percent, Sanders with 40 percent and O'Malley with just 4 percent of likely Democratic caucus-goers. The poll, conducted between Jan. 7 and 10, had a margin of error of plus or minus 4.4 percentage points, suggesting it could be a toss-up between the former secretary of state and the Vermont senator.

Sanders, an independent from

Vermont, who caucuses with Democrats on Capitol Hill, has energized young voters in particular with his call for a "political revolution."

"We are touching a nerve with the American people who understand that establishment politics just aren't held enough," Sanders said Monday.

The 74-year-old Sanders pledged to release his medical records before Iowa votes, saying there's nothing in the papers that will surprise anybody. And while Sanders typically avoids veering into personal topics, preferring to focus squarely on policy, he spoke emotionally about what his late parents would think to see their son running for president.

"This would be so unimaginable," Sanders said.

See FORUM, page 4A

Former Calhoun Falls police officer airs concerns about department

By DAMIAN DOMINGUEZ
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CALHOUN FALLS — Almost a year after being fired by Calhoun Falls Mayor Jobotic Weller, former const-

pling the mayor of hiring and firing power, before re-hiring both officers.

At Monday night's meeting, Perina expressed his frustrations about council not taking actions to change the





The Beaufort Gazette

TUESDAY, January 26, 2016

beaufortgazette.com

Established in 1897 75 cents

Dreams, trees, neighbors collide

Avenue of the Oaks couple makes plans to sell property after firestorm over trees

By **STEPHEN FASTENAU**
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Kathy Sasso fell in love with the idea of riding horses down the sandy, oak-lined roads of Coffin Point, where she and her husband planned to retire.

But the Sassos are rethinking their future in the St. Helena Island community after becoming the center of a firestorm related to property they cleared earlier this month.

Sasso denied accusations the owners cut oak trees along the iconic Avenue of the Oaks and said resulting threats and insults have led the couple to make plans to sell their property.

The controversy erupted last

week after some Coffin Point residents began circulating pictures of what appeared to be a gap in the tree-lined dirt road. Some residents said the open space was the result of multiple live oaks being cut down this month without permission.

The photos were outdated and misleading, Sasso said.

Before buying the property, the couple researched local rules and covenants with a closing attorney and spent hours with Oliver's Bushhogging to develop a plan for clearing the property, Sasso said.

"This was our dream," Sasso said. "That dream has turned into a big pile of poop."



JAY KARR • Staff photo



VIDEO ONLINE
For video of the oaks, click on this story at beaufortgazette.com

The Avenue of the Oaks on St. Helena Island is photographed on Monday.

Please see **TREES** on 10A

BLIZZARD AFTERMATH



DIGGING OUT

Snow response in DC, NYC comes down to money, manpower

By **BEN NUCKOLS** and **JONATHAN LEMIRE**
The Associated Press

The nation's capital and its largest city both got walloped by the same near-record blizzard this weekend. But while Washington struggled to recover, New York City was mostly up and running on Monday.

In the District of Columbia, schools and government offices, monuments and memorials and museums were all shut down on Monday.



Fishing ban plan reeled back

Committee does not support plan; an expert says there is no connection between surf fishing and shark attacks.

By **ZACH MURDOCK**
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Hilton Head Island is reeling back a proposed rule that would have limited fishing on island beaches during its busy tourist season.

The proposal was borne of some residents' fears last fall that surf fishing could be attracting sharks to the shallows and might pose some kind of danger to swimmers.

But that's simply not true — "zero percent" of shark bites in South Carolina have ever been related to nearby fishing, said Robert Boyles, deputy director for marine resources with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources.

"We have no documented evidence that shark bites are directly associated with fishing," he told Town Council's Public Safety Committee on Monday morning. "We're concerned the proposed ordinance sends the wrong message."

Committee Chairman Lee Edwards and Councilwoman Kim Linkins agreed. They will ask the Town Council to reject the pro-

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