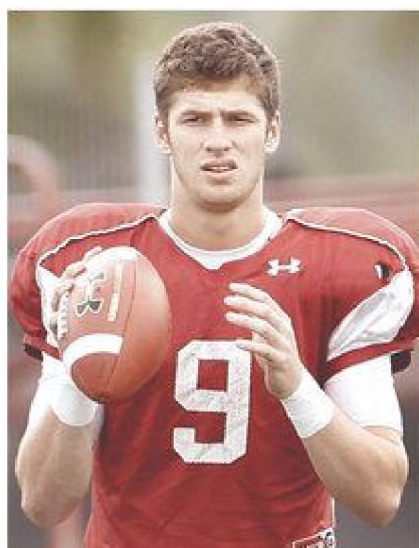


From: Taillon, Jeff

To: Taillon, Jeff <JeffTaillon@gov.sc.gov>

Date: 2/5/2013 10:45:41 AM

Subject: S.C. Front Pages - Tuesday, February 5, 2013



Former USC QB McEvoy heads to Wisconsin, B1

USC RECRUITING

Needs, not national buzz, power USC's solid recruiting class, **B1**

MANSLAUGHTER TRIAL

Verdict today in football fan's strange death?

By **JOHN MONK**
jmonk@thestate.com

A Richland County jury deliberated for an hour late Monday afternoon but reached no verdict in the involuntary-manslaughter case involving a University of South Carolina football fan who was run over and killed during a violent confrontation in traffic after a 2010 football game.

The decision by Judge Diane Goodstein to send the jury home means the trial, which began Jan. 29, will go into its sixth day to-



Gasque

day. The jury begins deliberations at 9:30 a.m. at the Richland County courthouse. Curtis Simms, 27, is charged with involuntary manslaughter and breach of the peace of a high and aggravated nature. If convicted of both charges, he could get up to 10 years in prison. Simms, 27, was ac-

SEE **FAN** PAGE **A3**

Military groundbreaker grew up in strong Columbia family

By **JOEY HOLLEMAN**
jholleman@thestate.com

The image is simple and, in historical context, stunning.

Proud and confident, Capt. Charity Adams marches at the fore of a battalion of black women in the uniforms of the

ON THE WEB

Find Black History Month events at thestate.com.

Moines, Iowa.

The photo doesn't match the assumptions of that era regarding race, gender, the military and the South.

But if you focus on that

SUPER BOWL ADS: Which commercial was a favorite with USC students? **B6**

The State

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013 | THESTATE.COM

ESSIE MAE WASHINGTON-WILLIAMS

Senator's once-secret daughter dies at 87



FILE PHOTOGRAPH/UTHE STATE

Essie Mae Washington-Williams speaks to reporters in 2003 in Columbia, confirming that the late U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond, once an avowed segregationist, was her father.

'Throughout his life and mine, we respected each other,' Washington-Williams once said of her father, Strom Thurmond

By **JAMIE SELF**
and **SAMMY FRETWELL**
jself@thestate.com,
sfretwell@thestate.com

Essie Mae Washington-Williams, the long-unrecognized daughter of the late U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, died late Sunday at 87.

Washington-Williams, the daughter of onetime segregationist Thurmond and an African-American maid in his parents' Edge-



Thurmond

field home, was living in Irmo at the time of her death, according to a notice from Levey's Funeral Home in Columbia.

Funeral services were tentatively set for Saturday in the Columbia area.

It was not until 2003, after the death of the U.S. senator of 48 years, that Washington-Williams revealed Thurmond was her father.

At the time, the Thurmond family said the senator never had mentioned his first-born child, but they swiftly acknowledged her claim.

SEE **DAUGHTER** PAGE **A10**

ON THE WEB

Read long-secret letters between

Essie Mae Washington-Williams and her father, the late U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., at thestate.com.

THE GOVERNMENT WE WANT: HEALTH CARE

People, policies and 'the whole picture'

By **JOEY HOLLEMAN**
jholleman@thestate.com

Luis Guess works two part-time jobs in the food service business, and he's

The 31-year-old Columbia resident faces a hospital bill he can't pay after an emergency appendectomy, and he also has spent time in hospital

Care Act, people in Guess' situation would be covered by an expanded Medicaid program, which would cover an individual earning less than about

ABOUT THIS SERIES

What do we want government to do? And how will we pay for those services? This story is the first of a year-long look at the deci-



SPORTS, 1B TIGERS PICKED TO WIN



INSIDE, 5A Thurmond's daughter dies at 87

The Greenville News

A GANNETT COMPANY

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 5, 2013
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

INSIDE

Greenville police make arrest in 2006 cold case, 3A

FINAL EDITION

S&P says feds to sue it over ratings

Service gave high marks to bad investments;
no word on litigation against competitors

By Kevin McCoy
USA Today

Credit rating giant Standard & Poor's Ratings Services expects to be the first major credit rating firm hit with civil fraud charges by the government over its rating of mortgage-backed bonds that keyed

the national financial meltdown, the company said Monday.

S&P said the U.S. Department of Justice had alerted the firm the federal government plans to file a lawsuit focused on the company's ratings of certain U.S. bonds in 2007.

S&P said such a lawsuit

"would be entirely without factual or legal merit."

Department of Justice spokeswoman Adora Andy declined to comment on the S&P disclosure.

Shares of McGraw-Hill Companies, S&P's parent firm, closed down nearly 13.8 percent at \$50.30 in Monday trading.

S&P bills itself as the world's top provider of independent credit risk research and ratings. The firm publishes credit

POLL QUESTION

Should the Justice Department sue S&P over mortgage ratings? Take our poll at GreenvilleOnline.com.

ratings on debt issued by sovereign, municipal, corporate and financial sector entities.

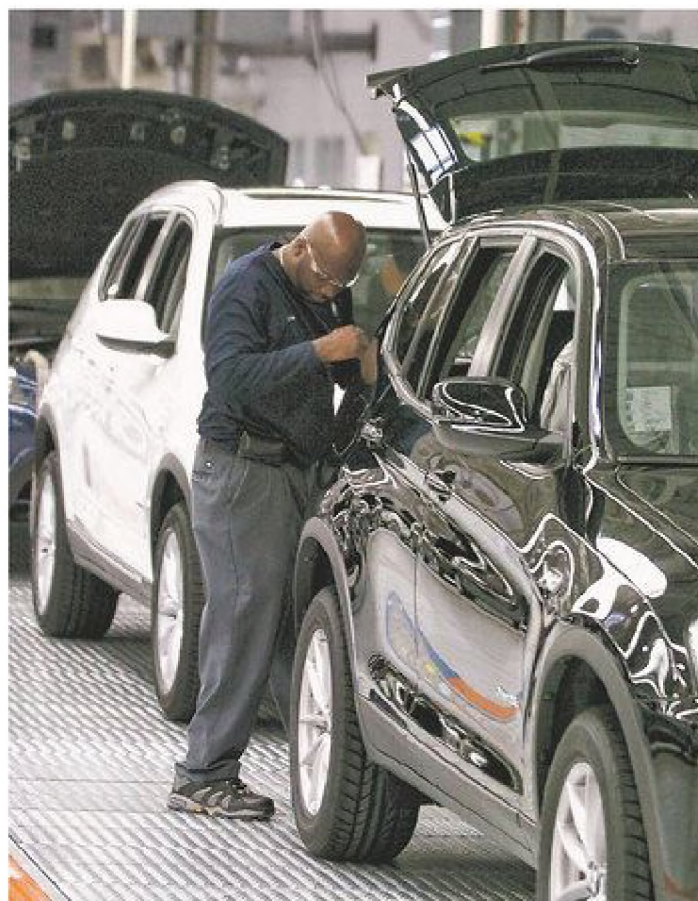
It was not clear whether the federal government plans similar action against S&P's major credit-rating rivals, Moody's and Fitch Ratings. Moody's did

not respond to a call seeking comment. Fitch spokesman Daniel Noonan said "we have no reason to believe Fitch is a target of any such action."

S&P argued that a number of court rulings had ruled against challenges "made with 20/20 hindsight to a credit agency's opinions of creditworthiness." As a result, the government plans to sue under a 1989 federal

See S&P, Page 4A

“After an historic December, January produced a good result showing our growth continuing. In 2013 we'll have more new models, the right mix and better availability, so I'm very positive about the 11 months still ahead.”



Strong demand for BMW's Greer-produced sports activity vehicles propelled the German automaker forward and underscored the worldwide importance of the U.S. manufacturing facility. RILEYGEORGE/GARONERSTAFF

AUTO SECTOR GAINS

BMW sales key factor

By David Dykes

Staff writer
ddykes@greenvilleonline.com

Signs from the economy at large point to continued strength in the automotive sector, industry experts say, an important component of the Upstate economy with BMW, Michelin and their suppliers providing paychecks for thousands of workers.

Economists said they were encouraged by strong U.S. car sales in January, traditionally a weak month in dealer showrooms, and few incentives from the manufacturers to attract buyers.

Other economic catalysts — a housing market gaining traction and a broad rally in stocks to start the year — could make consumers more confident about making big-

ticket purchases, economists said.

Last month, strong demand for BMW's Greer-produced sports activity vehicles propelled the German automaker forward and underscored the worldwide importance of the U.S. manufacturing facility.

Sales of the X3, X5 and X6 sports activity vehicles rose 41.3 percent to 6,469 units, BMW officials said.

The X3 SAV — on sale in the U.S. for two years — is up 18.9 percent to 2,005 units, company officials said. The X5 SAV is up 56.5 percent to 4,064 units and the X6 SAV is 34.8 percent higher to 380 units, the officials said.

The BMW Group in the U.S. — BMW and Mini combined — reported January sales of 20,195 vehicles, an in-

See AUTOS, Page 4A

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

TUESDAY, February 5, 2013

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 147, No. 36 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

County may get control of elections

S.C. House members draft bill to transfer duties of Election Office

BY DEDE BILES
dbiles@aikenstandard.com

Local S.C. House members have taken legislative action to put the Election Office under the supervision of Aiken County Administrator Clay Kilian and County Council members instead of the delegation.

District 84 Rep. Roland Smith, the Aiken County Legislative Delegation

chairman, and the four other House members of the delegation introduced the bill transferring control last month. It passed the House unanimously in late January and is now being considered by the Senate.

"The legislation simply puts the responsibility for the Election Office into the hands of county government," Smith said. "This expands home rule. It should have been under home rule all along, and we have put it under home rule."

More voting machines and better-trained staff were two of the recommendations presented to the delegation

during the Monday night delegation meetings, whose members are striving to address concerns raised last November from voters who experienced long wait times and problematic machines.

Those suggestions plus more laptop computers for precinct workers would improve the situation, Kay Melver told the delegation. She headed a committee of three Election Commissioners appointed by Smith to look into the problems.

Melver, who is the chairman of the Aiken County Registration and Election Commission, told the delegation that her committee's recommendations

include purchasing 20 new voting machines. The machines cost approximately \$1,900 apiece when they have been refurbished and would cost about \$4,200 each if they were new. However, no new machines are in production at this time, she said.

Aiken County owns 422 voting machines. Based on the number of registered voters in the county (102,000), 408 machines are required by state law, Melver said. The law requires one machine for every 250 registered voters.

However, based on the number of precincts in Aiken County, 434 ma-

chines would be needed to satisfy the law. Twenty-seven precincts need to be split because they exceed 1,500 registered voters, according to Melver.

Melver said her committee incorporated some recommendations from the South Carolina Election Commission into its report. The delegation had a full report from the state election commission at its Monday meeting, as well. However, Melver said she and her committee had not seen the entire report when they prepared their recommendations.

Please see BILL, Page 13A

Biracial daughter of Strom Thurmond dies at 87

BY MEG KINNARD
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Essie Mae Washington-Williams, the mixed-race daughter of one-time segregationist Sen. Strom Thurmond who kept her parentage secret for more than 70 years to avoid damaging his political career, died Monday. She was 87.

Vann Dozier of Levey's Funeral Home in Columbia said Washington-Williams died Monday. A cause of death was not given. In addition to two other children born from his second marriage, Thurmond was the father of J. Strom Thurmond Jr., 2nd Judicial Circuit Solicitor, and S.C. District 41 Sen. Paul Thurmond.

Washington-Williams was the daughter of Thurmond and his family's black maid. The identity of her famous father was rumored for decades in political circles and the black community.

But not until after Thurmond's death in 2003 at age 100 did Washington-Williams come forward and say her father was the white man who ran for president on a segregationist platform and served in the U.S. Senate for more than 47 years.

Please see ESSIE, Page 13A

South Carolina ending unemployment services at 17 of its offices

State News, SA

AREA DEATHS

Audrey Luella Chartier, North Augusta

Earl Zimmerman, Aiken

Johnny Jackson, Batesburg

Kirby Alan White, Aiken

Michael Douglas Flynn, Aiken

Alternate wins county spelling bee



Michael Havasy, a North Augusta Middle School sixth-grader, is thrilled after receiving an iPad as the winner of the Aiken County School District's countywide Spelling Bee Monday. Making the presentation is Dean Campbell, public affairs director for Savannah River Remediation.

BY ROB NOVIT
novit@aikenstandard.com

Michael Havasy arrived at the URS Center for the Arts for the Aiken County School District's Spelling Bee Monday — without any expectation of winning a first-place trophy, an iPad and a \$100 gift card to the Apple Store.

Heck, the North Augusta Middle School sixth-grader had no expectation of taking part in the contest at all. Michael showed up as the Group 3 alternate from the Group 3 area in North Augusta. When one of the students didn't arrive, he stepped in and "I was hoping for that," Michael said.

His victory was aired live on the Aiken Standard's ASTV 95 on Atlantic Broadband. Repeats will appear over the coming weeks and also will be shown on aikenstandard.com.

Michael edged out runner-up Kaylee Westbrook, a fifth-grader from East Aiken School of the Arts. Kaylee had her own com-

It's a fun night. ... It's a wonderful place to showcase smart students.

Dr. Beth Everitt, Aiken County School District superintendent

enthusiastically hugged her afterward, noting she'll have another three years to compete in the contest.

And how did Kaylee react to settling for second place? "Oh dadgummit," she said and burst into giggles. She missed the word "disparage," throwing in an extra letter.

"I would have done that too," Michael said graciously.

He had to spell two other words correctly to win the Bee. As it turned out, the selected words amusingly proved quite appropriate for the situation — "anxiety" and "predicament."

But Michael handled the words comfortably, as I'll know how to

Augusta, sponsored by the Augusta Chronicle. Michael got lots of hugs from his mom, Carol Havasy.

"I didn't come expecting this," she said. "It's just wonderful."

The county Spelling Bee is sponsored annually by URS and Savannah River Remediation. Kaylee also won the \$100 gift card to the Apple Store. All 12 competing students also received a \$100 gift card to Books-A-Million — handed out by Dean Campbell, public affairs director at SRR.

Dr. Beth Everitt, the Aiken County School District superintendent, presented certificates to the children. Melissa Hanna, the Aiken Standard's executive editor, gave Michael and Kaylee their

Council District 6 primary election is today

BY HALEY HUGHES
hhughes@aikenstandard.com

The primary election for the Aiken County Council District 6 seat is today with three candidates vying for the vacant seat.

Republicans Lynette Barton, John McMichael and Phil Napier each seek the spot.

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Only Aiken County residents living in District 6 are eligible to vote in the election.

McMichael is a business development officer with Hulsan Etheredge Companies, Barton is the operator of Barton Radiator and Electrical Service, and Napier owns Napier Hardware in Graniteville.

Barton is the wife of Charles Barton, the former District 6 representative.

Napier is a former Council member, having served from 1999 to 2002.

Charles Barton resigned from Council with approximately two years left in his term. He was elected Aiken County auditor in November and was appointed to fill the unexpired term of retired auditor Cyrus Spradley.

In the event no candidate receives 50 percent of the vote plus one, a run-off election will be held Feb. 19.

Per a new law that went into effect Jan. 1, voters will be required to show a photo ID at their polling place today.

Voters have five options in photo IDs: a S.C. driver's license, an ID card issued by the S.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, a voter registration card with a photo, federal military ID or a U.S. passport. The ID must be current and valid.

If a person already has one of the qualifying photo IDs, they are ready to vote.

Previously, voters had to show only



HIGH: 68
LOW: 48
Weather, 4B

Half-price frozen yogurt at
Lovin' Spoons Self-Serve
— go to dealsaver.com/Beaufort



Beaufort High lineman
Caleb Gee commits to
Charleston Southern 1B



The Beaufort Gazette

TUESDAY, February 5, 2013

beaufortgazette.com

Established in 1897 50 cents

Doctor admits to painkiller-cocaine deals

David Rhodes of Beaufort faces at least 9 years in prison after guilty plea

By ERIN MOODY
emoody@beaufortgazette.com
843-706-8184

A Beaufort doctor faces nine or more years in prison after admitting in federal court Monday that he wrote

painkiller prescriptions for people who did not need them in exchange for cocaine.

David Vincent Rhodes, 47, who has been on indefinite leave from his practice since May, pleaded guilty at a

hearing in Charleston to conspiracy to possess and distribute oxycodone.

Although the charges could bring as many as 20 years in prison and more than \$1 million in fines, Assistant U.S. Attorney Peter Phillips has asked that

Rhodes pay \$150,000 — the amount of proceeds from his illegal activity — and receive a sentence of nine years to 11 years and three months.

Rhodes declined to comment after the hearing.

Prosecutors said Rhodes has agreed to cooperate with an ongoing investigation that in August resulted in a federal grand-jury indictment of 18 others, all from the Beaufort County area. Most were arrested in a roundup by the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.

Please see DOCTOR on 7A

With OK to tear down historic house, crew begins DEMOLITION ON DUKE



SARAH WELLIVER • Staff photo

ON THE WEB

To see a video of the demolition, click on this photo at beaufortgazette.com or this QR code.



Chino Fuentes, left, and Bryan Thompson of NBM Builders of Beaufort loop a chain Monday while tearing down a house at 1411 Duke St. in Beaufort. The dilapidated house owned by Beaufort attorney Jim Moss is being demolished after the city's Historic District Review Board determined it was not historically significant and not worth trying to restore.

2009 KILLING OF WOMAN,
4-YEAR-OLD IN DALE

Death penalty trial date unclear

The defense attorneys for Ernest Stewart Daise say an expert witness is not able to testify until late summer or early fall.

By ALLISON STICE
astice@islandpacket.com
843-706-8138

Prosecutors tried but failed Monday to schedule a trial for a man accused of killing his girlfriend and her 4-year-old son in Dale more than three years ago.

Solicitor Duffie Stone said his office, which is seeking the death penalty for Ernest Stewart Daise, has been ready to try the case for more than a year.

However, defense attorneys for Daise requested more time Monday in the Beaufort County Courthouse. Casey Secor of the Capital Trial Division of the S.C. Commission on Indigent Defense — part of Daise's defense team — said an expert witness for the defense would not be available to testify until late summer or early fall. The witness was not identified Monday.

Circuit Court Judge Carmen Mullen, who proposed a June trial date, is allowing the defense a couple of days to discuss the expert witness's availability.

Daise is accused of murdering his girlfriend, Jeanine Mullen, and her son, and wounding the couple's 2-year-old son Nov. 15, 2009. Mullen was a 34-year-old single mother who worked at Shanklin Elementary School. She was



Daise

Please see TRIAL on 7A

DOT tree trimming begins on Beaufort, Port Royal streets

By ERIN MOODY

Ribaut Road, between Lenora Drive with the town and city will follow be-

Workers with the



POINTING THE WAY

USC's new baseball coach is eager for his chance. B1

Herald-Journal

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HJ
IN A HURRY
5 Things to read today



Urging gun control

President Barack Obama declares on his first trip outside Washington to promote gun control that a consensus is emerging for universal background checks for purchasers, though he concedes a tough road lies ahead to pass an assault weapons ban over formidable opposition in Congress. **PAGE A5**

Koch funeral

Ed Koch couldn't have chosen a more appropriate final farewell to New York City. An organist plays "New York, New York" in a Manhattan synagogue as the former mayor's coffin is carried past thousands of mourners. Koch died Friday of congestive heart failure at age 88. **PAGE A3**

Overfishing

The ocean off Peru boasts the world's richest fishing grounds, but unremitting cheating by commercial fleets on quotas and other regulations designed to protect fish species has battered the industry. **PAGE A7**

Bunker stormed

Authorities storm an underground bunker in southeastern Alabama, freeing a 5-year-old boy and leaving his captor dead after a week of fruitless negotiations that left authorities convinced the child was in imminent danger. **PAGE A8**

Teacher mourned

Grief counselors spend the day at Spartanburg Charter School as students and staff cope with the loss of beloved teacher George Williamson. **PAGE C1**

Weather

WOMAN REMEMBERED AS LOVING, COMPASSIONATE

Ex-teacher strangled; son jailed

By JENNY ARNOLD
jennifer.arnold@shj.com

The son of a woman found strangled to death in a trash can has been taken into custody, according to the Gaffney Police Department.

Brandon Scott Knuckles, 44, who lived with his mother, Marjorie L. Knuckles, 78, at her Hetty Hill Street home, has been booked at the Cherokee County Detention Center

and charged with possession of a stolen vehicle, according to online jail records.

On Sunday, Gaffney Police Chief Richard Turner called Brandon Knuckles a "person of interest" in the case, which remains under investigation.

Marjorie Knuckles was probably dead for a few days before her family discovered her body Sunday morning in the roll-out trash container

behind a shed in her backyard. She had been reported missing by her family on Saturday night.

Cherokee County Coroner Dennis Fowler, who ruled Marjorie Knuckles' death a homicide Sunday, said an autopsy on Monday found that she had been strangled. He said it was one of the most "heinous" crimes he's seen.

"In addition to being stran-

gled, Mrs. Knuckles sustained other non-lethal bodily injuries caused by beating," Fowler said in a written statement. "The person responsible for this has no conscience."

Police and family couldn't locate Brandon Knuckles or Marjorie Knuckles' 2004 Nissan Maxima during the weekend. On Monday, about 9:30

◆ SEE SON PAGE A8



Brandon Knuckles' mother was found strangled.

A defect at this intersection in Spartanburg has a habit of leaving some travelers straddling the railroad tracks. Local leaders are taking another shot at fixing it.

A turning point?



MICHAEL JUSTUS/MICHAEL.JUSTUS@SHJ.COM

Dangerous crossing

Spartanburg transportation officials are looking into fixing a dangerous railroad crossing. The short distance between the light and the crossing means long vehicles are sometimes forced to straddle the railroad tracks. Until the intersection can be reconstructed, officials are looking into getting the activation for the light moved farther back on the tracks, giving vehicles additional time to clear the intersection ahead of an oncoming train.

Motorists drive over railroad tracks at Fairforest and North Blackstock roads Monday in Spartanburg. A defect at the intersection leaves a short distance between the traffic light and the tracks, which sometimes forces long vehicles, including school buses and tractor-trailers, to straddle the tracks.

By FELICIA KITZMILLER
felicia.kitzmiller@shj.com

Spartanburg transportation officials are taking another shot at fixing a dangerous railroad crossing they've been worried about for 10 years.

A defect in the intersection of Fairforest and North Blackstock roads leaves some travelers straddling the railroad tracks, creating a safety hazard, said Jim D'Amato, transportation planning manager, at the Spartanburg Area Transportation Study's policy committee meeting on Monday.



There's no doubt that's probably the most dangerous



Spurrier eyes the future, 1B

Inside today's edition

Local: McCormick seeks board member, 2A

Nation: Obama stands firm on guns, 3A

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013

2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES

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INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 94, NO. 279

Documents shed little light

Evidence exists for only 60 miles of Saluda mayor's claimed mileage

By FRANK BUMB

fbumb@indexjournal.com

SALUDA — Saluda Mayor Frank Addy insists mileage claimed by him from 2010 to 2012 is "above board" and done "for the best interests of the

town."

But there is almost no documentation supporting the legitimacy of Addy's claims.

On Tuesday, the Index-Journal reviewed vouchers, check stubs and other information at Saluda Town Hall in response to a Free-

dom of Information request sent Jan. 18.

According to information obtained by the Index-Journal through that request, Addy claimed more than 68,760 miles for reimbursement from Saluda's general fund since 2010. That

represents a total of \$37,818.46 in reimbursements for mileage since 2010. Of that total, 48,403.2 miles for \$26,621.76 reimbursement were claimed in 2012. Addy included documentation supporting his travels for only 60 miles out of the roughly 68,760

claimed since 2010.

The documentation was a signed thank you card from a Hometown, South Carolina Regional Advocacy meeting. The meeting, according to the

See **LIGHT**, page 3A



FRANK ADDY

■ GREENWOOD

Group fronts \$250K

Money would go to farmers market

By CHRIS TRAINOR

ctrainor@indexjournal.com

A foundation stepped forward and offered the City of a Greenwood grant money to help establish a new farmers market on Maxwell Avenue.

The V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation is prepared to offer the city a grant in the amount

About the foundation

■ The V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation is named for Velux founder V. Kann Rasmussen. Velux constructs, among other things, skylights, sun tunnels, roof windows and blinds.

lower end of Maxwell Avenue, across from Mill House Pizza and Master E.S. Moon's martial arts studio.

During Monday night's Greenwood City Council work session, Velux's John Pillman attended. The V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation is named for Velux founder V. Kann Rasmussen. Pillman is a liaison for the foundation.

Pillman said the Rasmussen Foundation now seeks to provide money for environmentally sustainable projects and also is looking to continue providing funds for projects in Greenwood, since Velux is located here.

Pillman said he presented the city's idea for a new farmers market on Maxwell to Rasmussen Foundation board

SPECIAL REPORT | KINDERGARTEN



MATT WALSH / INDEX-JOURNAL

Anna Lee Padgett learns to play a game on an iPad in the Cougar Cubbies program at Cambridge Academy.

Private schools can offer head start for youngsters

By ST. CLAIRE DONAGHY

sdonaghy@indexjournal.com

Cambridge Academy is a private school in Greenwood with a 45-year history, currently offering play school for 18- to 36-month-olds, and it has students in 3-year-old

Inside

■ Kindergarten sets the foundation for future learning at GCS. **4A**

language arts, mathematics, social studies, science and enrichment areas, such as physical education, music, art, Spanish and computer for K5. The K5 program is full-day. An on-site after-school program

KINDERGARTEN
An exploration into how the youngest children are now educated.
Final in a series

is available for children in grades K3 through 5, which extends the school day for those half-day program youngsters who opt to stay.

"Having taught both kindergarten and first grade, I have seen a shift within at least the past 10 years of kindergarten being more structured," Jody Gable said. "It's been at least that long since we began using a revised edition of Open Court (developed by SRA/McGraw-Hill), the elementary reading program we use. It focuses

on phonetics and reading comprehension. That revised edition included a kindergarten component, whereas it used to be introduced in first grade."

Gable is now Cambridge's head of school.

"We hit the ground running with that kindergarten component and also started introducing sight words, sounding and blending and writing," Gable said.

Everything has to be appropriate for children's developmental levels, Gable said, noting the school's preschoolers learn shapes and colors, and the differences between big and little, for example.

"You have to monitor and adjust," Gable said. "It's not good to make someone do something before he or she is developmentally

See **CAMBRIDGE**, page 4A

■ NO ARREST MADE

Officials: Death a homicide

Blunt force trauma cause, coroner says

From staff reports

Officials said Monday a Greenwood man's death, which investigators were treating as suspicious, has officially been ruled a homicide.

Greenwood police found Vincent Leon Hurley, 42, of 1011 Central Ave., dead in his home Sunday morning.

Authorities performed an autopsy on the victim Monday morning in Anderson. The exam revealed Hurley died from blunt force trauma to the head and body, according to Greenwood County Coroner Sonny Cox.

The Greenwood Police Department is investigating the death. Police responded to the victim's house just after 10 a.m. Sunday after a friend found the man unresponsive inside. Cox estimated the man was dead less than 24 hours prior to being found.

Investigators treated the death as a homicide from the onset Sunday, and noted elements at the scene raised suspicion. Police would not provide further details, but said Sunday they were awaiting the results of the autopsy before proceeding with the investigation as a homicide.

Officers found the man lying face up in bed with his shirt pulled halfway up, showing a bruise across his stomach just above the navel.

Officers noted the room in which he was found was in disarray. Police were not clear on whether the clutter was a result of the incident that led to the victim's death.

A forensics team from the State Law Enforcement Division reported to the house to



SONNY COX



THE ISLAND PACKET

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013

islandpacket.com

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68° 48°

Sunshine with a few clouds passing by. 4B



Bluffton's Anthony Smith commits to Air Force Academy 1B



Half-priced frozen yogurt at Lovin' Spoons Self-Serve
dealsaver.com/HiltonHead

Hilton Head burglaries, thefts drop in 2012

Sheriff's Office reports fewer drug charges, slight rise in violent crimes

By BRIAN HEFFERNAN
 bheffernan@islandpacket.com
 843-706-8142

Property crimes decreased on Hilton Head Island in 2012 — and will decline further if visitors can be persuaded to lock their doors, Beaufort County Sheriff's Office representatives said Monday.

The island had about 200 fewer burglaries and thefts last year than in 2011, according to a quarterly report by the Sheriff's Office to Town Council's Public Safety Committee. The Sheriff's Office provides police service for the town.

The cause of the decline is twofold, Sheriff R.J. Tanner said.

"It's proactive police work, and the community is taking ownership," he said.

Communities watch more carefully for suspicious activity and made about 40,000 more calls for service last year than the year before, according to Tanner.

Please see CRIMES on 7A

HILTON HEAD ISLAND CRIME STATISTICS

Property crimes and drug offenses decreased on Hilton Head Island in 2012, but violent crimes rose slightly, according to the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.

	2011	2012
Property crimes	1,506	1,312
Drug offenses	1,076	914
Violent crimes	123	126

PAINKILLER CASE

Doctor pleads guilty

Beaufort doctor David Vincent Rhodes, 47, admits to trading painkillers for cocaine.

By ERIN MOODY
 emoody@beaufortgazette.com
 843-706-8184

A Beaufort doctor faces nine or more years in prison after admitting in federal court Monday that he wrote painkiller prescriptions for people who did not need them in exchange for cocaine.

INSIDE

■ 24 others also charged in the case. 7A

David Vincent Rhodes, 47, who has been on indefinite leave from his practice since May, pleaded guilty at a

hearing in Charleston to conspiracy to possess and distribute oxycodone.

Although the charges could bring as many as 20 years in prison and more than \$1 million in fines, Assistant U.S. Attorney Peter Phillips has asked that Rhodes pay \$150,000 — the amount of proceeds from his illegal activity — and receive a sentence of nine years to 11 years and three months.

Rhodes declined to comment after the hearing.

Prosecutors said Rhodes has agreed to cooperate with an ongoing investigation that in August resulted in a federal grand-jury indictment of 18 others, all from the Beaufort County area.

Please see DOCTOR on 7A

catching some air



DELAYNA EARLEY • Staff photo

Mac Taylor of Savannah practices skateboarding tricks Monday, while his friend Tyler Roberts of Bluffton watches at the skatepark in Buckwalter Community Center Park in Bluffton.

Town of Bluffton buys 7 acres, hopes to attract tech businesses

By GINA SMITH
 gsmith@islandpacket.com

tempts to become a hot spot for technology companies.

INSIDE

WELLS FARGO BLUFFTON BRANCH

Fired bank employees seek \$1.48M in lawsuit



CMYK



Odd

A KING IS FOUND

Health, A8

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013

The Times and Democrat

75 CENTS • ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA



TheTandD.com

2 SECTIONS, 16 PAGES • VOL. 132 • NO. 36

Brookdale PTO head ousted after dispute gets physical

By DALE LINDER-ALTMAN
T&D Staff Writer

Linnell Davis has been removed as president of Brookdale Elementary School's Parent-Teacher Organization for what Principal Dr. Charlene Stokes calls his "inappropriate, aggressive and threatening behavior" in a letter she wrote to him over the weekend.

Now Davis says he could be facing a charge in the dispute, which started when he was asked to sign in at the school's front office. Stokes said he refused, but Davis said he did it.

"I didn't like the new rule, but I signed in," he said.

As a result of the incident, Stokes told Davis his services as PTO president are no longer needed and he's not allowed to

venture beyond the front desk of the school.

Davis said he was asked to sign in for the first time on Friday as he was taking his daughters to school.

Stokes' letter to Davis says "When I approached you in the hallway to remind you to sign in at the front desk, you hit my wrist and stated 'That is stupid Ms. Stokes! You are putting more

pressure on the parents! That is not the problem! The problem is when you aren't here!'"

She claimed that when she told him not to hit her again, he said "I'll knock you into a coma!"

Davis has a different version of events.

"As I'm walking down the hall, Mrs. Stokes is approaching me. ... She reaches and grabs my arm. I knock her hand away," Da-

vis said.

Davis said he continued to walk down the hall and Stokes followed him, saying, "You hit me. You hit me!"

"I said, 'If I'd hit you, I'd have knocked you into a coma,'" Davis said. "Then I walked out the door."

See PTO, A3



Davis

CPR for everyone



GENE ZALESKI/T&D

Calhoun County Emergency Medical Services Director Bill Minkiewicz announces the Calhoun County Survival Project Monday afternoon. The county wants to train as many people as possible in CPR and first aid.

Calhoun County expanding training in lifesaving technique

By GENE ZALESKI
T&D Staff Writer

SANDY RUN — By all appearances, Robbie Shipes looks like a healthy 48-year-old man.

He is a self-described avid cyclist and runner, is not overweight and tries to eat right.

But in October 2012, Shipes almost

died of a heart attack soon after completing the Mud Run in Sandy Run.

"I got through the Mud Run and could not breathe," Shipes told a group gathered at a Monday afternoon press conference unveiling the Calhoun County Survival Project. "I had tightness in my chest. I thought it was asthma."

The project is designed to train as many people as possible in cardiopul-

monary resuscitation and first aid. In CPR, chest compressions and rescue breathing are used to maintain circulation and breathing until help arrives.

Shipes said he lost consciousness a few times while en route to Lexington Medical Center.

See CPR, A3

State ending
jobless services
at 17 officesBy SEANNA ADCOX
Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Jobless persons who want face-to-face assistance with their unemployment benefits in South Carolina may face a longer drive starting Feb. 19.

The Department of Employment and Workforce is reducing its offices for unemployment services from 56 to 30, spokeswoman Adrienne Fairwell told The Associated Press on Monday.

Clients can still get services online or by calling a toll-free number. But thousands of rural residents will need to drive elsewhere for face-to-face help. For example, Allendale County clients will go to Barnwell. And residents who are going to offices in either Barnwell or St. Matthews are being sent to Orangeburg.

"We want our clientele to know they need to go to a different office," Fairwell said.

The last day for assistance with unemployment benefits at the 17 offices is Feb. 15. However, those offices won't close. SC Works career centers will remain at those locations, she said.

She said the agency's decisions were based on "foot traffic" statistics.

"There was no one area targeted. This regionaliza-

Orangeburg
office serving
T&D Region

T&D Staff Report

Barnwell and Calhoun county residents will soon have to travel to Orangeburg if they want to handle their unemployment claims in person.

The Orangeburg Department of Employment and Workforce at 1804 Joe S. Jeffords Highway will become the regional site for those seeking to file unemployment claims and receive other services related to filing claims.

The Barnwell and St. Matthews DEW sites will continue to provide in-person re-employment services such as workshops on resume writing, soft skills, individualized marketing plans, referrals for training and job skills.

The Barnwell site is open one day a week and the St. Matthews site is open a half-day once a week.

The change will take effect Feb. 19. All those who will be affected have been notified of these changes by mail.

See OFFICES, A3

See REGION, A3

Longtime master-in-equity retires

By LEE HENDREN

and returned to find out what was going on.

Jeff Taillon

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