

From: Moore, Camlin <CamlinMoore@gov.sc.gov>
To:
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Subject: SC Front Pages – Thursday, June 16, 2016

SC Front Pages – Thursday, June 16, 2016

CLEMSON FACILITIES

Littlejohn renovation and football ops building on schedule, **3B**

**USC FACILITIES**

Makeover for Williams-Brice playing field among projects, **1B**

THURSDAY JUNE 16 2016

\$1.00

VOL. 126TH, No. 120
STAY CONNECTED THESTATE.COMFACEBOOK.COM/THESTATENEWS
TWITTER.COM/THETSTATETODAY: PARTLY CLOUDY; T-STORM CHANCE **HI 98 LO 76**
YESTERDAY: **HI 95 LO 73** PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) **0.75"**
FORECAST, **8C**

The State

EMANUEL

A YEAR LATER

'I pray for it to get better'

GERRY MELENDEZ gmelendez@thestate.com

Rev. Anthony Thompson welcomes those attending a Wednesday night Bible study at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. A year ago, parishioners met at Charleston's historic church for a similar study, only to be confronted by a gunman.

Carrying guns in house of God: Churches weigh security risks

BY CLIF LEBLANC
cleblanc@thestate.com

Houses of worship, feeling unsafe in the midst of mass shootings, have trained parishioners to be more alert to newcomers among them and to weigh the consequences of arming themselves, law enforcement authorities are saying.

Much of the attention to safety in churches, mosques and temples across South Carolina heightened after

GERRY MELENDEZ gmelendez@thestate.com

Richland County Deputy Rickey Griddine is part of the security team at Bible Way Baptist Church.

SEE SECURITY, 7A

MORE INSIDE

See Palmetto for stories about how people across the nation reacted after last year's Emanuel AME church shootings. **1C**

ONLINE

THESTATE.COM: Rev. Anthony Thompson, before the gathering, explains he will teach from the same verses his late wife, Myra, was teaching from last year.

Bible study marks anniversary of shootings

BY SARAH ELLIS
sellis@thestate.com**CHARLESTON**

'Fret not yourself because of evil-doers; be not envious of wrong-doers! ... The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their stronghold in the time of trouble."

A reading of Psalm 37 set the tone for an evening of remembrance, praise and holy celebration Wednesday at Emanuel AME Church.

A year ago, the historic Charleston church opened its doors to congregation members and the public - friends, family and strangers - as it did and continues to do every Wednesday for an evening of

SEE CHURCH, 7A



SPORTS HAAS SEES CHALLENGE



BUSINESS Take stroll through BMW plant

The Greenville News

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

THURSDAY,
JUNE 16, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY U.S. SENATE LOCKED IN FILIBUSTER OVER GUN VIOLENCE PAGE 1B

RESTAURANTS



Chef Greg McPhee, whose new restaurant, The Anchorage, will open in The Village of West Greenville in the fall, explains the renovations that will be made to the historic building.

FOOD SCENE SEEING A SHIFT

Eateries moving away from downtown as rent rises

LILLIA CALLUM-PENSO
LPCENSO@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

Don Marcum wanted to be downtown. When the restaurateur committed to bringing the Shuckin' Shack Oyster Bar concept to Greenville last year, he figured it'd be a perfect fit for Main Street.

But after six months of searching, Marcum scrapped his downtown plans. He opened his restaurant in the Earth Fare shopping center on Pelham Road.

"Number one there wasn't anything open really that wasn't cost prohibitive as far as restoration or an upfit," Marcum says. "And even then when we were looking two years ago it wasn't

what it is now. In the last two years it's gone just berserk."

As Greenville's notoriety continues to rise, so do downtown rents, and that rises is hitting independent restaurateurs, who often work with paper thin margins, extra hard. In 2015, the aver-

See FOOD, Page 6A

Two ethics reform bills OK'd

TIM SMITH
TCSMITH@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

COLUMBIA - The Legislature Wednesday night approved two ethics reform bills after years of trying.

One bill would require lawmakers and other public officials disclose sources of private income, while another would provide independent ethics investigations of ethics complaints against lawmakers.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Larry Martin, who has led the push for ethics reform in the Senate, said he knew some would criticize the legislation.

"But independent investigations for the first time will be conducted outside this body," he told the Senate.

The votes send both bills to Gov. Nikki Haley, who has pushed for years for lawmakers to pass ethics reform, which repeatedly stalled in the Senate.

Under the legislation adopted Wednesday night, ethics complaints against legislators would be investigated by a revamped State Ethics Commission, which would determine if there is probable cause to the complaints and if so would send them back to House and Senate ethics committees to determine guilt and any penalty.

Currently, ethics complaints against lawmakers are handled by each chamber's ethics committees, which also decide any punishment.

Sen. John Scott, a Richland County Democrat, told the Senate the bill was being rushed and was flawed.

"This is a joke," he said. "It's a feel-good piece of legislation."

The Senate approved the compromise reached with House lawmakers over the investigations bill by a vote of 40-0. The House approved it 99-0.

Legislators and public officials currently must report sources of government income, payments from lobbyists and some government contractors but not private sources.

The bill passed would require disclosure of private sources of income from officials and immediate family

See REFORM, Page 5A

House upholds, then reverses moped bill veto

TIM SMITH
TCSMITH@GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

COLUMBIA - House members Wednesday night overrode Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of a bill regulating mopeds after voting earlier in the day to agree with her.

The change of heart occurred at 8 p.m. after Rep. Rick Quinn, a Lexington County

Republican, asked that the earlier vote be reconsidered.

As he had earlier, Rep. Todd Rutherford, leader of House Democrats, portrayed the bill as complicated and burdensome to the working poor who use mopeds most and asked the House to sustain the veto.

"We made it so complicated you can't understand it," he argued.

Haley argued the requirements for operators to wear reflective vests at night and for those under 21 to wear helmets amounted to "government overreach."

But proponents argued the bill was needed for safety and would not be prohibitively expensive for moped operators. At 8 p.m., the House voted 69-33 to override the governor, sending the bill to the Senate, which was deliberating into

the night on budget vetoes.

Earlier, several House lawmakers spoke against the bill.

Rutherford questioned how moped riders would be able to know what type of vests and helmets they should buy.

"I agree with the governor," he said. "This is government overreach."

See VETO, Page 5A

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Aiken Standard

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WEDNESDAY, June 15, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 167 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

Feagin defeats two for Council District 3

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
ccleveland@aikenstandard.com

Danny Feagin won the Aiken County Council District 3 race Tuesday, according to unofficial results.

"I'm very thankful and I'm very appreciative for all of the support I've received from the voters (and) for all of the encouragement I've received throughout the campaign," Feagin said Tuesday night. "I'm just very thankful for the confidence the public has shown me, and I look forward to working for them."

Unofficial results, with 14 of 14 precincts reporting, show Feagin received 663 votes, or 51.04 percent, Earl Clinton Jr., 361 votes, or 27.79 percent, and Don Turno, 275 votes, or 21.17 percent.

The open council seat is being vacated by retiring County Council member LaWana McKenzie, who served for more than 30 years. The term for McKenzie, a Democrat, expires on Dec. 31.

District 3 covers the western portion of Aiken County to the Savannah River, which includes the Beech Island area. District 3 also covers the area of the Savannah River Site.

As final votes came in, Turno and Clinton, who both wanted at the Aiken

Post see **COUNCIL**, Page 12A

MORE PRIMARIES

Find out who Aiken County voted for in the U.S. House District 2 and S.C. Senate District 25 races.
Local News, 2A

AREA DEATHS

Eleanor D. Hatfield, Aiken
Harold M. Mitchum Sr., Fort
Walton Beach, Florida
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

WEATHER

Primary turnout low



Aiken County Coroner candidate Thomas Scott, left, receives an embrace from daughter Sheree Scott on Tuesday evening as election returns trickle in.

Ruthven, Blackwell to face off for House 81

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
ccleveland@aikenstandard.com

The S.C. House District 81 race will be decided in a runoff this month.

Unofficial results show KT Ruthven received 1,356 votes, or 42.57 percent, Bart Blackwell, 847 votes, or 26.59 percent, Jeremy O'Donnell, 360, or 11.30 percent, and Chris Austin, 622, or 19.53 percent.

The runoff will be between the top two candidates, Ruthven and Blackwell. It will be held on June 28.

Aiken County Registration and Elections Office officials said a runoff is required when a candidate fails to receive the required 50 percent of the vote. If no one has that number, there has to be a runoff between the top two candidates.

Ruthven said he was overwhelmed with the support his campaign re-

INSIDE

Voting turnout low across Aiken County, S.C. in primary. **12A**

ceived and was "thrilled" to have won several of the precincts in the district.

"I appreciate everyone that came out to vote today," he added. "I sincerely hope people will come out and vote again in two weeks."

Like other candidates, Blackwell said turnout was disappointing for the primary.

"I think the goal for the next two weeks is to try to encourage some of those folks that didn't come out today to come to the runoff," Blackwell said, adding his campaign will continue to go out and try to "bring home the victory."

Post see **DISTRICT**, Page 12A



Lt. Jake Mahoney, of the Aiken Department of Public Safety, gets ready to vote at the H. Odell Weeks Activities Center on Tuesday.

Tim Carlton re-elected as Aiken County Coroner

BY TRIPP GIRARDEAU
tgirardeau@aikenstandard.com

Republican incumbent Tim Carlton emerged as the projected winner after the Tuesday primary in South Carolina.

Carlton, holding his position as Aiken County Coroner for another term, ran against Graniteville business-

the Aiken County Sheriff's Office. As of 10:10 p.m., Carlton held 54 percent of the vote; Adams held 25 percent of the vote and Scott held a little more than 20 percent of the vote with all 84 precincts reporting.

Scott said turnout was fairly low at the polls Tuesday, but he fought the heat anyway and spent the day visiting the different precincts in Aiken County.

"It's been a learning experience and a new experience," Scott said after Carlton became the projected winner. "The never done this before

Jason Goings victorious in Aiken treasurer race

BY THOMAS GARDINER
tgardiner@aikenstandard.com

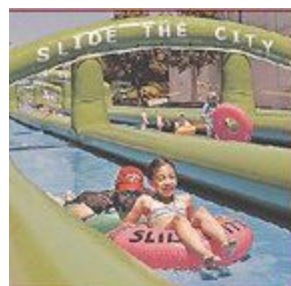
Aiken County Treasurer Jason Goings won his re-election campaign with nearly 75 percent of the vote.

Incumbent Goings faced challenger Lee Bodie, a U.S. Army veteran, in the Aiken County Republican primary race for treasurer. Bodie

taxes, state shared revenues, federal funds, court fees and fines, County user fees and other funds collected by County agencies, according to the County website.

In Aiken County, the race for treasurer had the largest margin of victory of the night. Goings amassed more than 5,000 votes, and Bodie earned just more than 2,000.

As results were trickling in Tuesday night, Bodie said, if he lost, he could be proud of running a clean, self-funded campaign.



SLIDE THE CITY RETURNING TO SPARTANBURG

ESCAPE, D1



AREA GOLFER MCGIRT TEES IT UP IN US OPEN

SPORTS, B1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thursday, June 16, 2016



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TODAY **FRI** **SAT**



95°/71° 87°/63° 80°/57°

Complete forecast, B8

ELECTION 2016

Results could shift power

Defeat of incumbent lawmakers likely to lessen area's influence in Columbia

By Chris Lavender
chris.lavender@shj.com

Spartanburg County's primary election results are expected to affect the Upstate's power in Columbia after several members of the local delegation failed to win re-election.

The fate of another incumbent — state Sen. Lee Bright of Roebuck — won't be decided until his runoff with Republican challenger Scott Talley on June 28.

Bright, who faced three challengers in Tuesday's primary, failed to capture a majority of the vote in the District 12 race.

The Good Government Committee associated with the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce endorsed Talley on Wednesday.

"Last night (Tuesday) we saw a vast majority of incumbent Lee Bright's district reject the direction he is taking the district and our state," the committee

stated in a press release. "We firmly believe that it is time for a new direction in (District 12) and Scott Talley is the candidate who will represent Greenville's and Spartanburg's best interests and make our state proud."

The committee ran several radio ads before the primary attacking Bright's record but hadn't formally endorsed a candidate in the race until now.

David Woodard, Clemson University political science professor, said Wednesday that Bright's 38 percent showing suggests his re-election bid is in trouble. The runoff's outcome

could depend on who gets the support of the voters who backed one of the other candidates in the race, Woodard said.

"(Bright) is going to have a real fight," Woodard said.

Spartanburg County Republican Party Chairman Bill Conley said the District 12 race will likely continue to draw statewide attention and money from state groups.

South Carolina Republican Party Chairman Matt Moore said low voter turnout sometimes leads to surprising results.

SEE RESULTS, A4

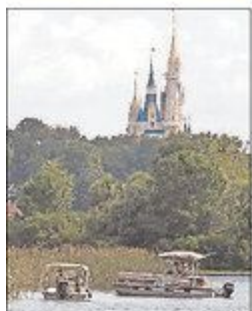
UPSTATE



Vision Plan report shows areas to improve

Spartanburg is looking at ways to address economic imbalances in the community to improve the quality of life for all residents. C1

NATION & WORLD



Body of boy snatched by alligator found

The body of a 2-year-old Nebraska boy who was snatched off a Walt Disney World beach by an alligator and dragged underwater was recovered Wednesday, ending a ghastly search at one of the world's most popular tourist destinations. A3

CAMPAIGN 2016



Frustrated senator

ORLANDO MASSACRE

'Gathered in sadness'



Maxx Esquivel, who attended the candlelight vigil at the Unitarian Universalist Church with Lee Delbarra, right, wipes away a tear during the Wednesday evening service. The vigil remembered the 49 people killed in the Orlando nightclub massacre. PHOTOS BY JOHN BYRUM/JOHN.BYRUM@SHJ.COM

Community members attend candlelight vigil to pray, mourn mass shooting

Stress-counseling offered to those working case

By Mike Schneider
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Police offered stress counseling and debriefing Wednesday to the SWAT team and other officers who witnessed the nightclub carnage, as the FBI tried to reconstruct the killer's movements and figure out what role his wife may have played in the plot.

A long procession of memorials and funerals for the 49 killed in Sunday's shooting rampage began taking shape, with mourners scheduled to pay their respects at a visitation for a victim remembered as a friendly salesman and makeup artist.

The FBI said it is still gathering evidence at the Pulse and analyzing cellphone location data to piece together Omar Mateen's activities leading up to the massacre, while also interviewing people who had any dealings with him. It urged



Morning News

THURSDAY JUNE 16, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

An afternoon
t-storm in the area.
High 96, low 73.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

House revives moped bill, overrides veto

BY TIM SMITH

Greenville News
tsmith@greenvillenews.com

COLUMBIA — House members overrode Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of a bill regulating mopeds after voting earlier in the day Wednesday to agree with her.

The change of heart occurred at 8 p.m. after Rep. Rick Quinn, a Lexington County Republican, asked that the earlier vote be reconsidered.

As he had earlier, Rep. Todd Rutherford, leader of House

Democrats, portrayed the bill as complicated and burdensome to the working poor who use mopeds most and asked the House to sustain the veto.

"We made it so complicated you can't understand it," he argued.

Haley argued that the requirements for operators to wear reflective vests at night and for those under 21 to wear helmets amounted to "government overreach."

But proponents argued that the bill was needed for safety and would not be prohibitively ex-

pensive for moped operators. At 8 p.m., the House voted 69-33 to override the governor, sending the bill to the Senate, which was deliberating into the night on budget vetoes.

Earlier, several House lawmakers spoke against the bill. Rutherford questioned how moped riders would be able to know what type of vests and helmets they should buy.

INSIDE

For information on the ethics reforms passed by the legislature, see **Page 6A**.

"I agree with the governor," he said. "This is government overreach."

Rep. Jonathan Hill, an Anderson County Republican, said the bill was the result of mopeds annoying some lawmakers.

But supporters said the bill was the result of six years of work and after hundreds of people have lost their lives in moped accidents.

Rep. Joseph Danning, a Berkeley County Republican and one of the bill's authors, said the vests would cost about \$9. He said the legislation had been vetted by

numerous agencies and he disagreed with Haley's arguments.

"The veto letter is simply wrong," he told the House.

Rep. Neal Collins, a Pickens County Republican, said a state trooper had asked him to pass the bill. He said he recently came upon a moped rider when he was out tending to campaign signs at 1 a.m. He said he did not see him until he came upon him because he did not have any lights.

Requiring a safety vest at night, he said, "is not too invasive."

See **VETO**, Page 3A

Primary turnout mixed in Pee Dee

Florence County is at the bottom at 18.5%

BY JOSHUA LLOYD

Morning News
jlloyd@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Each county in the Pee Dee region, excluding Florence County, was able to draw more than 20 percent of registered voters to the polls for Tuesday's primaries.

Florence County had an 18.5 percent turnout. That's 15,648 voters out of nearly 85,000 registered.

Darlington, Marlboro and Williamsburg counties were able to bring in turnouts in the mid-to-upper 20-percent range, while Dillon County had more than a 36-percent turnout and Marion County had almost 40 percent of registered voters show up at the polls.

Election officials say the turnout was on par with past primaries, which is usually much lower than the turnout for the November general election.

VOTER TURNOUT IN THE PEE DEE

Florence County	
Registered voters:	84,731
Ballots cast:	15,648
Percent:	18.5%
Darlington County	
Registered voters:	43,310
Ballots cast:	10,785
Percent:	24.9%
Dillon County	
Registered voters:	19,598
Ballots cast:	7,120
Percent:	36.3%
Marion County	
Registered voters:	22,041
Ballots cast:	8,679
Percent:	39.4%



Lori Wicker (foreground) of Celebrate Freedom Foundation, talks about Annie, a Cobra attack helicopter that flew during the Vietnam War, while Ashley Lisbon, a Darlington County Adult Education student, checks out the cockpit Tuesday morning at the school's campus.

Vietnam-era helicopter amazes students

BY JOE PERRY

Morning News
jperry@florencenews.com



Emma Ruth Calcutt, 10, a student in the Darlington Summer Academic Program, checks out the cockpit of Annie, an attack helicopter that flew in the Vietnam War.

DARLINGTON — Amazing. Awesome. Really cool. Those were a few of the descriptions of Annie, a Cobra attack helicopter that served in the Vietnam War and is now used by the Celebrate Freedom Foundation to promote science, engineering, technology and math programs.

As part of the West Columbia-based nonprofit foundation's SOAR program (school/student opportunities and rewards) the foundation reaches about

25,000 students each year in the Southeast to emphasize the importance of STEM (science, engineering, technology and math) and to instill respect and honor for the military.

On Wednesday morning, Annie was trailed onto the Darlington County Adult Education campus for those students as well as fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders taking part in the Darlington Summer Academic Program based at Mayo High School for Math, Science and Technology.

See **COPTER**, Page 3A

Central UMC to host prayer service for Orlando victims

LOCAL

Time Warner sets its sights — and cable service — on Bluffton 3A



LOCAL

Human bone discovered near Haig Point Golf Course 5A



THURSDAY JUNE 16 2016

75¢

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HILTON HEAD ISLAND
BLUFFTON



Chance of storms
89°/76° See 2A

THE ISLAND PACKET



A car drives by the Sam's Club building, currently under construction, at the corner of U.S. 278 and S.C. 46 on Wednesday in Bluffton.

BLUFFTON

Some unhappy with Walmart's 'gray wall'

Lack of trees and shrubs around border of construction site concerns residents

County planner says landscaping not done yet, but buffer agreement is 'different' from typical vegetation requirements

Complaints about landscaping and proximity of building to road comes as Walmart seeks bigger fuel center

BY MADISON HOGAN
mhogan@islandpacket.com

Beaufort County administrator Gary Kubic hears a version of the same complaint when residents call about the sparse vegetation on the perimeter of the Walmart Supercenter and Sam's Club under construction at the intersection of U.S. 278 and S.C. 46.

"Have you seen the wall?"

"Yes, I have."

"What are you going to do about it?"

The complaints, he said, have mostly come from residents of

The Crescent, the neighborhood located directly across from Bluffton Gateway, the 66-acre site where the stores are being built.

The "wall" they are referring to is the massive and close-to-the-road section of gray brick building visible through a thin line of widely spaced trees that border the property. Because the project is unfinished, though, there is not much the county can do right now, Kubic said.

"Bottom line, it's going up and I guess what we're going to have to do is try to accommodate the viewpoints of several folks," he said.

When construction is finished,

the county said it will work with the developers and the community to find a solution to any unresolved issues at that time.

"So I would do two things, I would look to what the contract calls for with redevelopment and the landscaping," he said. "(And) I would encourage the community to work with the county and the developer as time unfolds to suggest modifications and to create opportunities that may not be part of it now."

The criticism comes as Walmart seeks to increase the size of its previously approved fuel center from a 192-square-foot kiosk to a 1,440-square-foot convenience store.

Since beginning construction at the site earlier this year, Walmart has decided to add the convenience store, rotate the structure 90 degrees counterclockwise and create more parking spaces for the building.

On May 5, the consulting firm Kimley-Horn and RHA Architects met with the Beaufort

“
BOTTOM LINE, IT'S GOING UP AND I GUESS WHAT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO IS TRY TO ACCOMMODATE THE VIEWPOINTS OF SEVERAL FOLKS.
”

Gary Kubic, Beaufort County administrator

County Design Review Board to present the proposed changes to the development agreement, which was approved by County Council in April 2014.

The board did not approve the amended plan at the time, citing a lack of trees and shrubs as well as the building's appearance, which they said did not adhere to the Lowcountry aesthetic.

The plans were resubmitted to the board on June 2, and the board gave Walmart conditional approval to proceed, according

SEE WALL, 7A

VIDEO

See the construction progress at
islandpacket.com



LOCAL

BLUFFTON TAXES TO GO DOWN

Own a house in Bluffton? You'll pay about 5 percent less in property taxes this year than you did last year. 3A



SPORTS

LIKE GOLF? YOU'LL LOVE THIS

This week's U.S. Open begins a rapid-fire succession of marquee golf events from now through Labor Day. 1B



THE LONG READ

HOW DO KILLERS GET THEIR GUNS?

Think landing on a watch

INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 98, NO. 17

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2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Ryan's Buffet closes after 36 years

By KATIE PEARSON
kpearson@indexjournal.com

Cars pulled into Ryan's Buffet in Greenwood for lunch Wednesday, not knowing that the business had closed for good on Tuesday.

Two signs were posted on the doors to the Ryan's at 1703 S.C. Highway 72 — one said the business closed, the other said all of its assets would be up for an online auction that closes at noon today.

The only person who appeared to be at the restaurant shortly before noon quickly went inside once cars started to arrive at the location. Earlier in the day, people could be seen loading chairs from the restaurant

into trucks.

"It is always a last minute thing," said Gabriel Prado, president of Auction Nation, which is auctioning off the restaurant's assets. "Normally it is one or two stores, but in this case there are 11 stores total."

Buffets LLC, parent company of Ryan's, has filed for bankruptcy and the company is closing all of the weaker stores to restructure its debts and liabilities, according to a press release. According to Prado, profits from the auction will go toward bankruptcy court.

When asked about the abrupt shuttering of Ryan's in Greenwood, Prado said, "That's just how they do things. There are more scheduled to close to

stop the bleeding."

The company closed 73 locations in March, many remaining closed when some, including the Greenwood location, reopened.

According to Prado, the process usually involves relocating existing employees to other nearby Ryan's locations, but without a nearby location, many employees were suddenly left without a job. The number of jobs affected was not immediately available.

Ryan's of Greenwood had operated from the Highway 72 location since 1980.

Contact Katie Pearson at 864-407-8418 or on Twitter @jkpearson.



KATIE PEARSON | INDEX-JOURNAL

Ryan's of Greenwood closed abruptly Tuesday after serving Greenwood for 36 years.

PLACE OF HONOR



PHOTOS BY KATIE PEARSON | INDEX-JOURNAL

ABOVE: From left: Wayne Bell, Chuck Fox, Sandra Johnston, Jim Dominick, Carey Bolt, Welborn Adams, Ronnie Ables, Johnny Williams, Art Bush, Chuck Moates and Kenn Wiltshire join Wednesday to break ground at the location of the future Veterans Hall of Heroes plaza.

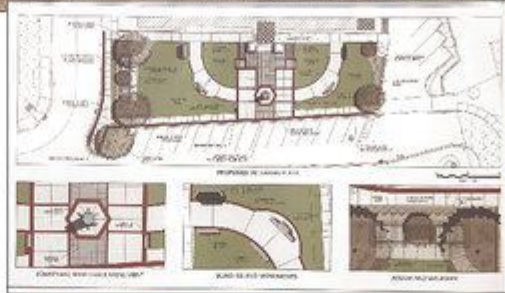
Veterans Center breaks ground on Hall of Heroes plaza

By KATIE PEARSON
kpearson@indexjournal.com

Residents gathered at the Greenwood County Veterans Center on Wednesday for the groundbreaking of the Hall of Heroes plaza.

"We cannot adequately express to you the significance of this momentous occasion," said Jim Dominick, member of the board for the Veterans Hall of Heroes. "Today is the first step of implementation of a

See **HEROES**, page 4A



The Greenwood County Veterans Center displays the concept drawings of the Veterans Hall of Heroes plaza.

DISTRICT 7

Fisher feels gratified by service

By ADAM BENSON
abenson@indexjournal.com

When results from Tuesday's primary election showed that Greenwood County Council District 7 voters would not give him a second term, Bob Fisher embraced the news with his characteristic candor.

"I'm not a good politician, I'm not. I can't stand the rhetoric, I have a hard time with self-promotion, I really do," Fisher, 56, said on Wednesday from his office at Emerald Technical Services. "I have served the people to the best of my ability and actually, I have no regrets."

Fisher lost the Republican race to political newcomer Theo Lane, 60, by 227 votes — 629 to 402, according to unofficial results that will be certified by county election officials today.

Fisher pointed to three major accomplishments during his four-year term — helping to improve air quality in his hometown of Hodges, negotiating terms for the construction of a new fire department in Ware Shoals and helping to pull the county out of debt.

"It's an amazing thing for a county to be out of debt. If you're in debt, you're required to have so much money back in savings, and it's just hard to keep up with."

Fisher's lifelong friend, Mark Allison, County Council's vice chairman, said he spoke with Fisher Wednesday morning following his loss at the polls.

Allison said he's looking forward to working with Lane, but agreed with Fisher's decision.



BOB FISHER

Greenwood business owner receives award from CommunityWorks

By KATIE PEARSON
kpearson@indexjournal.com

After 10 years as associate head coach of men's basketball at Presbyterian College, Justin Smith, 35, threw in the towel to take a gamble on opening his own business in Greenwood.

owners who might not be able to get a bank loan.

"We focus on community and economic development," said Alexandra Moore, community outreach coordinator at CommunityWorks. "We provide small loans to microbusiness owners who may not be able to get a loan from a bank for various reasons



Camlin Moore

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