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Date: 12/6/2012 9:49:02 AM
Subject: S.C. Front Pages - Thursday, December 6, 2012

CHARLESTONSCENE
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 INSIDE

Grammys:
 See who's
 nominated

A2



The Post and Courier

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THURSDAY, December 6, 2012

POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Charleston, North Charleston, S.C. ★★ \$1.00

N.Y. suspect has sordid local past

Lucius Crawford stabbed up to 10 women in Lowcountry in '70s

BY GLENN SMITH
 gsmith@postandcourier.com

A New York double-murder suspect caught with a mother body in his bed this week got his start in Charleston, where he stabbed up to 10 women in a series of baffling

attacks in the 1970s.

Former Union Heights resident Lucius Crawford, 60, is being held in a state of cold-care house arrest in which two women were stabbed to death in 1993, New York police said. When investigators went to his apartment to question

him Tuesday, they found a dead 41-year-old woman beneath a sheet. She had been stabbed nine times in the chest, police said. Investigators said Crawford confessed to all three homicides following his arrest about three hours after the grisly discovery.

The serial stabber began his criminal career in the Charleston area nearly four decades ago. In May 1973, police charged him with stabbing five women — all strangers — whom he encountered on the streets of North Charleston. In each instance, he tried to talk

to the women, then attacked them with a knife when they tried to get away from him, police said. One woman was cut on the arm; the others stabbed in the legs, at least two quite seriously, police said.

Please see **SUSPECT**, Page A4



Crawford



Goodloe-Johnson,
 former schools chief,
 dies after cancer battle
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Chef Carter turns old
 Rutledge gas station
 into retro restaurant
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USC not at the bottom
 of the bowl-school
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More inspections as
 'new-airplane bugs'
 found on Boeing 787s
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Mt. Pleasant youths
 qualify for Punt, Pass
 and Kick regionals
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Banana Cabana
 \$10 for \$20 of food
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Who's most popular in S.C.?

40% approval



43% approval

Poll: S.C. voters split on Haley

Governor's approval rating slightly below Obama's

BY ROBERT BEHRE
 rbehre@postandcourier.com

Gov. Nikki Haley retains strong support among state Republicans, but registered voters as a whole are split regarding her.

A Winthrop poll released Wednesday found that Haley did not fare quite as high a job approval rating here as President Barack Obama, but both fared better than the S.C. Legislature and Congress. Poll Director Scott Huffman said Haley is faring well in light of controversy over her support of Savannah port dredging, ethical accusations that later were dismissed and a hacker's recent tapping into a state database with more than 1 million names and other personal information.

"If I were her strategist, I wouldn't be concerned," he said. "She's definitely holding her own, despite grenades from both Democrats and those in her own party."

Huffman said he was interested to see South Carolina voters more optimistic about the state's economy than the nation's, likely a result of debate over the nation's fiscal cliff.

Also, only 6 percent of voters identified themselves as members of the tea party movement, down sharply from previous polls.

"That does not mean the tea party's principles and beliefs are disappearing," Huffman said. "It just means people are shying away from the label."

Do you approve of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 43 percent
 Disapprove 49 percent
 Not sure 6 percent
 Refused to say 2 percent

Do you approve of Gov. Nikki Haley's job performance?

Approve 40 percent
 Disapprove 42 percent
 Not sure 16 percent
 Refused to say 2 percent

Biggest issues

What's the most important issue facing South Carolina?

22 percent
 Jobs/unemployment
17 percent
 Economy/financial crisis
16 percent
 Education
7 percent
 Politicians/government



Tea Party losing strength

Would you consider yourself a member of the tea party movement?

No 91 percent
 Yes 6 percent
 Not sure 3 percent

More findings on Page A4

Not exactly doom and gloom

Do you think your financial situation is getting better or worse?
 Better 53 percent
 Worse 31 percent
 Not sure 14 percent
 Refused to say 2 percent

Is South Carolina on the right track?
 Yes 40 percent
 No 42 percent
 Don't know/didn't say 18 percent

About the poll

The Winthrop Poll sampled 929 state residents between Nov. 25 and Dec. 2, and it has a margin of error of 3.5 percent. The results reprinted here refer to those polled who were registered voters.

Some in N. Chas. don't like rail deal

Noise among key concerns

BY TYRONE RICHARDSON
 and DAVID SLADE
 dslade@postandcourier.com

If North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey is correct that a good mediated settlement leaves no one happy, then plenty of city residents must think the port rail deal resulted from good mediation. In neighborhoods and at a City Hall meeting Wednesday, a number of residents expressed displeasure with the settlement between the city and state. The agreement ends years of fighting and a number of lawsuits, and clears the way for a new rail yard on the former Navy base. That will mean freight trains rolling through communities north and south of the base, when the rail yard and a new port terminal open years from now.

Summey and other city officials

Please see **RAIL**, Page A6



VIDEO
 Go to postandcourier.com/videos to see Warren Peper interview people about the rail deal.

Millionaire mom going back to work

BY ANDREW KNAFF
 aknaff@postandcourier.com

People who win hundreds of thousands of dollars in the lottery sometimes opt to quit working.

Not Jennifer Elrod.

For the four years since her last child was born, the Summerville-area woman has stayed home to mind her two youngsters.

But with the \$1 million she won in a scratch-off drawing last month, Elrod plans to pay for after-school day care, then return to the job market. "I'm a worker," the stay-at-home mother said as she urged her 8-year-old to complete homework and hushed her youngest during an interview.



Please see **MILLIONAIRE**, Page A6

IMPROVED TRAIL OPENING AROUND **SESQUI STATE PARK LAKE**. **LIFE&STYLE****RICHLAND COUNTY
ELECTION MESS****McBride the
untouchable?
Elections
chief has
strong allies**

Supporters say they want to prevent a rush to judgment before all facts are known

By JOHN MONK
jmonk@thestate.com

For years, except outside certain government circles, Richland County voter registration chief Lillian McBride was a little-known county public official.

In the past month, she's become a poster child for not only what critics say is gross mismanagement in running a county election but for how a government employee with powerful patrons can rise to command a huge salary and decline to answer questions from the public when something goes terribly wrong.



McBride

INSIDE
Early look at what went wrong due today. Also, the unanswered questions,
Page A8

At the same time, her supporters — who include local politicians, activists and even U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C. — decry what they say is a rush to judgment about McBride before all the facts about the missteps that took place in the county's Nov. 6 county election are known.

"I have known Lillian McBride for as long as she has worked at the Richland County voter registration and elections offices, and her credentials and credibility have never been questioned until now," Clyburn said. "She deserves the courtesy of a full review before judgment is made."

SEE **MCBRIDE** PAGE **A8**

INVASIVE SCREENINGS?**Feds expand use
of polygraph, probing
for intimate facts**

By MARISA TAYLOR
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — She was one of the brightest students at a leading university when the Central Intelligence Agency offered her a job as a counter-terrorism analyst. But

ONLINE
Three related stories can be found with this story, at thestate.com.
First, the 19-year-old was warned, she had to undergo a polygraph test to determine whether she could be trusted.

Instead of scrutinizing her ability to guard government secrets, polygraphers asked about her reported rape and miscarriage, the woman recalled. Over at least eight hours in three separate sessions, polygraphers re-

SEE **POLYGRAPH** PAGE **A5**

**JAZZ ICON DIES**

Legendary jazz composer and pianist Dave Brubeck

**CLOWNEY
HONORED**

USC star wins
Hendricks Award
as nation's top
defensive end.

Ace Sanders
named co-SEC
special teams
player of year.

Sports

The State

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2012 | THESTATE.COM

WINTHROP POLL**38 percent endorse
Haley's performance**

'Weakness' shows despite better numbers than other polls; does this signal a threat to governor's re-election chances?

By ANDREW SHAIN
ashain@thestate.com

Gov. Nikki Haley's less-than-stellar job-approval rating could make her vulnerable in a re-election bid in 2014, though she has time to convince skeptics

to give her another four-year term, political experts said Wednesday.

For the third time in a year, Haley could not crack 40 percent in job approval among South Carolinians, according to a poll from Winthrop University re-

leased Wednesday.

Democratic President Barack Obama, trounced in the Republican state during last month's general election, received higher approval marks than the

SEE **HALEY** PAGE **A8**

ONLINE

Register your opinion at thestate.com: Do you approve of Haley's performance?

INSIDE

Poll finds South Carolinians more optimistic about economy, personal finances, **Page B4**



'Busted Plug,' the 11-year-old sculpture on Taylor Street, is being donated to the city.

**'Busted
Plug' needs**

By OTIS R. TAYLOR JR.
otaylor@thestate.com

"Busted Plug Plaza," the four-story sculpture that has stood — well, leaned — for more than a decade in a

locale is determined.

AgFirst is donating the fire hydrant, designed by artist Blue Sky at an angle to suggest a car had slammed into it, to the city of Columbia. The company, which



CLEMSON FOOTBALL A LOT TO PROVE



BUSINESS
Video
ATMs get
personal

The Greenville News

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THURSDAY,
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GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

METRO

Poll: Haley's approval numbers lower than Obama's in South Carolina, 1B

FINAL EDITION

BOND PLAN LIKELY TO DIE

ICAR interchange would
have to survive on its own

By Tim Smith

Staff writer
tsmith@greenvilleonline.com

COLUMBIA — The state's highway commission is expected today to permanently shelve last year's controversial \$344 million bond proposal, leaving each of the five projects, including one to improve the Interstate 85-Laurens Road interchange in Greenville, to survive on its own.

The bond plan ignited a firestorm of protests last year after the Department of Transportation board approved it without advance public notice. Critics argued the plan was the result of swapped votes and would push forward projects that were either unranked or not highly ranked on the state's official road priority plan.

DOT Chairman Eddie Adams of Seneca told GreenvilleOnline.com that he wants to shelve the proposal as a matter of "housecleaning."

"We all feel those are viable projects, but we are going to take that bond package completely off the table," he said. "It's just housecleaning for the end of the year. It's just a matter as each of those projects come along, if they can be financed, they will be completed."

Commissioner John Edwards of Travelers Rest said he would push hard for the U.S. 276 interchange to be completed, saying it is the last cloverleaf in Greenville County and is "scary" for drivers.

"I think it's going to have to become a reality," Edwards said. "I can't say that I am going to make that happen. But it's needed very badly."

At the time the proposal was first debated, it included \$55 million for the interchange, which is close to Clemson

See BONDS, Page 5A



Donna Marling, a nurse practitioner, launched her own Easley practice in September. HEIDI HELBRUNNSTAFF

MEDICAL DIVIDE

DOCTOR SHORTAGE DRIVES DEBATE ON NURSES

By Liv Osby | Staff writer | losby@greenvillenews.com

Deep in the hills, far from towns and hospitals or even a village doctor, the parish nurse for years was often the only health-care provider that folks in the back-country ever saw.

For many rural and poor residents of South Carolina, access is still an issue. They must travel great distances to get health care, if they can afford it, wait to see a busy provider, stand in line at a clinic, or go without.

And with the growing shortage of primary care physicians, coupled with the increasing number of people eligible for insurance beginning in 2014 as a result of the Affordable Care Act, access is expected to become a problem for many more.

Today's nurse practitioners say they are helping to fill the gap. And some advocates say they could do even more

See NURSES, Page 3A

GreenvilleOnline.com



Donna Marling discusses the role of nurse practitioners and why these positions will continue to be important in the future.

"We're like the pack mule that carries a load, but doesn't get thanked for it."

DONNA MARLING,
nurse practitioner

INSIDE

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High 54
Low 42

Obama ready to go over cliff?

President believes he has leverage to stand off GOP

By Julie Pace
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It may be just a bluff or a bargaining ploy, but the White House is signaling that President Barack Obama is willing to let the counter-

wealthy, an effort the administration is laying the groundwork for now.

"This is a choice of the Republican Party," said Dan Pfeiffer, White House communications director. "If they are willing to do higher rates on the wealthy, there's a lot we can talk about."

WEDNESDAY'S DEVELOPMENTS

President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner discussed the fiscal cliff in a phone call. The discussion raises the possibility talks will soon resume between the White House and Congress. ■ The Defense Department started plans

Aiken Standard

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New charges for accused cop-killer

Grand jury adds indictments against man accused of killing Rogers

BY TEDDY KULMALA
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A grand jury last week handed down several indictments against the man accused of killing an Aiken Public Safety officer in January. The indictments for 27-year-old Joshua Tremaine Jones, of North Augusta, included failure to stop for blue lights, unlawful carrying of a pistol, larceny and possession of a weapon during a violent

crime. The indictments were handed down on Nov. 29.

Jones has been charged with the Jan. 28 murder of Master Cpl. Sandy Rogers, who was responding to a resident's concerns about a suspicious vehicle in Eustis Park when Jones allegedly shot her.

"The indictments handed down by the grand jury in the case speak for themselves," Solicitor J. Strom Thurmond Jr. said when reached for comment. "We do

not have any comment on the facts of this case."

Jones faces additional assault charges for two incidents inside the Aiken County detention center, where he's been jailed since the murder, according to detention center Capt. Nick Gallam.

On July 5, Jones allegedly grabbed an officer who was handing him food through a lockable flap on the door of his jail cell and pulled him, causing scrapes to the officer's

arm, Gallam said.

The next day, Jones assaulted one of the deputies transporting him to his cell, then spit on the other officers who responded to the incident, Gallam said. The officers suffered minor injuries.

Jones has been charged with three counts each of assault and battery third-degree and throwing of bodily fluids by a prisoner on



Jones

Please see JONES, Page 5A

GINGERBREAD HOUSES ON DISPLAY



STAFF PHOTO BY AMY GANTON

Gingerbread houses made by local home schooled children are on display at the Aiken Center for the Arts on Laurens Street along with three entries for the Literary Structures Gingerbread Contest. The three entries will be judged on Saturday.

Former N.A. councilman new chair of Workers' Compensation

BY MIKE GELLATLY
mgellatly@aikenstandard.com

The WCC is responsible for administering the workers'

Former North Augusta Councilman and State Representative T. Scott Beck has been appointed as Chairman of the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission.

Beck, who has been a commissioner since June 30, 2008, has been serving as interim chairman for more than two years. On Wednesday, Gov. Nikki Haley appointed him to a full two-year term at the helm of the panel.

"The leadership that he has shown has directly affected what we are seeing on that commission now," Haley said, praising Beck at a press conference.

compensation law in South Carolina and is comprised of seven commissioners appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the

Senate. Commissioners serve terms of six years each.

Talking Wednesday evening, Beck described the WCC as running like any company, with the chairman in the CEO position.

Please see WCC, Page 16A

INSIDE TODAY



Local Jiffy Lube crew vies for regional title
Local News, 2A



Church performance will re-enact nativity
Local News, 3A

AREA DEATHS

There are no new names today.

Social Security workers protest funding cuts

BY MIKE GELLATLY
mgellatly@aikenstandard.com

As thousands of government employees picketed Social Security Administration offices around the country, a poor turnout muted protesters in Aiken.

The American Federation of Government Employees and Social Security workers picketed across the street from the SSA's Corporate Parkway office between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The small office, with a staff of just 17, saw workers rotating to protest during their lunch break.

AFGE members held signs proclaiming the impact cuts to the SSA would have on service.

"We are representing the AFGE, protesting the idea of cutting the Social Security Administration's budget, because of the impact it's going to have on ... everybody," said Mari Edwards, a representative of the AFGE. "It should be off budget. Social Security was off budget up until the Reagan era. It is self-funding, the money from FICA goes into Social Security. Social Security uses that money. It's a closed system. It's not going to affect the deficit!"



STAFF PHOTO BY MIKE GELLATLY

Mari Edwards protests cuts to the Social Security Administration as part of nationwide picketing on Wednesday.

"What's already happened with the cuts is that the Aiken office has closed down. Now people from that area have to come into Aiken to get things done," Edwards said. "If no deal is reached, SSA will be open to the public for an even shorter amount of time. And with less staffing, it is going to take us longer to process."

Obama warns GOP against a new debt ceiling fight

BY DAVID ESPO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C.

—Hewing to a hard line, President Barack Obama

warned congressional Republicans on Wednesday not to

inject the threat of a government default into complex fiscal cliff negotiations aimed at avoiding year-end tax increases and spending cuts that could harm the economy.

"It's not a game I will play," declared Obama as Republicans struggled to find their footing in talks with a recently re-elected president and unified congressional Democrats.

Among the Republicans, Sen. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma became the latest to break ranks and say he could support Obama's demand for an increase in tax rates

Across the Capitol, House Majority Leader Eric Cantor said Republicans want to "sit down with the president. We want to talk specifics." He noted that the GOP had made a compromise offer earlier in the week and the White House had rejected it.

Since then, neither Obama nor congressional Democrats have signaled interest in negotiations that both sides say are essential to a compromise. Presidential aides have even encouraged speculation that Obama is willing to let the economy go over the "fiscal cliff" if necessary and gamble that the public blames Republicans for any fallout.

Eventually, Democrats acknowledge, there will be compromise talks, possibly quite soon, toward an agreement that raises revenues and reims in Medicare and other government benefit programs and perhaps raises the gov-

ernment's deficit. Obama said that, unlike two years ago, Obama will refuse to sign legislation extending top-rate tax cuts and will allow public and private pressure to build on the Republican leadership. So far, the GOP has offered to support unspecified increases to raise tax revenues by \$800 billion over a decade but has rejected Obama's demand to let the top income tax rate rise from 35 percent to 39.6 percent.

The "fiscal cliff" with its year-end deadline, refers to increases that would affect every worker who pays federal income tax, as well as spending cuts that would begin to bite defense and domestic programs alike. Economists in and out of government say the combination carries the risk of a new recession, at a time the economy is still struggling to recover fully from the worst



The Beaufort Gazette

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Established in 1897 50 cents

Is GOP willing to ease stance on tax rates?

Growing number say higher rates for wealthy OK if it allows broader deal

By LORI MONTGOMERY and ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN
 The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A growing chorus of Republicans is urging House leaders to abandon their staunch op-

position to higher tax rates for the wealthy with the aim of clearing the way for a broad deal that would also rein in the cost of federal health and retirement programs.

With less than a month before the

"fiscal cliff" is set to begin, President Barack Obama remains adamant about allowing tax rates to rise for the wealthiest 2 percent of taxpayers. Without such a deal, he is "absolutely" ready to go over the cliff, Treasury

Secretary Timothy Geithner said Wednesday.

Many GOP centrists and some conservatives are calling on House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, to concede on rates now, while he still has some le-

verage to demand something in return. Republicans are eager to win changes to fast-growing safety-net programs, such as raising the eligibility age for Medicare and applying a less-generous measure of inflation to Social Security benefits.

Please see TAX RATES on 9A

BEAUFORT HISTORY MUSEUM

Museum preps for 1st special exhibit

The opening reception for a display celebrating fish camps will be Dec. 13.

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

Six months after opening, the Beaufort History Museum is preparing its first special exhibit.

The "Goin' Down the River" display, which focuses on the Lowcountry tradition of fish camps, was inspired by a new book of the same title by local author and photographer Janet Garrity. The display opens with a reception Dec. 13 at the museum, housed on the first floor of City Hall.

Please see MUSEUM on 9A

IF YOU GO

The opening reception for the "Goin' Down the River" exhibit will be from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Beaufort History Museum. The museum is on the first floor of City Hall at 1911 Boundary St. Tickets are \$20 for museum members and \$25 for nonmembers. The evening includes a first look at the exhibit, music by The Bull Grapes, oysters, barbecue and for-purchase wine and beer.

Information: www.beauforthistorymuseum.com

ALIGHT WITH HOLIDAY SPIRIT



SARAH WELLIVER • Staff photos



ABOVE: Port Royal Mayor Samuel Murray, left, watches as Ofelia Cuevas, 2, clings to her brother Bryan on Wednesday evening during tree lighting ceremonies outside Port Royal Elementary School. The children, along with their brother Marcos, 4, right, were waiting to sit on Santa's lap. The event included carols, hot cocoa, food and family fun.

LEFT: Port Royal Town Councilwoman Mary Beth Heyward holds her 7-month-old grandson Hunter Phillips during the Christmas tree lighting Wednesday.

Thieves take 2013 Mercedes S550 worth \$110,500 on less-than-joyful ride

These guys definitely fall into the "naughty" category.

The Beaufort County Sheriff's Department suspects three men who test drove a 2013 Mer-

cedes S550. After the test drive, the silver, four-door sedan was parked in the front corner lot of the business. It was last seen at closing time Friday, said Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Sgt. Robin McIntosh.

Feds expand use of polygraph screenings

By MARISA TAYLOR
 McClatchy Newspapers

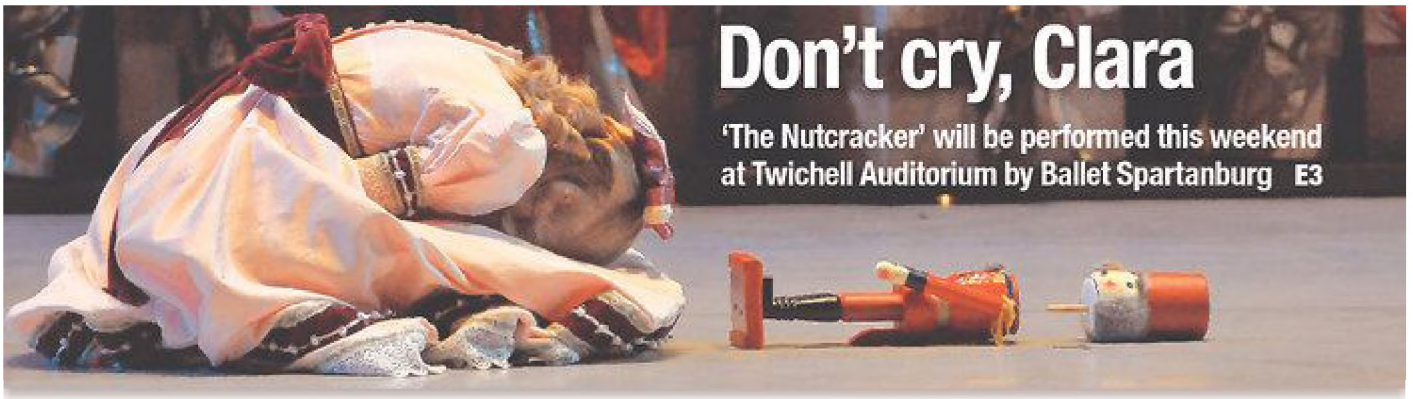
WASHINGTON — She was one of

MORE INSIDE

Federal polygraph programs are kept in such secrecy that even re-

Don't cry, Clara

'The Nutcracker' will be performed this weekend at Twichell Auditorium by Ballet Spartanburg E3



Herald-Journal

THURSDAY

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IN A HURRY

5 Things to read today



Wofford wins

Wofford pulled away late in the second half Wednesday night at the Benjamin Johnson arena to post a 54-42 non-conference win over Gardner-Webb.

PAGE B1

Cadet's complaints

A cadet quitting West Point less than six months before graduation says he could no longer be part of a culture that promotes prayers and religious activities and disrespects nonreligious cadets. PAGE A3

NASA aimless?

NASA, the agency that epitomized the "Right Stuff," seems lost in space and doesn't have a clear sense of where it is going, an independent panel of science and engineering experts said in a stinging report on Wednesday. PAGE A4

Honors

South Carolina defensive end Jadeveon Clowney was named Southeastern Conference defensive player of the year on Wednesday by league coaches, while Clemson quarterback Tajh Boyd was named the Atlantic Coast Conference offensive and overall player of the year. PAGE B1

Abuse charges

A Spartanburg man has been arrested after police say his 104-year-old mother was found sitting in her own feces, with maggots in her untreated wounds Tuesday. PAGE C1

Obama warns of debt threat

He tells GOP not to mix default fears into budget issue

By DAVID ESPO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For the first time in days, President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner spoke by phone Wednesday about the "fiscal cliff" that threatens to knock the economy into recession, raising the prospect of fresh negotiations to prevent tax increases

and spending cuts set to kick in with the new year.

Officials provided no details of the conversation, which came on the same day the president, hewing to a hard line, publicly warned congressional Republicans not to inject the threat of a government default into the already complex issue.

"It's not a game I will play," Obama told a group of business leaders as Republicans struggled to find their footing in talks with a recently re-elected president and unified con-

gressional Democrats.

Among the Republicans, Sen. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma became the latest to break ranks and say he could support Obama's demand for an increase in tax rates at upper incomes as part of a comprehensive plan to cut federal deficits.

Across the Capitol, House Majority Leader Eric Cantor said Republicans want to "sit down with the president. We want to talk specifics." He noted that the GOP had made a compromise

◆ SEE CLIFF PAGE A5

"We're just trying to motivate the kids to get active. ... They don't realize they are probably running three miles each day." — CHELSEY LAWRENCE, who works with students at Arcadia Elementary



Children play soccer during "Olympics" day at the Get Moving Running Club at Arcadia Elementary School in Spartanburg on Tuesday evening. Students at Wofford College created the health and fitness after-school program at the school. See a gallery of photos at GoUpstate.com.



Kids get a kick out of 'The Ball Game'

By FELICIA KITZMILLER
felicia.kitzmiller@shj.com

For about two dozen kids at Arcadia Elementary School, "The Ball Game" is the best game ever.

The rules are simple.

Wofford students' idea has schoolchildren eager to exercise

Get Moving program led by the Wof-

requirement for the Wofford students, but the mission isn't academic, it's to inspire students to take an active role in their health. Health and fitness is a cause close to each of the Wofford students.

"My parents always had me in

Jazz legend
Dave Brubeck dies, 5A

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INDEX-JOURNAL

VOL. 94, NO. 218

Abbeville city manager resigns

Wiggins moving on to the SC Budget and Control Board



By FRANK BUMB
fbumb@indexjournal.com

Abbeville City Manager Nolan Wiggins will resign his position with the city, effective Dec. 27.

Wiggins will then become director of general services for the South Carolina Budget and Control Board starting Jan. 2. Wiggins' hire was confirmed by Lindsey Kremlick, public affairs director for the

Budget and Control Board.

"It's a really good career opportunity," Wiggins said. "It's one of those jobs that if you don't take the opportunity when it arrives, it may not come back around."

Wiggins said he received the offer from the Budget and Control Board on Nov. 30 and accepted the position that day. He then informed Mayor Harold McNeill on Monday morning.

"I hate to see him go," McNeill said.

"He's a good employee. He's been good for Abbeville, and he knows what he's doing. Abbeville has come a long way during his time (as city manager)."

Wiggins said the director of general services for the Budget and Control Board oversees management of the state's buildings and properties, including state health facilities, parking garages, state museums and the governor's mansion, among others.

"The director of general services covers

a wide variety of areas that were put under that one position," Wiggins said.

Wiggins was previously offered a position as city manager of Fort Mill, but turned it down.

Wiggins said he and his family would move to Columbia, and they are "excited for the move and all the opportunities that (moving to Columbia) will bring."

See RESIGNS, page 4A

THE BIG BLUE MARBLE ACADEMY

AN EASY TRANSITION



Ware Shoals welcomes new child care provider

MATT WALSH | INDEX JOURNAL
Brennan Goode takes a nap at the new Big Blue Marble Academy child care center, which opened Monday at Ware Shoals Primary School.

By MICHELLE LAXER
mlaxer@indexjournal.com

The Big Blue Marble Academy moved into Ware Shoals Primary School on Monday, becoming the new on-site child care provider for Ware Shoals' school district. Superintendent Fay Sprouse said on-site child care has been at the primary school for five years, provided by the Laurens YMCA. When the partnership couldn't continue, employees risked losing jobs and children could've lost a place to go. But after getting connected with Big Blue

Marble before Thanksgiving, the district and academy were able to commit to a partnership and continue the child care uninterrupted.

"We were able to keep the current staff in place and retain the children that were here," regional director Vicki Hoover said.

Big Blue Marble Academy has five licensed centers throughout the state and partnerships with other schools in the Lexington and Richland districts. According to its

website, the academy strives for a "global education" and embraces a diverse experience that teaches children how to interact with people from all walks of life.

The Ware Shoals location now serves about 20 children, between 2 and 5 years old, with room for more. Hoover said the academy plans to expand and provide infant care and an after-school program for Ware Shoals primary and elementary school children.

Sprouse said the district will try to work out after-school transportation from the elementary school to Big Blue Marble.

See TRANSITION, page 4A

GREENWOOD

County evaluates positions

Chappell examines how to proceed with 2 vacant posts

By CHRIS TRAINOR
ctrainor@indexjournal.com

Greenwood County continues to explore the manner in which it will look to fill the vacant fire coordinator and emergency management director positions.

According to multiple sources, Greenwood County Sheriff's Office personnel John Long and Sandi Owens helped administrate the fire coordinator and emergency management positions on an interim basis, as the county works to fill the posts on a permanent basis.

The fire coordinator position has been in flux for some time. Full-time fire coordinator Corey Grumelot resigned from the position in January 2011. At that point, county Homeland Security coordinator John Nichols stepped into the fire coordinator role on an interim basis. However, Nichols later resigned from the county in June 2011.

Former assistant county manager Thessa Smith then stepped in to help with certain aspects of the fire coordinator role for a time. However, Smith left Greenwood County earlier this year to be the county administrator in Allendale County.

Meanwhile, Pat Patterson resigned his post as emergency management director in August. At the time, Patterson said his resignation came at the advice of his doctor.

See POSITIONS, page 4A



TOBY CHAPPELL

Senators asked to consider adding 2 cybersecurity oversight jobs

By SEANNA ADCOX
Associated Press

the head of the state's information technology division told senators

be responsible for protecting data, a statewide privacy officer would

chief IT officers recommended the splitting of duties, in a report titled

ing of millions of taxpayers' personal data. Data stolen in the nation's large-



THE ISLAND PACKET

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2012

islandpa

SERVING THE LOWCOUNTRY • 50¢

64° 50°

Mostly cloudy with a chance of storms. 6B

Radio DJs pretend to be queen, get info on Kate's condition 12A



Deals on food, drinks, and gift sets at The Corner Perk
dealsaver.com/HiltonHead

Principal: Leave a cover-up for complaints

Phillip Shaw says he's on leave because of concerns he voiced about McCracken guidance counselor



Principal Phillip Shaw

By RACHEL HEATON
rheaton@beaufortgazette.com
843-706-817

H.E. McCracken Middle School principal Phillip Shaw said Wednesday he believes he's been placed on leave by the Beaufort County School District because of complaints he has made

about a guidance counselor at the school.

Shaw, who has been on paid administrative leave since Nov. 8, said he was initially told the leave was based on concerns related to the transportation of a student to the hospital Nov. 7. But that's a cover-up, he claims.

Interim superintendent Jackie Rosswurm again declined to say why Shaw was on leave Wednesday.

District officials have said earlier that the issue with the student is unrelated to Shaw's leave, but have given no reason beyond "personnel issues" involving Shaw to explain

his nearly monthlong absence from the school.

Shaw continues to draw his \$93,774 annual salary while Joe Warfield, an assistant principal at McCracken, leads the school.

Please see PRINCIPAL on 9A

ON THE WEB

To read emails from H.E. McCracken Middle School and district officials, click on this story at islandpacket.com

FISCAL CLIFF TALKS

Will GOP bend on tax rates?

Some Republicans urge House leaders to accept higher tax rates if it leads to a broader deal that reduces government spending.

By LORI MONTGOMERY
and ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A growing chorus of Republicans is urging House leaders to abandon their staunch opposition to higher tax rates for the wealthy with the aim of clearing the way for a broad deal that would also rein in the cost of federal health and retirement programs.

With less than a month before the "fiscal cliff" is set to begin, the president remains adamant about allowing tax rates to rise for the wealthiest 2 percent of taxpayers. Without such a deal, he is ready to go over the cliff, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said Wednesday.

Please see DEAL on 9A

A SUNSET CELEBRATION



JAY KARR • Staff photo

From left, friends Jennifer Daugherty, Carola Goulette, Star Rush Riganas and Terri Bell take in the sunset Monday over the May River at Brighton Beach in Bluffton.

Feds expand polygraph screening

The programs are targeting a growing number of federal applicants and employees with highly personal questions.

By MARISA TAYLOR
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — She was one of the brightest students at a leading university when the Central Intelligence Agency offered her a job as a counter-terrorism analyst. But first, the 19-year-old was warned, she had to undergo a polygraph test to determine whether she could be trusted.

INSIDE
Federal poly-

Thieves take Mercedes on a not-so-joyful ride

These guys definitely fall into the "naughty" category.

The Beaufort County Sheriff's Department suspects three men who test drove a 2013 Mercedes-Benz S550 worth \$130,500 recently might have given Mercedes-Benz of Hilton Head employees a "dummy" key when they brought the car back to the Fording Island Road dealership. The trio might then have returned over the weekend with the real key and driven the high-end ride away, the Sheriff's Office said Wednesday.

After the test drive, the silver, four-door sedan was parked in the

Deep Well assists with home repairs

A couple came into the Deep Well office and reported that 51-year-old Jill was in poor health and had to be hooked to an oxygen tank.

And her mobile home was falling apart. Livable Housing, a service pro-

TO DONATE



Those who wish to participate in the Empty Well fund-raising



DOWNTOWN GOES UPTOWN Construction of 57-room boutique hotel set for Lake City. **Page 1B**

Morning News

THURSDAY DECEMBER 6, 2012

TODAY'S WEATHER

Mostly cloudy with showers
High 55, Low 41
DETAILS 2A

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The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Teachers to question how they'll be graded

SC superintendent slated to explain controversial evaluation proposal

BY ELLEN MEDER
Morning News
emeder@foxnews.com

FLORENCE — State education superintendent Dr. Mick Zais could be facing a potentially angry mob of teachers Thursday night at a Florence meeting that is being held to inform the public of new educational standards, but more pressingly to get input on how educators should be evaluated.

The community stakeholder meeting

to be held at Lucy T. Davis Elementary School is to allow staff from the state Department of Education to explain how they plan to implement the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility request — a waiver the state sought from the federal government for parts of what is often called the No



Zais

Child Left Behind Act.

The one outstanding piece of business in the implementation, though, is deciding the details of the new statewide educator evaluation system.

So far, educators across the state who've attended similar meetings and education advocates like the South Carolina Education Association president Jackie Hicks have been clear: They do not like the state's proposed plan, and they do

See **TEACHERS**, Page 6A

WANT TO GO?

- » **WHAT:** ESEA flexibility waiver stakeholder meeting
- » **WHEN:** Thursday, Dec. 6, 6-7:30 p.m.
- » **WHERE:** Lucy T. Davis Elementary School, 201 Westfield Drive
- » **INFO:** The S.C. Department of Education will host the meeting. All members of the public are invited to attend and submit questions. Education advocates will hold a brief meeting ahead of the stakeholder meeting at 5:30 p.m. in front of the school.

WREATH WRANGLER



PHOTOS BY JOHN D. RUSSELL/MORNING NEWS



Volunteer Tom Whitely pieces together a wreath to sell Wednesday at the Florence Breakfast Optimist Club Christmas tree lot on West Evans Street. The lot is one of the only charity-based tree lots with proceeds going to help youth in the community. **LEFT:** Whitely uses a crimping machine to construct an 8-inch wreath. Whitely said volunteering at the Florence Breakfast Optimist Club tree lot gives him something to do during the week. He makes wreaths as large as 24 inches and sells them for a dollar an inch.

Expert panel: NASA seems lost in space, needs goal

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — NASA, the agency that epitomized the "Right Stuff," looks lost in space and doesn't have a clear sense of where it is going, an independent panel of science and engineering experts said in a stinging report Wednesday.

The report by a panel of the distinguished National Academy of Sciences doesn't blame the space agency; it faults the president, Congress and the nation for not giving NASA better direction. At the same time, it said NASA is doing little to further the White House's goal of sending astronauts to an asteroid.

INSIDE

- » What's your thoughts on NASA's future? **Page 2A**
- » Moon data collected by NASA's twin spacecraft Ebb and Flow released. **Page 3A**

In one withering passage, the panel said NASA's mission and vision statements are so vague and "generic" that they "could apply to almost any government research and development agency, omitting even the words 'aeronautics' or 'space.'"

The space shuttles were retired in 2011 and are now museum pieces. Few people are paying attention to the International Space Station, and American astronauts have to rely on Russian spaceships to get there and back. Meanwhile, rocket-building is being outsourced to private companies, and a commercial venture plans to send people to the moon by the end of the decade.

Academy panel member Bob Crippen, a retired NASA manager and astronaut who piloted the first space shuttle mission, said he has never seen the space agency so adrift. He said that includes the decade between the end of

See **NASA**, Page 3A

McConnell tackles Office on Aging with a vengeance

Former senator says he's happier now than he was nine months ago

BY JOHN SWEENEY



SC turning blue?

Winthrop poll results: Residents say president OK, governor not so much

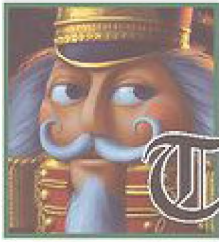
BY JOHN SWEENEY
Morning News
jsweeney@foxnews.com

scnw.com

ROCK HILL — South Carolina's view of state and national government, the

POLL RESULTS

See the full poll results at <http://bit.ly/THQJUU>.

**'NUTCRACKER' BRINGS CHRISTMAS SPIRIT THIS WEEKEND.** *Leisure, A8*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2012

The Times and Democrat

75 CENTS • ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA



TheTandD.com

3 SECTIONS, 24 PAGES • VOL. 131 • NO. 341

Institutions seek 'healthier, cleaner' communities

By DALE UNDER-ALTMAN
T&D Staff Writer

Four area institutions have formed a partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency to promote environmental sustainability on their campuses and beyond.

South Carolina State University Interim President Dr. Cynthia Warrick, who has a doctorate in environmental science and policy, said the partnership will make the region "a healthier and cleaner place to live."

The presidents of S.C. State, Claflin University, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College and Aiken Technical College met with Gwendolyn Keyes Fleming, administrator of EPA Region 4, at S.C. State on Wednesday and signed a memorandum of understanding to form an environmental sustainability working group.

Not only will the schools collaborate in research, teaching and various projects, their students will have internship opportunities with the EPA, Warrick said. The schools could also get grants for environmental projects in the community.



LARRY HARDY/T&D

Claflin University President Dr. Henry N. Tisdale, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College President Dr. Walt Tobin Jr., EPA Region 4 Administrator Gwendolyn Keyes Fleming, Aiken Technical College President Dr. Susan Winsor and S.C. State Interim President Dr. Cynthia Warrick sign a memorandum of understanding to form an environmental sustainability working group.

Each institution is already working on various environmentally friendly programs.

Officials say sharing their areas of expertise will benefit the community.

Warrick said S.C. State's degree program in nuclear engineering offers a cleaner form

of energy.

Ako, "We've just developed a sustainability forum here on

campus. Through that we're going to green our campus," she said. The university is also going to build a curriculum to train students for jobs in the area of sustainability.

Claflin already has a number of sustainability programs in place, according to President Dr. Henry N. Tisdale.

"I appointed a sustainability task force at Claflin last year," he said. Additionally, Tisdale signed the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment last year.

He said Claflin has a great program in alternative fuels that he will share with the other institutions.

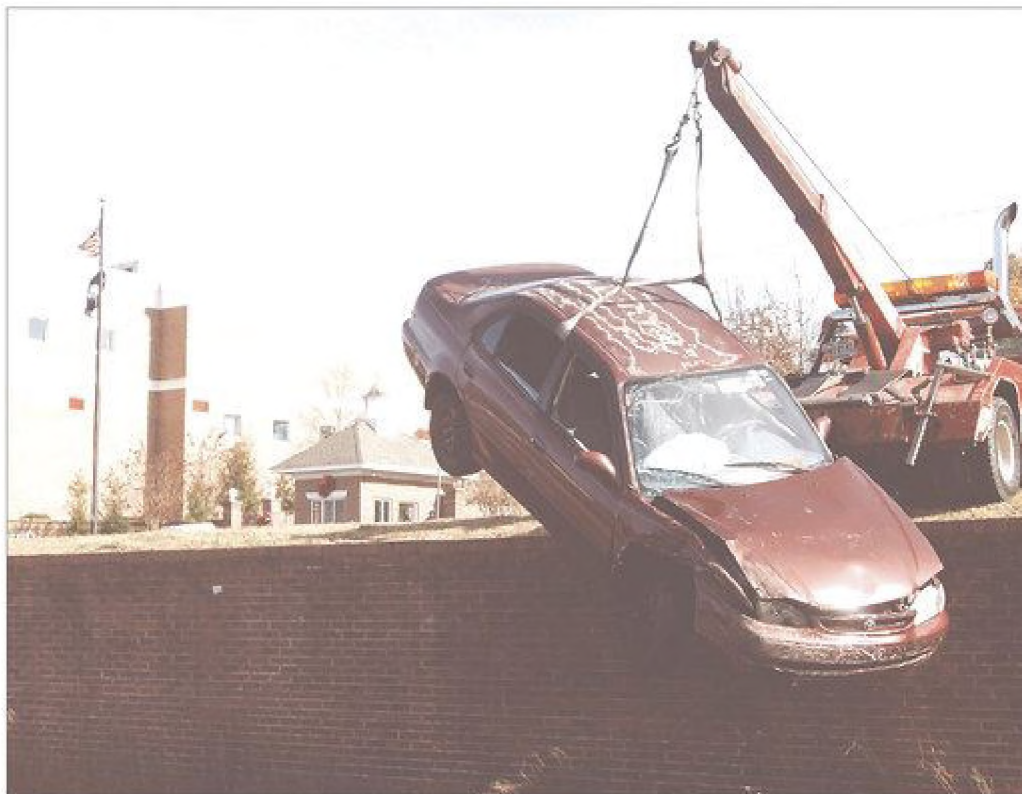
"On the other hand, almost all of them are involved in nuclear energy. We would like to look at joining the other institutions in programs that they have in nuclear education," he said.

Tisdale said he wants to see students get involved in sustainability projects and initiatives they can take beyond the campuses and into the community.

OCtech President Dr. Wall

See PARTNERSHIP, A3

TEN-FOOT DROP



COURTESY OF ORANGEBURG DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Authorities say a medical condition may have caused a 61-year-old Cordova woman to lose control of her car and drive over a retaining wall on Wednesday. She was taken to the Regional Medical Center. Her condition is unknown.

Cyanide didn't hurt Edisto: DHEC study

T&D Staff Report

ASC, Department of Health and Environmental Control assessment of the Edisto River revealed "no adverse impact" from last month's incident at Albemarle Corp's Orangeburg plant.

The study was done of the North Fork of the Edisto to determine whether a possible hydrogen cyanide release from the plant had any detrimental effects on the river.

"The aquatic invertebrate community, both upriver and downriver of the Albemarle facility, remains balanced, diverse and reflective of a healthy coastal plain river," DHEC spokesman Jim Beasley said Wednesday.

On Nov. 13, the chemical plant discovered elevated levels of cyanide in its wastewater treatment system and notified officials that "hydrogen cyanide may have been released" into the Edisto River. An initial assessment showed no dead fish, but cyanide was found in a water sample downstream of the facility leading to additional study. Dr. James Glover, manager of DHEC's aquatic biology section, oversaw the study.

Beasley said the first sample was taken at the Orangeburg boat landing above the Albemarle discharge point, which served as a control. The second sampling location was approxi-

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