



Lexington
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148 Gov. Haley secures disaster unemployment assistance

BY HAL MILLARD

halmillard@gmail.com

If you lost your job due to the floods, help is available.

Gov. Nikki Haley and the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce announced that Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) will be made available to assist Lexington County residents who became unemployed as a direct result of the state's floods.

The county is one of several eligible for such help.

DEW Executive Director Cheryl Stanton said South Carolina workers may be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits under the DUA program.

Workers or business owners meeting the following criteria may be eligible for benefits:

- Individuals who are unemployed due to the disaster, and do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits.
- Self-employed individuals and small business owners who lost income due to the disaster.
- Individuals who were prevent-

ed from working due to an injury caused by the disaster.

- Individuals who have become the major supplier of household income due to the disaster related death or injury of the previous major supplier of household income.

- Individuals who are unable to reach their job or self-employment location because they must travel through the affected area and are prevented from doing so by the disaster.

- Individuals who were to commence employment or self-employment but were prevented by the disaster.

There is not a typical one-week period to file for these benefits.

A dedicated telephone line will be set up to assist people with applying.

Please check www.dew.sc.gov for updates on this program.

The deadline for applying is 30 days from the date DEW starts taking claims.

Last day to file is Nov. 6.

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148 Joe Wilson responds to area flooding

Special to The Chronicle

Second-District Congressman Joe Wilson, of Springdale, issued the following statement regarding the flood and devastating conditions throughout his Lexington County district and South Carolina:



Wilson

“My thoughts and prayers are with all affected by the devastating flooding in the Midlands and in Aiken and Barnwell counties. Our community is facing overwhelming damage, with thousands of families without power and

‘We are available if you or your family need any assistance.’

U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson
R-Springdale

flood damage to homes, businesses, and vehicles.

“I especially appreciate the level of devastation in that Wilton Road of Springdale, named by my grandmother, where six generations of our family have lived, has washed away for the first time

since it was built.

“I encourage everyone to follow all safety precautions—stay indoors, stay off the roads, and follow directives from police, fire, and other emergency services personnel.

“I am grateful for all of our first responders and aid organizations that are providing critical services to our state during this time and to Gov. Nikki Haley for her leadership.”

Wilson said that constituents needing help or assistance can contact his Midlands office in West Columbia at 803-939-0041, and in the Aiken-Barnwell area at 803-642-6416.

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A devastating time for the Midlands

It has been a devastating time for our citizens in the Midlands.

First there was the tragic shooting of the Forest Acres Police Officer, husband and father, Greg Alia, in Columbia.

Then we were all hearing weather forecasts of overwhelming amounts of rain expected for the

DAISY HARMAN
 359-3848
 Fax 359-2398



AROUND LEXINGTON COUNTY

weekend due to low pressure systems and the hurricane off the SC Coast.

THE FLOODING RAINS DID come on Saturday night and caused what Governor Nikki Haley called "a once in a 1000 year rain event."

AT 6:15 SUNDAY MORNING I received a phone call from daughter, Charlotte, who said "help! Our downstairs is flooded and water is rising." also their two cars had already been swallowed up by the lake on which they live. My attempt to call 911 was not productive due to the large call volume.

Realizing we were all in an emergency situation, I called on friends. She and granddaughter, Sarah, were finally rescued by boat from their back door.

HEARING REPORTS OF OUR 12 Lexington dams breaking was distressing as the crippling effect it placed on our roads and also property. All of our First Responders are to be commended for all their effort in risking their lives to save and help others in this emergency situation.

It has been a time of neighbors helping neighbors and opening their homes and hearts to others.

AS WE MOVE FORWARD, many have asked how they can assist those who have been displaced from their homes due to last weekend's floods or who need food, clothing and household effects. Lexington Interfaith Community Services (LICS) is collecting and disbursing items to those in need at its main office on Harmon Street in Lexington. Donations of items or money are welcome. Particularly needed are blankets, cleaning supplies, personal care items, diapers and sheets and towels. For more information on the services provided by LICS go to www.licssc.org.

THE READING BETWEEN THE Wines Dinner to benefit Turning Pages, which provides tutoring to adults in the midlands, was held October 1, at Main Street Steakhouse.

An authentic German dinner, paired with complementary wines, was served to the many guests including: Bruce & Julie Donatelli, Scott & Kathy Adams, Deborah & Ralph Yoho, Chris Mathews, Chris Carawan, George McIntosh, Jimmy & Conner Rogers, Daisy Harman, Mark Fowler, Chase Miller, Barry & Lydia Hames, Jay & Nancy Schabacker, Will & Brenda Clark, Jerry &





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MacLeod Bellune, Holly & Denis Vaucher, Roy Parker, Henry & Mollie Taylor, Susanne & Jim Roberts, David & Carol McCarthy, Billy Walker, Lori & Ed Wenzinger, Steve Riley & fiancée Jessica Read, Mandi & James Gilbert, Cheryl & John Schooler, Ed & Lynn Schooler, Joe & Flo Wright, Doug & Di-

anne Norton, Angela McGee. Those donating but unable to attend were: Doris Greene, Sean & Sarah Donahoe, John & Kay Stock, Fred Fields, Marcus & Ann Miller, Bruce Coull.

THE LEXINGTON WOMAN'S CLUB October "Yard of the Month" has been awarded to Robert and Louise Michaelis, 107 Turtle Cove Court, off Beachcreek Road, Lexington. Sue Wharton and Sherri Kimball report: Throughout the landscape and around the home are areas of interesting plantings and venues designed by Mr. Michaelis. A special feature of the home's hardscape is the lighting coordination of the pineapple, the welcoming symbol of Southern Hospitality. As you view this note worthy garden, note the inlaid designs in the drive and walkways.

THANKS TO FAITH LOVE for the following: Fellowship Baptist Church in Lexington will be hosting a Christmas Craft Fair November 7 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. To support their Guatemala mission trip in 2016. Tables will be available to rent during this event. There will also be a Bake Sale and a Spaghetti plate fundraiser at this event. For more info, please call (803) 794-1885. Fel-

lowship Baptist Church is located at 4238 Augusta Rd, Lexington, SC 29073.

LEXINGTON MEDICAL CENTER WILL present Women's Night Out on Tuesday, October 13 beginning at 5 p.m. At Columbia Metropolitan Center. For more information go to: LexMed.com/WNO

Leeza Gibbons is featured speaker!

BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY: MOLLY Sharpe and Gary Toye.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: HAYDEN IFKOVITS, Hiroko Shimizu, Harris Banks, Shirley Harwell, Cindi Gearon, Carolyn Raymond, Mary Fachtel, Ralph Kania, Jack Medlin, Ernie Monts, David Broome, Ryan Hawsey, Roy Welch, Lynne Lee, Alan Brock, Ruth Wilson, Mike Bennett, Dominick Norton, Sandra Surerus, Rick Swaffield, Denise Bruner-Woods, Kevin Ettenger, Stephen Fowler, Jr., Danny Robinson, Josh Addy, Martin Arant, Neil Bickley, Ellen Brown, Matthew Evans, Mary Rogers, Dave Billings, Grayson Evans, Garrett Hoole, Weston Hoole, Lisa Looney, Marvin Leaphart, Julia Pate, Haley Summer D'Alessio, Lib Caughman, Marcia Rowen, Robert Felkel, Delila Hall, Kevin Sharpe, and Avery Wilkenson. |



148 Thank you to our first responders

Thank You to our first responders, including law enforcement, who worked around the clock to help keep us safe during the massive flooding and torrential rainfalls this past week.

Weather forecasters predicted rainfall and

floods of historic proportions for us in the Midlands, beginning the first days of October. The downpours seemed never-ending. This disaster has been called a Thousand Year Flood. Some of our South Carolina neighbors lost their power, their water, their homes, their vehicles, their pets, and some, their lives.

As the stories unfolded on TV, we all viewed how once again, South Carolinians rose to the occasion, with neighbors helping neighbors and strangers, too. Television anchors and meteorologists were on the air non-stop for hours. On the Internet, we connected with Facebook and other social media for updates.

IN CHAPIN, POLICE CHIEF Troy Crump and Captain Ray Craig and other officers patrolled the roads. Chief posted on Facebook road closings, updated weather conditions and listed phone numbers to call for help.

CITY OF COLUMBIA WATER customers, including those of us who live in the Chapin area, were advised to boil our water vigorously for at least two minutes because of compromised water systems. In addition,

water main breaks caused some customers to be without water. Gov. Nikki Haley and law enforcement urged us to stay off the roads because of flooding and deteriorating road and bridge conditions. Dams failed, roads were washed out and some roads were closed. We stocked up on bottled water and non-perishable foods and adhered to mandatory curfews in Lexington and Richland Counties from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sunday.

SHELTERS OPENED FOR THOSE who had to evacuate from their homes, including Seven Oaks Park on Leisure Lane in Irmo. SCE&G opened the flood gates Sunday for the first time since 1969 to help lower the Lake Murray water level.

CHURCHES CLOSED ON SUNDAY. Schools and businesses closed on Monday. On a personal note, my next door neighbor Marie Buchner came over to help me with my "Let" septic tank system, which was waterlogged. In our neighborhood, a dam connecting two ponds failed. My family postponed my daughter Julie's birthday party Sunday. Daughter Nikki who lives in Charleston and daughter Karen in Asheville

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couldn't drive on the water-soaked roads from their homes to Lexington County.

By Monday, it was still raining, but forecasts called for drying out later this week. We all pray for the sunshine to return.

THE CHAPIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will offer Lunch & Learn



LUNCH & LEARN with Laura Huggins Thursday, Oct. 15 from noon – 1 p.m. at the Chamber House, 302 Columbia Avenue, Chapin. She will present "Estate Planning Key Documents." Call ahead to register for lunch. Call the chamber at 345-1100 or Laura H. Huggins at (803) 454-0657.

THE CHAPIN CHAMBER HAS Chapin postcards. Thanks to previous photo contest winners, participants and members who provided local pictures for the Chapin, South Carolina Postcards. Visit the Chamber House during business hours Monday through Friday to view the selection of cards. For a \$1 donation to the Chamber, you can choose three postcards,

GET READY NOW FOR the Chapin Chamber of Commerce 2016 Holiday Open House/Customer Service Weekend Nov. 5-7. Contact Chamber Girls Risa and Christina at (803) 345-1100 to register and for information. Brochures, signs and information postcards need to be ordered and

printed. Everyone who wants to be involved, call no later than Oct. 12. Chamber business members and non-business chamber businesses are invited.

AT THE CHAPIN TOWN Council meeting Sept. 24 several groups and people were recognized. State Rep. Chip Huggins presented a plaque to the family of the late E.J. Jack Edgerton, recognizing his service as town council member for 22 years, including serving several years as mayor pro tem. Inga Whelchel, the new clerk of court, was introduced. She replaces Mary Davis, who retired in August.

ALSO, CHAPIN LABOR DAY Festival Parade winners were recognized: Best Commercial Float, El Poblano; Best School, Chapin High School Marching Band; Best Church, Lake Murray Presbyterian Church's Scout Troop 411; and Best Non-Profit, American Legion Post 193; as well as honorary mentions Dance Station and Dark Knight Terror Trail.

Chapin student Blake Gibbons was recognized for updating Chapin's presence on Google Maps.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 193 Riders presented a check to Chapin Police Chief Troy Crump in the amount of \$1,580 to cover the cost of four body cameras for the police department.





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October shines spotlight on
S.C.'s domestic violence shame

BY HAL MILLARD
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Gov. Nikki Haley has declared October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, urging citizens to join their voices and efforts to tackle an issue that has become a scourge in the state.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month calls attention to the importance of community collaboration and civic involvement to eradicate domestic violence and sexual assault, advocates said.

The problem is especially acute in South Carolina.

The state again ranked first in the nation for women murdered by men, with a rate of 2.32 per 100,000, according to the newest report by the Violence Policy Center.

This is the 18th year in a row that South Carolina has ranked in the top 10 states for the rate of women murdered by men and the fourth year in which our state has been identified as having the highest lethality rate by this count.

The rate of 2.32 per 100,000 is over twice the national average of 1.09 per 100,000.

Of the homicide victims who knew their offenders, 62% were murdered by a husband, common-law husband, ex-husband, or boyfriend.

Further, for homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 71% of female victims were shot and killed with guns. This year's report compiles and utilizes 2013 data, the most

recent year for which data is available.

"The crime of domestic violence violates a person's privacy, dignity, security and humanity through the systematic use of physical, sexual and/or psychological assault or abuse in order to exert control over that individual," said Haley in her proclamation.

The statewide Domestic Violence Task Force convened by Governor Haley recently issued a report containing 50 recommendations for needed changes in the systemic and community response to the crime of domestic violence.

In May, South Carolina's legislature passed reforms in domestic violence laws that aim to increase accountability for offenders, provides for state law prohibitions on the possession of firearms by anyone convicted of domestic violence and requires prevention education for students in our schools.

On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States, equating to more than 10 million assaults each year.

In South Carolina alone, more than 36,000 victims report domestic violence incidents annually to law enforcement statewide, according to the SC Attorney General's office.

To learn more regarding Domestic Violence Awareness Month or to support your local domestic violence organization visit www.scsaysnomore.org.



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148 Amid floods, state invokes price-gouging statutes

BY HAL MILLARD
halmillard@gmail.com

S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson on Monday reminded South Carolinians that the state's price gouging statute is in effect.

The price gouging law (SC 39-5-145) is a general prohibition on unconscionable prices during times of disaster. It is in effect for the next 15 days.

Price gougers can be charged for excessive pricing, a misdemeanor offense punishable with a \$1,000 fine and/or 30 days in jail. The law went into effect upon Gov. Haley declaring a state of emergency due to flooding.

"As we continue to recover from the catastrophic

damage caused to our state, we will see many neighbors helping each other rebuild. However, we may also see some looking to unfairly take advantage of the situation through price gouging of food, gasoline, lodging, water and any other commodities as defined by the statute," Wilson said. "Pursuant to state law, price gouging constitutes a criminal violation and an unfair trade practice."

Wilson urged people "to remain vigilant" and notify his office immediately to report price gouging. Email any examples or documentation to info@scag.gov; tweet photos or examples tagging [@SCPriceGouging](https://twitter.com/SCPriceGouging); or call (803) 737-3953.



Murky waters can be seen flooding out areas of Nursery Road in Lexington County on Monday. PHOTOS COURTESY OF LEXINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Lexington County declared federal disaster area

BY HAL MILLARD

halmillard@gmail.com

Under a directive from President Obama on Monday, Lexington County is among a handful of S.C. counties declared a federal disaster area.

The declaration makes people in the county eligible to apply to FEMA for federal assistance to cover losses that might not otherwise be covered by their insurance.

Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster.

Lexington County is among eight counties statewide named under the directive. Two other Midlands counties — Richland and Orangeburg — also were declared disaster areas.

Gov. Nikki Haley said President Obama's "federal declaration was an extremely important first step in our recovery. We have now entered the largest recovery program our nation offers in an almost unprecedented timeframe. What this allows us to do is to assess the damage of this storm in every single county and continue to add to the list of those eligible for this support — a

list we know will grow.

"The people of South Carolina have my commitment: At the end of this process every county and every person will have access to every resource we can get them. This will not be a short or easy recovery, but we will get

through it, and get through it together," Haley added.

Gov. Haley said she expects other counties to be included later. W. Michael Moore has been named as the Federal Coordinating Officer for federal recovery operations in the affected area.

Moore said that damage surveys are continuing in other areas, and additional counties may be designated for assistance after the assessments are fully completed.

S.C. Emergency Management Division spokesman Derrec Becker said that people can go ahead and register now, even if they haven't gotten a property assessment from their insurance company. Becker urged potential filers to act quickly to ensure faster processing.

Lexington County residents and business owners who sustained losses can begin applying for assistance now by registering online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or by web enabled mobile device at m.fema.gov.

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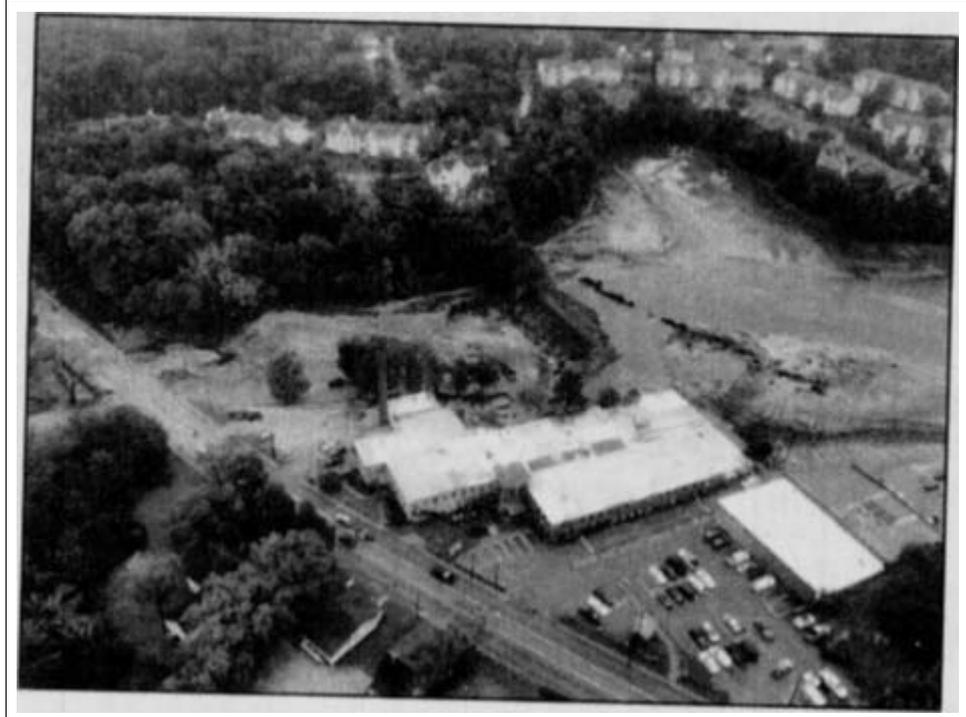




Disaster assistance applicants, who have a speech disability or hearing loss and use TTY, should call 1-800-462-7585 directly; for those who use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 1-800-621-3362.

The toll-free telephone numbers will operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. (local time) seven days a week until further notice.

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The damage sustained by the Old Mill property on E. Main Street in Lexington is clearly visible in this aerial photo.



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Historic rains pummel Columbia

From Staff Reports

The rainfall that hit South Carolina from Friday, October 2 through Sunday morning, October 4 will not only go down in the South Carolina history books but will be one of the most prolific rainfall events in the modern history of the United States, according to The Weather Channel.

The previous 24-hour precipitation record for South Carolina was 14.80 inches of rain in Myrtle Beach when Hurricane Floyd passed by on September 16, 1999.

According to data from October 7 on the National Weather Service website, from Friday, October 2 to Sunday morning, October 4, 21.49 inches of rain was recorded along Gills Creek. The Leesburg station had 18.36 inches, and Spring Valley was 17.91. Martin Luther Park had 16.82 inches, and the University of South Carolina got 12.97 inches.

That rainfall had devastating results on the Gills Creek Watershed. The previous record crest for Gills Creek was 9.43 feet in July of 1997. Flood stage is 6.7 feet. On Sunday, at 7 a.m., the creek was recorded at 17.1 feet.

The sleepy creek became a raging river producing devastating flood-

ing along a stretch of Two Notch Road between Parklane and O'neil Court, Decker Boulevard at Oneil Court, Rockbridge Road, Trenholm Road, Forest Drive, the Lake Katherine neighborhood, Garners Ferry Road at Rosewood, Bluff Road, and many, many others.

Emergency management teams have rescued hundreds from flooded homes and flash flooding. Neighbors have rescued neighbors with kayaks and boats throughout the area. Still, as of Tuesday, October 6, 15 people have lost their lives from the flooding in South Carolina.

As of 6 a.m. Wednesday, October 7, 11 dams had been breached or failed completely according to South Carolina Emergency Management. Residents of

the Wildewood subdivision in Northeast Columbia were asked to evacuate Wednesday morning as officials tried to stabilize a controlled breach on Beaver Dam. The sun finally came out, but the danger still persists as crews work day and night on these issues.

Emergency shelters were established at A.C. Flora High School, Dreher High School, and Lower Richland High School. Other schools in the area,

like Cardinal Newman, are being used as bases of operation for the National

Guard. Many schools throughout the area are cancelled at least through Friday, October 9.

On October 3, President Obama signed an emergency declaration for South Carolina, which made federal emergency aid available to South Carolina. This will supplement state, local, and tribal response efforts in the

areas affected by the storms.

Many in the area have lost water service. Governor Nikki Haley said as many as 40,000 statewide were without water at one time. The entire City of Columbia is under a boil water advisory due to potential compromises in the water system. Water distribution sites have been established at the Columbia Convention Center, Walmart on Forest Drive, Lower Richland High School, 3700

Landmark Drive, Former Sam's Club Parking Lot (1401 Sunset Driver), Dutch Square Mall (former Belk parking lot), Midlands Shopping Center (2638 Two Notch Road), Eastover Park (1301 Main St.), Gadsden Community Center (1660 South Goodwin Circle), and the City of Hope Worship Center in West Columbia. Those who

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cannot reach these sites can call 545-3300.

How to help flood victims

To donate or volunteer:

- United Way of the Midlands, <http://getconnected.uwasc.org/drm/>, 803-929-1000.
- The American Red Cross, <http://www.redcross.org/local/sc>, 803-540-1200.

To donate:

- Adventist Community Services, 1.877.227.2702
- American Red Cross of Central South Carolina, 1.800.435.7669
- Feeding America, 1.800.771.2303
- Harvest Hope Food Bank, 803.254.4432
- Lutheran Disaster Response, 1.800.638.3522
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, 1.800.872.3283
- Salvation Army, 1.800.725.2769
- Southern Baptist Convention/Disaster Relief, 1.800.462.8657
- United Methodist Committee on Relief, 1.800.554.8583
- United Way of America, 1.800.272.4630
- United Way of South Carolina, 803.929.1000

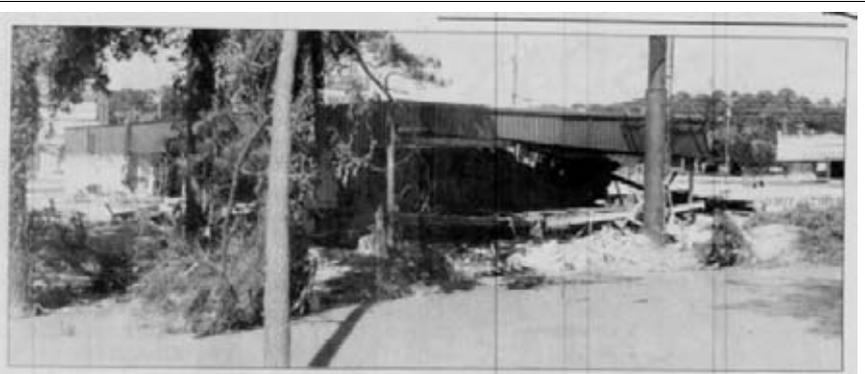
How to apply for disaster relief

- South Carolina Department of Insurance, www.doi.sc.gov, 1-800-768-3467, 803-737-6180.
- www.DisasterAssistance.gov, 1-800-621-3362
- Even residents with insurance should register with FEMA.
- Federal Tax Relief for Victims of Severe Storms and Flooding in South Carolina <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Tax-Relief-for-Victims-of-Severe-Storms-and-Flooding-in-South-Carolina>

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Residents, friends, and family begin the clean-up process in the Lake Katherine subdivision which was hit hard. Photo by Jim Covington



Gills Creek flooding destroyed the Titlemax building at 75091 Garners Ferry Rd. Photo by Jim Covington



Flooding at Garners Ferry between Wildcat Road and Crowson Road. Photo by Angie Wolfe



The Congaree River Walk was under water as of Tuesday, October 6. Photo by Josh Cruse





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Photo by Mike Maddock

An SUV gets swept into the washout at the Columbia BMW on Two Notch Road.



Photo by Jim Covington

Devastation in Lake Katherine



Photo by Jim Covington

Devastation in Lake Katherine



Photo by John Tobias

Flooding in Lake Katherine October 4



Photo by Jim Covington

Members of the USC Kappa Alpha fraternity help with clean-up at their fraternity brother Nelson Weston's home in the Lake Katherine neighborhood.





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Photo by Jim Covington

Flooding at Gills Creek bridge on Forest Drive

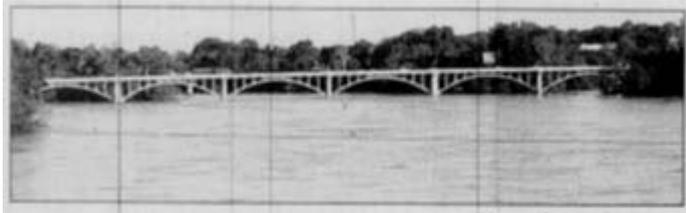


Photo by Josh Cruse

A view of the Gervais St. bridge over the Congaree River as of Tuesday, October 6.

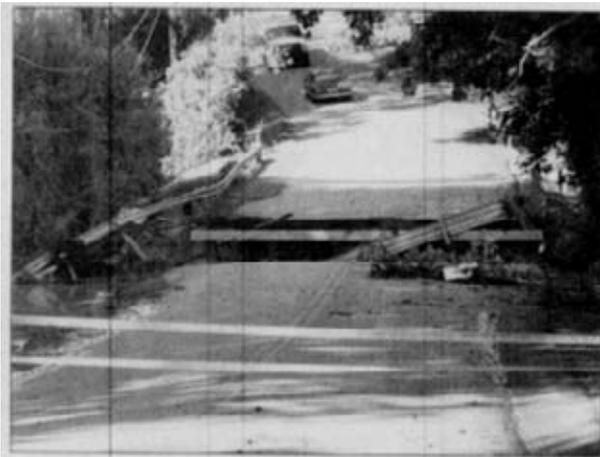


Photo by Mike Maddock

Rockbridge Road bridge crossing between Westshore Road and Eastshore Road was destroyed by the flooding.



Photo by Mike Maddock

Polo Road just below Sesqui Trail early October 4. It later washed completely away.



Photo by Pam Clark

Army National Guardsman Devona Lee helps distribute cases of water to residents.



Photo by Jim Covington

Spirits stay high as friends and family help with the clean-up in the Lake Katherine neighborhood.



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Attorney General Wilson announces Price Gouging Statue in full effect

South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson reminded South Carolinians that the price gouging statute is in effect upon notice that Governor Haley issued a state of emergency.

"As we continue to recover from the catastrophic damage caused to our state, we will see many neighbors helping each other rebuild. However, we may also see some looking to unfairly take advantage of the situation through price gouging of food, gasoline, lodging, water and any other commodities as defined by the statute. Pursuant to state law, price gouging constitutes a criminal violation and an unfair trade practice.

I urge citizens to remain vigilant and notify my office

immediately if you believe you have witnessed or are aware of price gouging. Please email any examples or documentation to info@scag.gov; tweet photos or examples tagging @SCPriceGouging; or call 803-737-3953 if you have witnessed a likely violation."

The price gouging law (SC 39-5-145) is a general prohibition on unconscionable prices during times of disaster. It is in effect for the next 15 days. Price gougers can be charged for excessive pricing, a misdemeanor offense punishable with a \$1,000 fine and/or 30 days in jail.

The language of the price gouging statute and a link to a related 2014 Attorney General's office opinion is attached below.

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After past opposition, S.C. delegation now seeks flood aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — South Carolina's congressional delegation is vowing to make sure the state gets federal help to recover from the historic flooding from massive rains.

But less than three years ago, the Republican-dominated conservative delegation opposed a \$51 billion relief bill to help mid-Atlantic states like New York and New Jersey rebuild in the wake of Superstorm Sandy, which dealt that region a devastating blow.

On Tuesday, Gov. Nikki Haley said that "we're not going to stop" until the state gets "everything we need to get back up and running and fixed again." Already, the state's two GOP senators say they'll support Haley, a fellow Republican, in obtaining recovery funding as estimates come in.

"The governor's going to be making the request, and we'll certainly be there as part of the process," said Sen. Tim Scott. "But the amount can't be determined at this point."

In January 2013, five Republicans in the House delegation voted against Sandy aid after the superstorm. So did Scott and GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham in a vote later that month.

In fact, just 49 of 232 House Republicans voted to provide the Sandy storm aid. Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., offered an amendment to require that \$17 billion worth of

the package be offset by cuts elsewhere in the budget.

At the time, Mulvaney said: "I wish very much that we could pass this and easily borrow the money without any questions whatsoever, but we've wasted that opportunity. We've mismanaged our own finances to the point where we are now no longer capable of taking care of our own."

Rep. Jim Clyburn, a member of the House Democratic leadership team, supported the aid package.

In the wake of the South Carolina flooding, Republicans who opposed Sandy funding seem to be having a change of heart.

"Rep. Rice thinks we need to have a discussion about the role of the federal government in disaster relief," said Alex Eline, a spokeswoman for Rep. Tom Rice, R-S.C.

"That being said, to the extent that we have damages in South Carolina, we are covered by law and he believes we need to get the full benefit of that. We will seek funds necessary to cover the needs of our district as a result of this catastrophe."

There is almost \$6 billion in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster relief fund for immediate needs. But more money is likely to be required. Big flood disasters like Sandy and Hurricane Katrina usually generate far greater damage than other disasters.





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KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

New Hope Church Road in Rembert is being repaired along with the broken water lines Tuesday afternoon. Officials expect water service to be restored soon, and a boil water advisory has been in effect.