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Subject: SC Front Pages – Thursday, September 22, 2016

SC Front Pages – Thurs day, September 22, 2016

The Post and Courier

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Thursday, September 22, 2016

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Charleston, S.C. \$1.00

Shooting sparks more unrest in N.C.

James Is. relatives remember Keith Scott; man shot during Charlotte protest critical

BY GREGORY YEE
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As authorities continue to investigate the fatal police shooting of a Charleston native in Charlotte — an incident that sparked two nights of violent protests —

family members say he didn't deserve to die.

Keith Lamont Scott, 43, was raised in Charleston and attended James Island High School, said his mother, James Island resident Verita Walker. Walker said her son would call her

every day and that they spoke the day he was shot. She declined to comment on the shooting but said she plans to release a statement when enough time has passed. Daria Richardson, who identified herself as Scott's niece, said that her uncle was a family man who had been married for about 15 years and had seven children.

"He was a very outgoing, spontaneous person," Richardson said. "He was very smart. He loved to dance. He loved to

sing. It didn't matter what the situation was."

Public address records show Scott lived in the Lowcountry through the early 2000s and was arrested more than a dozen times in the Charleston area.

Scott, however, shouldn't be judged on those records, Richardson said. The only facts that matter are what happened in the moments before the shooting.

Please see **CHARLOTTE**, Page A7

Inside

- Police not involved in shooting at protest. **Page A7**
- Cam Newton: There needs to be accountability in police shooting. **Page C1**



Gallery
For more photos, go to postandcourier.com/galleries

A national story with Lowcountry roots

Local history runs deep at Smithsonian's African American museum



Museum Resources' Ravi Munoz (from left), Ever Salamanca and Douglas Lundberg remove the roof trusses from the Point of Pines slave cabin that was taken down and moved to the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. The Edisto Island cabin was built around 1850 and will be exhibited in the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture.

BY ROBERT BEHRE
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When it opens Saturday, the new Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture would stand partly empty if not for contributions from South Carolina's Lowcountry.

From a historic slave cabin taken from Edisto Island to a piece of civil rights leader Esau Jenkins' bus to the only known surviving slave auction flag from Charleston to two new sweetgrass baskets and much more, the national museum will display a host of objects from here.

This is not necessarily surprising. While the museum tells a national story of its African-American population over time, so many key parts of that story began in Charleston, the largest and most prosperous Southern city during the peak of the inter-



Gallery
For more photos, go to postandcourier.com/galleries

national slave trade.

The museum's many Lowcountry links have fed a growing excitement in Charleston as opening day nears.

The Jenkins' family already is working with the city and public schools on a big send-off Thursday that may draw hundreds to the site of Gadsden's Wharf, where this city's International African American Museum is planned.

"It's going to be a September to remember," said Eldrina Jones, one of the Jenkins' six surviving children.

Please see **CARIN**, Page A6

Museum to showcase a rich cultural history

Explores experience of U.S. blacks, from slavery to presidency

BY JESSE J. HOLLAND
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lonnie Bunch leans forward to peer inside a slave cabin from Edisto Island, South Carolina. The dark and cramped interior defies his attempts to showcase the small living space its occupants subsisted on.

Bunch flips on the flashlight on a borrowed smartphone, illuminat-

ing for his guests the craftsmanship, the hard work and the love that the cabin's former occupants put into what little they had.

The unification of the old and the new, and the use of modern techniques to explain the historical context — that's what the National Museum of African American History and Culture and Bunch, its founding director, are striving for when the newest Smithsonian museum opens on the National Mall next month.

President Barack Obama will help dedicate the museum on Sept. 24.

Please see **MUSEUM**, Page A6

Google water-use plan seen as 'threat'

Officials concerned for health, safety

BY DAVID SLADE
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MOUNT PLEASANT — A proposal to pump up to 1.5 million gallons of water daily from an aquifer in order to cool Google's server farm near Goose Creek and Moncks Corner could imperil the area's drinking water, a town councilman said.

"This aquifer is... a primary source of water supply not only to 80,000 citizens of Mount Pleasant but also the surrounding Charleston County area," said Mark Smith, chairman of the town's Water Supply Committee and an ex-officio Mount Pleasant Waterworks commissioner.

The application by Maguro Enterprises — the business name for Google's local operations — calls for pulling potentially 549 million gallons yearly from the aquifer. That's three times the amount it is currently permitted to withdraw.

Please see **AQUIFER**, Page A5

Lost Trust paved way for S.C. ethics investigation

Law forum focuses on Statehouse cases

BY PRENTISS HINDLAY
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The ongoing Statehouse probe aimed at weeding out public corruption has its roots in "Operation Lost Trust," the federal investigation that seized nearly 20 legislators more than two decades ago, the former U.S. attorney who handled the case said Wednesday.

"The very Ethics Act which legislators are under investigation for violating now came about as a result of Operation Lost Trust. We laid the foundation for what's going on now," said Bart Daniel.

But the investigations are quite different, he said. "Operation Lost Trust involved federal crimes, not state ethics violations," Daniel said.

Please see **TRUST**, Page A5

Inside



CHARLESTON SCENE
Umphrey's McGee headlines full weekend of music. **E6**

LOCAL
Clown reported to be armed 'paying tribute' to friend. **A5**



SPORTS
Clemson looks to snap skid at Georgia Tech. **C1**

LOCAL
PETA plans fishing protest in Charleston on Thursday. **A4**



Chance of storms. High 87, Low 70. Complete 5-day forecast. **B10**

Edge... B9 Comics... B2-9 Movies... F10
Business... B1 Crosswords... B8-14 Obituaries... B4
Charleston Scene... C1 Editorials... A10 Sports... C1
Classifieds... B1 Local... A2 Television... B7



Resume Solutions
Edit and rewrite for \$29
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USC FOOTBALL

McIlwain joins growing list of starting freshman quarterbacks, 1B



CLEMSON GAMEDAY

Tigers determined to end road losing streak at Georgia Tech, 1B



THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22 2016

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TODAY: MOSTLY CLOUDY; SOME STORMS HI 82° LO 70°
YESTERDAY: HI 80° LO 72° PRECIP. (as of 5 p.m.) 0.06"
FORECAST, 8C

The State

6,000 more students could get SC lottery scholarships



■ Unless lawmakers make it more difficult to qualify, a new grading scale means thousands of S.C. students will qualify for college scholarships, eventually costing the state \$50 million a year.

BY CASSIE COPE
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About 6,000 more S.C. high school students could be eligible for S.C. lottery scholarships because the state recently moved to a 10-point grading scale.

Eventually, that could cost S.C. taxpayers up to \$50 million a year.

However, some lawmakers are balking at the cost, saying any extra money spent on education should go to the state's poor, rural schools - not college students.

The new grading scale - an

"A" now is a grade from 90 to 100 and a "B" from 80 to 89, when an "A" formerly was a grade from 93 to 100 and a "B" was 85 to 92 - means 6,000 more students will be eligible for the LIFE and Hope scholarships, according to the S.C. Commission on Higher Education estimates.

Another 300 students now will qualify for larger Palmetto

SEE SCHOLARSHIPS, 7A

MORE INSIDE

The requirements for lottery scholarships, 7A

Supreme Court keeps jurisdiction over suit pitting poor, rural schools against the state, 3A

ONLINE

THESTATE.COM: See state Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter object to spending more state money on lottery scholarships

'Bigger than life' Jackie Hite remembered for his civic service, generosity and world-class barbecue



PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRACY GUANTZ tgantz@thestate.com

Jackie Hite, who served as the Leesville fire chief from 1967-1976, will be carried through the town he loved on the back of the department's restored historic 1946 fire engine. Hite also served as the town's mayor.

OWNER OF FAMED MIDLANDS BARBECUE RESTAURANT DIES



BY SUSAN ARDIS
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The owner of Jackie Hite's Bar-B-Que, known around the state for its old-fashioned barbecue made over coal,



JUDGE GIVES NO REASON

Mystery mistrial ends tense trial of alleged rapist, home invader

■ Prosecutors say they will not stop trying to convict Martinez

BY JOHN MONK
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An accused serial home invader-rape had his wish granted Wednesday when state Circuit Judge Knox McMahon declared a mistrial in a Columbia courtroom and sent the jury home.

But the judge didn't give a reason he was calling off the trial, which was in its second day.

The defendant, Nathan Martinez, 37, had asked for the mistrial late Wednesday morning after complaining about his court-appointed lawyer, Aimee Zmroczek. On Tuesday, the judge had granted a request from Martinez to fire Zmroczek and let him be his own lawyer in the case. She was still at the defense table as an adviser.

Prosecutors Wednesday morning were planning to continue a succession of witnesses who were describing to the jury what prosecutors said in opening statements would be volumes of indisputable evidence against Martinez. Evidence included eye-witness testimony, DNA, fingerprints and



Martinez

SEE CASE, 6A

SPORTS, 1C

QUARTERBACKS
TO MEET AGAIN

The Greenville News

THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
GREENVILLEONLINE.COM

USA TODAY SUPERPAC FUNDRAISING PASSES \$1 BILLION PAGE 1B

WATCHDOG REPORT

Taping
ban is
invalid,
AG saysState law OKs recording
meetings 'by any person'TIM SMITH
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COLUMBIA — State Attorney General Alan Wilson's office believes a court would be reluctant to uphold a recent rule by the state Department of Disabilities and Special Needs Commission forbidding commissioners from tape recording public meetings, according to an opinion by the office issued last week.

Assistant Attorney General Anita Fair said in the opinion that the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act allows anyone at a public meeting to use a tape recorder.

"Since the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act authorizes recording of meetings 'by any person,' this office believes a court will be reluctant to uphold such a rule preventing anyone from recording a meeting," she wrote in the opinion.

She wrote that the opinion is just that and only a court can interpret statutes and make determinations about the law.

The opinion was requested by Sen. John Scott of Columbia following the adoption of rules by the DDSN commission in August that include a ban on commissioners' tape recording meetings. The commission does not now use tape recorders for its official minutes.

Scott told *The Greenville News* that he was not surprised by the opinion.

"Commissioners should be able to (use tape recorders) like everybody else," he said.

Scott said the reason a commissioner used a tape recorder was because the agency does not use one to record its official minutes. And he said there have been questions about minutes in the past, questions that could have been resolved with official tape recordings.

Sen. Thomas Alexander, a Walhalla Republican who chairs the Senate's

See TAPING, Page 6A



Smoke bombs are thrown at protesters in front of the Omni Hotel in Charlotte on Wednesday during a second night of violence. LAUREN PETRACCA/STAFF

DEMONSTRATIONS
TURN DEADLYCharlotte police: Officer hurt, one
killed in civilian-on-civilian crimeUSA TODAY
NETWORK

Charlotte authorities tried to quell public anger Wednesday as the city erupted with a second night of violent protests over the killing of a black man by police.

And there was another death. A man was shot and killed as protesters gathered near police in riot gear at a downtown hotel. This time, the man was not shot by a police officer, the city of Charlotte said on Twitter.

Police later began firing flash grenades at protesters who were throwing fireworks at them. They then fired tear gas at protesters, dispersing most of the crowd. Read more about the protests on **Page 1B**.

Keith Lamont Scott "was a family man. And he was a likeable person."

VERNITA WALKER,
SCOTT'S MOTHER, OF CHARLESTON, S.C.

New office complex
planned along riverERIC CONNOR
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A towering fixture could rise alongside the banks of the Reedy River, a large-scale office complex

usc. Plans filed with the city show a building close to and rising above the level of the Main Street bridge. The plans indicate that the footprint of the 1,127-square-foot building would sit



CLEMSON HEADS TO ATLANTA FOR ACC OPENER

SPORTS, B1



MUSIC EVENT CELEBRATES COMMON BONDS

ESCAPE, D1

Herald-Journal

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

Thursday, September 22, 2016



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TODAY **FRI** **SAT**

80°/66° 86°/62° 90°/63°

Complete forecast, B8

UPSTATE

Deputy's pursuit of driver under review

An incident involving a 16-year-old leading a deputy on a chase in his mother's vehicle before crashing is under internal review by Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office officials. **C1**

SPORTS



Broome aims to build off upset of Byrnes

The Broome football team ended its non-region schedule with a 34-28 win against traditional power Byrnes on Friday. But the Centurions are trying to stay focused on Region III-3A play, which begins after this week's open date. **B1**

NEWS DIGEST

Gasoline pipeline back up and running

ATLANTA — Colonial Pipeline has restarted the gasoline pipeline in Alabama that was shut down after a major leak, which caused shortages and surging fuel prices across the South.

Company officials say in a statement that the pipeline reopened Wednesday evening. The company has estimated that 252,000 to 336,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from the line. The shutdown of the pipeline led to dry pumps at gas stations in Georgia, Tennessee and the Carolinas.

The company says it will take several days for fuel supplies

CHARLOTTE OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTING

Police try to quell anger



Demonstrators sit on a street during a protest of Tuesday's fatal police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott on Wednesday in Charlotte, N.C. Protesters rushed police in riot gear at a downtown Charlotte hotel; officers fired tear gas to disperse the crowd. **CHUCK BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

1 shot, others injured during second night of protest

By Adam Bell, Mark Price and Katherine Peralta
The Charlotte Observer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Protests turned violent for a second night in Charlotte after Tuesday's fatal police shooting of a black man.

One person was shot and was taken to the hospital with life-threatening injuries, the Medic agency said.

City leaders appealed for calm and promised a thorough investigation of the shooting that triggered hours of violent protest and shut down Interstate 85 on Tuesday.

But the unrest continued Wednesday night, with police using tear gas to disperse hundreds of protesters who blocked the intersection of Trade and Tryon streets in the heart of uptown, then occupied the EpiCentre



Police fire teargas as protesters converge on downtown following Tuesday's police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte on Wednesday. **AP PHOTO/GERRY BROOME**

protests. The Charlotte Chamber urged businesses in uptown and University City to "remove or chain down all tables, chairs, signs or planters."

At about 4:30 Wednesday,

Andrew Monroe said the protest was organized informally by a group of black professionals. "What we want to do is show we're not dangerous," he said. "We want to show the world it's

DEBT MANAGEMENT

Preparing students for costs of education

Upstate colleges help illuminate financial realities

By Zach Fox
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Colleges across the Upstate are working to ensure students are ready for the financial realities they'll face after graduation.

Schools across the area are implementing programs and providing guidance on how to pay for college before students enroll, and making sure they understand the complex issue of student debt that affects millions of college graduates across the country.

"We want to make sure students know what's out there as far as their educational choices," said Donnette Stewart, vice chancellor for enrollment services at the University of South Carolina Upstate. "They're worried about what kind of job they'll get, and if they'll make enough money to pay the bills and pay back their loans. We want to help them understand the process of managing all that."

The first step to financing college is filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, form. That form calculates a family's income and

SEE DEBT, A7

Town Hall

Do you have concerns about paying for college, or wonder what financial issues you should consider when applying to college? The Herald-Journal will hold a town hall panel discussion on the matter at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Community Room at the newspaper's office on West Main Street.

The panel will feature Spartanburg Methodist College President Scott Cochran; Spartanburg Community College President Henry Gilles; University of South Caro-



GET LOST

The Denver Downs corn maze opens this weekend with a tribute to Charlie Brown. See the Current inside for more

Independent Mail

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

CLEMSON AT GEORGIA TECH

Something has got to give between two 3-0 teams

When: 7:30 p.m. today on ESPN

Where: Atlanta

What to watch: Georgia Tech ranks third in the ACC in rushing at 257.3 yards per game while Clemson has held

opponents to 92 yards per game, fourth best in the league.

Who will win: Clemson hasn't beaten Georgia Tech at Bobby Dodd Stadium in Atlanta since 2003, but the Tigers are favored to do so this season. They'll have to avoid looking ahead to next week's showdown with No. 4 Louisville and handle the Yellow Jackets' triple-option offense on short rest.



AFTER TWO YEARS, STILL NO ANSWERS



PHOTOS BY KEN RUINARD/INDEPENDENT MAIL
A truck drives past a memorial cross for Tucker Hipps on S.C. 93.

MIKE ELLIS

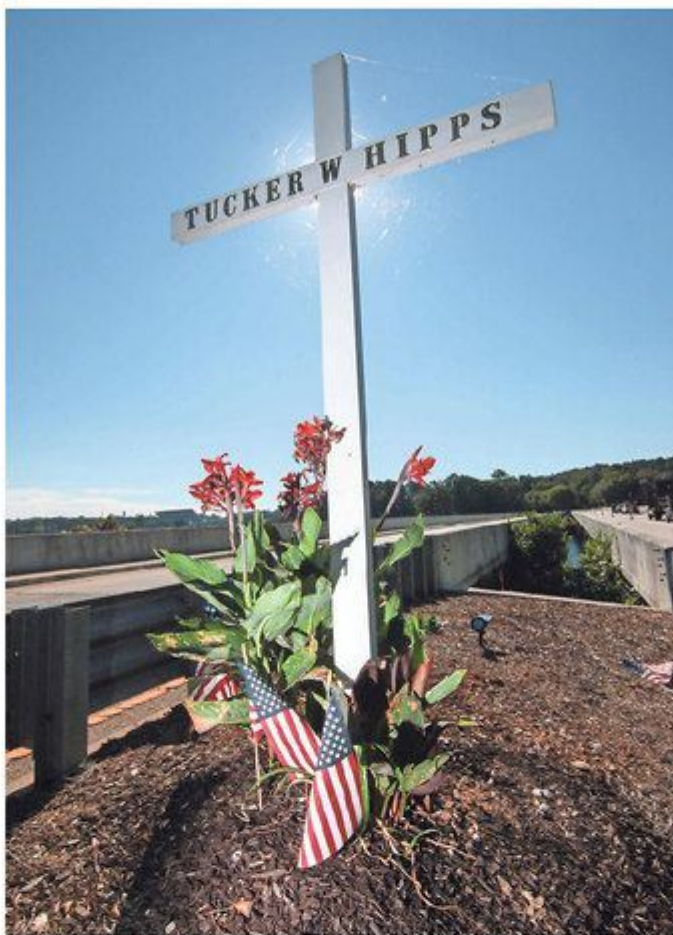
MIKE.ELLIS@INDEPENDENTMAIL.COM

On Sept. 22, 2014, Clemson University student Tucker Hipps died under mysterious circumstances while on an early morning run with fraternity brothers.

A memorial now stands on the U.S. 93 bridge over Lake Hartwell. It was under that bridge that Hipps' body was found that afternoon. Wrongful death lawsuits filed by Hipps' parents against the university, three fraternity members, and the national and local branches of the Sigma Phi Epsilon are still pending in court. Law enforcement has reported no breakthroughs in the investigation. Hipps' mother, Cindy Hipps, is now an anti-hazing advocate.

"We will never move on, and certainly not without answers," said Cindy Hipps, of Piedmont. "We will always fight for the other 19-year-olds out there who have no idea what they may be faced with one day."

Earlier this year, Gov. Nikki Haley signed the Tucker Hipps Transparency Act, which requires the state's public universities to track and re-



Tech schools call for funding

The state system might ask for \$300M next year

MIKE EADS

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State leaders tout South Carolina's technical colleges as essential to attracting manufacturing jobs to the state, while Tri-County Technical College and other schools look for ways to cope with rising enrollments and aging facilities.

Officials with the state's technical college system are thinking about asking for more than \$300 million in new, one-time funding next year to address space and equipment needs at the 16 schools.

According to a draft budget presentation being considered by S.C. Technical College System officials for next year, the two-year schools could use \$311.4 million to update their facilities — \$70.6 million for equipment purchases and \$240.8 million for building needs.

See SCHOOLS, Page 5A

Nightlights planned for Brown fishing pier

NIKIE MAYO

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The fishing pier at Brown Road boat ramp on Lake Hartwell may soon have a nighttime glow.

Anderson County's parks, recreation and tourism division is moving forward with a plan to install energy-efficient, waterproof lights along the pier. The lights come on at night, giving off a green glow that is meant to attract fish.

"We believe this will be a habitat enhancement," said Matt Schell, the county's parks manager. "We believe the lights will attract bait fish, which will then attract bass and gar."

The boat ramp, just north of the East-West Parkway in Anderson, has

See LIGHTS, Page 5A



Clemson preps for tough game against Georgia Tech
Sports, 1B

INDEX-JOURNAL

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2 SECTIONS, 18 PAGES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

DAILY 75¢, SUNDAY \$1.50

Piedmont Tech president to retire

By ARIEL GILREATH
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For more than eight years, Ray Brooks has stood at the helm of Piedmont Technical College. On Tuesday night, he announced this year will be his last.

Brooks, 65, told the Piedmont Technical College Area Commission that he will retire at the end of the fiscal year on June 30.

Brooks took the reins in March 2008 after the previous president, Lex Walters, retired, making him one of only two presidents of the school in 50 years.

"I thought about retiring a year or so ago, and I just wasn't ready,"

Brooks said.

In May, Brooks' perspective changed after his wife was in a car wreck that made him realize how short and precious life is. Soon after, he knew he needed to spend more time with his family.

"Thinking through all of that, it just sort of drove home the point that we're all on a journey through this life," Brooks said.

The timing this year seemed right to him, and after discussing it with his family, he told the area commis-

sion that this year would be his last.

"Don't get me wrong, I love what we do and I love working with the students at the college and the faculty and the staff," Brooks said. "At the same time, it just feels right. I don't know how to say it — I've thought about it, I've prayed about it (and) Pam and I have discussed it."

Brooks started his career as a mechanic, but quickly realized he had a passion for education, to which he dedicated his life for more than 40 years.

Before coming to Piedmont Tech, Brooks served as president of Northwestern Technical College in Rock Spring, Georgia for 22 years, the same school where he initially earned

his associate degree in automotive technology.

"I've been doing this an awful long time, and I'm going to miss it, I'm going to miss the people," Brooks said. "I don't know how to explain it, but it just feels like the right time."

The decision to retire was not a surprise to the area commission, Brooks said, and its members knew for a while that it was going to happen in the near future.

"I had been talking to the commission — it wasn't a secret unbeknownst to them," Brooks said. "I just told them that we were going to keep charging hard until next June, but they'll notify the state board and

they'll set up a search committee. It normally takes around six months to do that, so I'm assuming some time a little later in the year all that will kick into place."

During his time at the school, Piedmont Tech was the first and only school in South Carolina to receive the Bellweather Award, a national prize that honors outstanding and innovative programs in community colleges. Piedmont Tech received the award for its implementation of the Lean methodology, an organizational change intended to streamline processes, reduce cost and eliminate waste.

See **PRESIDENT**, page 4A

BRINGING GROWTH TO THE COMMUNITY

Festivals of Flowers, Discovery generate \$5.5M for Greenwood

By ADAM BENSON
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In many ways, the golden anniversary of Greenwood's Festival of Flowers is a return to its roots. Yes, organizers have introduced a new commemorative logo and will unveil a special 50th anniversary toptary.

But they're also bringing back beloved events like the Lake Greenwood flotilla and beach party, and have named four-time festival chairman Ruple Harley Jr. to head the event next June.

"The festival is in my heart," Harley said. "I'm excited about bringing old things back and I think it's going to be one of the best, and it's not because of me, it's because of the volunteers and the excitement."

With nearly a year of marketing opportunities ahead of it, festival organizers have rolled out an aggressive public relations campaign starting next month with a completely redesigned website.

Also new to the 50th will be a special exhibit at the Greenwood Museum showcasing memorabilia from previous events, said Greenwood Area Chamber of Commerce CEO Angelle LaBorde.

On Monday, the City Council agreed to give the Festival of Flowers \$23,463 in accommodations tax dollars to help its efforts — recognizing it as a powerful economic driver.

This past summer, the Festival of Flowers and Festival of Discovery combined to pour more than \$5.5 million into the local economy.

The Festival of Flowers generated \$3.3 million and drew 85,031 people.

"We tend to attract different people throughout the month based on the events that we offer," LaBorde said. The Roswell, Georgia-based Southeast Tourism Society named the Festival of Flowers as one of its Top 20 events of 2016.

See **FESTIVALS**, page 4A



BALANCING CASH

State treasurer says pension debt threatens to 'swallow us whole'

By ADAM BENSON
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State Treasurer Curtis Loftis, custodian of \$65 billion worth of public funds, says his job can be explained in a sentence: Returning cash to residents on the front end through unclaimed property payments and trying to stop it from siphoning out on the back end by continuing his dogged pursuit of wholesale pension reform.

Both pursuits have brought the outspoken 58-year-old on tours across South Carolina and the country, and in January he'll become president of the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators.

"We return checks all the time for large amounts and small amounts. It's the best part of my job," Loftis told the Index-Journal during a recent swing through the Lakelands. Currently, the state holds about \$503 million worth of unclaimed property and recently joined MissingMoney.com, a database that contains unclaimed property information for 35 states.

"The stories are incredible sometimes. Somebody will call and realize they have \$500. That's rent for a month, that's an elderly person's medicine for two months. And sometimes they'll

See **DEBT**, page 4A



CURTIS LOFTIS

GOING UP

The cost of filling up in the Lakelands has been

happy fall y'all

Aiken Standard

YOUR LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1867

THURSDAY, September 22, 2016

AIKENSTANDARD.COM

Vol. 150, No. 266 Aiken, S.C. ★★ 75¢

Labor union joins MOX battle

BY THOMAS GARDINER
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A labor union tossed its hat in the ring earlier this month in the national battle over the future of the multi-billion dollar Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, at the Savannah River Site near Aiken.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America penned a letter to Hillary Clinton, addressed to her as "Secretary Clinton," dated Sept. 8.

In the letter, the union voices concern over the administration of President Barack Obama to wash its hands of the MOX project.

Letter appeals to Clinton in fight to secure funding

The letter said, "We are writing you to encourage you to urge the Obama Administration to not take any action to terminate MOX in fiscal year 2017."

The letter asks that Congress have the chance to make a decision on the authorizations and financial appropriations for the facility's future.

The union also cited the Plutonium Disposition and Management Agreement between the United States and Russia.

"MOX plays a vital role in meeting the obligations of the U.S.-Russian agreement that calls on each country to dispose of no less than 34 metric tons of dangerous plutonium from nuclear weap-

ons," the letter read.

The organization drafted the letter because of the still-pending National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017. That act provides funding for much of the nation's defense and military objectives, including MOX, but is stalled in the House-Senate conference committee to iron out its final provisions.

During its journey through Congress, the MOX portion of funding came under fire from the National Nuclear Security Administration, or NNSA, which tried to freeze federal funding. The NNSA pushed to move to an alternate

Please see MOX, Page 10A

INSIDE TODAY



Scott, coalition take step in fight against poverty

Local News, 2A



New book club focuses on home-schoolers

Local News, 2A



One Table will return, volunteers needed

Local News, 5A

AREA DEATHS

Larry Turner, Aiken
Rev. Lallie C. Boyd, Beech Island
Aubrey Adams, North Augusta
Daniel Yon, Perry
Thomas P. "Tom" Scott Sr., Williston
Stephen Edward Demorest, Keyville, Ga.
Jeffrey Solomon Mosser, Aiken
Deaths and Funerals, 6A

Senior Extravaganza delights



STAFF PHOTO BY CINDY KUBOVIC

Susan Bratcher, a registered nurse at Aiken Regional Medical Centers, left, checks cholesterol and glucose for a smiling Glenda Fulmer, while Nancy Goslen, also with Aiken Regional, provides a health screening for Peggy Widener at this year's Aiken Senior Extravaganza held Wednesday.

BY CHRISTINA CLEVELAND
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The annual Aiken Senior Extravaganza filled the H. Odell Weeks Activities Center on Wednesday, where area seniors were offered support, products and services, all in one stop.

The event gives seniors, their families and caregivers a chance to connect with an array of people and services.

Wednesday marked its ninth year of the senior health fair with multiple vendors, classes and health screenings available to attendees.

Rasheka Gaines, recreation program coordinator, and Kara Flanders, account executive with Tri-County Home Health, both organizers, said the committee that puts together the event recognizes its importance

to the local senior community. According to U.S. census data from 2015, people 65 and older make up around 18 percent of the Aiken County population. The population estimate for Aiken County on the census website is listed as 165,829.

PHOTO GALLERY ONLINE

Were you there? See more photos from the Senior Extravaganza at aikenstandard.com

"Nine years ago, we had an idea that we just didn't want to do a vendor fair," Flanders said. "We knew that Aiken was a community of informed seniors and seniors who want to be informed, so that's kind of what makes this event different is that we offer the education classes in conjunction with the vendor fair."

Please see SENIOR, Page 10A

Police investigate murder of Aiken man

BY MAAYAN SCHECHTER
mschechter@aikenstandard.com

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division is assisting in the investigation of an Aiken man found dead in the back of a pickup truck early Wednesday.

The Aiken County Coroner's Office said the body of Denzel D. Bates, 21, of Aiken, was found just after 2 a.m. Wednesday in the back of a Dodge pickup truck on the 100 block of Rushton Road.

Aiken County Chief Deputy Coroner Darryl M. Ables said an autopsy held in Newberry showed Bates died from multiple gunshot wounds. His death has been ruled a homicide.

The Aiken County Sheriff's Office responded around 2:05 a.m. Wednesday to the 100 block of Rushton Road for a report of a suspicious vehicle, where deputies located Bates, according to initial information from Sgt. Stephen Shunn, with the Sheriff's Office.

Individuals with information related to the case are asked to call the Aiken County Sheriff's Office at 803-648-6811, or Crime Stoppers of the Midlands at 888-CRIME-SC (888-274-6372).

Callers can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward up to \$1,000.

Maayan Schechter is the digital news editor for the Aiken Standard. Follow her on Twitter @MaayanSchechter.

Two local Wal-Marts premier curbside service



BY DAN BROWN
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Wal-Mart this week rolled out its new online grocery shopping service, complete with curbside pickup.

The service, for now, is only available at the Wal-Marts on Whiskey Road in Aiken and the Knox Avenue location in North Augusta.

From bread and bakery, to toys and video games, shoppers can now shop online for groceries, health and beauty products, candy, beverages and pro-

duce. Once customers pick out their items, they can wait in the car for their

use the online service, and a minimum \$50 purchase on the customer's initial order, according to the Wal-Mart website. Grocery prices such as milk and produce are the same as in the store.

Aiken Mayor Rick Osborn, who was on hand for the ribbon-cutting at the Whiskey Road Wal-Mart on Monday, said the new service is great for seniors and parents with young children.



Morning News

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

TODAY'S WEATHER

Mostly cloudy with a few showers.
High 84, low 69.
DETAILS 2A

www.scnw.com

The Voice of the Pee Dee

75 cents

Carolina Bank to expand into Florence



The former Art Trail Gallery will soon transform into the new headquarters for Carolina Bank, it was announced Wednesday.

BY JOE PERRY
Morning News
jperry@florencenews.com

FLORENCE — Carolina Bank announced Wednesday that it will take over the former Art Trail Gallery at 185 W. Evans St. in a \$4.5 million investment and expansion into downtown Florence.

About a year from now, the bank's headquarters and administrative offices, and a new retail branch, will be part of downtown's

revitalization. In a prepared statement, the bank called the move "the first phase of a far-reaching growth plan" that will include the modernization of existing branches and the introduction of new technological products and services while the bank continues to operate its retail branch in Darlington.

"This move will allow us to provide more focused service to our customers and potential customers in a growing market. The

development downtown is exciting and we are thrilled to be a part of it," Rick Beasley, president of Carolina Bank, said in the statement. "However, we remain committed to our customers in Darlington and our other branch locations. We will continue to serve our communities with the exceptional customer and banking services they have come to expect from us."

Carolina Bank plans to expand the building

to 19,200 square feet as it shifts administrative and training staff along with lending, information technology and mortgage departments to the new downtown location. Twenty new positions will be created to bolster the bulk of the workforce relocating from Darlington. Senior credit officer Brian Falcone said the \$4.5 million figure is an estimate as not all construction bids have

See **BANK**, Page 3A

Toby Keith concert postponed

From staff reports

FLORENCE — The Toby Keith concert that was scheduled for tonight at the Florence Civic Center has been postponed until March 9, 2017.

Fuel shortages and rising gas prices in the Southeast are cited as the reason.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley issued an executive order to assist the flow of gasoline supplies, and North Carolina remains in a state of emergency. Consequently, Florence Civic Center officials and Toby Keith tour managers collectively opted to postpone the performance that was announced in mid-July.

"This is a major show for the region which attracts fans within a one- to two-hour drive and beyond," Florence Civic Center General Manager Kendall Wall said in a news

See **KEITH**, Page 4A

IT pro offers advice on security for small business

BY JOE PERRY
Morning News
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FLORENCE — Robby Hill wanted to scare everyone.

The founder of HillSouth brought his IT wisdom to Tuesday morning's Small Business Series seminar at First Reliance Bank's training center and told the small crowd he wanted to scare them by explaining ransomware.

"I've never seen more specific targeting," he said, referring to a roughly 3-year-old computer virus tactic that locks up a hard drive that will only be freed upon paying



Ana Carlton holds a "candle" while waiting to sing "Light a Candle for Peace" at the Montessori School of Florence. The school had all students sing the song in celebration of the International Day of Peace.

Students 'Light a Candle for Peace'



Students sing "Light a Candle for Peace" during the Montessori School of Florence's celebration of the International Day of Peace.

BY MELISSA ROLLINS
Morning News
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FLORENCE — Students at the Montessori School of Florence gathered Wednesday morning to celebrate the International Day of Peace. They were not the only ones; Montessori schools all across the world also gathered at that time in their own time zones.

Montessori School director Teena Kyer said the school was happy

to participate. "This is the first time we have done this on International Peace Day," Kyer said. "It was an initiative that began with Montessori schools and Montessori schools all across the world were to sing 'Light a Candle for Peace' at 9:30 local time. Many of the Montessori schools across the world are participating in this."

Kyer said International Peace Day fits into the

See **PEACE**, Page 3A

It's fall — even if it doesn't feel like it

BY MATTHEW ROBERTSON

The high for the first



Pumpkins, painted by Earleen Lamb, are on display at Lamb's on Second Loop



THE CLARENDON SUN

Main Street Manning

Downtown revitalization group hosts awards BBQ A8

Gene Machine visits Bates



Elijah Okoeugha, 12, and Zander Phalin, 12, seventh-graders at Bates Middle School, use pipettes to draw samples while visiting "The Gene Machine," which is a mobile lab from the Greenwood Genetic Center. The students tested liquid samples for the presence of copper sulfate.

Mobile laboratory empowers middle schoolers at newest STEAM school

BY KONSTANTIN VENGERSKY

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Students at Bates Middle School became genetics experts for a day on the Gene Machine Mobile Science Laboratory which made a visit to the school on Wednesday.

The mobile lab allows the technology and expertise of the Greenwood Genetic Center in Greenwood to come directly to the classroom, said Dillon Gary, the mobile lab's genetic instructor.

The 41-foot Gene Machine allows students to participate in about 20 educational scenarios in which they have the opportunity to learn about genetic traits and disorders, understand lab techniques used in making a diagnosis as well as consider the ethical implications of testing, according to its website, www.ggc.org.

Teachers can select from multiple lab activities, including basic lab skills and genetic modules. Each of the modules addresses Science, Technology, Engineering and Math initia-

tives and other science standards.

"Our goal is to increase genetic literacy by teaching students in grades seven through 12 the principles of genetics and biotechnology," Gary said.

On Wednesday, students at Bates incorporated forensics and chemistry to learn about the principles of light reflection and absorption in an experiment.

The experiment was based on a real-life scenario. The students used a

SEE BATES, PAGE A3

Preparing for more cell towers

Sumter looks at fall zone setbacks and zoning issues

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS

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Sumter City and County councils approved first reading of an amendment to allow cellphone towers in non-residential areas in an effort to help increase coverage and capacity in the area.

The overall goal is to construct cellphone towers in urban areas of Sumter where there is a higher density of people but smaller lots to hold the towers.

Existing zoning and development standards in the city and county require that fall zone setbacks for cellphone towers match the height of the structure which is predicted to fall horizontally.

The property chosen for the cell tower must also be a certain distance from surrounding property lines.

According to Sumter City and County zoning and development ordinances, cell towers can be a maximum of 180 feet high in commercial districts and a maximum of 320 feet high in industrial districts. Any towers taller than the permitted heights must be reviewed by Sumter City-County Board of Zoning Appeals for approval, said Sumter City-County Planning Department Senior Planner Helen Roodman.

She said there are few parcels large enough in the central portion of Sumter to support cell towers large enough to increase user capacity based on the current setbacks.

Prior development in urban areas does not make it easy to increase user capacity in urban areas, Roodman said.

She said each new tower will have a specific fall zone size and will collapse on itself or fall a certain way within that fall zone.

That would not be a dramatic change compared to how other jurisdictions in the state permit cell towers in non-residential areas, Roodman said.

The proposed amendment would allow state licensed engineers to determine fall zones in a letter that will include the engineer's signature and seal.

Jonathan Yates, a representative of the applicant Hellman, Yates & Tisdale,

Newton: Accountability needed in police shooting

CHARLOTTE (AP)—While Cam Newton called the latest police shooting in Charlotte, North Carolina "embarrassing," the Carolina Panthers quarterback says he's not rushing to any judgments until he has more information.

The league MVP did have some strong comments Wednesday about social injustice and the African-American community.

"My big thing is holding people accountable — no matter what the race, no matter what the gender is, no matter what the age is," Newton said at his weekly news conference Wednesday.



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